

Understanding and measuring social capital to bridge humanitarian support, urban development and resilience

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Introduction

Purpose of our presentation

1. Focus on urban resilience from the perspective of IDPs, host communities and municipal governments in Somalia.
2. Propose measurement of social capital that decision-makers should capture as part of urban resilience planning and governance.
3. Discuss and get feedback on this approach.

“Humanitarian response alone is utterly insufficient. We must establish a solid link between the humanitarian, resilience and development dimensions.”

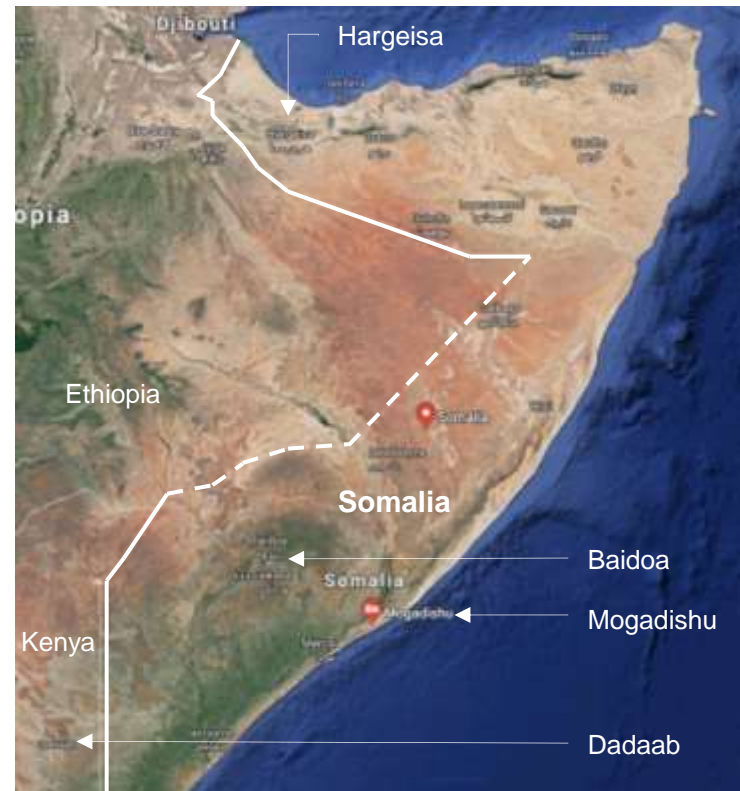
- Antonio Guterres

Secretary-General of the United Nations
Conference on the Syrian Refugee Situation, October 2014

Context

Somalia is rapidly urbanising

- 70% of Somalia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is urban-based (SEU)
- 40.5% of total population (2017) lives in urban areas
- Somalia's urban population is growing at an average annual rate of 4.05% (2015-20 est.)
- Mogadishu is one of the fastest urbanising cities in the world, largely driven by its improving security situation, economic prospects and displacement.

