REACH An initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and UNOSAT

SHELTER DAMAGE ATLAS Falluja City Republic of Iraq





United Nations Institute for Training and Research

12



Shelter Damage Reference Maps

July 2021

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Iraq Shelter Damage Atlas: Satellite Detected Damage, Falluja City

Overview:

Falluja city, the capital of Falluja district is located in Anbar governorate, 69 kilometers west of Baghdad. It was the first city to fall under the control of the so-called Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in 2014¹. Over the course of the conflict, the city sustained significant damage, including to shelter and basic infrastructure. After the city was recaptured in mid-2016, REACH Initiative, in partnership with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research's (UNITAR's) satellite application's programme, detected and classified 2,648 structures into three damage levels (destroyed, severely damaged, moderately damaged) for all 19 neighborhoods of Falluja city. Using imagery from November 2019, REACH and UNITAR sought to assess levels of rehabilitation and identified a round 4,278 impacted sites being rehabilitated, reconstructed.

This atlas therefore presents the scale of damage immediately following the end of military interventions in Falluja with comparisons based on levels of reconstruction/rehabilitation from 2019.

Methodology:

The shelter damage atlas is developed based on satellite imagery from the Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT) and UNITAR². Using the satellite imagery REACH detects and classifies structures in urban areas into three damage levels (destroyed, severely damaged, moderately damaged)^{3,4}. The intensity of damage to areas is calculated using a weighted kernel density technique on identified shelters within the affected areas, in which totally destroyed shelter is given a higher score than one that is only moderately damaged. The definition of damage level and applied weights are given in the following table:

Damage level	Definition	Weight
Destroyed	All or most of the building structure is collapsed (76% - 100% of structure destroyed).	.5
Severely damaged	A significant part of the building structure is collapsed (31%-75% of structure destroyed).	.3
Moderately damaged	Limited damage observed to the building structure (5%-30% of structure damaged).	.2

Then the data is compared with historical imagery, on damage and destruction (immediately following conflict) in order to assess the levels of reconstruction and rehabilitation over time⁵. Rehabilitation status at a neighbourhood level is further classified into three levels (in progress, under construction, reconstruction). The comparison of levels of destruction/ damage and levels of rehabilitation/reconstruction are then mapped for a visual analysis of the status of housing infrastructure at a neighbourhood level.

Usage and limitations:

This atlas provides a general overview of the damage severity and levels of reconstruction and rehabilitation at a neighbourhood level. It is NOT made as a stand-alone tool for detailed site planning. However, it provides an indication of needs and potential vulnerabilities associated to access to housing which can inform broader analysis or planning. Atlas results need to be ground verified and decisions combined with specific on-site evaluation and appropriate technical expertise.



^{1 -} REACH Intitiative - Fallujah City Area - Based Assessment (November 2018 - January 2019). Link available here.

^{2 -} Historical data is generally publicly available. Up-to-date data on the status of infrastructure can be purchased for between 10 and 17 United States dollars (USD) per square kilometer depending on source / sensor.

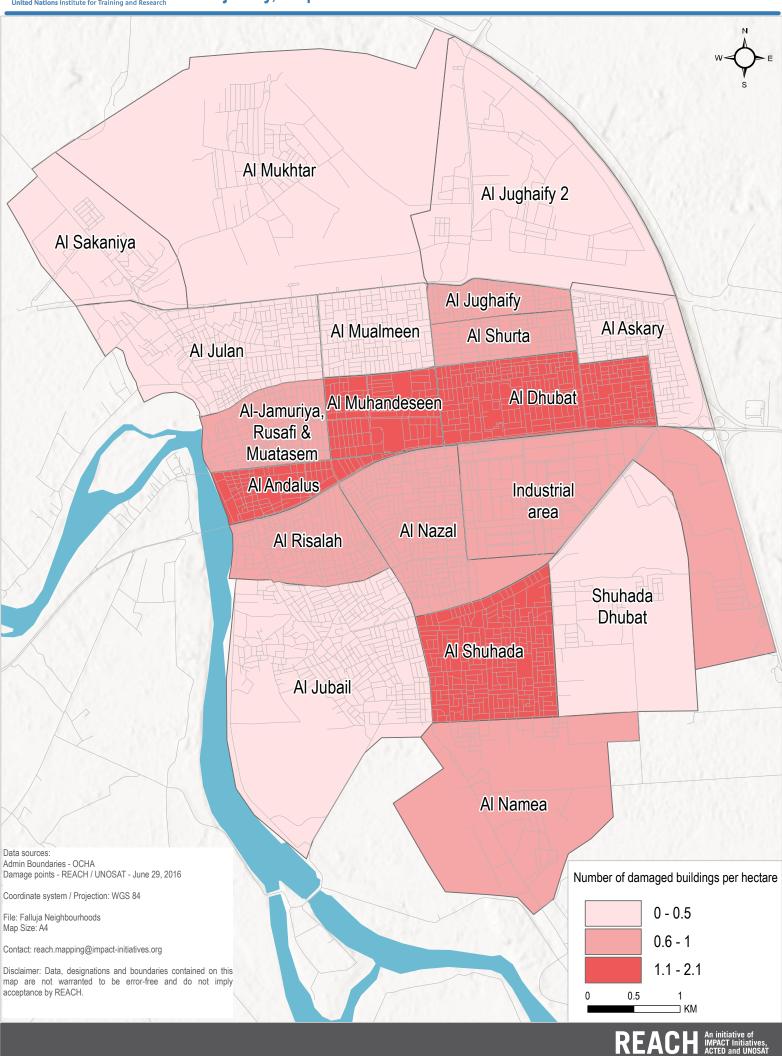
^{3 -} WorldView-2 from 29 June 2016. Copyright: ©2016, DigitalGlobe

^{4 -} GeoEye from 30 November 2014, Pleiades from 16 June 2019. Copyright: CNES

^{5 -} WorldView-3 from 04 November 2019. Copyright: ©2019 DigitalGlobe



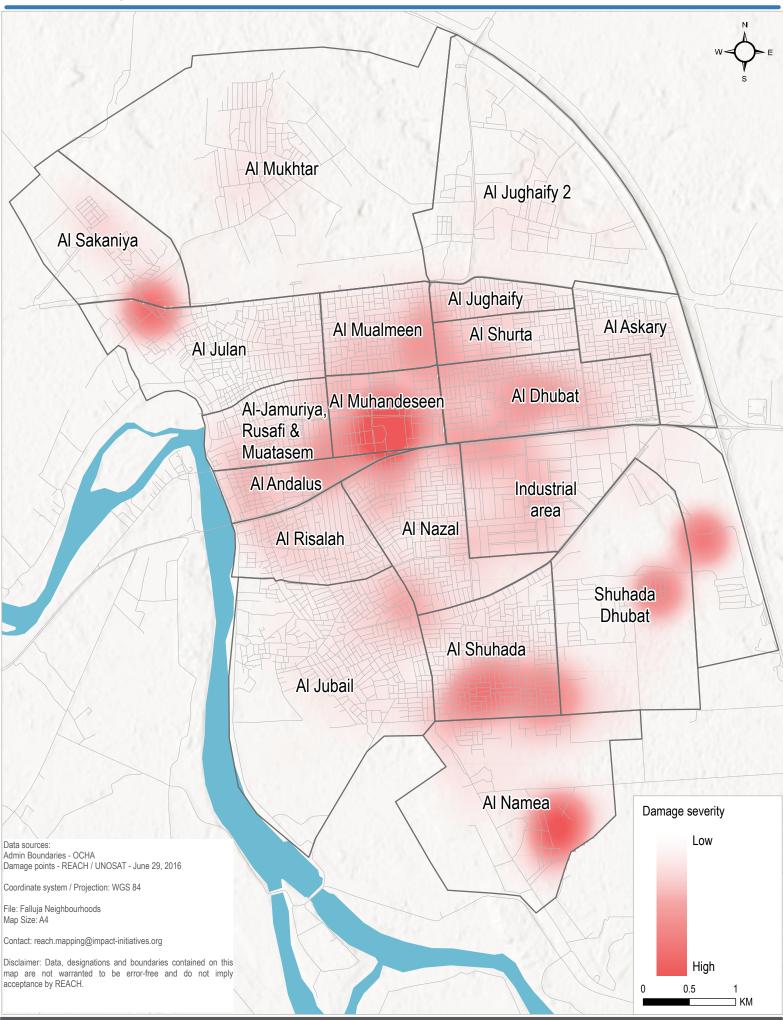
Building Damaged per Area Hectare - as of 29 June 2016 Falluja City, Iraq



