

PUBLIC SPACE ASSESSMENT

JERICHO, WEST BANK | PALESTINE

ELIMINATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP



أريحا
JERICHO



بلدية
MUNICIPALITY



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PALESTINE · WEST BANK · JERICHO

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 JERICHO CITY.....	50
LOCATION OF JERICHO GOVERNORATE.....	18	VALIDATION WORKSHOP	52
STATE OF PUBLIC SPACES.....	22	VISION FOR JERICHO CITY	54
SCOPE AND FOCUS: JERICHO CITY.....	23	GOALS AND STRATEGIES.....	55
OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY OF THE PROJECT	24	IMPROVE GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIPS IN THE CREATION, PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC SPACE	56
ASSESSED PUBLIC SPACES	28	CREATE AND PROMOTE RULES AND REGULATION AROUND PUBLIC SPACE	57
SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS	30	IMPROVE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF WELL-DESIGNED AND SAFE PUBLIC SPACE	58
GENERAL STATE OF OPEN PUBLIC SPACES	32	ANNEXES AND REFERENCES	60
GENERAL STATE OF OPEN PUBLIC SPACES	34	ANNEX.....	62
HOW SAFE ARE PUBLIC SPACES?.....	36	PERFORMANCE OF EACH PUBLIC SPACE	62
		REFERENCES.....	64

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.



A gondola lift travels over Jericho, West Bank © Tamarah Wikimedia Commons

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

60%

60% of all urban residents in developing countries have been victims of crime

Globally, one in five people have been a victim of violence and crime

96% of adolescent girls don't feel safe in Delhi

45%

45% of girls reported sexual harassment when using public transport in Kampala

2.2%

Just 2.2% of girls say they feel safe in public spaces in Lima

90%

In Port Moresby, over 90% of women and girls have experienced some form of sexual violence when accessing public transportation.

In London, 43% of young women have experienced some form of harassment in the past year.

“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 right 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 work force 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.

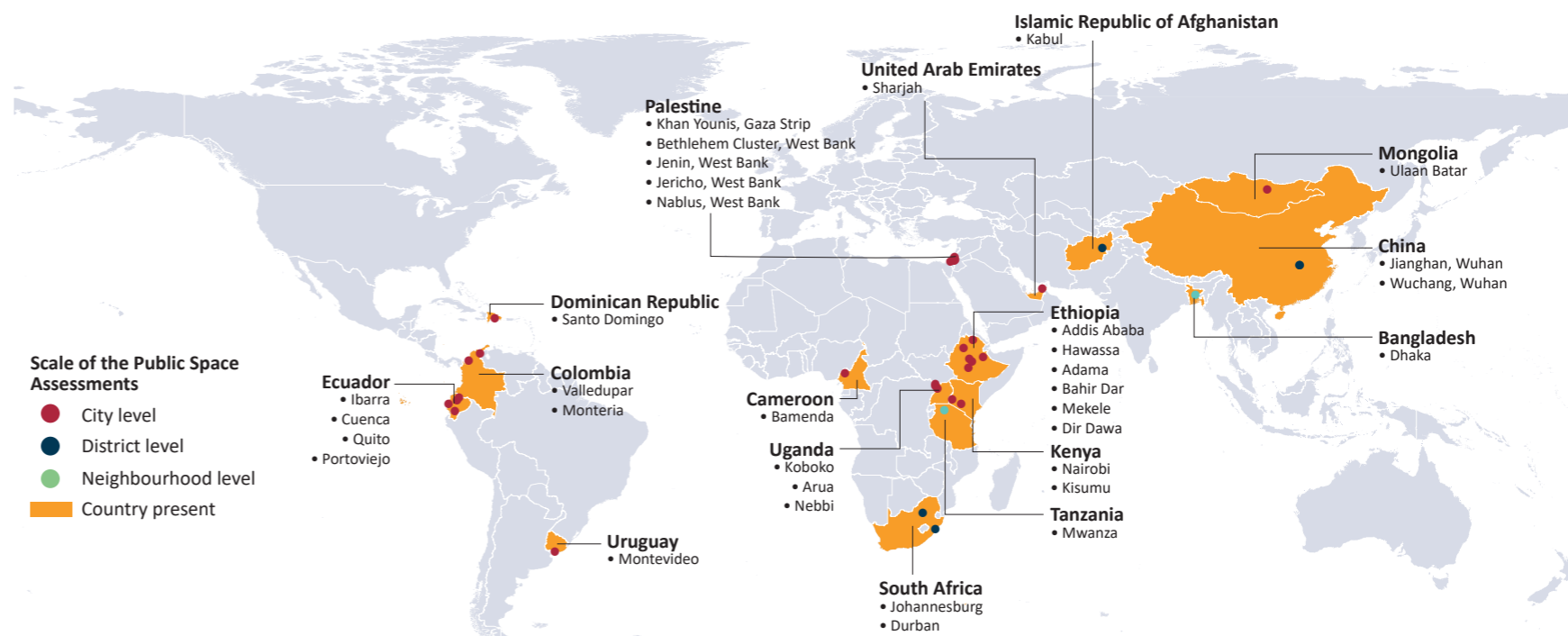


Jericho street © Flickr Stefan de Vries

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

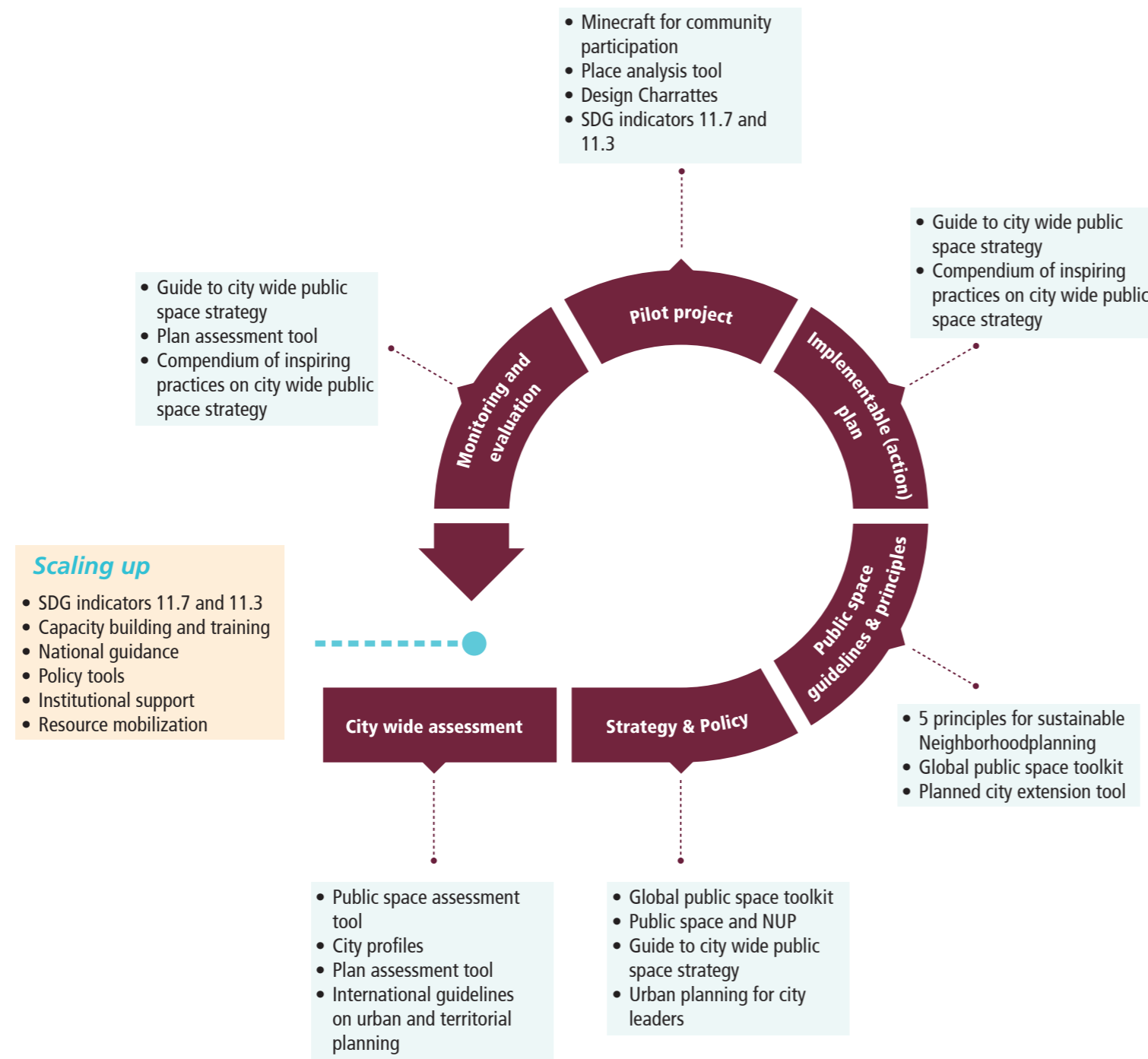
In recent years, the role of digital technologies has become increasingly important. UN-Habitat recognizes the role of ICT and the opportunities that it can offer for citizens, particularly children and youth, to take part in decision making and governance process. The Programme uses technologies such 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 unsafe 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 ERAW 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 ERAW 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 ERAW, 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



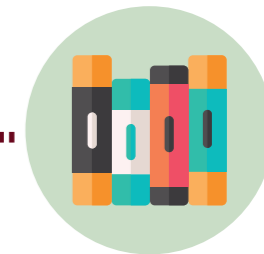
Awareness and advocacy campaigns to promote women's safety in public spaces

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



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

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



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



Women in Jericho © UN-Habitat - Joy Mutai

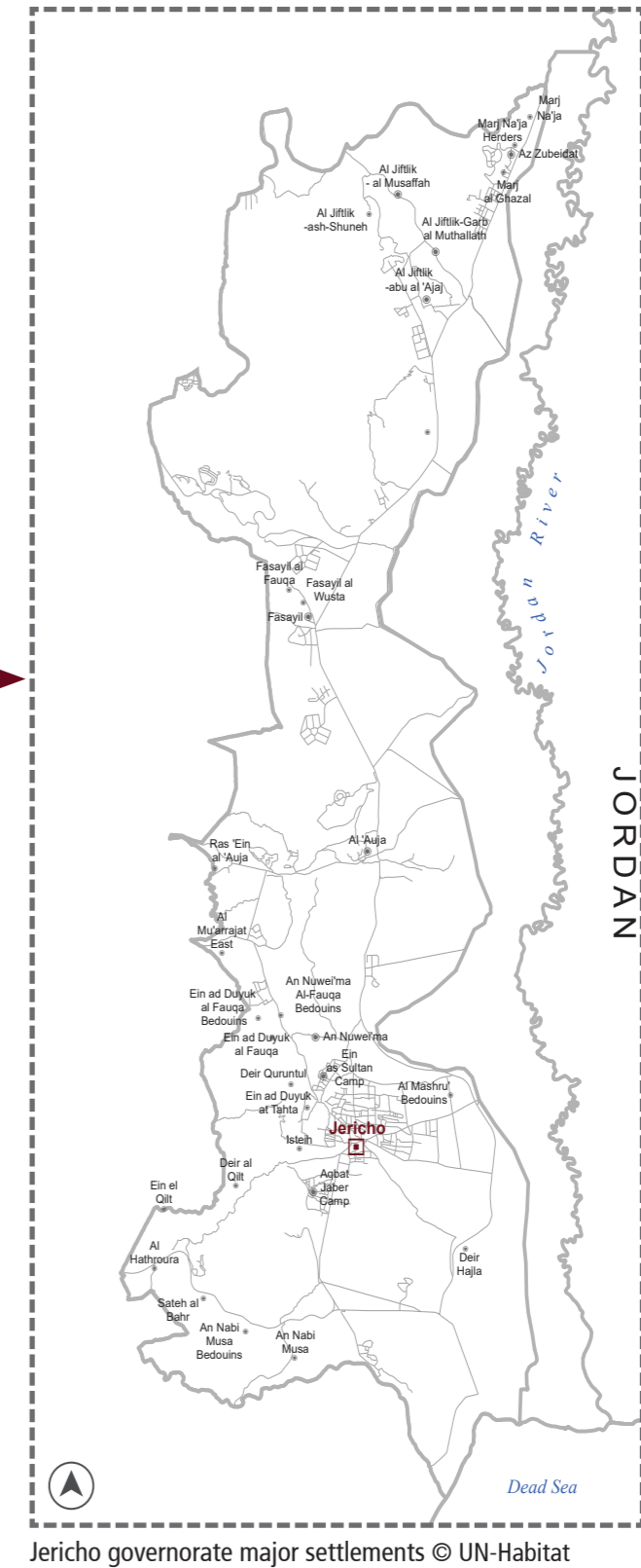
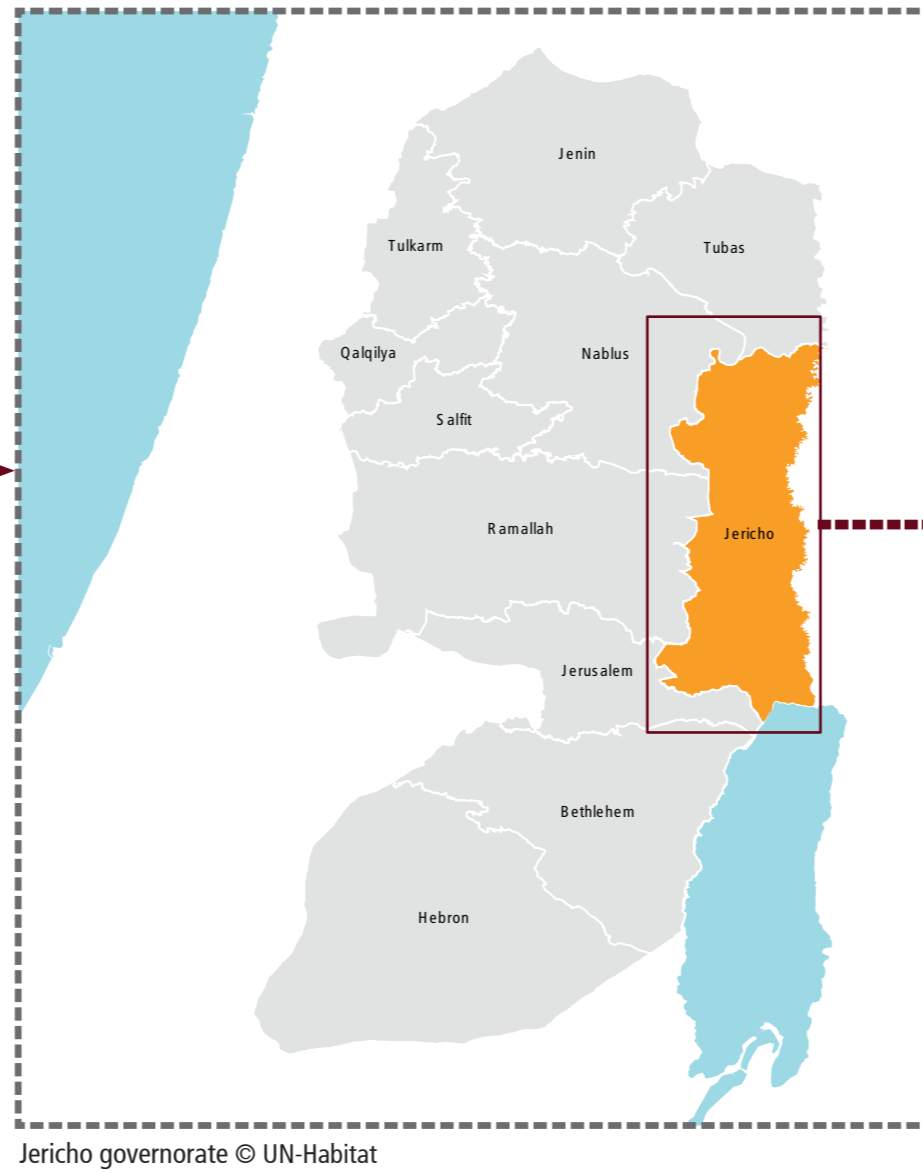
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CHAPTER

INTRODUCTION

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

LOCATION OF JERICHO GOVERNORATE



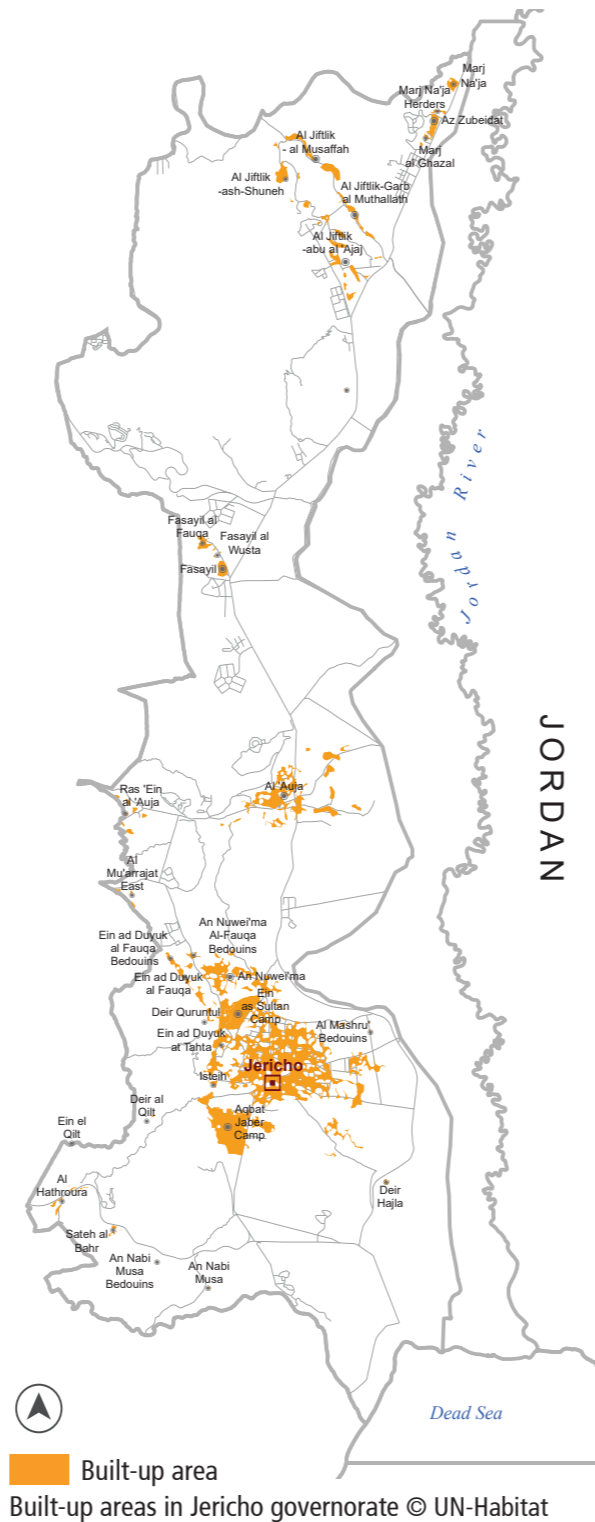
URBANIZATION IN THE WEST BANK

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.

composed mainly of detached houses of maximum three storeys, with no or few apartment blocks.” (Jericho Municipality, 2013)



Jericho City © Flickr Hans Brian Brandsberg

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.

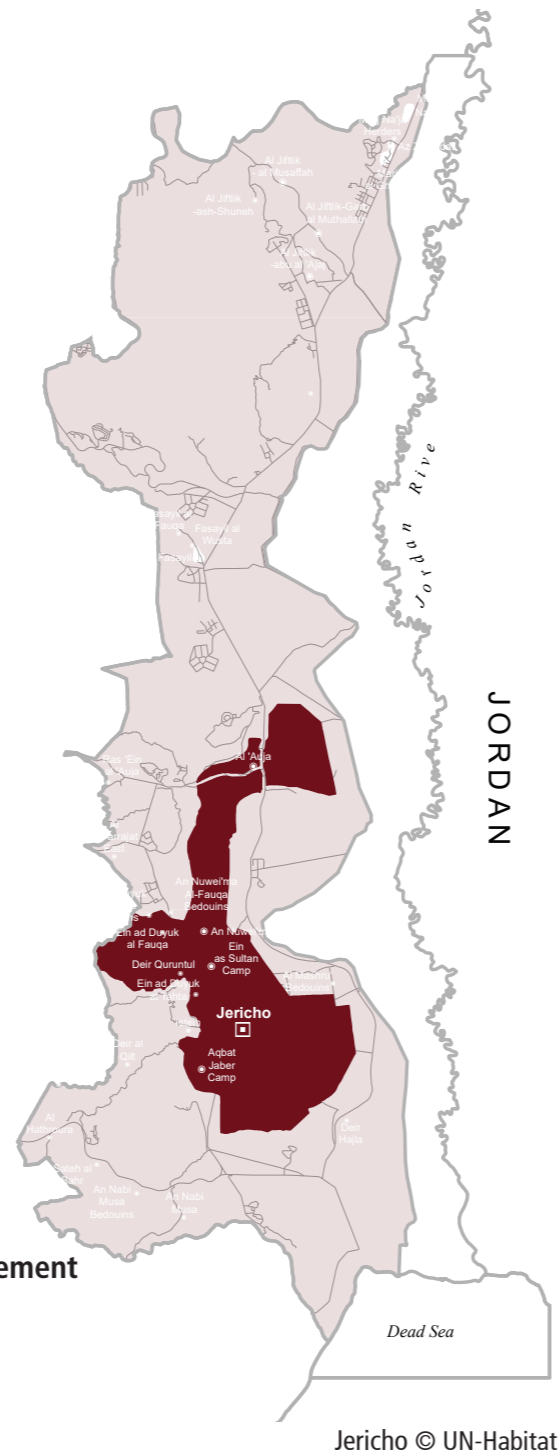


Jericho City © Flickr Sabine

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.

