

PUBLIC SPACE ASSESSMENT

JENIN, WEST BANK | PALESTINE

ELIMINATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP



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PALESTINE · WEST BANK · JENIN

PUBLIC SPACE INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

Towards safety for women & girls in public spaces



CONTENTS

BACKGROUND	6	WHAT ARE THE AMENITIES PRESENT IN THE PUBLIC SPACE?	36
GLOBAL FRAMEWORK ON SAFETY, GENDER AND PUBLIC SPACE	8	HOW ARE PEOPLE USING PUBLIC SPACES?	37
UN-HABITAT'S GLOBAL PUBLIC SPACE PROGRAMME	10	WHO ARE THE USERS OF PUBLIC SPACES?.....	38
UN-HABITAT IN PALESTINE.....	12	WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR 'STAY' IN THE PUBLIC SPACES?	40
HAYA JOINT PROGRAMME.....	15	HOW ACCESSIBLE ARE THE PUBLIC SPACES?	41
ELIMINATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP.....	15	WHICH DIMENSIONS ARE STRONG IN PUBLIC SPACES?	49
INTRODUCTION	17	ENVISIONING JENIN CITY	50
LOCATION OF JENIN GOVERNORATE	18	VALIDATION WORKSHOP	52
STATE OF PUBLIC SPACE.....	22	VISION FOR JENIN CITY.....	54
SCOPE AND FOCUS: JENIN CITY	23	GOALS AND STRATEGIES.....	55
OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY OF THE PROJECT	24	IMPROVE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF WELL-DESIGNED SAFE PUBLIC SPACES	56
ASSESSED PUBLIC SPACES	28	IMPROVE GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC SPACE PROMOTING INCLUSIVITY, DIVERSITY	58
SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS	30	IMPROVE PUBLIC SPACE GREENERY AND COMFORT	60
GENERAL STATE OF OPEN PUBLIC SPACES	32	ANNEXES AND REFERENCES	62
GENERAL STATE OF OPEN PUBLIC SPACES	34	ANNEX.....	64
HOW SAFE ARE PUBLIC SPACES?.....	36	PERFORMANCE OF EACH PUBLIC SPACE	64
		REFERENCES	66

Antisocial behaviour

Anti-social behaviours are acts that create community concern. These range from misuses of public space, such as fighting or drug use and dealing, to disregard for community safety, such as dangerous driving or drunk and disorderly behaviour. Other examples include acts that cause environmental damage, such as graffiti or litter. Anti-social behaviour can range from what is socially unacceptable through to acts that break the law.

Experiences of crime/harassment

To encounter/undergone a form of crime or harassment,

Gender equity

The process of being fair to both women and men. To ensure fairness, measures must be available to compensate for historical and social disadvantages that prevent women and men from operating on a level playing field. Gender equity strategies are used to eventually attain gender equality. Equity is the means and equality is the result.

Harassment

Harassment is any improper and unwelcome conduct that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to cause offence or humiliation to another person. Harassment may take the form of words, gestures or actions which tend to annoy, alarm, abuse, demean, intimidate, belittle, humiliate or embarrass another or which create an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

Infrastructural problems

Issues related to the physical state of public spaces.

Mono-functional spaces

Spaces that are limited to only one activity.

Multi-functional spaces

Spaces that are used for different types of activities at different times of the day.

Perception of safety

A generalized judgment about the chance of crime. Different times of day, and physical location may affect perception of safety.

Pluri-funtional spaces

Spaces with different kinds of activities at the same time.

Public space

All places publicly owned or of public use, accessible and enjoyable by all for free and without a profit motive. UN-Habitat categorises public spaces into streets, open public spaces, and public facilities.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is any unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favour, verbal or physical conduct or gesture of a sexual nature, or any other behaviour of a sexual nature that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to cause offence or humiliation to another.

Social problems

A social problem is any condition or behavior that has negative consequences for large numbers of people and that is generally recognized as a condition or behavior that needs to be addressed.

Urban Safety

Safety does not only mean lack of criminal behavior, fear or aggression. Safety points to the certainty of being respected as an individual at the physical, social and psychological levels. 'Safety' goes beyond the multiple ways of crime and violence. In fact, safety is firstly a foundation for the deployment of human abilities, freedom, solidarity, multiculturalism and creativity. Safety does not only cover the individual's life, but embraces also society and the city. Safety is also a social value, since it is the foundation for the common good of societies that allows a fair and equitable development for all its members. Safety is one of the pillars of good governance and is the basis of freedom and equality for people's full and equal

Walkability

Defines much more than just providing citizen with "the ability to walk". Several characteristics result in optimal walkability such as physical access, places and proximity. Defining a walkable neighbourhood extends beyond pedestrian concerns, as the ability to walk in a neighborhood indicates not only a type of mobility and means of travel, but also a type of sociability between neighbors, which, together, likely affect the physical, mental, and health of people in the community.



Market strip in Jenin © Cornersoftheworld

1

CHAPTER

BACKGROUND

- Global Framework
- UN-Habitat's Public Space Programme
- UN-Habitat in Palestine
- HAYA Joint Programme

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK ON SAFETY, GENDER AND PUBLIC SPACE

While cities are powerful engines of development and innovation, they are also home to slums and many millions of vulnerable women and girls. Sexual harassment and other forms of violence against women and girls in public spaces are present in cities as well rural areas, and even in online spaces. As a result, it is an impediment to the rights of women and girls to the city, and to enjoy the opportunities of urbanization. The outcome is often gender exclusion and the lack of participation of women and girls in development.

With the 2030 Agenda, governments will need to choose strategies and interventions that have the greatest impacts across a number of goals and targets. The 'safe cities' idea for women includes their equal right to the city and public places within it, which includes their right to be mobile in the city at any time of the day, as well as their right to idle in public spaces without any threats of harassment or sexual violence. The global community agreed that public space plays a key role in achieving inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements. This means that interventions in public space can support achievement in several other targets within the 2030 Agenda. The 2030 Agenda together with the New Urban Agenda also recognizes gender equality and strategically supports women's empowerment across all social development goals.

Local level data is important to address challenges and achieve inclusive public spaces for women and girl's in cities. Some of the statistics of the state of women and girl's safety, conducted by UN-Habitat, Women and Cities International and Plan International, are represented in the graphic.



Gender equality in the Agenda 2030 adopted from UN-Women © UN-Habitat

<p>60%</p> <p>60% of all urban residents in developing countries have been victims of crime</p>	<p></p> <p>Globally, one in five people have been a victim of violence and crime</p>	<p></p> <p>96% of adolescent girls don't feel safe in Delhi</p>	<p>45%</p> <p>45% of girls reported sexual harassment when using public transport in Kampala</p>	<p>2.2%</p> <p>Just 2.2% of girls say they feel safe in public spaces in Lima</p>	<p>90%</p> <p>In Port Moresby, over 90% of women and girls have experienced some form of sexual violence when accessing public transportation.</p>	<p></p> <p>In London, 43% of young women have experienced some form of harassment in the past year.</p>
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“We will support the provision of well-designed networks of safe, accessible, green and quality streets and other public spaces that are accessible to all and free from crime and violence, including sexual harassment and gender-based violence, considering the human scale, and measures that allow for the best possible commercial use of street-level floors, fostering both formal and informal local markets and commerce, as well as not-for-profit community initiatives, bringing people into public spaces and promoting walkability and cycling with the goal of improving health and wellbeing.”

New Urban Agenda: Para 100.

WOMEN IN PALESTINE

In Palestine, women use public spaces more frequently and for a greater variety of purposes than men. This reflects the multiple roles and responsibilities they assume both inside and outside of the home. The availability of safe public spaces and public transport allows women to access essential services, take advantage of employment opportunities and participate in cultural and recreational activities. It not only improves the quality of life available to them but is an essential component in strengthening women's civic engagement through access to institutional and political spaces.

According to the PCBS 2020 statistics, 11% of Palestinian households are women headed households. Despite the empowerment of women in certain areas as demonstrated through the PCBS report 2020, women's rights in other sectors are still violated, including them being subjects to violence inside or outside the household and inside public spaces. Statistics show a noticeable decrease in early marriage rate and illiteracy among Palestinian women, nevertheless, a gap in women's

active participation in the workforce, and in decision making can still be detected, as only 21% of women who are in the employment age participated in the workforce in Palestine in the year 2018 according to PCBS. The situation is even worse for women with disabilities as only 3% of women with disabilities participated in the workforce in 2019.

As in other countries, sexual harassment and other forms of violence against women and girls in Palestine extends beyond the domestic sphere to also impact women's access to public spaces, such as parks, streets, public transport, workplaces and schools. In terms of violence in public spaces, the preliminary results of the national survey of violence in the Palestinian society in 2019, recorded that 5% of young females and 3% of married women have experienced violence in shopping places (inside markets or shopping stores). Moreover, 4% of women aged (18-64 years old) and 12% of young females (12-17 years old) have experienced violence in the streets.

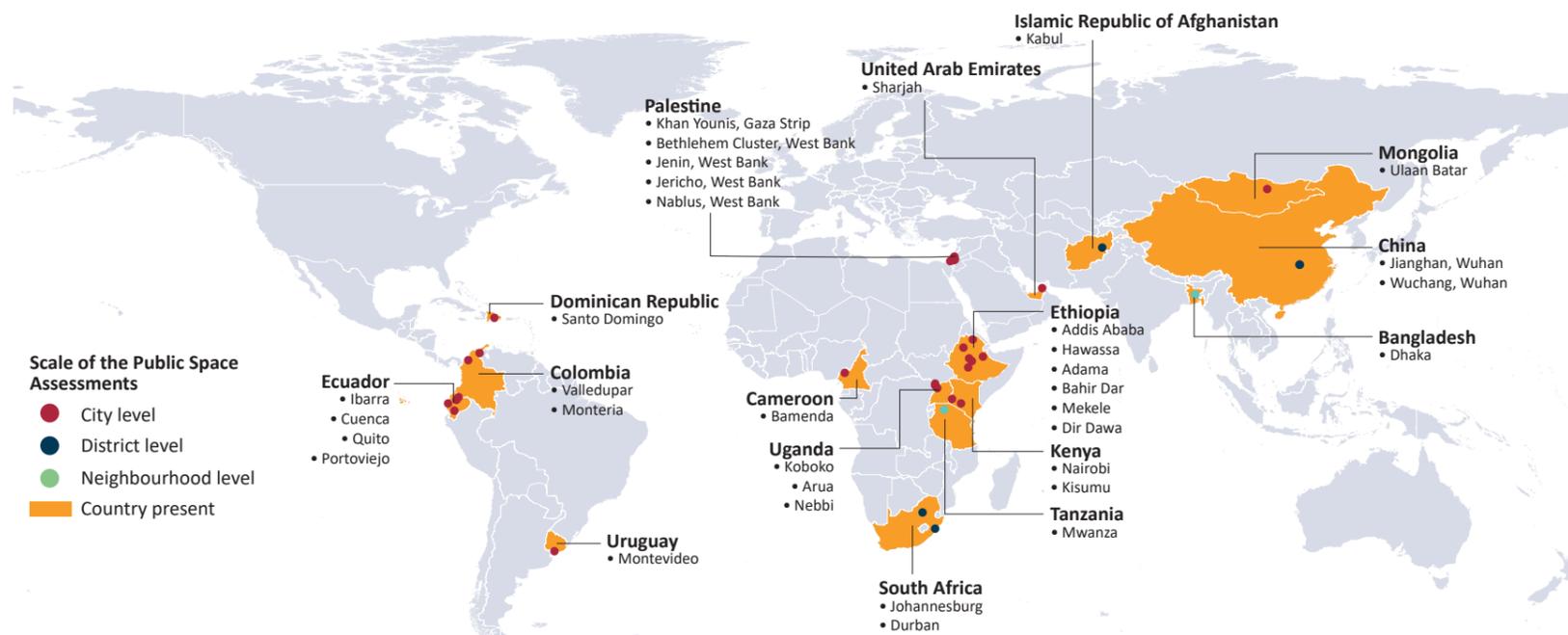


Jenin street corner © Flickr Thomas_b

UN-HABITAT'S GLOBAL PUBLIC SPACE PROGRAMME

Launched in 2011 and currently active in around 40 countries, UN-Habitat's Global Public Space Programme aims to improve the quality of public spaces worldwide. Despite a recent tendency to overlook and undervalue them, public spaces are again being recognised by cities as a key element of inclusion and sustainability. UN-Habitat adopts a definition of public spaces as sites that are accessible and enjoyable by all without a profit motive and take on various spatial forms, including parks, streets, sidewalks, markets and playgrounds. Good public

spaces enhance community cohesion and promote health, happiness and well-being for all citizens. The Programme helps cities become more sustainable by providing policy advice, capacity building, knowledge sharing and support for public space regeneration and improvement. More concretely, it maps public spaces and works with cities to develop city-wide public space strategies and urban development frameworks. Good policies and practices are shared through its global network of around 100 partner organizations.



THE PUBLIC SPACE ASSESSMENT

UN-Habitat provides guidance to local governments in developing city-wide strategies that provide the foundation for taking a strategic action-oriented approach to public space development and management and can help local governments map the current state of public spaces and set goals to improve them. This work can be translated into annual public space action plans which provide more detailed information on proposed projects as well as monitoring framework. The strategy also supports local governments in allocating of resources in the management and maintenance of the spaces that exist and invest in creating new public space, especially for more marginalized communities.



CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERS

UN-Habitat brings together a broad global network of partners working on the issue of public space, and has agreements and ongoing activities with various organizations. These partners are brought together annually at either the World Urban Forum and/or the Future of Places Conference.



PUBLIC SPACE UPGRADING

UN-Habitat selects each year, a number of public spaces upgrading projects through an annual call for expression of interest. The spaces are geographically distributed all over the world, but with a main focus on countries in the global south. The upgrading of the public spaces is done in a participatory manner engaging the community and the users in the process.



TECHNOLOGY

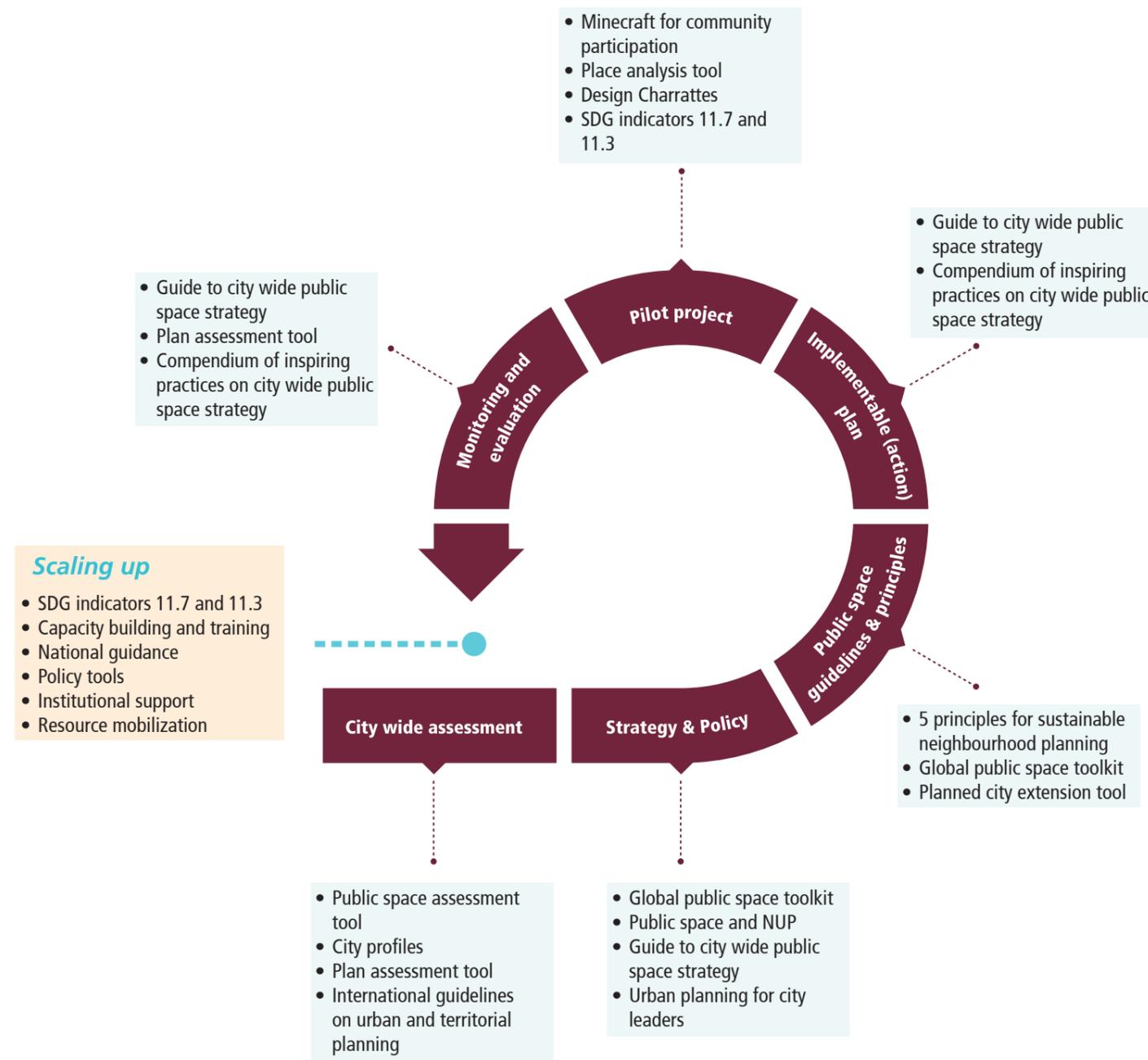
In recent years, the role of digital technologies has become increasingly important. UN-Habitat recognizes the role of ICT and the opportunities that it can offer for citizens, particularly children and youth, to take part in decision making and governance process. The Programme uses technologies such as Kobo Toolbox for mapping spaces and the Minecraft video game as a participatory tool for upgrading public spaces.



POLICIES

UN-Habitat supports national governments in mainstreaming public space in NUP as well as local governments in developing their own public space frameworks, policies and implementation strategies. The intention is to influence cities to recognize the importance of localized city-wide public space policies, to deepen the understanding of local governments' role and responsibilities in public space development, and to increase the percentage of public space in a city as well as safety. This is considered as a guiding strategy for local governments in which public space is a central axis.

UN-HABITAT'S PUBLIC SPACE PROGRAMME PROCESS AND TOOLS



HOW WE WORK

UN-Habitat has developed an integrated approach to public space that covers cities, neighbourhoods and individual sites and applies a targeted approach to each scale. The iterative approach includes normative and operational tools, methodologies and practices to support governments and other organizations to make public spaces more safe, inclusive, accessible and green. The tools include city-wide and site-specific assessments, design principles, strategies and policies, digital participation and action planning and monitoring.

CITY-WIDE PUBLIC SPACE ASSESSMENT

The city-wide public space assessment is a digital tool that uses a structured questionnaire that can be modified to fit any context as well as assess the priorities for any city. It utilises the free open source app called Kobo Collect. It is a fast and effective tool for data collection as it minimises enumeration errors and is a holistic tool for data collection process from data collection, to analysis and design. This assessment helps in identifying needs or substantive areas to address in the city, but also how the process can align with other, already ongoing or planned processes. The objective of this alignment is to identify areas of possible synergies and the identification of institutions, organizations, agencies and other municipal departments as potential stakeholders or collaborating partners. In addition to identifying key strategies, steering documents, potential partners, etc., the key issues of the existing strategic plan (if any) should be mapped and analysed. This tool helps to answer the question “where are we?” in the realm of public space.

The baseline research will produce recommendations on public space interventions in the city. This is not limited to types of intervention, but also includes areas that should be prioritized in developing new public spaces.

UN-HABITAT IN PALESTINE

Palestinian cities lack safe and inclusive public spaces. The complex geopolitical context and the fragmentation of the territory, in addition to the lack of proper planning and investment in public spaces, have impacted negatively the quality of the built environment. The severe shortage of public spaces, parks, playgrounds, as well as other public infrastructure and services led to the deterioration of the quality of daily life for the Palestinian communities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, particularly for children and women. Many children resort to play in the streets, making the lack of playgrounds actually life threatening. Against this backdrop, The Special Human Settlements Programme for the Palestinian People has, since 2014, started supporting the local communities in East Jerusalem, Area C and in the Gaza Strip to develop safe and inclusive public spaces to improve the urban environment and the living conditions of the Palestinian people, provide higher levels of safety and well-being inside the Palestinian neighborhoods, and to strengthen social cohesion, cultural interaction and citizenship.

UN-Habitat has utilized different tools and methodologies to design and implement public spaces in Palestine, including participatory planning and community engagement, support community led initiatives, and using innovative technologies to promote youth leadership.

Meeting, relaxing and taking a break in clean green spaces that are open to all, is a basic need for all. Yet, in some parts of the world this fundamental need cannot be taken for granted. This is true in Gaza, which has been affected to its very core by years of war. Ten years of blockades and several cycles of violence have had a serious effect on the Gaza Strip, which still bears the material and human scars of the hostilities of summer 2014 and the regular attacks that followed. Thousands of houses, schools, universities and mosques were damaged in these bombings. But even though post-conflict reconstruction is now underway, women and young people are scarcely involved in urban planning, particularly in integrating the issue of safety in public places.

By involving marginalized communities in a marginalized region, these public space projects were able to promote women and youth positions in the society while creating community spaces and aiming to reduce gender-based violence. The collaboration during the design process and the employment of female architects helped advance this mission even further, resulting in more safe opportunities for all in the Gaza Strip. The participants believed that their experience in the design and implementation processes was unique and special. It represented their ideas and visions and enhanced their sense of ownership. They felt as this community garden belongs to all of them so that they have to look after it, maintain it, and keep it clean and well organized.



Al-Shaimaa Community Garden, Gaza Strip © UN-Habitat

PUBLIC SPACES PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY THE SPECIAL HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME FOR THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

Intervention	Description	Location	Implementing Partners	Donor	Year	No of Beneficiaries
Sur Baher Community Garden	This project supported a community led initiative to design a children playground in Sur Baher. The local community including the youth in cooperation with Sur Baher community Center played a major role in the design and implementation of the playground. This initiative was implemented as part of the "Scaling up and Deepening of Planning Support to Palestinian Communities in East Jerusalem" project, which aimed to facilitate an immediate improvement of living conditions for Palestinian communities in East Jerusalem.	East Jerusalem	Bimkom- Planners for Planning Rights, Local Community Center of Sur Baher	Government of Kingdom of Belgium	2015	21,500
Wadi Al Joz Community Garden	This project aimed at creating a safe and inclusive community garden in Wadi Al Joz neighborhoods in East Jerusalem and has utilized the computer game MineCraft as a tool to engage the youth in the design process. This project was implemented as part of the "UN Habitat Global Public Space Programme".	East Jerusalem	Bimkom - Planners for Planning Rights, Al Enaya Community Center, Green Mosques Youth Group	Block by Block Foundation Global Public Space Programme	2017	17,000
Ras Al-Amoud Playground	Under UN-HABITAT "Supporting the Palestinians Right to Development in East Jerusalem" Project, the project aimed to support and implement tangible interventions that enhance the quality of the living environment for the residents, especially for women and girls. The project contributed to support a Palestinian women group initiative in Ras IlAmud neighborhood. The playground was designed, based on a participatory approach where women were engaged in focus design group sessions. In these sessions, the women explained how public spaces should respond to their and their children's essential needs. The project succeeded in co-designing with the women group a new playground in Ras Il Amud that states and emphasis that women should be engaged more and consulted in the decision making of their built environment.	East Jerusalem	Bimkom - Planners for Planning Rights, Local women group	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation	2019	14,500
Al-Shoka Community Garden	Al Shoka, Al-Zawayda and Al Shaima community gardens were developed as part of the "Utilizing Digital Tools to Promote Human Rights and Create Inclusive Public Spaces in Gaza Strip" project. The main aim of the project was to promote youth leadership and participation, and to develop the skills and knowledge of the youth to make informed decisions about their lives and their built environment. The participants utilized the computer game MineCraft to design their community gardens. The three projects have successfully created safe and inclusive public spaces in Al-shoka, Al-Zawayda and Beit Lahia cities in Gaza Strip, and helped improving the urban environment and the living conditions of residents, in particular children and youth.	Al-shoka city/Gaza Strip	UN Women, Palestinian Housing Council, Aisha Association for Woman and Child Protections and Gateway	Government of Kingdom of Belgium	2017	16,000
Al-Shaimaa Community Garden		Beit Lahia city/ Gaza Strip	UN Women, Palestinian Housing Council, Aisha Association for Woman and Child Protections and Gateway	Government of Kingdom of Belgium	2017	100,000
Al-Zawayda Community Gardens		Al-Zawayda city/ Gaza Strip	UN Women, Palestinian Housing Council, Aisha Association for Woman and Child Protections and Gateway	Government of Kingdom of Belgium	2018	23,000
Ti'innik Placemaking Project	This project worked on creating a public space located between the two schools in Ti'innik's. The main aim of the project was to create a space that is accessible, particularly for the school's students, and for the wider community in general serving as a playground and a comfort and relaxing area. The project was implemented under the "Fostering Tenure Security and Resilience of Palestinian Communities through Spatial-Economic Planning Interventions in Area C".	Area C	Ministry of Local Government, Ti'innik Village Council, Al-I-Hamdeye Company for General Contracts	European Union	2018	1,300
Wadi Al Nis	The interventions are located at the center of the village, connecting the four main nodes; the village council building, the medical clinic, the main mosque and the main school. The project has formed and improved the the network and connections focusing on safe pedestrian movement throughout the site. Speed pumps and roundabouts were constructed to facilitate the movement of cars and calms down the traffic. The sidewalks contain benches, as relaxing points shaded by trees. The project was implemented under the "Fostering Tenure Security and Resilience of Palestinian Communities through Spatial-Economic Planning Interventions in Area C".	Area C	Ministry of Local Government, Wadi Al Nis Village council, UN-Habitat	European Union	2018	1,000

Intervention	Description	Location	Implementing Partners	Donor	Year	No of Beneficiaries
Al Walaja	Developing the main entrance of Al Walajah Village by making it safe and comfortable for pedestrian movement. The main bus stop area was rehabilitated, tiled and shaded with trees. The intervention and detailed designs were designed to be inexpensive, focusing on using local skills and materials and well related to the local context. The project was implemented under the "Fostering Tenure Security and Resilience of Palestinian Communities through Spatial-Economic Planning Interventions in Area C".	Area C	Ministry of Local Government, Al Walaja Village council, UN-Habitat	European Union	2018	2,670
At Tuwani	The intervention, the design and its details were developed in collaboration process with the community and based on their needs, and financially inexpensive. The designs also focus on local resources and skills to get the best results with the lowest costs and ensure its maintenance in the present and the future. The public space in this intervention is a recreational area and playing yard for the children and people of At Tuwani village. The project was implemented under the "Fostering Tenure Security and Resilience of Palestinian Communities through Spatial-Economic Planning Interventions in Area C".	Area C	Ministry of Local Government, At Tuwani Village council, UN-Habitat	United Nations	2019	330
Al Aqaba	The intervention, the design and its details were developed in collaboration process with the community and based on their needs, and financially inexpensive. The designs also focus on local resources and skills to get the best results with the lowest costs and ensure its maintenance in the present and the future. The public space in this intervention is a playing yard for the Kindergarten of Al Aqaba village. The project was implemented under the "Fostering Tenure Security and Resilience of Palestinian Communities through Spatial-Economic Planning Interventions in Area C".	Area C	Ministry of Local Government, Al Aqaba Village council, UN-Habitat	European Union	2019	350
Bruqin	The intervention is the yard located between the two schools, the village council and the soccer field. The space will be used as a sitting area, with a playing and recreational yard, for students and families. In addition to being used by the local community for different occasions and activities. The project was implemented under the "Creating friendly public spaces for children in Hares and Bruqin"	Area C	Ministry of Local Government, Bruqin Village council, UN-Habitat	Secours Islamique France	2018	4,050
Haris	The intervention is in the space connecting the school, the village council, and the mosque, to improve the village center and create a suitable and safe space for students and families. The local community mainly focused on the elements that support their needs (sitting chairs, pergolas, ...). The project was implemented under the "Creating friendly public spaces for children in Hares and Bruqin"	Area C	Ministry of Local Government, Haris Village council, UN-Habitat	Secours Islamique France	2018	4,140
Ras Al Wad	The project aimed to physically improve the condition by enhancing the quality of life through creating a public space, improve pedestrian's safety around the school and mosque in the main village spine, while also promoting participation by residents to encourage and raise awareness of the importance of maintaining their own communities. The project was implemented under "Spatial Planning Support Programme for Palestinian Communities in Area C, West Bank".	Area C	Ministry of Local Government, Ras Al Wad Village council, UN-Habitat	European Union	2015	900
Abdullah Al Yunis	The project aimed to physically improve the condition by creating pedestrian paths and creating a public place for people to sit and enjoy, while also promoting participation by residents to encourage and raise awareness of the importance of maintaining their own communities. The project was implemented under "Spatial Planning Support Programme for Palestinian Communities in Area C, West Bank"	Area C	Ministry of Local Government, Abdullah Al Yunis Village council, UN-Habitat	European Union	2015	170
Imneizel	The project aimed to physically improve the condition by creating the small playground for children in the park, enhancing the playground of the school and surroundings, improvement of access, while also promoting participation by residents to encourage and raise awareness of the importance of maintaining their own communities. Furthermore, the project aimed to bring together the community through encouraging citizens to participate in community development issues and gain knowledge on the sense of participation and ownership over their local area. The project was implemented under "Spatial Planning Support Programme for Palestinian Communities in Area C, West Bank"	Area C	Ministry of Local Government, Imneizel Village council, UN-Habitat	European Union	2015	280
Izbet Tabib	The project aimed to physically improve the condition by creating the improvement of access to school and improvement of streetscape in main village spine. Also promoting participation by residents to encourage and raise awareness of the importance of maintaining their own communities. The project was implemented under "Spatial Planning Support Programme for Palestinian Communities in Area C, West Bank"	Area C	Ministry of Local Government, Izbet Tabib Village council, UN-Habitat	European Union	2015	260

HAYA JOINT PROGRAMME

Eliminating Violence Against Women in the West Bank and Gaza Strip

The HAYA Joint Programme: Eliminating Violence Against Women in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is funded by the Government of Canada and jointly implemented by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), and the

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in partnership with the Ministry of Women's Affairs and the Ministry of Social Development as well as other ministries and civil society organizations. The overall objective of building just and secure communities for women and girls in the West Bank and Gaza Strip will be achieved through progress against three main outcomes focusing on: (1) Decreased

harmful practices and attitudes that perpetuate and validate violence against women and girls within targeted households and communities; (2) Increased access by women and girls of gender-responsive EVAW services (economic, medical, psychosocial, security, shelter) free of discrimination; (3) Strengthened institutional capacity to develop and implement legal and policy frameworks that promote and

protect women's and girls' rights with regards to VAW. Under outcome (1), there is a special focus on building an enabling policy environment to combat violence against women and increase the knowledge and capacity to undertake comprehensive local interventions for prevention and response on EVAW by local authorities and municipalities.

