

The Settlements Approach and Urban Response

**2 cases studies:
Syria & Colombia**

SYRIA CASE STUDY

Multi-sector prioritization exercise for the rehabilitation of conflict-affected neighborhoods in Aleppo city.



Syria| Case study

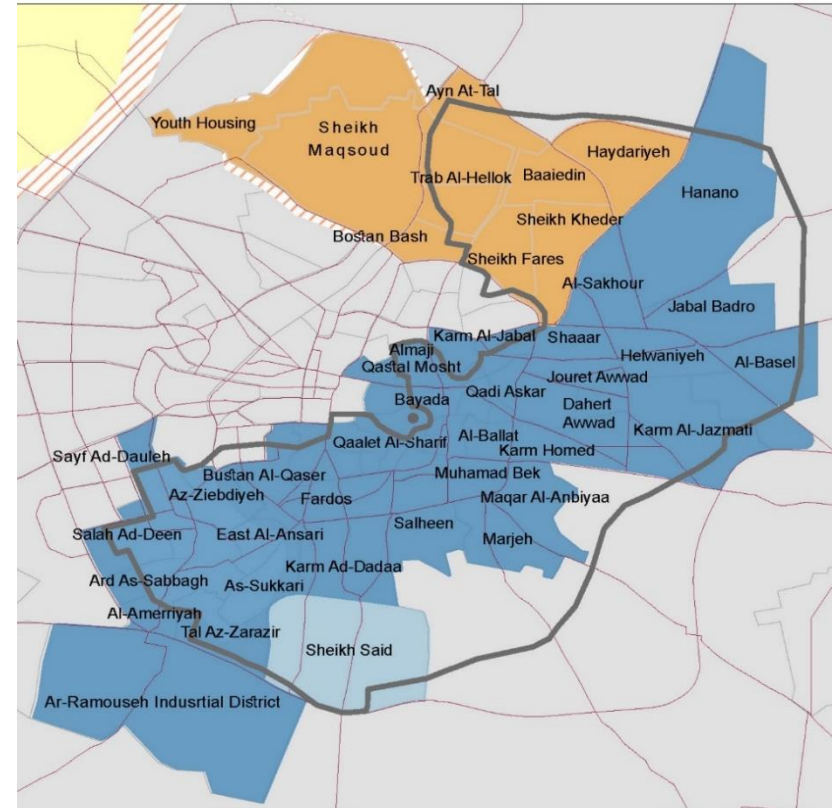
- **Type of project:** Coordination, Joint multi-sectoral neighbourhood level prioritisation
- **Urban centre:** Aleppo city's (106 neighbourhoods)
- **Coordination framework:** Shelter Sector-led initiative together with the WASH and Early Recovery Sectors, in collaboration with national and local authorities (High Relief Committee, sectors' related Ministries and Administrations at Governorate level).
- **Project timeframe:** February – April 2017 (prioritization phase)
- **Agency submitting the case study:** UNHCR, as Global Shelter Cluster co-lead

Aleppo | Context

Aleppo winter 2016 :

- Eastern Aleppo besieged most of 2016
- 31 neighborhoods retaken in 4 weeks
- 150'000 displaced, 13'000 in Kurdish area, 35'000 evacuated to Idlib
- Massive damage in the built environment and public infrastructures
- Since January 2017 people have been returning to their homes
- 150'000 returns in EA in April 2017 (350'000 as of February 2018)

Governorate list of **15 priority neighborhoods** without consulting the sectors or humanitarian actors.



Aleppo | Regained neighborhoods



Aleppo | Project approach

Project :

- Shelter Sector **joint initiative** with WASH & Early Recovery Sectors in partnership with local authorities,
- jointly **revise the list of priority neighbourhoods**,
- to facilitate and coordinate the rehabilitation of the newly accessible and damaged areas, by promoting a **multi-sector approach**, and **area-based methodologies**, through a neighbourhood prioritization exercise.
- draft a common plan in line with humanitarian principles, advocating for **need-based and capacity-based** considerations, to ensure a more integrated and efficient response, and **support sustainable returns**
- methodology as a base for repetition : **phased-approach**

