

Scales

The Home scale sought to understand the current housing conditions in the settlements, and to imagine with residents what upgraded housing could be like. The aim was to explore a definition of 'home' and to capture residents' diverse values and aspirations for this important component of the settlement.

The Community scale focused on community dynamics in relation to community spaces (streets, community amenity spaces and surrounding areas) and infrastructures (transport, water, sanitation, energy, information).

The city scale focused on citywide processes, conditions and experiences. Activities included the exploration of spaces in the city that are relevant to the lives of residents, spanning issues of transport, public services and livelihood opportunities.

The Policy and Planning scale explored current planning policy as well as emerging planning policy and its implications. The process included a stakeholder analysis and discusses where a Community Action Area Plan could fit into the current policy framework for Freetown.

Cockle Bay

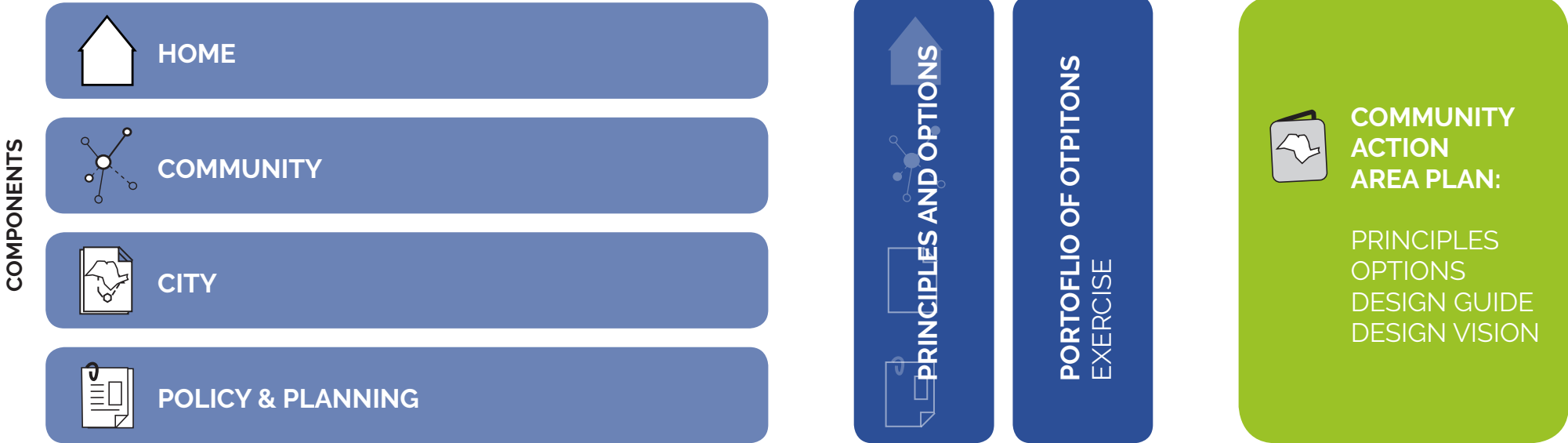
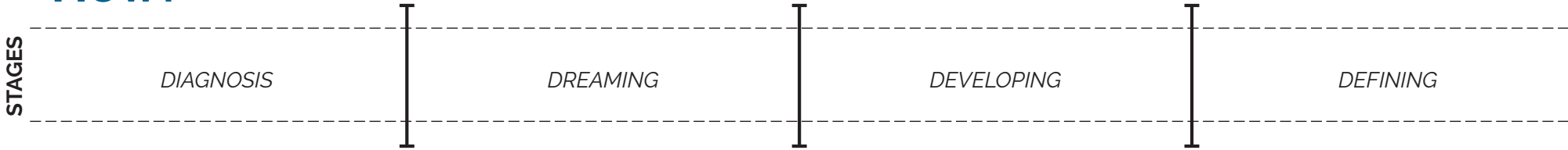
Community Action Area Plan (CAAP)

Process and Methods (Leaflet 1 of 3)

This leaflet describes the participatory process and methods used to produce Community Action Area Plans in Freetown. This project is an opportunity to create a community-level action plan that considers the needs and aspirations of people living in informal settlements, so they can be included in city-wide visions and advocate their rights to a more just and inclusive city.

- The CAAP is an instrument that aims to:
- Support communities to advocate their rights to a more just and inclusive city.
 - Provide a decision-making tool to help communities plan for future interventions. Provide a framework for testing different scenarios for settlement upgrading.
 - Provide a framework to explore and assess different organisational structures and funding mechanisms that will support change.
 - Support local and central government to further understand the needs and aspirations of residents living in informal settlements, helping to plan realistic and equitable interventions.

How?



Diagnosis

This stage is designed to uncover the current conditions at each scale. The aim is to develop a holistic understanding of the situation in the settlement and reflect on opportunities for change.

Dreaming

This stage is designed to uncover residents' aspirations for improving their living standards, the wider settlement and experience of the city. The aims of these activities is to facilitate discussions around physical improvements but also explore economic, social, political and cultural changes..