Through the HAYA Joint Programme,

UN-Habitat is working on increasing the knowledge and capacity of local authorities and municipalities to undertake comprehensive local interventions for prevention and response on EVAW, through achieving set of results: A) Safety Audits that assess women's safety in five cities (four cities in West Bank and one city in Gaza Strip); B) Awareness and advocacy campaign to promote

women's safety in public spaces; C) Capacity building for municipalities on how to design safe and inclusive public spaces; D) Development and regeneration of five safe and inclusive public spaces; E) Development of gender responsive public space policy and safe and inclusive public space design methodology; F) Curriculum development jointly with the local universities on how to design safe and inclusive public spaces.

DEVELOPING SAFE AND INCLUSIVE PUBLIC SPACES FOR ALL THROUGH:

Safety audits assessing women's safety in Khan Younis, Jericho, Nablus, Jenin, and the Bethlehem cluster including Beit Jala, Beit Sa hour, and Al Doha and Bethlehem



Capacity building for municipalities on how to design safe and inclusive public spaces



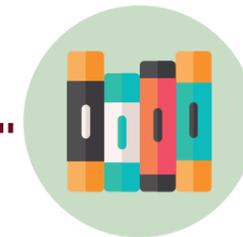
Development of gender responsive public space policy and design methodology for safe and inclusive public spaces



Awareness and advocacy campaigns to promote women's safety in public spaces



Development and regeneration of five safe and inclusive public spaces in targeted Palestinian communities



Joint curriculum development with local universities on designing safe and inclusive public spaces



Women at Al-Quds Open University in Jenin © Flickr

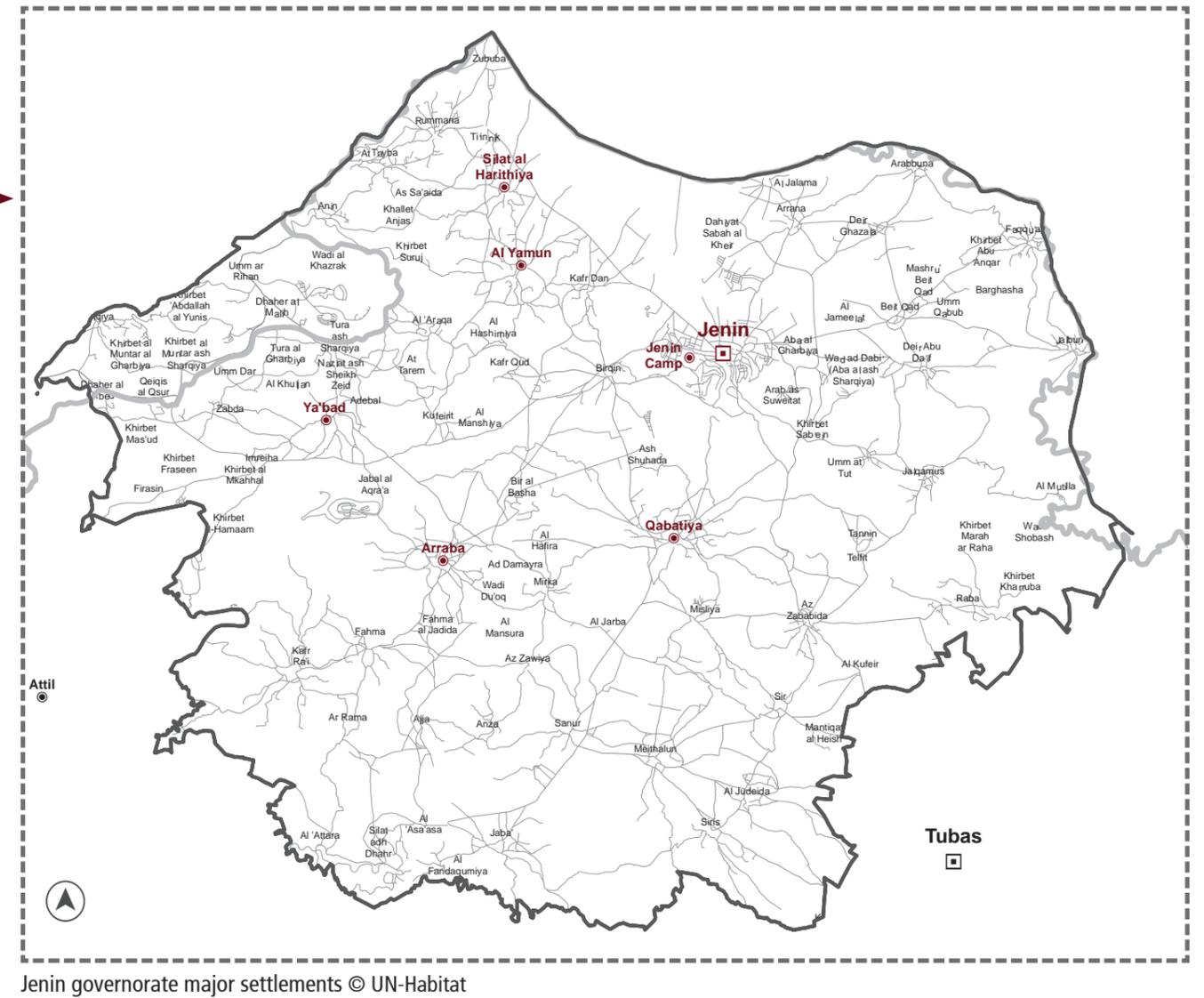
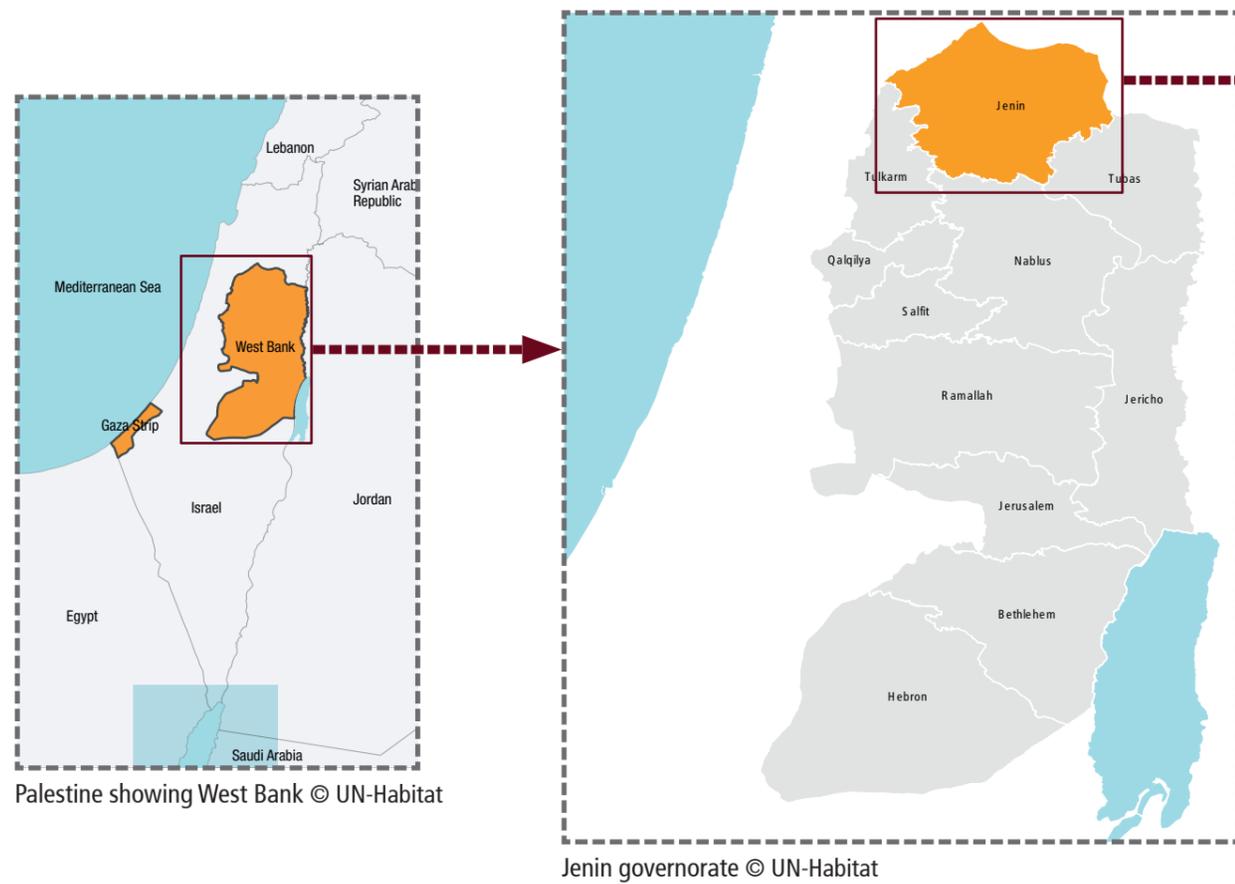
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CHAPTER

INTRODUCTION

- About Jenin Governorate
- State of public spaces
- Scope and focus
- Objectives and methodology

LOCATION OF JENIN GOVERNORATE

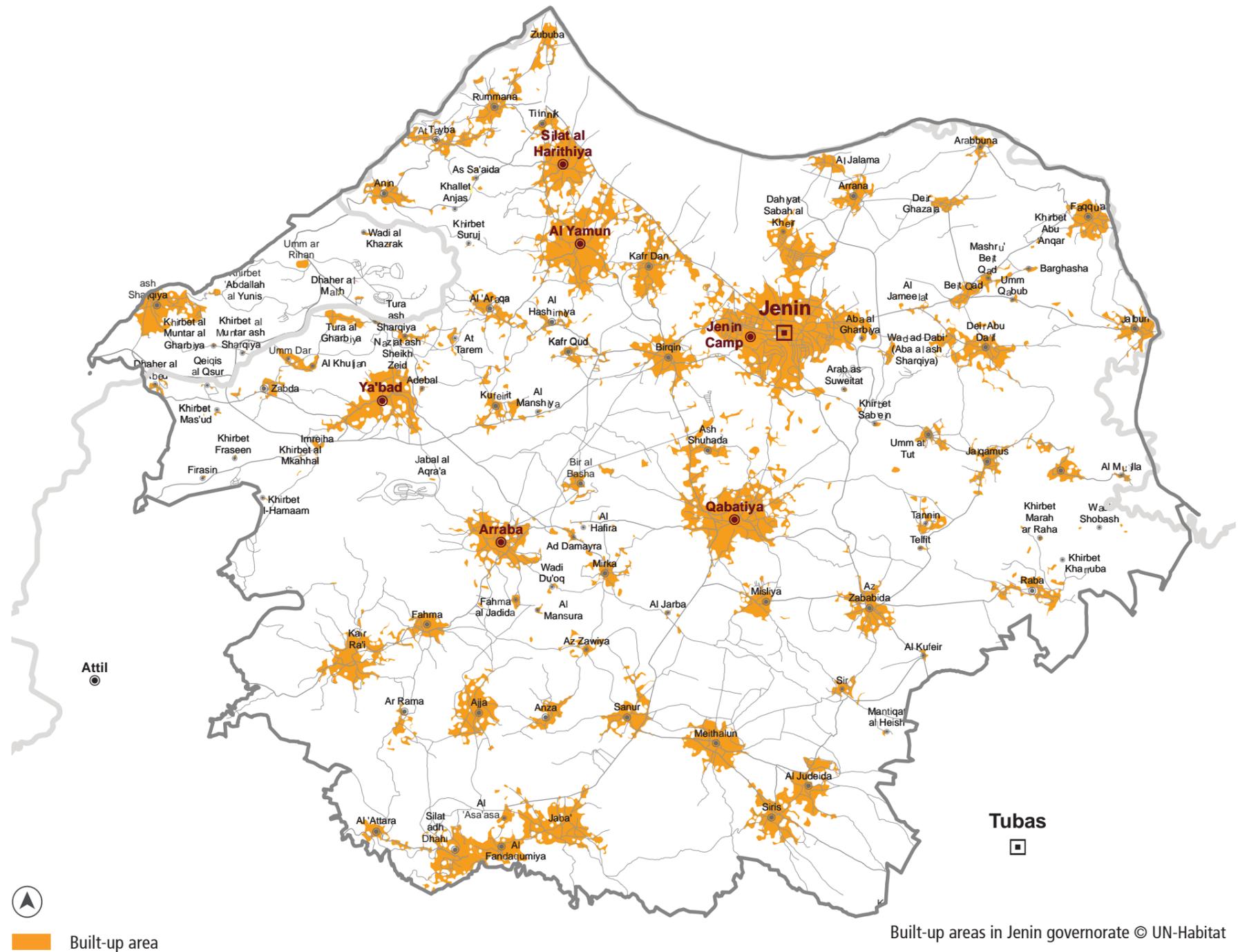


URBANIZATION IN THE WEST BANK

Urbanization in Palestine is characterized by a rapidly growing pace, as the total urban population is estimated by 75% and the urban population growth rate stands at 3.2%, almost double the one of the global growth rate (1.7%). Since the establishment of the Palestinian Authority (PA), and the emergence of jurisdictional land classifications according to the Oslo Accords (1993-1995), urbanization has been heavily constrained by geopolitics, which limits the urban expansion of Palestinian population within the West Bank within Areas A and B according to Oslo Accords which comprises only 39% of the total area of West Bank. This has led to imbalanced distribution of the urban population, creating highly dense urban centers and decreasing population densities as we move away from main Palestinian cities

in the West Bank. The imbalanced urban growth is coupled with poor planning solutions and unsatisfactory infrastructural networks, imposing pressure on the land and the environment, as well as comprising the overall livability of urban life, including the quality of open public spaces in Palestinian cities.

Post 2007, and the economic development plan and the institution building programme presented by the Palestinian government at that time, and the escalating attention by international aid agencies, Palestinian cities in the West Bank witnessed significant growth in economic and construction sectors. Nevertheless, this exerted more pressure on Palestinian cities, as the construction boom was not matched by proper planning and infrastructure to accommodate the rapidly growing cities.



Built-up areas in Jenin governorate © UN-Habitat

URBAN GOVERNANCE IN THE WEST BANK

Urban planning and development in Palestine are governed by a multi-layered system of administrative and organizational structures. In terms of organizational setup, the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG) is considered the main body mandated to monitor policy making and coordinating urban planning interventions implemented in Palestinian cities, supported by line ministries and with the Municipal Lending and Development Fund (MDLF), which is considered the executive body responsible for the implementation of urban improvement projects and infrastructure interventions within Palestinian Local Government Units (LGUs). Finally, there is the Association of Palestinian Local Authorities that represents the LGUs and supports their interest. However, the association has not been active for the past few years due to political reasons.

Administratively, the Palestinian Government, represented by the different line ministries, is in charge of issuing main policies and setting the annual budgets at the national

level. Whereas at the regional levels, there are eleven governorates across the West Bank that represent the national government, without being a distinct level by itself. At the local level, municipal and village councils are mandated to govern planning and development issues on the scale of individual communities, and managing the implementation of planning and building regulations, including the management of open public spaces.

In terms of the legal framework, the main laws that govern the work of the LGUs are:

- The Law for Local Authorities no. (1) for the year 1997 describing the rules of the law in forty articles focusing on the main responsibilities of the MoLG, the tasks of local authorities and the duties they have to undertake.
- The Planning and Building Law no. (79) for the year 1966 (Jordanian Planning Law) that continue to be applicable in the West Bank, especially Area C.
- The Law of Expropriation no. (2) for the year 1953.

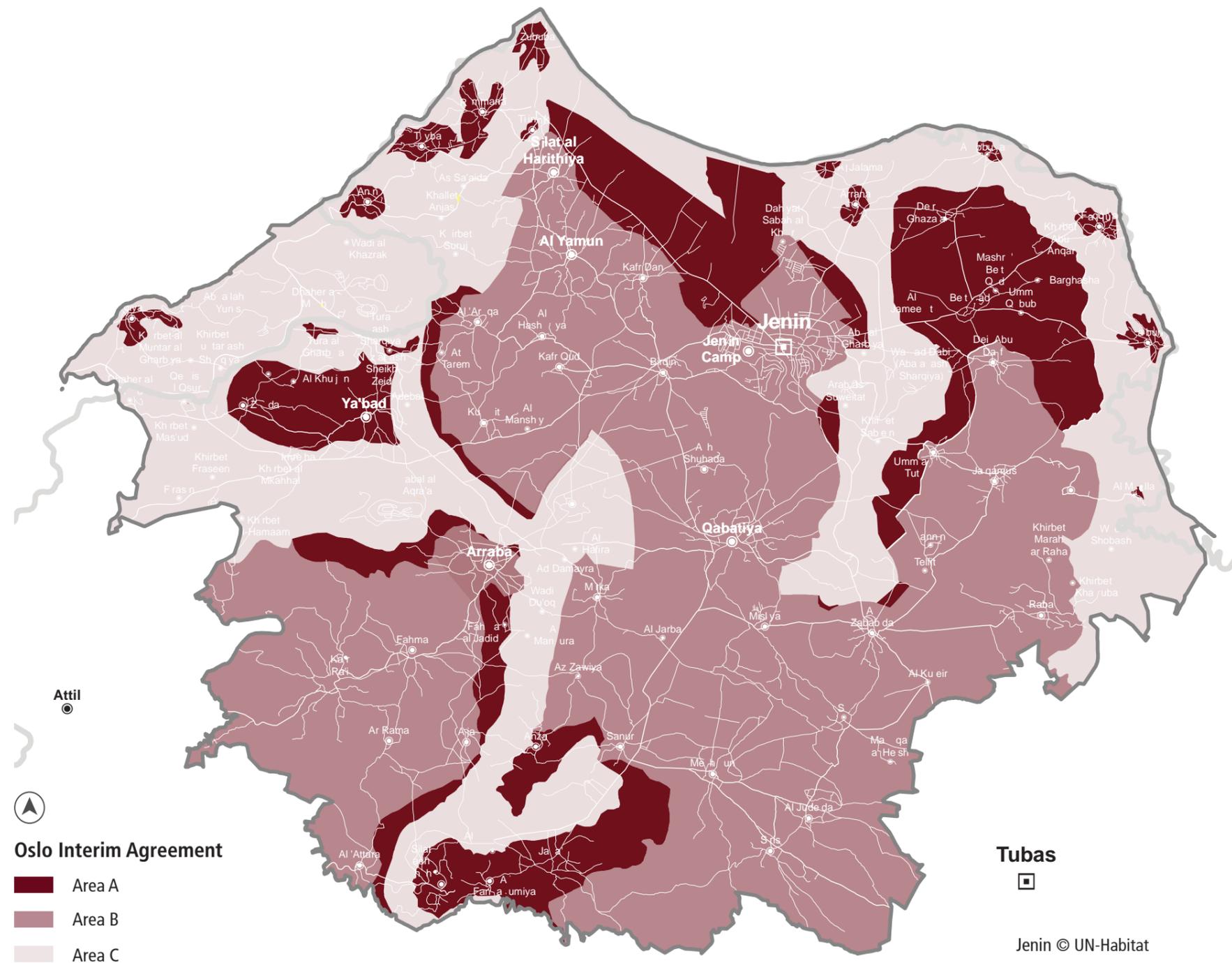


Jenin City © Flickr Mazur

LAND AND HOUSING IN THE WEST BANK

In the West Bank, opportunities to adequate housing are limited, particularly in Area C and occupied East Jerusalem. The high demand on housing, especially in urban centers, coupled with the lack of proper planning and regulation solutions, in addition to high geopolitical constraints, and an outdated land management tools have all contributed to the emergence of random unregulated developments that are characterized by highly dense residential areas within the urban centers within Areas A and B, and particularly in occupied East Jerusalem.. Palestinians are forced to develop within a very limited, confined space due to the limited availability of land, where this scarcity of land creates expensive housing options that do not respond properly to the demand and capabilities of Palestinian families. Studies have indicated that 61 percent of Palestinian families will need new housing units in the next decade to replace old deteriorated units, in addition to the housing units needed for natural growth.

The housing typology in Palestine is characterized by either single, free-standing houses (ranging in height from one to three stories, usually occupied by one family) or multi-story apartment buildings occupied by several families. Housing typologies vary between Palestinian cities and depend on their densities, topography, growth rates, and socio-economic situation. Typologies are generally governed by the local master plans and land use regulations



LAND OWNERSHIP IN THE WEST BANK

Land management in Palestine still a lagging behind sector, with various laws and by-laws inherited from different eras that ruled over the planning sector in Palestine, (namely, the Ottoman Period, British Mandate Period, Jordanian Administration Period, Israeli Military Occupation and the Palestinian National Authority). Among which, Ottoman Land Laws have extensively affected land regulations in Palestine. However, important to note that land laws in Palestine were manipulated by the Israeli military orders and used as tools to restrict Palestinian development and confiscate their lands, burdening the land management tools with more challenges. Land titling in urbanized areas of the West Bank is a slow process initiated by the Water and Land Settlement Agency, which operates under the Land Authority.

STATE OF PUBLIC SPACE

IMPACT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS ON THE PUBLIC SPACE

The urbanization and growth patterns in the west Bank have negatively affected the development of good quality public spaces. Planning regulations and bylaws in Palestine were incapable of facilitating the provision of open public spaces, and mainly focused on the development of the built up areas. Hence open public spaces were treated negatively and were not integrated in master plans and their by-laws. Furthermore, no policies are currently mainstreamed within the Palestinian spatial planning system that guide the planning, designing, constructing, and managing the open public spaces in cities and towns.

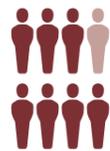


Aerial view of Jenin City © Flickr mk30

SCOPE AND FOCUS: JENIN CITY

GEOGRAPHIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC FEATURES

The city of Jenin is located in the northern part of the West Bank and is considered the major city in Jenin Governorate. The total area of the city is 21.5 km² and is a home for 62,373 people in 2019. The projected population growth is estimated to reach 84,871 in 2030. The fact that the city of Jenin is located along the Green Line of 1948 contributed to its commercial and economic activities. Moreover, the topographic characteristics and climate features of the city enabled the development of agriculture in Jenin.



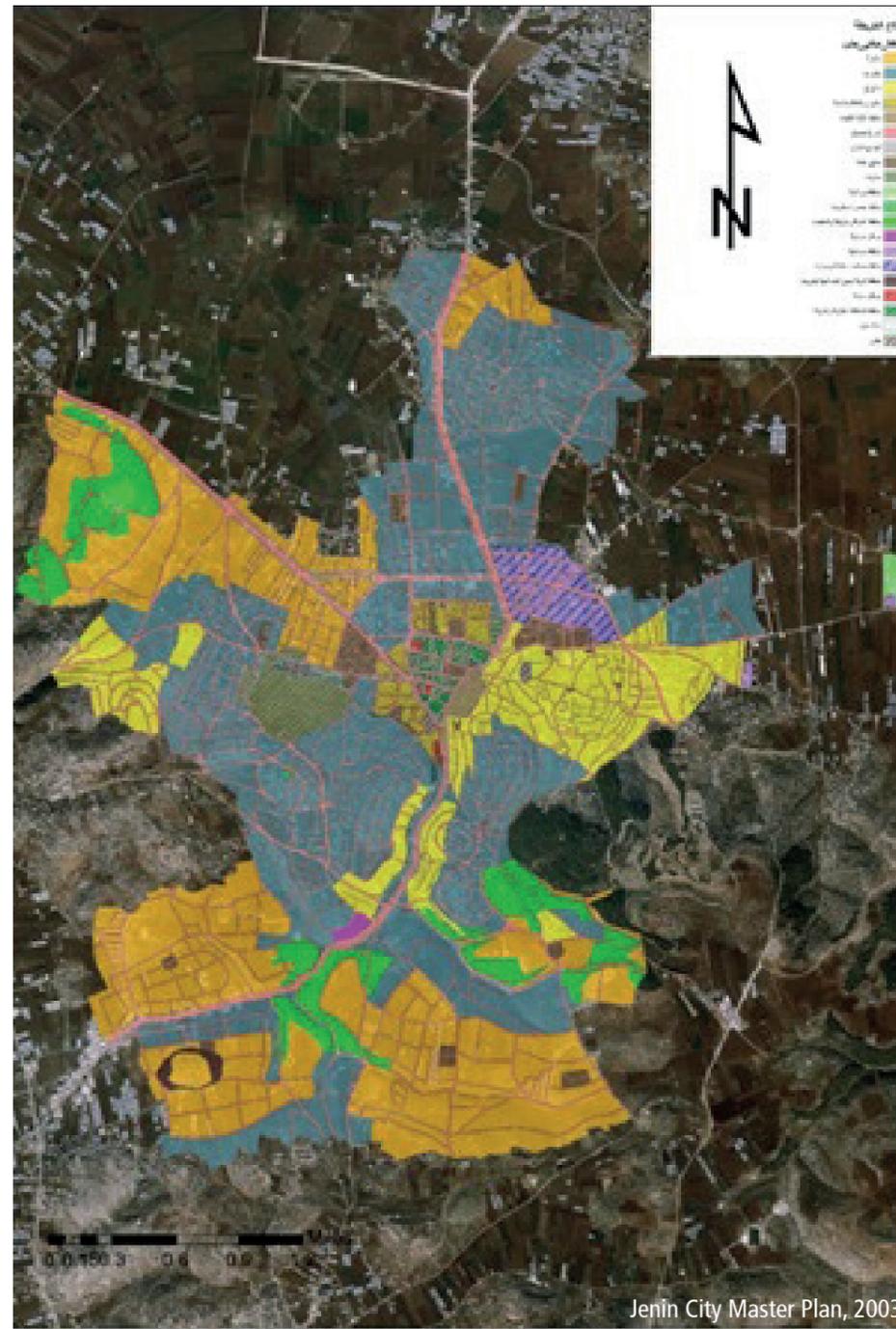
JENIN POPULATION:
62,373 (2019) **84,871** (2030)



JENIN POPULATION DENSITY:
2,900
 Persons/Km²

SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS

Trade is one of the most prominent economic sectors in Jenin, supported by its location as mentioned above, in addition to the presence of the Arab American University there, which has attracted several investors to build commercial and shopping centers. On the other hand, industries in Jenin suffered the negative impact of the political situation prevailing in the West Bank in general, leading to less investment in the sector.



Jenin City Master Plan, 2003



A sculpture in front of the Freedom Theatre in the Jenin Refugee Camp in Occupied Palestine © Flickr AA440

OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY OF THE PROJECT

OBJECTIVES OF THE OPEN PUBLIC SPACE ASSESSMENT

The inventory and assessment of Open Public Spaces in Jenin City was carried out with an aim that:

The results of the assessment will inform strategic and policy recommendations, particularly to improve safety and security, accessibility and inclusion for women and girls.

- 
Investigate the Accessibility of the public spaces in the Municipality.
- 
Understand the Distribution of the public spaces in the Municipality.
- 
Understand the Network of the public spaces in the Municipality.
- 
Assess the Quality of the public spaces in the Municipality (Accessibility, Use, Comfort, Facilities, Safety, and Green Coverage).
- 
Establish the share of urban land that is used as open public spaces in Municipality.

