

UNDERSTANDING URBAN SYSTEMS AND STAKEHOLDERS

WHAT IS THIS RESEARCH ABOUT?

Recent research and policy work have identified the importance of working within existing systems in urban humanitarian response and with local stakeholders¹. Urban systems which relate to humanitarian response work include urban service provisions, both market and public sector (e.g. water and electricity), as well as governance and decision-making systems. Urban stakeholders may include community-based organisations, police and fire services, municipal governments, water boards, local businesses, and more.

The first step in working with urban systems and stakeholders is to understand them – what already exists? What are their capacities, needs and priorities, and the relationships between them? However, there is little documented and shared guidance on this topic, and a general lack of clarity around these issues. It is unclear to what degree humanitarians effectively understand urban systems and stakeholders, and what this understanding brings to humanitarian response.

OBJECTIVE AND RESEARCH QUESTIONS

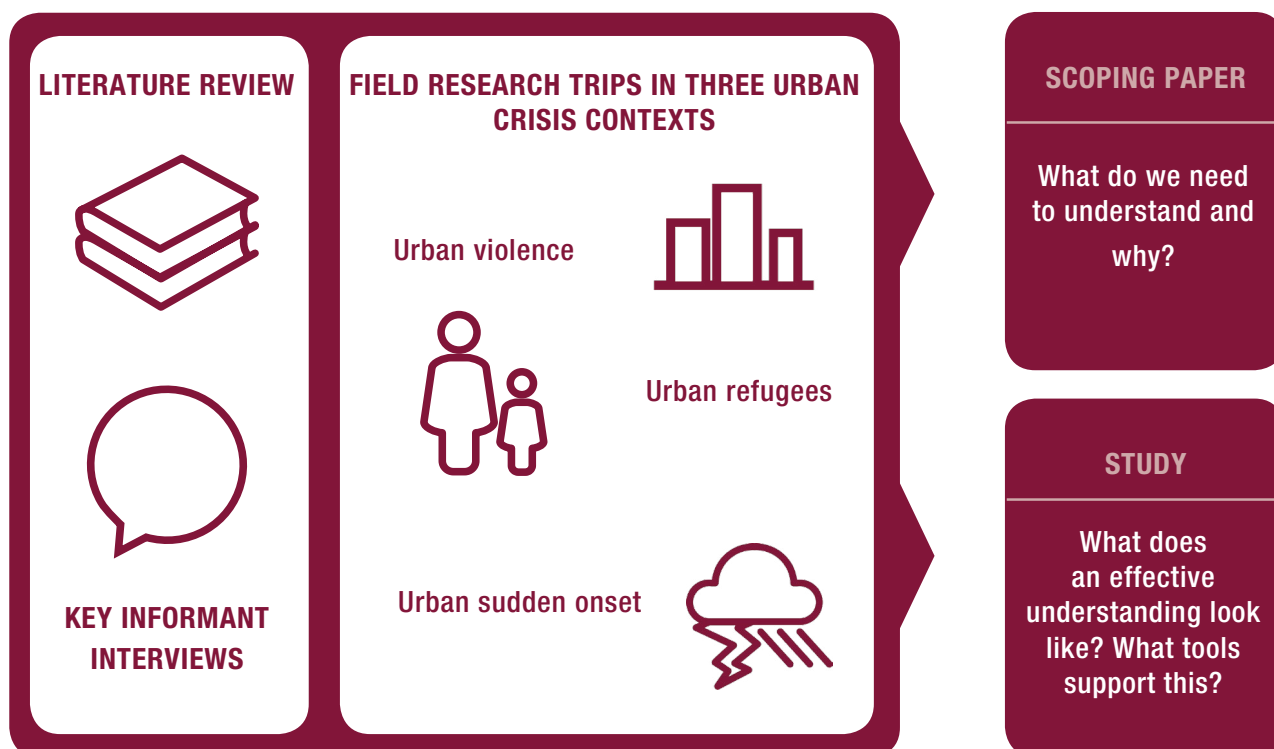
This research project seeks to address:

- **What** do we mean by urban systems and stakeholders?
- **Who** is trying to understand **what** about urban systems and stakeholders and **how**?
- **Why** is this understanding important?
- **How** effective are existing tools/guidance in providing information about urban systems and stakeholders?

¹ e.g. Sanderson & Knox Clarke, 2012; BRC learning from city; urban expert group WHS recommendations.

HOW WILL THIS RESEARCH BE CARRIED OUT?

FIG. 1: STAGES AND OUTPUTS OF THE RESEARCH



HOW CAN ALNAP MEMBERS PARTICIPATE?

ALNAP members and members of the ALNAP Urban Response Community of Practice can support this research by:

1. Sharing relevant literature/publications
2. Sharing their organisation's approach to understanding urban systems and stakeholders through interviews
3. Facilitating the field research trips by:
 - a. Offering to share their organisation's work on the ground including the identification of field staff to interview
 - b. Providing/assisting with security and logistical arrangements, including transport, accommodation and translation where required (please note that all expenses associated to these activities are fully covered by the ALNAP budget)

CONTACT

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