

Gendered Context Analysis Template: District/Region Assessment Report Template

OVERVIEW OF VISIT

Date of Visit	10-16/12/2018
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Location (region & district)	Herale and Balanbale districts, Galgaduud region
Cost of Trip (to the organization)	

I. SUMMARY

I.1 Key findings/considerations.

I.2 Herale district- Social structures

- Herale "district"¹ was formerly part of Balanbale district of Galmudug state. It is a relatively small settlement that neighbors Balanbale district in Galmudug state. The area has an estimated population of 29,000 residents; it is divided into six sub-locations. It is located about 600km north of the Somali capital Mogadishu and straddles between Abudwak and Balanbale districts. The Dir clan is the dominant constituency with the presence of the minority clans in Herale district.
- The Dir clan is comprised of many sub-clans majority of who settle in Somaliland while substantial constituencies live in south central Somalia. Suure sub-clan is the branch of Dir family that occupies Herale district. The community has a strong tradition that bonded the community over the years. However, the tradition seems to have been weakened over time by the political contests between politicians that supported Galmudug state formation in 2015 and ASWJ allied faction that opposed its formation- because of the federal government's interference. The disagreement resulted in a bloody conflict that saw the ousting of ASWJ backed faction that dominated the politics of the district for decades from Herale town to Hurshe settlement 15 KM north of the city. Since this incident, there have been several unsuccessful attempts by the local leadership to resolve the conflict and allow people to return.

I.3 Balanbale district

- Balanbale district is one of the largest cities in Galgaduud region with an estimated population of 60,000 residents. It is inhabited by various clans including the Marehan/ Darod clan that live in Balanbale town and Ayr clan in habiting villages in the south and the Dir clan villages in the north. Balanbale district was created by Somali government led by Jaalle Mohamed Siyaad Bare President of Somalia in 1982; It is situated in the western part of Galgaduud region bordering

¹Herale settlement is not full-fledged district recognized by successive government; however, it's often referred to as district to avoid antagonizing locals.

Ethiopia's Somali Regional State. The city is sub-divided into sections of Waaberi, Canjiidle, Oktoobar and Dhagax-barkato.

1.4 Local Administrations

- Herale district has two contesting local administrations propped by rival camps in Galmudug state. Previously, the city hosted both administration but one of the local administrations supported by ASWJ was ejected in 2018 by the rival administration. Both administrations are weak, lack capacity, legitimacy and resources. Their authorities are limited. Besides, the administrations do not generate revenue and therefore relies on donations and contributions from business groups and diaspora member.
- Similarly, Balanbale district has two contesting administrations that emerged out of the political rift between President of Galmudug state and his deputy. This occurred after the deputy sacked incumbent district commissioners who has been in office for many years and appointed an interim commissioner that was tasked to lead the district council formation that was facilitated by ZZF in collaboration with the SSF. The outgoing commissioner protested the decision and complained to the president and was reinstated shortly after. Currently, the new administration backed by deputy president is currently seen as popular and maintains law and order.

1.5 Economic sector

Herale and Balanbale districts

- The economic mainstays of the respective populations in the two districts are livestock production such as camels, sheep, goats and cattle. Pastoralism and agro-pastoralism is the major source of livelihoods for many of the residents. A few of the pastoralist also practice small scale farming such as growing of vegetables for domestic use as well as commercial.
- Many of the urban dwellers are engaged in various small and medium scale businesses such as wholesale and retail business of mainly food stuffs, household items, and hardware while majority of small scale business range from sale of groceries, tea kiosks, textile shops, hotels and open air markets, butchery, tailoring, barber and saloons and car wash.
- Despite their enormous contribution in the local economy and being breadwinners in many households, women are deliberately excluded from political power and elective positions due clan patriarchy that often favor men over women. Given that Herale district is ASWJ stronghold, the *sufi* ideology has further excluded women from decision making and appointments and relegated them to domestic affairs. The cultural ceiling has often restricted and discouraged women participation in politics and leadership positions. Nevertheless, businesswomen have taken part in resource mobilization and contributions towards funding ASWJ operations. An interview with women groups indicated that there are no female officials in the local administration.

1.6 GESI sensitive recommendations.

Conflictive sensitive approach

- I. Given the deep divisions within the Dir sub clans and fragmentation within the Marehan community the economic development project will engage all the parties and the investment will take cognizant of the existing tradition used by the community in terms of resource distribution.

2. SSF in partnership with ZZF will ensure inclusivity of not only contesting sub clans but also minority clans, youth and women, this will be achieved through working with all the stakeholders and local administration.
3. ZZF will adopt the Do No Harm Principles that will ensure fairness and transparency in the initial selection of beneficiaries, evaluation of business plans and provision of business grants.
4. Considering the presence of rival administrations in both districts, the project will engage both sides but will work closely with elders and constitute project committees that will be involved in the selection of the beneficiaries.

Priorities in the short-term and medium term for the locals

1. The study found that both districts have investment opportunities in the trade and commerce, hospitality, construction and SMES sectors that can create employment and spur growth, however, the sectors are at infancy stage and there has been little investment by aid agencies except the few businesses operated by locals. The immediate priority will be to support medium and small enterprises in various sectors to create employment for the youth and women that could in turn create revenue for the local administration.
2. A field observation of the current businesses noted lack of good business practices such as book keeping of sales and expenditure, savings account, marketing skills, customer relations and investment plans. A lot of business owners have accrued bad debt that accumulated due to huge borrowing on credit by the locals and lack of records makes even hard for people to trace the debtors. The immediate priority will be to provide skills enhancement for SMES, women and youth to adopt good business practices, address the challenges and risks and make smart investment.
3. Majority of the SMEs holders are women who lack access to credit to grow and expand their business because the current financial institutions do not provide loans and there has been no agency that has supported small businesses. Therefore, the short-term priority will be to provide business grants for SMEs who will emerge from the business that will be held after completing their training.
4. Despite women making up to 70% of business entrepreneurs in both cities they lack basic business skills such as numeracy, literacy and entrepreneurship. The project will sensitize all the SMEs to improve the literacy and numeracy skills so as to grow their business in the long-term.
5. Given the lack of credit from financial institutions and discouraging bureaucracies women have relied on an old tradition of savings and credit scheme known as *Ayutoo* or *Hagbad* where a group of women create a revolving fund in which members give credit to one another. Such system has been a major source of fund for women in both cities. The planned economic development project is expected to strengthen the capacity of the members to develop a sound system to avoid potential risks and loss of money.
6. The project will provide platform for SMEs comprised of five-member group to identify business priorities for funding which will be evaluated and processed for funding.
7. The project will provide mentorship and set up financial systems to ensure the application of good business practice and link the groups to financial institutions in Mogadishu.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Herale district

Herale “district”² was formerly part of Balanbale district of Galmudug state. It is a relatively small settlement that neighbours Balanbale district in Galmudug state. The area is home to Dir clans that annexed it from Balanbale district. The Dir clan is comprised of many sub-clans majority of who occupy Somaliland while substantial constituencies live in south central Somalia. Suure sub clan is a branch of Dir family that occupy Herale district. They are comprised of various sub groups.

Herale is facing multitude of challenges including poverty, illiteracy and unemployment. Despite carving out Herale and declaring as their own district, the residents have experienced protracted intra-clan conflicts especially between Reer Mohamed sub clan of Baha Afrah and the rest of the larger family over leadership contests and representation in Galmudug state formation. The former group produced a prominent Sufi cleric and was allied to ASWJ group that opposed the state formation. The political contest between ASWJ and Galmudug state has had a major impact on the relations between the Dir clans. There was a rebellion against ASWJ backed faction by other clan factions that supported the formation of Galmudug state.

The disagreement resulted in a bloody conflict that saw the ousting of ASWJ backed faction that dominated the politics of the district for decades from Herale town to Hurshe settlement. Since this incident, there have been several unsuccessful attempts by the local leadership to resolve the conflict and allow people to return home.

Functional local governance however still remains a challenge partly due to the divisive politics, zero-sum attitude, conflict, weak traditional conflict mechanisms, and local resource competition and militia activities. These calls for efforts to re-engineer the state at the local level through establishing bottom up governance systems, breaking down social barriers, mending social divide, and re-energizing the spirit of working together for the common good.

During the central government, Herale district was administratively part of Balanbale district but the collapse of the state led to clan conflict that heavily impacted cosmopolitan cities including Balanbale district. Conflict erupted between the Dir and Marehan on many occasions that led the former to declare the area as their own district. Eventually, the Dir community seemed to have contained the onslaught and succeeded in declaring Herale as their own district but their efforts to get recognition for Herale as full-fledged district from successive transitional governments and the current has not been successful.

Life and Peace Institute in partnership with Zamzam have been implementing peace building program since 2016 geared to bridge the social divide and create platforms for dialogue. The project succeeded in building community peace structures and facilitated community dialogues that offered a breakthrough for communities to dialogue and commit to peace. Besides, the peace initiatives has succeeded in reducing tension and prevented renewed conflict. Whilst the conflict between intra communities has somewhat stopped following numerous successful mediations, the bitter conflict has left indelible scars that remains a hallmark in the relations between clans.

1.2 Balanbale district

Balanbale district is one of the largest cities in Galgaduud region with an estimated population of 60,000 residents. It is inhabited by various clans including, the Marehan/ Darod clan that live in Balanbale town and Ayr clan in habiting villages in the south and the Dir clan villages in the north. Balanbale district was created by Somali government led by Jaalle Mohamed Siyaad Bare President of

²Herale settlement is not full-fledged district recognized by successive government; however, it's often referred to as district to avoid antagonizing locals.

Somalia in 1982; it is situated in the western part of Galgaduud region bordering Ethiopia's Somali Regional State. The city is sub-divided into sections of Waaberi, Canjiidle, Oktoobar and Dhagax-barkato.