PRE-FIELDWORK PREPARATION

1

Creation of a reference group and Developing the Assessment Tool

UN-Habitat team in collaboration with the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG) developed a structured questionnaire to guide the classification and analysis of the existing open public spaces. The questionnaire constituted from two main sections as follows:

Section A: Public space assessment

Part 1: Identification of the open public space

Part 2: Types of the public space assessment

Part 3: Physical facility assessment

Part 4: Accessibility assessment

Part 5: Use assessment

Part 6: Comfort assessment

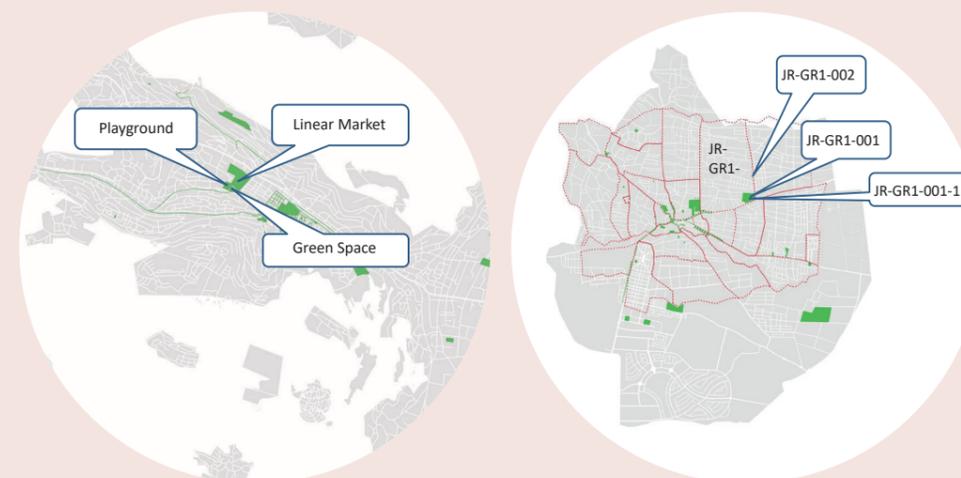
Part 7: Green coverage assessment

Section B: Safety assessment

Part 8: Safety Assessment

Part 9: Perception of Safety

The questionnaire was then uploaded into Kobo toolbox application that is an open source and digital and allow for validation on the ground, remote administration, and working under different conditions.



2

Preparation of GIS Base Map

In collaboration with Municipalities the first version of GIS base map was prepared, including several GIS layers such as: administrative boarders, existing open public spaces, main streets, public facilities, land use, and neighborhood boundaries.

Updating the base map was critical prior to commencing the data collection step, the main objective of this task was to validate the existing public space in terms of location, area, ownership, and use, and to identify any other available public spaces that were not reflected on the base map.

For further verification, the updated base map was presented to the municipality staff to validate and confirm the updated public spaces base map.

3

Mobilizing the Assessment Team

Through a vigorous exercise, Al-Ihteraf Company was hired to supported in conducting city-wide public space assessments, with a specific focus on providing safe, inclusive and accessible public space for women and girls, especially in the most disadvantaged communities. The Company was responsible to lead and facilitate the safety audit survey in Jenin City to discuss and present the findings from the assessment to the key stakeholders.

4

Training Sessions

Two sets of training events were held in January 2019 in Ramallah and Jericho and in September 2019 in Ramalla, Bethlehem and Nablus to provide better understanding of the task ahead, the trainings was divided into two main parts:

A) Theoretical Part: during this session the project's main objectives, scope, and intended results were highlighted. In addition, the trainees were introduced on how public spaces are identified globally and what criteria and measures that should be in place to ensure they are safe, inclusive, and gender responsive. The final section was introducing Kobo toolbox, how it works, and the content of each section in the developed questionnaire and how to respond to each question;

B) Practical part: this session focused on how to configure and set up Kobo toolbox on their mobile phones and how to fill, edit, validate, and send finalized forms. These steps were followed by practical testing of the application in the adjacent open public spaces, and open discussions on concerns and possible challenges that may arise throughout the fieldwork.



DATA COLLECTION QUALITY CHECK AND DATA CLEANING

5

Data Collection

The team conducted data collection in Jenin City.

The questionnaire used included different methods to harness data required for reliable assessment of public spaces:

- A) Observations: data related to the physical components of public spaces, and number of users were injected based on the surveyor's observations in the field;
- B) Photos: minimum of three photos were mandatory to finalize the form, the photos were very helpful for assessing the nature of the public space and to verify its respective data as well;
- C) Sound Measurement: the surveyors were able to reflect the noise levels through voice recording tab that is an indication of comfort level of the public space;
- D) Semi-Structured Interviews: to assess the safety from the users' perspectives, the surveyors conducted a number of interviews for each entry, people living adjacent to the targeted public spaces were interviewed when the public spaces were vacant during the field visits. Children were also interviewed regarding their perception of safety

To facilitate the fieldwork and make sure that the generated data from the field are appropriately linked with spatial data (GIS base map), each team member received assigned public spaces ID and name. In addition, each team was given aerial map of the neighborhoods that include the targeted public spaces.

Most of the sites were visited over the weekdays, and during the peak hours.



6

Data Cleaning Updating

The data was cleaned and verified to ensure precise data analysis and hence reliable findings. This included omitting duplicate entries for the same field visit, entries for privately-owned public spaces, entries that were uploaded during the training sessions.

After careful and precise verification, the total number of cleared and verified open public spaces in Jenin City was 25.

The unique open public space ID provided to the surveyors was then used to link the data from the field to the individual open public space.

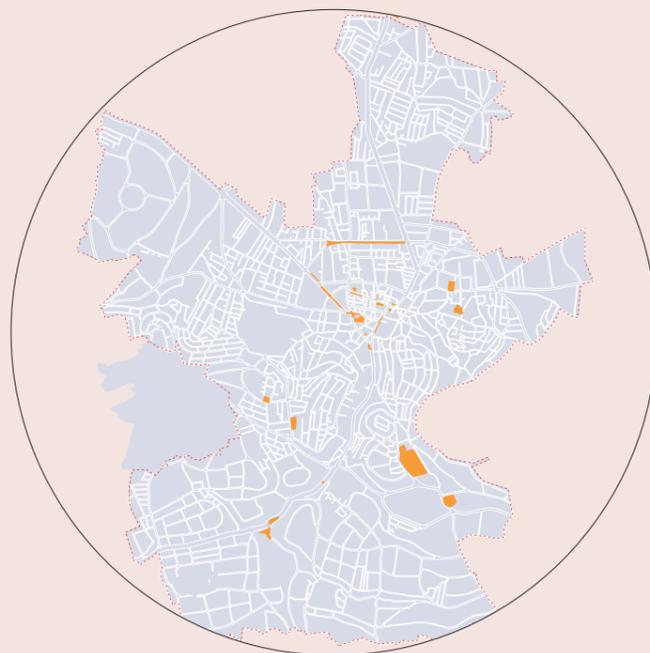
25

Number of open public space collected in Jenin City

7

GIS map

GIS database was updated prior to data analysis, this included reshaping of number of public spaces and omitting the other open public spaces that were outside our scope of focus. The GIS database includes the open public space ID that is considered key cell that link the spatial data with the data generated from Kobo Toolbox.



8

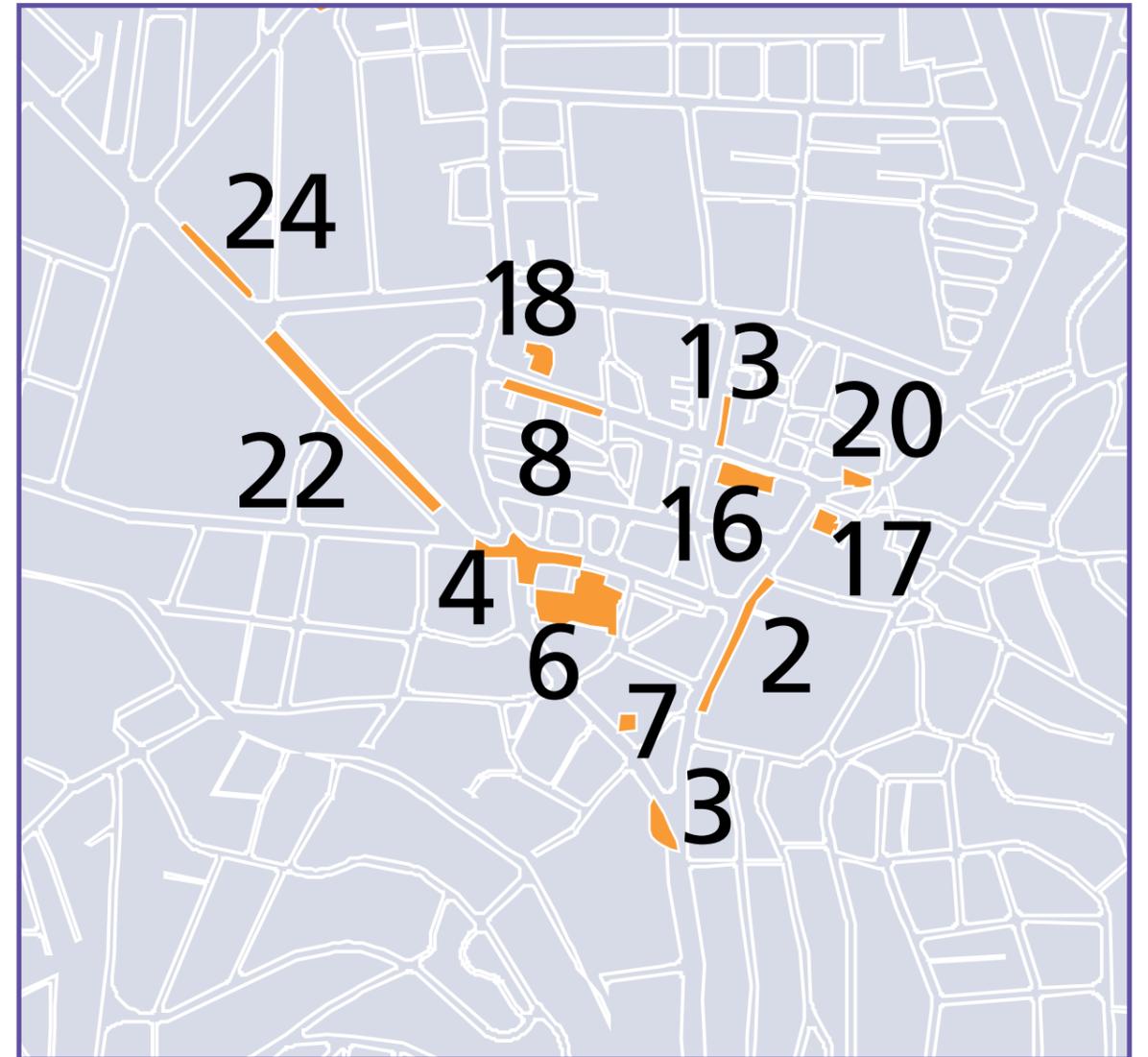
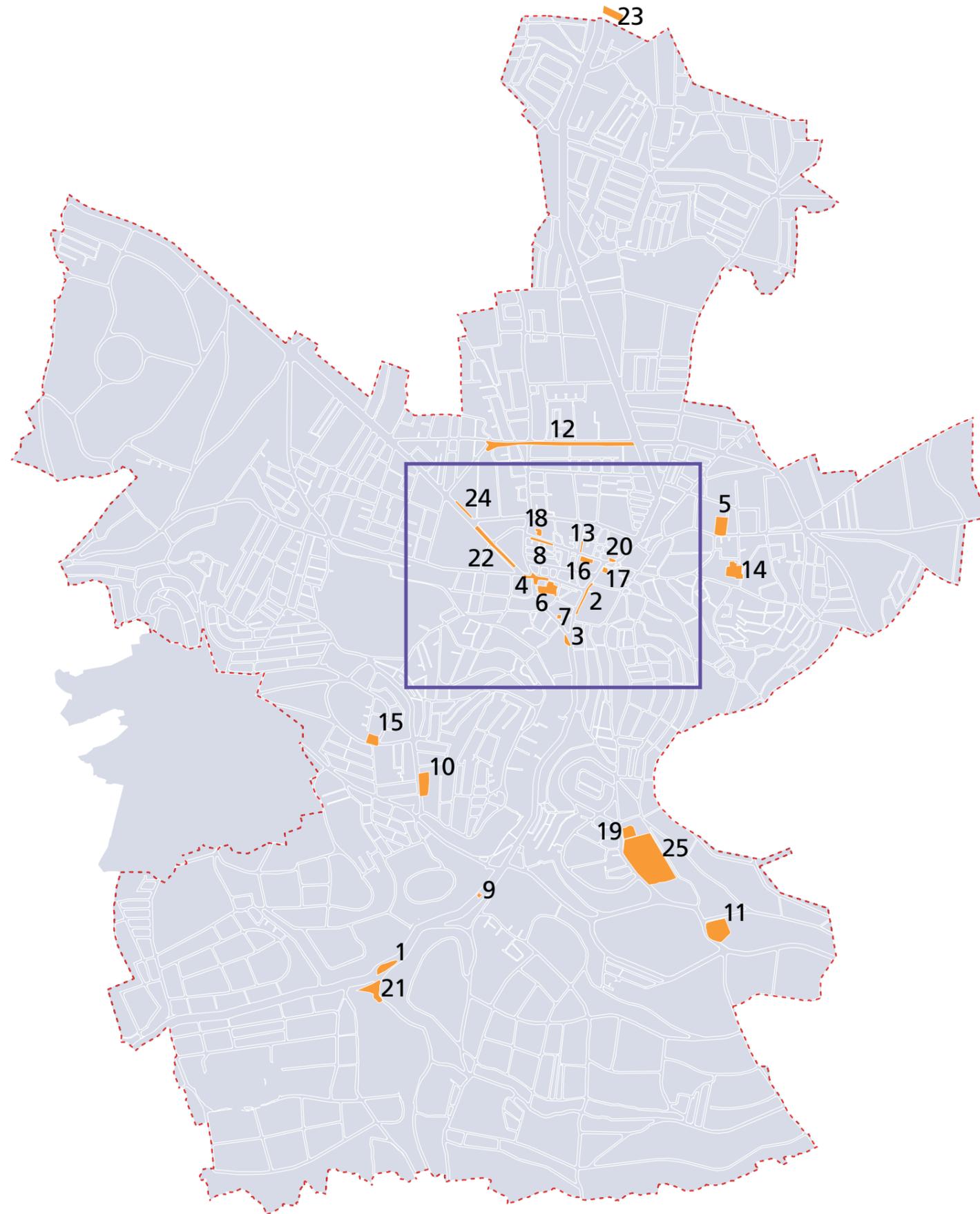
Data analysis and reporting

The qualitative and quantitative data gathered during the field survey was analysed and categorized in themes. Data was then analysed using Kobo Toolbox and GIS and Excel and any other statics software. The statistical treatments were means, percentages and factor analysis. Charts were used to present the results. Information gained by documents and maps analysis and observations were compared with the real situation and interviews. The following chapter provides an overview of the results.

ASSESSED PUBLIC SPACES

No.	Name of Public Space	Ownership	Management	Scale of Public Space	Safety index	Accessibility Index	Comfort index	User Index	Use Index	Physical facilities index	Green cover Index	Priority for Improvement
1	The Entrance to the City (archaeological area)	Government	Government	Neighborhood	18.9	12.9	75	0	37.5	0	27.3	24.5
2	Nablus Street (Civil Defense)	Government	Government	Neighborhood	15.9	12.9	71.4	44.4	50	10	0	29.2
3	Green Area	Government	Government	Neighborhood	13.8	22.6	62.5	44.4	50	15	0	29.8
4	Cinema Roundabout	Government	Government	City level	5.7	22.6	71.4	66.7	50	10	0	32.3
5	Municipal Playground	Government	Government	City level	11.8	16.1	77.8	0	50	50	27.3	33.3
6	Transportation Hub	No Information	Government	City level	20.5	12.9	66.7	44.4	50	40	0	33.5
7	Hakoura Cafe	Non-Government	Others	Neighborhood	10.6	16.1	100	0	37.5	50	27.3	34.5
8	Al Basateen Street (Hesba)	No Information	Government	Pocket Park	17.5	19.4	66.7	66.7	50	30	0	35.7
9	Khirbet Balama	Government	Government	Neighborhood	19.7	25.8	100	0	50	30	27.3	36.1
10	Gabriat	Government	Government	Neighborhood	15.7	25.8	66.7	22.2	37.5	40	45.5	36.2
11	Arous Ash Shamal Park	Non-Government	Non-Government	Neighborhood	11.1	22.6	100	0	50	25	45.5	36.3
12	Ministry of Interior Street	Government	Government	Neighborhood	8.7	22.6	85.7	44.4	62.5	30	0	36.3
13	Vegetable Market	Government	Government	City level	23.8	19.4	66.7	66.7	50	30	0	36.6
14	Al Wadi Al Akhdar Park	Non-Government	Non-Government	City level	3.9	16.1	100	0	50	60	27.3	36.8
15	Rawabi Park	Government	Government	Neighborhood	21.5	12.9	66.7	0	62.5	50	45.5	37
16	Vegetable Market	Government	No Information	Neighborhood	22.2	32.3	66.7	77.8	37.5	30	0	38.1
17	Municipal Library Square	Non-Government	Jointly managed	Pocket Park	14.1	12.9	85.7	33.3	87.5	35	0	38.4
18	Western Transportation Hub	Government	Jointly managed	Neighborhood	24.2	12.9	66.7	55.6	62.5	50	0	38.8
19	Mirah Saad Neighborhood	Government	Government	Neighborhood	19.5	25.8	75	44.4	50	40	18.2	39
20	Al Nasra Transportation Hub	Government	Government	City level	29.1	22.6	77.8	66.7	37.5	60	0	41.9
21	Jannat Park	other	Others	City level	8.1	22.6	100	44.4	62.5	40	18.2	42.3
22	Muqata'a Street	Government	Government	Neighborhood	19.9	12.9	100	44.4	50	30	45.5	43.2
23	Al Mawal Park	Non-Government	Others	Neighborhood	7.6	25.8	100	44.4	50	30	54.5	44.6
24	Muqata'a Square	Government	Government	City level	14.7	29	100	44.4	50	50	27.3	45.1
25	Suwaitat Park	Government	Government	City level	13.3	22.6	100	66.7	50	40	36.4	47

Values are in percentages. Higher percentage means better performance



- Public spaces that were assessed
- Public spaces
- Master plan boundary
- Municipality boundary



women in Jenin © Flickr Markus Viljasalo

3

CHAPTER

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

- General state of public spaces
- What are the amenities present in public spaces?
- How are people using the public spaces?
- Who are the users of public spaces?
- What are the opportunities for 'stay' in public spaces?
- How accessible are the public spaces?
- What are the safety concerns in the public space?
- Which dimension are strong in the public spaces?

GENERAL STATE OF OPEN PUBLIC SPACES

LOW SHARE OF LAND THAT IS OPEN SPACE

Well-designed, safe, inclusive and accessible public spaces can fulfill a variety of functions in a city. These can range from ecological to recreational to economic in addition to building civic pride, social connections and human contentment. Public spaces, especially when they are designed with a gender lens, provide a platform where people can interact as civic equals regardless

of race, gender, age or socio-economic status.

In total, the area of open public space in Jenin measures 0.2 square kilometres, representing only 0.9 per cent of Jenin's urban land. This is significantly lower than the internationally recommended optimum of 15-20 per cent, a recommendation which is also supported by UN-

Habitat. If this recommendation was adhered to, an additional 3 square kilometres of land within Jenin would be dedicated as public space

In regard to Jenin's current population, the per capita public space provision is 3.2m². If current population growth is maintained, this will be reduced to 2.3m² of public space per capita by 2030.



AREA:
21.5 Km²

POPULATION:
62,373 - 2019
84,871 - 2030



LACK OF A NETWORK OF PUBLIC SPACES

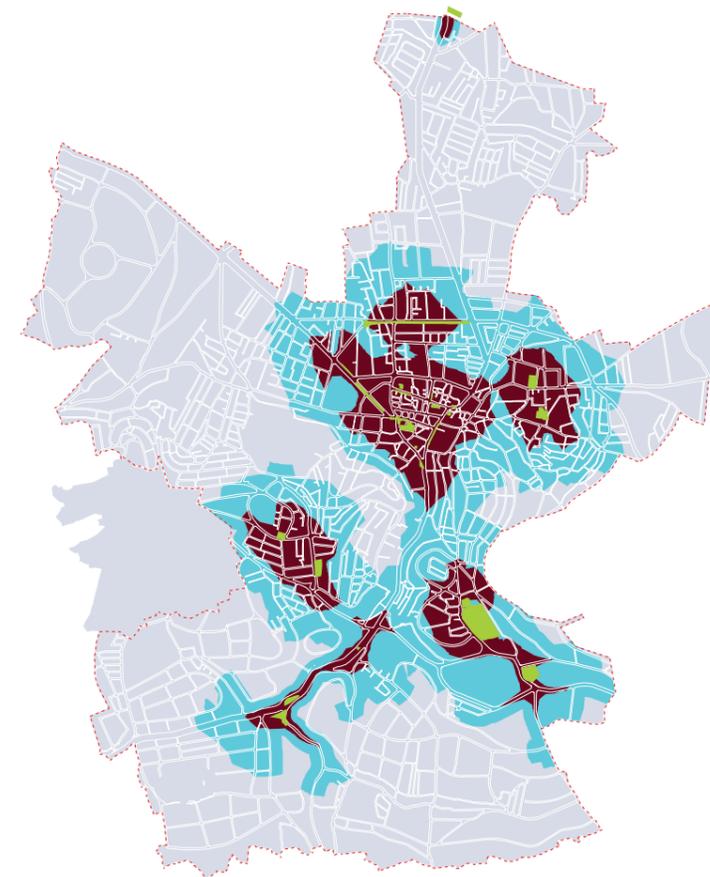
Public space provides structure to a city, town or village. It is an essential piece of infrastructure that provides connections, order and meaning to different districts throughout a city. In addition, public space has the ability to reinforce local identity, environmental quality and economic competitiveness.

Public space can also reconnect a fragmented city and integrate areas and populations that have previously been marginalized. It is important to note

that public space is not only composed of the isolated spaces (squares, playgrounds, parks and gardens) but also by the links between these spaces and the relationship between them and the wider city. Primary links are river systems, public transport routes and continuous, safe and dedicated walking and cycling infrastructure and networks.

In Jenin, 13 per cent of the city is within 5 minutes walking distance of

an area of public space while 38 per cent of the city is within 10 minutes walking distance. As seen in the map, most of the public spaces are clustered in the centre of the city, leaving the areas at the edge of the city without accessible public spaces. While residents living in these central areas would have one or more public spaces within walking distance, 62 per cent of the city remains without a single public space that can be accessed by walking.



Share of land within 5 minutes walk



Share of land within 10 minutes walk



Walking distance to public spaces

- Public spaces
- 5 minutes walk from public spaces
- 10 minutes walk from public spaces

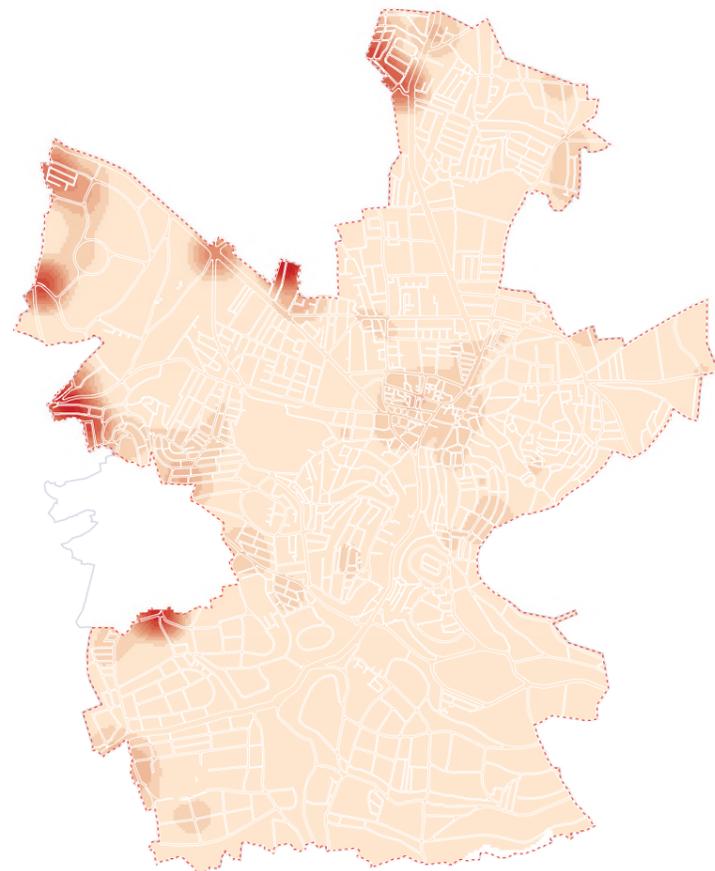
WEAK STREET CONNECTIVITY

Efficient street connectivity refers to how well streets connect to one another and the density of intersections. Higher levels of street connectivity is associated with better accessibility, mobility and ultimately, prosperity. Street connectivity is a feature of the built environment that directly encourages active transportation (walking, cycling and public transport - essentially transport that does not include private vehicles), subsequently increasing the natural surveillance of eyes on the street. UN-Habitat recommends an

optimum length of 18 kilometres of street length per square kilometre, with smaller blocks preferred. The survey found that Jenin has an average of 13 kilometres of street length per square kilometre, a relatively good score which still allows for improvement.

Besides street connectivity, intersection density is another measure of the walkability of a city. Street intersection density is a measure of the number of intersections (nodes) per square kilometre of land. The greater the

number of intersections within an urban area, the more points there are where cyclists and pedestrians can join streets going in different directions, reducing overall connection distance. The survey found that Jenin has 187 intersections per square kilometre, which is more than the 100 intersections per square kilometre recommended by UN-Habitat. The map shows that overall, Jenin needs to strengthen street connectivity throughout the entire city.



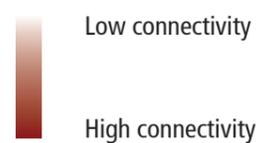
Street length per Sq. Km



Street intersections per Sq. Km



Street connectivity



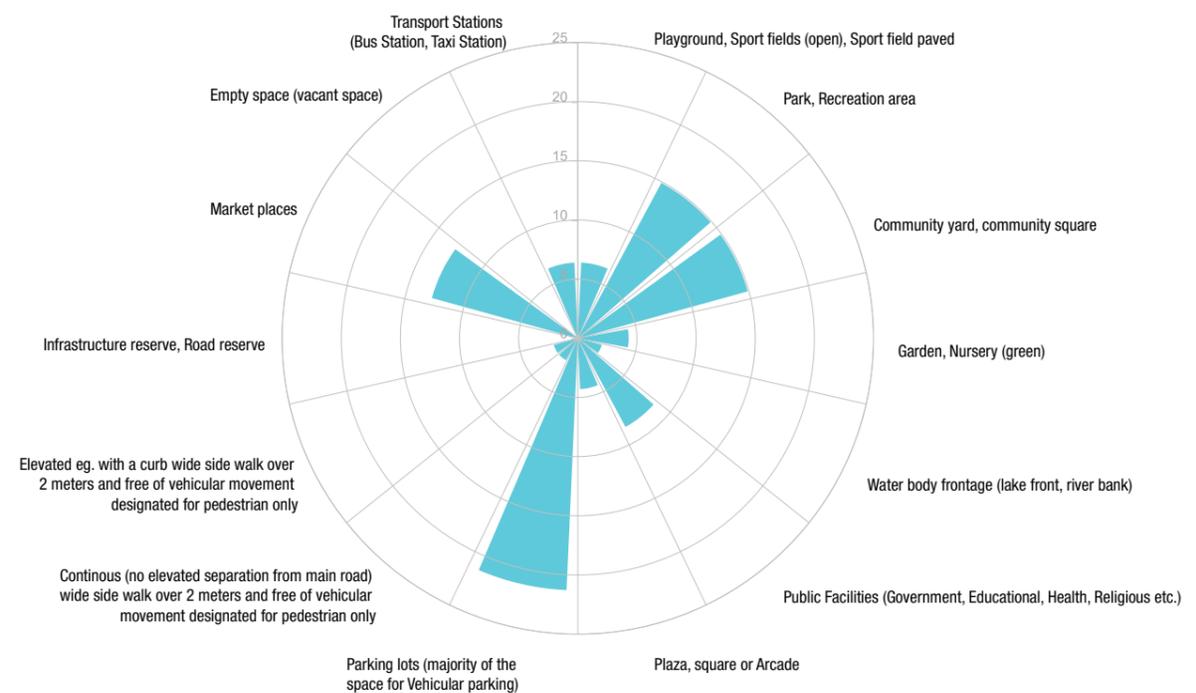
PARKING LOTS ARE FOUND IN MANY OPEN PUBLIC SPACES

There are a wide variety of forms that public space can take. These include the typologies most commonly associated with public space, such as parks, gardens, playgrounds and community squares, and can also include less commonly considered typologies such as parking lots, elevated sidewalks, road reserves and transport stations. It is also important

to remember that one public space can contain more than one typology.

In Jenin there are many typologies of public space present, the most common, in order of most occurrence, being parking lots, park/recreation areas and community squares. The least common typologies of public space in Jenin are elevated sidewalks, continuous sidewalks and water bodies.