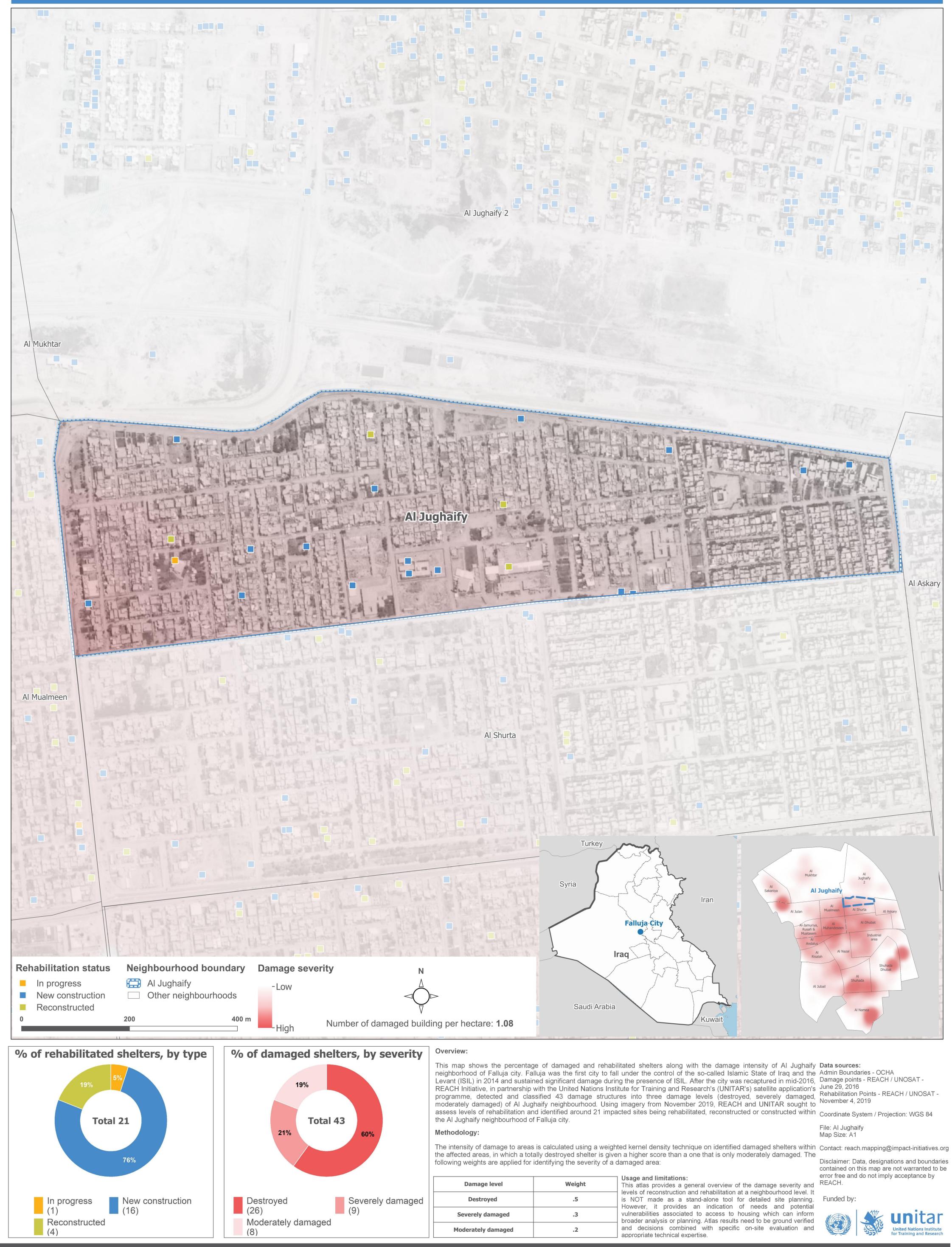


Damage Severity Mapping - as of 29 June 2016 Falluja City, Iraq

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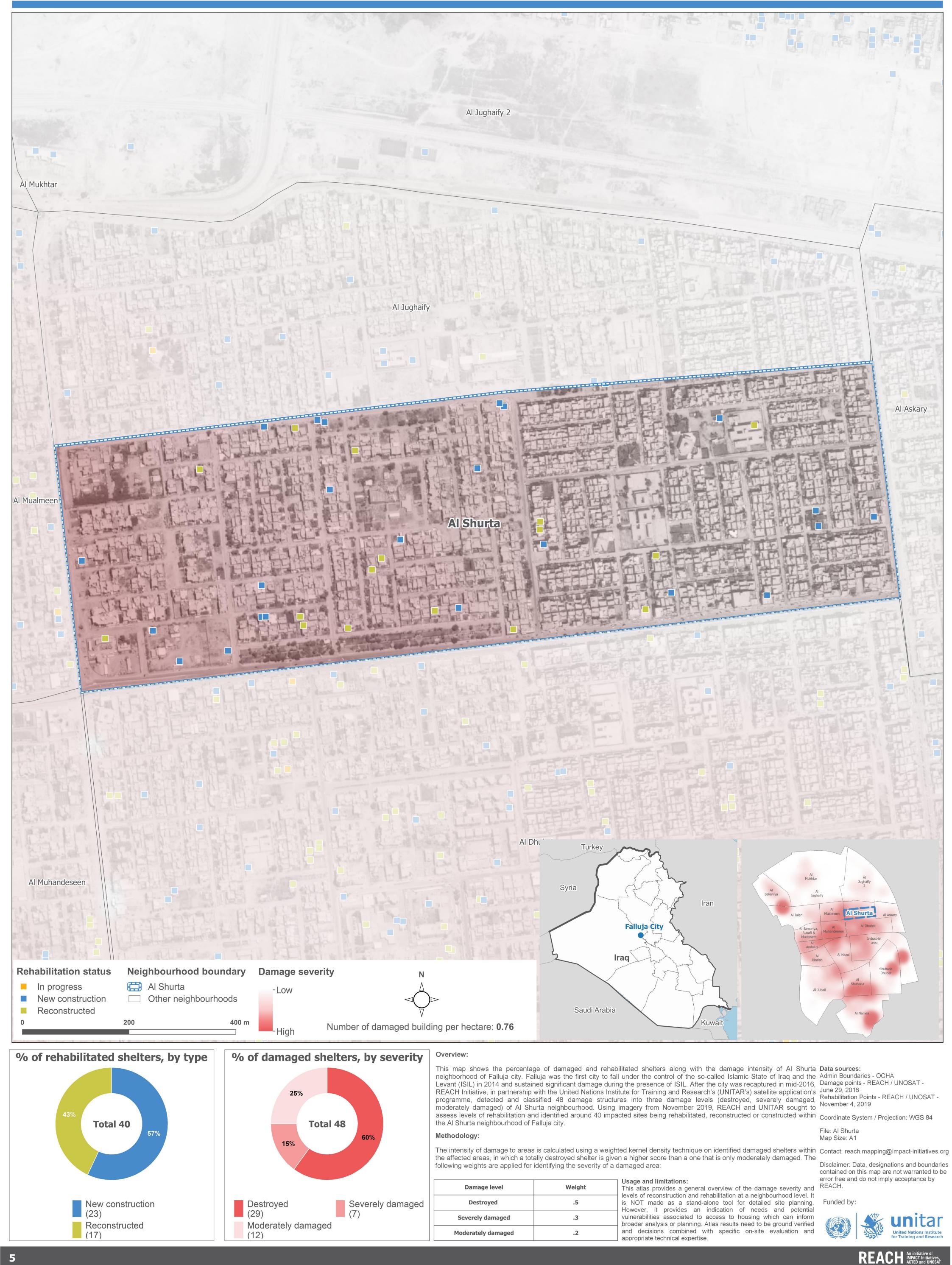