Galgaduud region consists of seven districts named Dhusamareb, Caabudwaq, Cadaado, Ceeldheer, Ceelbuur, Balanbale and Galhareeri districts. The region is bordered by Ethiopia, the Somali regions of Mudug, Hiran and Middle Shebelle (Shabeellaha Dhexe), and the Indian Ocean. Galgaduud's capital is Dhusamareb. Galmudug State of Somalia is comprised of Galgaduud and southern half of Mudug regions.

Functional local governance however still remains a challenge partly due to the divisive politics, zero-sum attitude, conflict, weak traditional conflict mechanisms, local resource competition and militia activities. These calls for efforts to re-engineer the state at the local level through establishing bottom up governance systems, breaking down social barriers, mending social divide, and re-energizing the spirit of working together for the common good.

Somali government's roadmap to working on local governance through the Wadajir Framework project is central in this endeavour, however its implementation continues to be hampered by: (a) lack of social reconciliation and integration; (b) lack of understanding of democracy in action; (c) lack of opportunity for widespread participation in political processes; (d) lack of capacity and resources to facilitate and deliver on local governance; and (e) fragmentation of media and consequent lack of unbiased national dialogue.

Balanbale district targeted for implementation and the surrounding communities have been affected by conflict; with consequent local state government institutional weaknesses tasked with enforcement of law and order, and peace. The institutions are further characterized by insufficient local support due to expiry of their interim period.

2.0 METHODOLOGY.

The approach to the analysis was consultative, using participatory methods and appreciative enquiry. The analysis adopted qualitative data collection approach. The qualitative component was used to obtain a richer understanding of the current context in Herale and Balanbale districts, clan constituencies and relations, economic opportunities and stakeholders. The data collection techniques involved extensive key informant interviews, focused group discussions, observations; complemented with in-depth literature review. Respondents were selected using various parameters that suit the research techniques. Information was collected with consent from respondents maintaining the highest levels of ethical standards to ensure data quality.

3.0 SOCIO-GEOGRAPHICAL & ECONOMIC DATA

Herale district

3.1 What are the geographic characteristics of the area?

Herale settlement is often referred as one of the districts of Galgaduud region in Galmudug state of Somalia because it is not recognized as a full-district. The area has an estimated population of 29,000 residents, it has six sub-locations. It is located about 600km north of the Somali capital Mogadishu and straddles between Abudwak district to the North West, and Balanbale district to the south.

The Dir clan is the dominant constituency with the presence of the minority clans in Herale district. The Dir clan claim to have annexed Herale district from Balanbale district administration after the collapse of the central government because of the continued marginalization and oppression by the dominant Marehan clan in Balanbale District. The economic mainstays of the communities are pastoralism, small-scale farming and small-medium economic enterprise.

Balanbale district

Balanbale district is one of the largest cities in Galgaduud region in Galmudug state of Somalia with an estimated population of 60,000 residents. It is inhabited by various clans including, the Marehan/ Darod clan that live in Balanbale town and villages in the north, Ayr/Habargidir of Hawiye clan in south villages and Dir in Xerale town area. Balanbale district was created by Somali government led by Jaalle Mohamed Siyaad Bare President of Somalia in 1982; It is situated in the western part of Galgaduud region bordering Ethiopia's Somali Regional State and it is sub-divided into sections of Waaberi, Canjiidle, Oktoobar and Dhagax-barkato.

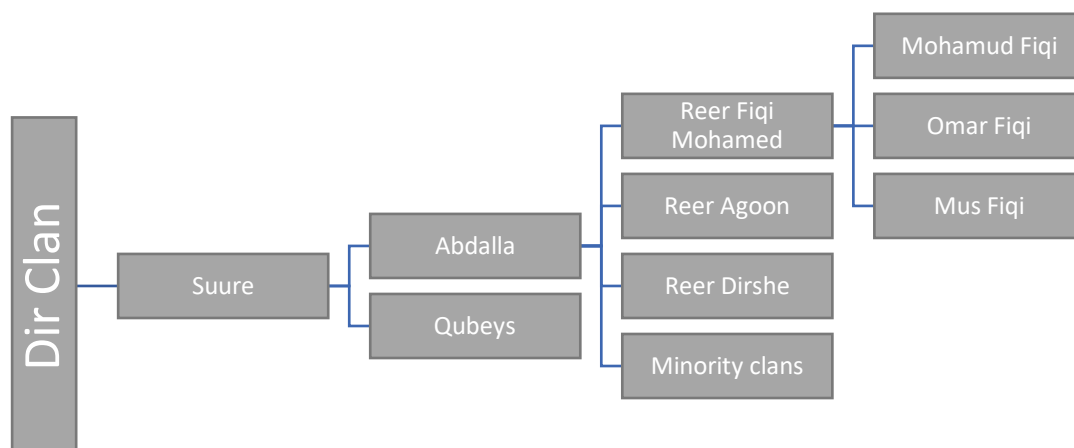
3.2 Demography

What is the clan composition in Herale and Balanbale districts?

Herale district

Herale district is home to Dir clan mainly the Suure sub clan which is a branch of Dir family. The community is further divided into several sub clans and settle in different sub locations in the district. For instance, the dominant sub clan occupies Herale city with other sub clans on settle in other sub-locations. The Dir family has customary system in place that has been used in adjudicating cases. Besides, the district also hosts members from the minority clans such as Bantu, Jareerweyne, Tumaal. The Dir community has experienced bloody conflict between the rival sub-clans that fought for power and control of the district. Massive destruction and displacement was witnessed in the district that severely affected the livelihoods of the communities. As a result of the conflict commodity prices such as food and water have increased up to six times.

Figure 1: The Dir clan structure



Balanbale district

The Marehan clan- particularly the Reerdiini, Reer Gulled faarax, Uur-midig, Calidheere, Fiqiyaqub sub-clans is the dominant clan in Balanbale district with the presence of other minority clans such as Aarsade, Madhiban, Tumaalo, Jareer etc. In addition, there are two other main clans of Ayr (Reer Ayaanle and Sambuux) of Habargidir of Hawiye clan in villages south of Balanbale district and Dir (Fiqimuxumed and Laxmar) in Herale town. Balanbale has 33 settlements, 21 settlements out of the 33 settlements are resided by the Marehan clan whereas 8 settlements are inhabited by the

Ayrand 4 settlements by Dir. All minority clans reside in Balanbale town. Below table illustrates number of settlements, names and its inhabitant clan.

Table 1: Clan settlements in Balanbale district

Marehan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Balanbale district, Ceelasha, Yoocaale, Bali boore, Jiicle, Burale, Xasan cawl, Cumar garaar, Daahir buldhe, Laanhimirey, Macalin maxamuud, Tuulo barwaaqo, Ceelnuur, Boorancad, Ina erag, Gaxandhaale •Dhooba cantuug, Hareeri, Barre, Tuulo xasan aadan, Kale foge, Mareere, Cali xasan, Balihowd
Ayr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Cali mire, Oodaale, Laan ijaabo, • Baag, Xirsi lugey
Dir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Barkado diirshe, Barkado aweys •Mayeeran, La jiide

3.3 What are the characteristics of the population of Herale and Balanbale districts? (i.e. Estimated population, what percentage of the population are male / female, under 15, 15-30, over 30? – sex disaggregated if info exists)

UNFPA estimates the population of Galgaduud as 569,434. However, the data is not further aggregated into districts. Therefore, there is no available data of the population census of residents in Herale. But according to some traditional elders the population of people in Herale town is estimated to be as 29,000 families. Majority of the residents are youth, estimated 65% of the population while more than 25% of the population of this area are females, while the remaining number of the population are male⁴.

Similarly, there is no available data of the population census of residents in Balanbale. But according to some traditional elders the population of people in Balanbale district is estimated as 60,000. Majority of the residents are youth, estimated 70% of the population while more than 35% of the population of this area are females approximately, while the remaining number of the population are male⁵.

³ UNFPA Population Estimation Survey for the 18 Pre-War Regions of Somalia October 2014.

⁴ Interview with traditional elders in Herale

⁵ Interview with traditional elders in Balanbale on 1 November 2017

Please include a map: If available - of the region of your analysis. Mark on significant demographic and conflict-relevant features e.g. IDP settlements / camps, areas inhabited by marginalized groups, areas identified by respondents (m/f/ MGs) as particularly insecure, police / military presence etc