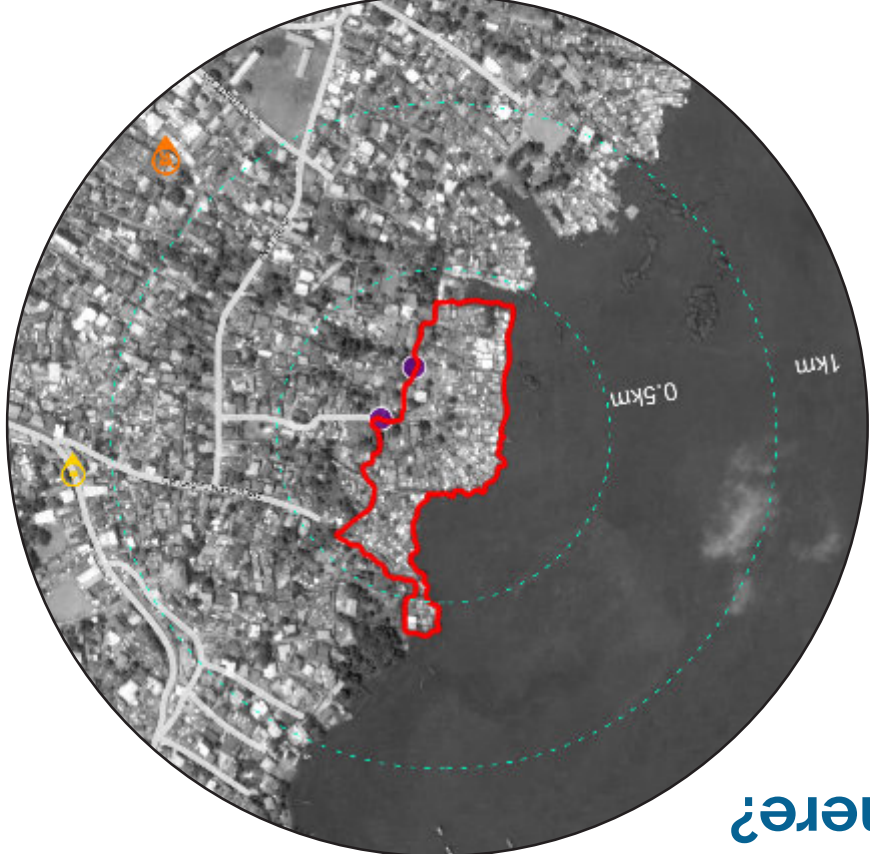
Developing

This stage is designed to capture the aspirations identified in the dreaming stage into a range of options and principles. These are used in action planning activities in which residents explore different scenarios for future development.

Defining

The final stage is designed to capture the process and outcomes in a series of community planning documents. Residents and the steering group were engaged to ensure the outcomes reflected the community needs.

Where?



Located along the Aberdeen Creek on the western coast of Freetown, Cockle Bay is an informal settlement roughly 5 kilometers from the city centre. Cockle Bay is split into four neighbourhoods known locally as Jai Mata, Kola Tree, Mafengbeh and Hilet View.

Who?

The development of the CAAP in both Cockle Bay and Dwozarck was led by Architecture Sans Frontières – UK in collaboration with the Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre. The process included:

- An Advisory Group** With key city stakeholders
- A Steering Group** With community leaders/representatives

25 Workshops
300 community contributors

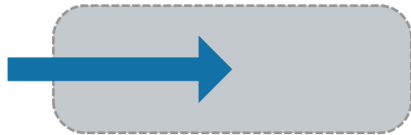


What?

NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK
SIERRA LEONE

FREETOWN STRUCTURAL PLAN

ACTION AREA PLAN



INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENTS

A CAAP is a tool that can allow communities to advance their own spatial vision, highlight the areas of the community they want to preserve, and to show their priorities for development. CAAP's could also be an extremely important tool for dialogue between local council and community, allowing communities to participate, improve capacity and take ownership in their own development in an officially recognised framework.

COMMUNITY ACTION AREA PLAN

'We can use report as evidence of conditions to inform policy decisions. The Council want to know exactly what development challenges there are and what people really want'; -Abdul K. Marah, FCC



The wharf is where the community plays football, collects Cockles and goes fishing



There are a variety of existing streams which run through the community which can flood in the rain season



The chief Baray is where the community seek justice and decisions



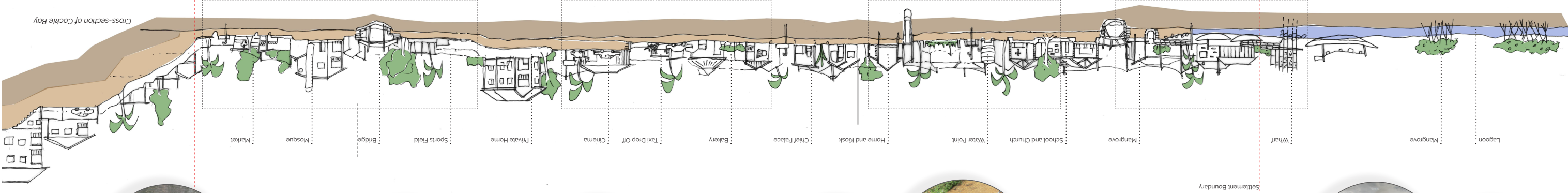
The bakery was set up by a charity and is an employer in the community



The football field is a major focal point in the community



The market is where the community can buy a variety of goods as well as collect water



There is a variety of large houses mixed in with informal small houses



Religious spaces in the community are extremely important to the community



Moving away from the coast, properties get larger and more affluent

The full CAAP document can be accessed at the SLURC office or downloaded from: <https://www.slurc.org/reports.html>