Al Jughaify

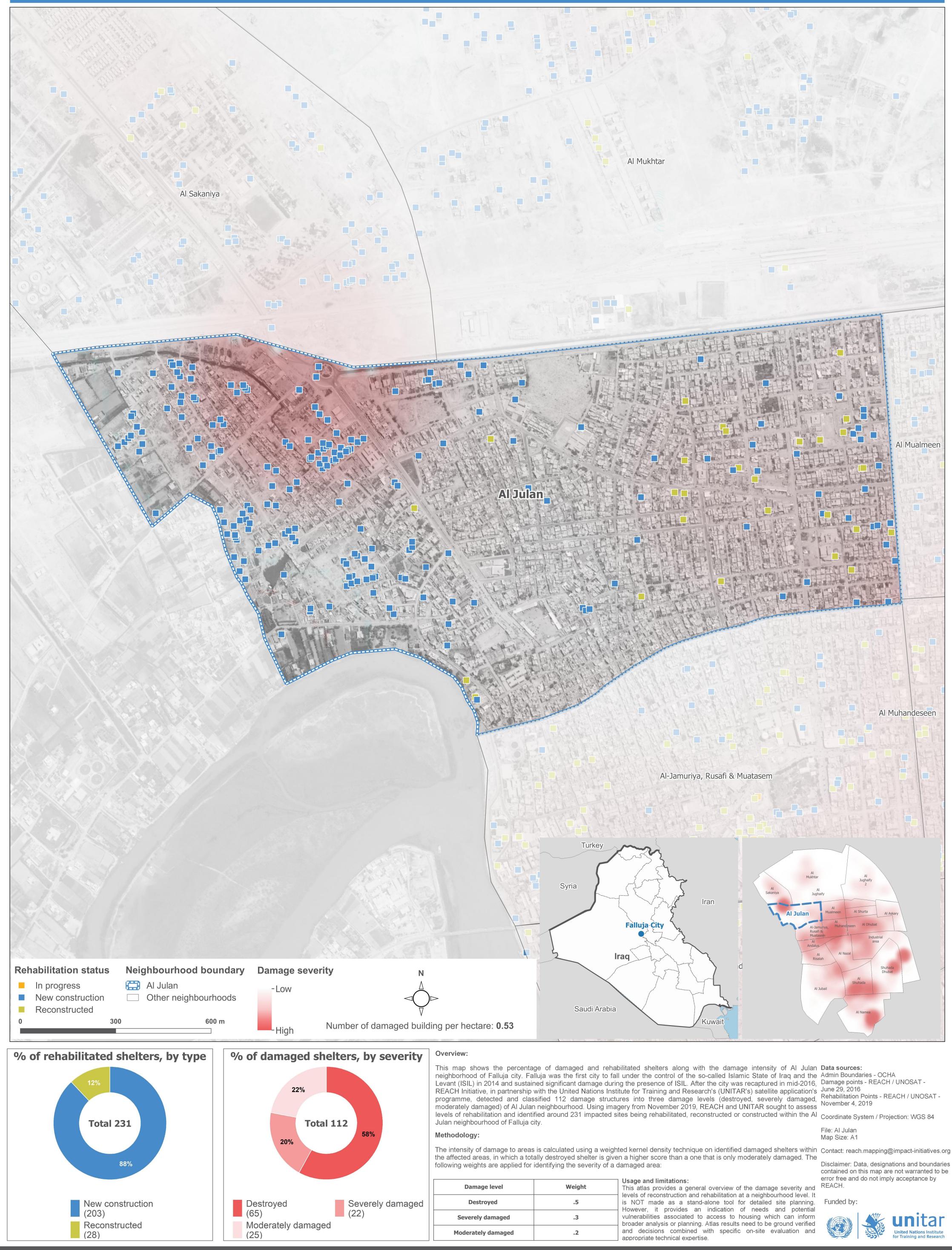




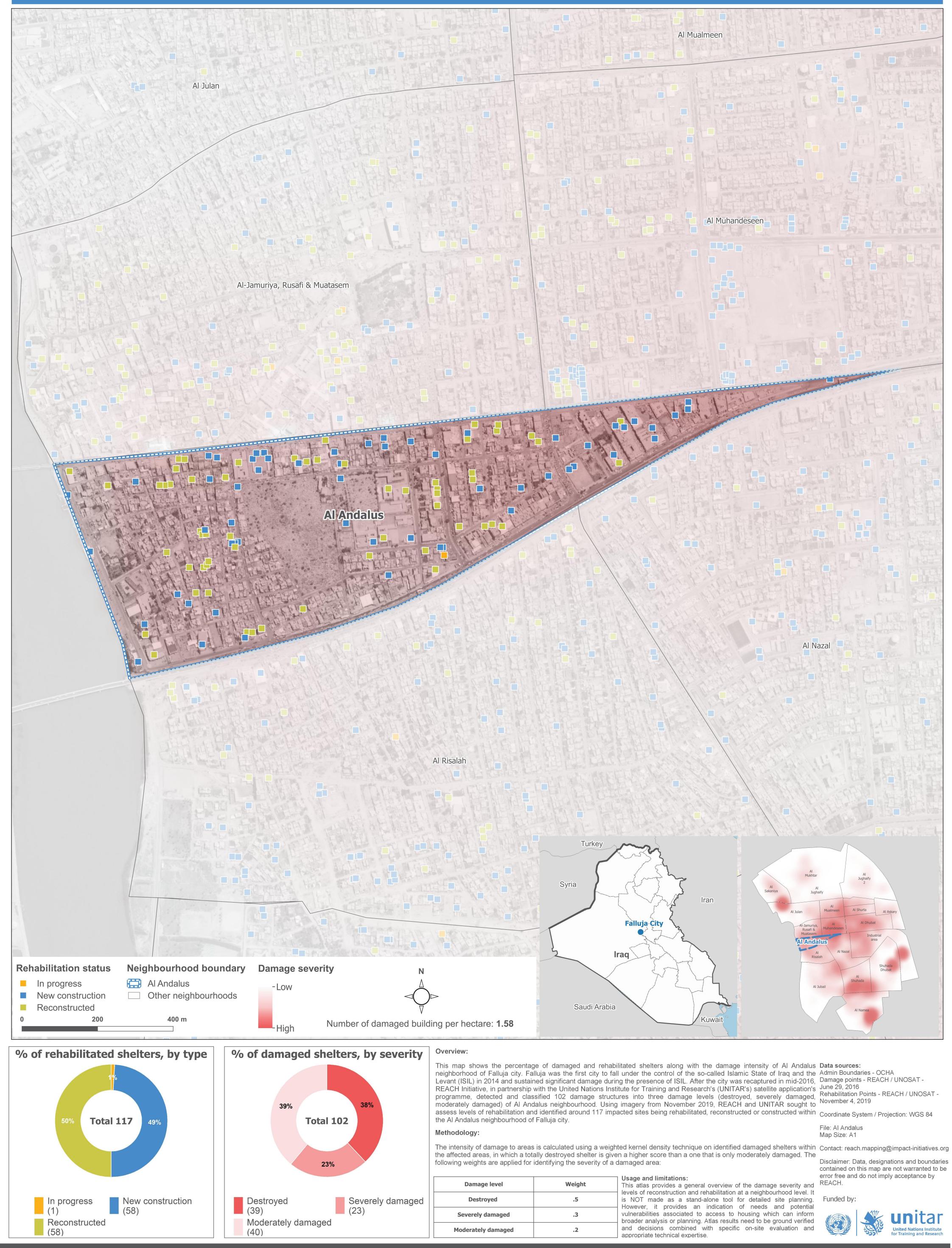
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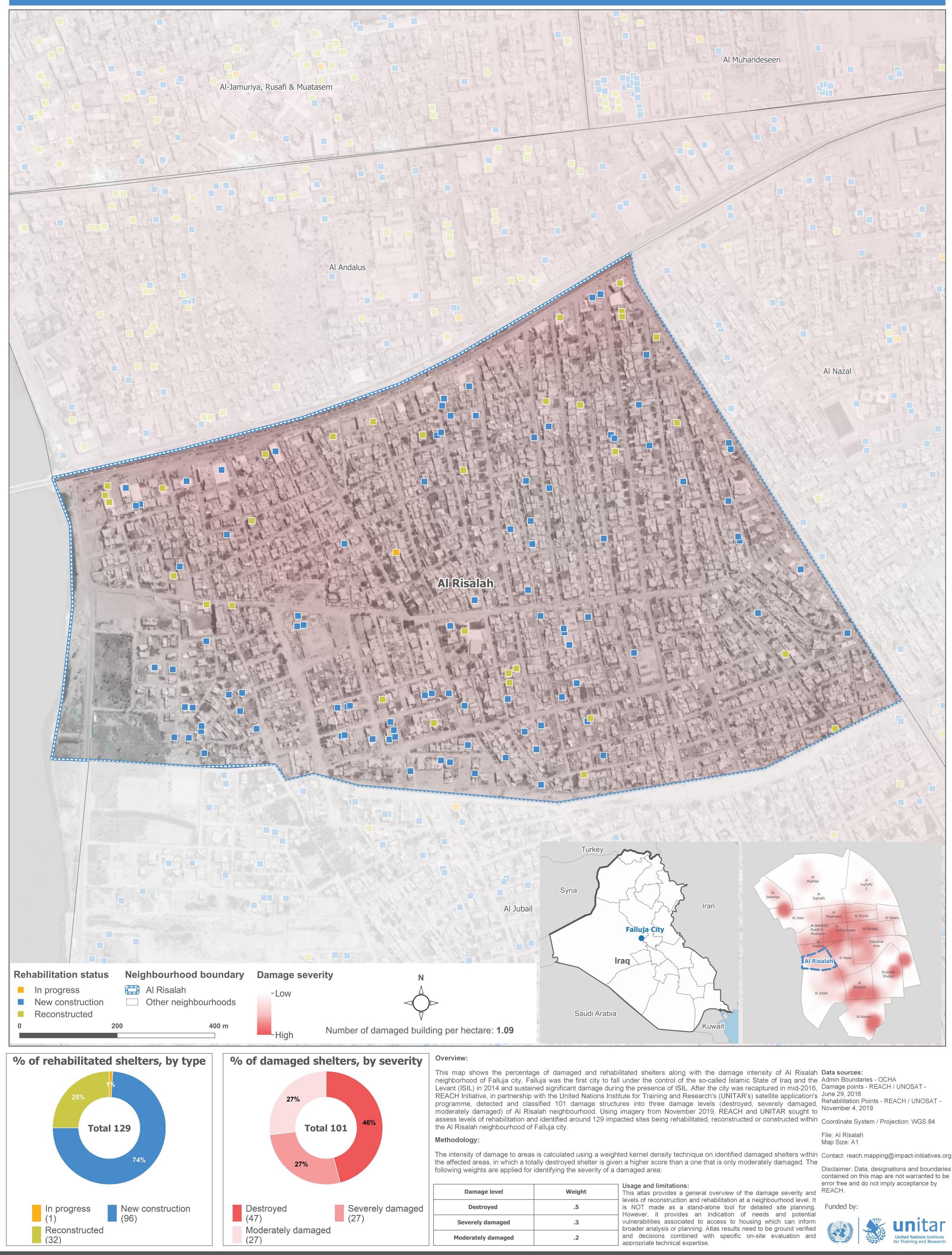
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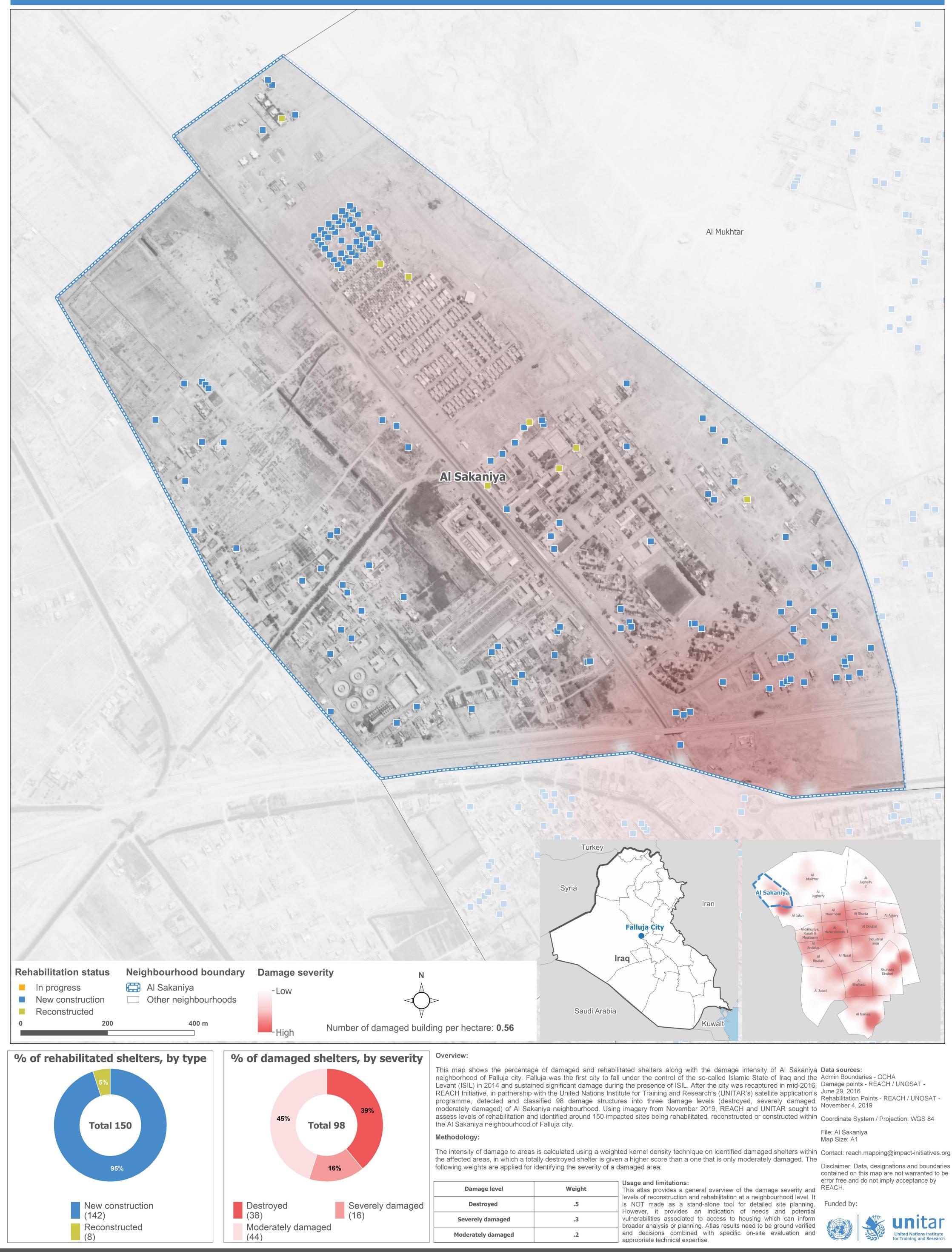