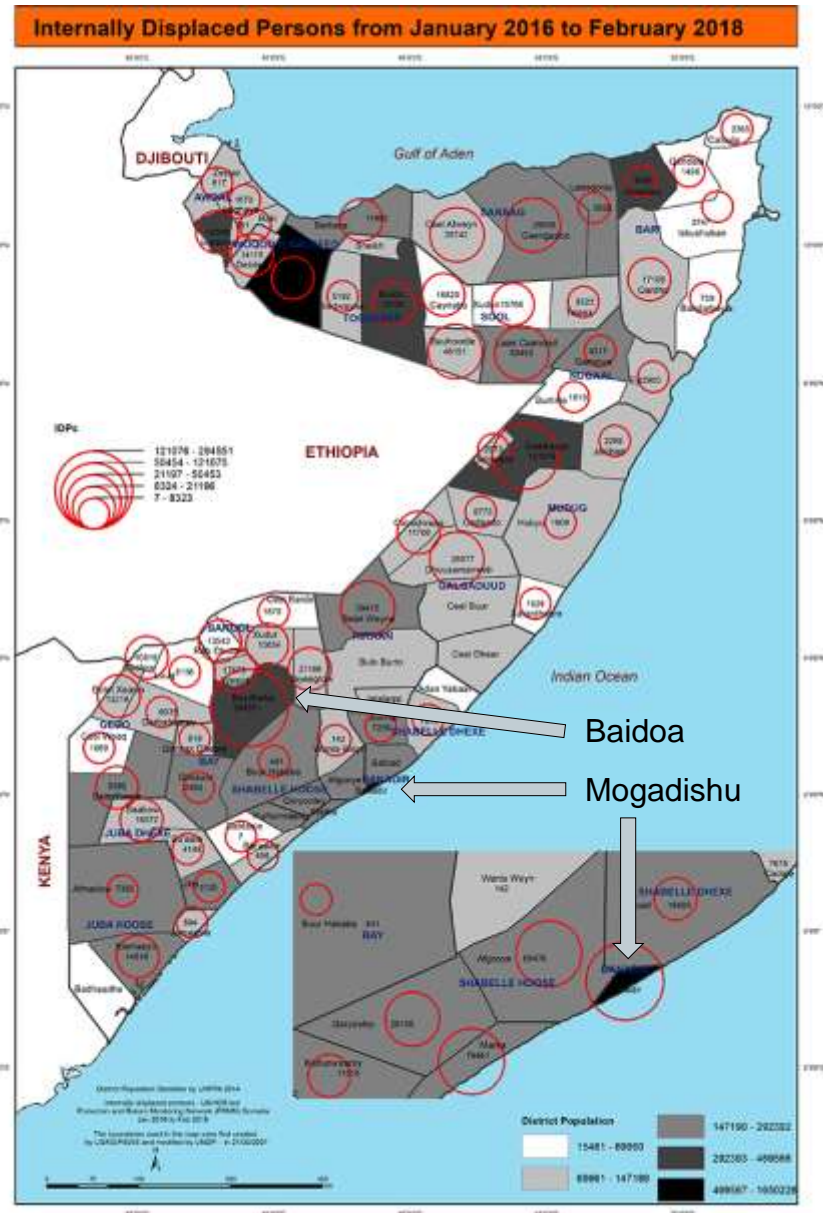


Cities and Towns	Region	Est. Popn. (2015)
Mogadishu	Banaadir	2.1m
Hargeisa	Woqooyi Galbeed	1.5m
Kismayo	Lower Juba	1.2m
Baidoa	Bay	1.4m
Burhakaba	Bay	1.2m
Borama	Awdal	1.0m

Context

Since 2017 displacement has become an urban issue

- 1.6m internally displaced people since November 2016 due to severe drought.
- 56,000 Somali refugees also returned from Kenya's Dadaab refugee camp.
- Most settled in urban areas such as Mogadishu and Baidoa in the south west.



Context

Somali local governments need absorptive and adaptive capacity to invest in sustainable urban resilience