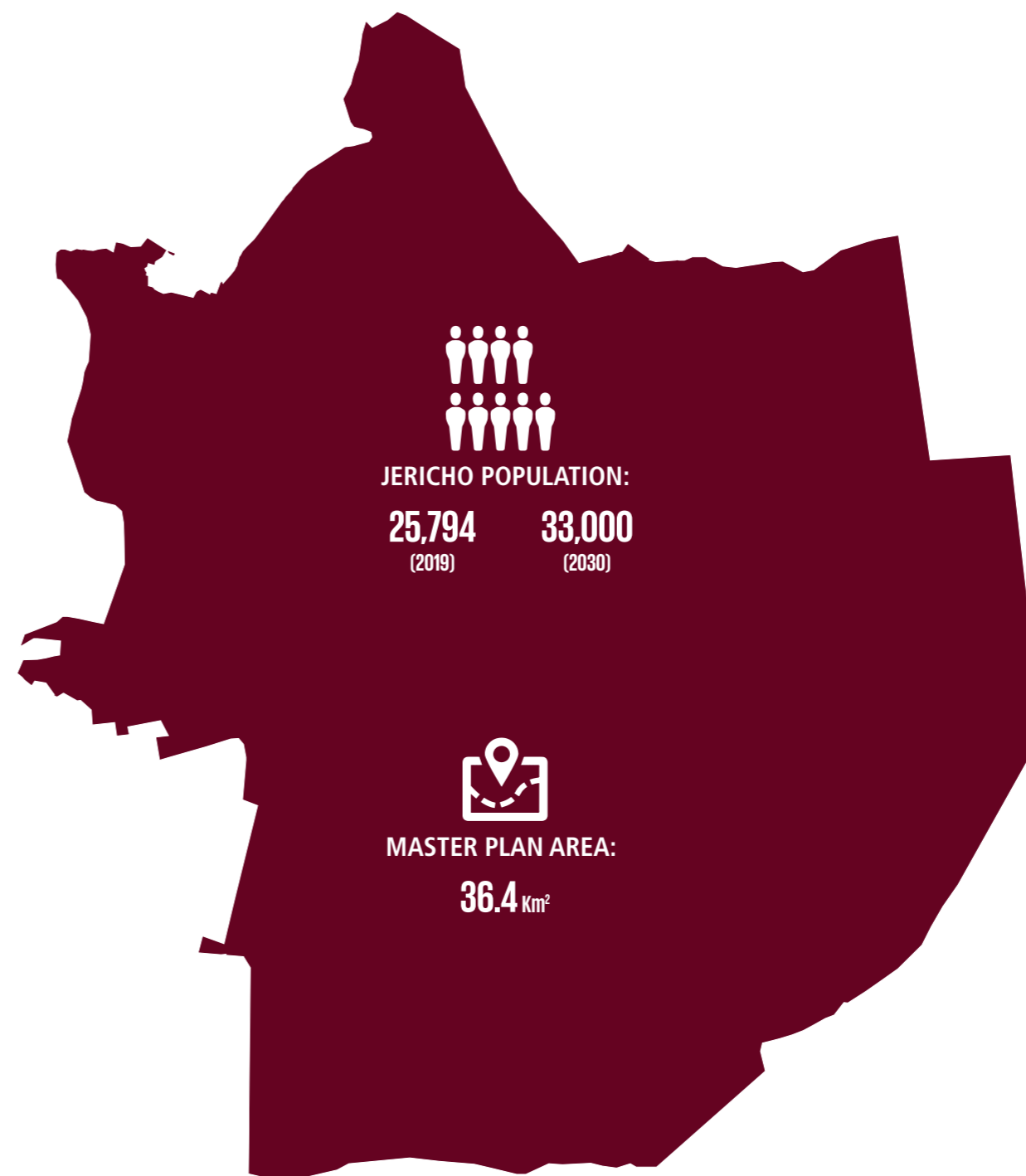
STATE OF PUBLIC SPACES

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.



Public space with greenery in Jericho © UN-Habitat



SCOPE AND FOCUS: JERICHO CITY

GEOGRAPHIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC FEATURES

The city of Jericho is located in the southern part of the Jordan Valley, 12 km away from the Dead Sea. Jericho is the oldest populated urban area in Palestine and it goes back to 10,000 years BC, where its historical and archeological value and its religious attributions and heritage, in addition to its warm climate in the winter, supported the development of the city as a landmark on the tourism map of Palestine. The city is populated by 25,794 residents in 2019 according to the PCBS and it is estimated to have a total population of 33,000 capita in 2030. Moreover, the city of Jericho has the main border crossing point between Palestine and Jordan for travelers from and to the West Bank.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS

The city of Jericho plays an important national role with regards to the sectors of tourism, agriculture and security. The city's warm climate enables the cultivation of citrus trees, bananas, dates and other crops. Farming sector in Jericho is also supported by the low population density and the flat topographic features of the city. The city of Jericho attracts both, national and international tourists, where approximately over 2 million visitors entered Jericho in 2017. The city is home to important sites valued by all three Abrahamic religions, and is served by 138 touristic establishment, including, hotels, restaurants, recreational parks and other facilities. Moreover, the economy of Jericho also depends on small industries and factories that provide employment opportunities and comprise 62% of its total economic establishment.



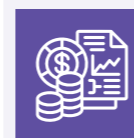
Cable cars in Jericho City © Flickr Young Shanahan

OPPORTUNITIES



Strategic location

Jericho is considered the eastern gate of the West Bank and the only exit to the nearest airport in Jordan.



Economic activities

Research shows that 62% of Jericho's economy is mainly based on commercial sector therefore, considering Jericho's location and historical value, other economic sectors such as tourism and agriculture would be of great potential



Cultural and natural heritage

22% of the economy of Jericho depend on tourism due to it being the oldest city in the world and having many archaeological sites

CHALLENGES



Geopolitical land classification



Obstacles and check points around the city



Low population density and high capacity

For over a 58 Km² of Jericho governorate, the population is 21,946. One major challenge in Jericho is the low built up density, as buildings are scattered across large areas of land.



Lack of sufficient network for water supply

The water supply to household is not sufficient and the sewerage project for the city is not complete.



Lack of health and utility services






The city has only one hospital in the eastern area.

OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY OF THE PROJECT

OBJECTIVES OF THE OPEN PUBLIC SPACE ASSESSMENT IN JERICHO

The inventory and assessment of Open Public Spaces in Jericho 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:

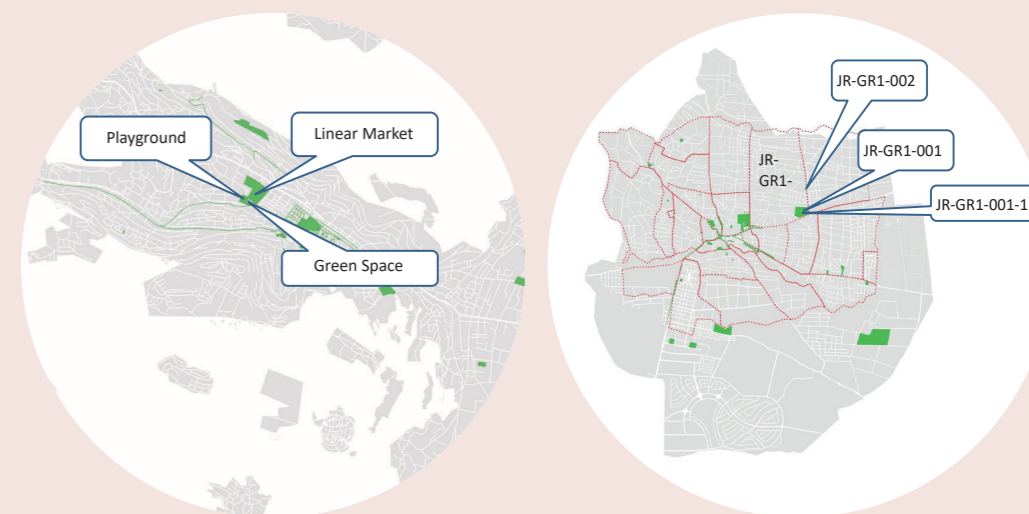
Section A: Public space assessment

- 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 demonstrated to the municipality staff to validate and confirm the updated public spaces base map.

3

Mobilizing the Assessment Team

Through a vigorous exercise, Bayt Al Handasah Consultative 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 Jericho City and 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 finalize forms. These steps were followed by practical testing of the application in the adjacent open public spaces, and open discussions on practical 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 Jericho 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 finding. 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 Jericho City was 19.

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.

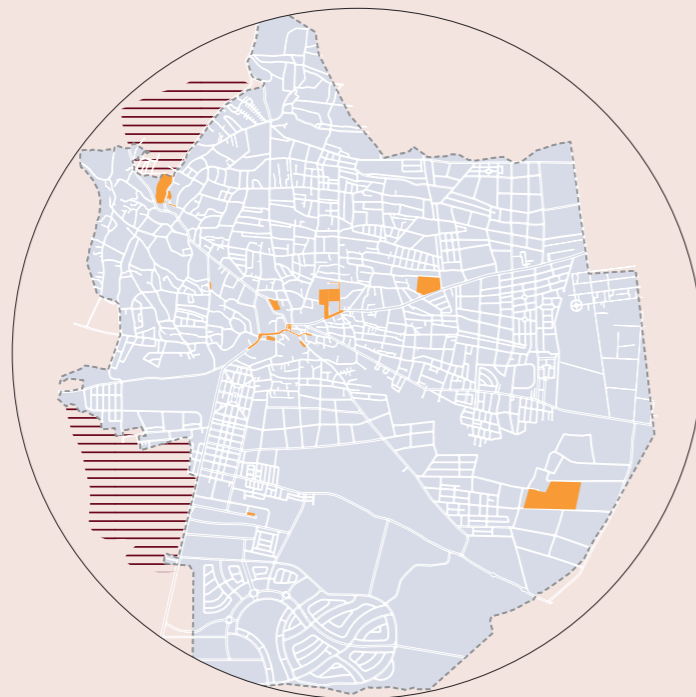
19

Number of open public space collected in Jericho 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

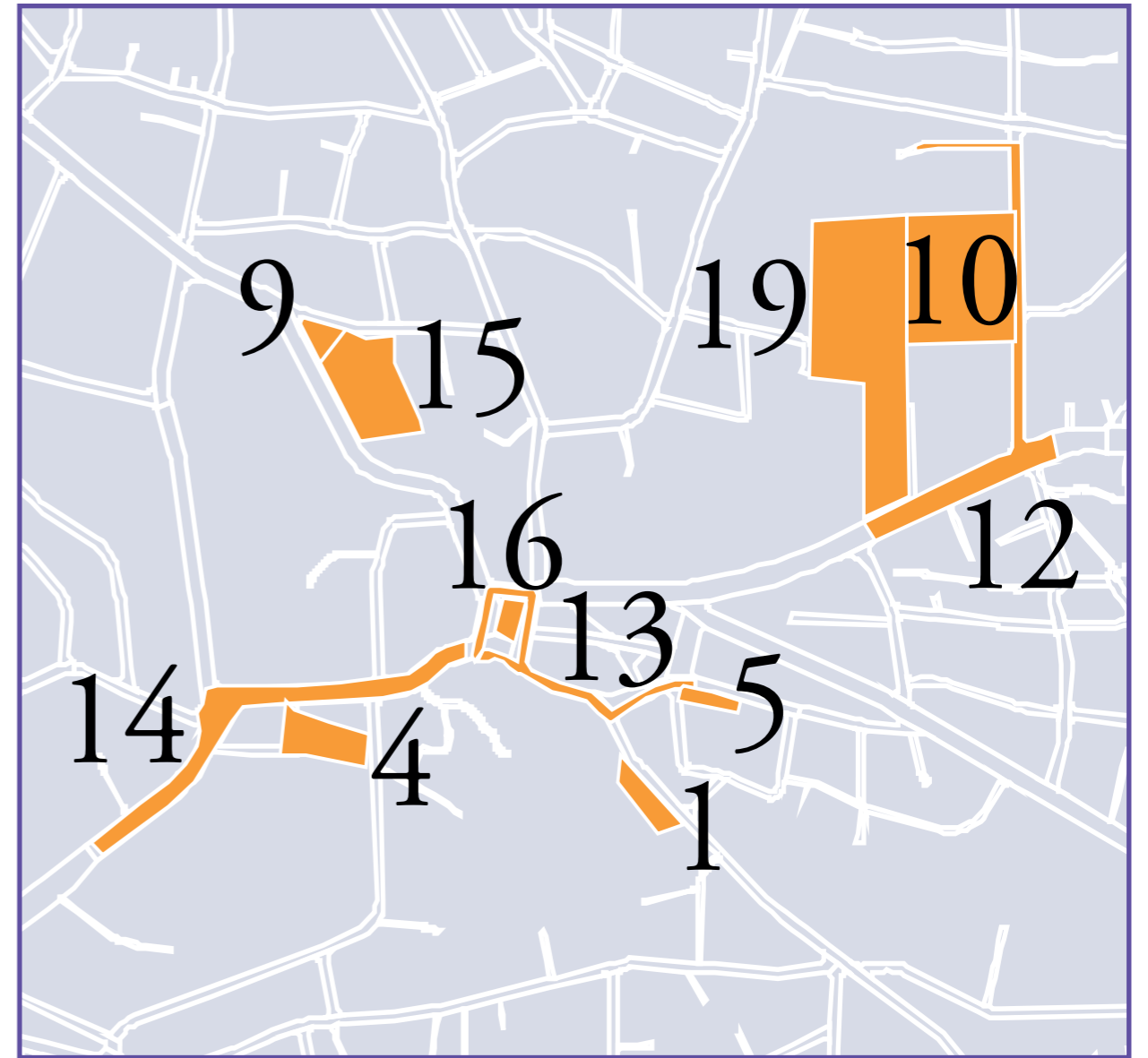
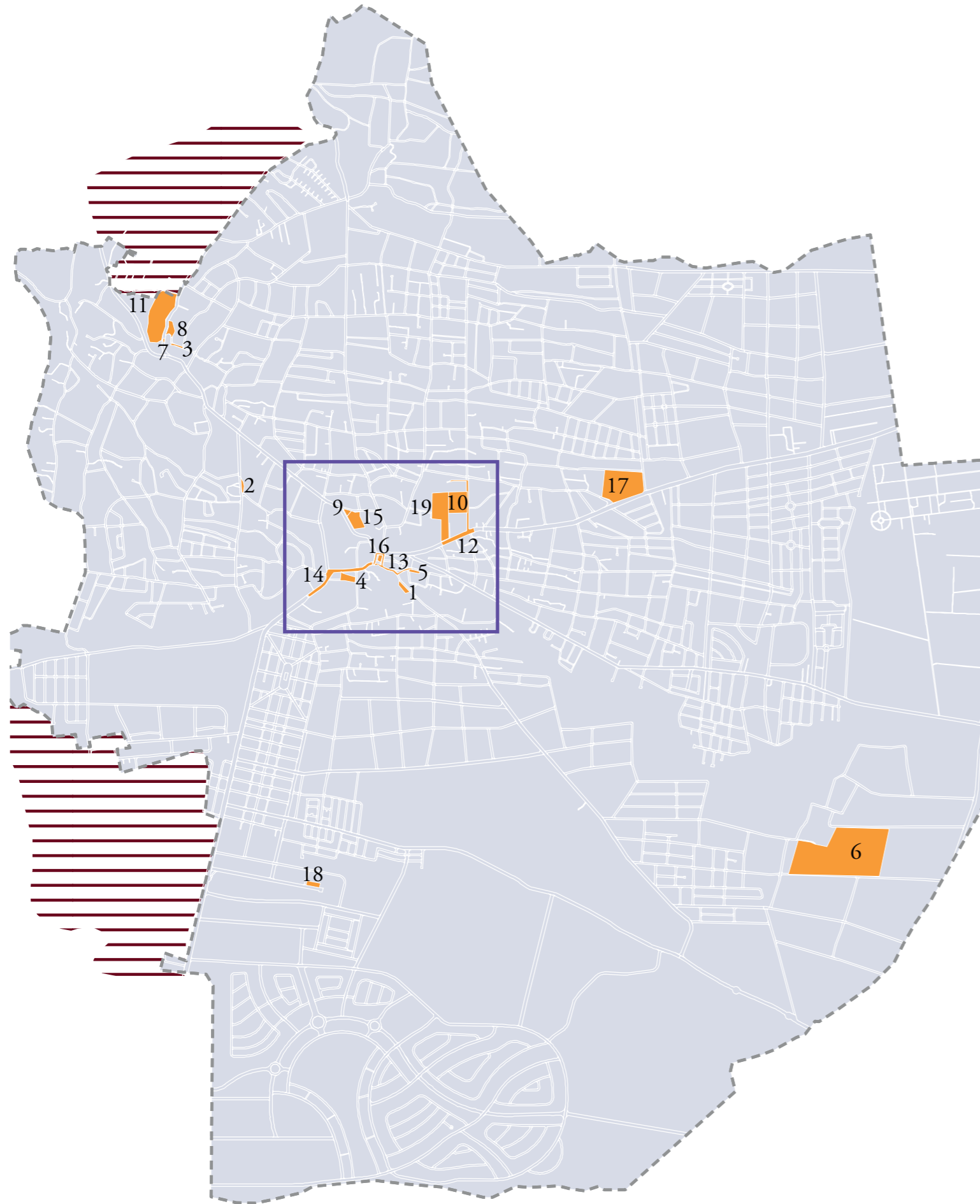
Data analysis and reporting

The qualitative and quantitative data gathered during the field survey be analysed and categorized in themes. Data was then analysed using Kobo Toolbox. The statistical treatments are means, percentages and factor analysis. Charts are used to present the results. Information gained by documents and maps analysis and observations are 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	German market	Government	Government	Neighborhood	32.7	16.1	61.5	0	50	30	0	27.2
2	Laardal garden	Government	Government	Neighborhood	15.6	19.4	75	0	37.5	20	45.5	30.4
3	Ain As Sultan Trail	Government	Others	Neighborhood	8.5	35.5	60	33.3	37.5	30	18.2	31.9
4	Vegetable market	Government	Government	Neighborhood	9.9	19.4	62.5	66.7	37.5	40	0	33.7
5	Al-Aseelia Market	Non-Government	Non-government	Neighborhood	8.7	19.4	75	66.7	37.5	40	9.1	36.6
6	Al-Amal Sports City	Government	Government	City level	7.5	29	100	33.3	50	55	18.2	41.9
7	Ain Al Sultan Street	Government	Government	City level	26.3	19.4	62.5	66.7	62.5	30	27.3	42.1
8	Ain El Sultan Spring	Government	Government	Neighborhood	17.9	29	75	44.4	62.5	40	27.3	42.3
9	Gemmayze Tree Market	Government	Government	Neighborhood	6.6	29	100	66.7	62.5	30	27.3	46
10	Jericho playground	Government	Government	City level	20.8	35.5	100	22.2	50	50	45.5	46.3
11	Sultan Hill	Government	Government	City level	7.8	25.8	100	88.9	37.5	50	18.2	46.9
12	the schools' Street	Government	Government	Neighborhood	36.2	22.6	85.7	77.8	50	50	18.2	48.6
13	Al-Maskubiyya Street	Government	Government	Neighborhood	11.9	22.6	100	88.9	62.5	30	27.3	49
14	Al Quds street	Government	Government	City level	18.8	29	100	88.9	62.5	20	27.3	49.5
15	The Russian Museum	Non-Government	Non-Government	City level	6.6	35.5	100	0	87.5	50	72.7	50.3
16	City center	Government	Government	City level	20.2	61.3	75	88.9	37.5	50	27.3	51.4
17	Al Esteraha - General Administration of crossings and borders	Government	Government	City level	3	45.2	100	88.9	37.5	80	18.2	53.2
18	Jericho Governmental Hospital	Government	Government	Neighborhood	10.5	41.9	100	100	37.5	85	18.2	56.2
19	Spanish garden	Government	Jointly managed	City level	27.9	19.4	90	66.7	62.5	80	63.6	58.6

Values are in percentages. Higher percentage means better performance



Public spaces that were assessed

- Public spaces
- Municipality boundary

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).



Women in public space in Jericho © UN-Habitat - Joy Mutai

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

Public spaces are important since they help build the local economy, civic pride, social connection and human contentment. Public spaces serves as 'safety valves' for a city. This is since they are spaces where people interact as civic equals, where you can gather to celebrate, grieve, honour, remember,

exult and protest. However, this is only if public spaces are properly planned, designed and built around major public destinations, especially with a gender lens.

The total area of open public space in Jericho is only 0.4 square kilometres, which represents only 1.1 per cent

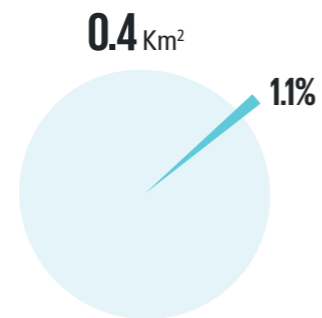
of urban land. This is well below the recommended optimum of 15 - 20 per cent which is also supported by UN-Habitat.

One of the challenges in Jericho is that most land is privately owned therefore making it a challenge to allocate areas for public spaces.



AREA:
36.4 Km²

POPULATION:
25,794 -2019
33,000 -2030



SHARE OF LAND THAT IS OPEN PUBLIC SPACE

15.5 m² / Person -2019
12.1 m² / Person -2030



PER CAPITA OPEN PUBLIC SPACES

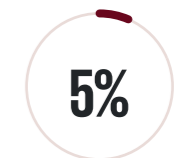
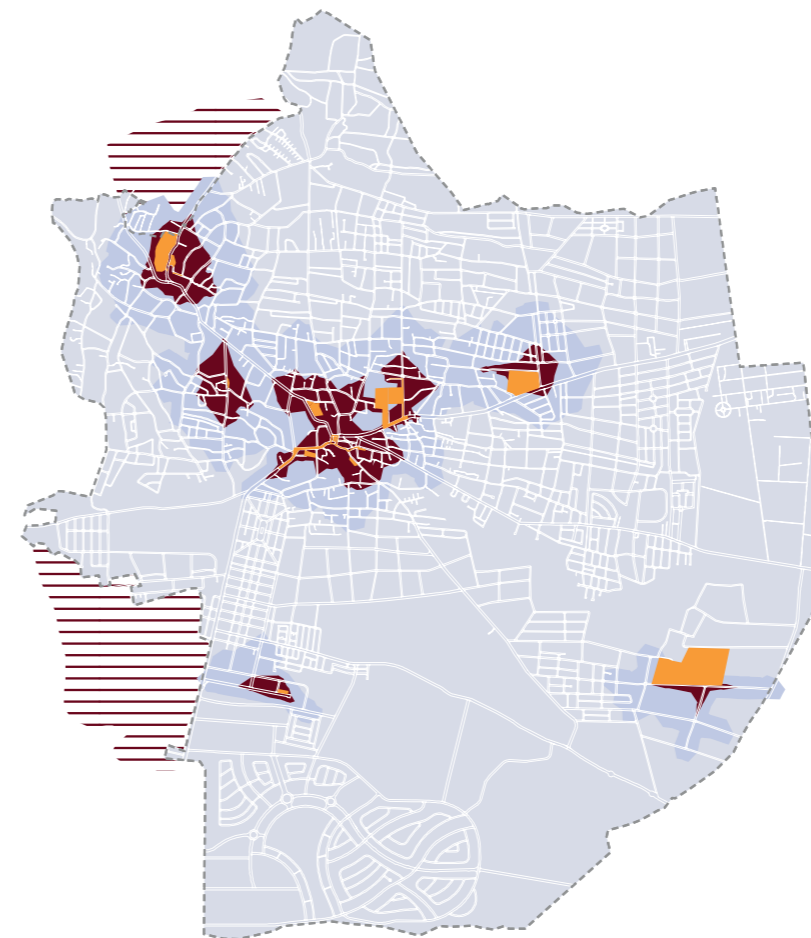
LACK OF A NETWORK OF PUBLIC SPACES

Public spaces are a principle structuring element in cities, towns and villages. As such, they are a critical urban infrastructure for promoting continuity and ordering territory. Thereby, it has the ability to both create and/or reinforce a strong identity, a higher quality of environment, economic competitiveness and a sense of togetherness. It can also be used to reconnect a fragmented city, ensuring that no one and no place is left behind. Public spaces include the network

of links between the different spaces such as squares, playgrounds, parks and gardens. Links and networks can for example be rivers, public transport routes, and continues, safe and dedicated cycling and walking infrastructure.