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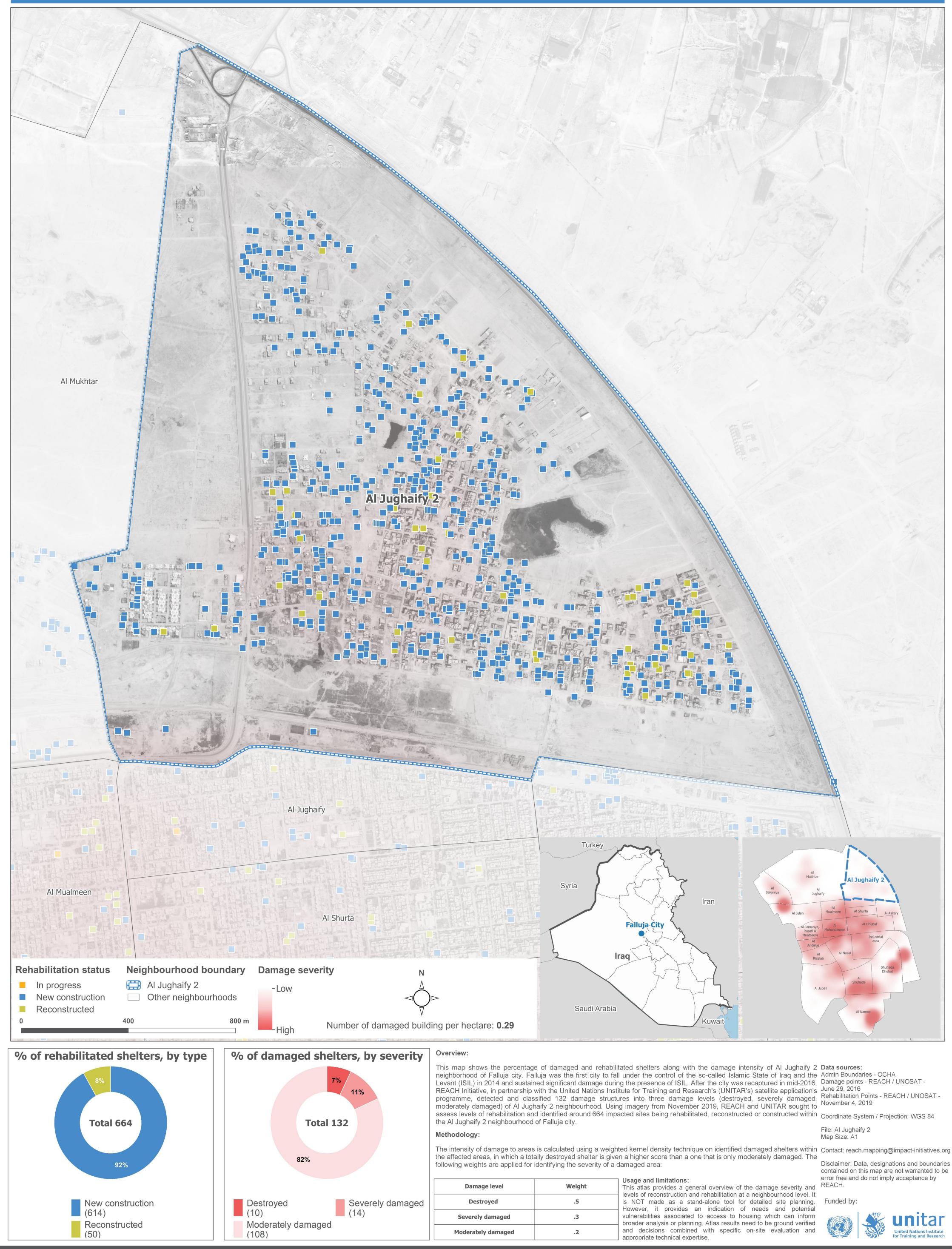


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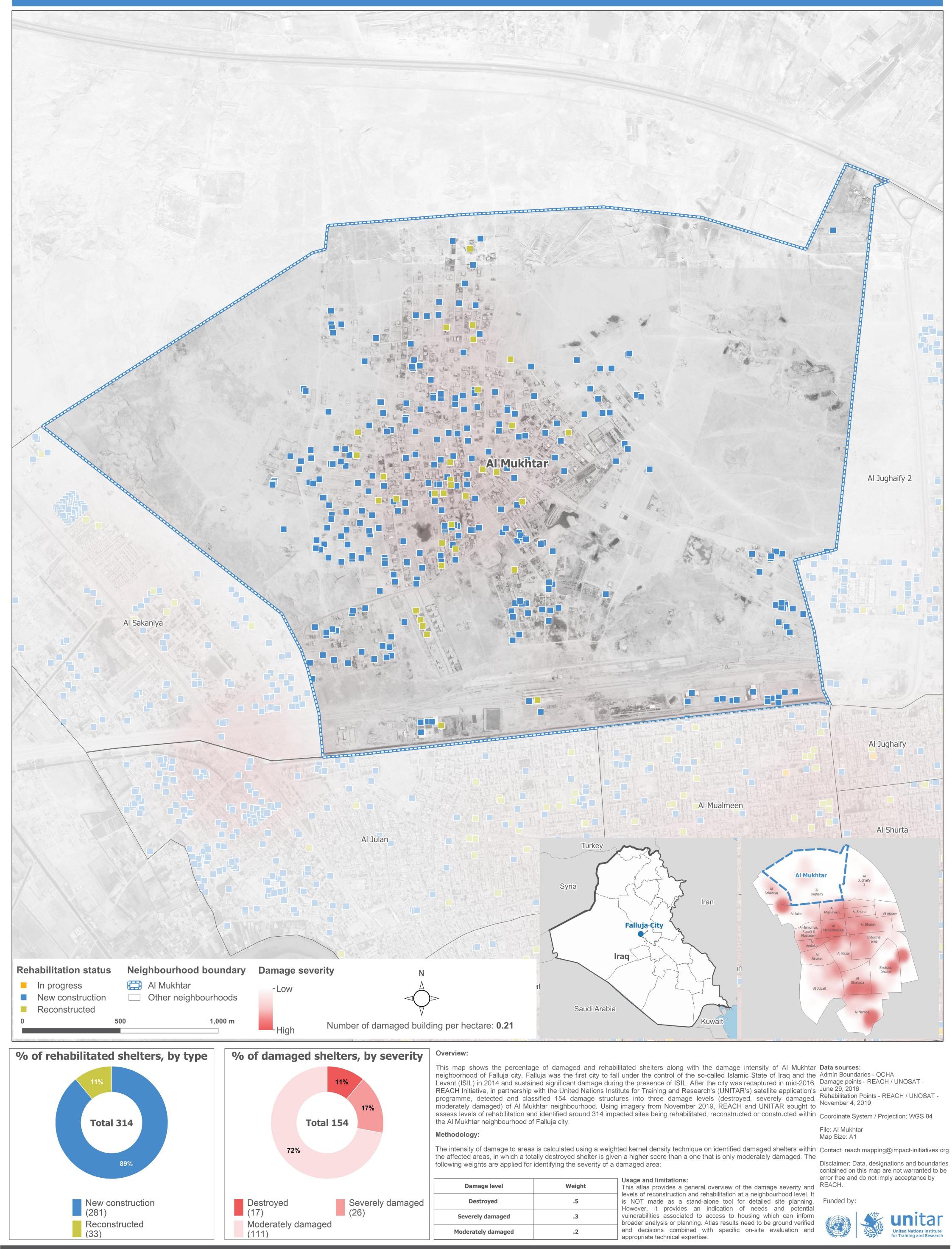