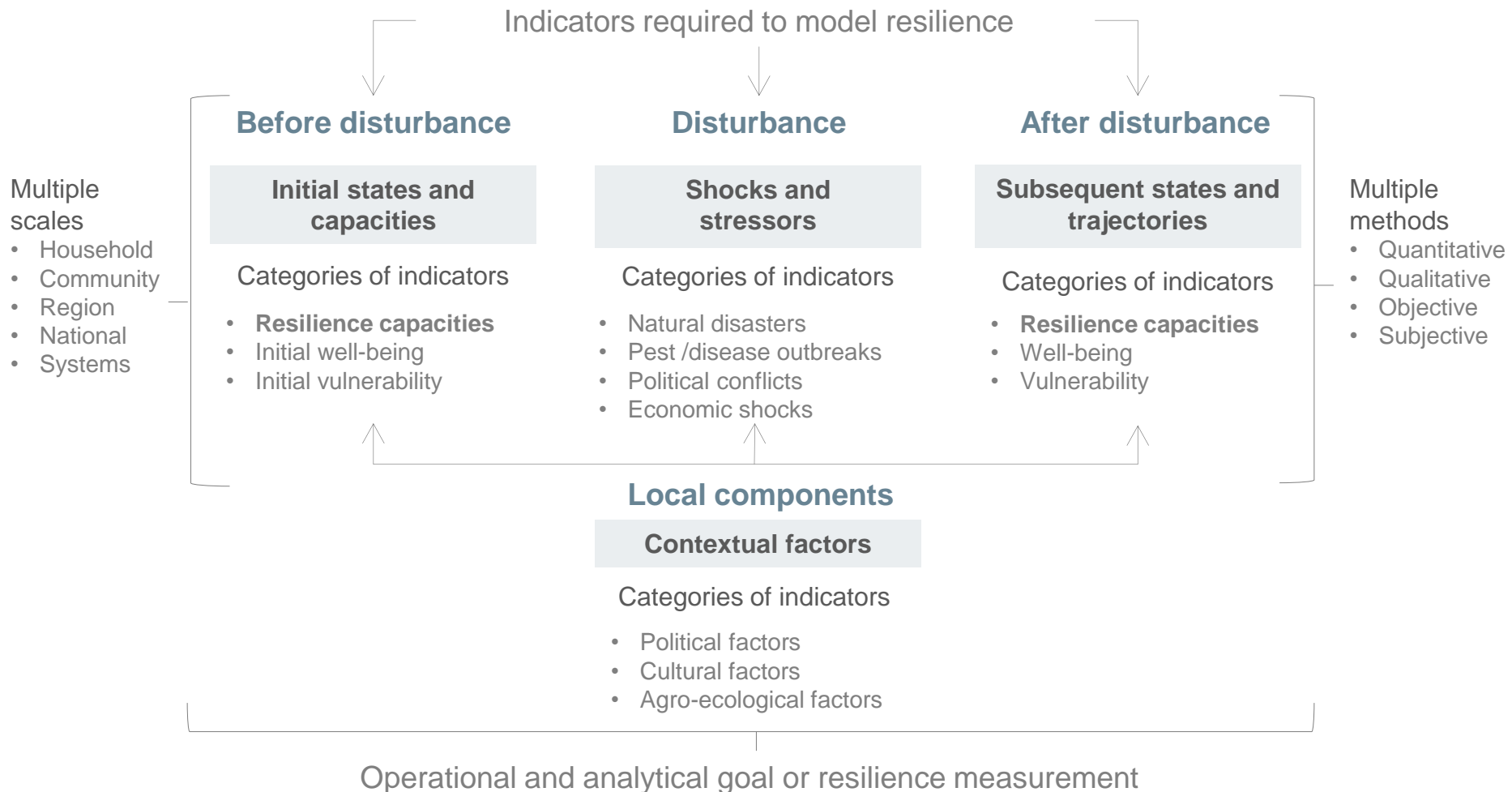
- Government committed to reinforcing capacities to sustain and recover better from natural and man-made disasters, including improved adaptation to climate change, disaster preparedness, and durable solutions for displaced people.
- Local governments *spearheading* inclusive urban development with help of the World Bank.
- Local governments need the absorptive and adaptive capacity to improve resilience to shocks in short and long term.



Measuring urban resilience

IDPs likely to stay in urban areas – municipal governments and communities need to adapt to new urban conditions

Resilience as an instrumental capacity that affects well-being during shocks and stresses

