at a glance

THE USE OF PROFILING IN

SOMALIA

HARGEISA

2015

JIPS

Joint
IDP
Profiling
Service

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Why a profiling?

The capital city of Somaliland, Hargeisa, is an expanding urban metropolis. Over the years, it has become host to various population groups displaced as a result of conflict, insecurity, or drought, as well as those who migrated to the city for economic reasons. Internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, returnees, and economic migrants have also been arriving in Hargeisa. The majority live in government-recognised settlements, while others mingle with host populations across the city.

Before this profiling exercise, a limited amount of data existed on displacement-affected populations in Hargeisa. **No attempt had been made to systematically identify different population groups and understand their respective needs and living conditions**. **Additionally, no systematically collected and analysed data existed on the displaced populations who were living outside of settlements**.

To fill this gap, authorities, UN agencies, and local and international NGOs decided to undertake a collaborative profiling exercise in Hargeisa to obtain comprehensive, reliable, and agreed-upon data on displacement-affected populations, and to provide an evidence-base to inform durable solutions to displacement. The exercise was led by UNHCR, together with the Somaliland Ministry of Repatriation, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction.

DART

Do your own analysis of the data from Hargeisa on **dart.jips.org**!

Or download the full datasets from **data.humdata.org**.

What difference did the profiling make?

The findings of the profiling exercise substantially changed the overall understanding

Displaced and local communities in a comparative analysis

of the displacement situation in Hargeisa. The profiling exercise provided evidence on the situation of the various different population groups arriving in Hargeisa, as well as the host community residing in the settlements in one comparative analysis.

Shift from humanitarian to development lens

The profiling showed that the challenges faced by the different population groups should primarily be addressed through inclusive long-term development planning and interventions as opposed to humanitarian assistance.

The
profiling in
Hargeisa allowed
to demystify who is
an IDP and who is an urban
poor. It demonstrated that their
needs were very even and hence
**more of an urban develop-
ment challenge than a
humanitarian one**.

Nina Schrepfer,
Coordinator, Somalia
Protection
Cluster

How was the process shaped?

The exercise was coordinated by a UNHCR Profiling Coordinator, with the support of the **IDP Profiling Taskforce of the Hargeisa Protection Cluster** which included:

◆ **Government bodies:** Ministry of Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs;

◆ **Development and humanitarian actors:** UNDP, UNICEF, Candlelight, Save the Children, Danish Refugee Council, Norwegian Refugee Council, IOM, OCHA, Action Africa Help (AAH), Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Somaliland (CCBRS), UN-Habitat, Garsoor, Finn Church Aid.

The data for the profiling study was collected between February and June 2015. Central to the profiling approach was the **engagement and participation of key target groups and stakeholders in Somaliland**, including formal and informal settlement committees, local leaders, authorities and development actors. This way the findings and recommendations put forward better reflect these stakeholders' views and are ultimately realistic to implement.

How was
data collected?

The profiling in Hargeisa covered 14 settlements across the city and five neighbourhoods where IDPs were living among host communities. Methods used included:

◆ **Desk review**: existing data from authorities' baselines, as well as assistance and distribution lists from humanitarian partners were reviewed and triangulated into a consolidated table.

◆ **Mapping**: the profiling team also held meetings with organisations and community groups that conducted field visits to these settlements to map main locations and numbers of IDPs from south-central Somalia living out of settlements.

◆ **Enumeration**: overall, **11,962 households** were enumerated during the exercise. In addition, **263 IDP households** from south-central Somalia were found living out of settlement. The objectives of the enumeration were to conduct a full census of the households living in the settlements identified in the mapping phase, and to have an accurate breakdown of each of the target populations.

Total enumerated household population by target group

Target group	Households	% of HH	Individuals
Economic migrants	6,844	56%	39,941
Somaliland IDPs	2,271	19%	13,671
Refugee returnees	1,373	11%	8,352
Host community	941	8%	5,439
Refugee asylum seekers	412	3%	2,390
Out-of-settlement south-central IDPs	263	2%	1,288
South-central IDPs	121	1%	672
TOTAL	12,225	100%	71,753

Distribution of the surveyed population
by date of departure from the place of origin

Legend:
- Out-of-settlement south-central IDPs
- South-central IDPs
- Somaliland IDPs
- Economic migrants
- Refugee returnees