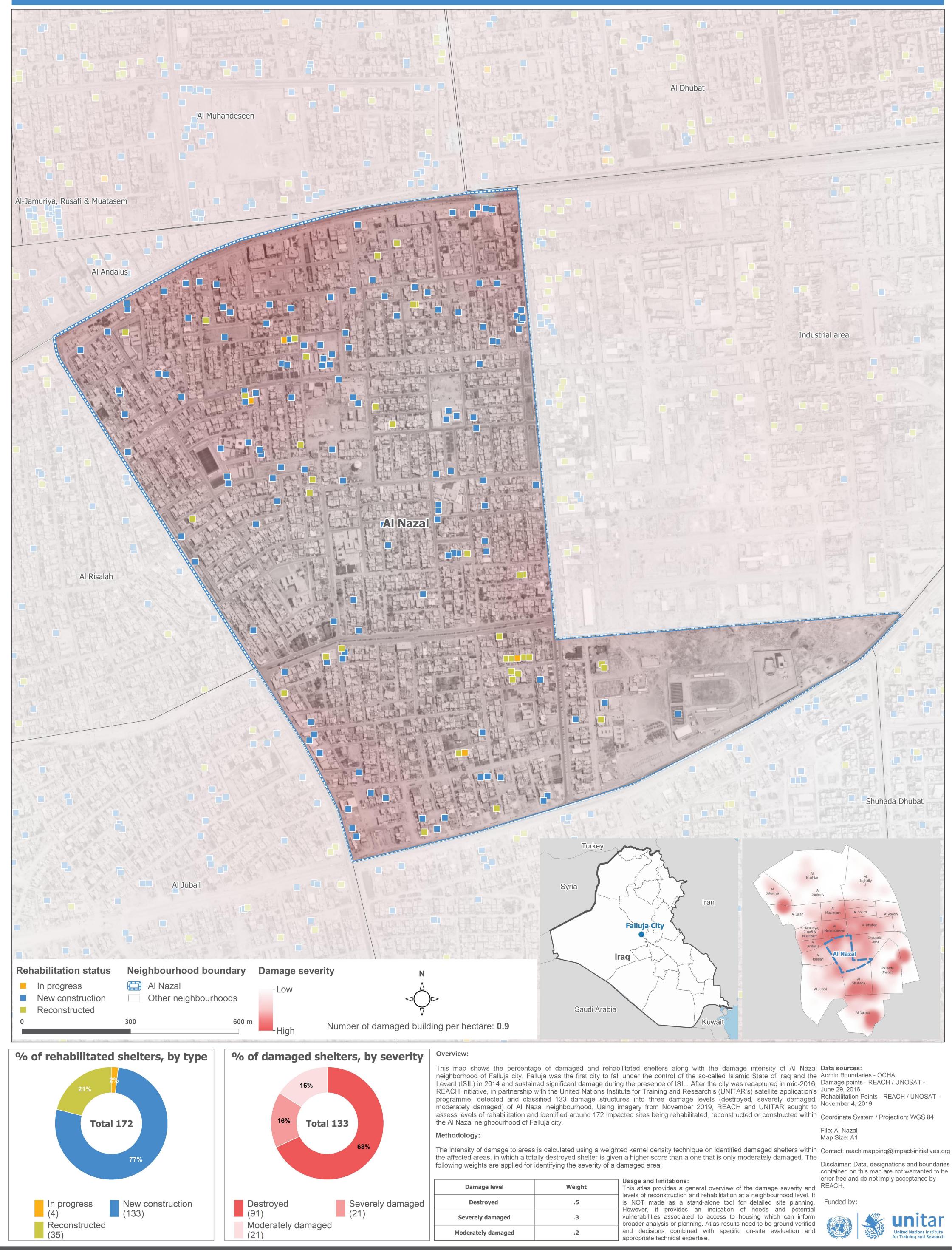
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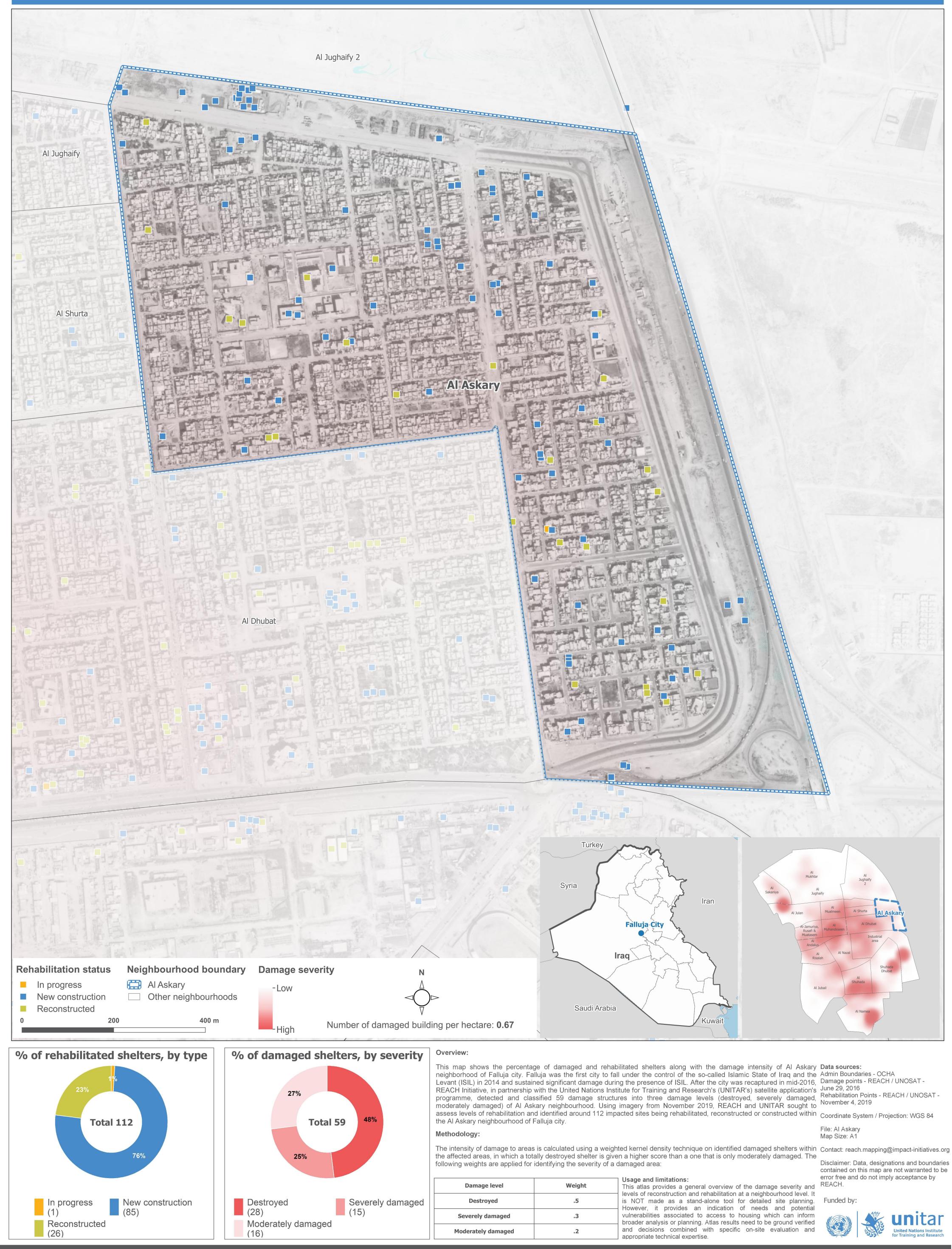


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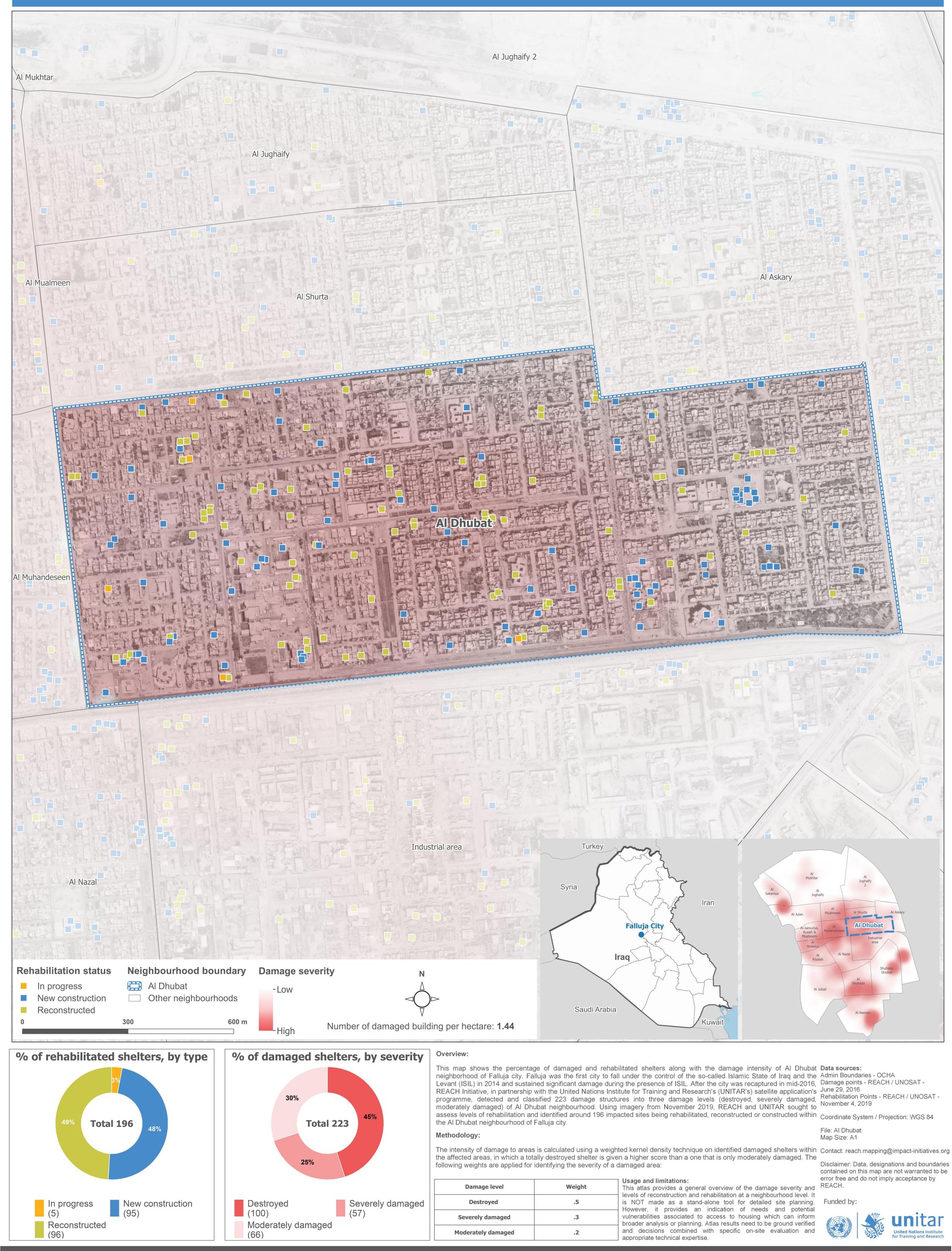
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Al Askary