Figure 1: Herale settlement

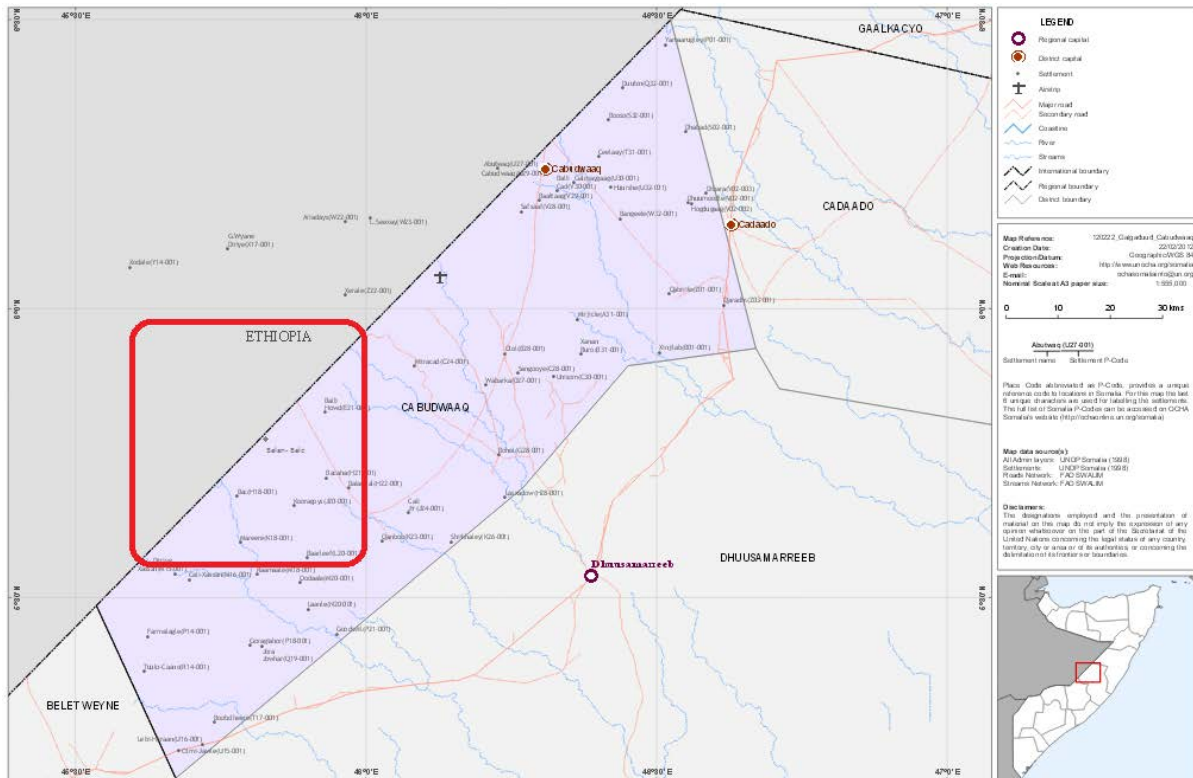
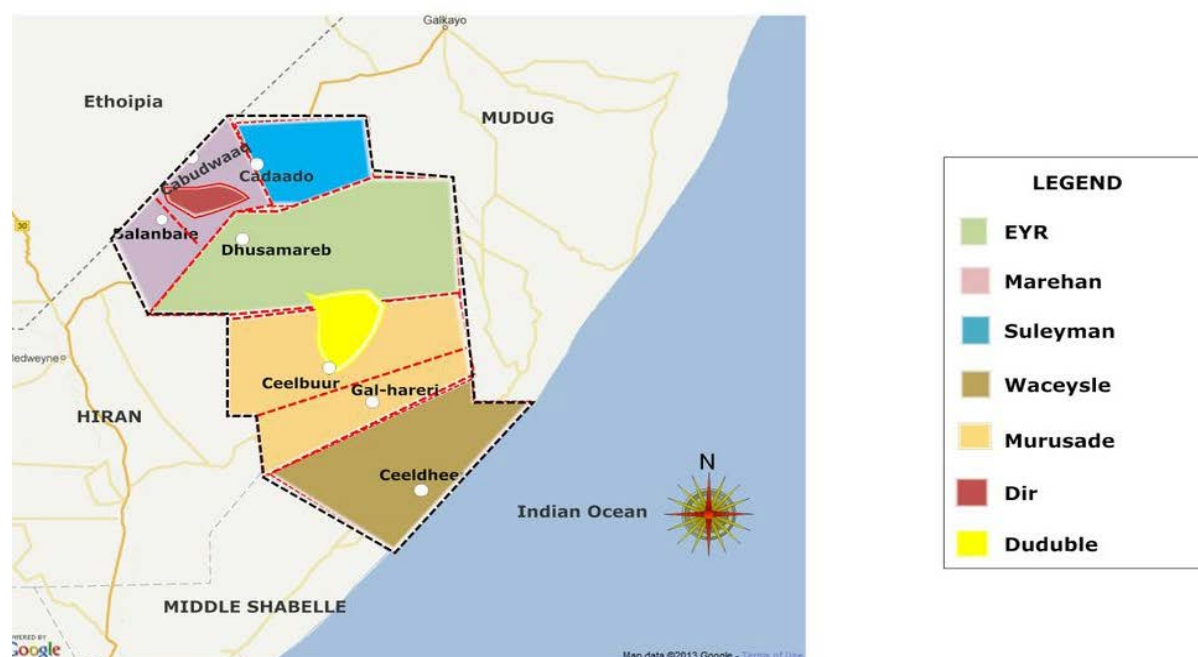


Figure2: A map of Galgadud region



Displacement and IDPs in the District

There are many IDPs who had arrived in Balanbale district including children, women and elderly and whose social status is no better than when they left their villages due to loss of assets such as livestock, farms and properties. Many people left their village in 2017 due to drought and economic hardship that disrupted their coping strategies. There was also rural-urban immigration in the last one year due to the same reason. Similarly, there are also refugee returnees from Dadab refugee camp in Kenya, Ethiopia and Yemen.

Marginalized Settlements

The marginalized communities in Balanbale district are residing largely in Gorayahor section situated north of Balanbale town. They live among the other clans of Marehan. These communities have no access to basic service and live in squalid conditions.

Areas Identified as Being Insecure

Despite relative security improvement in the district, natural phenomena such as protracted drought, inter-clan conflicts, high unemployment among the youth, weak, uncontrolled and clan militias are main security threats in the area. There are simmering perceptions by some members of the host community that the IDPs and refugee-returnees may pose a security risk as well.

3.4 Recent History

What are the key political, military, economic events in Herale and Balanbale districts recent (past five years) history? Which groups have been involved, who has benefitted/ lost out?

Herale district

Herale district has experienced protracted inter-clan and intra-clan conflicts. Over the years, the Dir community has fought with Marehan over land dispute and natural resources. In 2018, intra-

clan conflict erupted between rival political camps that led to the ousting of ASWJ backed faction. The conflict has created deep divisions and mistrust among the warring sub clans. New administration was declared comprised of former ASWJ members-turn rebels getting support from rival Galmudug state faction based in Adado. The internal rift deepened following the political merger between Galmudug state and ASWJ in 2018. Given that the latter's strong influence in the negotiation it appointed all its loyalists in to key government positions. Among those appointed is the former district commissioner who controlled a village in Hirale district. The wider community felt betrayed and declared their support for rival Galmudug faction in Adado town.

Table 2: Events in the past five years

Thematic areas	Issues	Actors	Who has benefitted/ lost out?
Political	<p>After the successful annexation of Herale from Balanbale and containing aggression from Marehan community, the Dir community established a local administration in 2005 and have since enjoyed relative peace and economic development. The political scene was dominated by the ReerMohamudFiqi sub-clan that is respected because of their association with Sheikh Yusuf Sheikh Hassan Ibrahim, revered <i>suficleric</i> that has wide following in the region. However, political contest between Dir politicians has been simmering over the years because of the domination of power by one sub clan that allegedly marginalised and excluded the rest in decision making.</p> <p>The political tension turned violent after the local administration defied ASWJ's opposition to GMs formation in Adado town and declared their support for the state in 2015. The rift deepened following the political merger between Galmudug and ASWJ that was achieved through the backing of the international</p>	<p>Actors in Herale are classified as local actors and external actors.</p> <p>The local actors are rival political groups- ASWJ backed faction and Adado backed faction.</p> <p>Business community supporting rival camps</p> <p>Local sub clan leaders</p> <p>Militia leaders,</p> <p>Diaspora community.</p> <p>External actors are;</p> <p>Galmudug state administration faction in Dhusamareeb</p> <p>Galmudug state administration faction in Adado</p> <p>Federal government</p>	<p>Despite losing the leadership of Herale administration the ASWJ backed faction benefited from the political merger that was established recently in Dhusamareeb</p> <p>The rival political faction seized control of local administration but was subsequently marginalized and excluded from the political merger between ASWJ and GMs in Dhusamareeb.</p>

	<p>community.</p> <p>Given the strong position and influence that ASWJ gained in building a broad based administration. Majority of the political beneficiaries were loyalist thus marginalizing further those seen as rebels.</p>		
Military	<p>The Dir community has well organized militia who are mainly part of the military wing of ASWJ. The community has successfully contained Marehan militia in their quest to wrestle Herale from the Dir. Cyclic conflict was witnessed and culminated with 2003-2005 conflict that ended with the defeat of the Marehan militia. Suspensions and mistrust characterise the relations between the two communities.</p> <p>Herale town developed because it served as the military base of the ASWJ that was fighting against Al-Shabab in the region. However, therebel clan militia seized assorted weapons from ASWJ backed administration.</p>	ASWJ wing in Herale jostling with opposition clan militia for the control of the district	ASWJ backed militia lost the control and weapons to rival sub-clan militia and were pushed out of Herale town into outskirts villages.
Economic	<p>The protracted conflicts over the years affected the growth of the local economy as many prospective business companies stayed away or moved out thus crippling the local economy.</p> <p>The major sector of the economy are mainly SMES, agro-pastoralism and is poorly developed compared to that neighbouring districts</p>	Rival political actors play central role in the development of the local but their divergent interest is deepening mistrust and undermining security sector	The local community suffered greatly due to the political contest in the district.

Balanbale district

The district has recorded numerous conflicts between the Marehan vs. Ayr clans over the years and remains unresolved to date. The casualty among Marehan and Ayr clans are uncountable as noted by the respondents of this assessment. The cyclical conflicts has resulted death, destruction and displacement and livestock theft, appropriation of water points and grazing fields, and escalated revenge killings. The absence of effective government in Somalia has seen the peace committees, religious leaders, women and youth groups, clan elders take up leadership role in addressing these conflicts, however, due to lack of resources, capacity and enforcement has undermined the ability of these groups to broker a lasting peace.

Marehan and Dir clans have clashed several times in Herale town, 45km North-east of Balanbale, over the control of Herale. What started as revenge attacks has sometimes escalated to bloody conflict that caused the deaths of nearly three hundred lives and caused the destruction of property, loss of livelihoods, looting and displacement. The local administration has limited capacity to resolve clan conflicts nor provide social services in Balanbale and its surrounding villages.