Jericho shows a very low degree of only 5 per cent of public spaces that are within 5 minutes walking distance. Although slightly higher, only 19 per cent that are within 10 minutes

walking distance. Research show that 400 meters is the maximum people are willing to walk before opting to drive. This distance is usually covered in 5 minutes. Considering women and girls it is worth noting that it is not only the distance which is a factor, but also safety. If the road to walk to public space is not considered safe, most women and girls will opt to take the car there.



Share of land within 5 minutes walk



Share of land within 10 minutes walk



Walking distance to public spaces

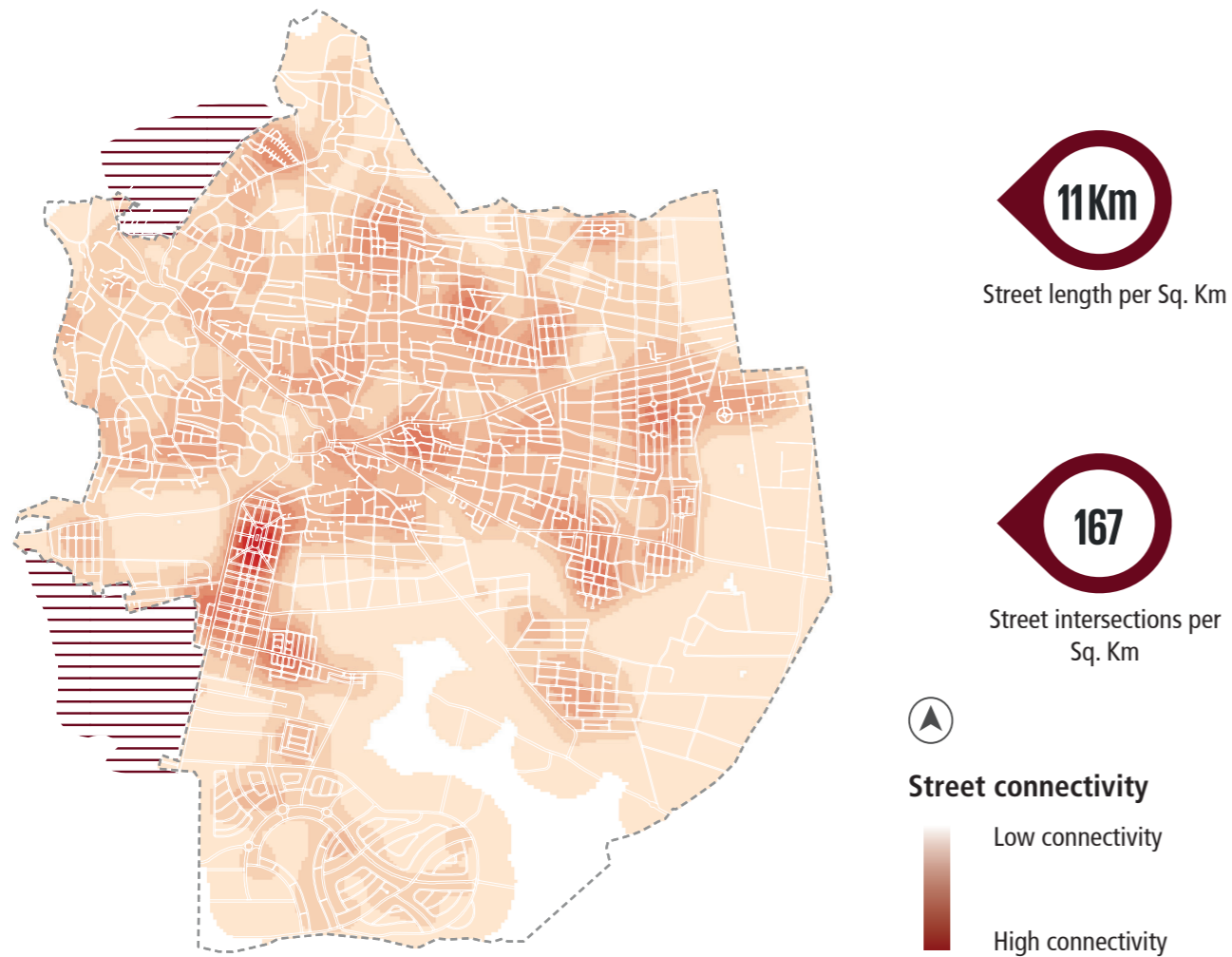
- Public spaces
- 5 minutes walk from public spaces
- 10 minutes walk from public spaces

WEAK STREET CONNECTIVITY IN THE PERIPHERY OF THE CITY

UN-Habitat recommends an optimum length of 18 kilometres of street length per square kilometre, with smaller blocks. Having an efficient street connectivity is associated with better mobility, accessibility, efficiency and prosperity. Street connectivity is one built environment feature which has both direct and indirect correlations to active transport, subsequently improving eyes on the street.

When measuring how walkable a city is both street connectivity and intersection density is taken into account. Street intersection density is a measure of how many intersections there are per square kilometer of land. A higher amount of intersection density reduces the connection distance since this increases the points where vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians can join streets moving in different

directions. The survey of Jericho shows that the number of street intersections per square kilometer is 167. The street length per square kilometer is 11 kilometers which is 7 kilometers shorter than the one recommended by UN-Habitat. Overall, the municipality needs to strengthen street connectivity especially as the city grows in order to ease congestion and improve walkability.

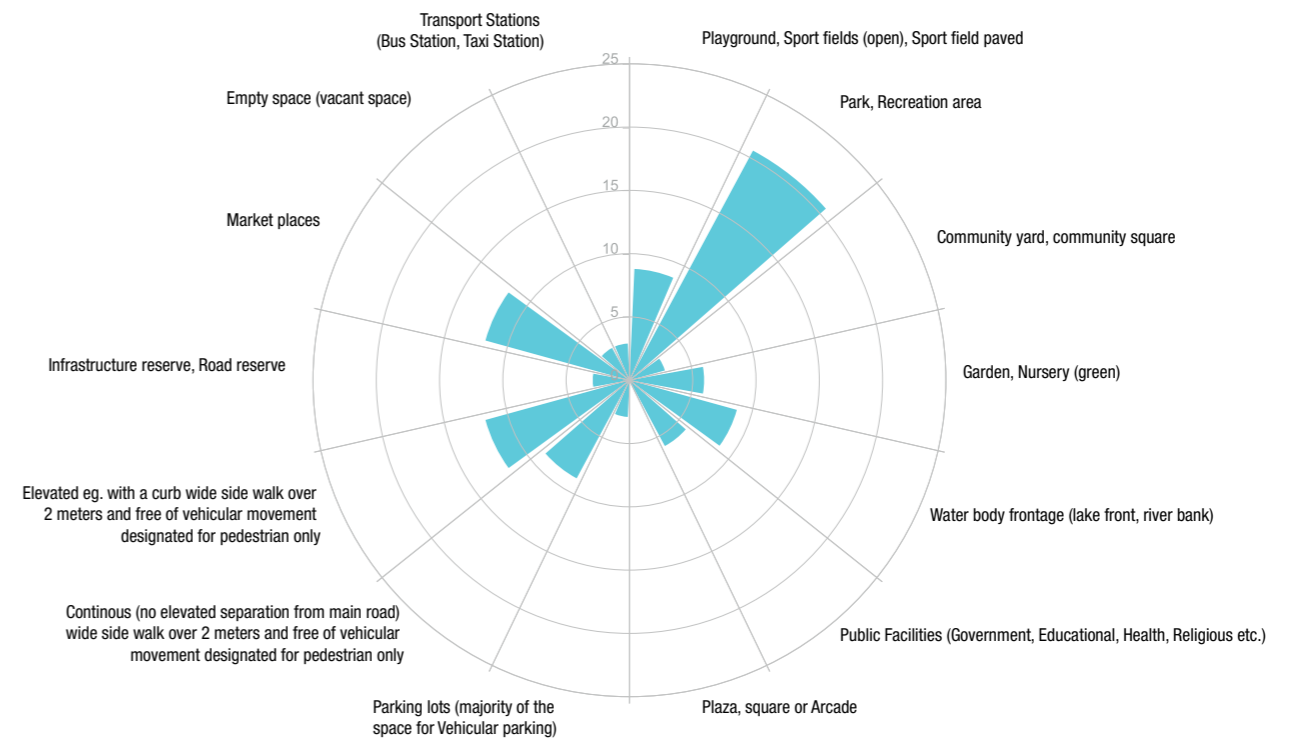


PARKS ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT SPACES

Public spaces comes in many shapes and forms depending on size and use. Parks, gardens, playgrounds and community squares/courtyard are among the different public spaces we see in cities. In Jericho, there are 14 different typologies of public spaces including gardens, plazas, markets, commercial axes, public transport space, water frontage and playgrounds.

Jericho has 37 per cent public spaces which are considered park/recreational areas, 21 per cent market spaces and an equal amount of elevated with a curb wide sidewalk. 15 per cent of the public spaces are seen as water bodies, playgrounds and continuous streets. 10 per cent are gardens, nurseries and public facilities. Of all public spaces roughly 5 per cent are parking lots, community yards, plazas and squares, transport stations, empty spaces and

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



GENERAL STATE OF OPEN PUBLIC SPACES

WHO OWNS AND MANAGES PUBLIC SPACES?

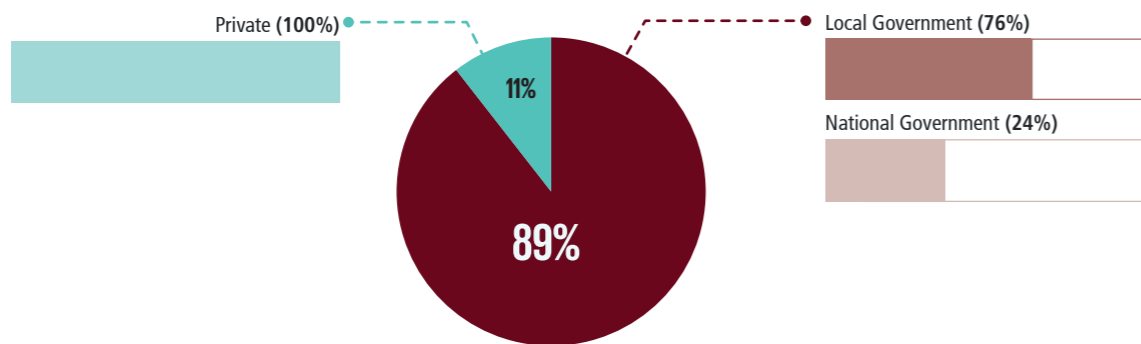
How a place looks can reduce the fear of crime as well as the risks of mischief and delinquency, adding to effective vigilance. If a public space has an appealing appearance people are more likely to stay longer due to the place being of interest and offering stimulation and comfort. Furthermore, they are more likely to linger if there's somewhere comfortable to sit, there's

protection from adverse weather, there's fresh air to breathe and the overall environmental quality is satisfactory. At the centre of this is a clear ownership and pragmatic management.

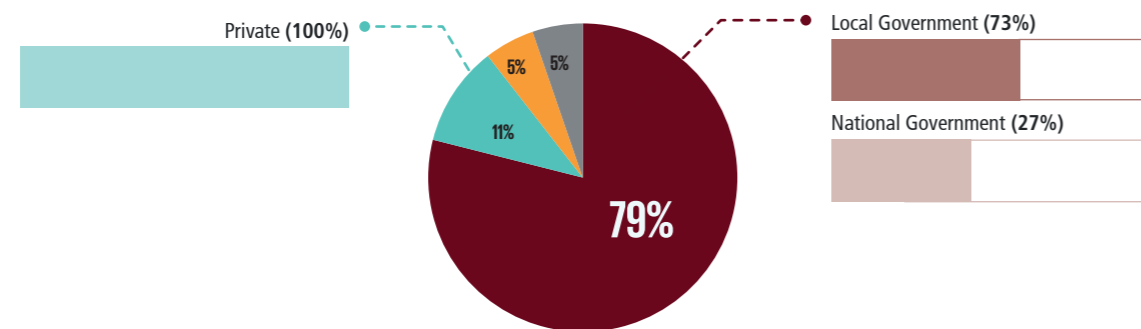
Although the government owns and manages the majority of all public spaces in Jericho, private ownership makes up more than a tenth of the

total amount. Of the 89 per cent owned by the government, 76 per cent are owned by the local government whilst the rest is owned by the national government. In addition, the management of the public spaces are also divided between private managers, management by the local and national government.

Ownership of public spaces



Management of public spaces



■ Government
 ■ Non-Government
 ■ Jointly managed
 ■ No information
 ■ Others

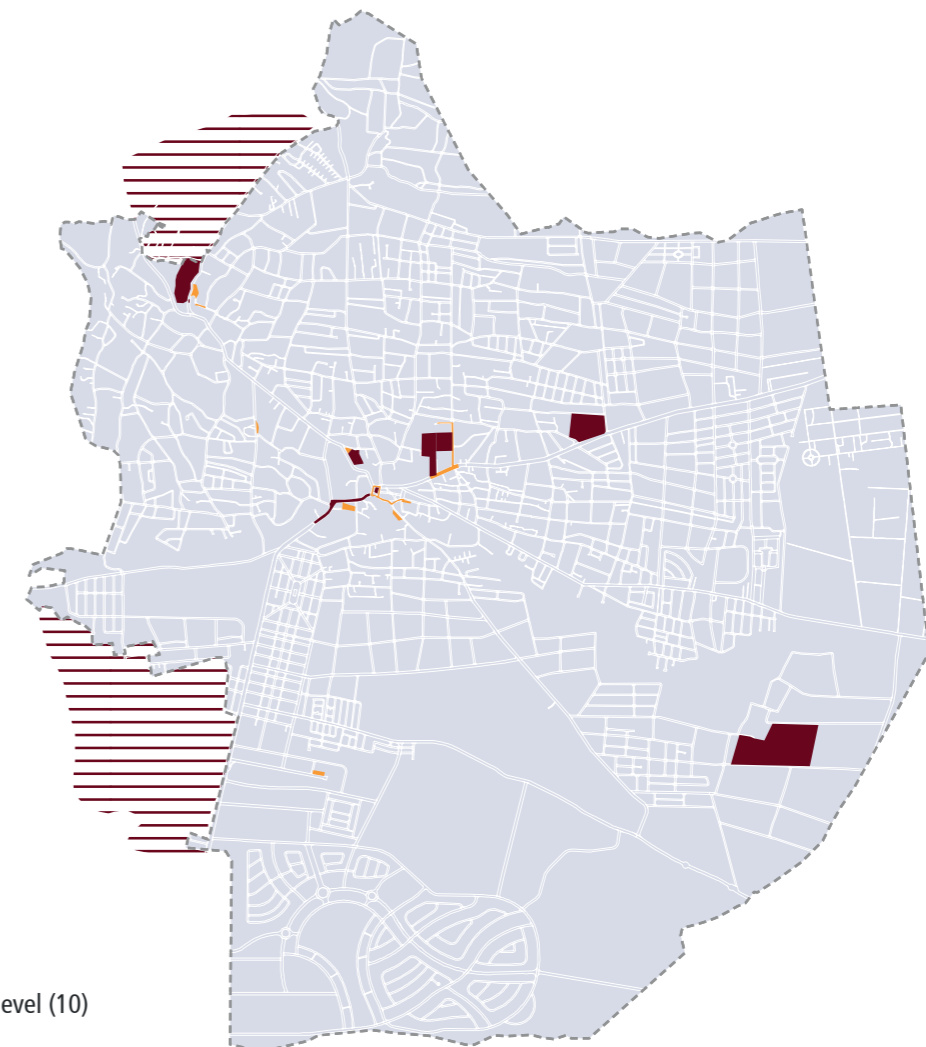
SCALE AND DESIGNATION OF PUBLIC SPACES

In Jericho two different types of public spaces are classified as on city level spaces and Neighborhoodlevel spaces. City level and Neighborhoodlevel public spaces are categorised based on their location and catchment area. This implies that the public spaces are a result of deliberate planning by public authorities. Neighborhoodlevel

public spaces are public spaces which are predominantly used and experienced by people living within the Neighborhoodin which the spaces are located while city level public spaces are public spaces which have a wider catchment area (used by people from different parts of the city).

9 public spaces on city level and 10 on Neighborhoodlevel. However, none of the public spaces are considered pocket parks. Providing a variety of public spaces allow for people to find different ways of interacting with each other. This in turn allows for the possibility of forming a strong community.

The observations show that Jericho has



MAJOR ADJOINING LAND-USE TO PUBLIC SPACES

Women and girls perception of safety in space is significantly impacted by the types of land uses adjoining the public space. Compatible land uses such as commercial (retail) and or residential activities tend to promote a positive perception of safety in public spaces. This is mainly because these land uses encourage people to walk more, thus generating higher foot traffic, resulting in more 'eyes on the street'.

More than 50 per cent of public spaces in Jericho are located in medium

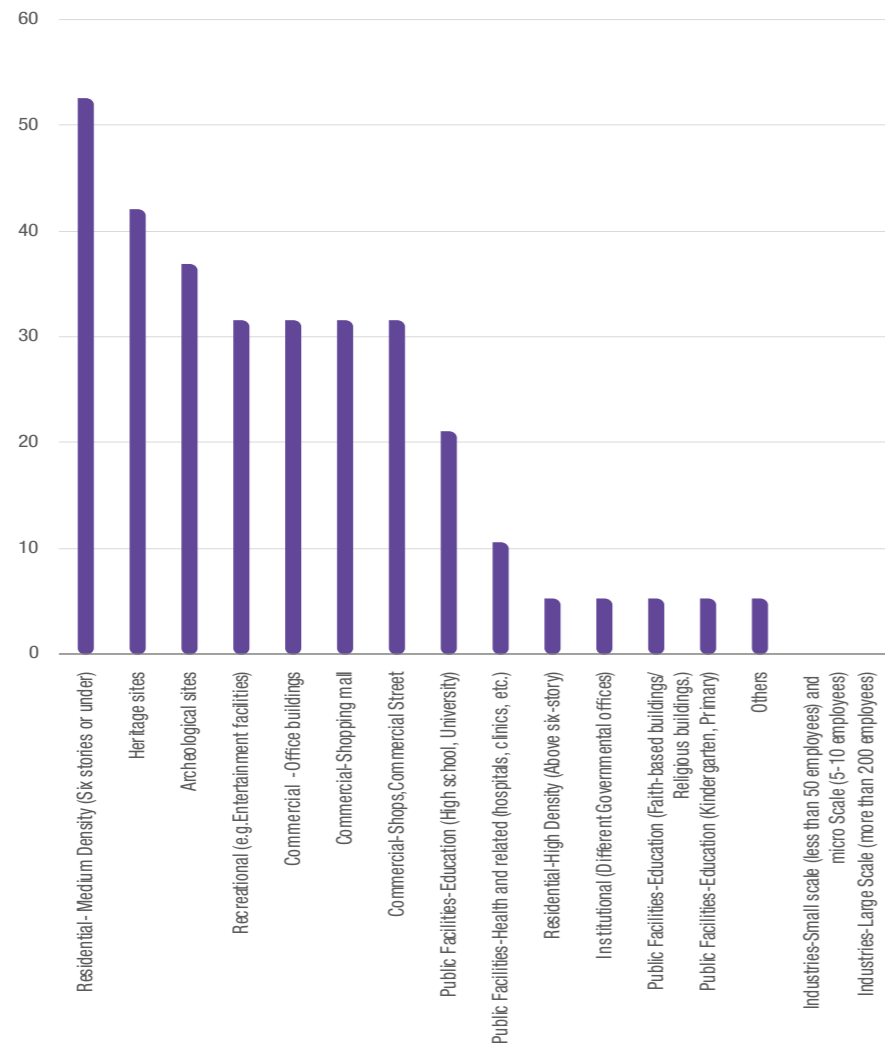
density residential areas. These public spaces have the potential of having a high impact on the safety for women and girls since they are located in proximity to their homes. This also means that children can be under a guarding eye from parents while playing.

A total of 36 per cent of the public spaces are located in proximity to archaeological and heritage sites. Due to the lack of people living in these areas they might pose as unsafe to

women and girls especially. Especially after nightfall.

Taken together, a high amount (31 per cent) of public spaces are located close to recreational spaces and commercial areas. Seeing that these are places with higher probability of 'eyes on the street' they ought to be seen as safer areas.

Lastly, few public spaces are located close to educational facilities, especially for younger kids. Promoting an active lifestyle from an early age is important among school going children.