Planning, designing and building safe public spaces for women and girls also means analysing the various typologies of public spaces, who uses them, at what time and for how long. It also involves reflecting on who does not use which typologies of public spaces, when and why. These provide an entry point to start re-imagining public spaces as inclusive people places



Note: Legends (least, moderate, most) – These are aggregated values of the indicators in that dimension. E.g. Harassment (few cases) meaning less than 33 per cent of the types of harassment (ogling, following, stalking...) were present in the public space. The values are 0-33%, 34-66%, 67-100% (where 100 could be better performing or worse depending on the dimension).

GENERAL STATE OF OPEN PUBLIC SPACES

WHO OWNS AND MANAGES PUBLIC SPACES?

Not only is the presence of public space important in a city, but equally important is the consistent management of these spaces. The appearance of public space being well maintained and managed can reduce the fear of crime and chances of mischief and delinquency, adding to effective vigilance. At the same time, people are drawn to and tend to stay longer in public spaces that offer interest, stimulation and comfort. In addition, they are more likely to linger if there is comfortable seating, weather

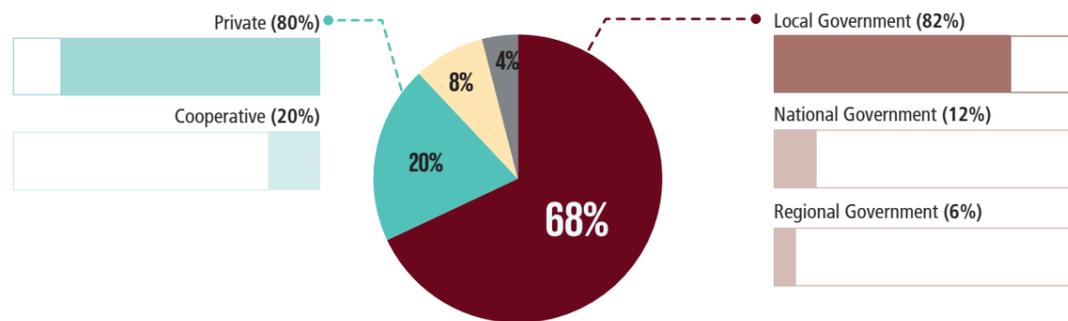
protection, lighting and no evidence of loud noises or bad smells. At the centre of high-quality public space is clear ownership and consistent, pragmatic management.

The government is custodian of the majority (68 per cent) of public spaces in Jenin, with the remaining 32 per cent divided between non-government, others and those where no information was available. Of the 68 per cent of public spaces that are owned by the government, 82 per cent are by Local

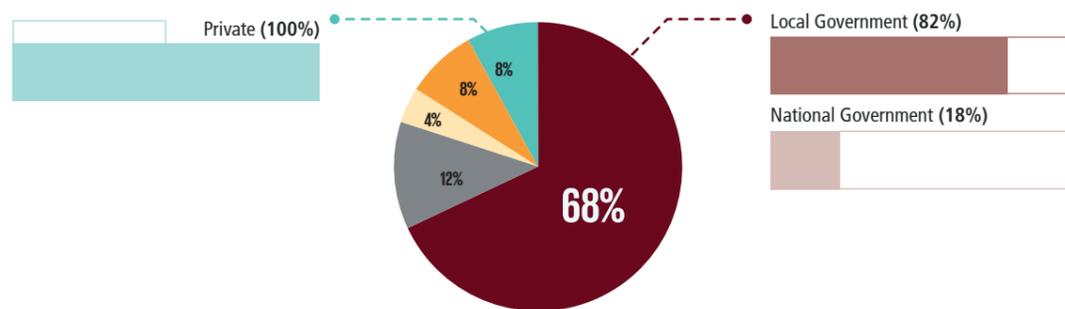
Government, 12 per cent by National Government and 6 per cent by Regional Government.

Similarly, the government manages 68 per cent of public spaces in Jenin, with the remaining 32 per cent divided between non-government, joint management, others and those where no information was available.

Ownership of public spaces



Management of public spaces



Government (68%) Non-Government (20%) Jointly managed (8%) No information (4%) Others (0%)

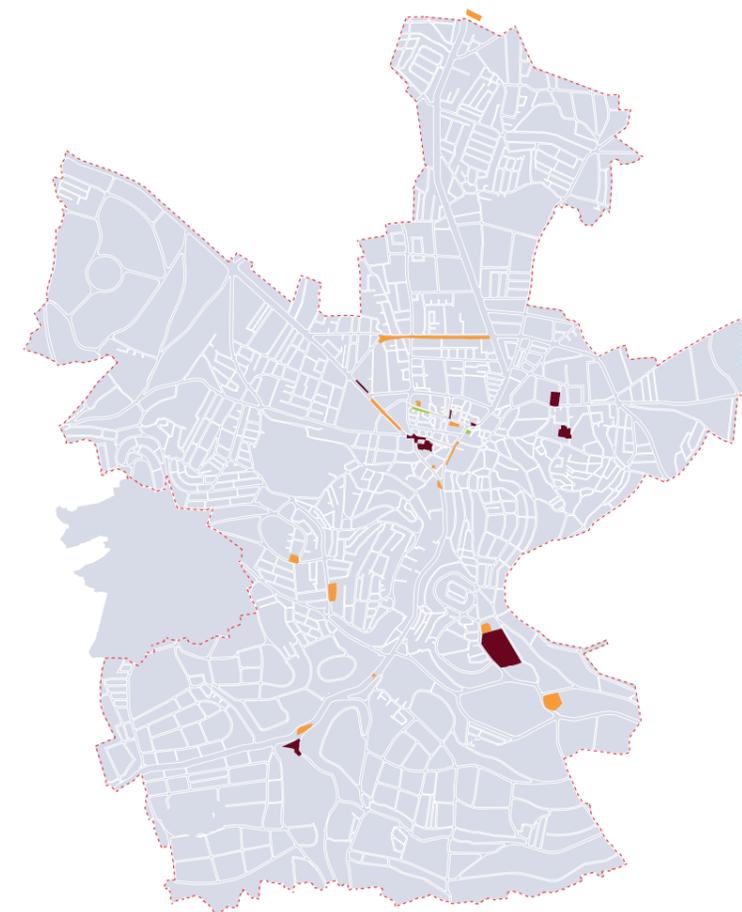
SCALE AND DESIGNATION OF PUBLIC SPACES

The public spaces in Jenin were classified into three broad categories: city level spaces, neighbourhood level spaces and pocket parks. While city level and neighbourhood level public spaces are categorised based on their location and catchment area, pocket parks are predominantly defined by their sizes. Neighbourhood level public spaces are public spaces which are predominantly used and

experienced by people living within the neighbourhood in which the spaces are located while city level public spaces are public spaces have a wider catchment area (used by people from different parts of the city). Pocket parks on the other hand are small public spaces measuring less than 400 square metres.

The survey found that of the 25 public

spaces in Jenin, 9 were city level, 14 were neighbourhood level and 2 were pocket parks. The different scales of public spaces are dispersed throughout the city, as seen in the map. Providing a variety of public spaces of different scales offers a greater choice to residents and provides a range of ways for people to gather and interact with the community



City level (9) Neighborhood level (14) Pocket spaces (2)

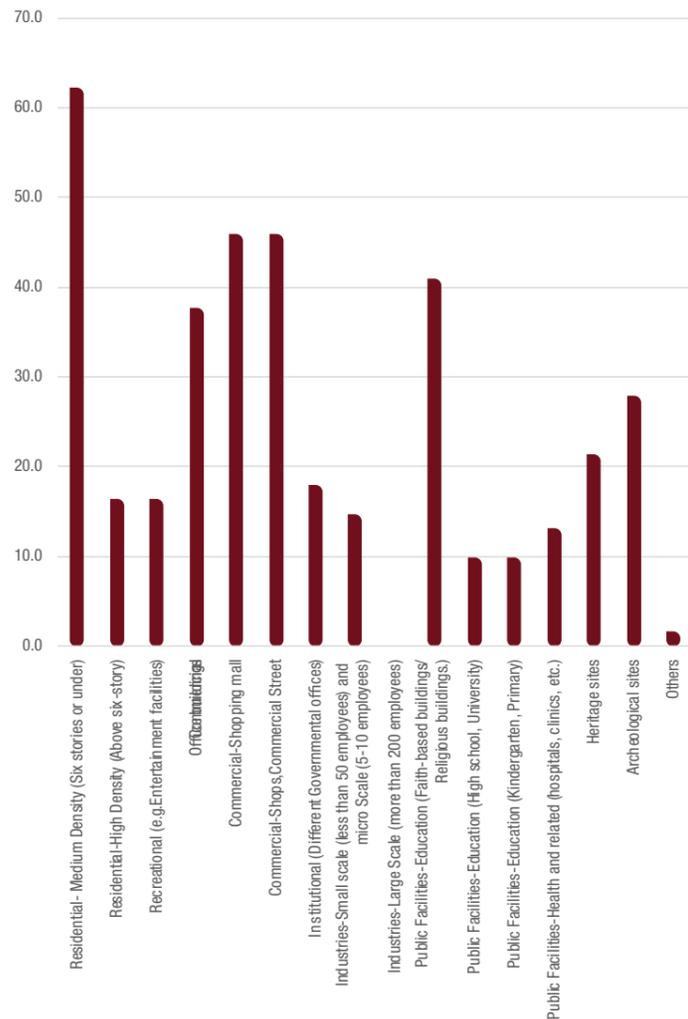
MAJOR ADJOINING LAND-USE TO PUBLIC SPACES

It is also important to consider the land uses that adjoin a public space. The types of land uses adjoining a public space can have a major impact on the perception of safety in that space, especially for women and girls. Land uses that are compatible with public spaces, such as commercial (retail) and residential activities tend to promote a positive perception of safety in public spaces. This is primarily because these land uses tend to generate higher footfall, resulting in more ‘eyes on the street.’

According to the survey, 12per cent of public spaces are located in high density residential neighborhoods. This means that the spaces are located in neighborhoods where they can have the highest impact. This is important for the safety of women and girls, especially because they can have spaces in close proximity to their homes, and they can keep an eye on their children while playing. At the same time, 48per cent of public spaces are located adjoining shopping malls and 44per cent adjoining a commercial street or

shops, which would likely indicate a higher level of activity in the public spaces.

The study further found that only 8per cent of public spaces are located adjoining kindergartens and primary schools. Locating public spaces in close proximity to kindergartens and primary schools is especially important for promoting an active lifestyle among school going children, compared to public spaces adjoining industrial land uses for example.

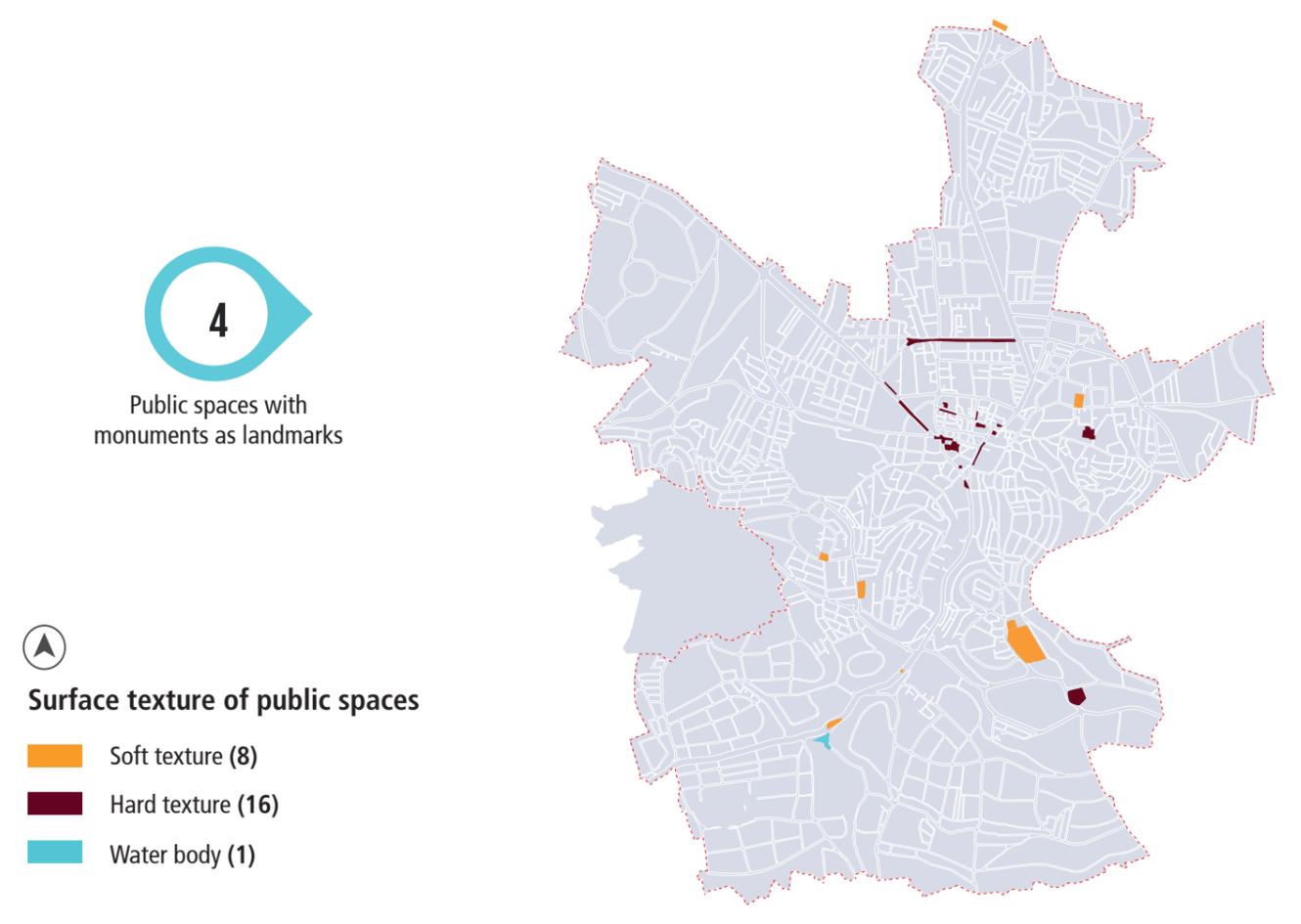


WHAT IS THE TEXTURE AND EXISTING LANDMARKS IN PUBLIC SPACES?

It is important to provide a variety of different textured public spaces, to fulfill different needs within the community. Public spaces with soft texture play a critical role in cooling cities and in the management of surface water runoff. As part of the green infrastructure in cities, public spaces with soft surfaces provide opportunities for urban water management and ground water recharge. When planned

well as part of a larger citywide network, green and public spaces (with soft texture) reduce risks to grey infrastructure from such hazards as flooding, facilitate sustainable land management and restoration, and build resilience to extreme weather. Of the 25 public spaces in Jenin, 8 were found to have soft surfaces and 16 to have hard surfaces. The remaining one public space is a water body.

Landmarks are one of the five elements of the city image. They define the city and aid way-finding. Similarly, they are one of the defining elements of a public space. At a macro level, public spaces themselves can also serve as landmarks. They occur in various shapes, forms and sizes including significant trees and small padlocks. In Jenin, there are 4 public spaces which have monuments as landmarks.



HOW SAFE ARE PUBLIC SPACES?

WHAT ARE THE AMENITIES PRESENT IN THE PUBLIC SPACE?

Landscape furniture and amenities, such as seating, garbage bins, lighting, kiosks, public toilets and playground equipment, are essential elements to a public space. These elements give identity and purpose to a public space, drawing people into these spaces and allowing them to feel safe, relaxed and stimulated. That being said, if the furniture and amenities are inappropriately placed, poorly maintained or insufficient, they can actually create feelings of unsafety and

potentially cause opportunities for crime, harassment and violence. Some ways in which landscape furniture and amenities can cause safety issues, especially for women and girls, include insufficient lighting, insufficient signage, kiosks blocking walkways or toilet blocks blocking sight lines.

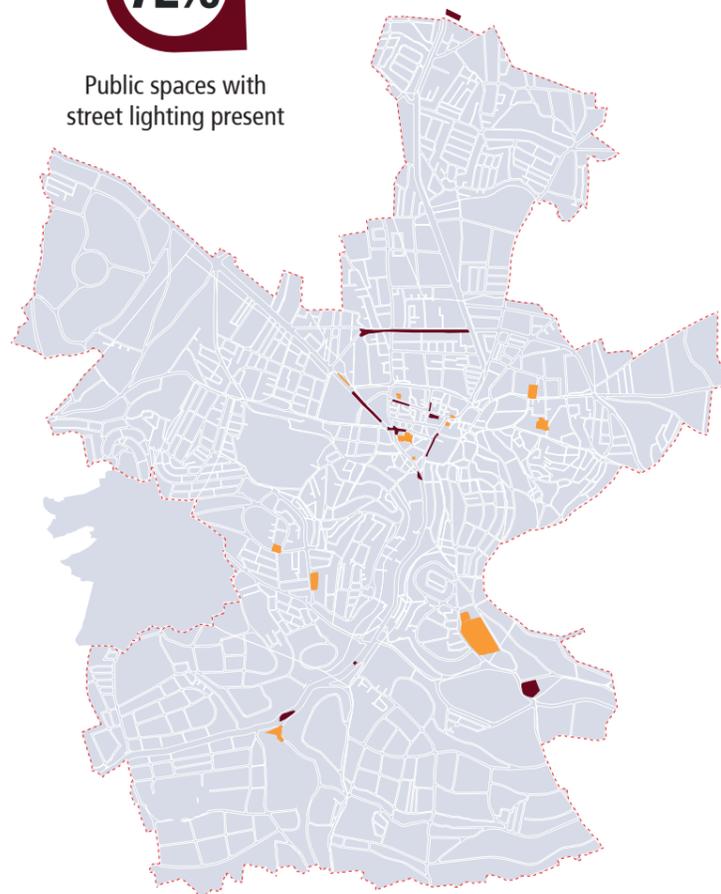
The most common landscape furniture and amenities that are available in the open public spaces in Jenin are street lighting, available in 72 per

cent of public spaces, kiosks, available in 60 per cent of spaces, seating opportunities, available in 56 per cent of spaces, and garbage bins, available in 56 per cent of spaces. Emergency health facilities were not present in any of the public spaces and fire emergency equipment was only available in 4 per cent of public spaces. Baby care facilities were not present in any of Jenin's public spaces, indicating a lack of consideration of the specific needs of women.

No.	Name of Public Space	Amenities index (%)
1	ةنديدم ل لخدم (ةيرثأ ةقطنم)	0
2	سلبان عراش (ي ندم ل اعف دل)	10
3	امني س ل راود	10
4	تاتابن ل ةقطنم	15
5	سورع ةزنت م لامش ل	25
6	ةبس ح ل	30
7	نيت اسب ل عراش (ةبس ح ل)	30
8	ةم ع ل ب ةبرخ	30
9	ةيل خ اد ل عراش	30
10	ةبس ح ل	30

72%

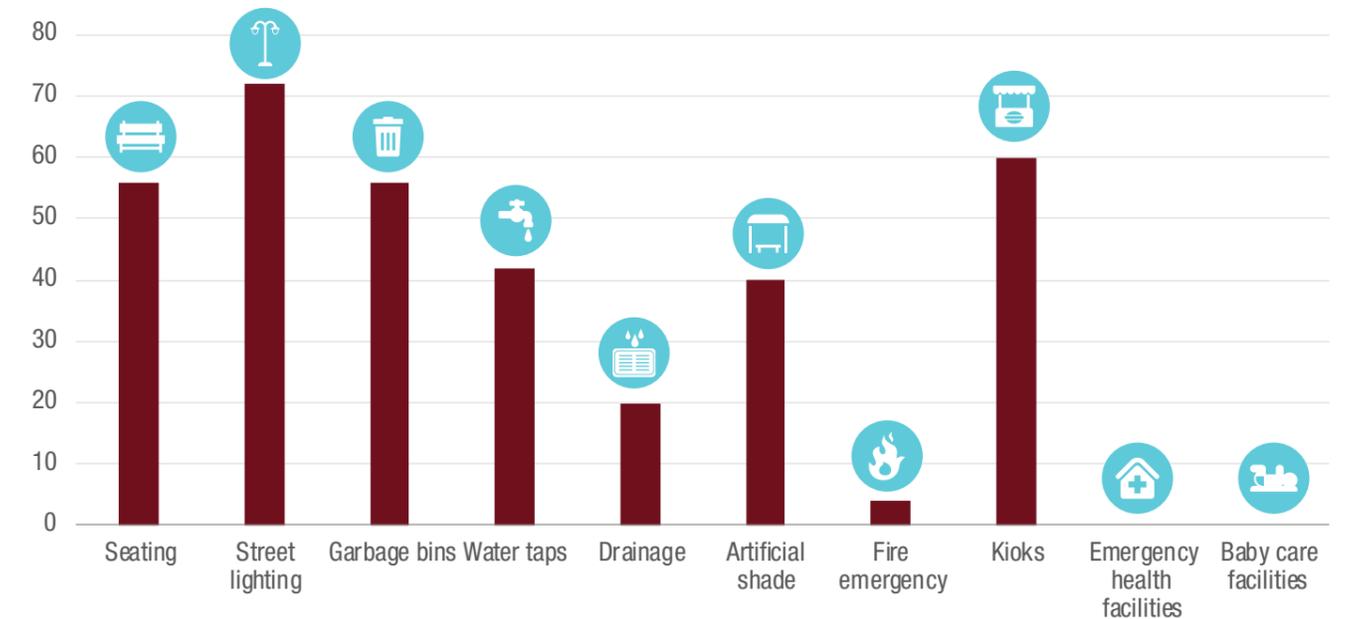
Public spaces with street lighting present



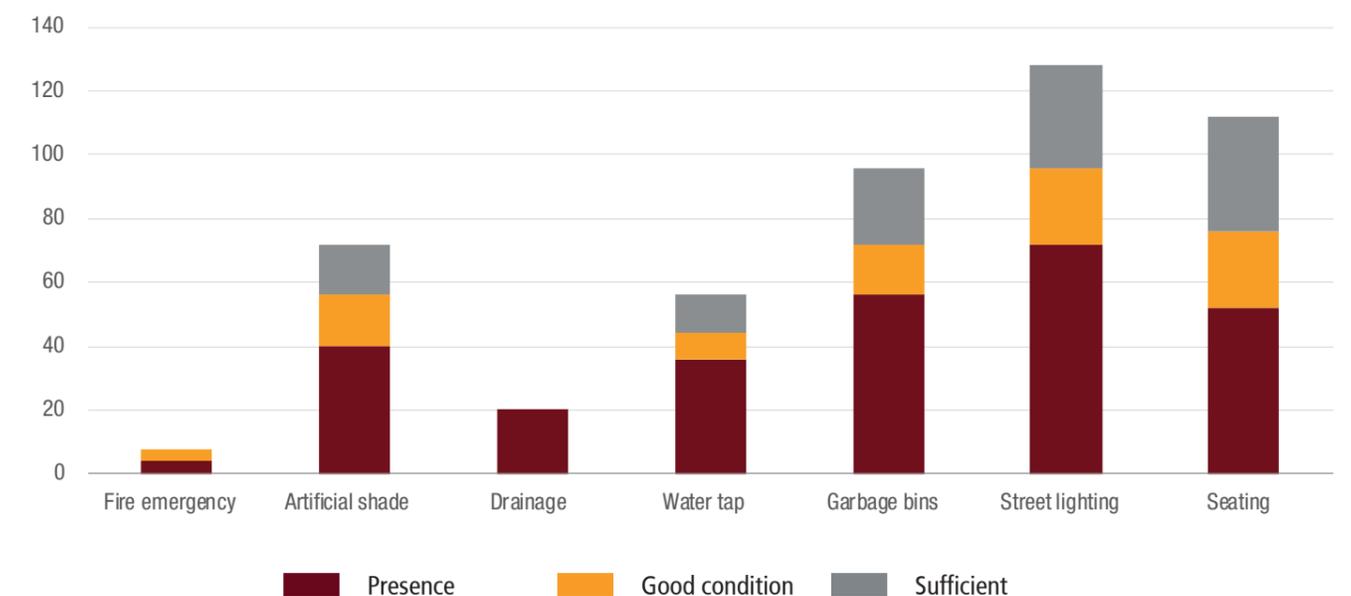
Presence of facilities in public spaces

- Most facilities are present
- Some facilities are present
- Few facilities are present
- Master plan boundary
- Municipality boundary

PERCENTAGE OF PUBLIC SPACES WITH VARIOUS FACILITIES



PERCENTAGE OF PUBLIC SPACES SHOWING PRESENCE AND CONDITION OF VARIOUS FACILITIES



HOW ARE PEOPLE USING PUBLIC SPACES?

People use public spaces for a wide variety of activities, both intended and unintended by the designer of the space. As a general rule, the more activities occurring in a public space, the safer it feels and the more time people wish to spend and linger in that space. This is because these spaces feel more vibrant and the more natural surveillance is occurring. Public spaces that are left vacant for large stretches of time can become locations for crime

to occur due to the lack of natural surveillance.

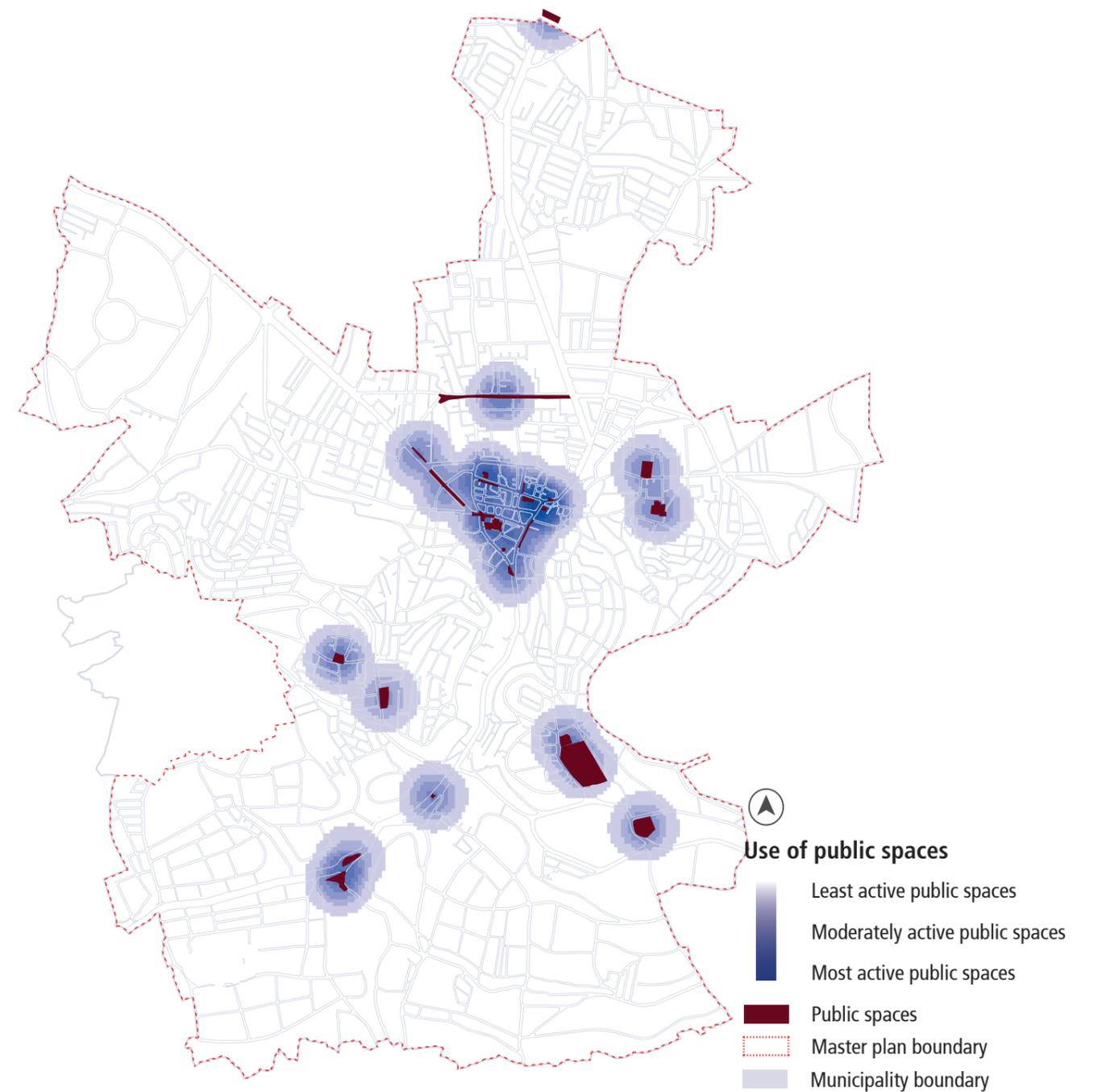
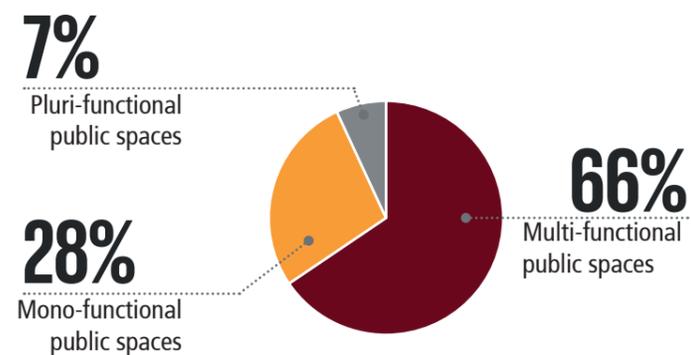
In terms of defining how public spaces are used; mono-functional spaces only accommodate one activity, multi-functional spaces provide different activities at different times and pluri-functional spaces provide different activities at different times. In Jenin, the survey found that 28 per cent of public spaces were mono-functional,

66 per cent were multi-functional and 7 per cent were plurifunctional. This indicates that 77 per cent of all public spaces in Jenin provide for a variety of activities (either multi or pluri-functional), which would contribute to increased perceptions of comfort and safety in these spaces. The survey also found that the most active public spaces were located in the centre of the town, while the public spaces further to the edge of town were less active.