3.5 Economy

What is/are the source of livelihood in Herale and Balanbale districts? For urban / rural males /females / members of marginalized groups and youth (m /f) (i.e., fishing, trade, agriculture, remittances?

The economic mainstays of the locals are livestock production such as camels, sheep, goats and cattle. During the rainy season these livestock are purchased locally and shipped through the ports of Bossaso and Berbera every year. The city's livestock trade is at its most brisk during the *haji* period, when over a hundred thousand heads of livestock are sold and shipped to the Gulf States through Bosaso and Berbera ports. The marginalized groups engage in casual labor such as domestic work, potters, loaders, shoe shining and chefs.

Table 3: Sources of livelihoods

Sources of livelihoods	Description
Pastoralism and agro-pastoralism	<p>Pastoralism and agro-pastoralism are the major sources of livelihoods for many of the residents. The practice involves keeping of livestock such as Camel, Sheep and Goats. A few of the pastoralist also practice small scale farming such as growing of vegetables for domestic use as well as commercial.</p> <p>Despite the livestock sector being the backbone of the local economy, it has been hit by the protracted drought and conflicts in the region thus diminishing livelihoods opportunities and forcing household adopt severe coping strategies. Besides, some of the pastoralists were trapped in the constituencies as the search for pasture and water elsewhere was limited because of fear of revenge attacks from the rival clans in neighbouring districts.</p>
Medium and Small enterprises	Many of the urban dwellers are engaged in various small and medium enterprises such as wholesale and retail businesses of mainly food stuffs, household items, and hardware while majority of small scale businesses range

	from sale of groceries, tea kiosks, textile shops, hotels and open air markets, butchery, tailoring, barber and saloons and car wash. Majority of the locals are engaged in the SMEs sector while majority of the unemployed youth are casual labourers working in construction and stone mining sectors. Women are the major stakeholders in SMEs sector especially those from host community while those from the minority clans and IDPs work as domestic workers.
Remittances	A few of the residents depend on remittances from next of kin or relatives in other regions of the country or abroad. The presence of different Hawala companies such as Dahabshil, Taj, Hodan, Jubba, and Olympic is indicative of the customer base who rely on remittances in the district.

What are the key economic activities in Herale and Balanbale districts? Urban / rural / m/ f/ marginalized groups.

The main sources of income in urban centres include; trade, remittances and casual labor. Within the rural areas both female and male are involved in livestock production while others rely on remittances from their relatives. Among the marginalized groups, some are engaged in shoes making, domestic work, causal labor such as digging latrines and dump sites as well construction. The youth on the other hand engage in small business, charcoal sale, car wash, garages and construction as their main source of income.

Do different societal groups or communities have different access to livelihood and income opportunities? What are the drivers of this? How satisfied are different groups with their livelihood opportunities?

Clan segmentation is a common phenomenon that is often used to build businesses and social networks. For instance, dominant clans such as Dir in Herale and Marehan in Balanbale have better access than the minority clans who are often seen as outsiders. Social relations are often built around interest, family ties and *diyapayment* groups. This relation is often stronger among the respective dominant clans compared with relations with other clans. Opportunities such as employment, grants and appointments are distributed across clans. In such close-knit clan system tend to marginalize and exclude smaller clans. Majority of people are not satisfied with their current livelihoods since it is not adequate to meet their household needs. Many of the respondents lamented that their monthly income is not enough to cover their basic needs such as food; let alone the other basic household necessities like clothing.

What are the key sources of revenue for the districts? How do the districts generate revenue (e.g. through taxation or donation?) What proportion of revenue is raised from taxing women?

The respective local administrations do not collect revenue from the local communities. Given that the local administrations in Balanbale and Herale are relatively new they lack revenue generation mechanism. Both administrations rely on donations from private sector groups. The local staffs work voluntarily. Unlike the current administration, the previous administration in Herale had a revenue collection system from local businesses, collected fee from agencies seeking registration, taxed property development, land sale to supplement donations received from Galmudug administration.

and ASWJ leadership. This system of revenue generation was disrupted and was not reintroduced after the ousting of the administration. In terms of performance, the local administration is still functionally ineffective due to its limited authority.

What is the condition of local markets?

Herale town has three market centres that are located in different areas. One of the markets is privately owned and tenants pay nominal rent. The two other markets are public facilities but are not properly structured and do not have adequate space, fence and descent roofing. The markets have areas designated for small scale traders selling vegetables and another section for livestock. Besides, there is lack of proper garbage collection and disposal thus exposing the local traders and residents to potential health hazards. Respondents explained the existence of a market that was constructed by TIS-DAI in 2014 in Herale town but remains idle. They lamented the market centre was not located in strategic location because of poor accessibility and lack of adequate space. Respondents underscored the market was poorly planned from the inception and was later abandoned. The team also observed numerous small businesses including shops, tea shops, as well as textile shops dotted the main streets in the city centre.

Similarly, Balanbale town has a commercial market that has is used for the sale of agricultural produce and livestock. Although the two markets are functional they are in not good condition and do not have adequate space, fence and descent roofing. Besides, there is lack of proper garbage collection and disposal thus exposing the local traders and residents to potential health hazards.

Are local construction companies and/or materials suppliers locally present/accessible?

There are a few local constructions companies that are operating in Herale town. These companies provide range of services and products such as import commodities via the ports of Bossaso and Mogadishu, while others are bought from the neighbouring districts of Galkayo, Baladweyn or Berbera and Ethiopian border. Some of the prominent companies that were involved in construction projects are; Sahal construction and general trading company, Huba engineering company, Wadani construction, Towfiq construction and Towfiq general trading company.

While in Balanbale district, there are seven constructions companies. These companies provide range of services and products that are sources from within the neighboring districts or imported. The construction materials and hardware items are mainly imported via the ports of Bossaso and Mogadishu, while others are bought from the neighbouring districts of Galkayo, Baladweyn or Berbera and Ethiopian border. Table shows the companies providing the construction materials are written below:-

Table 4: List of companies operating in Balambale district

S#	Company name
01	Red sea
02	Opec
03	Horseed
04	True way

4.0 Overall security and conflict Situation

How is the security situation in the area?

Herale district

The security situation in Herale is currently stable but fragile. The community has recently witnessed deadly intra-clan conflict pitting two political factions—one group supported by ASWJ and rebel group resisting their administration. Presently, there are peace initiative programs that are implemented by ZZF and LPI in the area to reconcile the warring clans neighbouring Herale. This has significantly reduced the clan's tensions between Dir of Herale and Merahan of Balanbale and Ayr of Guriceel Districts. However the movement of people and goods are still affected between these constituencies.

Currently there is peace initiative led by the traditional elders from the Salebaan clan from Adado district to mediate the warring groups in Herale district. The peace initiative has made significant achievement in organizing dialogue events between politicians and elders from Dir community. Both sides welcomed the initiative and accepted to uphold peace and honour the outcome of the ongoing peace process which called on both sides to cessation of hostilities.

Balanbale district

The security situation in Balanbale district is calm, however, the district is inhabited by three main contesting clans that live in separate constituencies. Movement of people and goods are severely affected between these constituencies. Balanbale town has an interim local administration that has limited authority because it is not seen as legitimate and inclusive by non-Marehan clans in the periphery.

There are negative perceptions by some members of the host community towards the IDPs and refugee-returnees that they could pose a security risk because they are not fully integrated and a lot of the youth are unemployed.

Beside the clan contestations, there are different competing actors jostling for control and power in the district. Galmudug state and Ahlu-sufa group are the main contesting camps that enjoy different support from the clans in Balanbale district. The district is nominally under Galmudug state but large swathe of villages are under the control of Ayr and Dir who are feeling excluded from Balanbale administration and therefore have no allegiance to it. Present in the district are small number of security agencies from the national government including: Somali national army (SNA), National intelligence security agency (NISA) and Somali police forces (SPF). In addition, they are also amorphous clan militias in the district. In 2018, there were skirmishes in Balanbale following revenge attacks between Marehan and Ayr on one side and Marehan and Dir on other side. Intra-clan fighting broke out between two rival factions of Dir clan in July. The conflict eventually cooled off after traditional elders and religious leaders⁶ intervened and brokered a ceasefire.

Over the years, the absence of effective governance institution and security forces in Balanbale district has meant that, the bulk of work involving provision of security has fallen largely on the hands of the informal traditional elders. The elders are relatively trusted because over the years they have earned their respect from the community. Religious leaders have also functioned as trusted informal

⁶Traditional elders and religious leaders are trusted entities by clans because of wisdom and experience in conflict resolution and invoking of religious teachings and cultural ethics in making judgement.

security providers. There are informal actors who have had an opportunity to play the gate keeping role in the communities. Anybody coming in to Balanbale formally must therefore, of necessity pay courtesy to the district administration, the village elders for anything to be done in Balanbale. Other than the formal gate-keepers, unorganized clan militia also operates in the region that does not take orders from anyone. Such militias are generally avoided for obvious security reasons. .

Are there past/ongoing/potential conflict and who is affected by this conflict? What is the nature of the conflict (e.g.source of conflict)?

Herale district

The Dir and Marehan communities have been engaged in protracted conflict that caused massive casualties on both sides. According to locals the number of deaths stood at 153 and 123 for Marehan and Dir respectively in 2003 conflict. The protracted conflict often caused displacements, loss of properties, limited movements and decreased economic interaction. Particularly, the conflict between Marehan communities in Abudwaaq and Balanbale districts on one hand and the Dir community in Balanbale districts has been ongoing since 2003. The root causes of the conflict are land dispute, natural resources, revenge killings that was allegedly fueled by politicians and neighboring clans as well. In 2018, there were skirmishes amongst the Dir clan involving two factions one supported by ASWJ group and another supported Galmudug State. Presently, there are no active conflicts in Herale district but clashes are unpredictable because of deep division and hostility. Potential conflicts can arise as these communities do not have lasting solution or peace accord in place to address the existing mistrust and animosities between them.