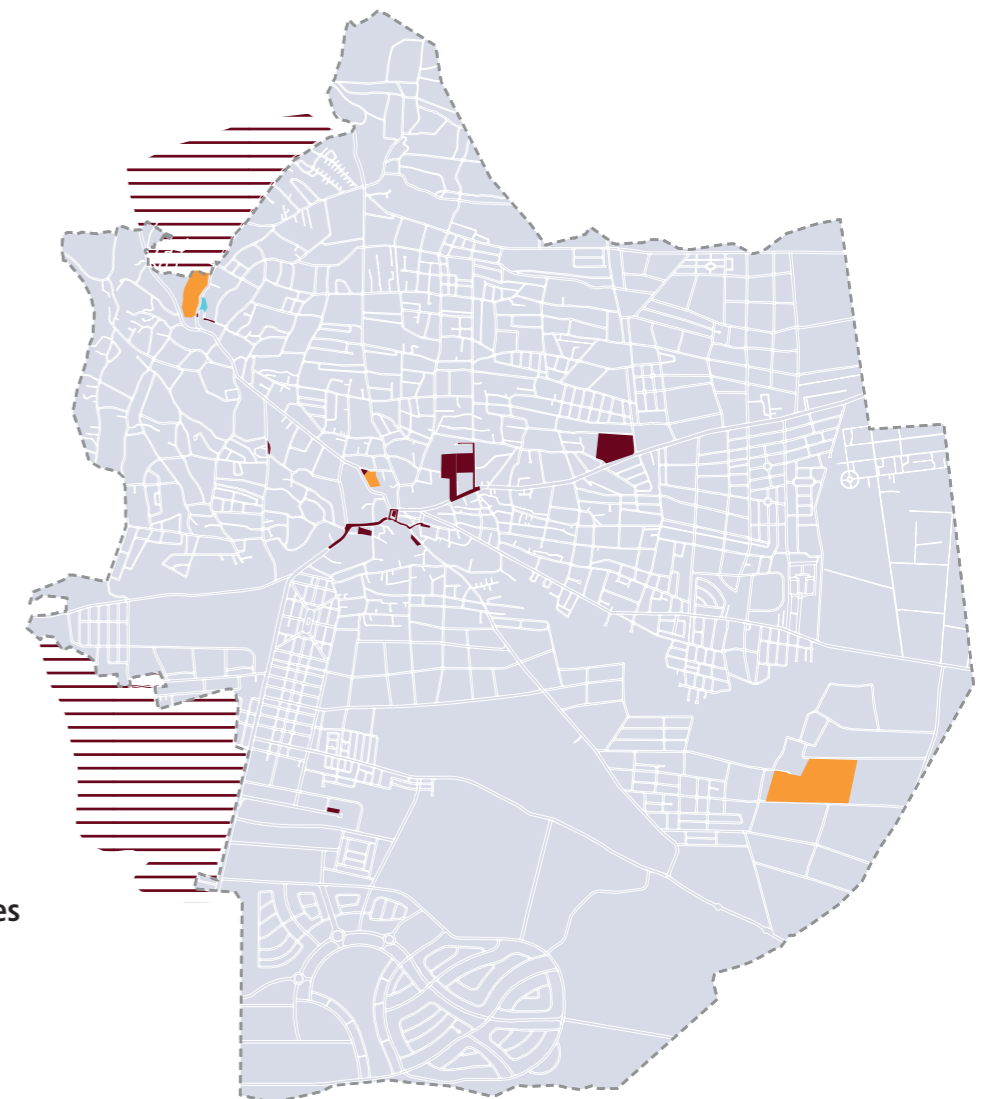
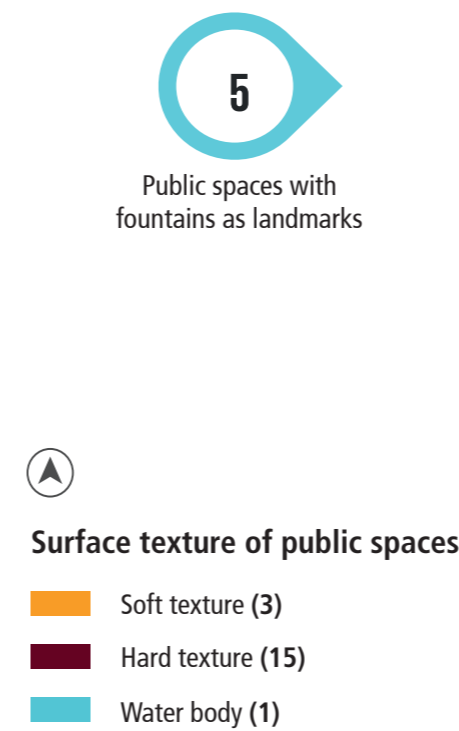
WHAT IS THE TEXTURE AND THE EXISTING LANDMARKS IN PUBLIC SPACES?

The texture of public spaces is an important part of any city, town or village. Spaces with soft texture help cooling the settlement and manage surface water. Soft texture public spaces also serve as part of the green infrastructure in cities. Green and public spaces with soft texture, when

planned well, considerably reduce the risk to grey infrastructure from hazards such as flooding, facilitate sustainable land management and restoration, and build resilience to extreme weather

Out of the 19 public spaces in Jericho only 3 are of soft texture whilst 15 are of hard texture and 1 is a water

body. Out of the public spaces 5 have fountains which serve as landmarks. Landmarks can both define the city for visitors and be used to aid way-finding for locals. Furthermore, they act as one of the defining elements of a public space. Public spaces can themselves act as landmarks



HOW SAFE ARE PUBLIC SPACES?

WHAT ARE THE AMENITIES PRESENT IN THE PUBLIC SPACE?

People tend to be drawn to public spaces when furniture and amenities are appropriately designed and well integrated into the public space. This adds to the experience of using public space and making people feel more safe, relaxed, welcome and involved. Public spaces with amenities which are poorly designed, placed and maintained can on the other hand increase the vulnerability to crime, harassment and violence targeted towards women and girls. Some of the issues related to furniture include inadequate signage, lack of proper public lighting and lack of public toilets.

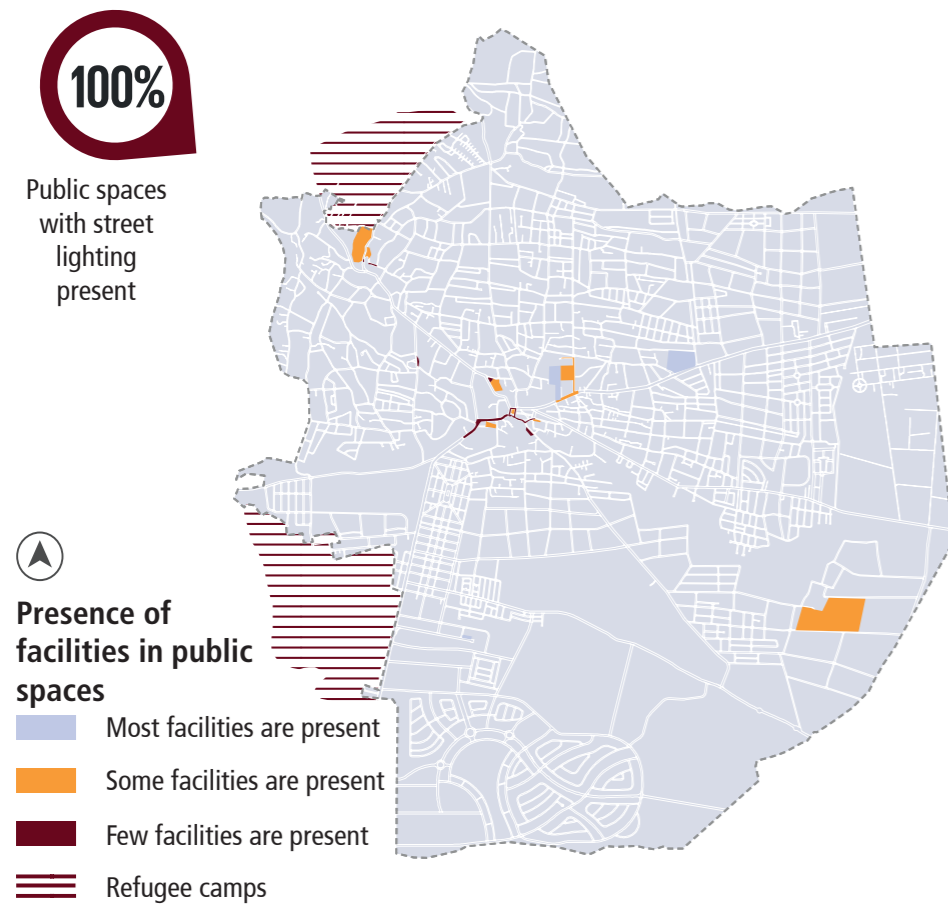
Jericho include a high number of street lightning (100 per cent) and presence of kiosks (90 per cent), garbage bins (77 per cent), seating (50 per cent) and artificial shade (59 per cent). Though when it comes to bicycle parking, emergency health and baby care facilities, water taps, drainage and fire emergencies they are less present in most public spaces. Depending on the user, different amenities are of varying importance. For women and girl's accessibility, light and baby care facilities might be of greater importance to create a sense of security.

spaces of Jericho there is a division between if they are present in the same public spaces or not. In many of the public spaces most of the facilities are present. However, in many cases few of the facilities are present. The more of the facilities are present in the public spaces the safer the environment becomes and creates a higher accessibility for different groups of society.

Regarding drainage, most public facilities have access to sewage system, but rainwater drainage is limited to Medvedev Street, the Gemmeyze (Sycamore)Tree.

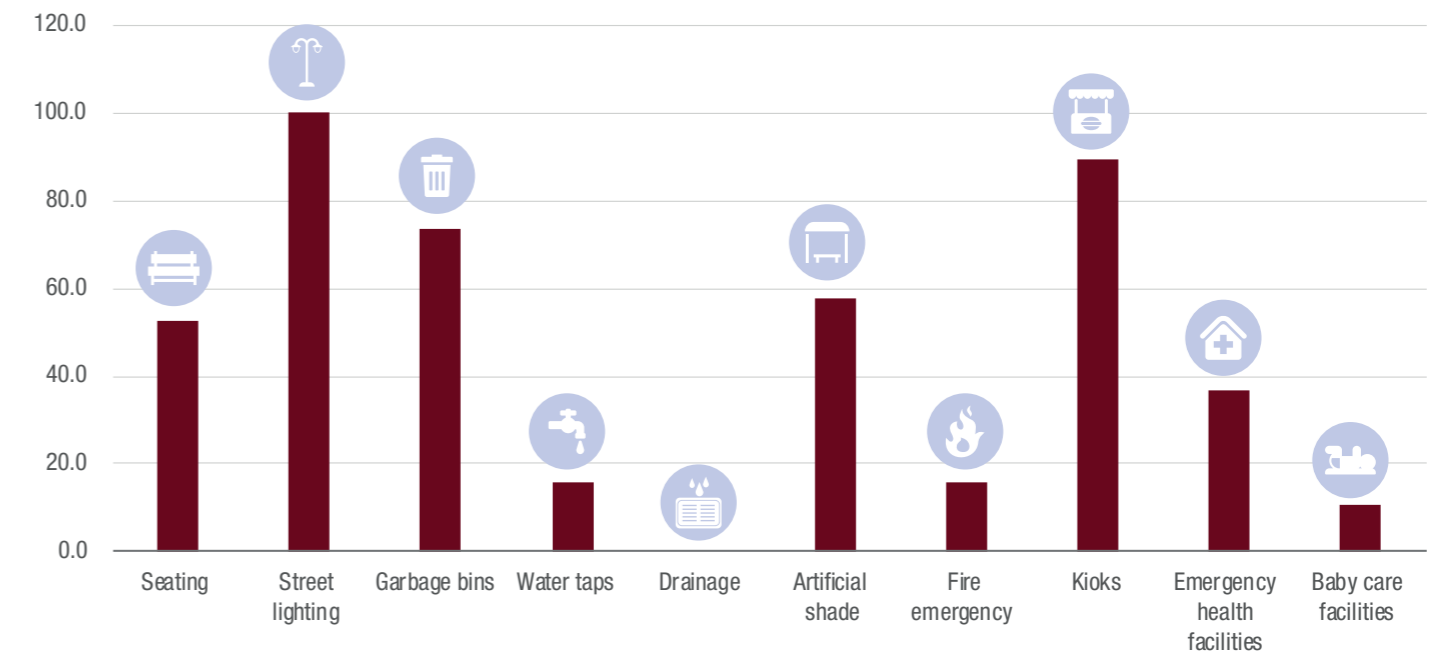
Amenities available in public spaces in

Of the amenities present in the public

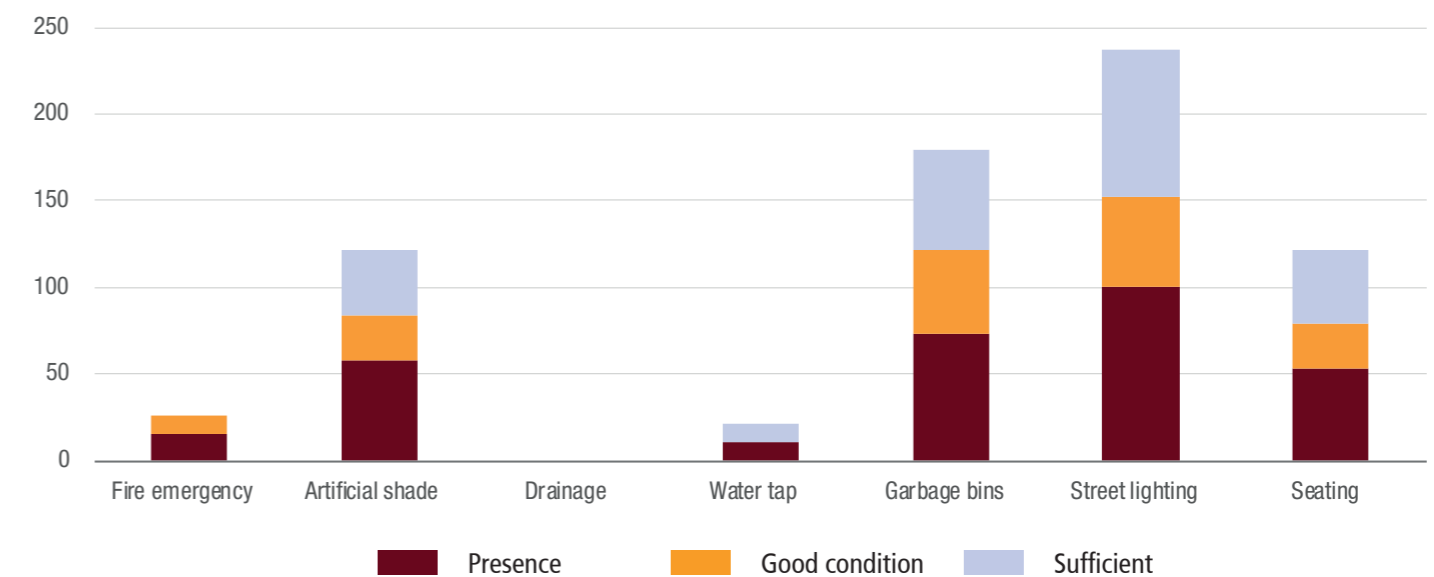


No.	Name of Public Space	Physical facilities index
1	Laardal garden	20
2	Al Quds street	20
3	German market	30
4	Ain As Sultan Trail	30
5	Ain Al Sultan Street	30
6	Gemmayze Tree Market	30
7	Al-Maskubiyya Street	30
8	Vegetable market	40
9	Al-Aseelia Market	40
10	Ain El Sultan Spring	40
11	Jericho playground	50
12	Sultan Hill	50
13	the schools' Street	50
14	The Russian Museum	50
15	City center	50
16	Al-Amal Sports City Al Esteraha - General Administration of crossings and borders	55
17	Spanish garden	80
18	Jericho Governmental Hospital	80
19		85

PERCENTAGE OF PUBLIC SPACES WITH VARIOUS FACILITIES



PERCENTAGE OF PUBLIC SPACES SHOWING PRESENCE AND CONDITION OF VARIOUS FACILITIES



HOW ARE PEOPLE USING PUBLIC SPACES?

Public spaces which provide a mix of activities and diverse uses tend to attract more people and thereby make the environment safer and friendlier to linger and spend time in. Mix of activities can for example be eateries, play areas, open theatre and gym in the same public space. The multiplicity of activities, uses and attractions generate

activities that contribute to a positive perception of urban safety and security.

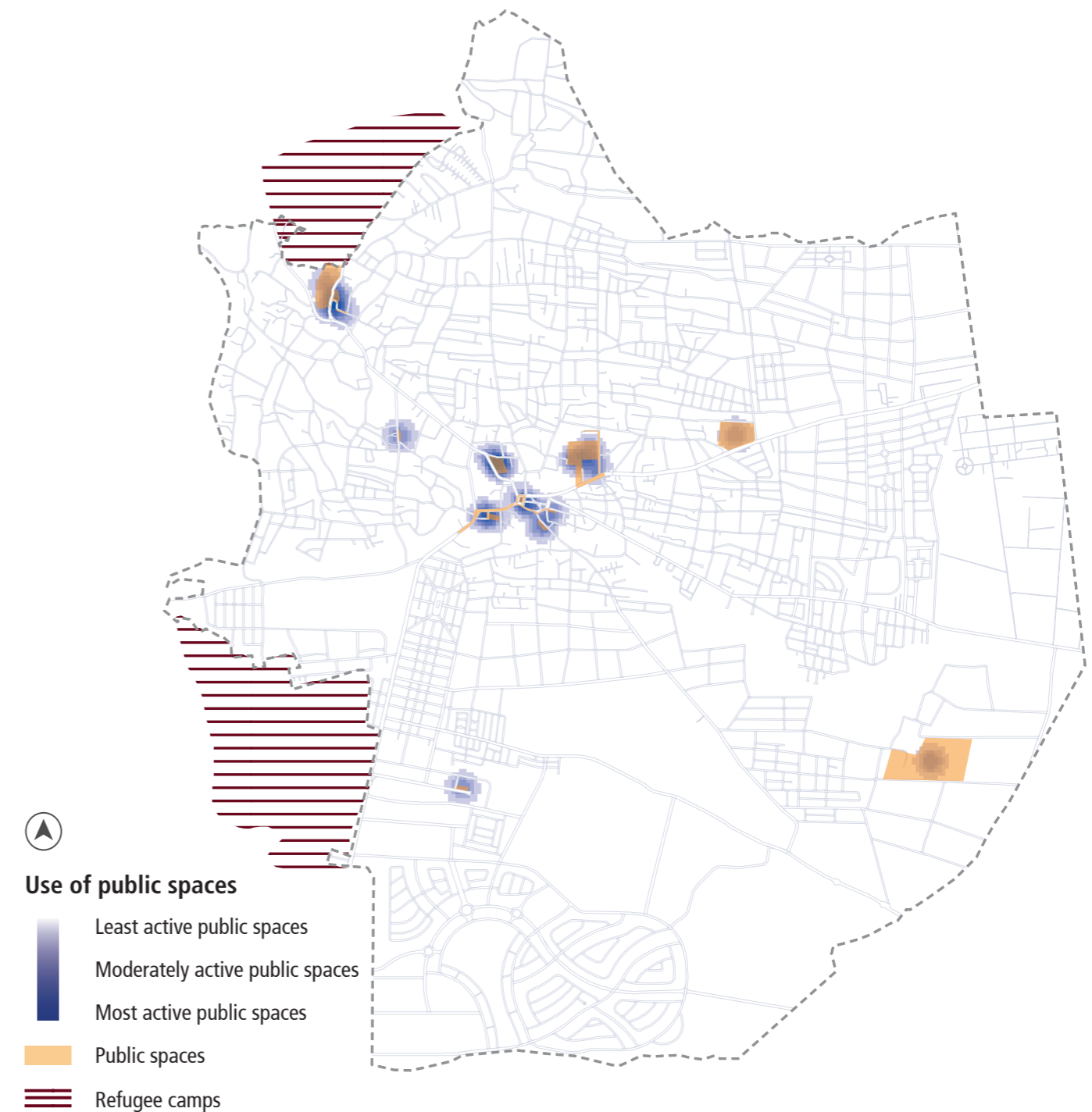
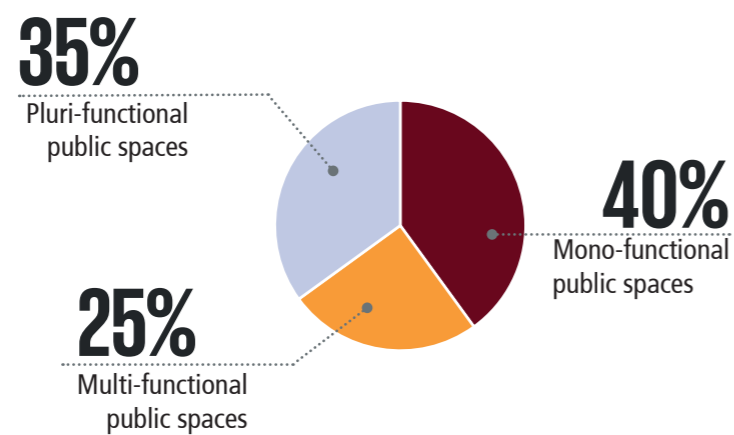
Jericho has 35 per cent pluri-functional and 25 per cent multi-functional public spaces. This indicates that a majority of the public spaces are used for different purposes and during different times of the day. If spaces

are used at different times of the day, they have a higher chance of being safe for women and girls. Yet, 40 per cent are mono-functional public spaces and only have a single use. This suggests that the spaces are deserted at given times of the day, potentially compromising the perception of safety by women and girls.



Enjoying a public space in Jericho © UN-Habitat / Joy Mutai

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES IN PUBLIC SPACES



WHO ARE THE USERS OF PUBLIC SPACES?

Public spaces act as symbols of collective wellbeing, possibilities and important places of political discussion, demonstrations and agnostic struggles. The public space does act as spaces where people go to be seen and to see, and where people from all walks of life interact as civic equals.

Although women are less present in the public spaces of Jericho, the usage is close to 50/50. However, the users of the public space differ by age group. In the public spaces the majority of

the people are between 0-59, with an under representation of females between the ages of 15-29. The groups who use public spaces the least are 60 and above, both men and women. Only 39 per cent of women above 60 use public spaces and 42 per cent of men above 60. Similarly, only 5 percent of the users are disabled. One reason for this can be lack of accessibility which hinders users from accessing the public spaces.