X-axis: 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015
Y-axis: 0, 30, 60, 90, 120
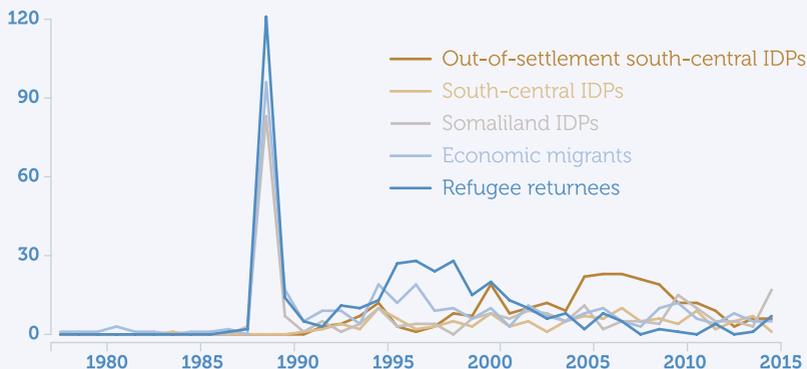
◆ **Household survey** : a sample of **2,510 households**, represent-
ing the different target groups, was then surveyed.

For most target populations, the survey used a probabilistic
sampling approach, stratified by population group. However, a
non-probabilistic sampling approach was used for the IDPs from
south-central Somalia and refugees / asylum seekers, due to the
relatively small size of these population groups and their scat-
tered distribution in Hargeisa.

The household survey obtained information on the demographics,
displacement and migration history, socio-economic situation, living
conditions, protection concerns, and future intentions of IDPs and
other target groups. The enumeration and household survey data
were disaggregated for the different target groups, and organised by
thematic area.

Limitations to the profiling exercise include the difficulty of access-
ing certain areas, the difficulty of accessing refugees and asylum
seekers, the challenge of distinguishing between target groups, and
the absence of focus group discussions to complement the quanti-
tative data obtained.

How did **JIPS support?**

JIPS provided technical support throught the profiling exercise. This included a scoping mission, on-site training and remote support between 2014 and 2015.

At a snapshot

From initiating the profiling exercise to drawing conclusions from the profiling findings.

ESTABLISHING A COLLABORATIVE PROCESS

– Facilitated the formalisation of an IDP Profiling Taskforce;
– Facilitated the identification of a Profiling Coordinator with relevant skills.

INITIATING THE PROFILING EXERCISE

– Organised and delivered a profiling stakeholder workshop.

DESIGNING THE METHODOLOGY

– Designed a tailored methodology to address the agreed-upon objectives;
– Reviewed the methodology documents and supported the sampling design.

Profiling lessons learned:

◆ **Agreement on the data is critical to its end use**. For this to happen it is necessary to go beyond the technical focal points taking part in a collaboration platform and to involve **key policy decision-makers** in key stages of the process, not just at the end.

◆ **Community information campaigns and participation** can help overcome challenges of reaching additional vulnerable populations, such as refugees and asylum seekers.

PROCESSING AND ANALYSING THE DATA

– Delivered on-site training on data cleaning;
– Worked with the Profiling Coordinator to clean the data;
– Contributed to the primary analysis.

IMPLEMENTING DATA COLLECTION

– Remotely supported a quality assurance check on the data.

VALIDATING, REPORTING AND DISSEMINATING THE FINDINGS

– Supported the editing and designing of the report;
– Supported the dissemination of the results among the wider humanitarian and development community.

What were the key findings?

Population in settlements

Economic migrants were found to comprise the majority (56 %) of the population living in settlements in Hargeisa. IDPs from Somaliland, mainly displaced by natural disasters like floods and drought, make up 19 %, while refugee returnees – people originally from Somaliland who returned from refugee camps in Ethiopia – make up 11 %.

Living conditions

The target populations were found to have similar socio-economic situations, quality of living, and needs. **Overall, there are more commonalities than differences between the communities living in the settlements**, which have morphed into urban slums. These similarities show that the struggle for better living conditions is not unique to the displaced population, but is a challenge shared by other inhabitants of the settlements.

However, the findings also suggest that **displaced people from south-central Somalia tend to be worse off than other groups in a number of areas**, including food security and access to livelihoods, healthcare, education and documentation. This will likely hinder their ability to integrate, as they lack the social ties that other communities originating from Somaliland have.

Employment

The profiling found that the majority of households originate from Somaliland, and would like to continue staying in Hargeisa, often for economic or livelihood reasons. This could offer insights into general trends of rural-to-urban migration in the context of Somaliland. Although Somaliland has one of the lowest gross domestic products in the world and high unemployment rates, the profiling confirmed that **migration to the capital is increasingly motivated by economic reasons**. However, the communities profiled had high levels of unemployment, and the majority of those who are employed claim to work in petty trade and other precarious livelihoods.