Prioritization phases : January to April 2017

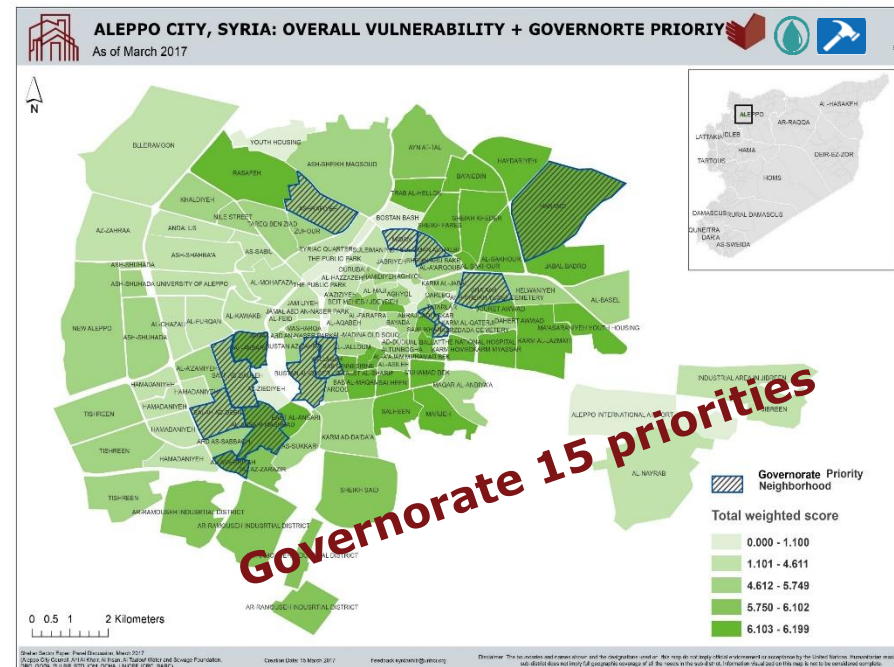
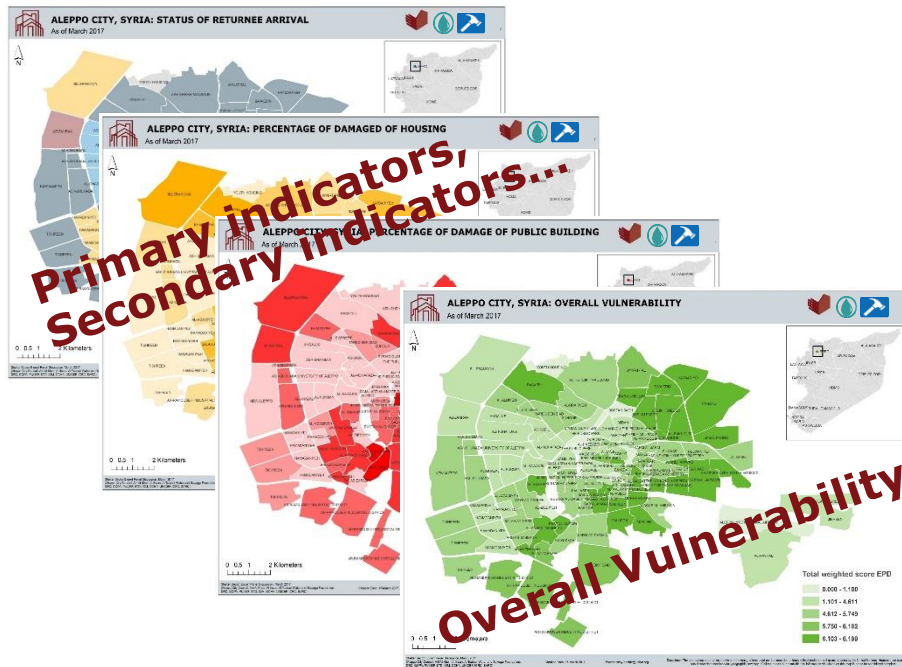
Setting up of Multi-sector task-force



Project | I Expert Panel discussion

Collect data on the damage state of Aleppo

- 3-Sectors, Governorate, UN, INGOs, NNGOs
- 106 neighborhoods assessed
- 14 vulnerability criteria & severity scale analysis
- Set of maps, primary & secondary indicators, overall vulnerability map
- Compare Governorate priorities with actual severity & damage status