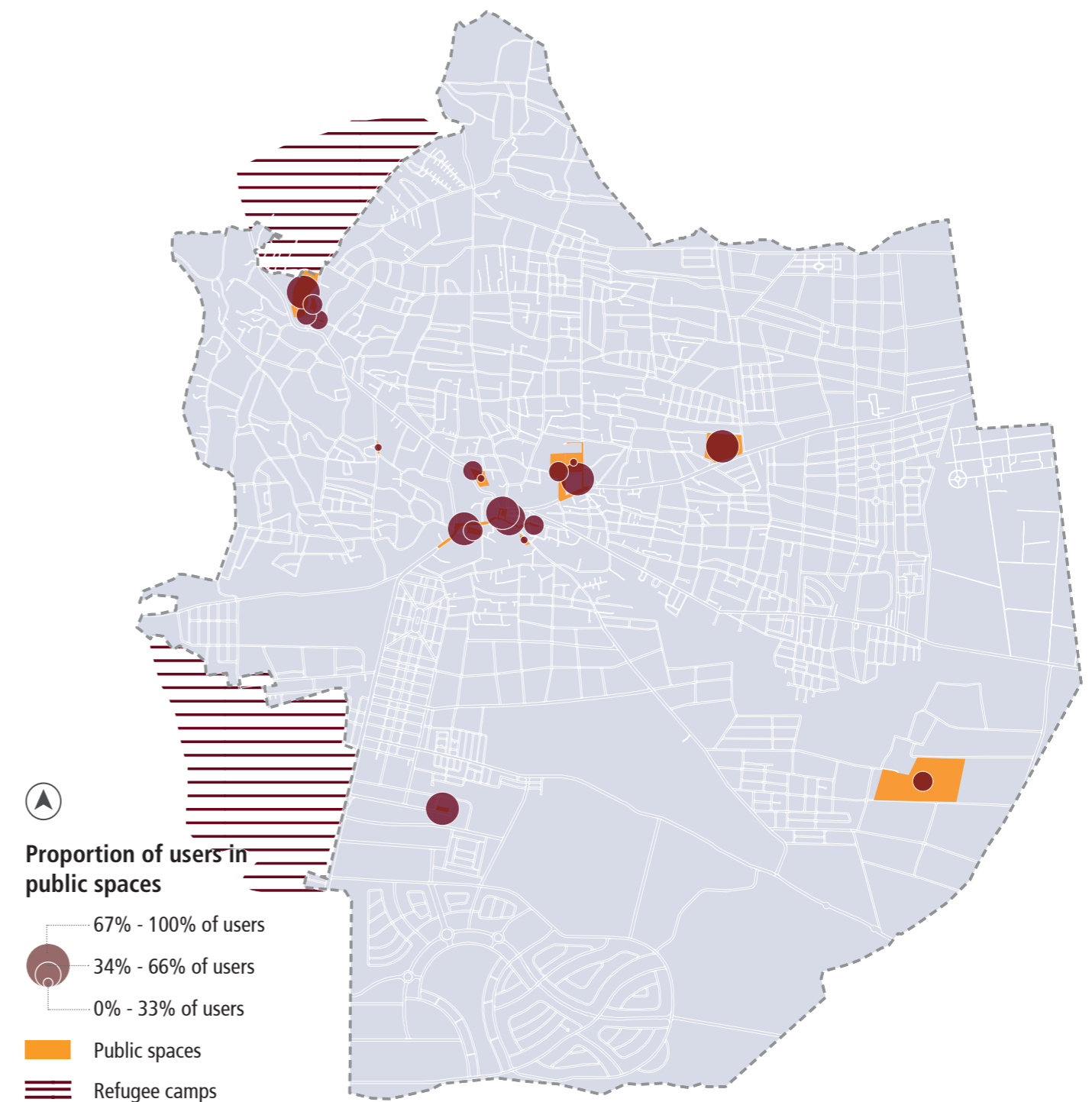
An interesting observation is that

almost everyone uses public spaces in groups. Very few use public spaces alone. This could indicate both a strong community with a lot of social interaction. Or that public spaces feel unsafe to access alone.

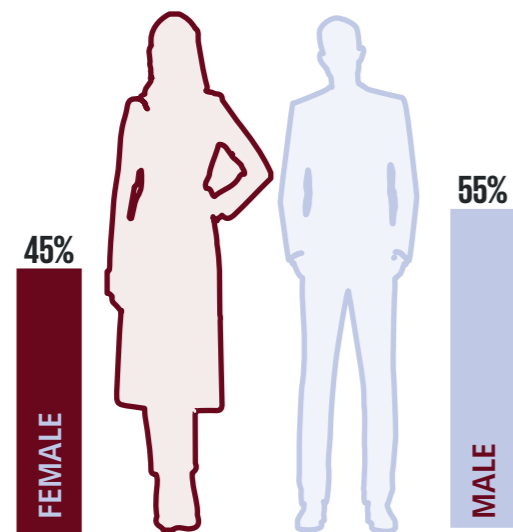
It is clear from the data presented that targeted strategies are necessary in order to better include elderly people and people with disabilities in public spaces.



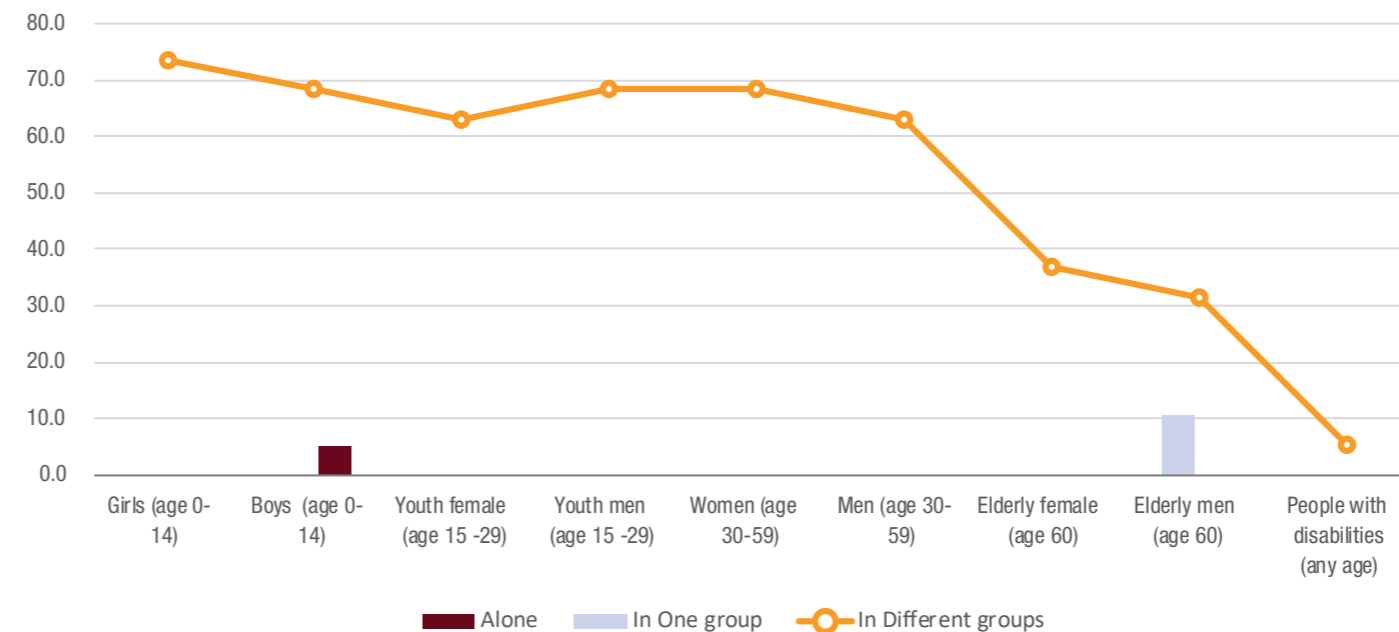
Men in the street in Jericho © Flickr Hans Brian Bandsberg



USERS OF PUBLIC SPACE BY GENDER



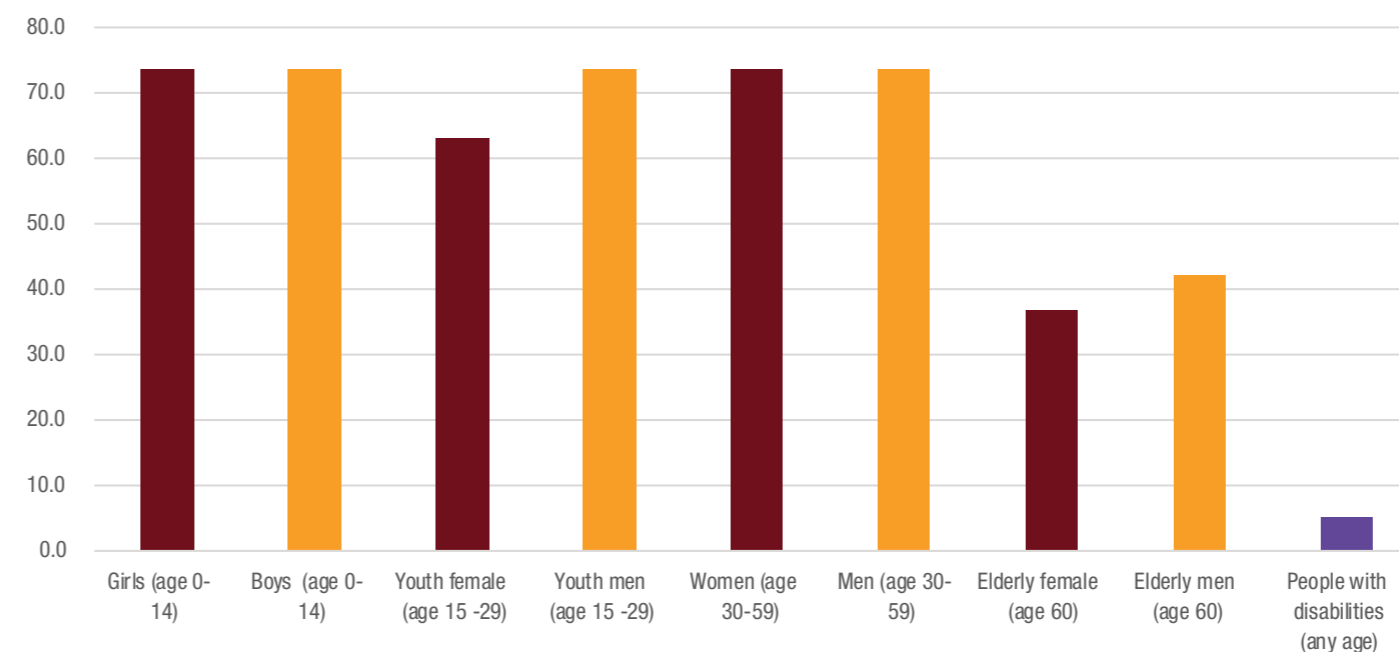
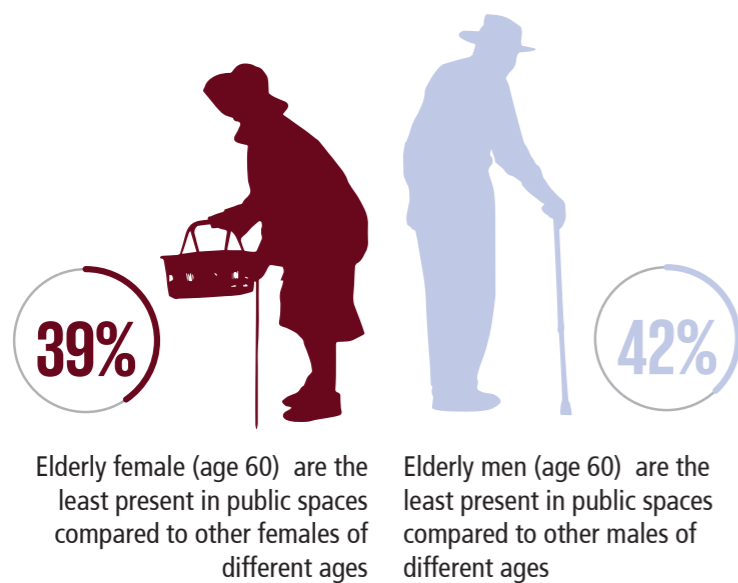
NUMBER OF PUBLIC SPACES SHOWING HOW USERS GROUP THEMSELVES



74%

Of public spaces show that girls between the age of 0-14 years were mostly found in different groups

PERCENTAGE OF PUBLIC SPACES WITH DIFFERENT USERS BY AGE



5%

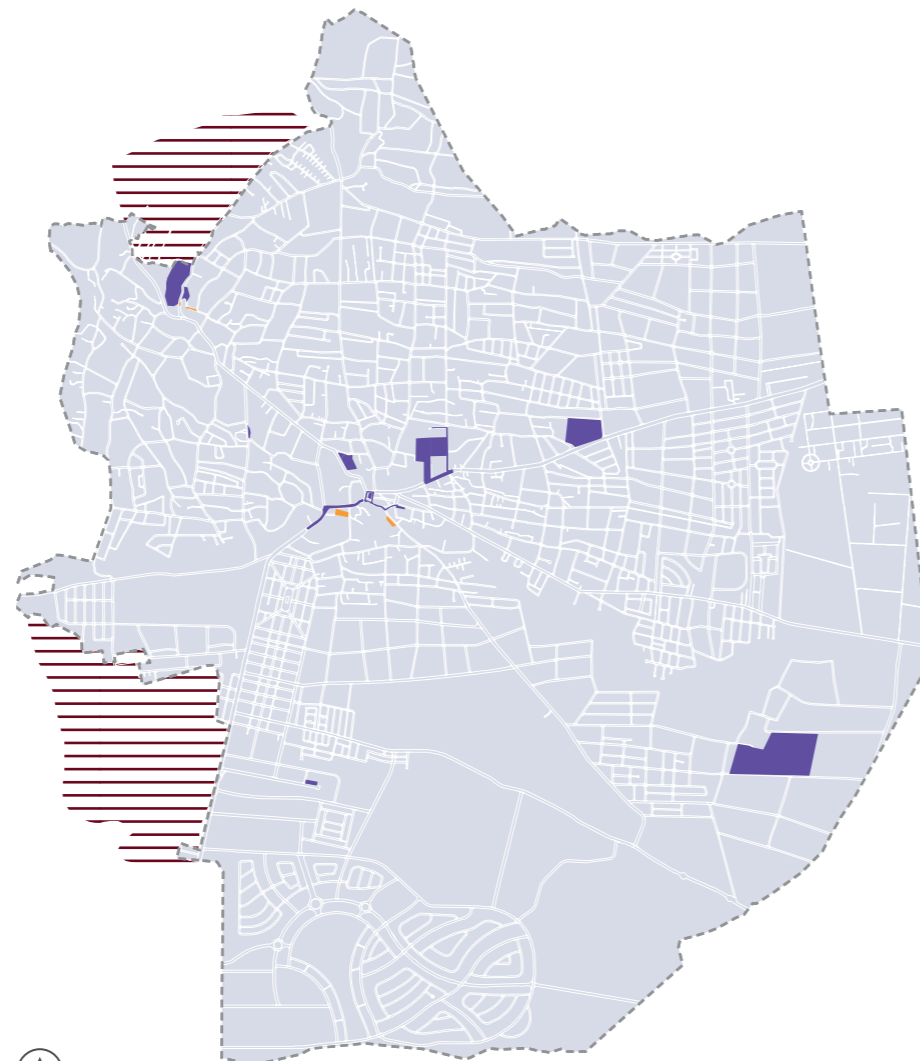
Only 5% of public spaces had people with disabilities present at the time of survey.

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

Disregarding gender, age and ability a truly comfortable place is welcoming and pleasant for everyone. When measuring and determining comfort in public space a range of factors are used. Some factors are: perceptions of safety, cleanliness, quality of smell, diversity of uses and users in the space, microclimate, soundscapes, and availability of amenities. Furthermore, design, social programming and management of public spaces are directly linked to enjoyment and quality of stay. When design and programming are done wrong public spaces risk being underused, misused or abandoned. This results in them becoming unsafe places. On the other hand, when done right, public spaces become the 'pulse' of the city and hotbeds of activities.

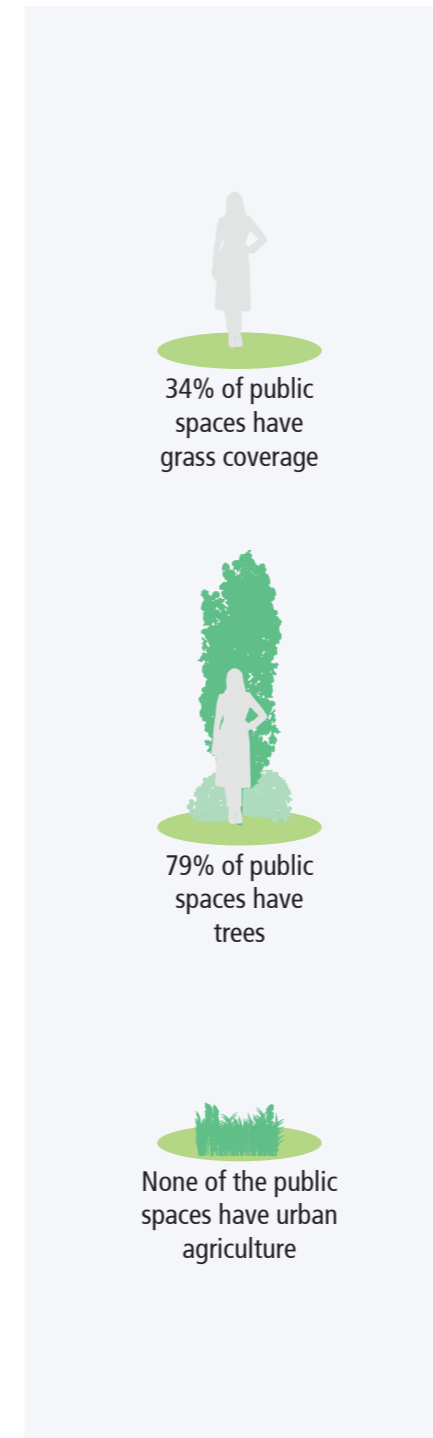
Factor such as smell, sight of garbage and noise all affect if people chose to stay and the quality of the stay. In Jericho one of three public spaces uncollected garbage is present. Similarly, noise is present in every fifth public space whilst smell is in every fifth public space. These three are key sector elements which affect the stay in the public space.

Among the public spaces close to 80 per cent have the presence of trees. Trees and green spaces improve the quality of public space and can help minimizing indicators such as noise and bad smell. No spaces in Jericho have urban agriculture. These areas help both green the city and create community among its citizens which improves the feeling of safety for women and girls.

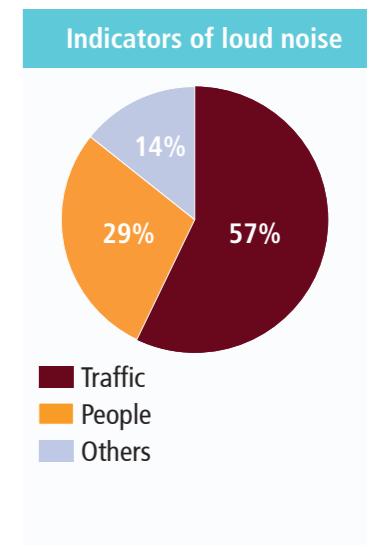
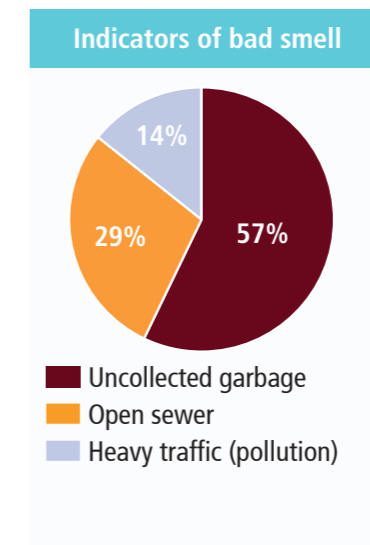
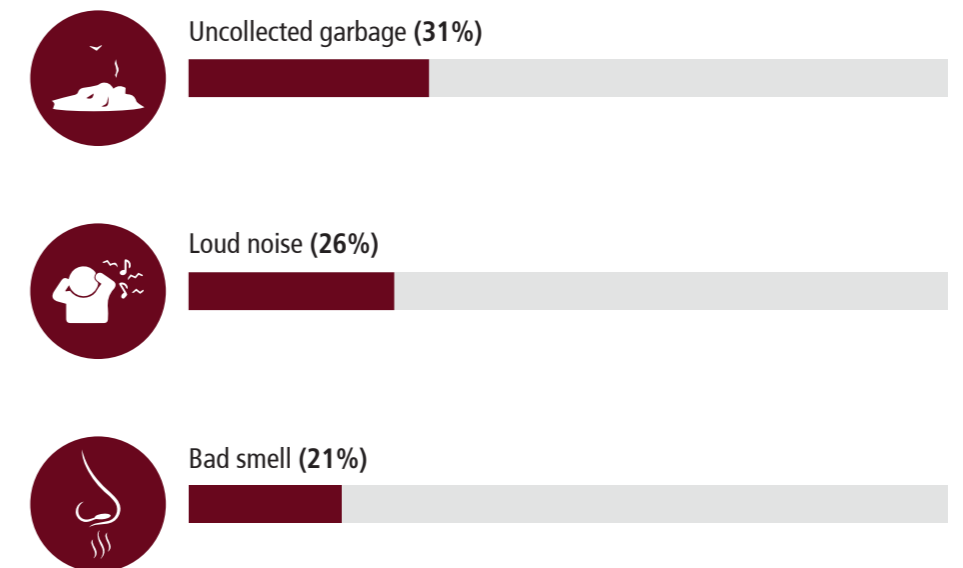


Comfort in public spaces

- Comfortable public spaces
- Moderately comfortable public spaces
- Uncomfortable public spaces
- ▨ Refugee camps



INDICATORS AFFECTING COMFORT IN PUBLIC SPACES



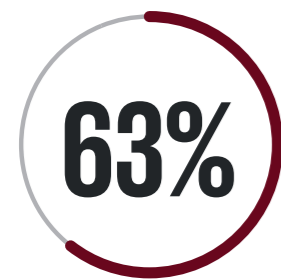
HOW ACCESSIBLE ARE THE PUBLIC SPACES?

In order to make public space more welcoming, inclusive and accessible it is important that they have well-defined entrances. In Jericho close to every second public space has clearly defined entrances. More than 30 per cent of the public spaces do not require entrances, only 22 per cent do not have clearly defined entrances. Similarly, infrastructure differential can either be an enabler or barrier to accessibility

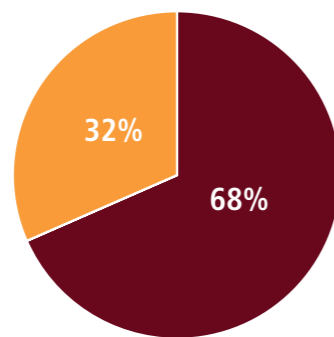
and inclusivity in public spaces. Universal design, for instance, design of walkways, entrances and amenities such as toilets can promote access for the blind, the elderly, children and people in wheelchairs. In the city however, a lot still needs to be done to promote universal accessibility.

Whilst Jericho has a high percentage of public spaces accessible by wheelchair

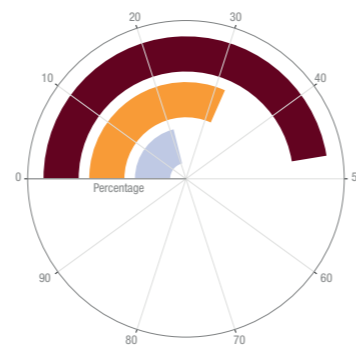
(68 per cent), none of its spaces are recognized as accessible or have texture changes in order to facilitate movement for the blind. Furthermore, four out of ten public spaces have limited access to the public. However, a majority of the public spaces restrict vehicular movement which facilitates movement for pedestrians. These factors play a part in order for women and girls to access and feel safe in public spaces.



63% (12) of public spaces have unrestricted access. 21% (4) public spaces have limited access while only 2 public space has controlled access and 1 has restricted access.



