

CROWDSOURCING AND VIRTUAL REALITY APPLICATIONS FOR PEACEKEEPING: STUDY CASES IN MOGADISHU AND TRIPOLI

Michael Montani, Ferdinando Cesaria, United Nations Global Service Center (UNGSC)

State of the Map 2022, August 21st



What we do

The logistics base and peacekeeping operations





UN Maps

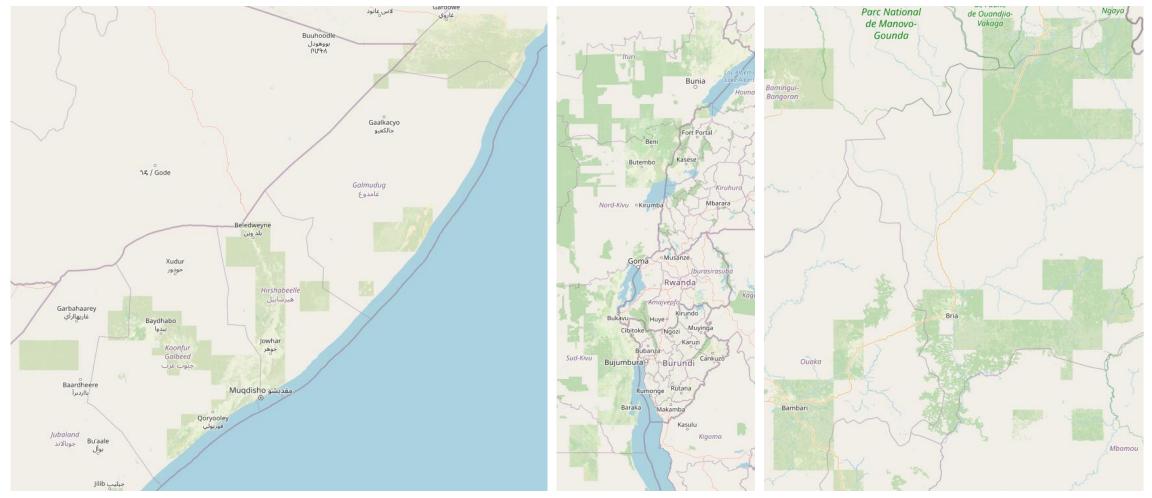
The 'Google Maps' of the UN





UN Maps

The 'Google Maps' of the UN



© OpenStreetMap contributors



UN Maps

The 'Google Maps' of the UN



© OpenStreetMap contributors



Leveraging innovative technology

Virtual Reality (VR) applications and use cases

• Visualization around a shared simulated 3D view of an area of interest for strategic planning



Operational Efficiency

Develop specialist skill-sets to be deployed as strategic or mission-level resources in a cost-effective manner



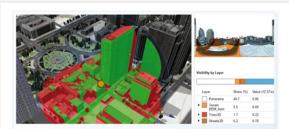
Collaboration

Enable multiple users to safely collaborate around a shared simulated sandbox, from separate remote locations



Safe training

Improve and ensure the delivery of training, especially in situations where safety and security are compromised



Expanded Planning Tools

Allow users to provide / create on-the-fly input to planning, to trigger and shape their simulations in a realistic virtual environment





Leveraging innovative technology

Virtual Reality (VR) applications and use cases

• Visualization around a shared simulated 3D view of an area of interest for strategic planning



Operational Efficiency

Develop specialist skill-sets to be deployed as strategic or mission-level resources in a cost-effective manner



Collaboration

Enable multiple users to safely collaborate around a shared simulated sandbox, from separate remote locations



Safe training

Improve and ensure the delivery of training, especially in situations where safety and security are compromised



Expanded Planning Tools

Allow users to provide / create on-the-fly input to planning, to trigger and shape their simulations in a realistic virtual environment



UNITED NATIONS | DEPARTMENT OF OPERATIONAL SUPPORT





Yet another building mapping project?

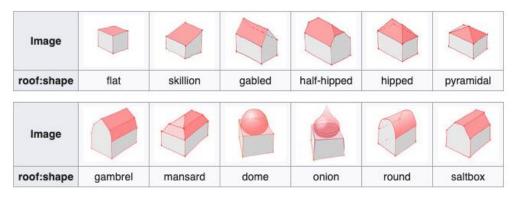
Yes, but...

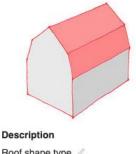
- Need for accurate information
 - Geometry and footprint
 - Building characteristics (height, levels, material, color, roof type)



Roof shape

You can characterize the roof of a building using a catalogue of well-known roof types.





Roof shape type. Group: Buildings Used on these elements Requires

© OpenStreetMap contributors

 building=* or building:part=*



Yet another building mapping project?

Yes, but...

- Urban environment
 - Buildings are close to each other
 - Azimut for tall buildings
 - Comparison of imageries, offset correction





Yet another building mapping project?

Yes, but...