Balanbale district

Balanbale district has recorded numerous conflicts between the Marehan vs. Ayr clans over the years and remains unresolved to date. The casualty among Marehan and Ayr clans are uncountable as noted by the respondents. The cyclical conflicts have resulted death, destruction and displacement and livestock theft, appropriation of water points, land as well as continued revenge killings. According to the community segments interviewed the prolonged absence of government in Somalia has seen the peace committees, religious leaders, women and youth groups, clan elders take up the leadership role in addressing these conflicts, however, due to lack of resources and capacity, the peace committees have not been successful in bringing a lasting peace.

The Marehan in Abudwaaq and Balanbale districts have been in conflict with Dir clan in Herale town since 2003. The root causes of the conflicts are; access to water, pasture, land grabbing, revenge killings and livestock theft. The local communities had peacefully co-existed and lived in harmony for many generations, but this seems to have been lost since then. What started as revenge attacks has escalated to bloody conflict that caused the deaths of nearly three hundred lives and caused the destruction of property, loss of livelihoods, looting and displacement.

What are the dynamics of the conflict (e.g violent or non-violent, triggers, settlements)?

Herale district

The conflicts in Herale town are spontaneous and can be triggered by an event and gradually develop into full-scale conflict with deadly consequences. Herale district has witnessed both inter-clan and intra-clan conflicts involving diverse sub-clans. Land dispute and natural resource are major sources of conflict that triggered inter-clan conflict between the Dir and Marehan on one hand and

Dir and Ayr clans on the hand. Besides, political contest between the Dir politicians triggered intra-clan conflict within the Dir community. The latter conflict is currently being resolved and by far depressing for the locals who are affected by prolong droughts that wiped out all their livestock.

Balanbale district

Balanbale district has recorded numerous conflicts involving Ayr on one hand and Dir on the other hand. These conflicts remain unresolved and are potentially triggered by an event and gradually develop in to full blown conflict with deadly consequences on both sides. Interviews with various outline the common triggers of the conflict that include;

- I) Road attacks: There has been a road attacks especially the roads connecting Balanbale to Guricel and Balanbale to Herale areas. Such incidents have taken place several times.
- II) Competition for resources and power: Competition for water sources, land pasture between the major clans that may trigger conflict in this district also the domination of power could lead to injustices that are restricted from the use and abuse of power and can produce numerous of the grievances that marginalized communities have against the other majority clans.
- III) Drought: The protracted drought has wiped out livestock from pastoral communities and disrupted the coping strategies. There is fear that such situation could push some of the pastoralism engage in criminal activities such as robbery, creating illegal check points. This might more particularly and severely affect the weak and the unarmed such as marginalized groups.
- IV) Revenge killings: Incidences of revenge attacks are likely to occur thus leading to retaliatory attacks that eventually develops into inter or intra clan conflicts
- V) Unemployment: The high unemployment is possibly a source of conflict as the number of unemployed youth increases with no alternatives which could potentially to criminal activities such as robbery, joining of militias and creating illegal check points.

What is the impact of the conflict? What is the role of women in conflict?

The protracted conflict in Herale and Balanbale districts have had a huge impact on the local populations and various social sectors and occasioned destruction, loss of life, and displacements. The loss of lives becomes the catalyst for revenge attacks prompting residents to flee their homes and become IDPs. Majority of those affected by the conflict are women and children whose lives were disrupted and fled for their safety. However, according to the respondents there are women who supported by mobilizing resources and providing logistical support.

Whilst women and children are often the most affected groups and become easy targets by warring groups, however, women have sometimes participated in conflicts either directly or indirectly. Respondents identified the role of women in conflicts as:-

- I) Provide logistical support: Women contribute to the conflict through sale of valuable items such as gold. They even provide food, clothes, water, meat and milk to the militias when they are in conflict zone.
- II) Songs and poetry as motivation: Somali women use poetry “Buraanbur” skills to incite their men to wage conflict. In support of this there is a Somali proverb which says “Nin naagiwaddoiyorati, ratiwadamidnakaamaleexdaan”. Women have a very strong skill to encourage their male members to motivate in conflicts.

- III) Mobilize resources: Women organize fundraising campaigns among the other clan members for instance they visit house to house asking people to contribute money and valuable items in order to support the conflict.
- IV) Take the gun: Women sometimes take part in the war like men to fight in the battlefield.
- V) Volunteer nurses: Women volunteers as nurses whereby they provide the first aid kit to the wounded male members.

Who provides security in Herale and Balanbale district?

A mixture of Galmudug forces and the Federal forces provides security around the border area between Herale and other constituencies of Balanbale and Guriceel where the other clan rivals reside. This was the initiative of President Mohamed Abdullahi Farmajo during his recent visit to the central part of Somalia. The Federal police provide security within the town though they are not effective in preventing conflict. Clan militias roam freely in Herale town. According to the respondents, Herale administration has clan militias that were part of ASWJ forces in the district. The group has seized military tanks, vehicles, machines guns, and assorted ammunition from the ousted administration in the recent conflict.

Similarly, in Balanbale city, the local administration provides security but due to its limited the locals' communities have a militia and carry guns while herding their animals. Somalia National Army and Intelligence unit were deployed into disputed border between Marehan and Ayr communities through the directive of President Mohamed Abdullahi Farmajo.

What are the communities' perceptions of security providers? Are they supportive? Why? How does this manifest itself?

Herale district was a base for the ASWJ militia that was fighting the onslaught of Al-Shabab in Galgaduud region. The community members were part of the militia and made donations in terms of manpower and resources because they strongly believe the *sufi* ideology and resisted the Wahabi ideology propagated by Al-Shabab that proscribed the *sufi* tradition and practise. Herale settlement is home to foremost leading *sufi* cleric Sheikh Yussuf Sheikh Ibrahim Hassan who is buried in Hurshe area. The cleric is a revered religious scholar that taught Islamic teachings to many students across the country. An annual ceremony to commemorate his death is held three decades after his death in the district by his students who have consistently sponsored the events that attract an estimated population of 40,000 people across the country.

But within the ASWJ militia the Dir community has its own defence militia that protects the community against external aggression. The militia has managed to contain the onslaught from neighbouring clans because of their access to weapons of ASWJ. The strong support for ASWJ militia in the district has been declining as majority of the community accused the group of propping unpopular administration, dictatorship and expelling individuals who opposed the administration and supported Galmudug state formation which ASWJ leadership saw as an affront. The rift deepened and turned violent that eventually led to the expulsion of ASWJ backed administration and its loyalists. A caretaker administration comprised of rebel leaders has since been established that enjoys local support. The intra-clan fighting has however deepened suspicions and fragmented the security apparatus into different camps.

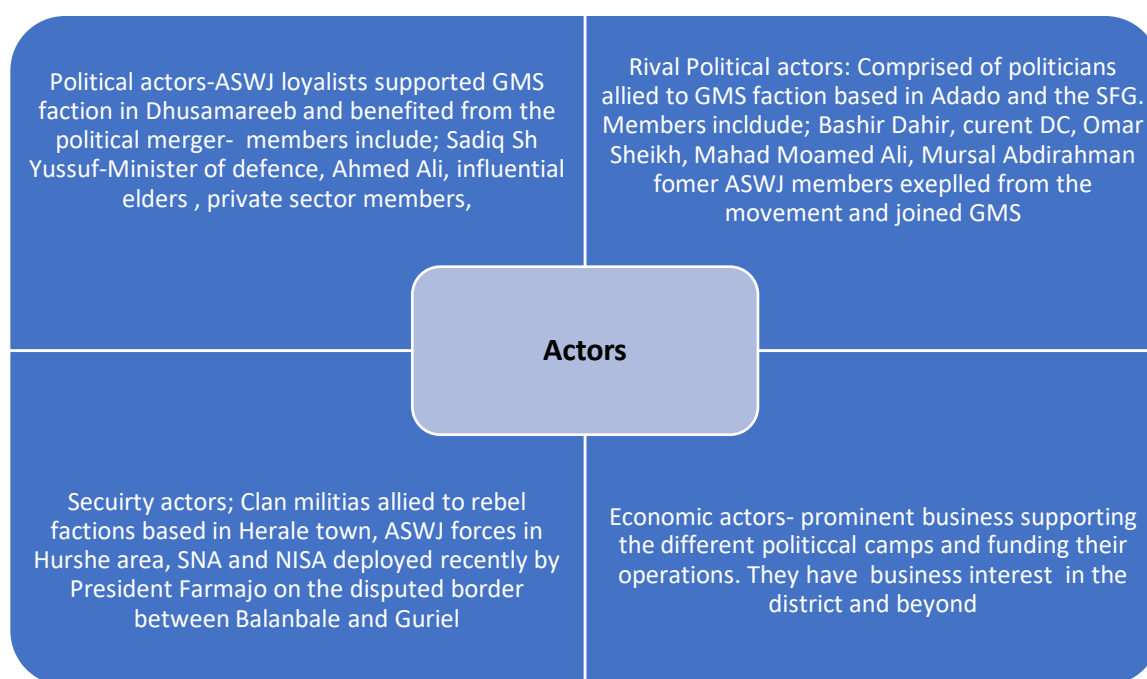
Balanbale

Local communities have mixed views about the security providers. One group acknowledges the local administration as key security provider that can provide law and order since it's the representative of the community but admit due to its limited authority and lack of resources has affected the administration's capacity to execute its duties. Due to this limitation, some sections believe the administration cannot guarantee their security and therefore resorted to create vigilantes to protect their resources and from external aggression.