Wheelchair access
Others



Easy to find
Not required
Not clearly defined



Public spaces with facilities to restrict vehicular movement



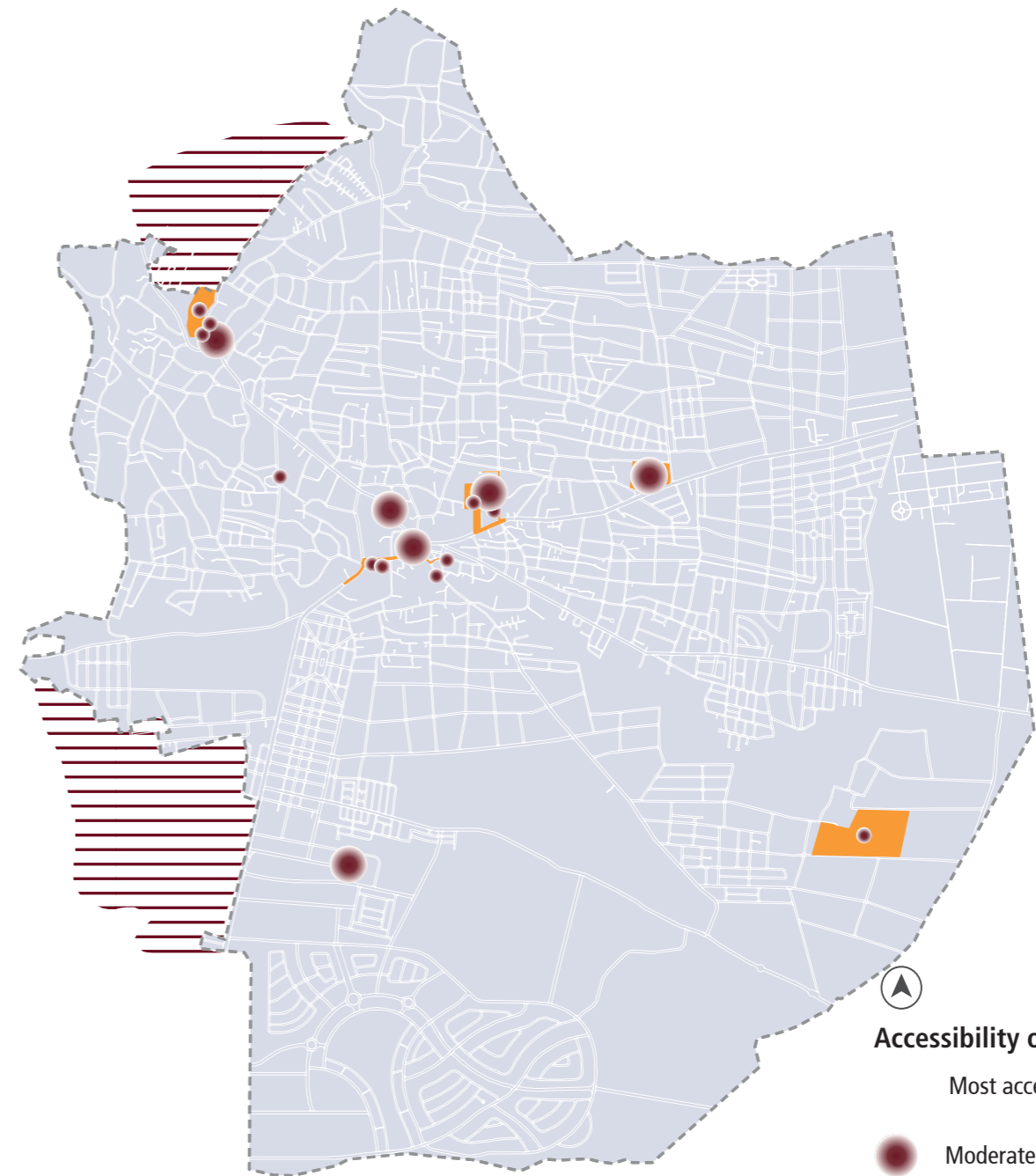
Public spaces with vehicular parking



Public spaces with bicycle parking



Street and waterway in Jericho © UN-Habitat - Joy Mutai



WHAT ARE THE SAFETY CONCERNS IN PUBLIC SPACES?

The right to live, work and enjoy leisure in an environment free from crime and harassment should be enjoyed by everyone. However, women and girls are especially vulnerable to violence and harassment in volatile environments. The violence against women and girls is not only a threat to basic human right, it is also threatens the achievement of gender equality, and the gains associated with empowering women and girls. Among the factors contributing to harassment against women and girls include social factors, culture, and norms. Also

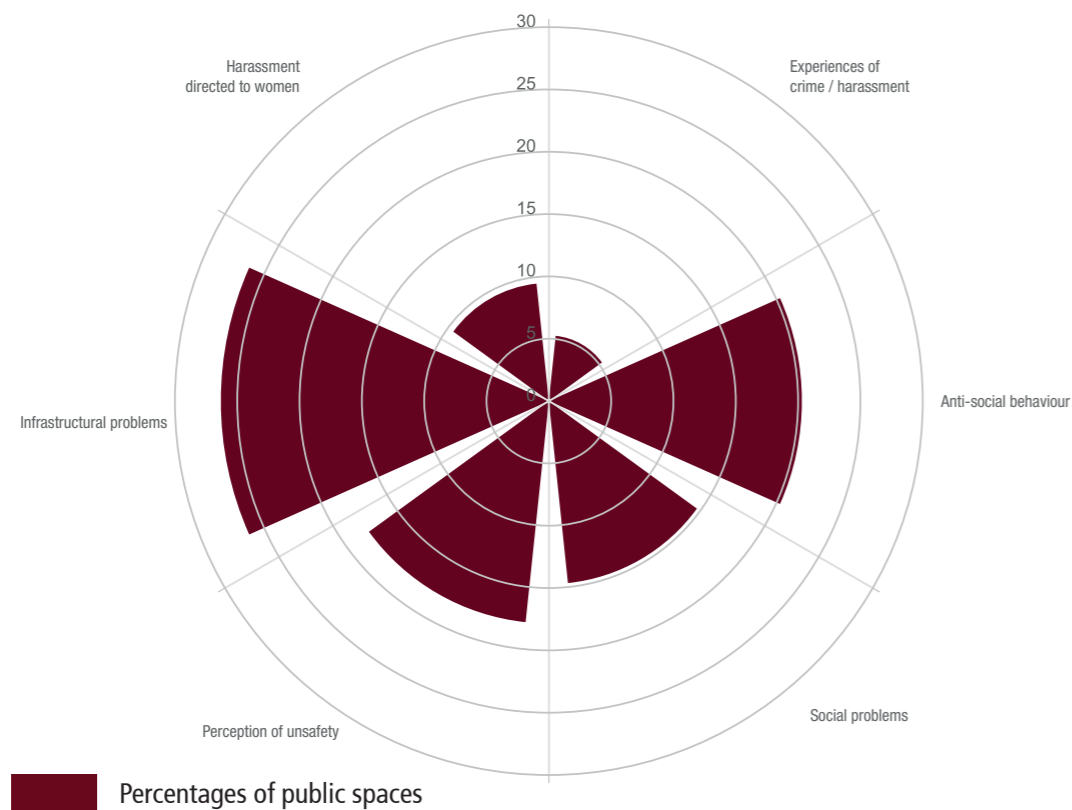
traditions which often limit the power of women to make their own choices and decisions.

Infrastructure problems are recognised by women and girls in more than a quarter of all public spaces in Jericho. Similarly, almost every fifth public space is characterised as generally unsafe. The feeling of unsafety is closely related to anti-social behaviour which is present in more than every fifth public space. Concerning harassment, it is experienced by women and girls in roughly every tenth public space.

Harassment is expressed and experienced in a multitude of ways. Most commonly among the women and girls in Jericho it is shown in forms of verbal abuse (screaming, cursing, etc.), stalking and ogling.

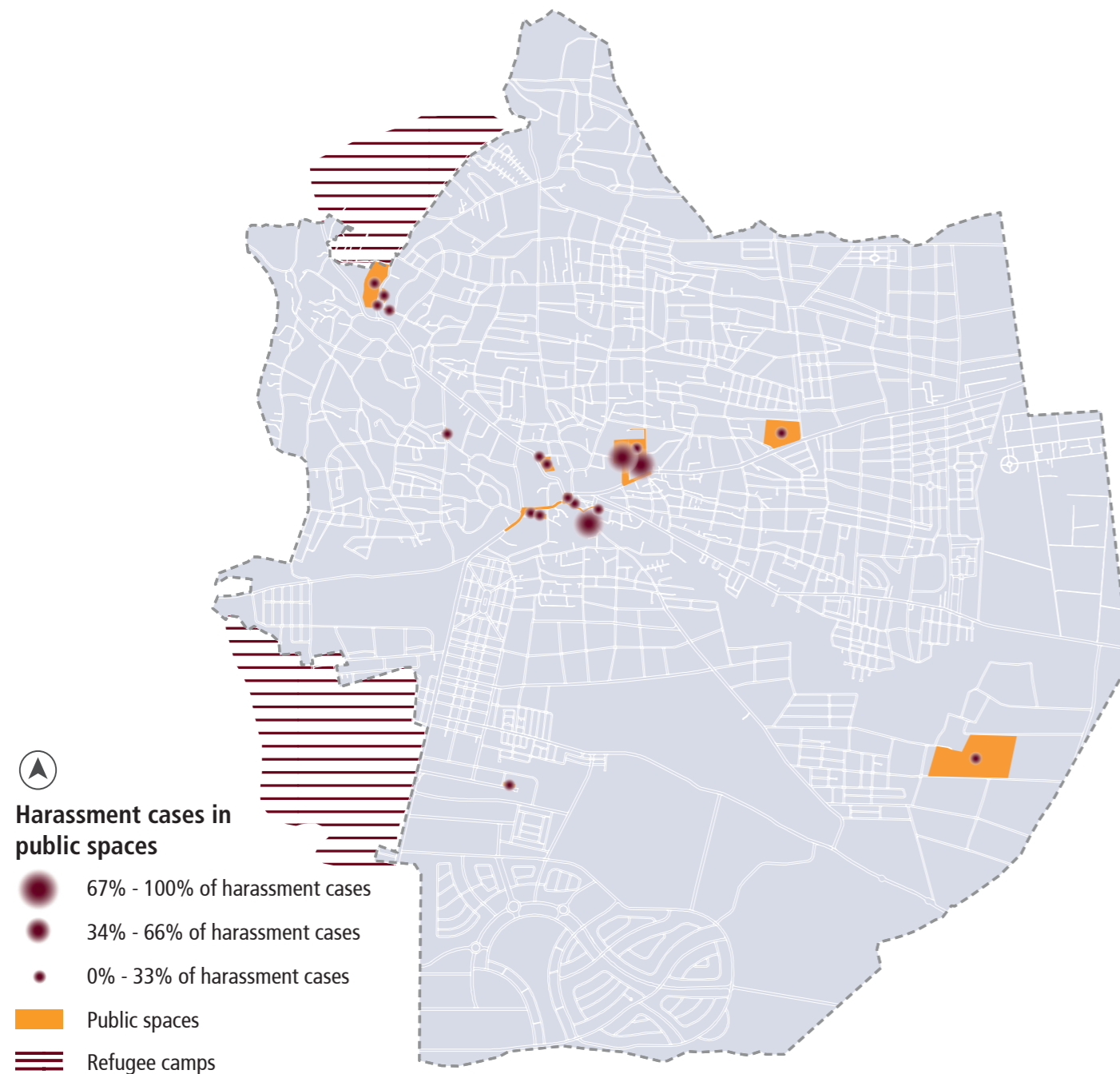
In order to inspire a culture change towards building a society where women and girls can feel safe and interact with their male counterparts as civic equals, there is a need for concerted effort to promote public spaces as inclusive places, especially for women and girls.

SAFETY CONCERNS IN OPEN PUBLIC SPACES

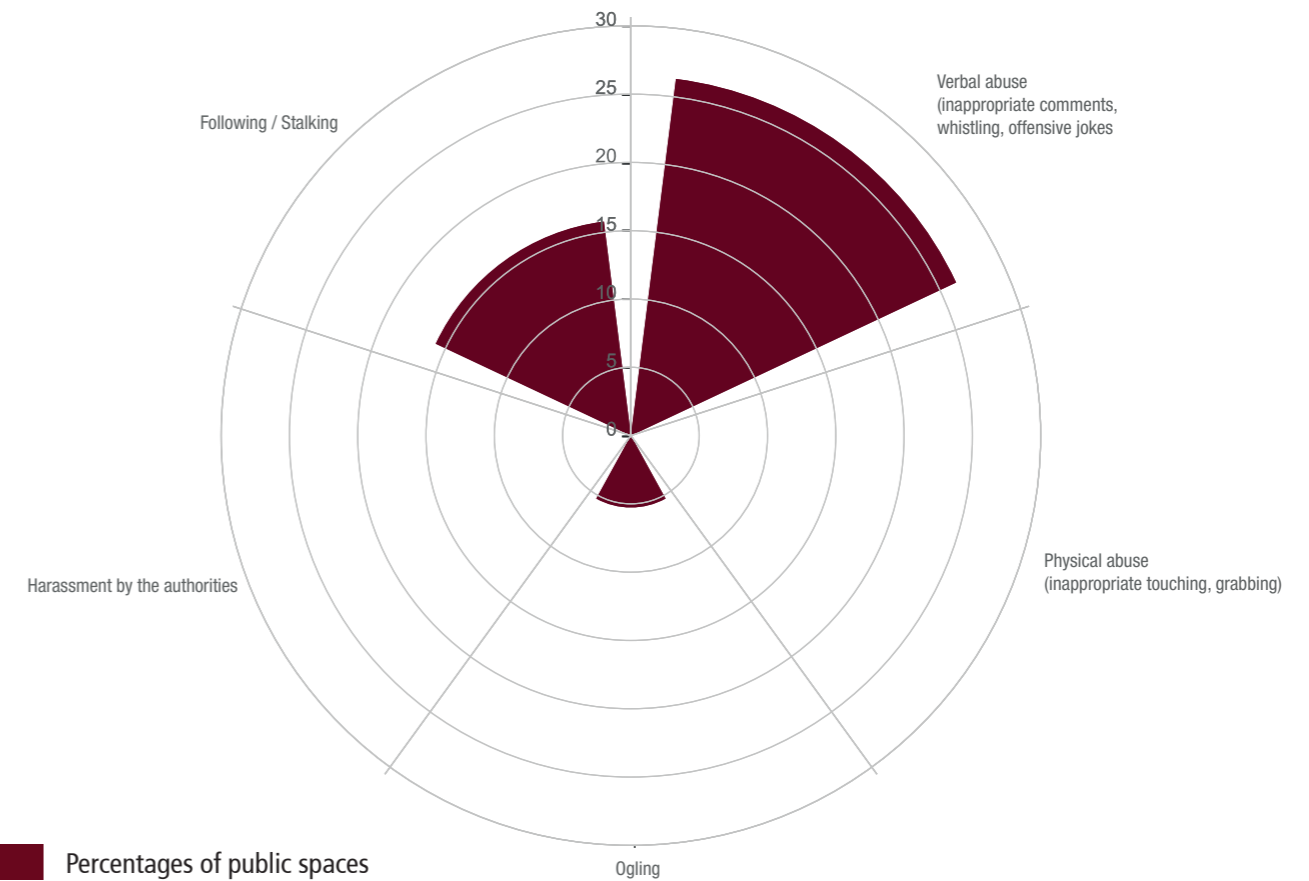


Families enjoying a fountain in Jericho © UN-Habitat - Joy Mutai

HARASSMENT



PERCENTAGE OF PUBLIC SPACES WITH PRESENCE OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF HARASSMENT

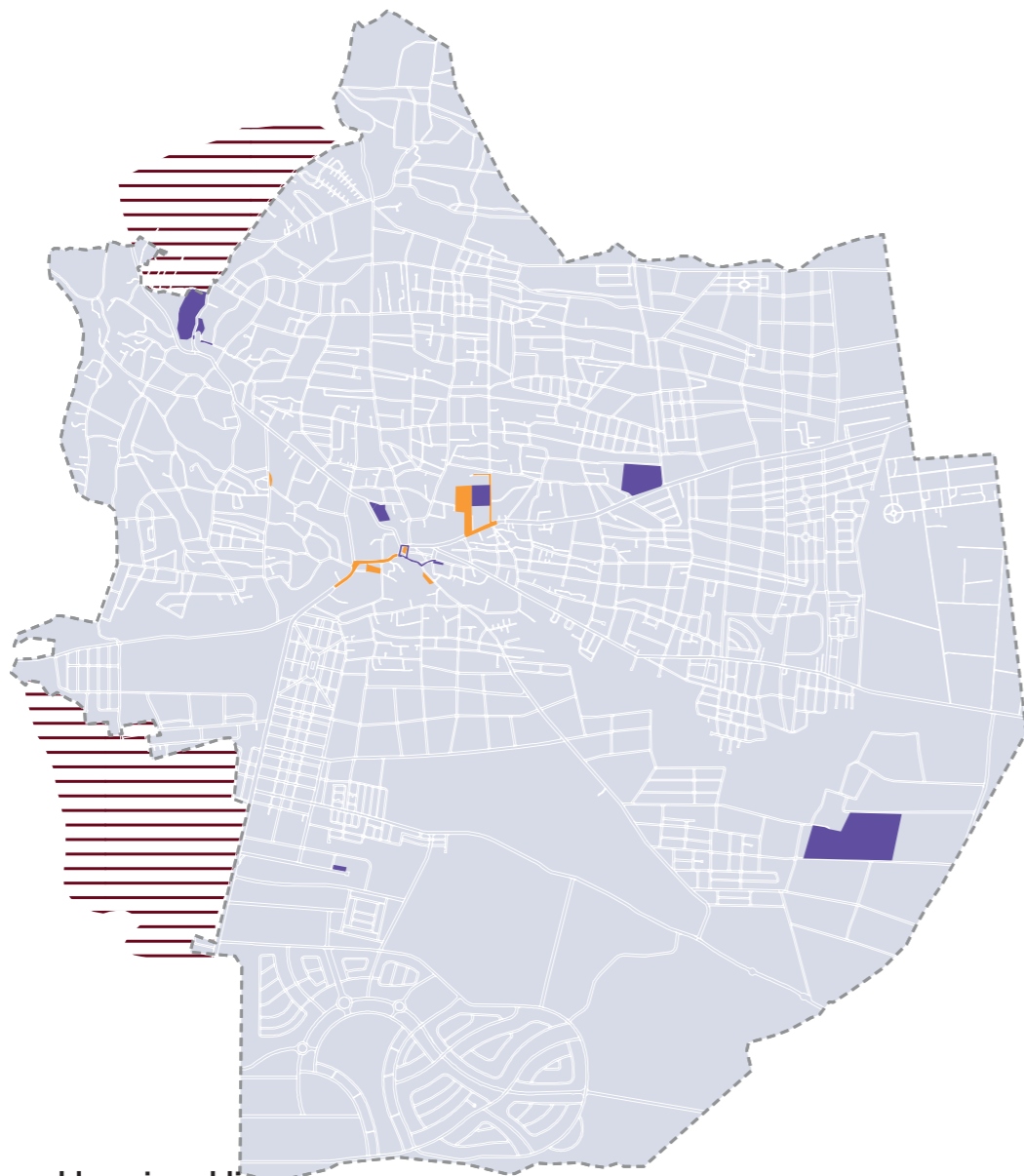


Unwelcome remarks and inappropriate conduct are two kinds of sexual harassment women and girls have to constantly deal with in cities, towns and villages. Ogling, inappropriate touch, stalking, harassment by authorities and verbal abuse by men are part of everyday harassment. These risks and threats which are posed to women and girls in the city poses the question: where are women included in the city?

Harassment and threat of harassment are a constant fear for women in public spaces. In Jericho, verbal abuse like inappropriate comments, whistling and offensive jokes were observed in more than every fourth public space. Stalking or following was observed in more than 15 percent of the public spaces. Ogling, inappropriate staring, was observed in five percent of public spaces. A majority of the harassment cases are found in the central areas of

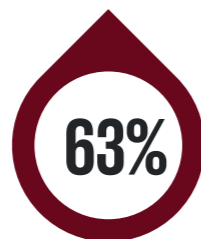
Jericho, close to commercial areas. Not only does the harassment inflict the feeling of unsafety, it also showcase that women and girls are seen as unwelcome strangers in the public space of Jericho. In order to promote inclusion of women in public spaces, and a culture that respects women and their right to use and enjoy public space and the city at large the authorities need to take deliberate steps of action.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROBLEMS



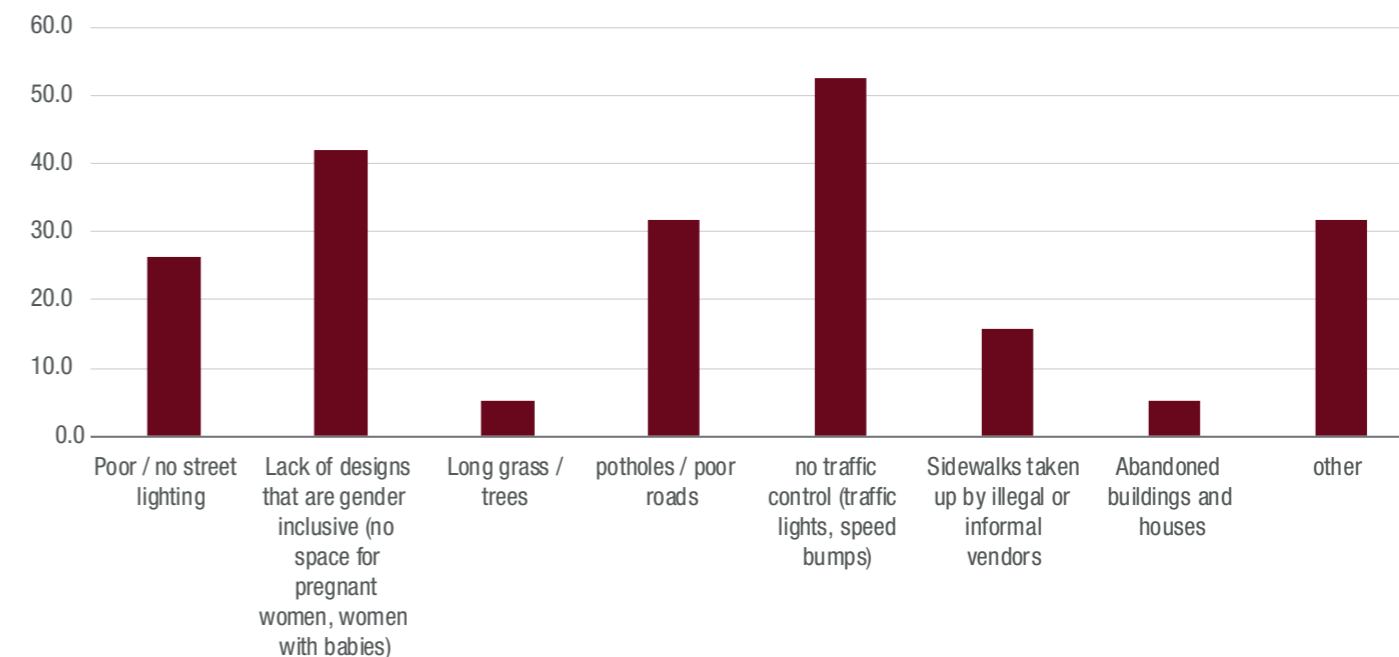
Infrastructure problems in public spaces

- 0% - 33% of infrastructure problems
- 34% - 66% of infrastructure problems
- 67% - 100% of infrastructure problems
- Refugee camps



Of public spaces have few infrastructure problems related to the indicators on the top right corner

STREET LIGHTING IS THE MAIN INFRASTRUCTURAL PROBLEM IN PUBLIC SPACES



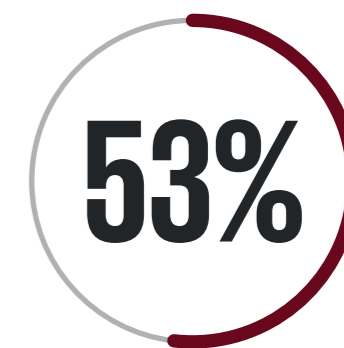
Poor urban design, inadequate organisation and distribution of urban basic services, and urban functions creates environments which are perceived as hostile. The burden of these defects are carried by women and inflicts their usage of public spaces. Examples of malfunctions which create hostile environments are dark and poorly lit streets, derelict public spaces, public facilities and empty lots, poorly maintained public spaces and urban furniture, inadequate signage and lack of or poorly maintained public toilets.