Project | II Shelter Specific Prioritization

Define neighborhoods suitable for durable shelter interventions

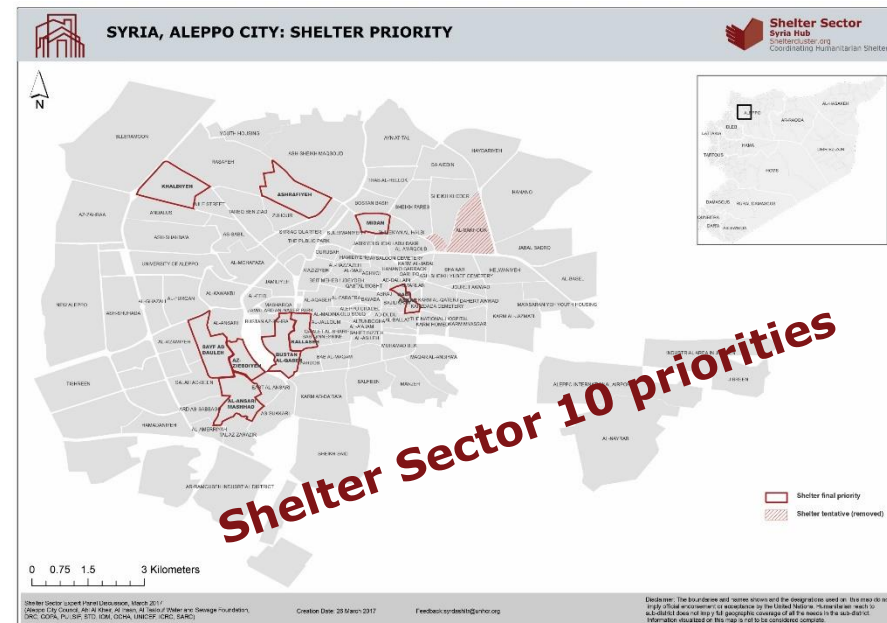
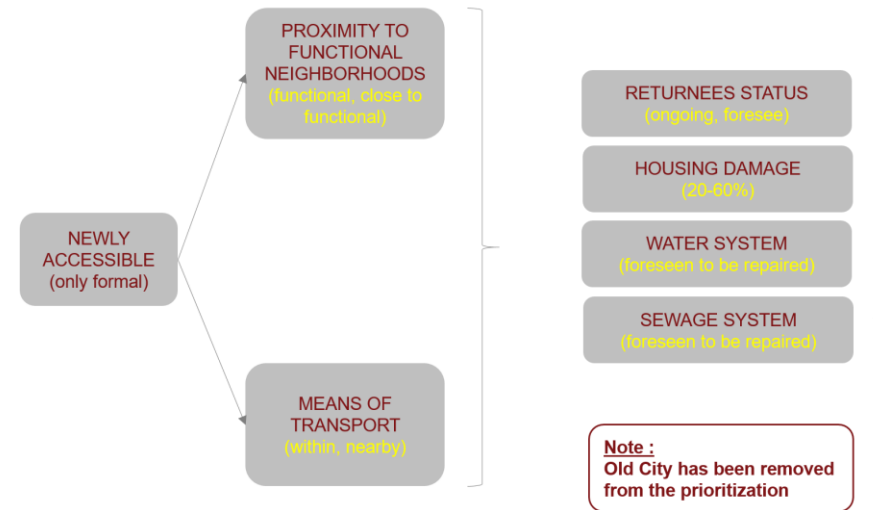
Second analysis focused on feasibility & potentiality concerns

Additional Criteria :

- Newly accessible neighborhoods
- Proximity to functional neighborhoods
- Availability / means of transport
- Proximity to the former frontline

Results :