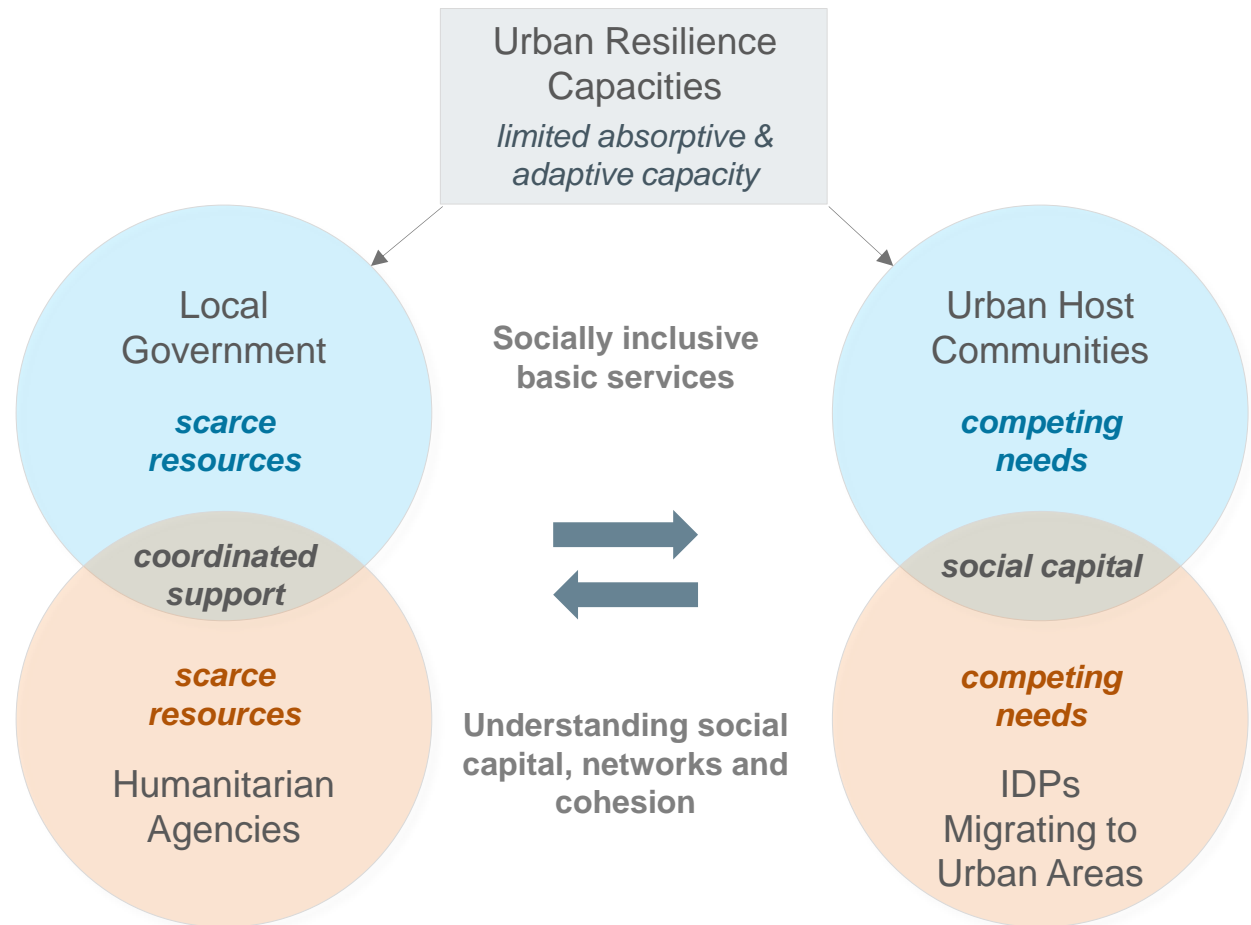


Measuring urban resilience

Need to understand social capital dynamics to enable equal access to scarce resources and urban resilience for all

- *Social needs of refugees, while varied by nationality, prohibit most from achieving self-reliance.*
- *Language, literacy, social networks and capital are among the most important factors for refugees building sustainable livelihoods.*

Source: IRC (2018) 'From Response to Resilience – Working with Cities and City Plans to Address Urban Displacement: Lessons from Amman and Kampala'



OECD definition of social capital

“networks together with shared norms, values and understandings that facilitate co-operation within or among groups”