In more than half of the public spaces there is a lack of traffic control including traffic lights and speed bumps. This creates an environment which affects children's movements and safety in the city. Furthermore, close to every second public space lacks gender

inclusive design such as spaces for women with children. This creates an unsafe environment for both women with children and young girls.

It was also observed that every fourth public space has poor or lacks lightning, and more than every third public space has under-managed roads with potholes or in poor condition. More than fifteen percent of the public space have illegal vendors taking up the sidewalk.

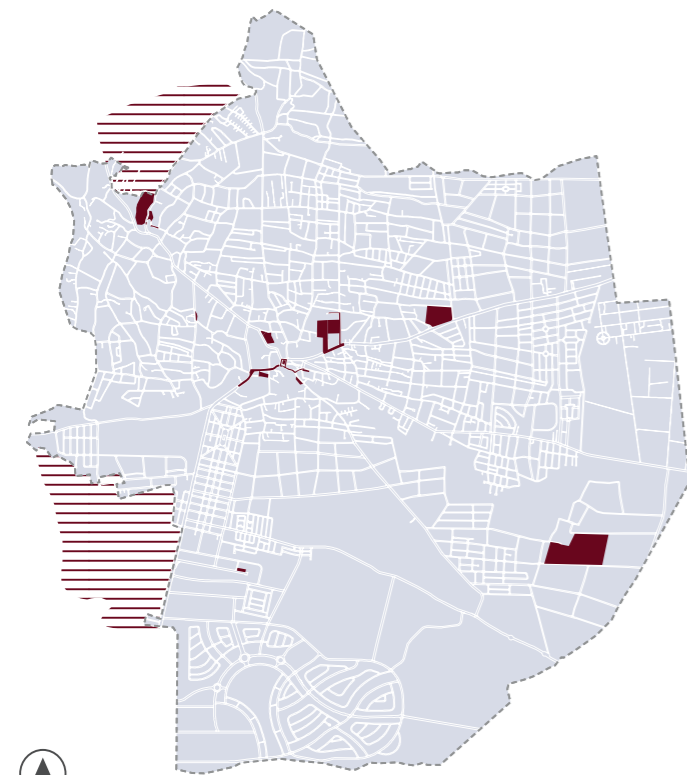
Planning and design of public spaces through the lens of women and girls plays an important role in the city because it raises awareness of the fact that public space is not neutral and that the design of the public realm can either facilitate or impede the mobility, safety and independence of more than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



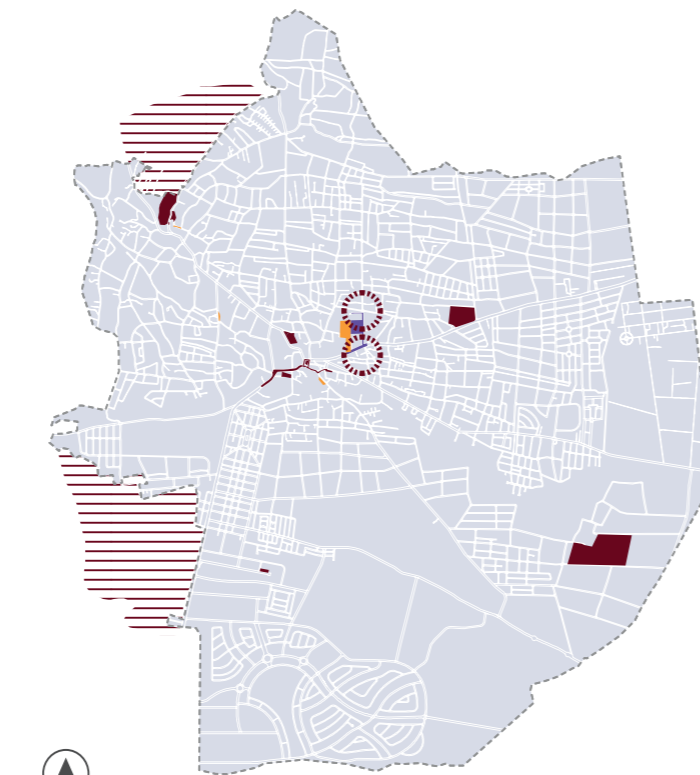
Public spaces with no traffic control (traffic lights, speed bumps)

FEELING OF SAFETY

Perception of unsafety for male users



Perception of unsafety for female users



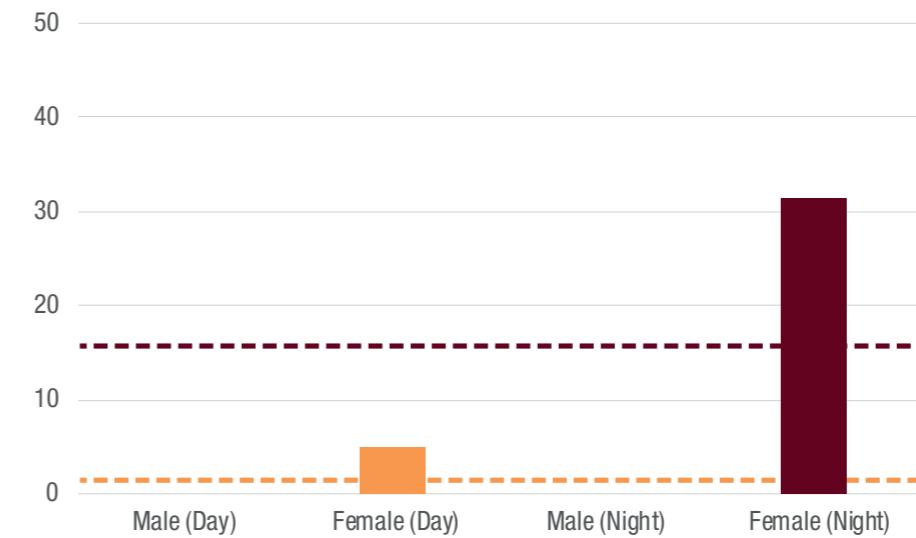
Fear of crime and perceptions of safety both inflict the feeling of being unsafe. Especially for women and girls the feeling of being unsafe has a significant impact on their daily life. It often pushes women and girls into taking some precautionary measures such as avoiding going to certain places alone or at night or taking such precautionary measures

such as carrying weapons. In reality such measures reduce the freedom of movement for women and girls. Partly it limits their access to essential services and their enjoyment of cultural and recreational opportunities. But, it also has a negative impact on their health and well-being.

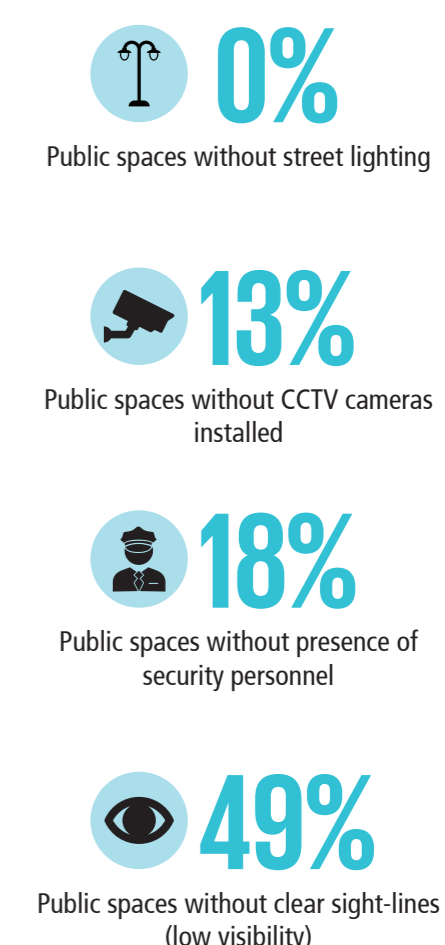
Areas that affect the feeling of safety are for example street lighting, presence

of security personnel, video surveillance and clear sight-lines. The latter is observed as missing in almost fifty percent of all public spaces. Overall women feel more unsafe than men in Jericho. Up to every third woman feels unsafe in public spaces during the night. This can be compared to roughly 5 per cent of women and girls feeling unsafe during daytime.

FEELING OF UNSAFETY BY GENDER AND TIME



Women in a public park in Jericho © UN-Habitat - Joy Mutai

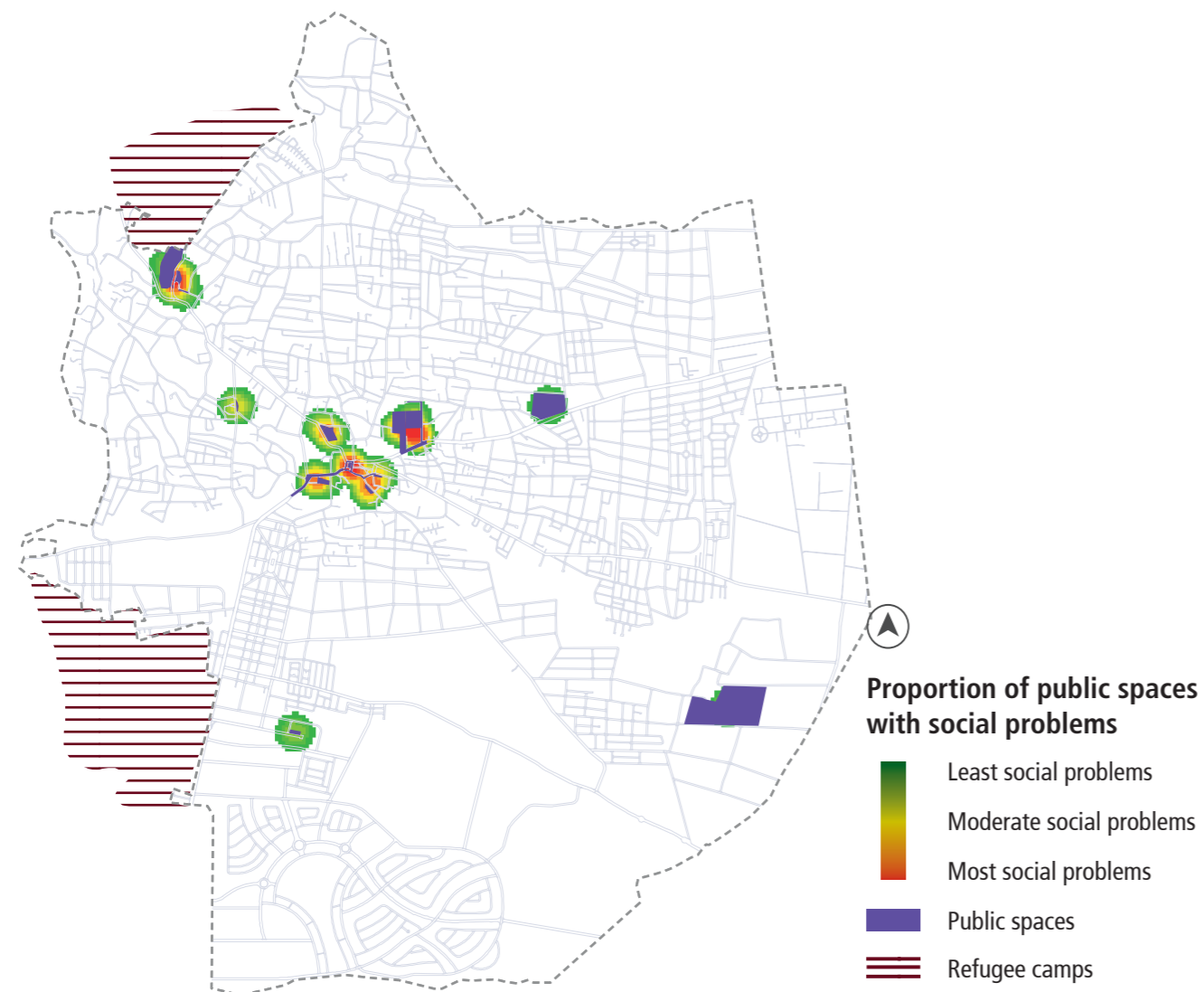


SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN PUBLIC SPACES

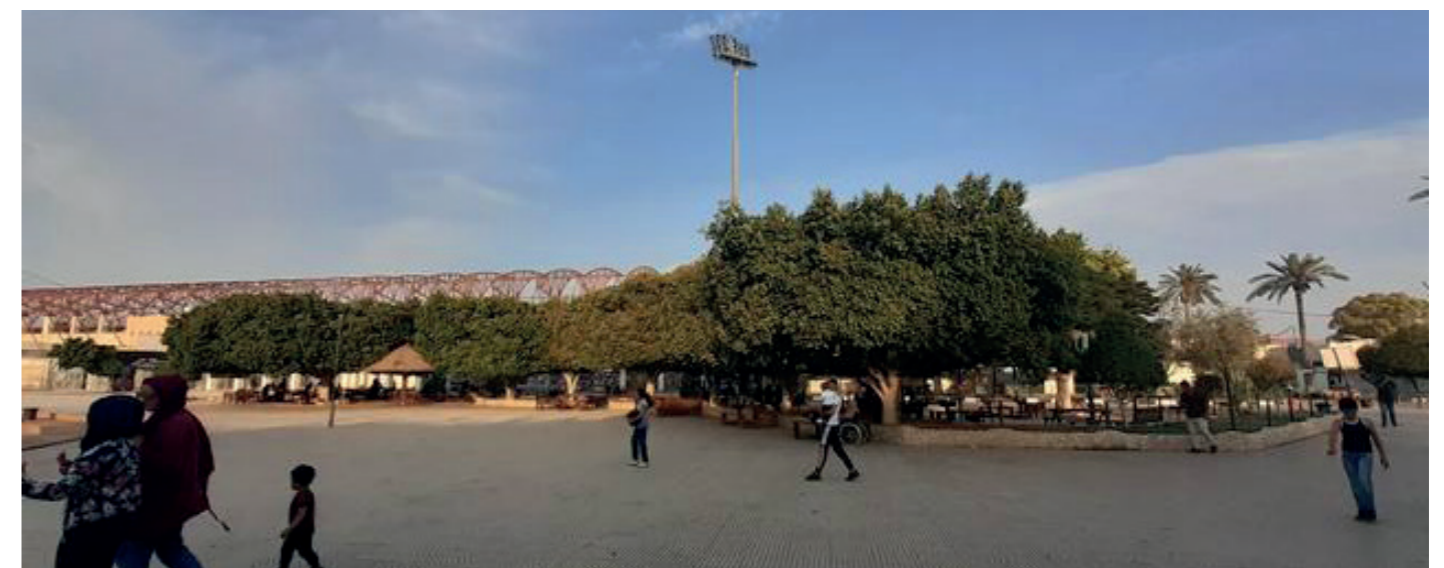
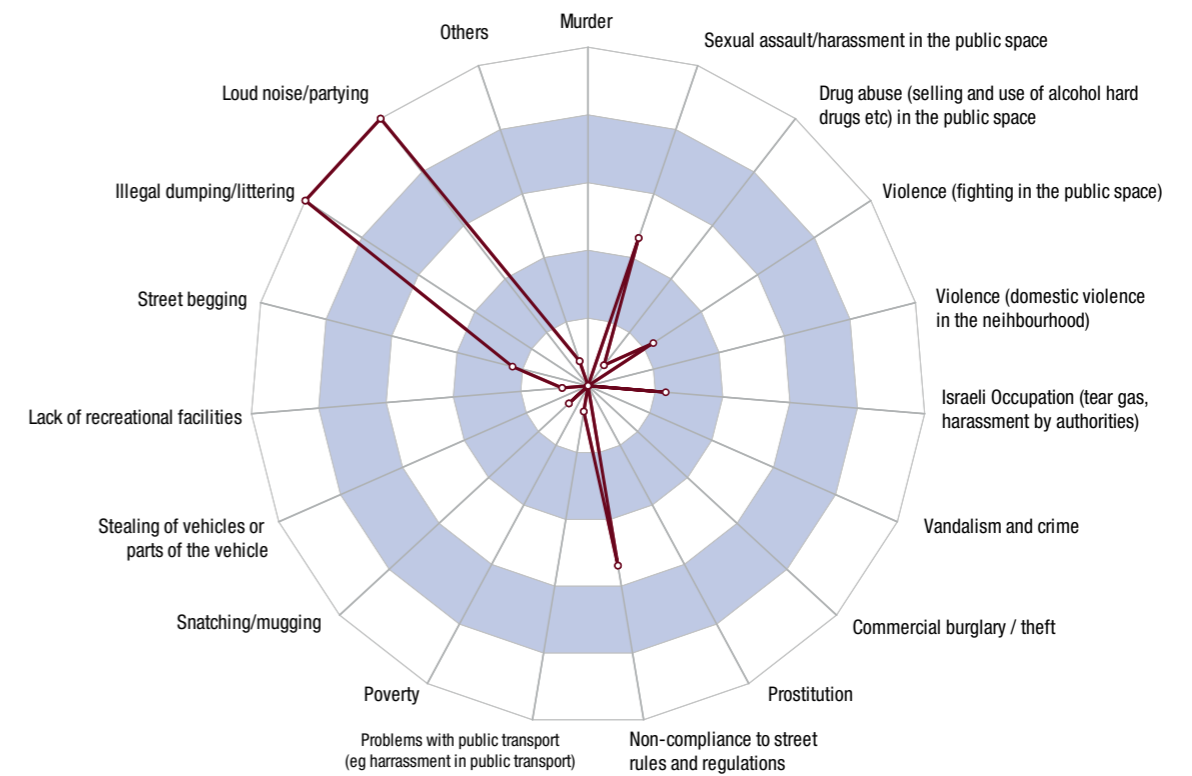
Concentrated poverty, crimes, including such opportunistic crimes as snatching, noise, prostitution and violence are all examples of social determinants of poor safety in cities and neighbourhood. In these areas crime tends to thrive. Poverty can for example push people to the brink where they have to commit the opportunistic crime of snatching or

stealing vehicle parts. These incidences lead to gradual decline, leading to increased perception of lack of safety in public spaces. The social problems recognized in Jericho concern illegal dumping and littering, loud noise and partying, sexual assault and harassment in public spaces, non-compliance with street rules, violence and Israeli occupation actions.

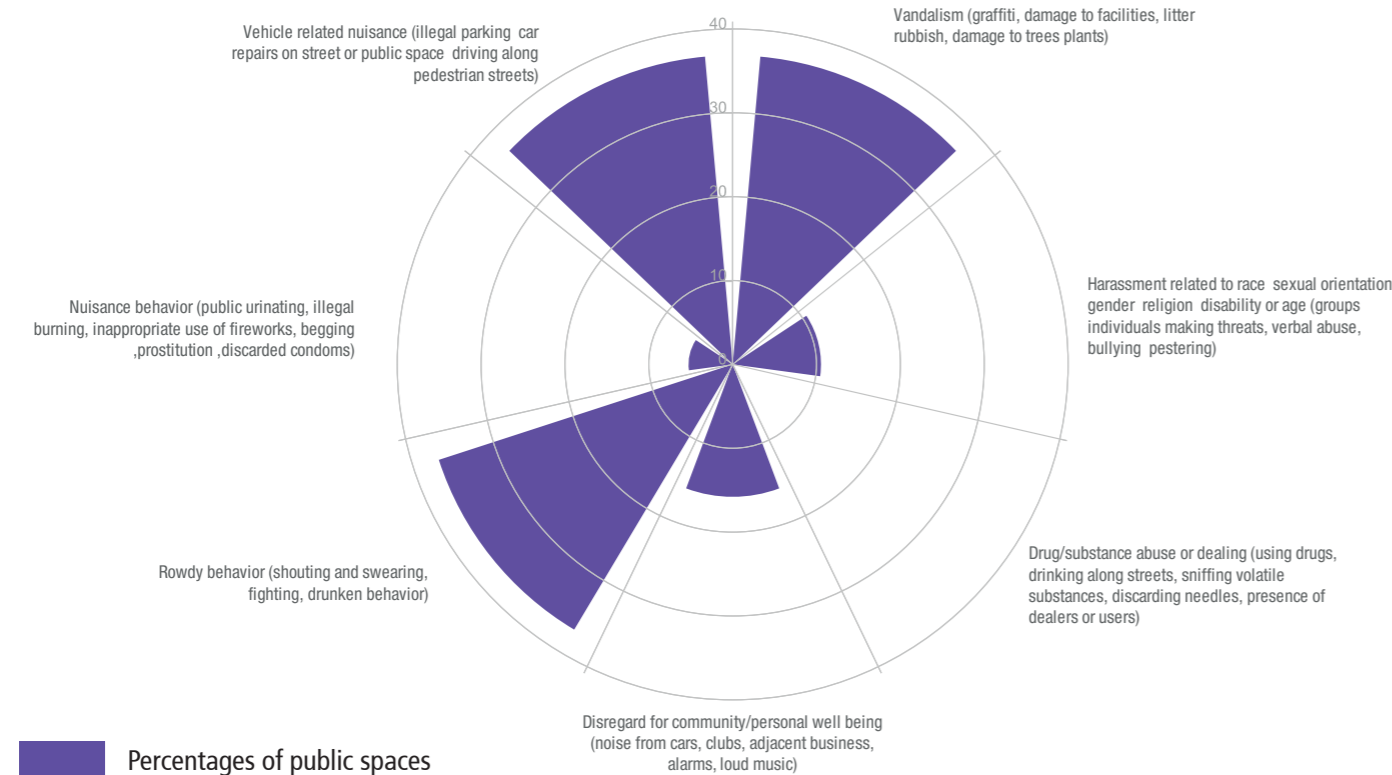
Social prevention has been deemed as the most successful approach in order to tackle the root causes of crime and lack of safety. Social prevention focuses on the social and economic conditions that contribute to violent and criminal behaviour. It places emphasis on groups at risk, including women and youth.