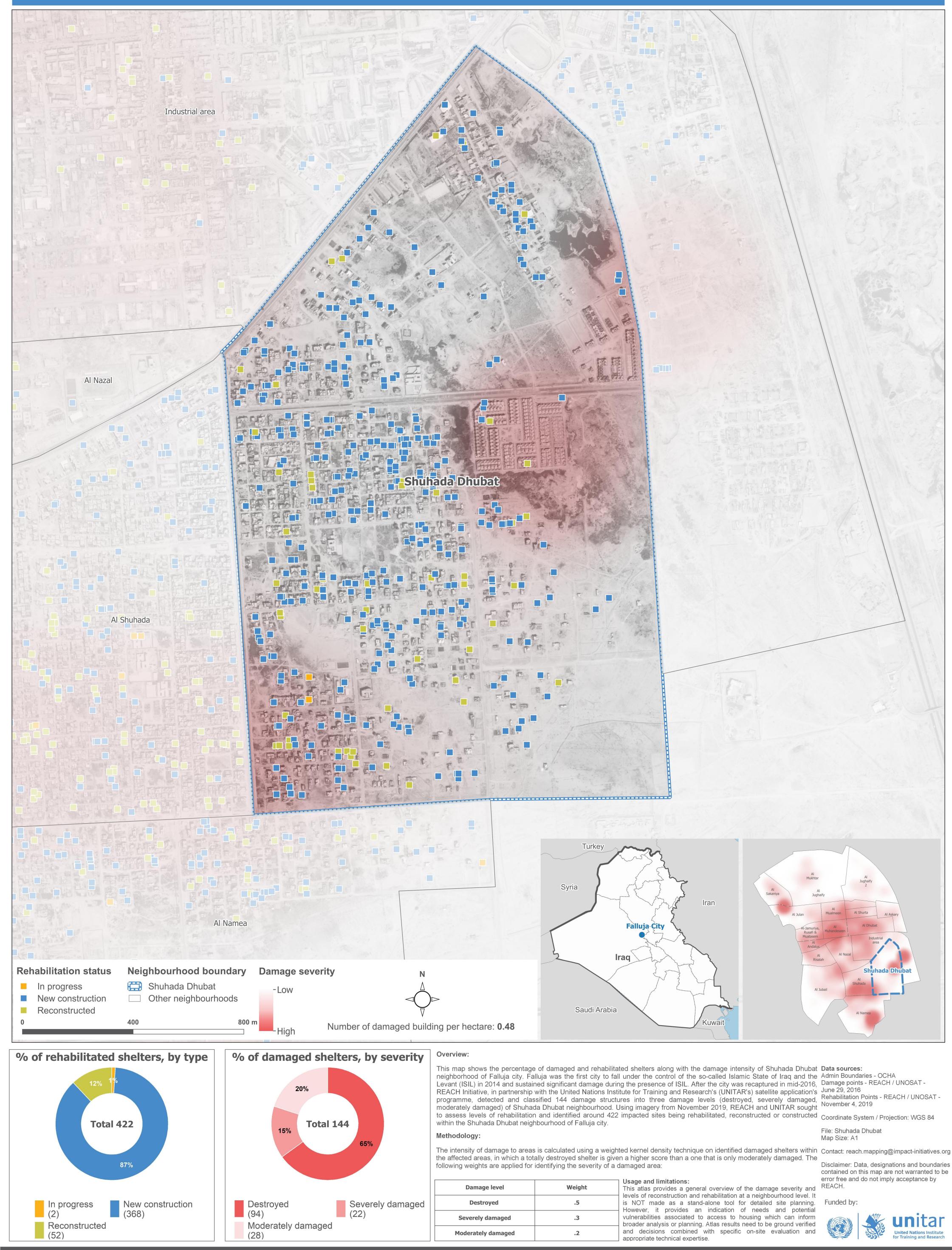




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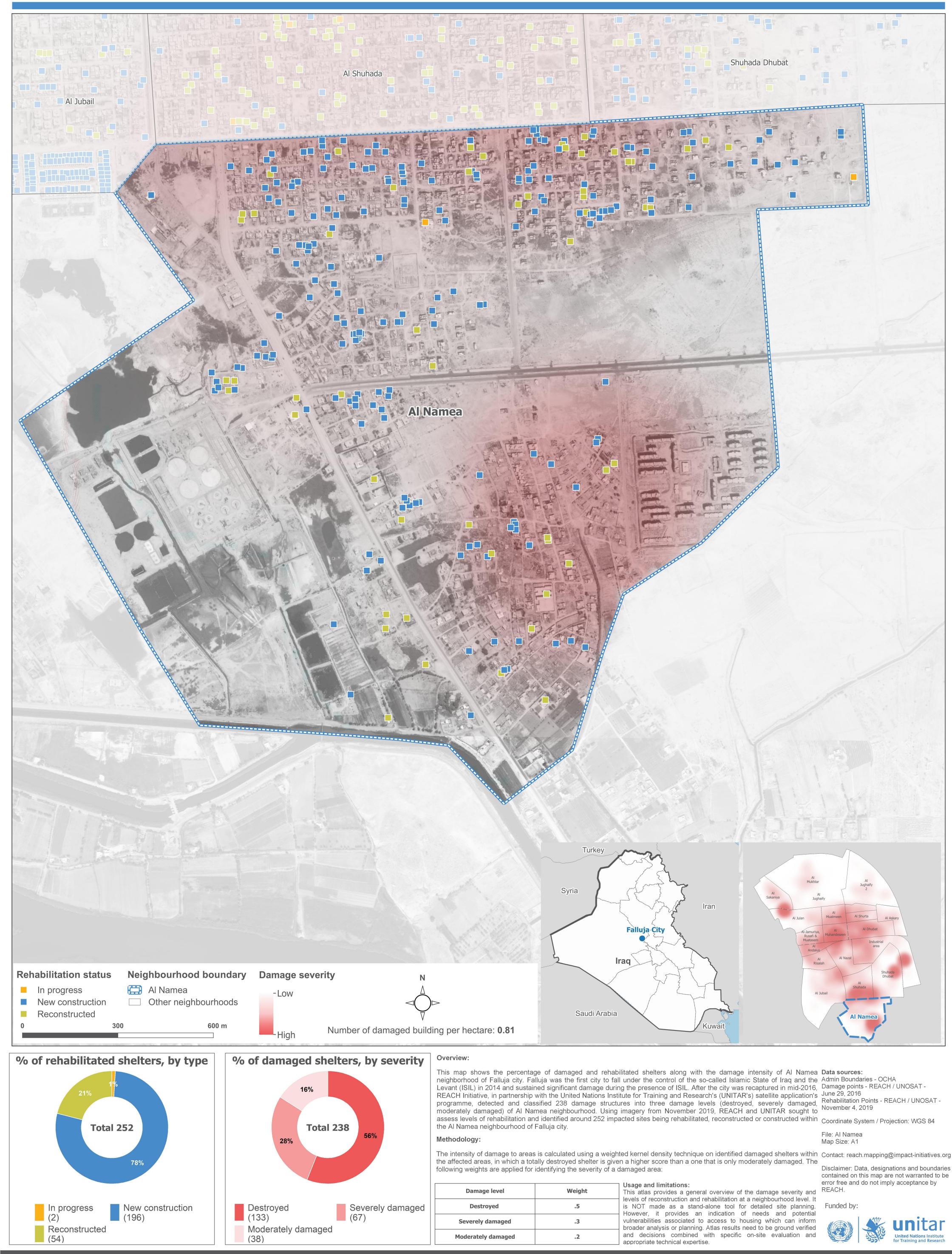


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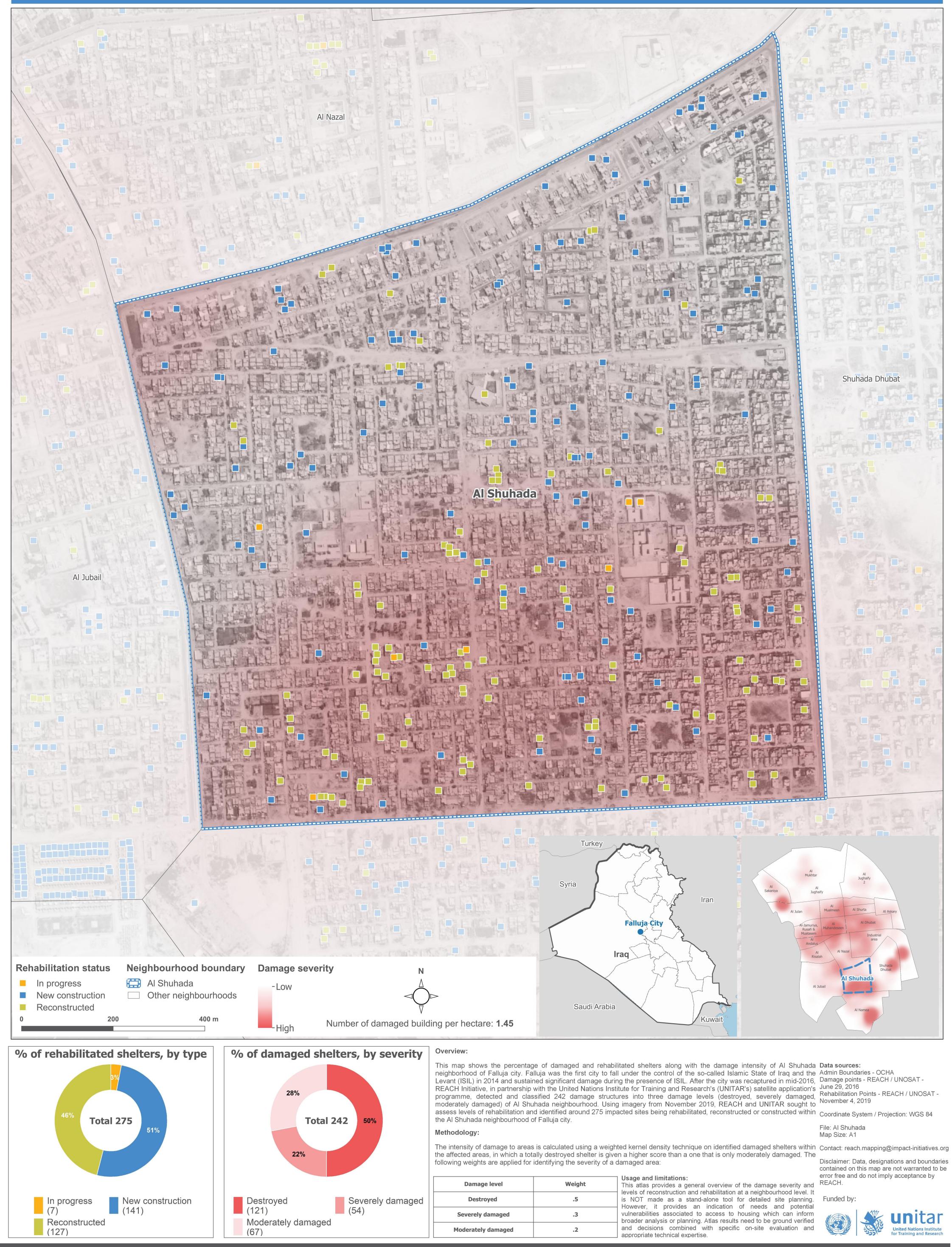