5.0 RELEVANT ACTORS

Who are the key actors in the area – political, security and economic actors including individuals, groups and entities? M / F

Figure 2: Actors in Herale district



Balanbale District

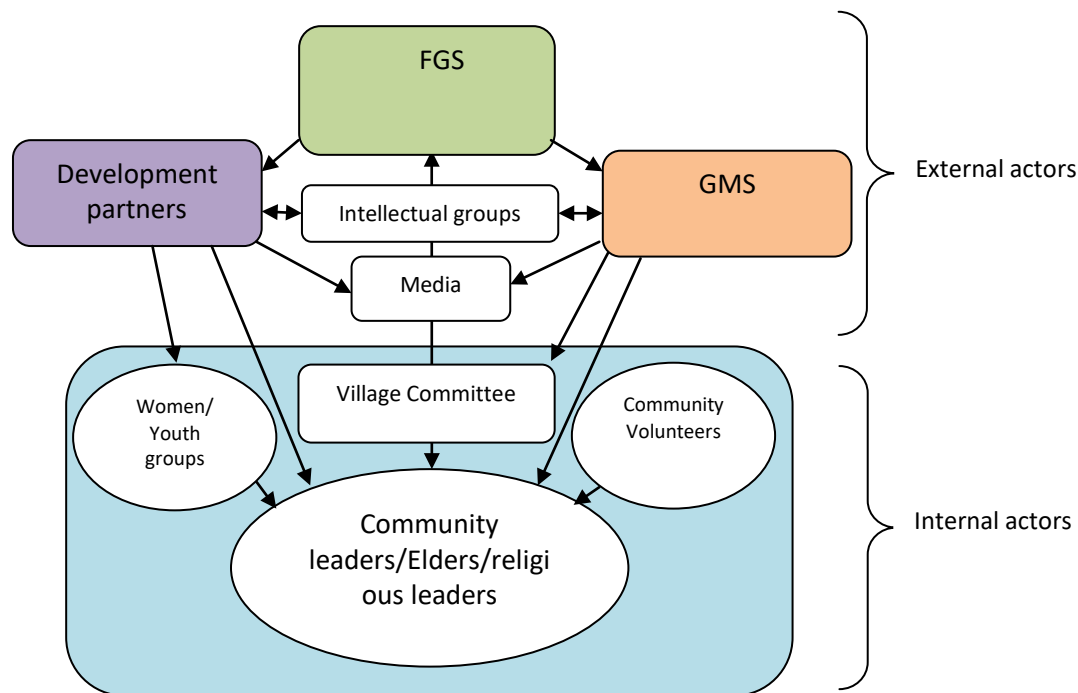
There are several internal and external actors that are involved and working in various sectors in Balanbale district. For instance some of internal actors include; community leaders, elders and religious leaders together with village committees, volunteers and women and youth groups. While the external security and political actors include security agencies, Galmudug administration, donors, and SFG and intellectual groups.

Are there external actors in the area/are there external actor that have influence in the area?

Actors in Herale district

Herale district has numerous actors comprised of political class, private sector groups, diaspora and local elders and ASWJ clerics. This group espouse a common goal of achieving recognition for Herale to become a full district and protecting their territories from external aggression and containing the return of Al-Shabab, however, these actors have also been establishing alliances to pursue divergent interests. Some of the local politicians have been making political overtures to the

federal government to secure support and resources and in return build a support base that will eventually undermine ASWJ's grip in the district. The following are some of the actors in the district that have strong influence in the district.



What are the interests of key actors? M /F

The rival political groupings in Herale are contesting for power which emerged as a result of Galmudug state formation and deepened in the 2018 political agreement between Galmudug state and ASWJ. Many of the local politicians from the district were expelled from ASWJ movement. The rebel politicians have established the current administration in Herale and have been systematically excluded from the recent political merger. The political exclusion triggered conflict that resulted the ousting of parallel administration that was allied to ASWJ. The local community is opposed to the ASWJ's brand of politics of favouring loyalist regardless of their clan affiliation which is sharp contrast to clan based representative that is widely supported. Due to the conflict ASWJ influence in the district has been severely diminished and the locals have declared support for opposition groups in Adado and federal government.

Balanbale district

There are different competing actors jostling for control and power in the district. Galmudug state and Ahlu-sufa group are the main contesting camps that enjoy different support from the clans in Balanbale district. The district Balanbale is nominally under Galmudug state but large swathe of villages are under the control of Ayr and Dir who are not feeling excluded from Balanbale administration and therefore have no allegiance to it. Present in the district are small number of security agencies from the national government including; Somali national army (SNA), National intelligence security agency (NISA) and Somali police forces (SPF). In addition, they are also amorphous clan militias in the district.

What are the relationships and networks of key actors? M/ F

Herae district

Given the presence of rival political class in the district, the relationship has been somewhat hostile and polarising. The presence of two parallel administrations and militias is symptomatic of bad relations between the various actors. Rival factions of ASWJ politicians, diaspora community, private sector, rival Galmudug factions in Dhusamareb and Adado are some of the actors that maintain a strong influence and wield local support. Because of the diverse interest there has been stiff competition that resulted deep mistrust and suspicions among the community members. The group rivalry sparked intra-clan conflict that resulted largescale destruction and displacement further deepening the rift. There are ongoing peace initiatives led by elders from Saleban community to bring the two groups together.

Balanbale district

Some of the political actors in district mainly politicians in Galmudug state are competing for power and building alliance at the grass root to demonstrate their influence. For instance, in the recent appointment of ministers in Galmudug state, most of the previous ministers were dropped and were replaced were loyalists from their sub-clans. Despite the internal competition among the politicians, the other social actors such traditional elders and religious and youth group have good relations and work together in resolving disputes. Besides, given the long standing hostility between the Ayr and Marehan, the relations have been somewhat hostile and turn violent. Therefore, local actors in the district are diverse and their relations vary from good to hostile.

What are the capacities of different actors? M /F

The local administrations in Herae and Balanbale districts were established recently and are facing enormous challenges including lack of capacity, lack of popular support and limited authority and lack support from the Galmudug administration. Besides, both administrations are facing opposition from its predecessor administrations that was removed from power. Given the weak system and lack of capacity both administrations do not have revenue generation system in place and therefore rely on donations and contributions from business groups and diaspora member. Due its limited capacity and lack of resources the administration does not have capacity to provide the primary service to the Herae population.

6.0 INSTITUTIONS and STATEBUILDING DYNAMICS

How is power distributed and exercised? (Clan-based, elections or...?)

Herae district

The Dir community has an old tradition that is used to determine who get what and where. This arrangement has been used in power and resource sharing that has been relied for decades. The clan system is based on sharing of power among the 9 branches of the community. This system remains widely accepted and popular among the community. However, women and youth are often marginalised and excluded from such power sharing arrangement thus limiting their chances of ascending to power. Religious leaders are also influential body in the district because of strong ideology that elevates the status. The minority clans do not have a representation in the administration since they are considered as outsiders. Such a closed system has continued to exclude women, youth and minority groups the opportunity to actively participate in politics so that their voices can be heard.

Balanbale district

Power distribution in the administration is mainly shared among the sub clans. The current administration was appointed by the ministry of Interior of Galmudug state of Somalia. The authority in Balanbale is headed by a District Commissioner (DC). The DC has two deputies and a number of other commissioners. The local politics is organized around clan elders and consultations among local political leaders. Such a closed system has continued to exclude women, youth and minority groups the opportunity to actively participate in politics so that their voices can be heard.

How are the districts governed? What are the formal governance structures in place? How and when did the governance structures emerge? What is the M / F representation?

Herahe district

Herahe district is home to two parallel administrations; one supported the rival faction of Galmudug administration in Adado and the other group is allied to Galmudug administration in Dhusamareeb. The existence of the rival administrative units stems from the formation of Galmudug state in 2015 in which ASWJ opposed to take part because of the federal governance interference and favouritism. The current local administration in Herahe is headed by a district commissioner and two deputy district commissioners, social affairs and head of security and sub location chiefs. The administration was created in 2015 by local community elders, private sector groups and youth. Elders play a strong influence and form the backbone of the administration. The structure of administration is based on sub clan power sharing in which the majority sub clan takes the district commissioner and the first deputy is given to the second largest sub-clan. The current District's administration was constituted through elders and lacks proper governance structure that can guarantee some level of operational autonomy and efficiency and still is very weak. There is no women representation in the current administration despite their continued support.

Balanbale district

Balanbale city is governed by a local administration that provides law and order. The administration is headed by a District Commissioner (DC) with two deputies and a number of other commissioners. The incumbent district was appointed in 2018 by Ministry of Interior following the sacking of his predecessor by deputy president allegedly for interfering with project activities and undermining efforts to build a district council formation. However, the President reinstated the district and urged all the actors to continue to work with district commissioner. These conflicting decisions affected the service delivery and deepened the rift within the local actors and affected efforts to build a district council.

How is political competition between individuals, clans, and groups conducted?

Herahe district

There are two rival political groupings in Herahe; ASWJ backed administration in Hurshe and the rival group allied to Galmudug state faction in Adado. The political class have mobilised respective constituencies to gain access to power or secure appointments. The private sector is equally divided along political lines. The opposition group in Herahe accused ASWJ faction in Dhusamareeb of dictatorship, undermining governance process and imposing unpopular leadership and favouring loyalists in appointment against peoples will. The deposed administration allied to ASWJ was equally accused of corruption, and undermining development. The political competition among group turned

violent leading to intra-clan conflict that occasioned destruction and displacements. The conflict has deepened mistrusts and suspicions and further isolated the new administration from the recent political merger between ASWJ and Galmudug state.