Food markets in Jenin © UN-Habitat

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES IN PUBLIC SPACES



WHO ARE THE USERS OF PUBLIC SPACES?

By their very nature, public spaces are open to everyone, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, or socio-economic status. They are places of play and repose in some instances, but also of political deliberations, demonstrations and agonistic struggle in other instances. Public spaces are the great equalizers of cities, where people of widely different backgrounds are able to interact and connect as civic equals. The survey found that young men (15-29 years)

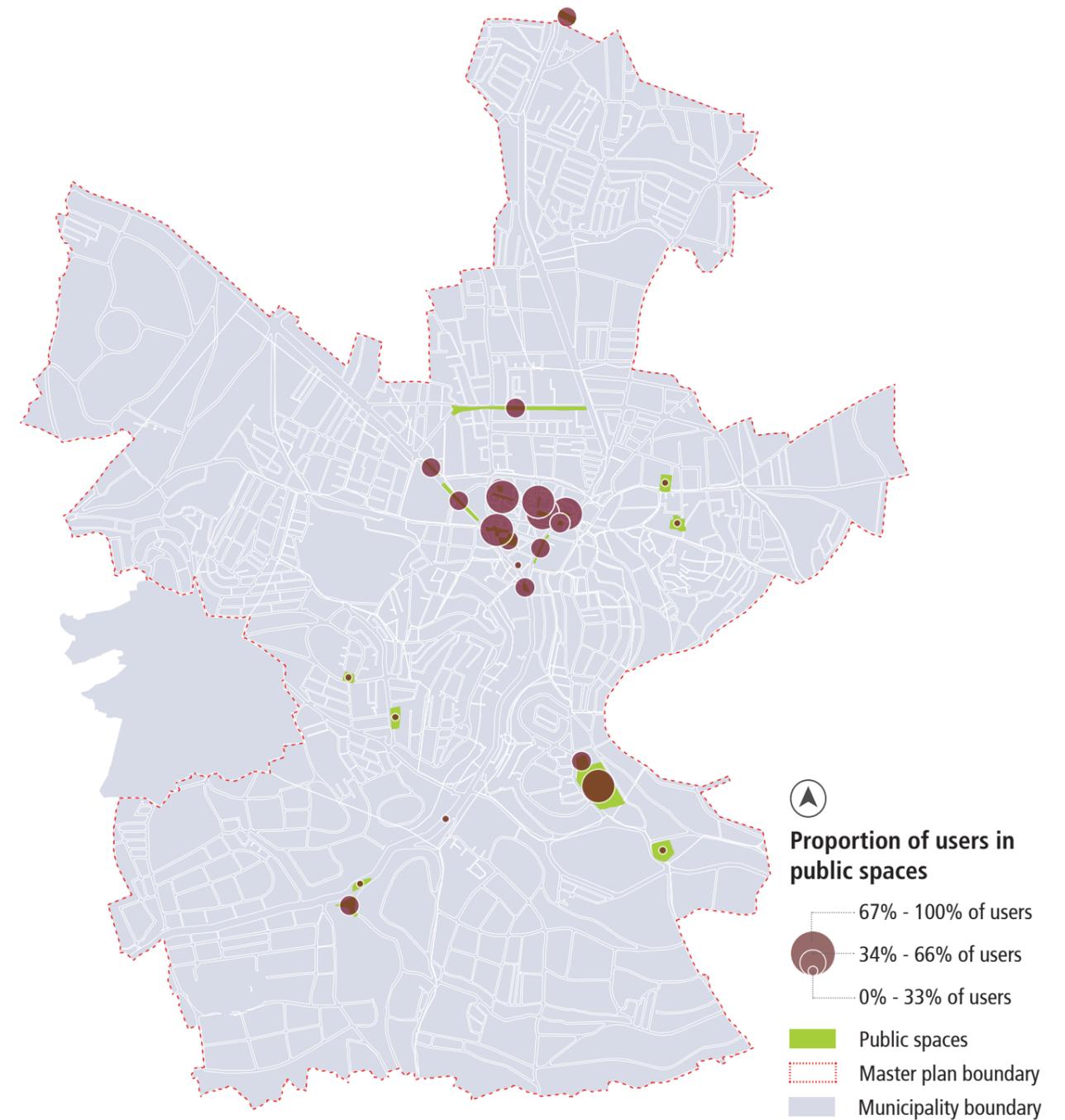
were the most common age group, present in 68 per cent of public spaces, followed by young females (15-29 years) in 56 per cent of public spaces and women (30-59) also in 56 per cent of public spaces.

Gender representation in public spaces is an identifier of equal access, in Jenin however, women were present in only 36 per cent of the public spaces while men were present in 64 per cent. In terms of grouping, the

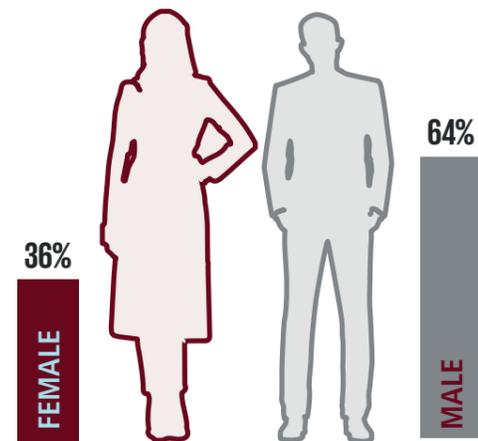
survey found that young men (15-29 years) and young females (15-29 years) were both most likely to be found in mixed groups, rather than in one group or alone, however young men at a higher rate than young women. Younger women preferring to be in mixed groups may be caused by several factors including cultural preferences or personal safety concerns. The survey indicates that the older the age group, the more likely they are to be alone.



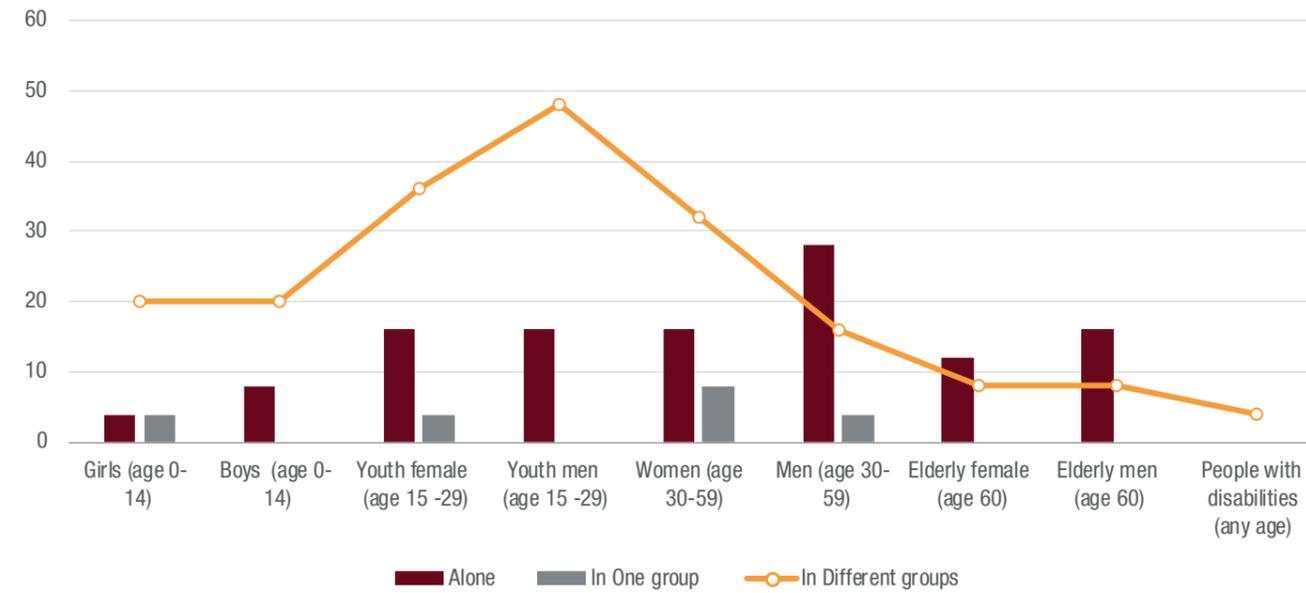
Sidewalk in Jenin © UN-Habitat



USERS OF PUBLIC SPACE BY GENDER



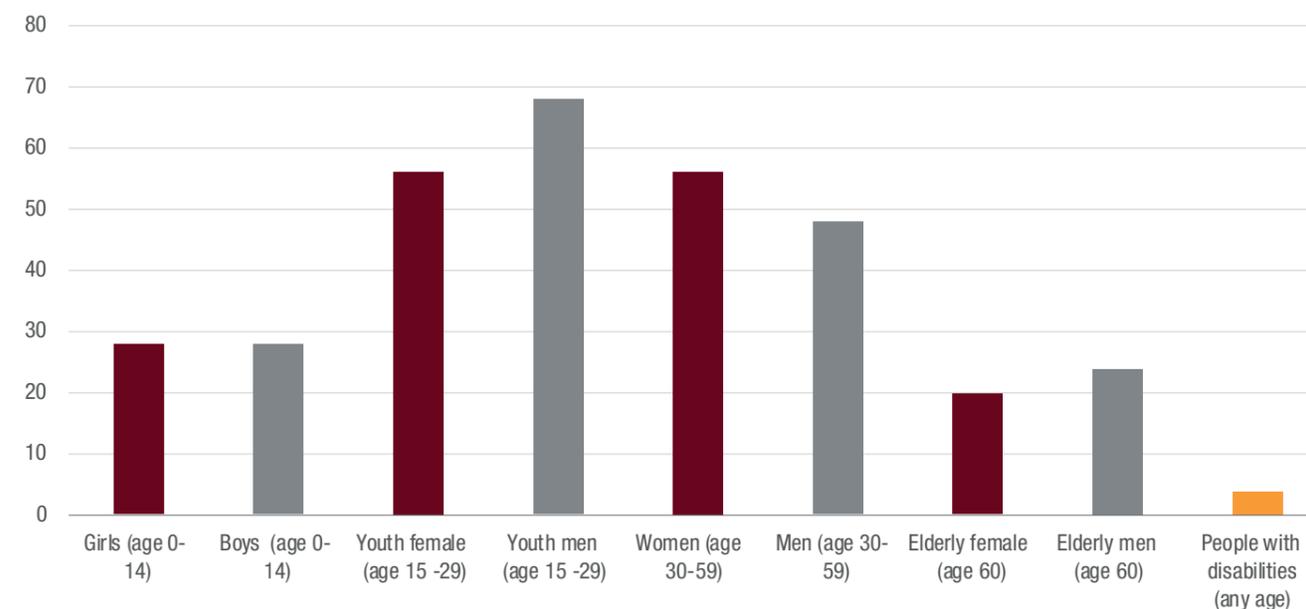
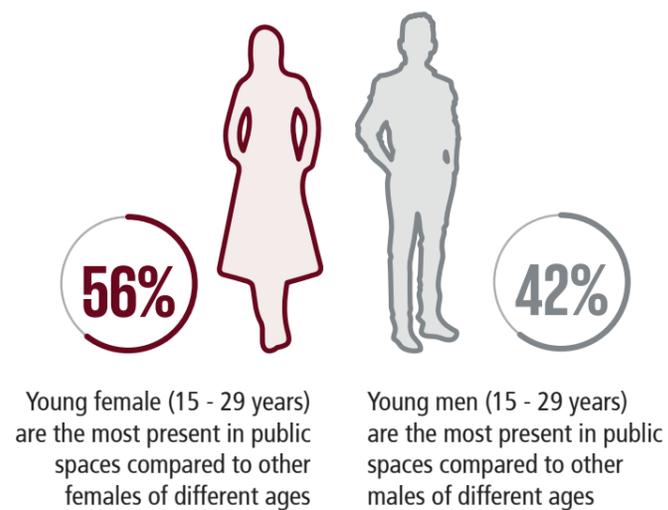
NUMBER OF PUBLIC SPACES SHOWING HOW USERS GROUP THEMSELVES



48%

Of public spaces show that youth men between the age of 15-29 years were mostly found in different groups

PERCENTAGE OF PUBLIC SPACES WITH DIFFERENT USERS BY AGE



68%

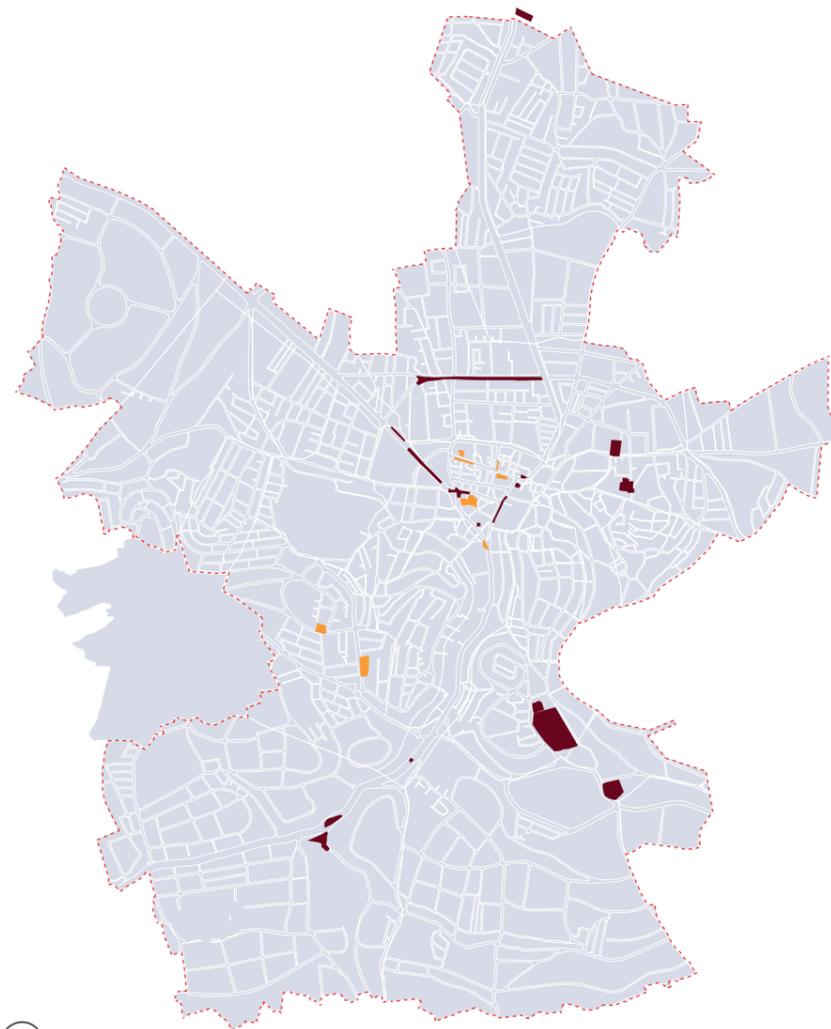
Of public spaces show that young men users between the age of 15-29 years were mostly found in public spaces

WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR 'STAY' IN THE PUBLIC SPACES?

At its best, public spaces should create the same feelings as one's home, namely comfortable, welcoming and safe. When people feel physically and mentally comfortable, they relax, are more likely to linger in a space and are more likely to interact with others. The level of comfort of a public space is caused by a wide variety of factors including the availability of amenities, vitality, cleanliness, smells and sounds that are experienced within the space. Social programming (the schedule of activities) and management also directly links to an individual's experience and enjoyment of a space. If proper consideration is given, public spaces have the opportunity to become destinations and sources of civic pride.

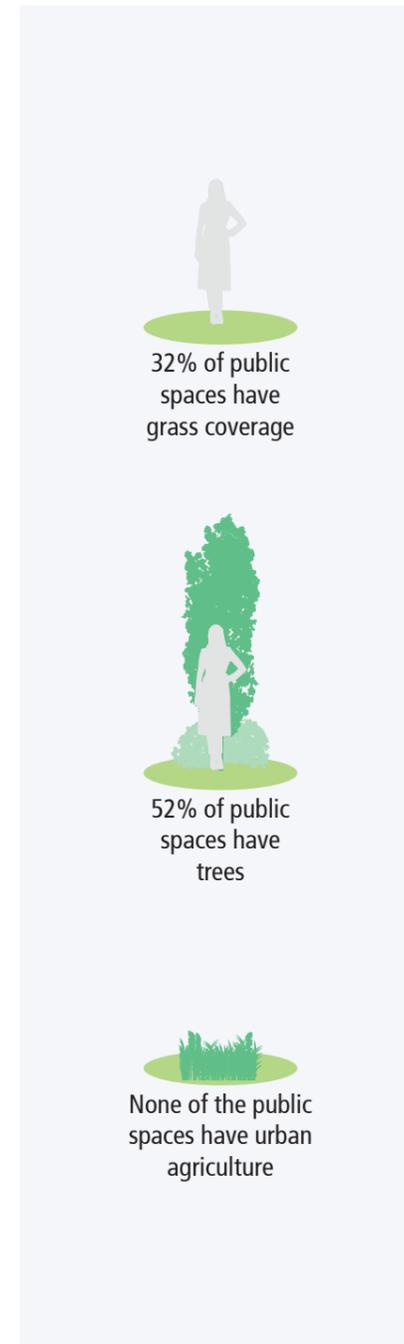
Some of the key factors that directly impact the quality of public spaces in Jenin include uncollected garbage (observed in 46 per cent of public spaces), loud noises (in 46 per cent of public spaces) and bad smells (in 8 per cent of public spaces). The survey indicated that the bad smells were directly linked to the uncollected garbage and the loud noises were generated predominantly by traffic. These are key sensory elements that directly affect an individual's experience of a public space, and at the moment almost half of the public spaces in Jenin have unpleasant sensory elements present.

In addition, over half (52 per cent) of public spaces in Jenin have trees and 32 per cent have grass coverage, however urban agriculture was not present in any of the public spaces. These public spaces which provide green space through grass and trees are commendable, however this could be improved.

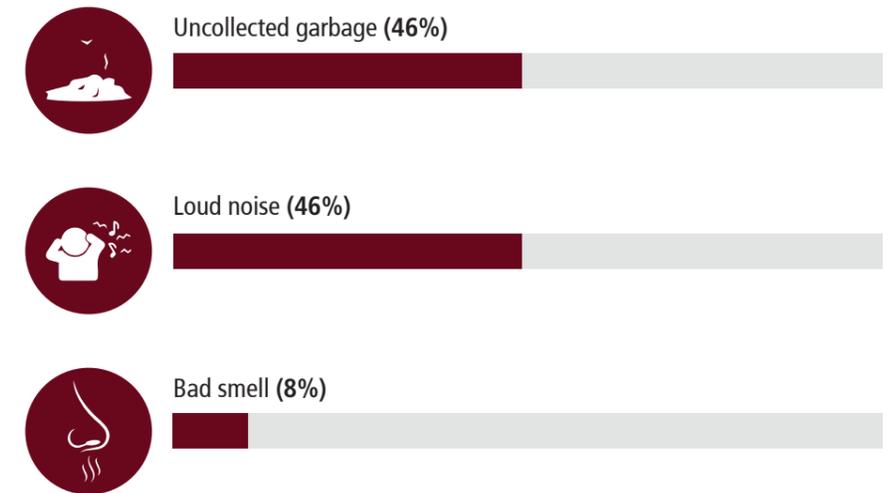


Comfort in public spaces

- Comfortable public spaces
- Moderately comfortable public spaces
- Uncomfortable public spaces
- Master plan boundary
- Municipality boundary



INDICATORS AFFECTING COMFORT IN PUBLIC SPACES

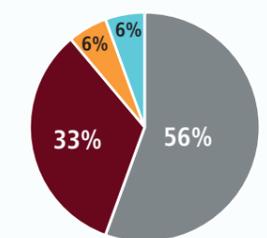


Indicators of bad smell



■ Uncollected garbage

Indicators of loud noise



- Traffic
- People
- Construction
- Others

HOW ACCESSIBLE ARE THE PUBLIC SPACES?

Entrances are another important element to a public space. Entrances that are visually appealing, easy to find and well-defined encourage people to use these spaces and are perceived to be more welcoming, inclusive and accessible. The survey found that 60 per cent of public spaces in Jenin did not have clearly defined entrances however 40 per cent were easy to find.

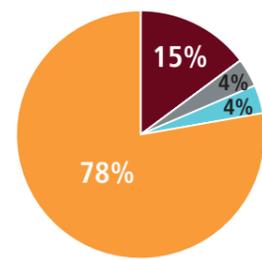
In addition, certain infrastructure elements can either be a barrier to or an

enabler of accessibility and inclusivity in a space. Universal design means creating spaces with all members of the community in mind, in particular those who are often overlooked such as the elderly and disabled. Something as simple as a few stairs could prevent many people from accessing a space. Jenin's public spaces were shown to be very accessible, with 78 per cent of public spaces with wheelchair access. However, only 4 per cent of public

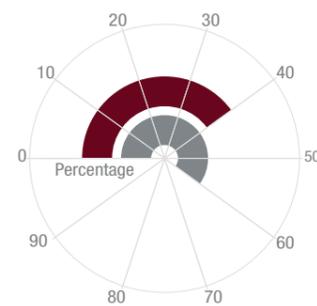
spaces have streets wide enough for the blind to walk and 4 per cent with tactile paving. It should also be taken into consideration that women are likely to only use a space if the walkways are wide enough for them to feel comfortable and allow them to walk side-by-side with other friends, family members or children. So in this sense, the specific needs of women need to be considered as an issue of accessibility.



76% (19) of public spaces have unrestricted access. 12% (3) public spaces have limited access and 12% (3) public space has controlled access and none have restricted access.



- Other
- Wheelchair access
- Wide street for the blind
- Texture change for the blind



- Easy to find
- Not clearly defined



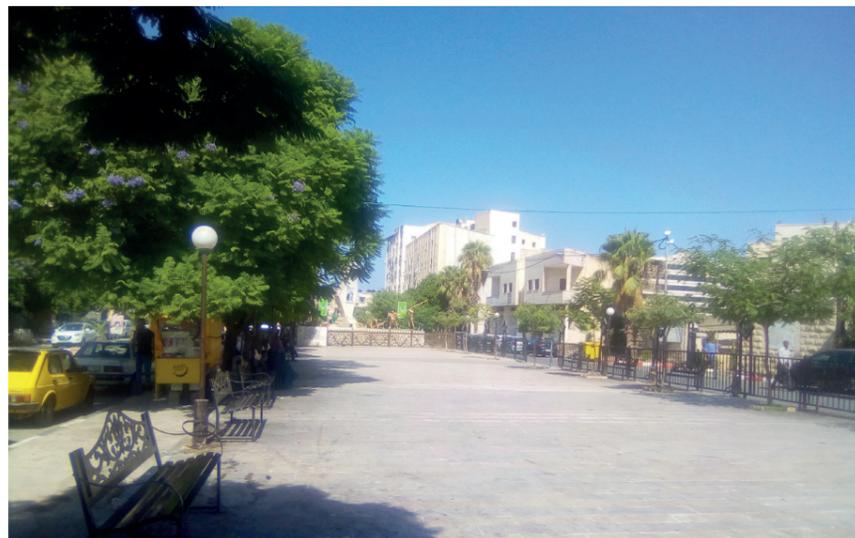
Public spaces with facilities to restrict vehicular movement



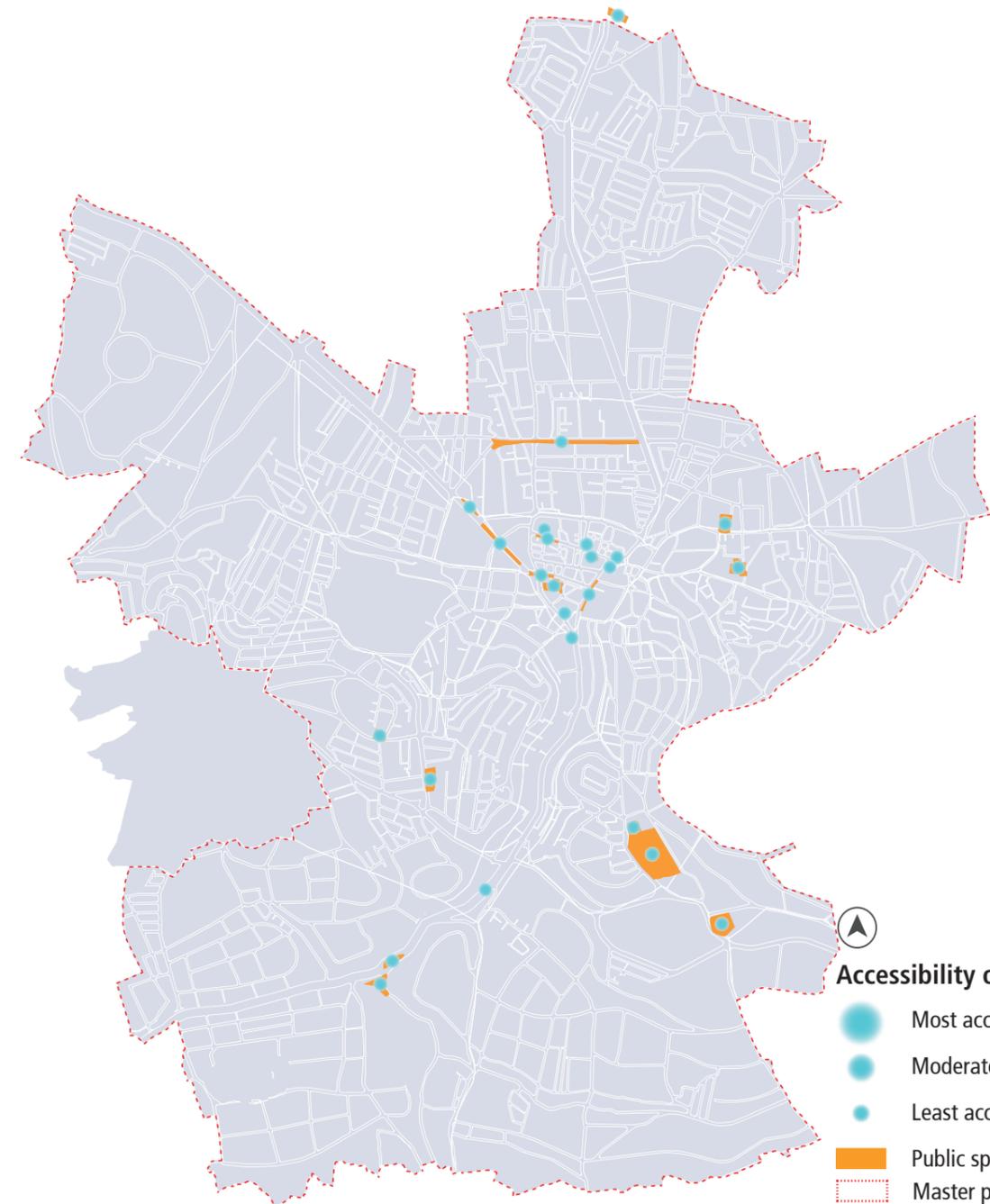
Public spaces with vehicular parking



Public spaces with bicycle parking



Open plaza with seating in Jenin © UN-Habitat



Accessibility of public spaces

- Most accessible public spaces
- Moderately accessible public spaces
- Least accessible public spaces
- Public spaces
- Master plan boundary
- Municipality boundary

WHAT ARE THE SAFETY CONCERNS IN PUBLIC SPACES?