- 10 Shelter Sector priorities
- Only 8 common with Governorate



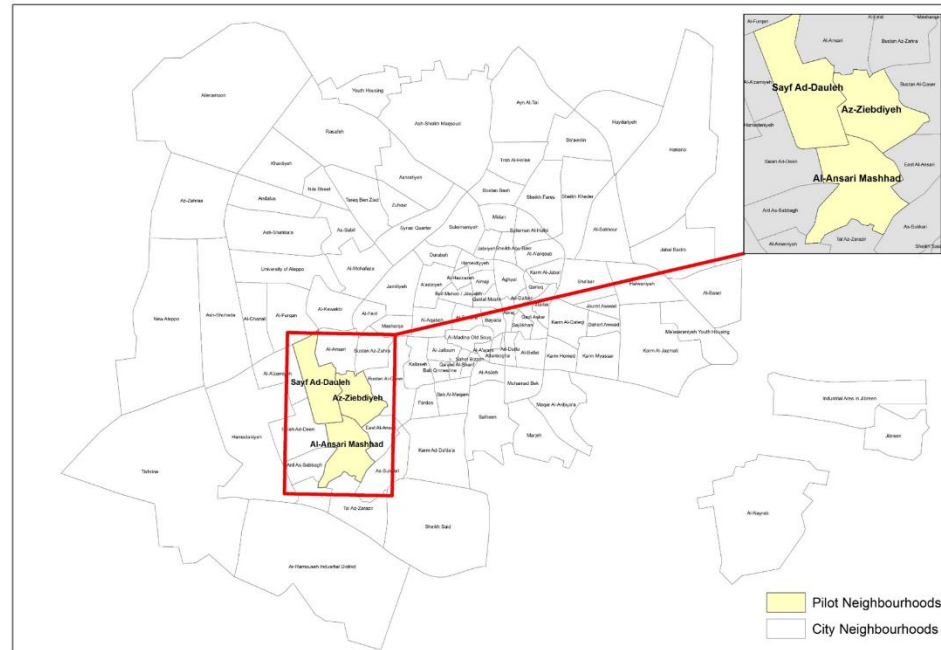
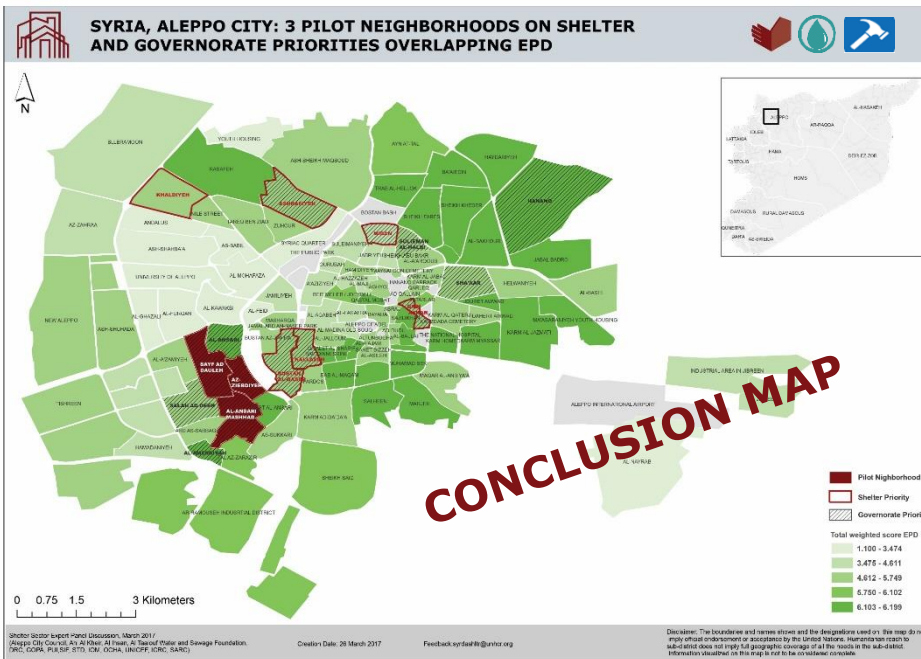
Project | III Government workshop

Workshop to present the result if the EPD & Shelter prioritization

3-sectors, High relief committee, relevant Ministries, Directorates, local administrations (national & governorate level), Syndicate of Engineers

Results :

- Common agreement, 9 priority neighborhoods durable shelter rehab.
- 3 pilots for a convergent approach and a comprehensive response plan