Balanbale district

Political competition among individuals are mainly interest driven. These individuals pursue their interests through building alliances and supporting rival groups to existing authority. Competition among groups varies from group to group. For instance, competition among politicians is around ascending to power either at state or federal level. These politicians are often supported and financed by business groups from their clans who also have business interests and are expected to gain favours such as contracts and deals. The Marehan community have a power sharing arrangement among its members on who gets what and where. This system has guaranteed equitable distribution of power however; such arrangement has systematically excluded women and minority clans.

What role do women play in political competition – how is their role(s) conducted?

Despite their enormous contribution in the local economy and being breadwinners in many households, women are deliberately excluded from political power and elective positions due to clan patriarchy that often favors men over women. Given that Herale district is ASWJ stronghold, the *thesufi* ideology has further excluded women from decision making and appointments and relegated them to domestic affairs. The cultural ceiling has often restricted and discouraged women participation in politics and leadership positions. Nevertheless, businesswomen have taken part in resource mobilization and contributions towards funding ASWJ operations. An interview with women groups indicated that there are no female officials in the local administration. However, there is an active women group that supports the local administration.

Similarly, Balanbale city has active women groups that maintain a wide support base. Given the strong tradition in the community and power sharing system, women are not considered in this arrangement. The major challenge for women is lack of unity and stiff competition among the group for power has affected their bargaining power and strength to lobby for positions.

What are people's expectations of the district government in the area? Does the government in the area have plans to meet expectations of citizens? Male, female, youth?

Herale and Balanbale districts

Local communities have varied expectations from the administrations. Particularly, respondents have repeatedly mentioned the provision of basic services, creation of employment, and rehabilitation of key infrastructure and promotion of social reconciliation as some of their priorities. However, some respondents observed that the current administration lacks capacity, manpower and resources to meet their expectations. Besides, respondents lamented that the administrations were not doing enough to address their priority needs and seek support from Galmudug state and donors.

Besides, interview with the local administration officials underscored that they have established plans to meet demands of the locals but acknowledged the implementation of these plans or ideas require

resources and skilled manpower which they cannot meet at the moment because they do not have revenue generation and external funding either from Galmudug or federal government. The district commissioner explained his first priority is to build peace within the rival clans in the district and roll out services and invite more aid agencies to invest in the areas to help enhance service delivery.

Who provides services to the public? How accessible are they: for women, girls, men, boys, members of marginalized groups?

Heraale and Balanbale districts

Heraale and Balanbale districts have numerous service providers including money transfer companies, private sector groups as well as few development agencies. These service providers have different capacities and extend complimentary services geared to enhance service delivery and social development.

The financial intuitions present in the district are money transfer companies including Jubba, Taj, Dahabshil, Hodan and Olympic. These companies provide locals the opportunity to receive remittances or send money to relatives in other regions thus improving service delivery in the financial sector. However, the sector does not provide loans or business credit for small-scale business holders because the institutions have not rolled out such opportunities in the district.

The private sector plays acritical in the delivery of various essential services to the locals such as social amenities, food shops, hardware and import and export of goods. The SMEs make up the largest group and are involved in various activities. Development agencies such as LPI and ZZF and a few developmental agencies/donors have contributed to the development of social services and strengthened peace structures. These development agencies have undertaken peace development programmes that created peace platforms and initiatives that brought together contesting parties to reach a peace deal.

Access to these services offered by private sector group varies depending on clan affiliation. The members of the marginalized groups such as women and youth are not benefitting from these services. The dominant sub clans edge out the marginalized kwon as outcast as they believe that they do not belong to the community. The minority groups are involved but with a very less percentage and fewer opportunities.

**What justice institutions and systems operate in the district (formal and informal?)
What is the ratio of male / female actors within)?**

Heraale district

Heraale district has no courts and locals rely on traditional elders and religious leaders institutions. These local institutions use both customary law and Islamic sharia in adjudicating disputes, making rulings on divorce, murder and inheritance. The informal system is used an alternative to formal justice system because it's reciprocal than retributive in nature. However, within the local justice institutions, particularly the existing informal system is still very weak and they remain a challenge to many women trying to access justice partly due to male domination. In addition, there are very real issues of bias in instances where different clans have fought each other, and the male dominated informal mechanisms are to dispense justice. There is limited and un-informed engagement by vulnerable and marginalized women with the local justice institutions. There is also low demand

among women, and lack of local women's rights champions that can guarantee their interest within the local justice system.

Balanbale district

There are no formal judicial institutions and system in Balanbale district but there is an informal judicial system presided over by religious leader that widely supported by community elders. Within the local justice institutions, particularly the existing informal system is still very weak and they remain a challenge to many women trying to access justice partly due to male domination. In addition, there are very real issues of bias in instances where different clans have fought each other, and the male dominated informal mechanisms are to dispense justice. There is limited and un-informed engagement by vulnerable and marginalized women with the local justice institutions. There is also low demand among women, and lack of local women's rights champions that can guarantee their interest within the local justice system. Below table indicates the list of religious leader conducting the informal justice system.

Table: Members of the current religious court

S#	Name of the Sheikh	Duties	Position
01	Sheikh faaraxcilmixade	Informal judge	Chairman
02	Sheikh Cabdimacalimmaxamed	Informal judge	Member
03	Farxaancabdiyusuf	Informal judge	Member
04	Axmedcabdiibraahim	Informal judge	Member
05	Macalinalicabdi	Informal judge	Member

There is no single female position in the informal district justice system. Although the system is male dominated, similarly, both women and marginalized groups have equal access to the justice services. In conflict resolution mechanisms women are given the to be the part of the peace and reconciliation process, for instance the women groups, state, community committees and religious would first invite conflicting sides to a negotiation meeting, identify the root cause of the problem, seek alternatives and solutions, convince the two parties to accept the resolution and start to implement the agreement reached whereas the clan elders also play mediation role to unify parties.

Is there a political settlement in the district?

Over the years several peace building initiatives were held among communities in the region. The most notable peace dialogue was between the Marehan and Dir conflict held in 2010, 2012, and 2014. Clan elders from both sides held reconciliation meetings on two occasions. One meeting was held Lanhimiray village but failed to produce peace accord due to the size of casualties resulted by the conflict. In 2014, ZZF in partnership with LPI initiated peace meetings again the difference over the number of casualties sustained by each side threatened to scuttle the dialogue and instead agreed to establish a temporary peace committees. The peace efforts have been sustained since then thus contributed to a relative calm and contact among community elders although deep division and mistrust among the neighbouring clans are rife.

Currently there is peace initiative led by the traditional elders from the Salebaan clan from Adado district to mediate the warring groups in Herale district. The initiative has made significant achievement is organizing dialogue events between politicians and elders from Dirr community. Both

sides welcomed the initiative and accepted to uphold peace and honour the outcome of the ongoing peace process which called on both sides to cessation of hostilities.

Balanbale district

There have been several political settlements in Balanbale city. But there is one major political settlement accord that is fondly remembered that ended the protracted conflict between Marehan and Ayr in 1996/1997. "The peace process was a youth led initiative supported by sheikhs, elders, and business groups. The peace settlement ended the clan hostilities. The parties to the accord reached that:

- To stop longstanding hostility between the two clans, to rebuild the loss of trust between the communities;
- To stop livestock theft and encourage the return of stolen livestock to the owner;
- To share natural resources such as grazing land, watering points etc.;
- To start new trade exchange between the two communities;
- To resume social interactions such as marriage and correlations;
- To gradually solve the past conflicts and impacts resulted.

This accord resulted brought to an end major conflict between these clans. However, clan revenges, conflict over access to water and land grabbing remains an abated and continues to date. Similarly there were some other settlements and peace initiatives reached after this accord with same clans. The continued conflict between these clans resulted huge losses and destructions of property and livestock theft.

The Marehan and Dir conflict reached temporary political settlements in the years of 2010, 2012, and 2014. Clan elders from both sides held reconciliation meetings on two occasions. One meeting was held Lanhimiray village but failed to produce peace accord due to the size of casualties resulted by the conflict. In 2014, Zamzam foundation with support from LPI initiated peace meetings again for same clans in Ina Gibile village but again the difference relating the casualties arisen but fortunately agreed to construct a temporary peace committees from both clans and each clan to maintain the peace accordingly. The number of death and damages associated by the conflict were killings of 153 and 123 of Marehan and Dir respectively. There are a displacements, loss of properties, restriction of movements' lack of access to the markets and decreased economic interaction.

In 2018, ZZF in collaboration with GMs Ministry of interior delivered Wadajir framework programmed funded by SSF to supported social reconciliation conference between warring sub clans of Marehan and Ayr in Balanbale district. The reconciliation conference brought together both Marehan and Ayr leadership under the aegis of the Wadajir Framework that culminated in the signing of peace accord (Heshis Bulsho) endorsed by local leaders in the presence of Deputy President, first chief minister, minister of interior among others. Political goodwill and strict adherence to the accord are critical that both sides have to safeguard. Galmudug state officials witnessed the historic signing of the peace accord, a milestone for Galmudug administration came a fortnight after President Farmajo's tour in the region. The leaders assured delegates that Galmudug state will take over the security of the district and uphold the peace accord and follow up on its full implementation.

The key points outlined in the peace accord include the following:

- I) Counted and agreed on the number of casualties perpetrated by either side over the years;
- II) Agreed on Diya (blood compensation) payment plan. Both sides agreed that within 90 days of the signing of the peace accord, one-third of Diya (33 camels or equivalent value of money) shall be given to the victims.
- III) Both sides agreed that injuries sustained by either side over the protracted conflict shall be discussed by the clan elders after paying the compensation of the victims.
- IV) Resolved that no new settlements, Barkets shall be built in the disputed areas as a way of addressing land disputes which have been the main source of conflict in the area.
- V) That Galmudug administration shall bear the full authority of the security matters in the district.