- Security issues
 - Cannot fly drones. Often, cannot take pictures
 - Security concerns with civilians
 - Security policies





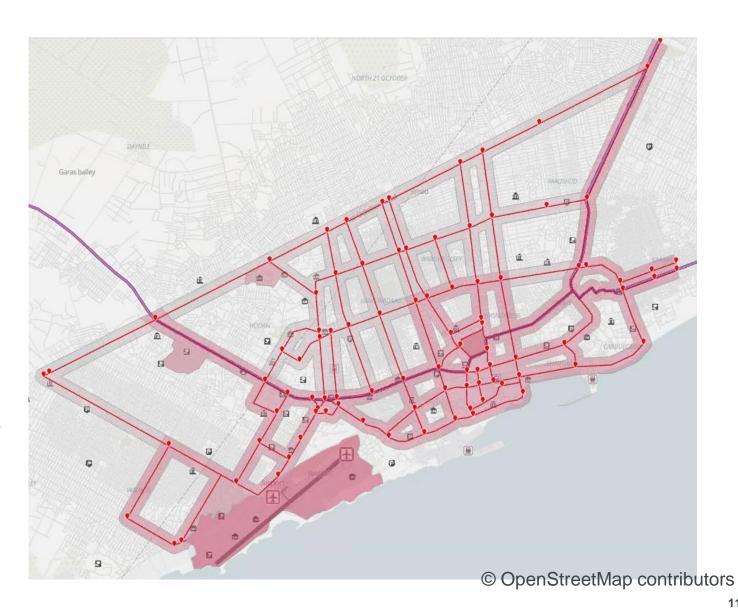


Mogadishu

Setting



- 1. Contacts with local community
- 2. Definition areas of interest with clients
- **3.** Production of instructions
- 4. Crowdsourcing and validation





UN Mappers community

Volunteers supporting peace and serving humanity







Mogadishu Over 50k buildings in few weeks





Tripoli: OSM Libya as a key partner

Their contributions to Kartaview

KartaView Leaderboard Blog Sign In **Explore the World** Search places... Q AL QARS CIIn Pharmacy قرەۋچلا قېرىدى ص Terms & conditions Privacy Policy Feedback

S Kartaview

UNITED NATIONS | DEPARTMENT OF OPERATIONAL SUPPORT



Tripoli: BuildingComplete

Tweaking of open-source Android applications



School, apartment, house, mosque...

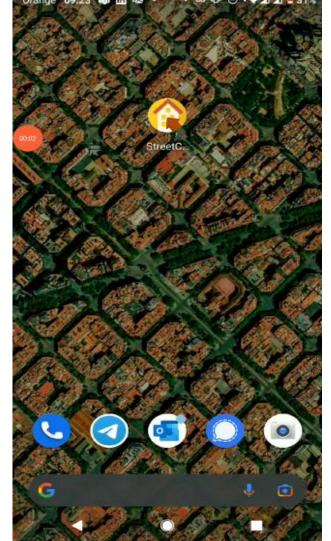
Building Level

Roof Shape Flat, gabled, round... **Building Material** Cement blocks, bricks, concrete...

Building Colour

White, grey, beige, blue...

• And translations in Arabic

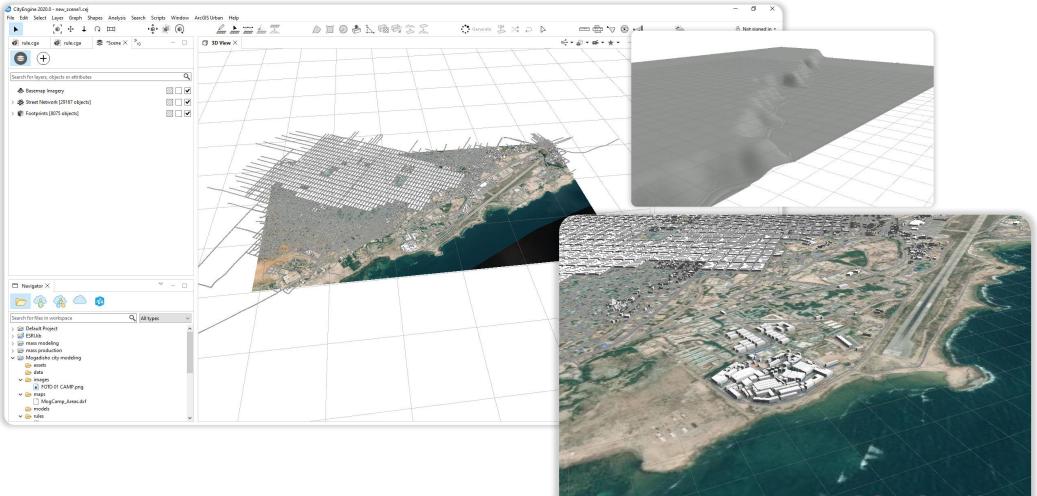


© OpenStreetMap contributors



3D modeling

Data ingestion and modeling of buildings





3D modeling Procedural modeling





© OpenStreetMap contributors



3D modeling

Texturing and ehnancements







In conclusion

Before the demo...

- Challenges:
 - Field mapping is dangerous and doesn't scale well. Could be useful for groundtruth
 - Many geospatial tools are denied
 - Coordination between IT-only and GIS teams
- Next steps
 - Perform large scale estimation of building heights
 - Perform small scale field mapping of building details
 - Train peacekeepers to edit field information
 - Explore further usage of street-level imagery





THANKS!

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY!