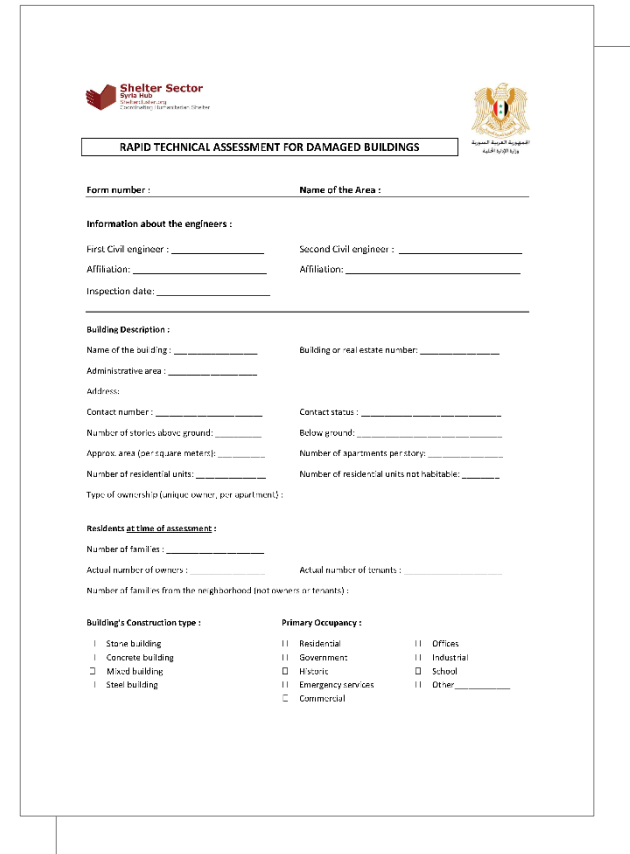
Project | IV Neighborhood level assessment

Rapid Structural assessment :

- Tool developed by shelter sector
- With the Syndicate & Governorate
- AOR for all 12 shelter partners
- Agreement to map all 9 neighborhoods

Update since May 2017:

- 9 neighborhoods assessed (Jan. 2017), 6'600 buildings, approx. 33'500 hh.
- Mapping is being finalized.
- Most urgent needs in 9 neighborhoods.
- Focused interventions in 3 pilot ones through a convergent approach.



The form is titled 'RAPID TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT FOR DAMAGED BUILDINGS' and is part of the 'Shelter Sector' initiative. It includes fields for 'Form number' and 'Name of the Area'. The 'Information about the engineers' section has fields for 'First Civil engineer', 'Second Civil engineer', 'Affiliation', and 'Inspection date'. The 'Building Description' section includes fields for 'Name of the building', 'Building or real estate number', 'Administrative area', 'Address', 'Contact number', 'Contact status', 'Number of stories above ground', 'Below ground', 'Approx. area (per square meters)', 'Number of apartments per story', 'Number of residential units', 'Number of residential units not habitable', and 'Type of ownership (unique owner, per apartment)'. The 'Residents at time of assessment' section has fields for 'Number of families', 'Actual number of owners', 'Actual number of tenants', and 'Number of families from the neighborhood (not owners or tenants)'. The 'Building's Construction type' section has checkboxes for 'Stone building', 'Concrete building', 'Mixed building', and 'Steel building'. The 'Primary Occupancy' section has checkboxes for 'Residential', 'Government', 'Historic', 'Emergency services', 'Commercial', 'Offices', 'Industrial', 'School', and 'Other'.

Damage in structural elements :		
1 - No damage r	2 - Minor / Moderate n	3 - Severe / collapsed -
Damage in non-structural elements :		
A - Minor i	B - Moderate ii	C - Severe -

CONCLUSION :		
GREEN 1-A / 1-B Cleared (can be rehabilitated) r	YELLOW 1-C / 2-ABC Restricted use (needs further assessment) n	RED 3 (all) Unsafe (Should be secured) -

Conclusion | key achievements

- Common approach and common plan
- Achievement of a multi-sectoral coordinated area-based methodologies
- A coordinated response in 9 neighborhoods and three-sectors convergent approach in the 3 pilot neighborhoods
- Strong engagement of the authorities (Governorate and national level)
- Engagement of shelter sector partners
- A phased methodology



Conclusion | Challenges

- Working in conflict-areas
- Collaboration with the government
- Quality and source of information
- Coordination / Number of actors
- Rapid structural assessment
- Ensuring common plan in the long run



Conclusion | Key lessons learnt

- **Engagement of all actors and coordination**

The participation of all concerned actors during all steps of the process is key to ensure an inclusive and endorsed shared prioritization, as well as a coordinated and efficient response. A multi-sector taskforce or joint committee, including local authorities, is required to coordinate and follow-up on the response.