Despite the signing of the peace accord there has been renewed conflict and there is high risk of unravelling the situation. Currently, peace dialogue event has been scheduled in Guriel organized the Ugas from Ayr clan which is yet to kick-off. The renewed conflict prompted the federal government to security forces in the disputed border to prevent further escalation of conflict.

How has the settlement affected power relations? Between men and between women? Between dominant and marginalized groups?

The peace settlements between rival sub clans within the Dir did not affect their power relation much, none of them is feeling dominated by the other but still each sub-clan is determined to a peace deal but not to an agreement that strip there powers in which the return of the members of the ousted administration will be mean claiming back their seats. These settlements had not affected the power relations between men and women as well; but the power relations between majority and minority/marginalized groups still remain the same. The marginalized groups have no power representation in all sectors of political, economic, cultural etc.

The signing of the peace accord improved inter-clan relations and opened channels of communication and interaction. The dialogue has strengthened community structures that are leading peace dialogues among the rival groups. Since the signing of the of the peace accord, the internal conflicts have significantly decreased but the lack of implementation of the peace accord has significantly undermined the peace accord and led to the rise of renewed conflict in the district. The signing of the peace accord has not any had impact on the relations between women and men as well as between the dominant and minority clans.

7.0 OTHER ACTORS

Are there any other stabilisation/humanitarian/development actors present in the districts or planning work in this area? Please note briefly what areas of work they are engaged in.

Herale district

There are different international and national organizations that are currently working in the district including; Life and Peace Institute Save The Children, Zamzam Foundation, Mercy-USA,

Liban Organization and Manhal organization. These agencies are engaged in various activities such as health and nutrition, conflict resolution and peace building, governance, and education.

Development actors	Activities engaged in
LPI and ZZF	- ZZF in partnership with Life and Peace Institute have been implementing a peace building initiative among communities affected by decades of inter-clan conflicts which largely stem from land ownership and sharing of natural resources such as water and pasture. The project has targeting local community structures in a bid to strengthen their capacity to dialogue and build peace platform to discuss and resolve political differences internally as well as strengthen cross-border peace initiatives geared to reconcile Dir clans with other rival clans.
Save the Children	Implementing education project
Mercy-USA	Implementing nutrition programme
Liban and WFP	Provision of food assistance
Manhal	Implementing TB project.

Balanable district

The service providers in Balanbale district are mainly INGOs, LNGOs and developmental agencies/donors. The agencies working in the district are ZZF/SSF, ZZF, SC, IMC, DRC, UNDP, WFP, Mercy corps etc. non-state actors are involved in service delivery, while INGOs/LNGOs/UN agencies and other developmental partners provide basic service in the areas of livelihood, WASH, health, nutrition, education and developmental programmes. The private sector also provides basic service of electricity, water and education.

Table: Agencies working in Balanbale district

S#	Development actors	Level of engagement	Humanitarian actors	Level of engagement	Security actors	Level of engagement
01	ZZF/SSF	-Constructing Balanbale general hospital. -Installing solar light in the district -Rehabilitation of administration block -Implementation of	-Save the children	-Supporting Balanbale schools through syllabus and teacher's incentives. -Providing livelihood projects -Providing WASH projects	UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paying police salaries • Providing the capacity building and training program

		wadajir project				mes to the police
02	TIS+	-Construction of the district administration block	International medical corps (IMC)	-Supporting Balanbale health centre through nutrition and health services	NIL	NIL
03	UNDP	-Constructing mother and child care block	DRC	-Providing IDPs to cash relief project	NIL	NIL
04	Mercy corps	-Constructing Balanbale secondary school	ZZF	-Food security and livelihood project -Cash relief project -Peace building project -Water trucking to the drought effected communities	NIL	NIL

8.0 PRIORITIES

What are the key priorities for building stability in the area? This should flow from an understanding of conflict and state-building dynamics in the area, rather than simply an assessment of gaps in terms of services. Assess feasibility of addressing these priorities. Where services are highlighted as a priority, it should be clear who has defined these priorities and how they might contribute to improved stability, e.g. by serving as a connector between community groups, by improving access to services for marginalised groups.

Where possible reflect on GESI critical issues such as physical security, social and political equity for women, social & political equity for members of marginalised / socially excluded groups, equitable employment and livelihood opportunities for males, female access to justice, reproductive health issues (maternal mortality), economic marginalisation.

1. Building the confidence and capacity of the local administration by injecting them with knowledge of governance and leadership in order for them to serve diligently and confidently. The local leadership should be all inclusive of the marginalized and minority groups in the town.
2. Strengthening the capacity of women groups and promoting the inclusion of women in the leadership positions of the administration.
3. Engaging the youth who are idle in skills such as business skills and vocational skills in order to divert them from the conflicts in the region as well as the conflict in the town.
4. Building and supporting the economic opportunities of the small-scale businesswomen in the town by building market shelters and availing small grants to promote their businesses.

5. Rehabilitation of key infrastructure such as roads and play grounds as way of creating of sustainable projects while creating employment and integration among various groups.
6. Give the youth and women entrepreneurship skills so that they contribute to the economic development of the town. Women and youth currently have a window of opportunities as a result of the re-opening of Ethiopia-Somalia.

9.0 CONCLUSION AND GESI sensitive RECOMMENDATIONS (they both have to reflect the analysis)

What should SSF's approach be to the district? Which of the priorities have the potential to be addressed in the short-term?

Conflictive sensitive approach

1. Given the deep divisions within the Dir sub clans and fragmentation within the Marehan community the economic development project will engage all the parties and the investment will take cognizant of the existing tradition used by the community in terms of resource distribution.
2. SSF in partnership with ZZF will ensure inclusivity of not only contesting sub clans but also minority clans, youth and women, this will be achieved through working with all the stakeholders and local administration.
3. ZZF will adopt the Do No Harm Principles that will ensure fairness and transparency in the initial selection of beneficiaries, evaluation of business plans and provision of business grants.
4. Considering the presence of rival administrations in both districts, the project will engage both sides but will work closely with elders and constitute project committees that will be involved in the selection of the beneficiaries.

Priorities in the short-term and medium term for the locals

5. The study found that both districts have investment opportunities in the trade and commerce, hospitality, construction and SMES sectors that can create employment and spur growth, however, the sectors are at infancy stage and there has been little investment by aid agencies except the few businesses operated by locals. The immediate priority will be to support medium and small enterprises in various sectors to create employment for the youth and women that could in turn create revenue for the local administration.
6. A field observation of the current businesses noted lack of good business practices such as book keeping of sales and expenditure, savings account, marketing skills, customer relations and investment plans. A lot of business owners have accrued bad debt that accumulated due to huge borrowing on credit by the locals and lack of records makes even hard for people to trace the debtors. The immediate priority will be to provide skills enhancement for SMES, women and youth to adopt good business practices, address the challenges and risks and make smart investment.
7. Majority of the SMEs holders are women who lack access to credit to grow and expand their business because the current financial institutions do not provide loans and there has been no agency that has supported small businesses. Therefore, the short-term priority will be to provide business grants for SMEs who will emerge from the business that will be held after completing their training.

8. Despite women making up to 70% of business entrepreneurs in both cities they lack basic business skills such as numeracy, literacy and entrepreneurship. The project will sensitize all the SMEs to improve the literacy and numeracy skills so as to grow their business in the long-term.
9. Given the lack of credit from financial institutions and discouraging bureaucracies women have relied on an old tradition of savings and credit scheme known as *Ayutoo* or *Hagbad* where a group of women create a revolving fund in which members give credit to one of another. Such system has been a major source of fund for women in both cities. The planned economic development project is expected to strengthen the capacity of the members to develop a sound system to avoid potential risks and loss of money.
10. The project will provide platform for SMEs comprised of five-member group to identify business priorities for funding which will be evaluated and processed for funding.
11. The project will provide mentorship and set up financial systems to ensure the application of good business practice and link the groups to financial institutions in Mogadishu.

Annex I GESI consultation check

In relation to women: *Have women been included in the consultations or consideration? If so, in what way?* Please provide details here:

Categories of women consulted (add e.g. pastoralists, farmers...)	How were they consulted? E.g. KIIs, FGD	Their position
Civil society leaders	FGD	Local women organization that is was recently formed.
Businesswomen	KII, FGD	Milk Sellers, Tea Sellers,
Female youth	KII	Members of newly formed youth group
IDPs	FGD	Camp Committee members
Members of marginalized groups	FGD	Casual labourers.

And of men: *What is the position of boys and or men in this district? Does this apply to all boys and or men, or does it affect different men differently? Which kinds of men have been consulted and or considered?* Please provide details here:

Categories of men consulted (add other relevant categories e.g. pastoralist, farmers...)	How were they consulted? E.g. KIIs, FGD	Their position

Elected politicians and government officials and civil servants	KII	Civil servants and government officials
Traditional elders Civil society leaders	FGD	Elders from different clan constituencies in the larger Diir clan.
Businessmen	KII	Contractors, wholesalers.
Religious leaders	FGD	Imams,
male youth	FGD	Youth Group Committee, Chairman Youth Group
IDPs	FGD	IDP committee members
Members of marginalized groups	KII	Causal labourers

Regarding any traditionally marginalized or socially excluded groups identified in the district / area. Please provide details here:

Traditionally marginalized or socially excluded groups	How were they identified and consulted (m & f)? E.g. KIIs, FGD	What attitudes (assumptions, stereotypes, prejudices, values) do people have about them?	What forms does their oppression take?
Madhiban	KIIs	Out-casted, Not married, Impure	Segregated, Isolated, Politically Marginalized
Tumaalo	KII	Unclean	Segregated, Isolated, Marginalized
Jareerweyn	KII	Wizardly (Sixir), Witchcraft, no moral values.	Segregated, Isolated, Marginalized