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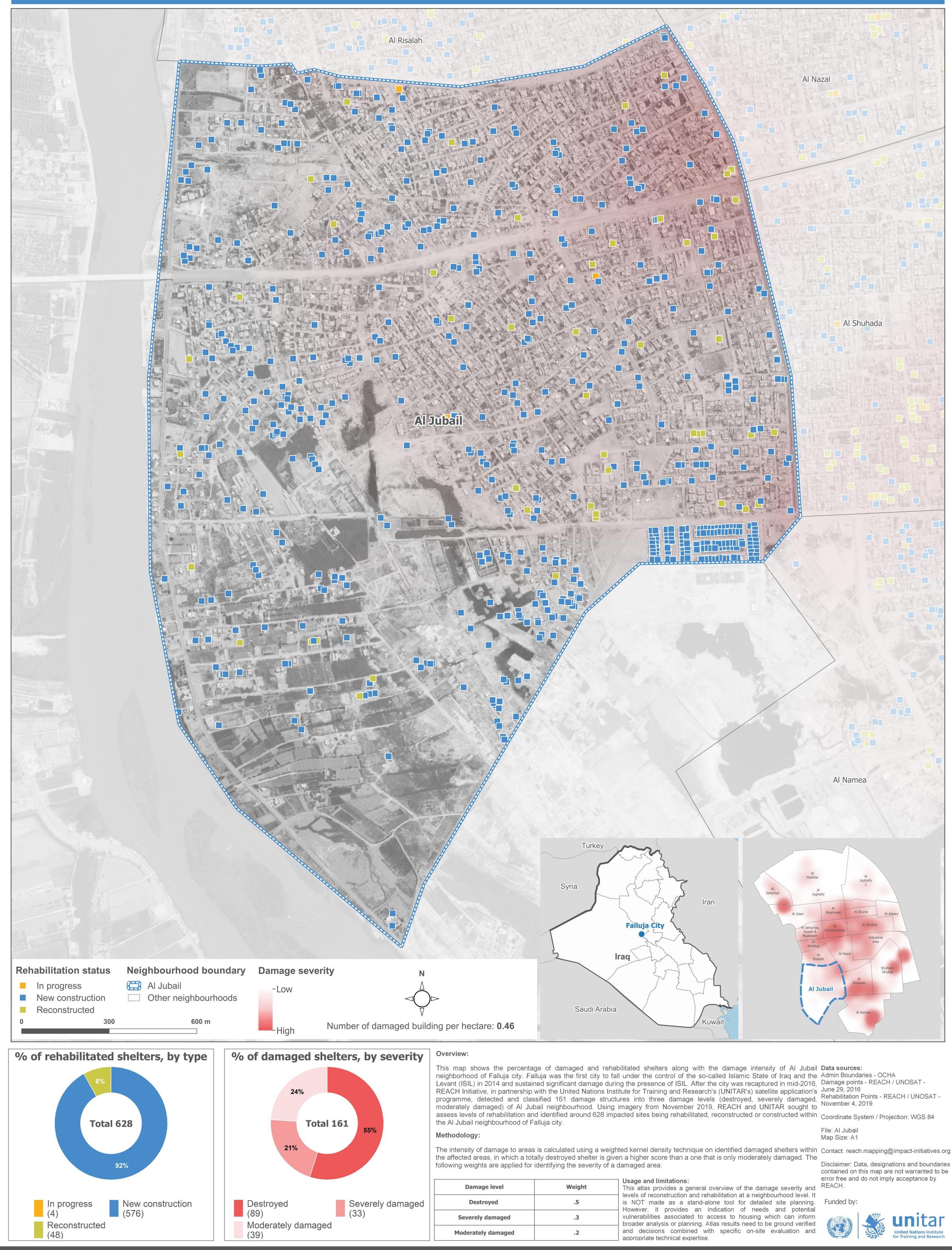


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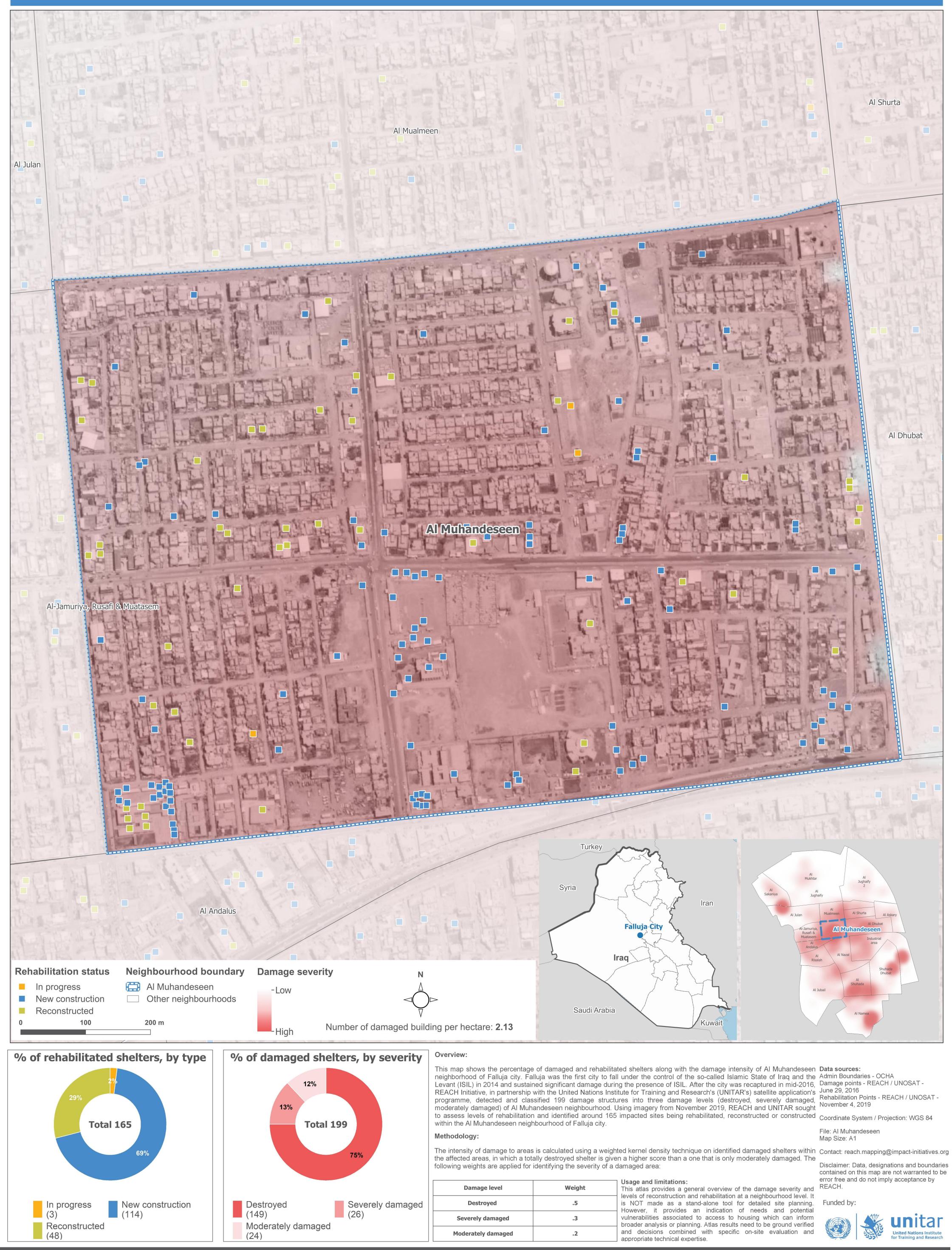
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Al Jubail