- **Use of multi-sector neighborhood approach**

Rehabilitation in urban areas requires a multi-sector comprehensive approach, through shared prioritization to inform decision-making and strategic response planning, using neighbourhoods as settlement-units for assessment and planning. There is a need to advocate for area-based approach & neighbourhood level methodologies, combining prioritization methods, assessments tools and mapping

- **Phasing and adaptability to situation change**

Prioritization, assessment and response planning methodologies should be replicable, enable phasing and flexibility in order to be responsive to change of situations, shift in priorities or new emergencies. Phasing enables short, medium and long-term concerns to be integrated in a longer-term planning perspective.

- **The role of humanitarian actors in urban neighborhood rehabilitation ?**

Understanding the role of humanitarian actors in urban rehabilitation is key to appropriate and informed planning. Besides providing life-saving assistance, they can support local actors and authorities in defining priorities and informed decision making. Smart prioritization, will later facilitate the transition to early recovery and then development phases.

COLOMBIA CASE STUDY

Legalization of urban settlements



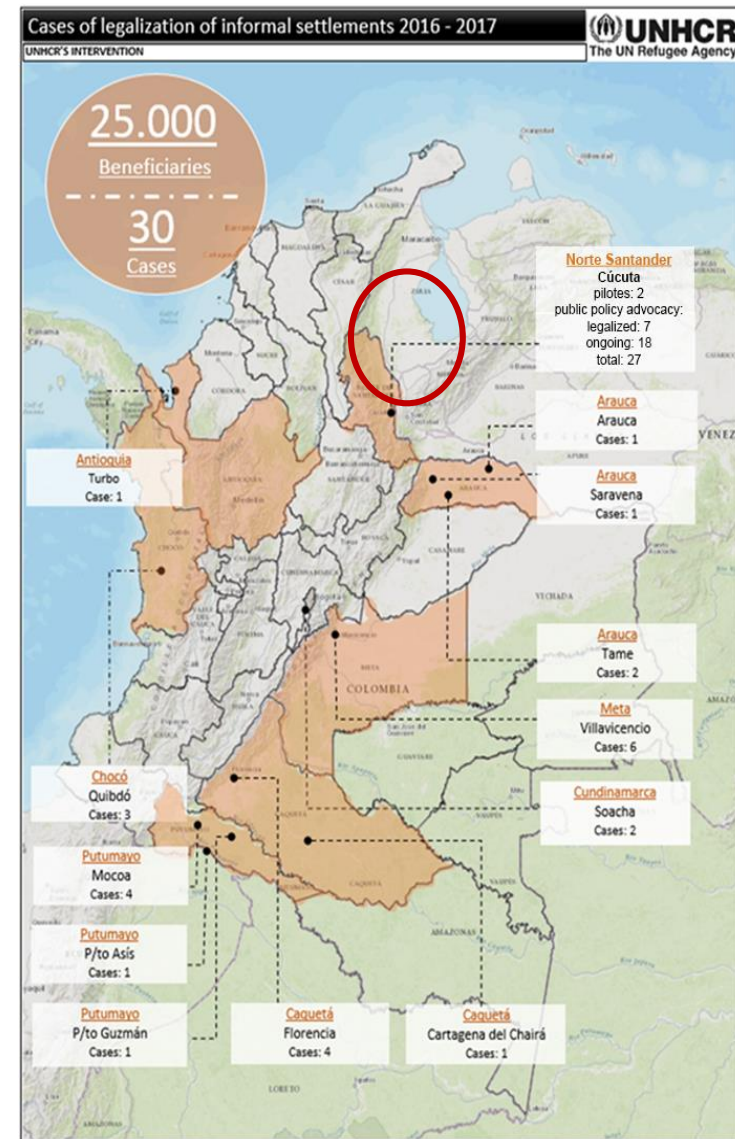
Colombia | Context

Situation:

- Armed conflict in Colombia
- Displaced population in Colombia & to neighbouring countries
- In Colombia: 7,3 mio IDPs as of 02.2017 of which 50% in urban areas
- Trend: 17% of HH in precarious situation by 2020

Project:

- Time frame : 2016-18, ongoing
- UNHCR, UNDP, I-NGOs & landowners
- 2 case studies in Manuela Beltrán and Las Delicias, municipality of Cúcuta



Colombia | Project overview

Three objectives of the UNHCR's national Strategy:

- Promote a **public policy** that leads to a comprehensive **management of urban settlements** & views **legalization** as an open door to guarantee rights
- Set up a **coordinated methodology of legalization** in urban settlements
- Transfer legalization processes & **ensure responsible disengagement**

Colombia | Project overview

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Four main components and UNHCR's role:

• Legal component

- . identify the legal status of land
- . Establish a work plan accordingly
- . Through local NGO

• Technical component

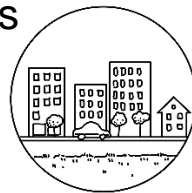
- . topographic & geotechnical surveys
- . Support to applications for legalizations
- . Cost support or partnership with public entities

• Social component

- . ensure community involvement throughout the process
- . Community strengthening

• Urban planning component

- . define applicable urban planning regulations for the neighbourhoods that undertake legalization
- . Engage with & promote the authorities' response



Colombia | Project outputs & achievements

Pilot phase : shaping the 2 general tools to be adapted to specific cases.
=> “*Informe de Sistematización*” and “*Manual de Referencia*”

Implementation: national: 30 informal settlements legalized or in progress
Cúcuta: 7 legalizations + 18 in progress

Manuela Beltrán and Las Delicias:

- Individual titles issuance: approx. 700 titles (300 to IDPs)
- HH with access to public services: almost 100% in *Manuela Beltrán* and 70% in *Las Delicias* (on going)
- Community infrastructures: 2 sport centres, 2 com. centres, 1 library
- Road infrastructures: sewage & pavement ongoing
- Water and Sanitations: governmental project ongoing to improve WASH infrastructures within the houses

Colombia | Project outputs & achievements

National level :

- **Methodology for the settlement legalization**
 - => monitoring & follow up of implementation process
 - => facilitates information, discussions, strategy revision & decisions
 - => reference tool use by other organizations & actors
- **HLP**
 - => land title issues & advice under national laws (*Ministério Público*)
 - => exchange platform for discussion & coordination (*Comité de Impulso*)
- **Attention to the younger generation**
 - => special & flexible support: psycho-social support
 - => define their own life project
 - => help return to school

Colombia | Main challenges

- **Nexus of humanitarian & Development challenges**

- => Simultaneous response to short and long term issues

- => Complex transversal effort combining psycho social support + judicial advice + new legal bases & tools + spatial planning and technical support

- => Challenging high number of key actors involved

- **Achieve sustainability of the legalization processes**

- => ensure that the line of work in remains incorporated in case of municipal government change (following Municipal Development Plan & sufficient resources)

- **Facilitate increasing community participation**

- => participation in the processes of settlement legalization

- => training for leaders on the legalization procedure

- **Identify and strengthen the elements leading to a durable integration**

- => in addition to all the immediate benefits provided by the settlement legalization processes, explore further development opportunities (ex: possibilities to become land owners)

Colombia | Lessons learnt

Legalization is an integral process

=> not only applying a norm or legal procedure

It also implies:

- **Community empowerment**

=> encouraging “rooting” through security of housing tenure

=> social cohesion

=> key for a self-sustaining and durable settlement process

- **Livelihoods and economic activities**

=> income generating strategies

=> creation + reinforcement of local productive units

=> higher investments in house & activities quality

=> institutional articulation of public-private actors

- **Public spaces and equipment**

=> key role in the making of a community: meeting, exchanging, training and free time, sense of ownership and identity

- **Institutional coordination**

=> meeting point for the communities, private owners & authorities

Colombia | Community empowerment

Health response training



Home gardens



Younger generation activities



Organisational strengthening



Colombia | Collective infrastructures

Aquaducts & sewage



Children cantine



Public spaces



Sports centres



THANK YOU