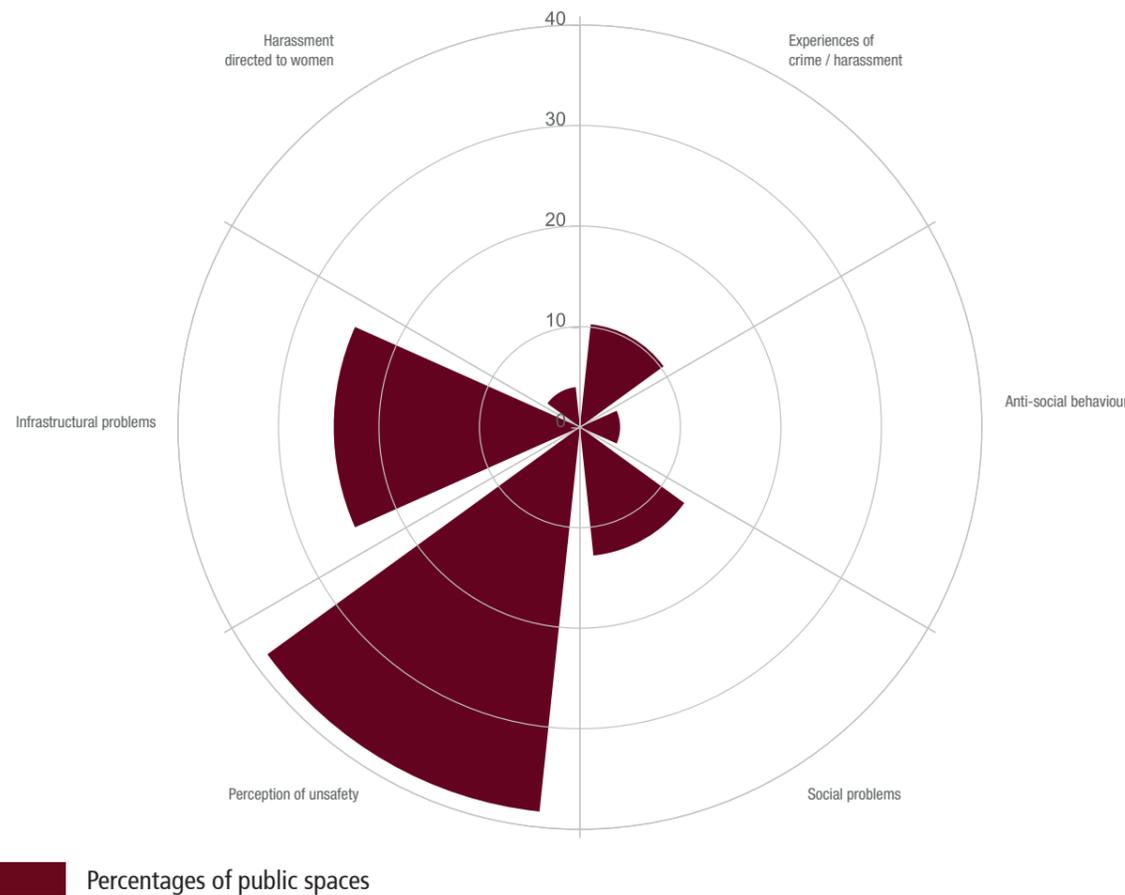
All people have the right to live a life free of crime and harassment and feel safe in their local community. The concept of safety has many different elements, ranging from personal perceptions of safety to actual experiences of crime and harassment. Women and girls are especially vulnerable to harassments and feelings of unsafety. When women and girls feel unsafe in a public space, they are likely to avoid or drastically minimise their

interaction with this space. In some instances, they may feel unsafe in the only public space accessible to them, meaning they have no alternative.

The survey found that in Jenin, almost 40 per cent of public spaces were associated with perceptions of unsafety. This means that these public spaces are perceived as not appropriate places for women and girls to be and hence, prevents them from utilising

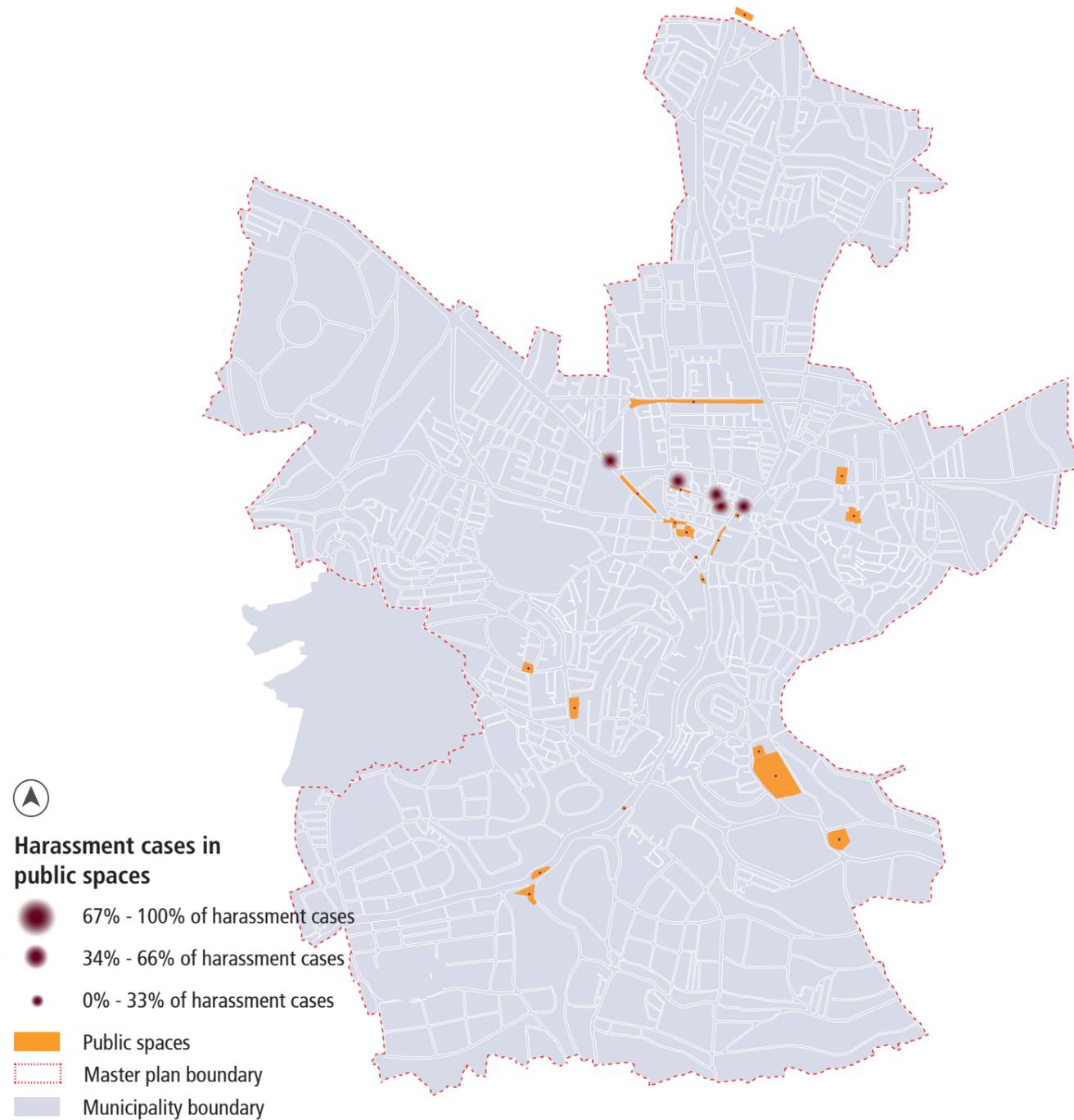
and enjoying the amenities these public spaces may offer. This reinforces the idea that many of Jenin's public spaces are spaces for and controlled by men. This also prevents women from engaging in social interactions that are essential for mental health or from just feeling like they are part of the community.

SAFETY CONCERNS IN OPEN PUBLIC SPACES

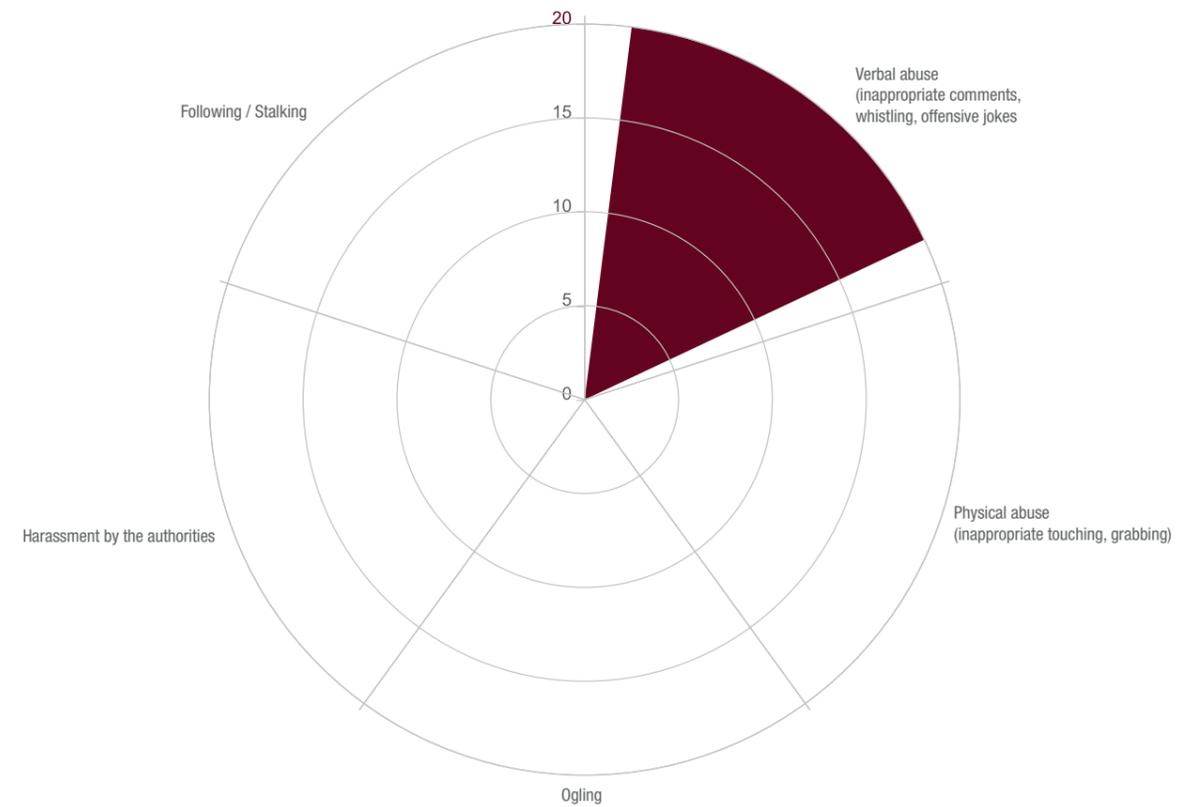


People shopping in commercial street in Jenin © UN-Habitat

HARASSMENT



PERCENTAGE OF PUBLIC SPACES WITH PRESENCE OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF HARASSMENT



Percentages of public spaces

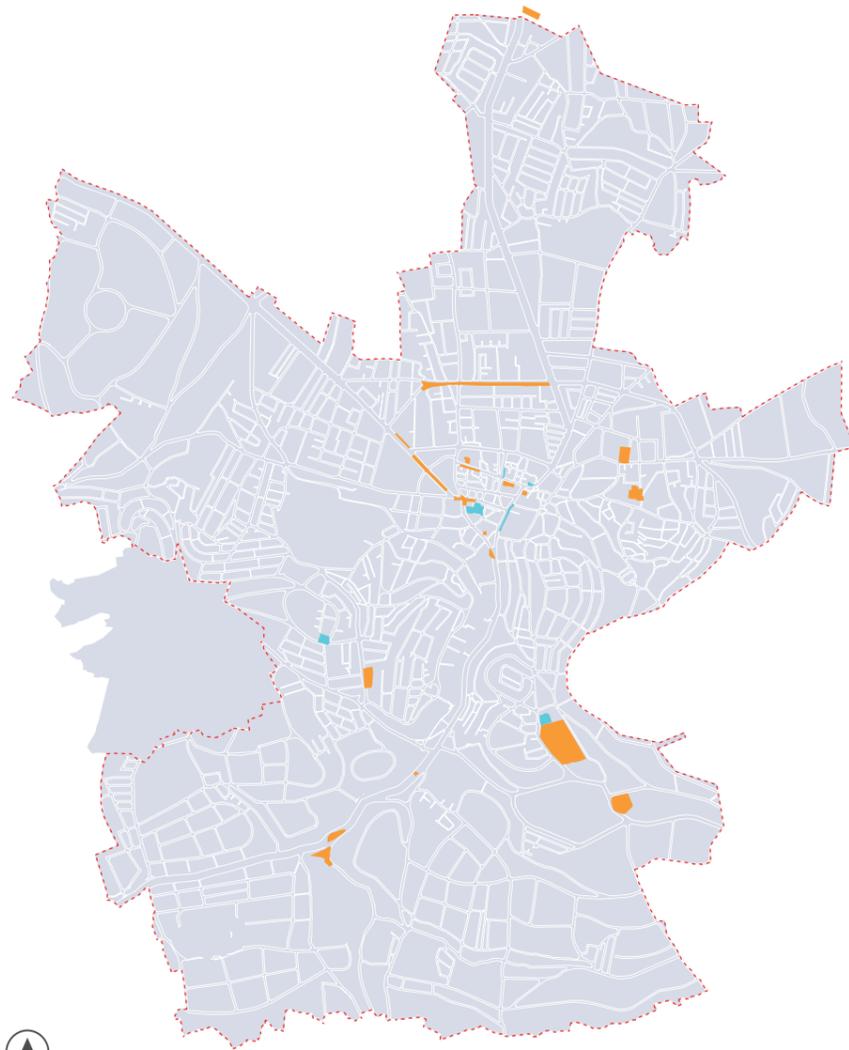
Women have to spend their lives dealing with the threat of harassment, in all its different forms including sexual harassment. Harassment can range from inappropriate comments, whistling and offensive jokes to actual physical abuse. Having to endure, and coming to expect, this type of behaviour makes women question

their place in the city and leads them to believe they will only be able to use a public space on someone else's terms.

In Jenin, the survey revealed that verbal abuse (including inappropriate comments, whistling and offensive jokes) were observed in 20 per cent of public spaces, while other types

of harassment were not observed. While it is positive that other forms of abuse were not observed (such as physical abuse or following/stalking), authorities need to take deliberate steps to promote the inclusion of women in public spaces and a culture that respects women and their right to use and enjoy public space on their own terms.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROBLEMS



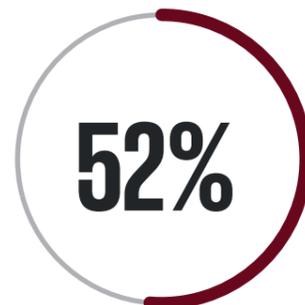
Infrastructure problems in public spaces

- 0% - 33% of infrastructure problems
- 34% - 66% of infrastructure problems
- 67% - 100% of infrastructure problems
- Master plan boundary
- Municipality boundary

Poor urban design does not impact everyone equally. Women pay a much higher price for unlit streets, abandoned lots, derelict amenities, inadequate signage and overcrowded sidewalks. For some these may just be minor inconveniences but to others, especially women and girls, these are major hurdles preventing them from feeling safe and comfortable enough to use these spaces.

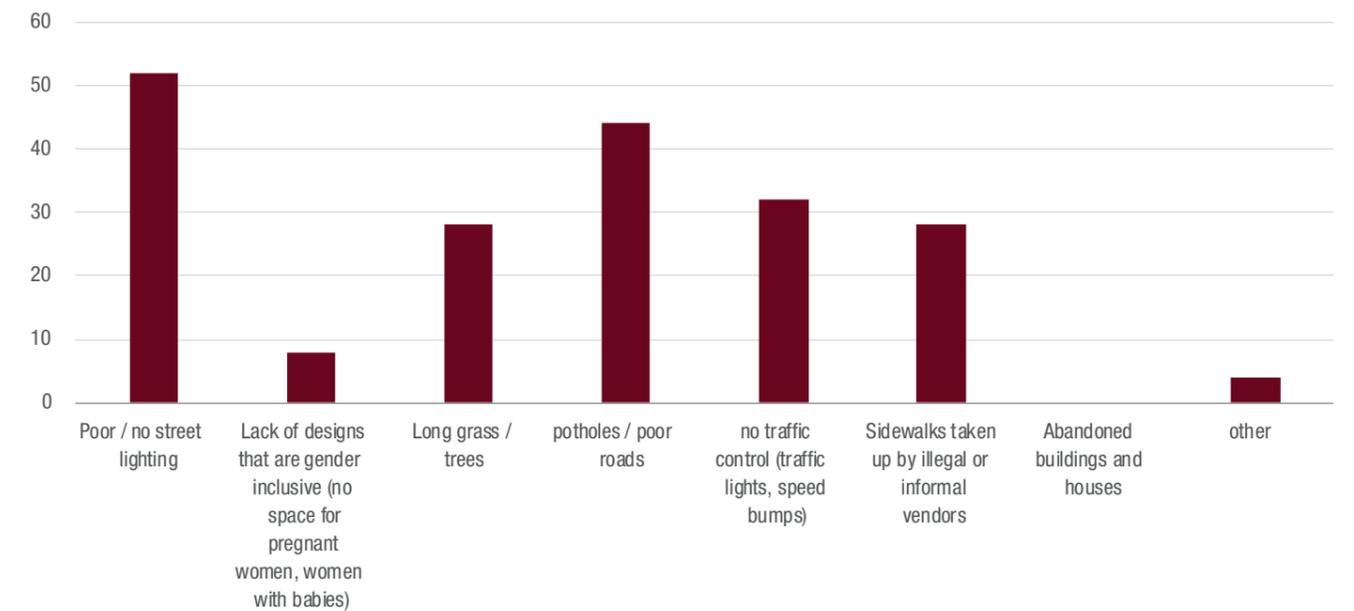
The survey revealed that 52 per cent of public spaces in Jenin had poor or no street lighting, 44 per cent had potholes or poor roads and 32 per cent had no traffic controls. In addition, 28 per cent had long/unkept grass and 28 per cent of public spaces had their adjacent sidewalks appropriated by street vendors, impacting movements and escape if need be. Overcrowded sidewalks also cause women to struggle to walk with their children or push a baby carriage.

Planning and design of public spaces through the lens of women and girls plays an important role in the city. This is because it raises awareness of the fact that public spaces are not neutral and that the design of the public realm can either facilitate or impede the mobility, safety and independence of more than half of the human population.



Public spaces with poor / no street lighting

STREET LIGHTING IS THE MAIN INFRASTRUCTURAL PROBLEM IN PUBLIC SPACES



No.	Name of Public Space	Infrastructure Problem Index (%)
1	The Entrance to the City (archaeological area)	0
2	Nablus Street (Civil Defense)	10
3	Cinema Roundabout	10
4	Green Area	15
5	Arous Ash Shamal Park	25
6	Al Basateen Street (Hesba)	30
7	Khirbet Balama	30
8	Ministry of Interior Street	30
9	Vegetable Market	30
10	Vegetable Market	30

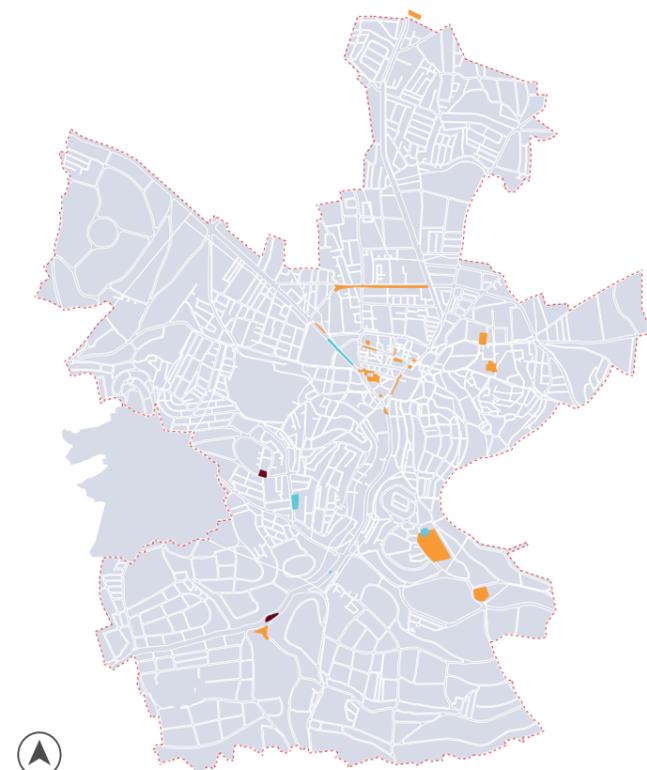
The higher the percentage the worse the performance



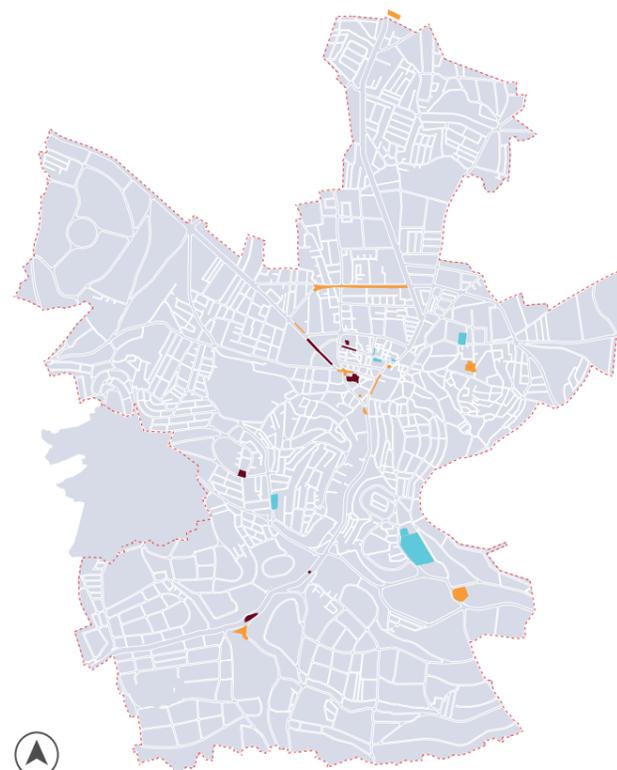
Umbrellas providing shade in Jenin © UN-Habitat

FEELING OF SAFETY

Perception of unsafety for male users



Perception of unsafety for female users



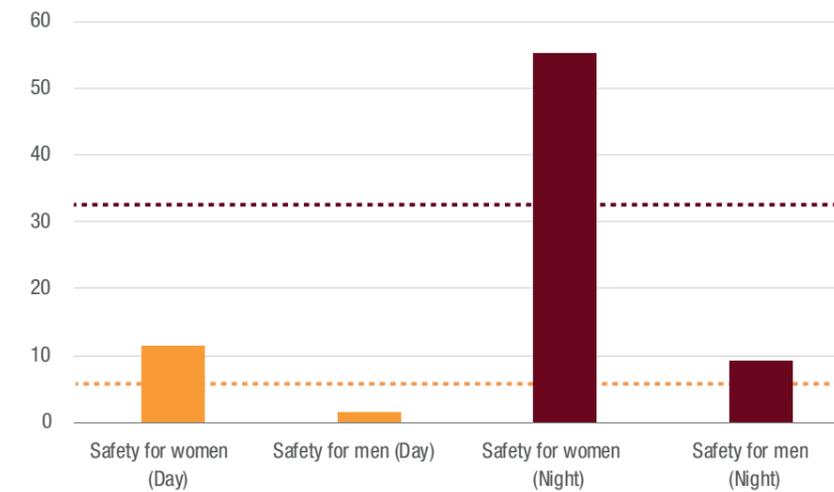
Fear is a major factor that determines how women and girls either use or do not use a public space. Public spaces are perceived as unsafe through actual incidences of crime as well as people's perceptions of opportunities for crime to occur (for example a well lit street would be perceived as safer than a dark street). Feelings of unsafety often pushes women and girls into taking some precautionary measures such as avoiding going to certain places alone or at night or taking measures such as carrying weapons.

The end result is that women and girl's freedom of movement is compromised. The fear reduces their ability to participate in school, work and participate in public life. It also limits their access to essential services, their enjoyment of cultural and recreational opportunities and negatively impacts on their physical and mental health.

Physical attributes that are known to contribute to this feeling of lack of safety include clarity of sightlines, especially from within and outside

public spaces, availability of security personnel, presence of public lighting, and in some instances, the presence of CCTV cameras. Women in Jenin feel unsafe in 16 per cent of public spaces during the day and this percentage increases to 55 per cent of public spaces during the night. Men also indicate feelings of unsafety in certain public spaces, but at much lower rates than women. Overall, female users feel unsafe in 7 public spaces while male users feel unsafe in only 2 public spaces.

FEELING OF UNSAFETY BY GENDER AND TIME



Women feel more unsafe in public spaces compared to men

55% Women feel unsafe in 55% of public spaces during the night



Covered market in Jenin © UN-Habitat

28% Public spaces without street lighting

40% Public spaces without CCTV cameras installed

68% Public spaces without clear sight-lines (low visibility)

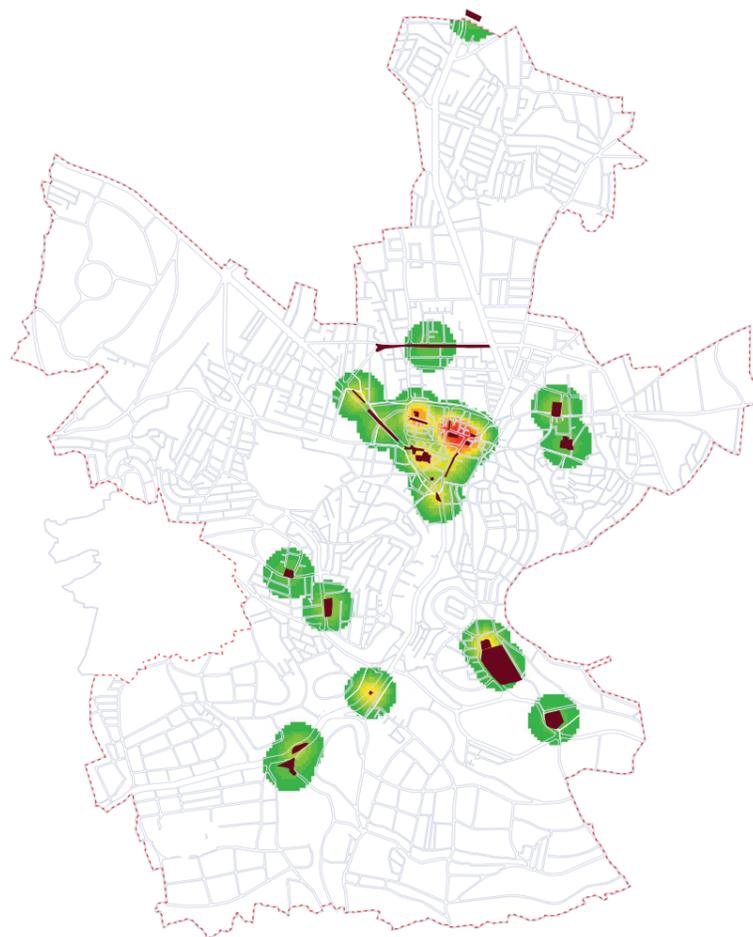
72% Public spaces without presence of security personnel

SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN PUBLIC SPACES

Social problems can also be direct indicators and cause of poor safety in cities and neighbourhoods. Illegal dumping/littering indicates a lack of management and custodianship of a space. Constant loud noises/partying or fighting in public spaces indicates that these public spaces are not comfortable, welcoming or inclusive of all members of the community. Less serious social problems, such as non-compliance to street rules and regulations, can

indicate the start of the gradual decline of a public space, almost always leading to increased perceptions of lack of safety. Some of the main social problems observed in Jenin, in order of prominence, include loud noise/partying, illegal dumping/littering, snatching/mugging and street begging. Social crime prevention has been shown to be one of the most successful approaches to addressing the root

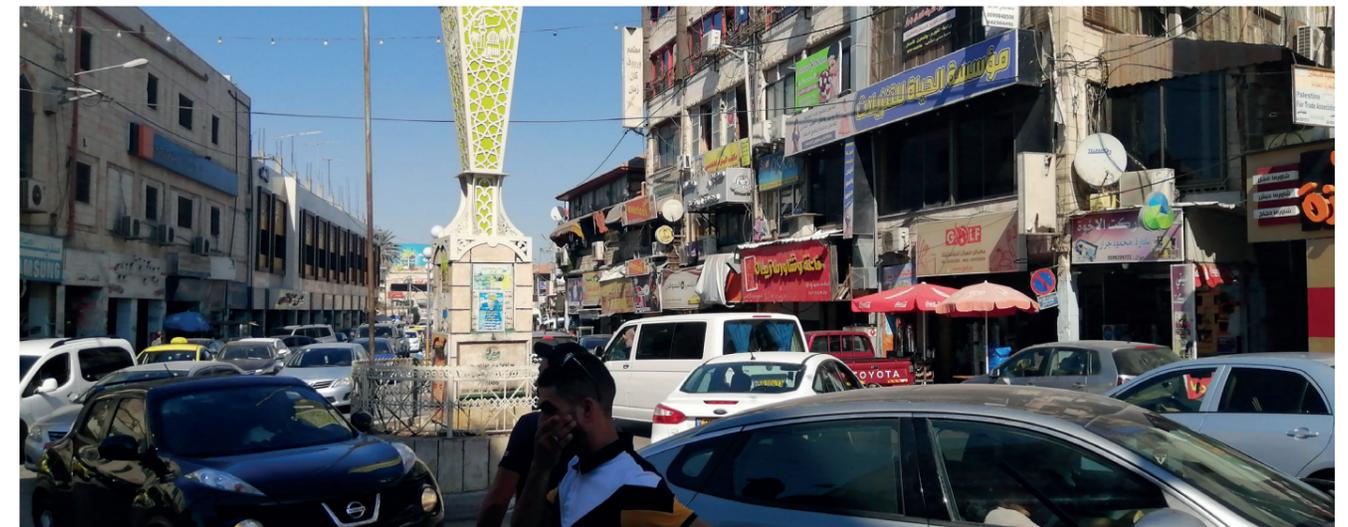
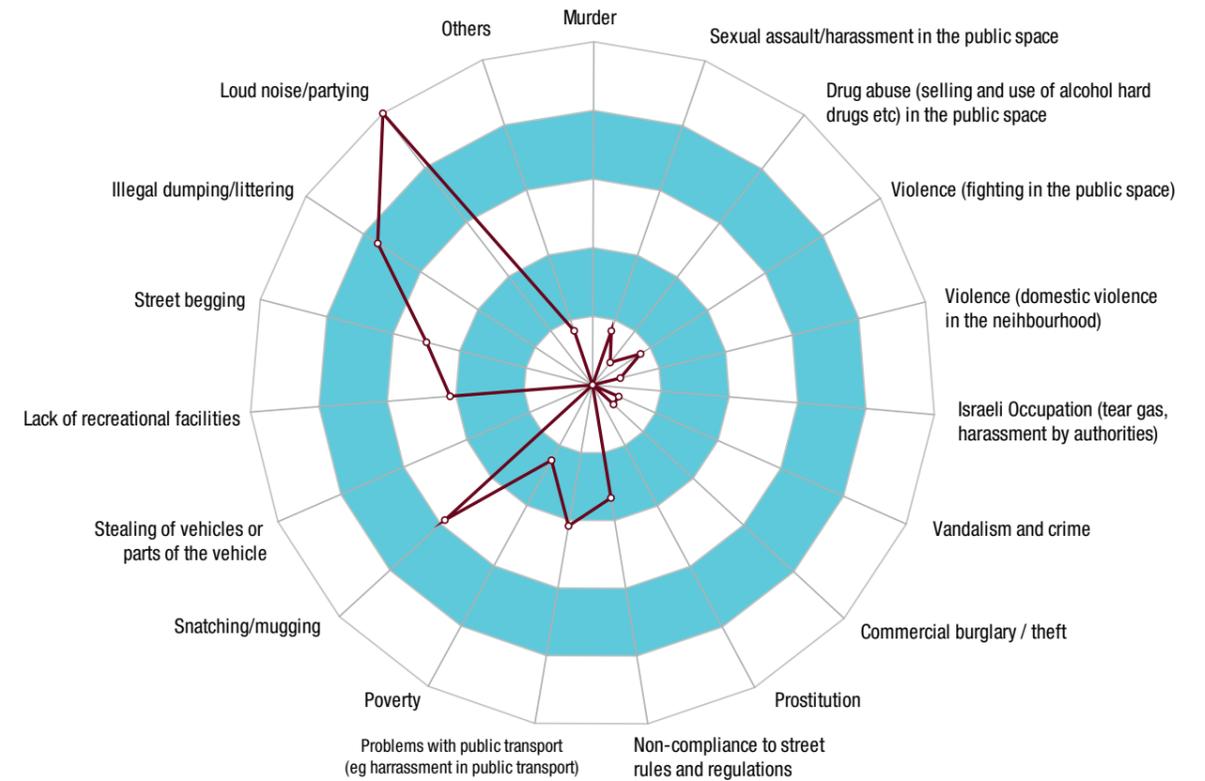
causes of crime. The focus of social crime prevention is on the social elements that lead to crime and criminal behaviour such as building community or social cohesion and, improving the economic conditions and livelihoods. It places emphasis on groups at risk, which include women and youth.