Sectors in which breadwinners are working
by target group

	0%	50%	100%

| Target group	Service	Petty trade	Construction	Public	Other
Economic migratnts					
Host community					
Out-of-settlement south-central IDP					
Refugee returnees					
Sout-central IDPs					
Somaliland IDPs					
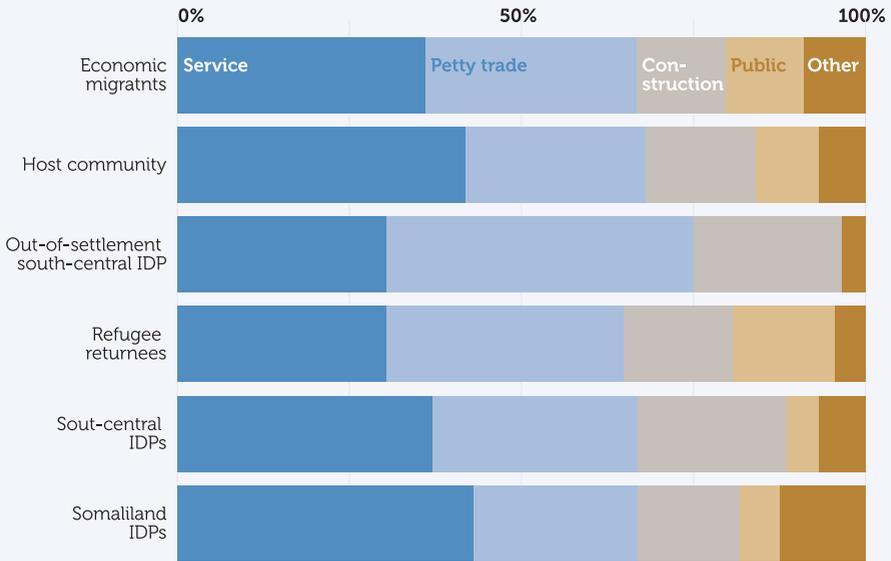
Future intentions

The **difficulties that IDPs from south-central Somalia face in integrating locally are reflected in their future settlement intentions**. Only 57 % of south-central IDPs living outside of settlements, and 69 % of those living in settlements, intend to stay permanently in Hargeisa. By contrast, the overwhelming majority of other surveyed groups would like to stay permanently in Hargeisa (98 % of IDPs from Somaliland, 97 % of refugee returnees, and 93 % of economic migrants).

The reasons for staying differ : those from south-central Somalia (both living in and outside of settlements) wish to stay primarily for security reasons, while economic and security reasons are almost equally important for other groups.

Reasons for wanting to stay permanently at current location
by target population

	Economic migrants	Out-of-settlement south-central IDPs
Education / health reasons	1%	0%
Employment	25%	3%
Family	17%	2%
Feel safe here	30%	71%
Physically impossible to return	9%	23%
Own land here	12%	1%
Public service	3%	1%
Well integrated	4%	0%
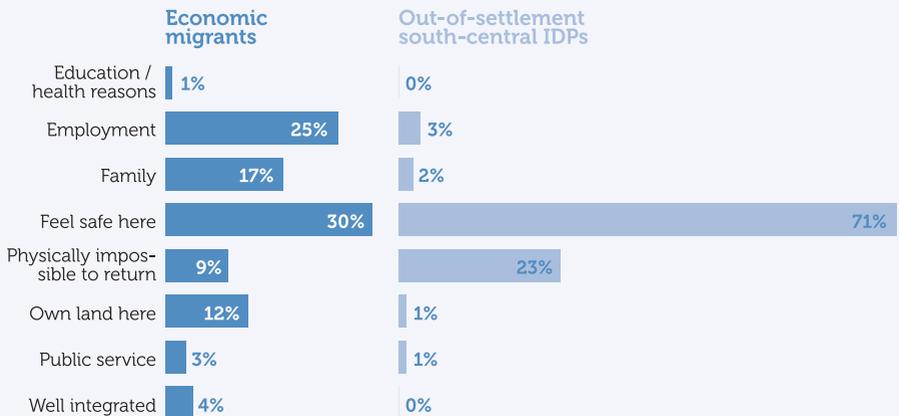
Distribution of households' plans in a near future
by target group