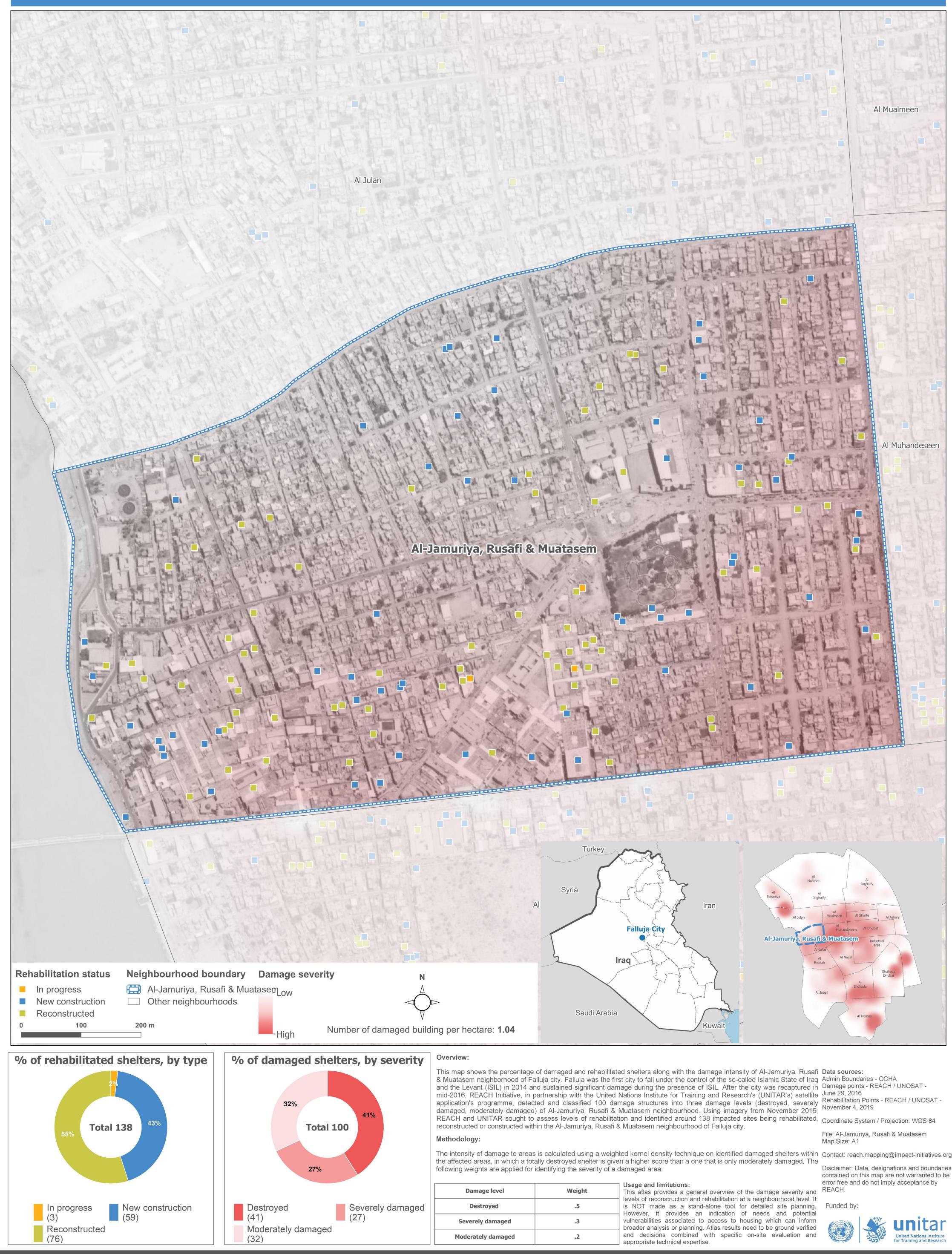


Al Muhandeseen



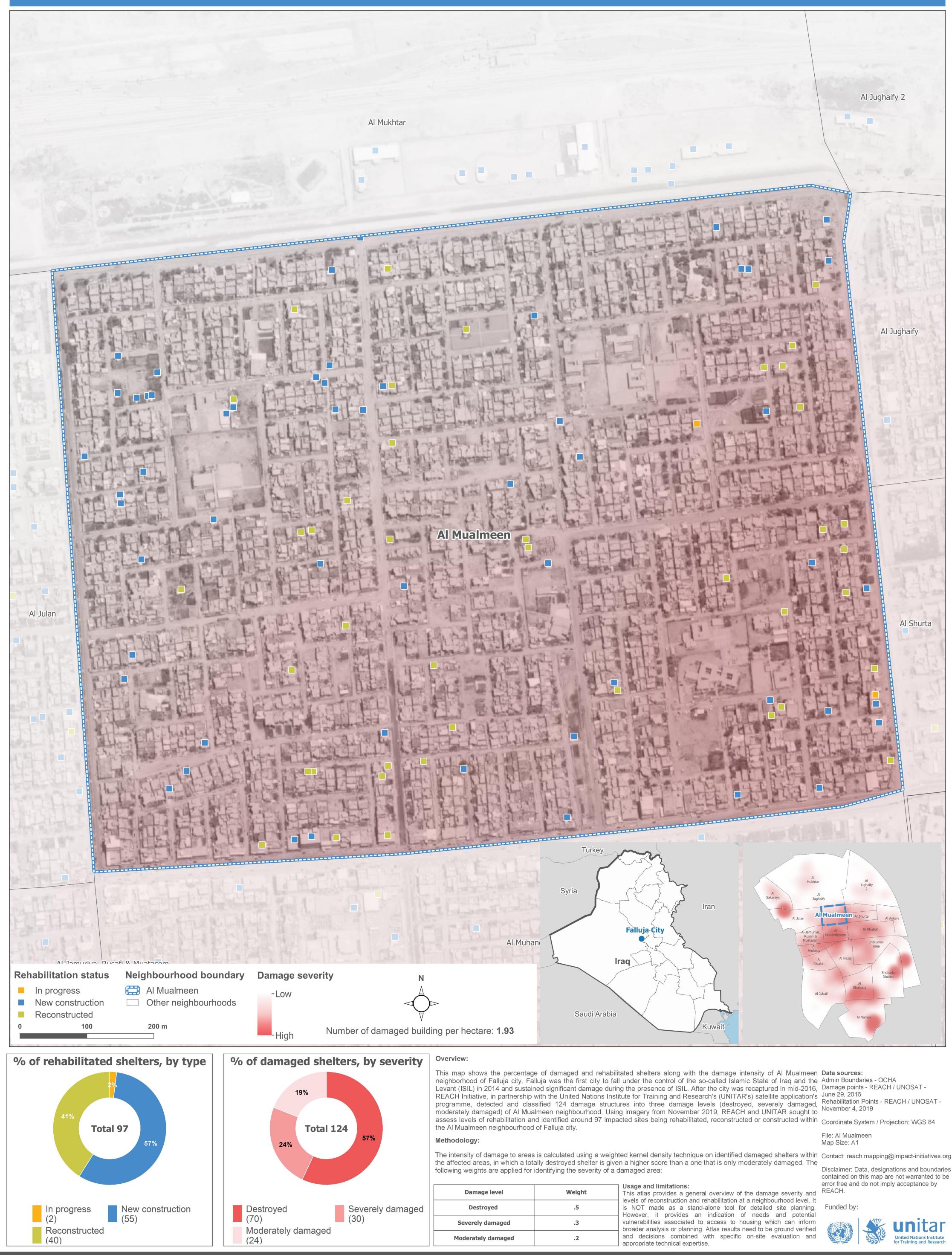
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Al-Jamuriya, Rusafi & Muatasem



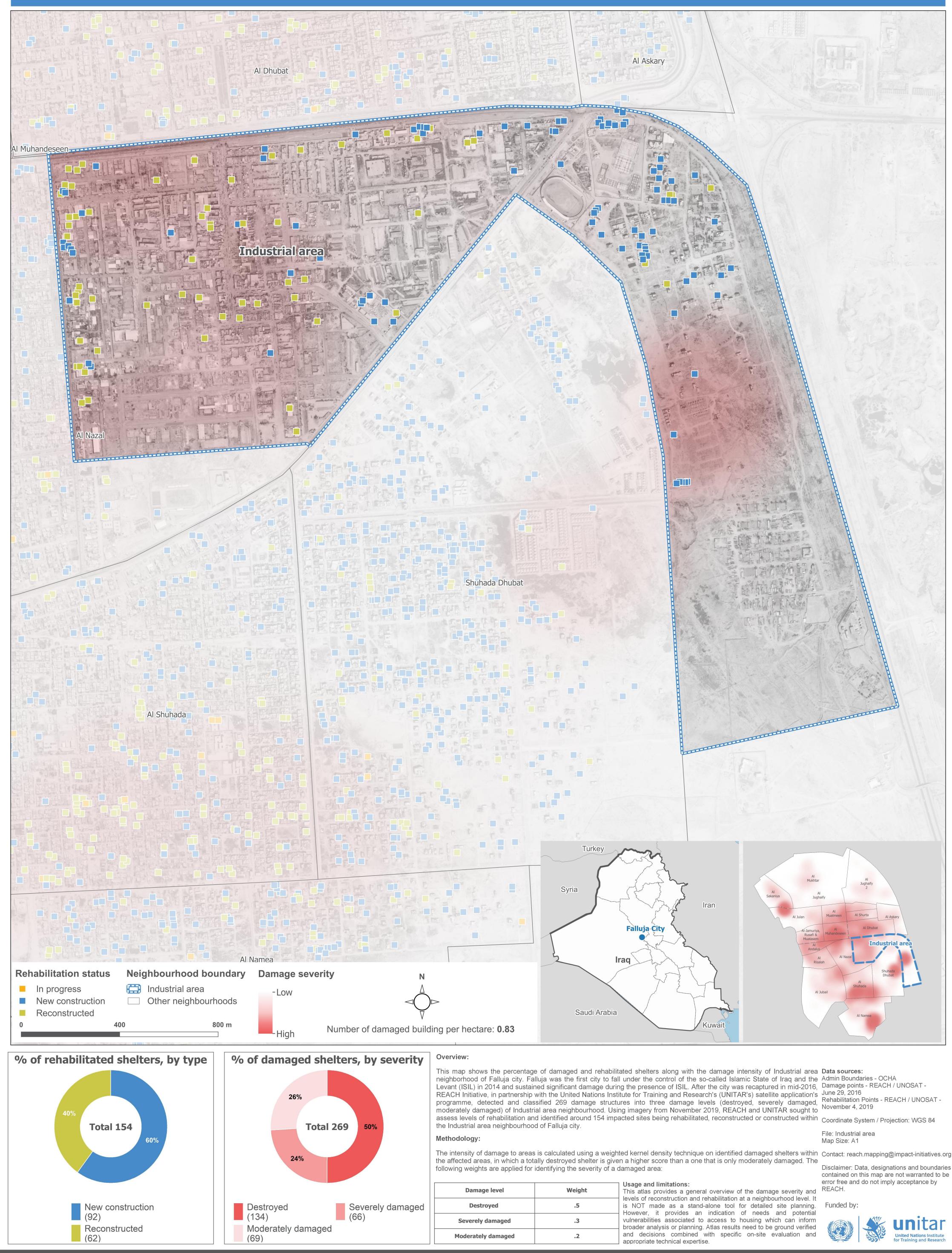


Al Mualmeen



Industrial area

For Humanitarian Purpose Only Production Date: 2021-07-08



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