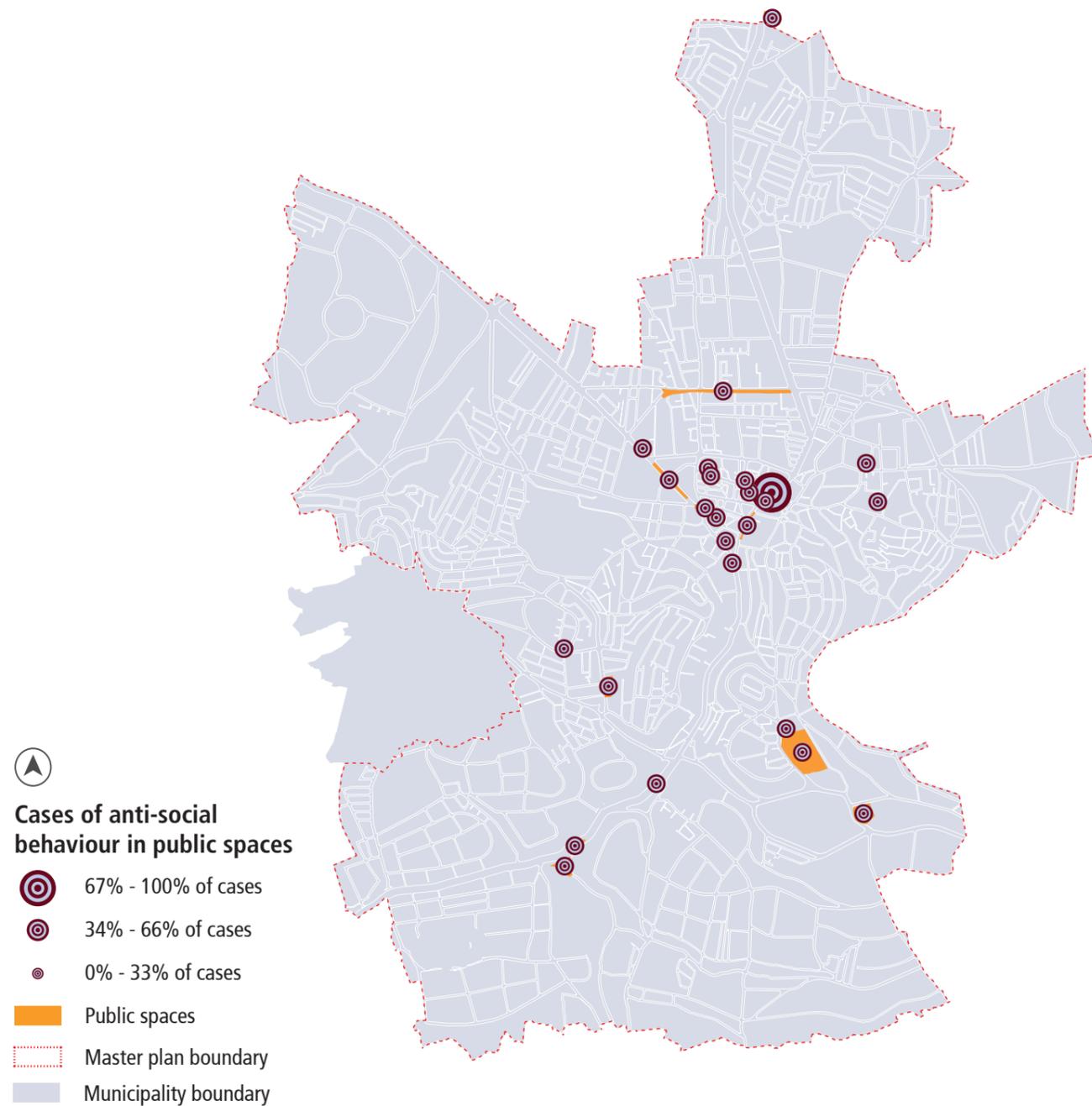
Proportion of public spaces with social problems

- Least social problems
- Moderate social problems
- Most social problems
- Public spaces
- Master plan boundary
- Municipality boundary

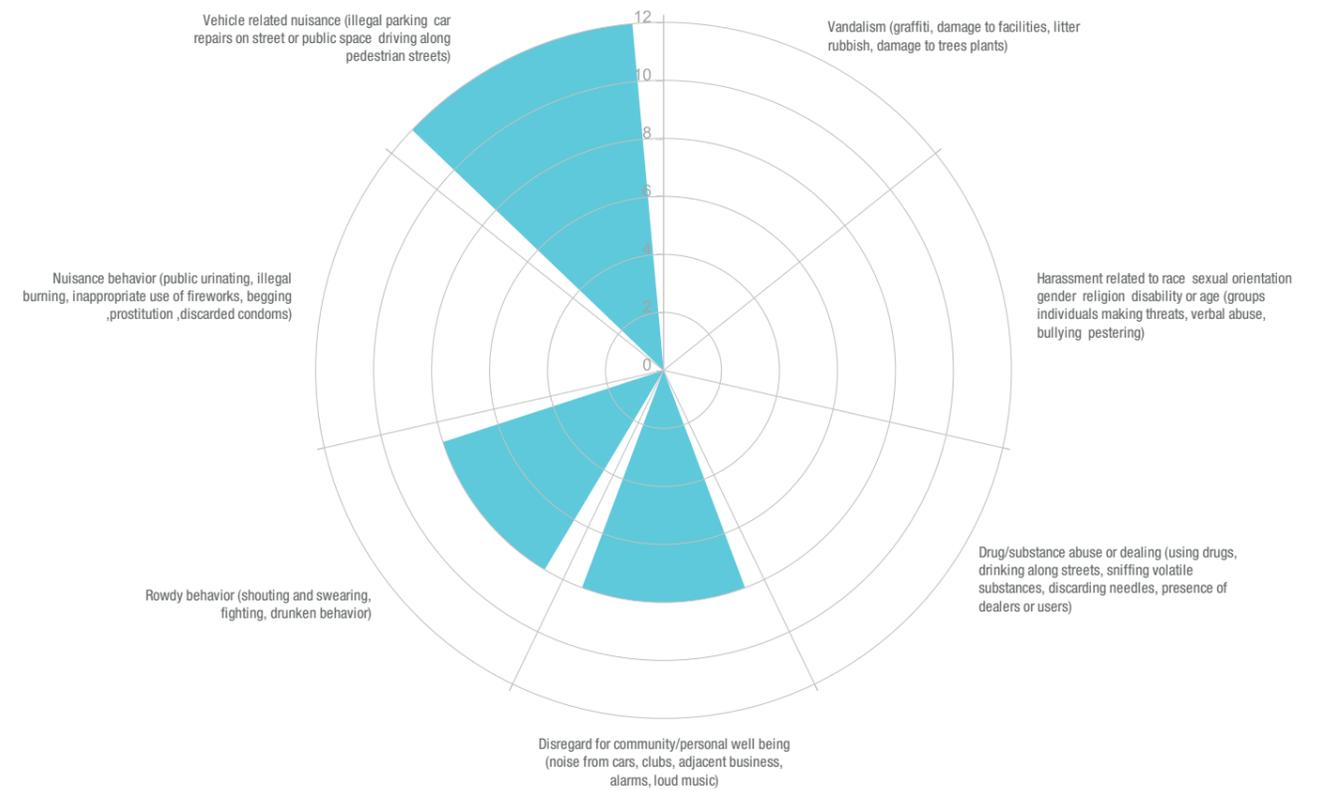
LOUD NOISE IS THE HIGHEST RECORDED PROBLEM



Busy intersection in Jenin © UN-Habitat



PERCENTAGE OF PUBLIC SPACES WITH DIFFERENT TYPES OF PROBLEMS



Percentages of public spaces

Anti-social behaviour, such as rowdy or nuisance behaviour and vandalism, are often perceived as 'soft' crimes as they are less serious compared to the other crimes of robbery, physical assault, sexual abuse or even murder.

Overlooking anti-social behaviour is dangerous however as it creates an expectation that causing discomfort, nuisance and fear to other members of the community is permissible or even expected in certain areas of the city.

Failing to address these 'soft' crimes and failing to maintain a space creates an environment where more serious crimes can occur, illustrating how public spaces gradually fall into a state of disrepair and crime if there is no system of custodianship, management and crime-prevention.

In Jenin, the key anti-social behaviours identified in the survey are vehicle related nuisance (illegal parking, car repairs on the street or public space

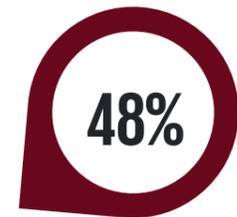
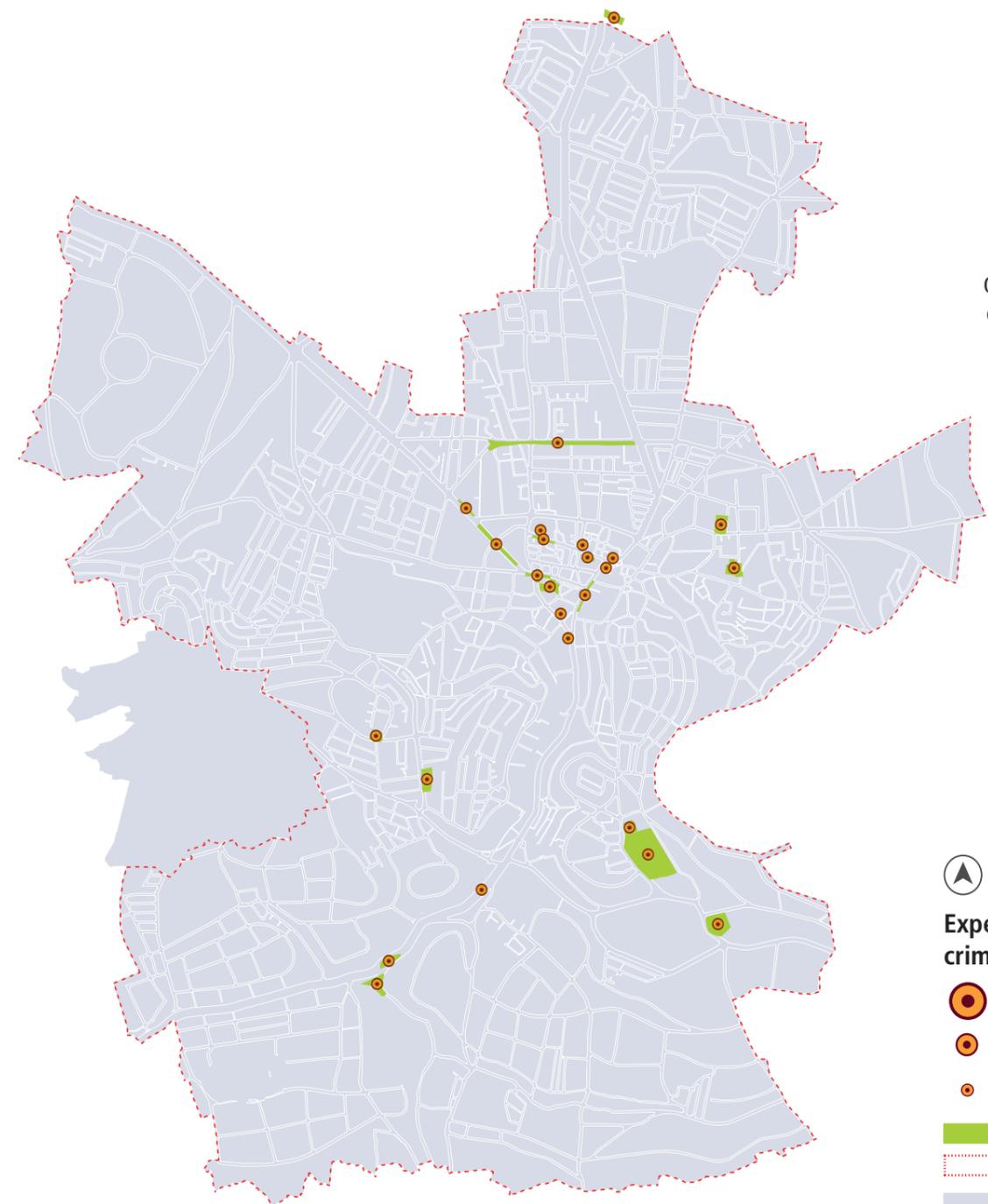
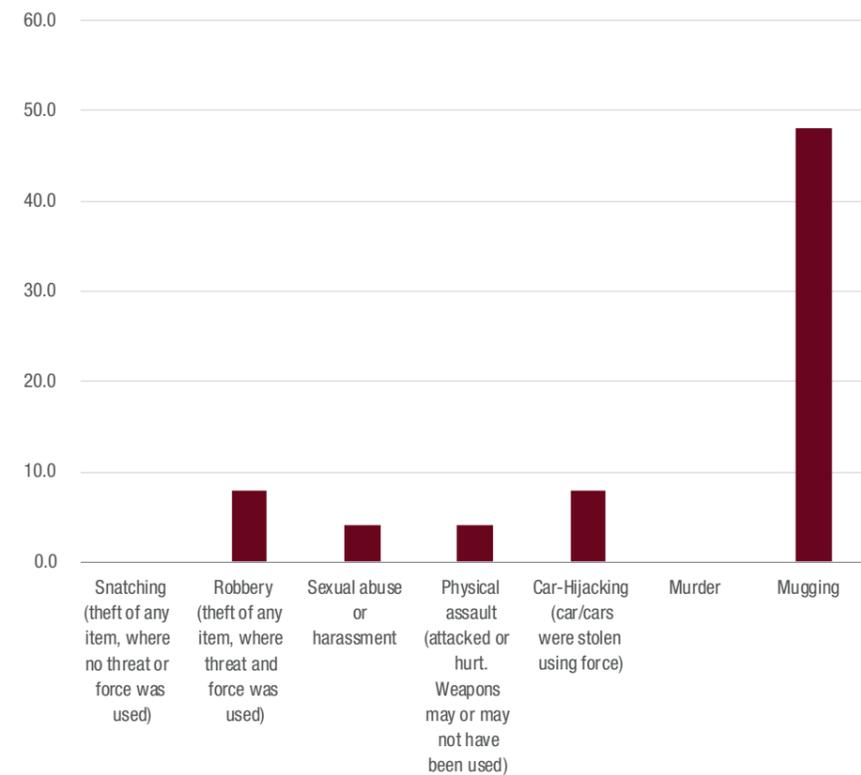
driving along pedestrian streets), rowdy behaviours (shouting and swearing, fighting, drunken behaviours), and disregard for community/personal well-being (noise from cars, clubs, adjacent businesses, alarms and loud music). Consistent inaction by the custodians of the spaces and local police may lead to increased incidences or even more serious crimes including robbery with violence and even rape.

EXPERIENCES OF CRIME / HARASSMENT

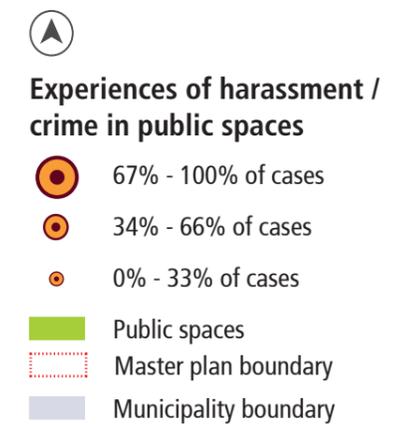
Both physical instances of crime and harassment and the fear of crime and harassment can have serious implications for women and girls. It directly impacts their perception of safety and hence their autonomy and perceived freedom. It forces them to make difficult choices to prioritise their own safety. For girls, these experiences and perceptions of crime often start at a young age and are often experienced more frequently by adolescent girls and young women compared to their older counterparts.

For a crime to occur, there typically must be an offender(s), victim(s) and a space. Often the space ends up being a public one, as opportunistic criminals know they can find potential victims there. In Jenin, the most frequent crimes are mugging, car-hijacking, robbery, physical assault and sexual abuse or harassment. Mugging was identified as especially prevalent, identified in almost 50 per cent of public spaces in Jenin. Particular attention must be given addressing the extremely high incidence of mugging in Jenin

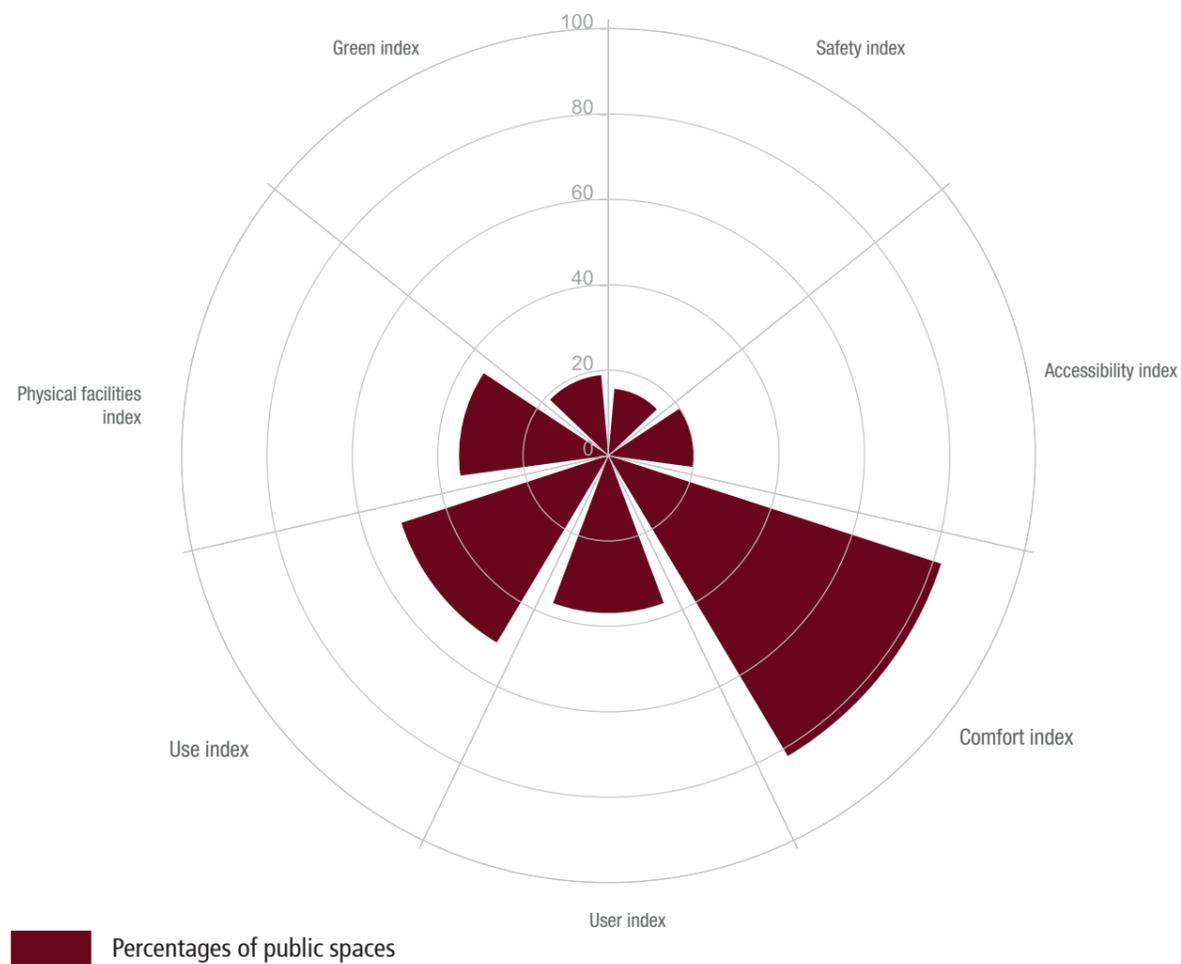
MANY PUBLIC SPACES HAVE USERS WHO HAVE BEEN MUGGED.



Of public spaces had users who experienced mugging in those public spaces.



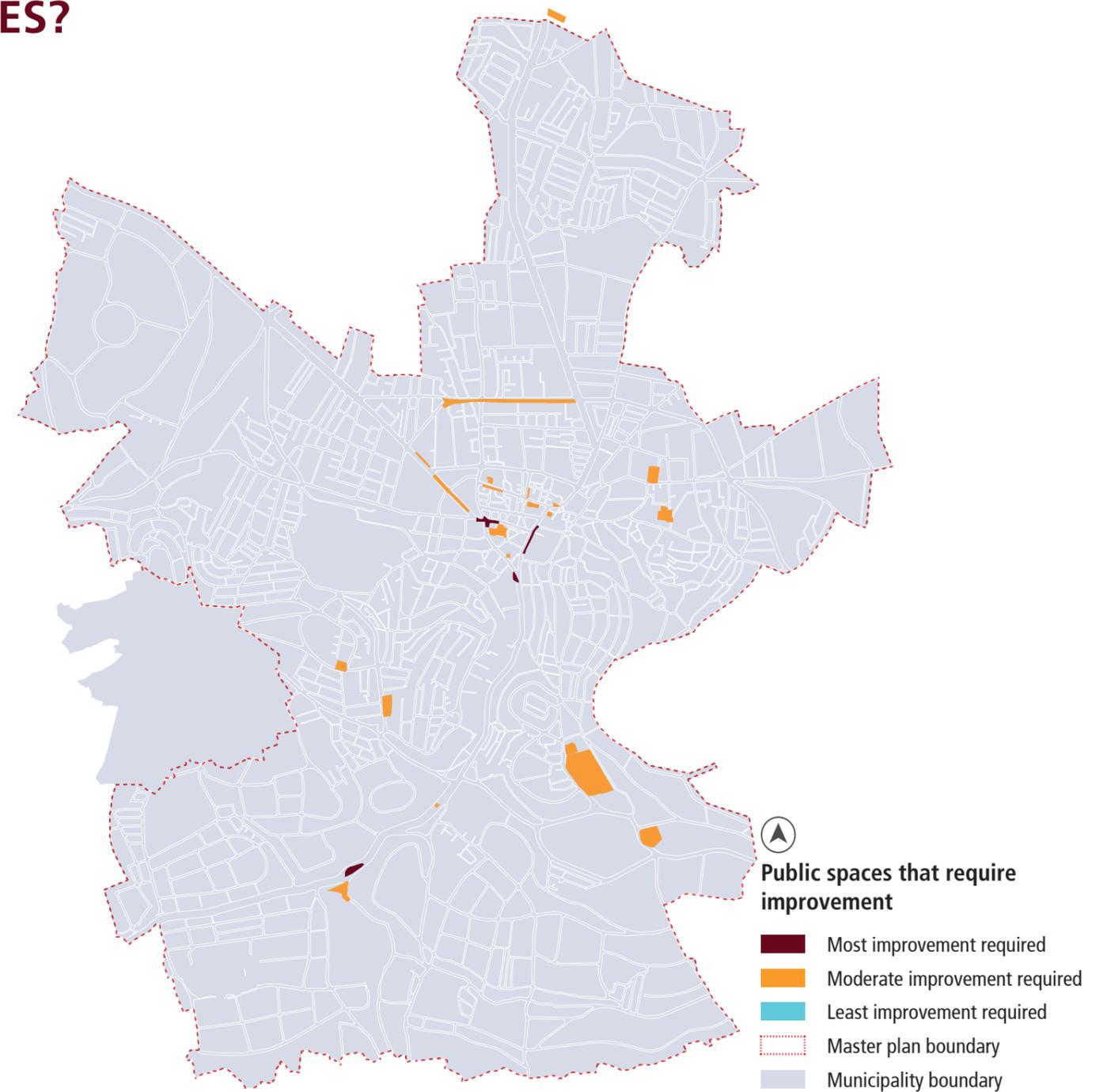
WHICH DIMENSIONS ARE STRONG IN PUBLIC SPACES?



To measure the overall quality of public spaces in Jenin, a list of indices were developed. These indices measure use, users, green comfort, accessibility, physical facilities and safety. When combined, these indices create a weighted aggregate that gives a final score for the city.

Some of the strongest dimensions in Jenin regarding the quality of public space are comfort, use and users. The three weakest dimensions of public spaces in Jenin are safety, accessibility and the green index. These are weighted out of a possible score of one hundred. The results show that overall,

Jenin is performing quite poorly with a mean score of 37 out of 100. While there are promising elements, there is significant room for improvement for Jenin's public spaces and much more investment needed to improve the overall quality of these essential spaces.





A busy street in Jenin © Jenin Municipality

4

CHAPTER

ENVISIONING
JENIN CITY

- Validation workshop
- Vision and Goals for Jenin City
- Strategic recommendations and way forward

VALIDATION WORKSHOP

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE VALIDATION WORKSHOP

- Provide street lighting to increase the feeling of safety in public spaces
- Provide child and women friendly public spaces that are safe and well designed to incorporate the need of women and children.
- Control speed limits in public roads, especially in streets that operate as public spaces.
- Launch an awareness campaign that introduces the local community of Jenin to the public spaces in the city and the services provided in them.
- Improve the availability and quality of facilities in public spaces.
- Create innovative management models to maintain the overall safety and inclusivity of public spaces.
- Improving the green index of public spaces in the city, especially that Jenin is an agricultural community.
- Improve the accessibility of old and disabled people to the open public spaces in Jenin.