0%   50%   100%

Economic migrants — **Permanently stay in Hargeisa**

Out-of-settlement south-central IDPs — **Return to place of origin**

Refugee returnees

Sout-central IDPs

Somaliland IDPs

Move to another place

Refugee returnees

2%
17%
9%
29%
16%
18%
2%
8%

South-central IDPs

0%
5%
2%
71%
11%
0%
4%
8%

Somaliland IDPs

1%
26%
17%
28%
6%
15%
4%
2%
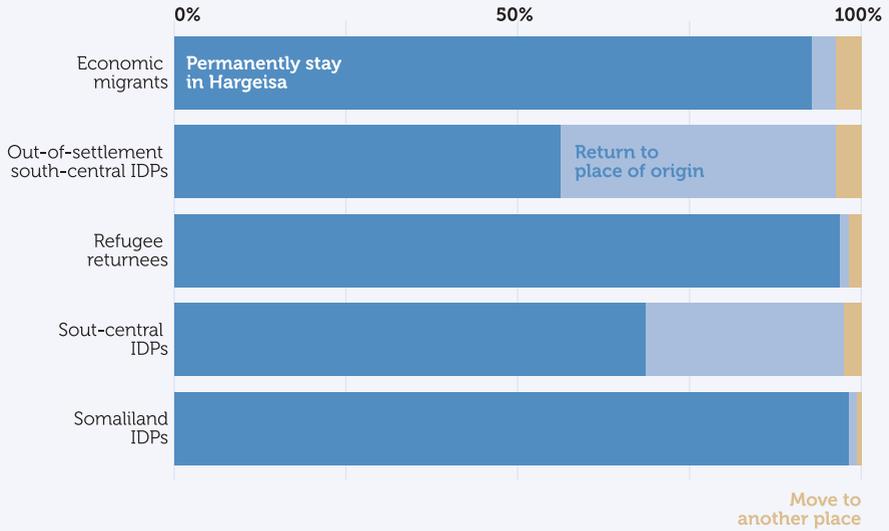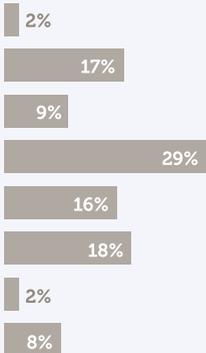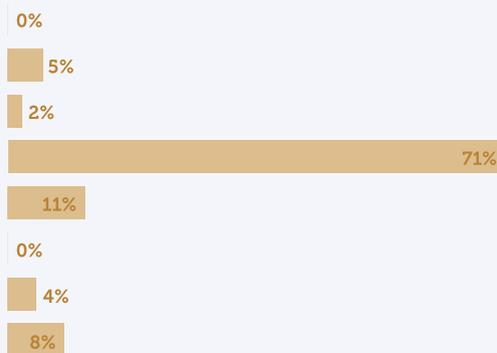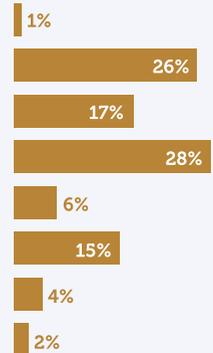
This
exercise
makes me realise
the importance of **genu-
ine and invested high-level
buy-in** from all stakeholders, in
particular local authorities, in order **for
the data to have impact**. Nevertheless, the
findings reinforce the need for a holis-
tic development approach to find
solutions for the commu-
nities living inside the
settlements.

Khadra Elmi
Profiling
Coordinator

JIPS' publications '**At a glance : the use of profiling**', or formerly 'Profiles at a Glance' look at the impact of the profiling exercises supported by JIPS. While providing an overview of the profiling methodology and findings, these publications bring attention to how the collaborative process was shaped and how JIPS concretely contributed.

Through the **At a glance** series we hope to spark an interest in both the specific impact of the exercise in a given context, and profiling of displacement situations in general.

For more information about the profiling exercises, visit our **country operations** page.

www.jips.org/en/field-support/country-operations

The collaborative profiling exercise conducted in Hargeisa, Somaliland in 2015 showed that displacement was more of an urban-development challenge than a humanitarian one. The exercise was coordinated by the IDP Profiling Taskforce of the Hargeisa Protection Cluster, which included authorities, local and international NGOs, and UN partners. JIPS provided technical support throughout the process.

Local authority partners

- Ministry of Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction
- Ministry of Planning
- Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Humanitarian & development partners

- UN agencies: UNHCR, UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNICEF, IOM and UN OCHA
- International and local organisations: Action Africa Help (AAH), Candlelight, Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Somaliland (CCBRS), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Finn Church Aid, Garsoor, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Save the Children

Check out the **profiling report** and find out more about the Somalia, Hargeisa profiling exercise: **www.jips.org**.