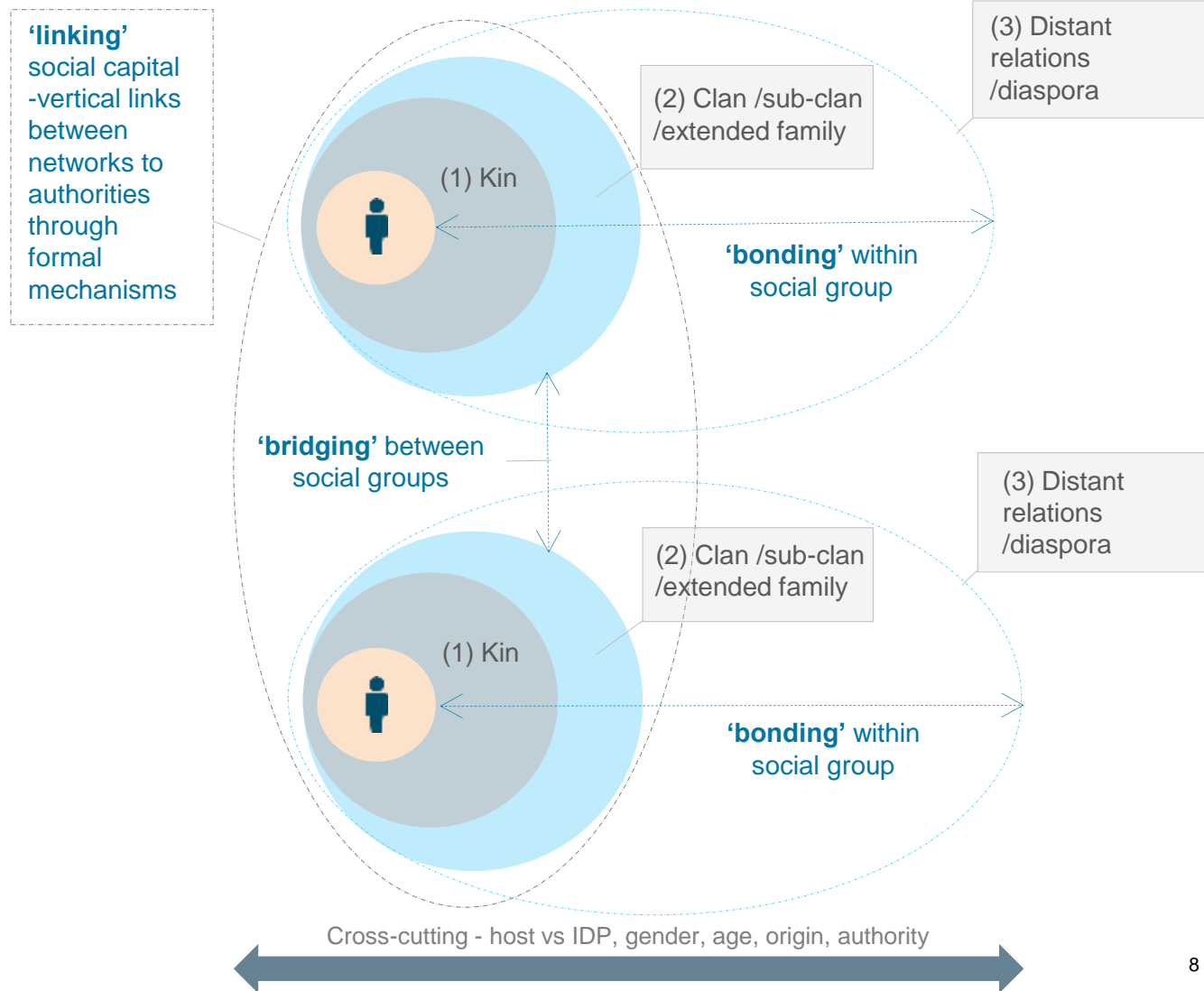
Measuring urban resilience

Social connectedness is a critical factor in Somali's ability to cope with crisis and change

- *Community absorptive capacity exists in complex, dynamic, contested urban social contexts*
- *Not understood overnight or through 'rapid assessment'*
- *Need to understand, monitor and assess the resilience strategies that Somalis themselves rely on*

Source: Maxwell et al (2016), 'Facing Famine: Somali Experience in the Famine of 2011'

Three overlapping circles of Somali social linkages



Measuring urban resilience

Measuring social capital for urban resilience – key principles

- Inherently abstract – cannot be measured directly
- Requires subjective interpretation
- Clear understanding of local context and purpose critical
- Consistent set of indicators linked to clear understanding of context
- Multidimensional – use range of indicators
- Social networks are complex, overlap and temporal
- Integrated with current measurement resilience frameworks

Measuring urban resilience

Social capital measures – relations, help, trust – as one component within a resilience measurement framework

Dimensions (Aldrich, 2012)		Indicators of social capital within and among...	Own Clan?	Other Clan?	IDPs ?	Host?
Bonding	<i>Individual inclusion within 'community'</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDP social relations with (a) family (b) friends... 	✓	✓	✓	
	<i>Reciprocity within own 'community'</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDPs get /give social support (“someone to cry to”) from /to... IDPs get /give help /in-kind support /favours from /to... IDPs get /give financial support from /to... 	✓	✓	✓	
Bridging	<i>Reciprocity outside own 'community'</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDPs get /give social support (“someone to cry to”) from /to... IDPs get /give help /in-kind support /favours from /to... IDPs get /give financial support from /to... 		✓	✓	✓
	<i>Trust in people from other social groups</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDP trust in people from... 		✓	✓	✓
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host community trust in people from... 	✓	✓	✓	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDP trust in the municipal /local government? 				
Linking	<i>Information and social networks through formal mechanisms</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDP involvement in decision-making structures? 				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDP access to information about services through service providers? 				

Social networks and connectedness among IDPs in urban areas are complex – they overlap different social groups and function differently when in crisis compared to more ‘normal’ circumstances (Maxwell et al, 2015)

Conclusions

Delivering socially inclusive basic services and resilience is difficult without measuring social capital

- Rapid urbanisation in Somalia
- Displacement is an urban issue
- Municipal authorities need capacity to absorb shocks and adapt
- Understanding social capital critical to building urban resilience
- Social capital is context-specific, involving complex networks
- Measure social capital through multidimensional resilience framework
- Key measures – relations, support networks, trust, cooperation, civic engagement
- Measures include host communities and capture exclusion
- Measuring social capital difficult, but essential to equitable resilience