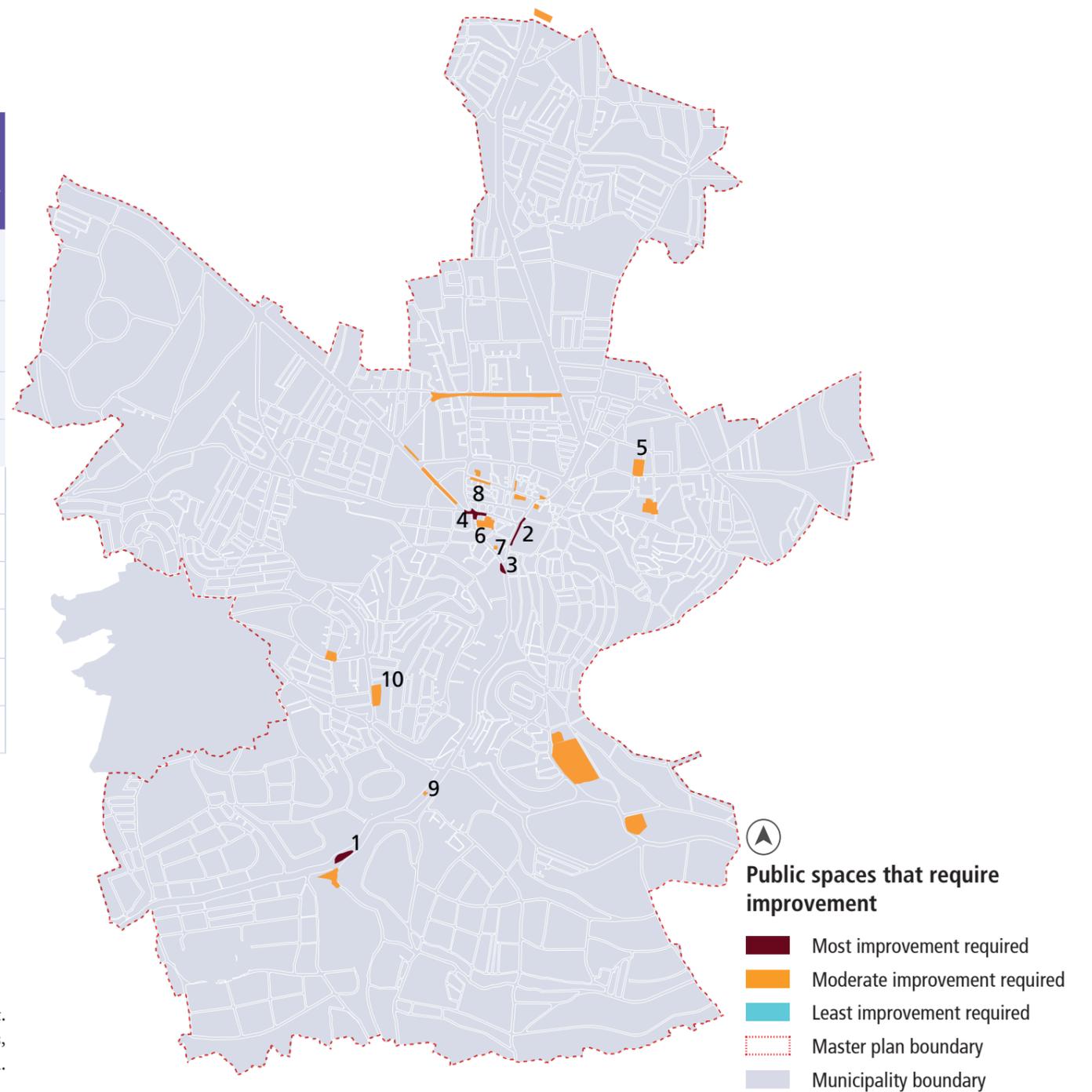
Jenin marketplace © Jenin Municipality

Table 4: Top 10 priority public spaces for improvement

No.	Name of Public Space	Safety index	Access-ibility Index	Comfort index	User Index	Use Index	Physical facilities index	Green cover Index	Prior-ity for Improve-ment
1	The Entrance to the City (archaeological area)	18.9	12.9	75	0	37.5	0	27.3	24.5
2	Nablus Street (Civil Defense)	15.9	12.9	71.4	44.4	50	10	0	29.2
3	Green Area	13.8	22.6	62.5	44.4	50	15	0	29.8
4	Cinema Roundabout	5.7	22.6	71.4	66.7	50	10	0	32.3
5	Municipal Playground	11.8	16.1	77.8	0	50	50	27.3	33.3
6	Transportation Hub	20.5	12.9	66.7	44.4	50	40	0	33.5
7	Hakoura Cafe	10.6	16.1	100	0	37.5	50	27.3	34.5
8	Al Basateen Street (Hesba)	17.5	19.4	66.7	66.7	50	30	0	35.7
9	Khirbet Balama	19.7	25.8	100	0	50	30	27.3	36.1
10	Gabriat	15.7	25.8	66.7	22.2	37.5	40	45.5	36.2

Values are in percentages. Higher percentage means better performance

The map illustrates the public spaces in Jenin that require the most improvement, moderate improvement and least improvement. This has been determined by the score each public space has received in the categories of safety, accessibility, comfort, users, use, physical facilities and green coverage (refer to Table 4) . The lower the score, the more improvement is required.



VISION FOR JENIN CITY

JENIN IS A GREEN,
BEAUTIFUL, SAFE
CITY THAT IS
ECONOMICALLY
FLOURISHING AND
PRESERVES IT'S
CULTURAL HERITAGE
AND SUPPORTS THE
PROSPERITY OF IT'S
RESIDENTS

The recommendations provided in this section cannot be considered as a comprehensive plan. They are to be further developed and designed by Jenin Municipality and its local community.

GOALS AND STRATEGIES



GOAL 1

IMPROVE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF WELL-DESIGNED SAFE PUBLIC SPACES

- Increase the quantity of quality of public spaces
- Ensure equitable distribution of public space across the municipality - Temporarily convert under-used or abandoned land for public use in underserved neighbourhoods
- Support better design for comfort, aesthetics and enjoyment of public spaces
- Adopt universal design principles and enhance access to public space by the elderly and people with disabilities
- Develop standards and guidelines for creating women and children friendly public spaces.



GOAL 2

IMPROVE GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC SPACE

- Create innovative management models and frameworks from the maintenance of public space
- Promote social programming around public space
- Launch an awareness campaign against all forms of harassment and violence against women in public spaces. Launch an awareness campaign that introduces the local community of Jenin to the public spaces in the city and the services provided in them.
- Provide rules for the use of public spaces



GOAL 3

IMPROVE PUBLIC SPACE GREENERY

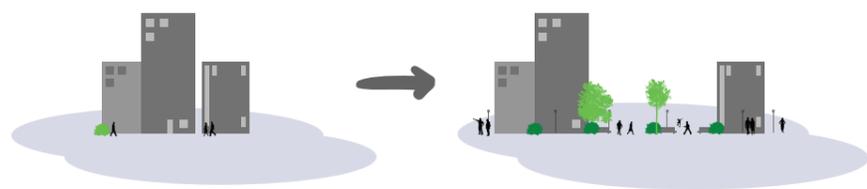
- Leverage green infrastructure to create green corridors and promote biodiversity
- Develop a greening and planting strategy



IMPROVE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF WELL-DESIGNED SAFE PUBLIC SPACES

INCREASE THE QUANTITY OF GOOD QUALITY PUBLIC SPACES

Barely 1 per cent of land in Jenin is dedicated to open public space. An additional 3 square kilometres of open public space will need to be created to achieve the recommended amount of 12-15 per cent of land allocated to open public space and public facilities. This can be done through various planning tools such as master planning, urban regeneration and redevelopment, sub-divisions and land readjustment. Increasing the quantity of public space will increase the per capita ratio of residents to public space which at the moment is 3.2m² per person and is expected to reduce to 2.3m² per person by 2030 if the city does not create new public spaces. The most common type of space in Jenin are parking lots. To create more public space, the parking lots can be transformed to multi-functional spaces that when cars are not parked there can be converted into a weekly market, or a temporary children's skatepark.



ENSURE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC SPACE

The share of land that a city allocates to streets and open public spaces is not only critical to its productivity, but also contributes significantly to the social dimensions and health and safety of its population. Ensuring a well distributed system of public spaces, promotes accessibility and encourages their use, contributing to a better quality of life for everyone across the city. Ideally, all areas of the city should be within 5 minutes walking distance (400 meters) of safe and comfortable public space. Women and girls, especially from a safety perspective, may prefer to not have to walk too far to be able to enjoy meeting up with their friends or enjoying some exercise. In Jenin 62 per cent of the city remains without a single public space that can be accessed by walking 5 minutes. Additional land should be dedicated as public space by the Municipal Council, with priority given to the neighbourhoods at the edges of the city and in the high density residential neighbourhoods which only have access to two public spaces. A strategy to temporarily convert under-used or abandoned land for public use in underserved neighbourhoods and establish a framework to work together with communities to co-create public space where it is not enough.



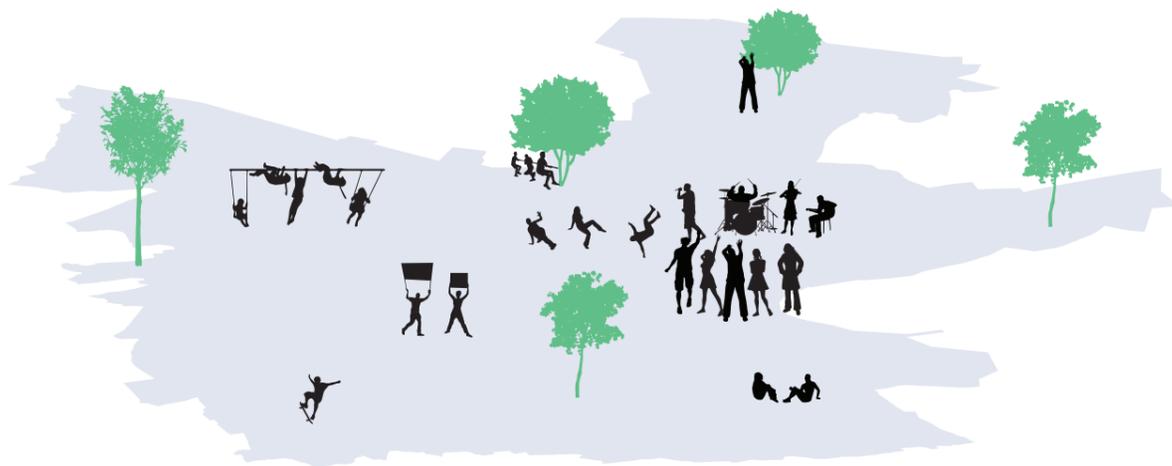
ADOPT UNIVERSAL DESIGN PRINCIPLES

With only 4 per cent of the public spaces being easily accessible for the elderly and for people with disabilities Jenin can increase the overall quality of public spaces by adhering to universal principles of public space design such as comfort, safety and inclusivity. Not only should public spaces be inclusive of a diverse range of people, but they should support diverse uses at different times of the day, week and different seasons. An inclusive public space is one in which all people, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, sexuality, religion, socio-economic level or ability can access and feel safe and comfortable in.



DESIGN FOR COMFORT, AESTHETICS AND ENJOYMENT

Ensure public spaces are designed so that they are well-loved and well used by people of all walks of life, mix of ages, genders, religions, socio-economic classes and ethnicities. Ensure that there are diverse things to see and do in public spaces, diverse sitting opportunities, for groups, for couples and individuals. Both through design and social programming, ensure that all ages and genders can enjoy the public spaces. When designing play facilities for example, ensure that there are complementary uses such as eateries where parents can sit as they watch over their children playing. A design manual for creating safer, more inclusive and accessible public spaces, proposing low cost solutions and establishing frameworks for engaging communities in the design and co-creation of these spaces is key to create the well-designed safe spaces that women and girls can enjoy. Some of the basic minimums that the municipality can take-up for a gender sensitive public space include adequate visibility, diverse sitting opportunities, clean and separate toilets, adequate and legible signage, and access to public transportation. Importantly, involve women and girls in all stages of the design of public spaces.



DEVELOP STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR CREATING WOMEN AND CHILDREN FRIENDLY PUBLIC SPACES

Planning and design of public space through the lens of women and children is important for Jenin. Not all public spaces are public spaces for women and children and Jenin needs to develop standards and guidelines for creating women and children-friendly public spaces, which take into consideration: proximity to be able to access independently within walking distance; safety and accessibility and able to access through a safe journey and without obstacles; cleanliness, as women and children are vulnerable to exposure to air pollution, soil pollution and waste; usability and liveliness for play, physical activity and intergenerational interactions.





IMPROVE GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC SPACE PROMOTING INCLUSIVITY, DIVERSITY

INNOVATIVE MANAGEMENT MODELS AND FRAMEWORKS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC SPACE

In many cities, there is no clear understanding of the role of different departments nor coordination between them. For instance, the sidewalks are responsibility of the Road Department, trees of the Environment Department, cleaning and safety of the Health Department, licensing of the Local Business Department, and so on. Therefore, a clear coordination mechanism needs to be developed in order to improve communication between the different departments. Some local governments have created unified public space agencies to improve the institutional coordination in the management of public spaces. In Jenin, nearly half of all public spaces had uncollected garbage and nearly a quarter lacked street lighting, having in impact on women's feelings of unsafety. There are different models of public space management, ranging from simple models where the government manages the space to more complex models of public, private, people management partnerships. There are several good practices where engaging key stakeholders to put forward their priorities about how management and a legal agreement can set out the principles for the management for the public space including maintenance standards. Communities can be engaged in activation, management and maintenance of certain neighbourhood spaces and pocket parks, building ownership and identity and boosting women and girl's safety. The municipality can sign an agreement or establish a framework for engaging women and girls in the management and maintenance of these spaces.



PROMOTE SOCIAL PROGRAMMING AROUND PUBLIC SPACE

Public spaces that are used for a wide range of activities make the spaces safer, more vibrant and full of life and this calls for programming a diverse range of activities throughout different times of the day and night to make these spaces safer and more attractive to spend time in. Promoting social programming refers to the scheduling of activities in a public space to ensure its use. Maintaining a schedule of events, such as cultural, religious or recreational events, will encourage the public space to be activated throughout the year. A way to do this is through creative placemaking and tactical urbanism, which can engage women and girls and other members of the community in activating and transforming spaces that foster engagement and boost economic development.



CREATE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

In Jenin, the survey revealed that verbal abuse was observed in 40 per cent of public spaces. Due to the high levels of verbal harassment and perception of unsafety in public spaces throughout Bethlehem Cluster, it is recommended that rules for the standards of acceptable behaviour in public spaces should be developed and enforced by the Municipal Council. In addition, the launching an awareness campaign that calls upon all: civil society, women's and men's organizations, young people, the private sector, government and the media to join forces in addressing harassment against women and girls in public space would be key. Raising awareness, engaging, convincing and inspiring change through various media events, through storytelling, art and cultural events and local theatre in public space and schools all advocating for change.



PROVIDE FOR RULES OF USE IN PUBLIC SPACES

Many social, economic and political activities that occur in public spaces are enabled and constrained by a variety of laws and regulations that restrict certain conducts, activities, political practices and groups in public space. The review of the legal and regulatory frameworks governing the use of public space and especially those that impact on women and girl's safety is sometimes required. Due to the high levels of harassment and perception of unsafety in public spaces in Jenin, it is recommended that rules for the standards of acceptable behavior in public spaces should be developed and enforced by the Municipal Council.

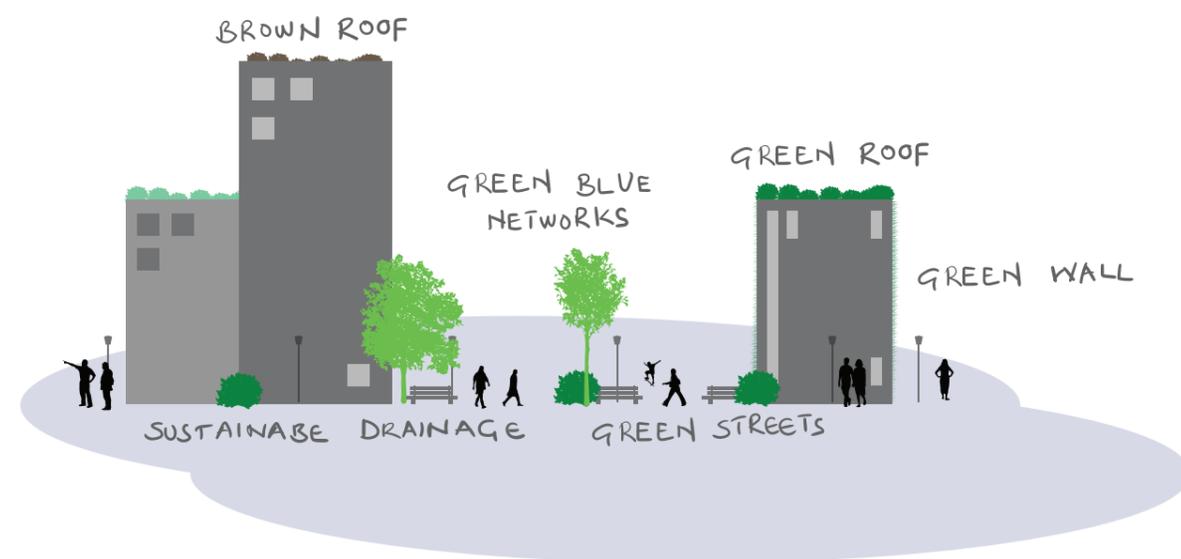




IMPROVE PUBLIC SPACE GREENERY AND COMFORT

LEVERAGE OF GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE TO CREATE GREEN CORRIDORS AND PROMOTE BIODIVERSITY

Public spaces should also, ideally, be connected, forming a green network throughout the city. Jenin should establish a continuous network of green public spaces by connecting medians, transit streets, pedestrian-only and pedestrian-priority streets, bike and walking trails and other linear green spaces. These networks must be designed as part of the city's green infrastructure and as an alternative mobility network for active travel, connecting diverse destinations including public spaces, industrial districts and residential neighbourhoods.



DEVELOP A GREENING AND PLANTING STRATEGY

Improving the green index in the cluster by providing layers of green infrastructure to the streets while taking into consideration visual permeability and making sure not to block the vision or compromise the safety street is key. Moreover, the municipality should develop a greening/planting strategy choosing plants that need the least maintenance and irrigation. The green networks of public space play a critical role in reducing temperatures as well as reducing carbon emissions and contributing to urban resilience.





Busy market street in Jenin © Jenin Municipality



Busy market street in Jenin © Jenin Municipality

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CHAPTER

ANNEXES AND REFERENCES

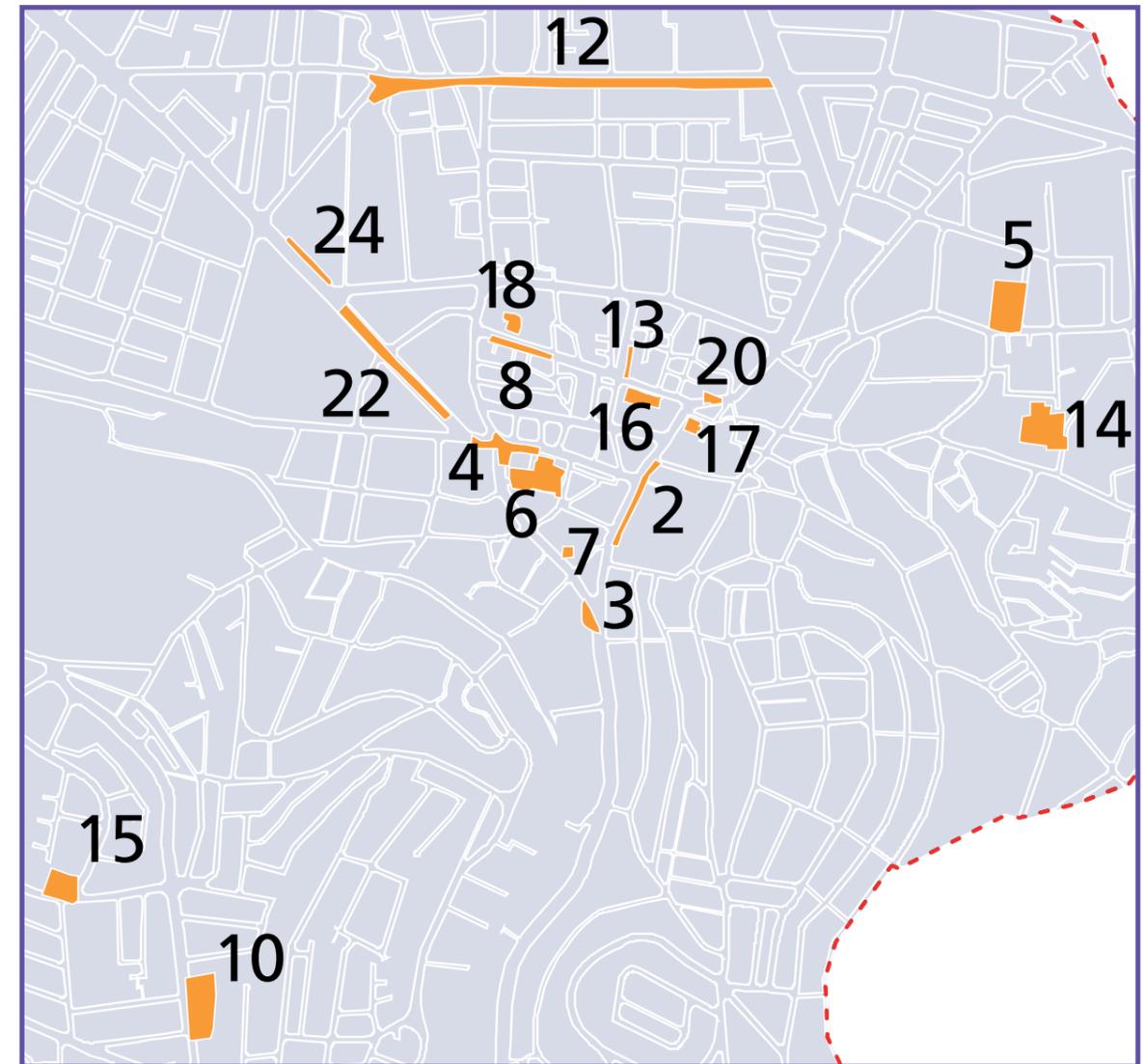
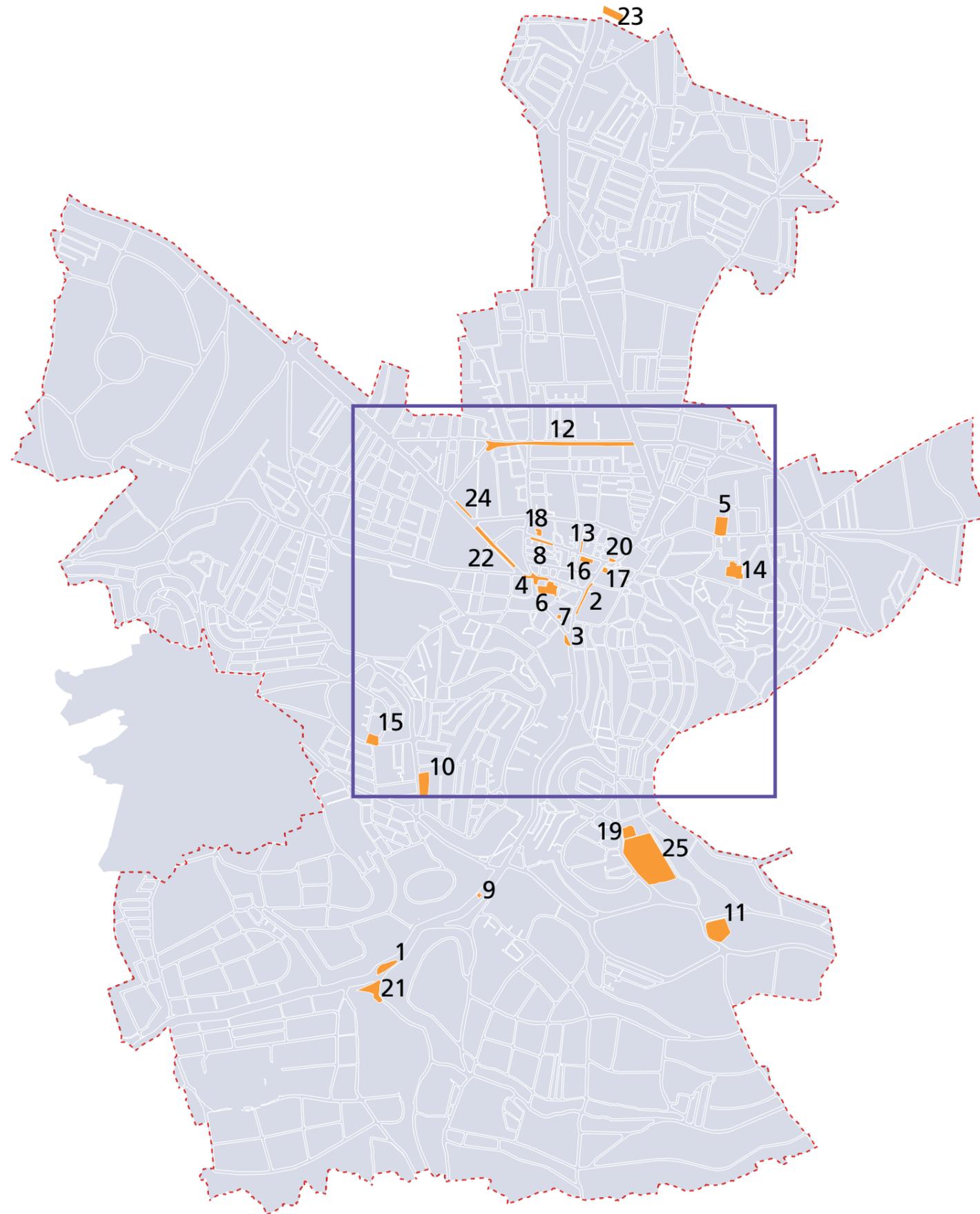
- Annexes
- References

ANNEX

PERFORMANCE OF EACH PUBLIC SPACE

No.	Name of Public Space	Ownership	Management	Scale of Public Space	Safety index	Accessibility Index	Comfort index	User Index	Use Index	Physical facilities index	Green cover Index	Priority for Improvement
1	The Entrance to the City (archaeological area)	Government	Government	Neighborhood	18.9	12.9	75	0	37.5	0	27.3	24.5
2	Nablus Street (Civil Defense)	Government	Government	Neighborhood	15.9	12.9	71.4	44.4	50	10	0	29.2
3	Green Area	Government	Government	Neighborhood	13.8	22.6	62.5	44.4	50	15	0	29.8
4	Cinema Roundabout	Government	Government	City level	5.7	22.6	71.4	66.7	50	10	0	32.3
5	Municipal Playground	Government	Government	City level	11.8	16.1	77.8	0	50	50	27.3	33.3
6	Transportation Hub	No Information	Government	City level	20.5	12.9	66.7	44.4	50	40	0	33.5
7	Hakoura Cafe	Non-Government	Others	Neighborhood	10.6	16.1	100	0	37.5	50	27.3	34.5
8	Al Basateen Street (Hesba)	No Information	Government	Pocket Park	17.5	19.4	66.7	66.7	50	30	0	35.7
9	Khirbet Balama	Government	Government	Neighborhood	19.7	25.8	100	0	50	30	27.3	36.1
10	Gabriat	Government	Government	Neighborhood	15.7	25.8	66.7	22.2	37.5	40	45.5	36.2
11	Arous Ash Shamal Park	Non-Government	Non-Government	Neighborhood	11.1	22.6	100	0	50	25	45.5	36.3
12	Ministry of Interior Street	Government	Government	Neighborhood	8.7	22.6	85.7	44.4	62.5	30	0	36.3
13	Vegetable Market	Government	Government	City level	23.8	19.4	66.7	66.7	50	30	0	36.6
14	Al Wadi Al Akhdar Park	Non-Government	Non-Government	City level	3.9	16.1	100	0	50	60	27.3	36.8
15	Rawabi Park	Government	Government	Neighborhood	21.5	12.9	66.7	0	62.5	50	45.5	37
16	Vegetable Market	Government	No Information	Neighborhood	22.2	32.3	66.7	77.8	37.5	30	0	38.1
17	Municipal Library Square	Non-Government	Jointly managed	Pocket Park	14.1	12.9	85.7	33.3	87.5	35	0	38.4
18	Western Transportation Hub	Government	Jointly managed	Neighborhood	24.2	12.9	66.7	55.6	62.5	50	0	38.8
19	Mirah Saad Neighborhood	Government	Government	Neighborhood	19.5	25.8	75	44.4	50	40	18.2	39
20	Al Nasra Transportation Hub	Government	Government	City level	29.1	22.6	77.8	66.7	37.5	60	0	41.9
21	Jannat Park	other	Others	City level	8.1	22.6	100	44.4	62.5	40	18.2	42.3
22	Muqata'a Street	Government	Government	Neighborhood	19.9	12.9	100	44.4	50	30	45.5	43.2
23	Al Mawal Park	Non-Government	Others	Neighborhood	7.6	25.8	100	44.4	50	30	54.5	44.6
24	Muqata'a Square	Government	Government	City level	14.7	29	100	44.4	50	50	27.3	45.1
25	Suwaitat Park	Government	Government	City level	13.3	22.6	100	66.7	50	40	36.4	47

Values are in percentages. Higher percentage means better performance



- Public spaces that were assessed
- Public spaces
- Master plan boundary
- Municipality boundary

REFERENCES

1. Jenin Municipality (2018), Strategic Development and Investment Plan for Jenin City (2018-2021).
2. PCBS (2020), International Women's Day 2020 Statement

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