ILLEGAL DUMPING AND LOUD NOISE ARE THE HIGHEST RECORDED PROBLEM



An open plaza in Jericho © UN-Habitat



Soft crimes is the term used for anti-social behaviour or related disorders. This is due to them being deemed of 'less serious' nature in their offense. However, if unchecked these 'run-away' crimes can grow into a spiral of 'more serious' crime and disorder, causing discomfort and fear, especially towards women and girls. This can explain how and why public spaces gradually fall into despair if there is no system of management and custodianship in place.

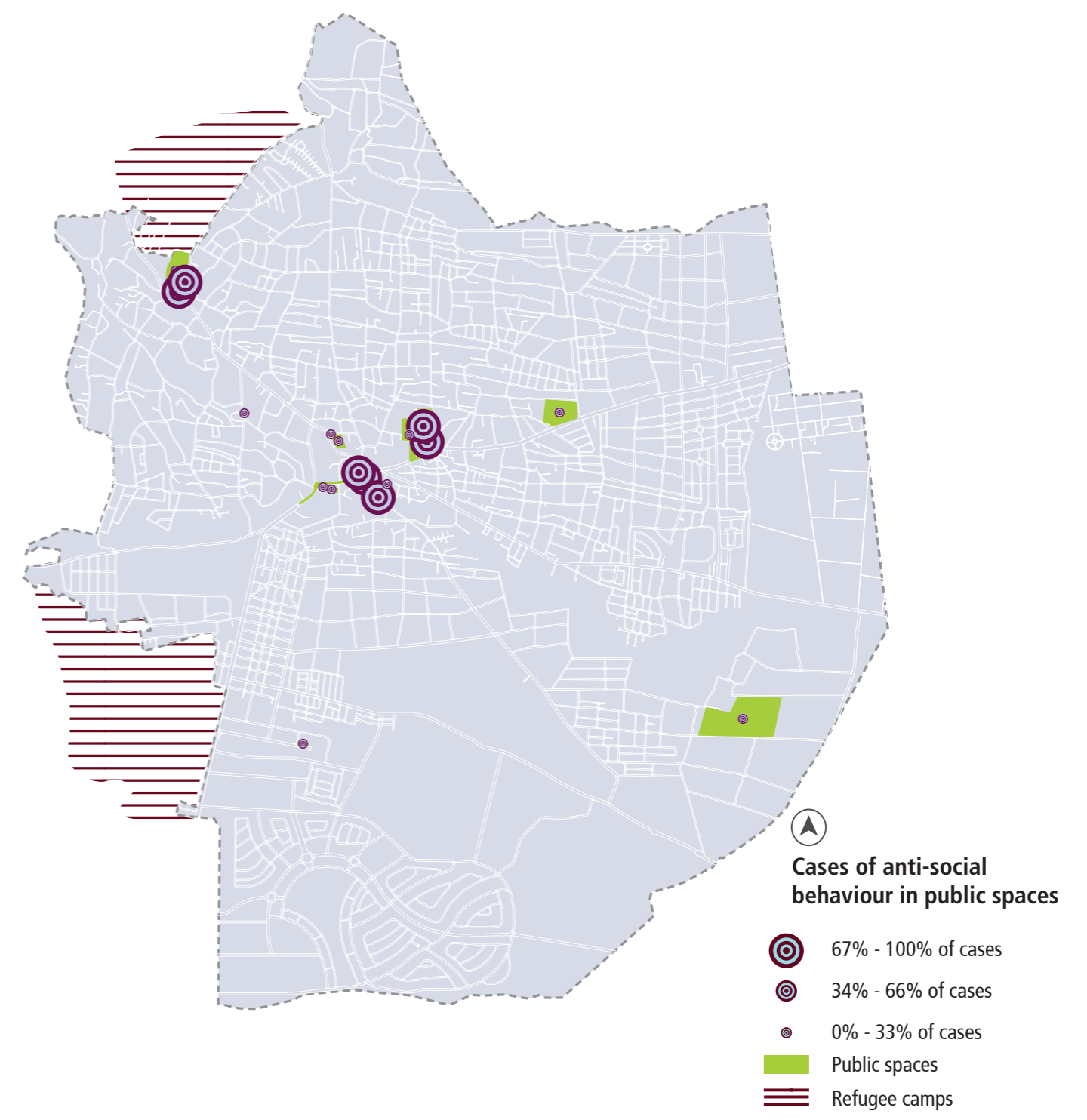
Poor maintenance of public spaces often sends cues that no one cares or is in charge of the space. This can in

term encourage potential offenders to commit offenses. Such cues include but are not limited to irresponsible graffiti, vandalism, drug peddling and abuse, public nuisance such as urinating in non-designated places, illegal parking in non-designated places, and unwelcome behaviour by groups of youth and teenagers.

In Jericho anti-social behaviour in public spaces is highly present. Close to 40 per cent of the public spaces suffer from rowdy behaviour in terms of shouting, swearing, fighting and public drinking, noise from traffic and vandalism such as graffiti, litter,

rubbish and damage to facilities and trees. Disregard of the public and individuals are also present, although to a lower degree. This is for example as noise from clubs, alarms and cars which is present in 15 per cent of all public spaces. Harassment of individuals due to race, sexual orientation, gender, religion or age is present in more than 10 per cent of public spaces. Lastly, nuisance behaviour is present in 5 per cent of public spaces. Consistent inaction by the custodians of the spaces may lead to increased incidences or even more serious crimes including robbery with violence and even rape.

PERCENTAGE OF PUBLIC SPACES WITH DIFFERENT TYPES OF PROBLEMS

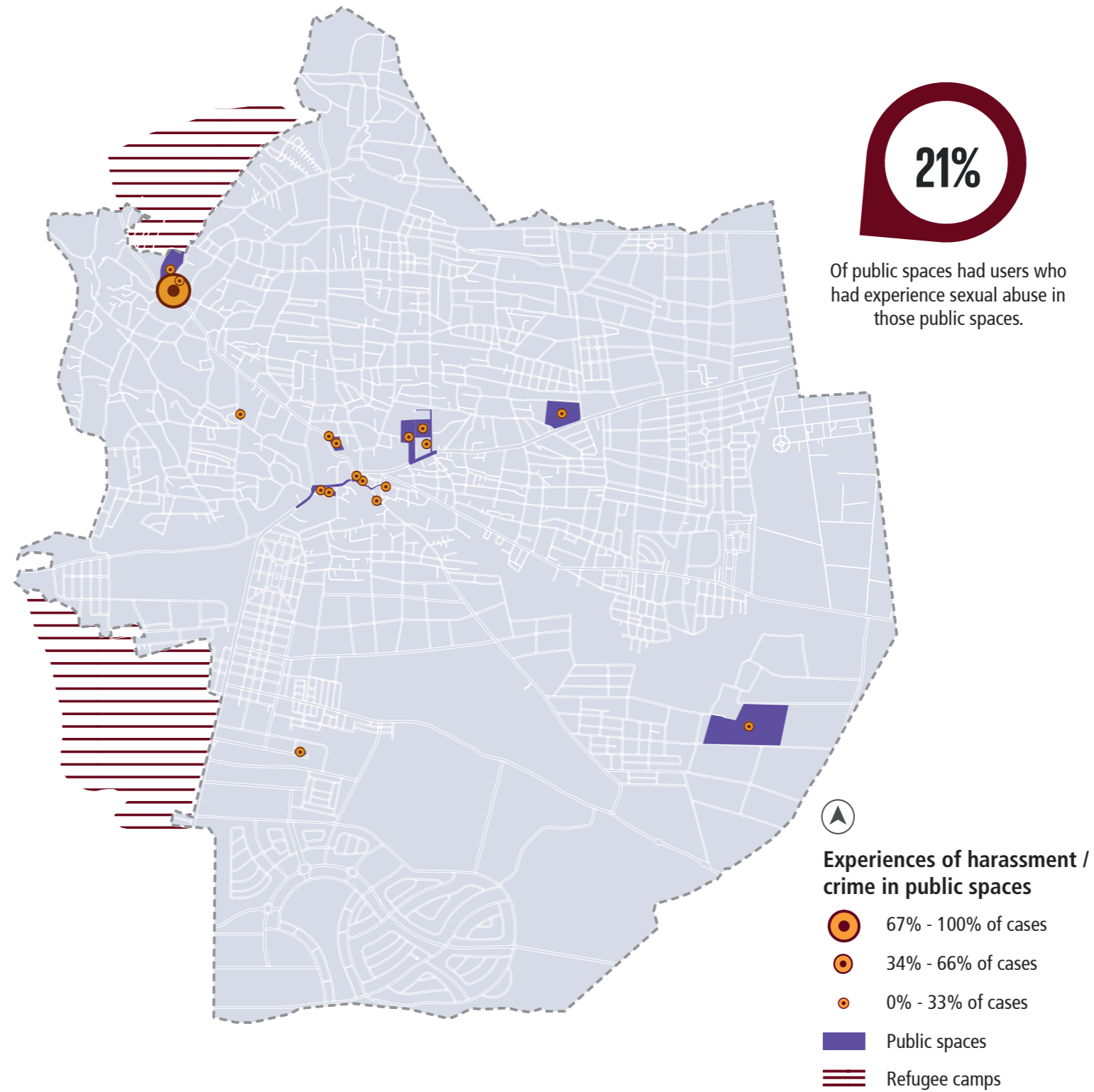
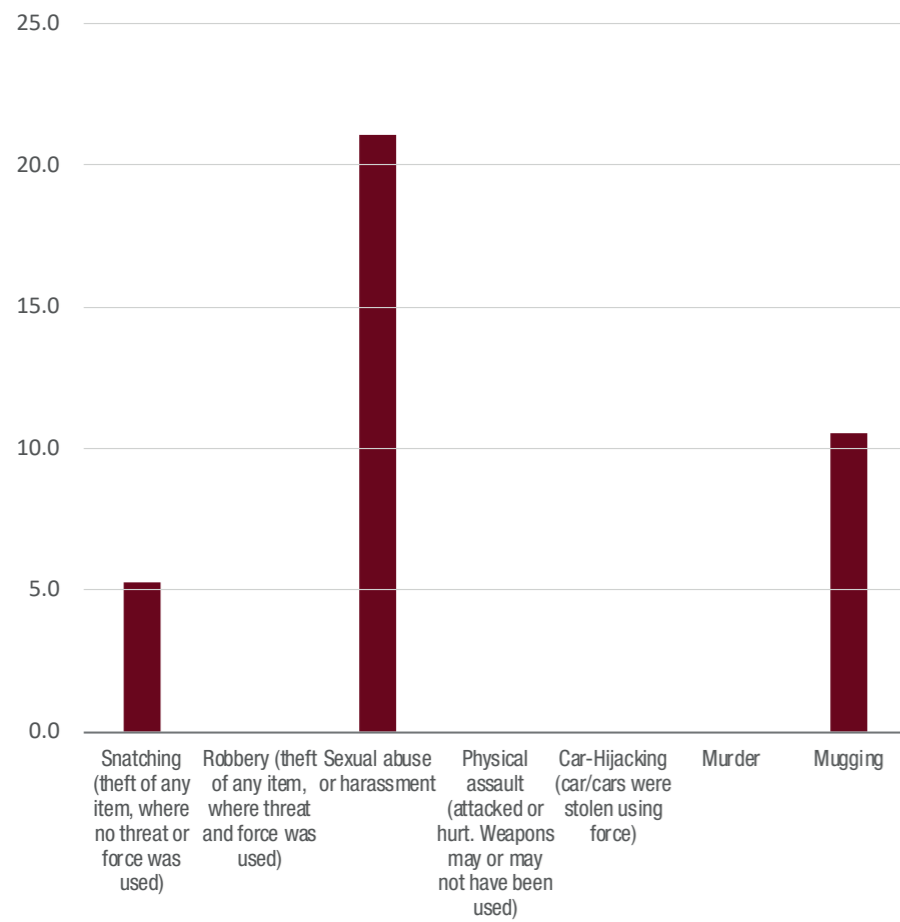


EXPERIENCES OF CRIME / HARASSMENT

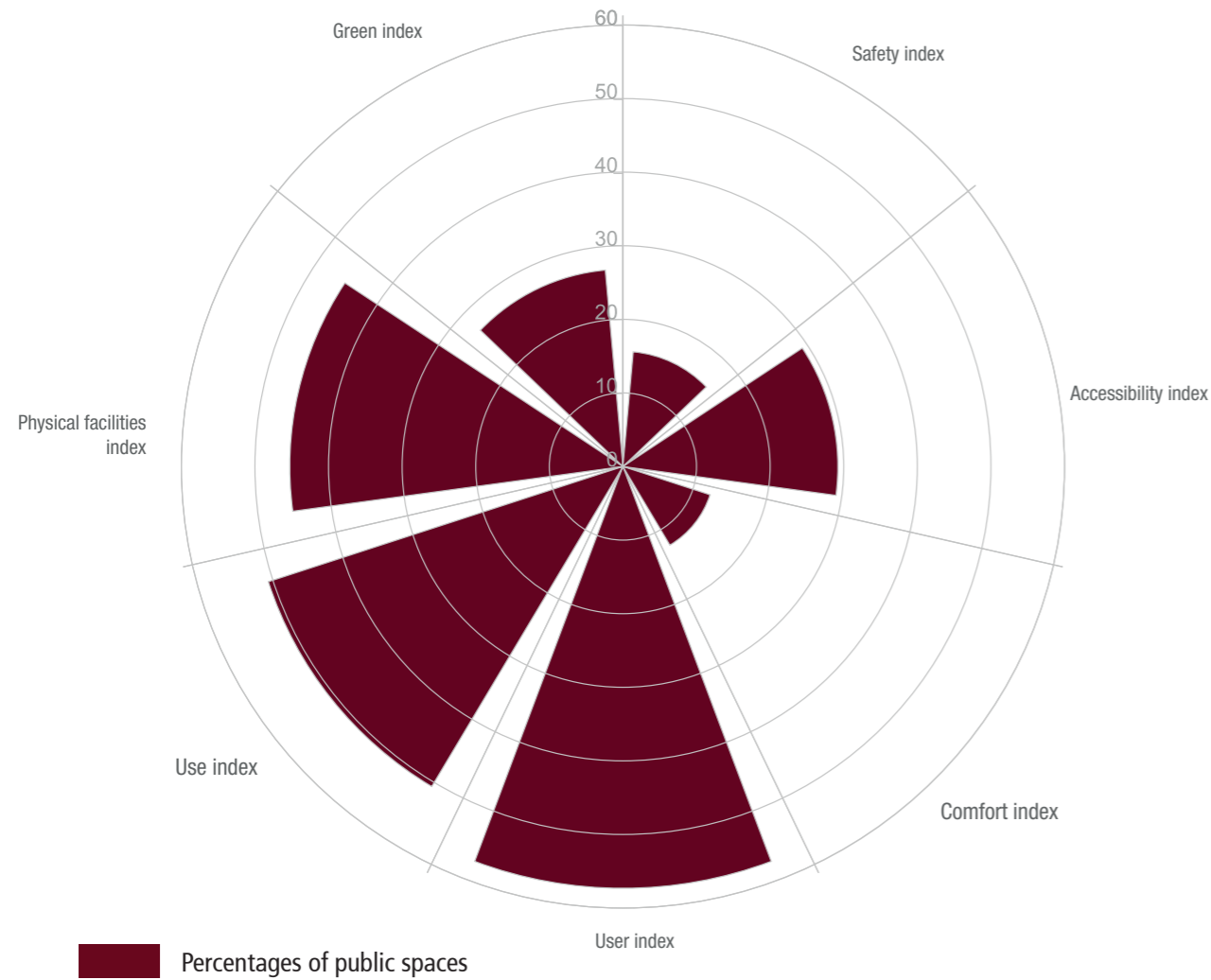
The freedom of women and girls, their autonomy and perception of safety can be seriously implicated by the crime and harassment and fear of crime and harassment. Adolescent girls and young women often experience this more frequently compared to their older counterparts. It is also seen that it starts at a young age. Crime typically takes place in instances where there is an offender(s), victim(s) and a space. Oftentimes, the space is either a public space, public transport or a private space.

In Jericho, sexual abuse and harassment was reported as a concern in more than every fifth public space. Mugging was present in more than ten percent of the public spaces, whereas snatching without any force or threat of violence was present in five percent of the spaces.

Crime prevention is one area that the city needs to invest in order to reclaim back public spaces as 'safety valves' in the city.



WHICH DIMENSIONS ARE STRONG IN PUBLIC SPACES?

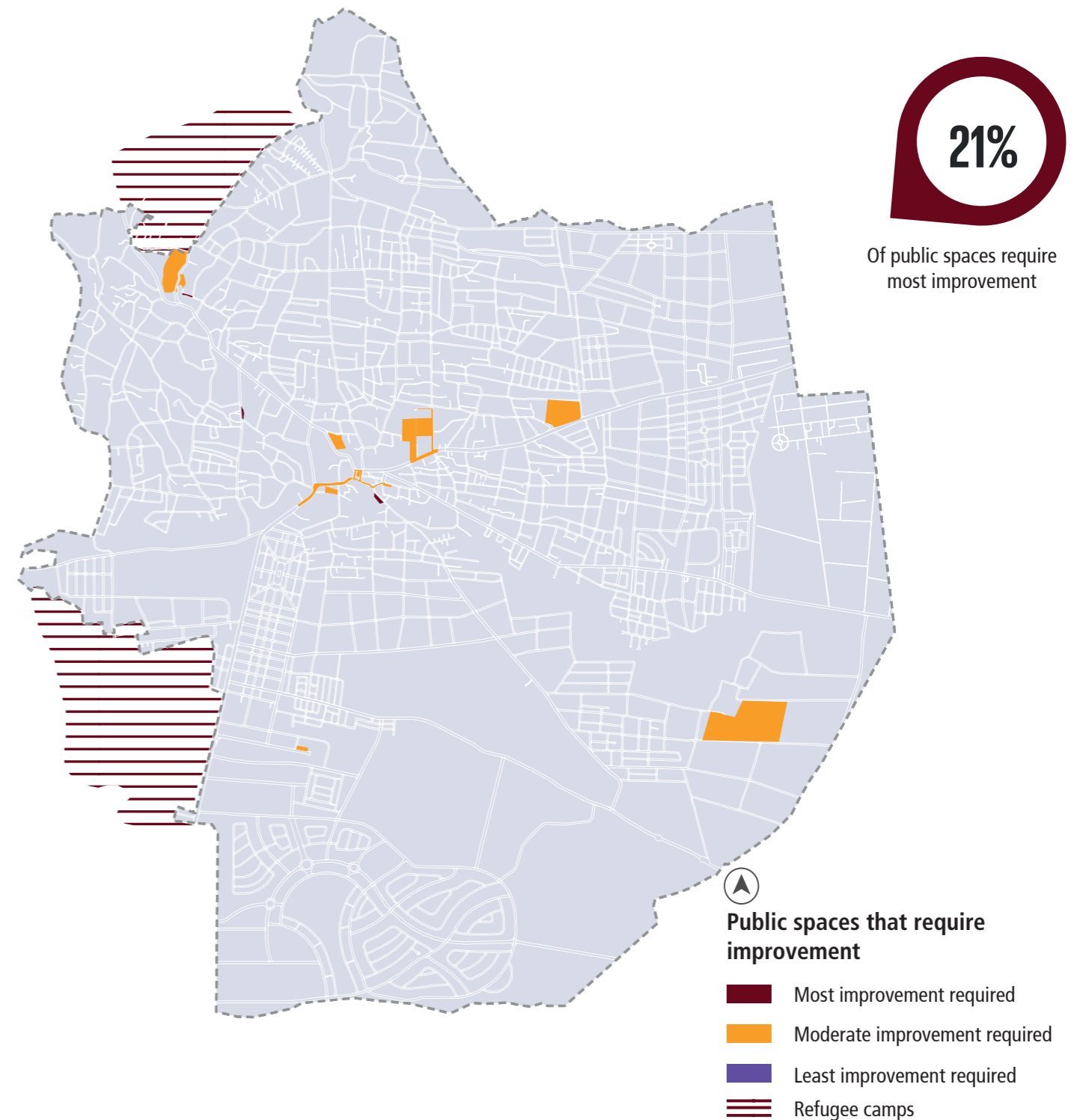


STRONG DIMENSIONS

In order to measure the quality of public spaces in Jericho, indices were developed based on the following criteria to come up with a weighted aggregate: use, users, green, comfort, accessibility, physical facilities and safety.

Jericho scores well on user index amounting to almost sixty percent. Use index and physical facilities index also score high. Fifty respectively forty five percent. However, considering comfort and safety Jericho scores a bit over ten respectively fifteen, which can be considered low. These are closely followed by green index (twenty-five) and accessibility (thirty). These scores

are weighted out of a possible total score of one hundred. The results show that overall, Jericho is performing below average with a mean score of 44 out of 100. This should indicate to the local authorities that safety and comfort are priorities when it comes to interventions.





Public space in Jericho © Jericho Municipality

4

CHAPTER

ENVISIONING
JERICHO CITY

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

VALIDATION WORKSHOP

To present the results of the city-wide public space assessment, an e-validation workshop was held with the participation of active members of the local community including women associations, journalists, local NGOs, International NGOs, handicapped related associations, Ministry of Education, and youth activists; in addition to UN-Habitat, Jericho municipality, and representatives of local universities

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE VALIDATION WORKSHOP

- Establish innovative partnerships between the municipality and other active organizations in the city to improve the safety index.
- Create a partnership between the municipality and the Ministry of Agriculture to develop a strategic vision and work plan and implement them in order to improve the green index in public spaces.
- Coordinate and cooperate with the Ministry of Local Government to reach a best practice when concerning land allocations for public spaces, and the registration of these lands as municipal properties.
- Launch an awareness campaign on the safety and inclusivity of public spaces. This could be done through a social media campaign and the utilization of sponsored advertisements.
- Physically improve the quality of public spaces through greening the spaces, rehabilitation of street lighting and the provision of sanitary utilities in the space.
- Enforce the rule of law to avoid violations on the sidewalks that could compromise the safety of the pedestrians in the city.
- The provision of public spaces and pocket gardens on the neighborhood scale.
- Improve street safety and increase the connectivity of road networks in the city.
- Develop and adopt a planning methodology for safer and more inclusive public spaces.



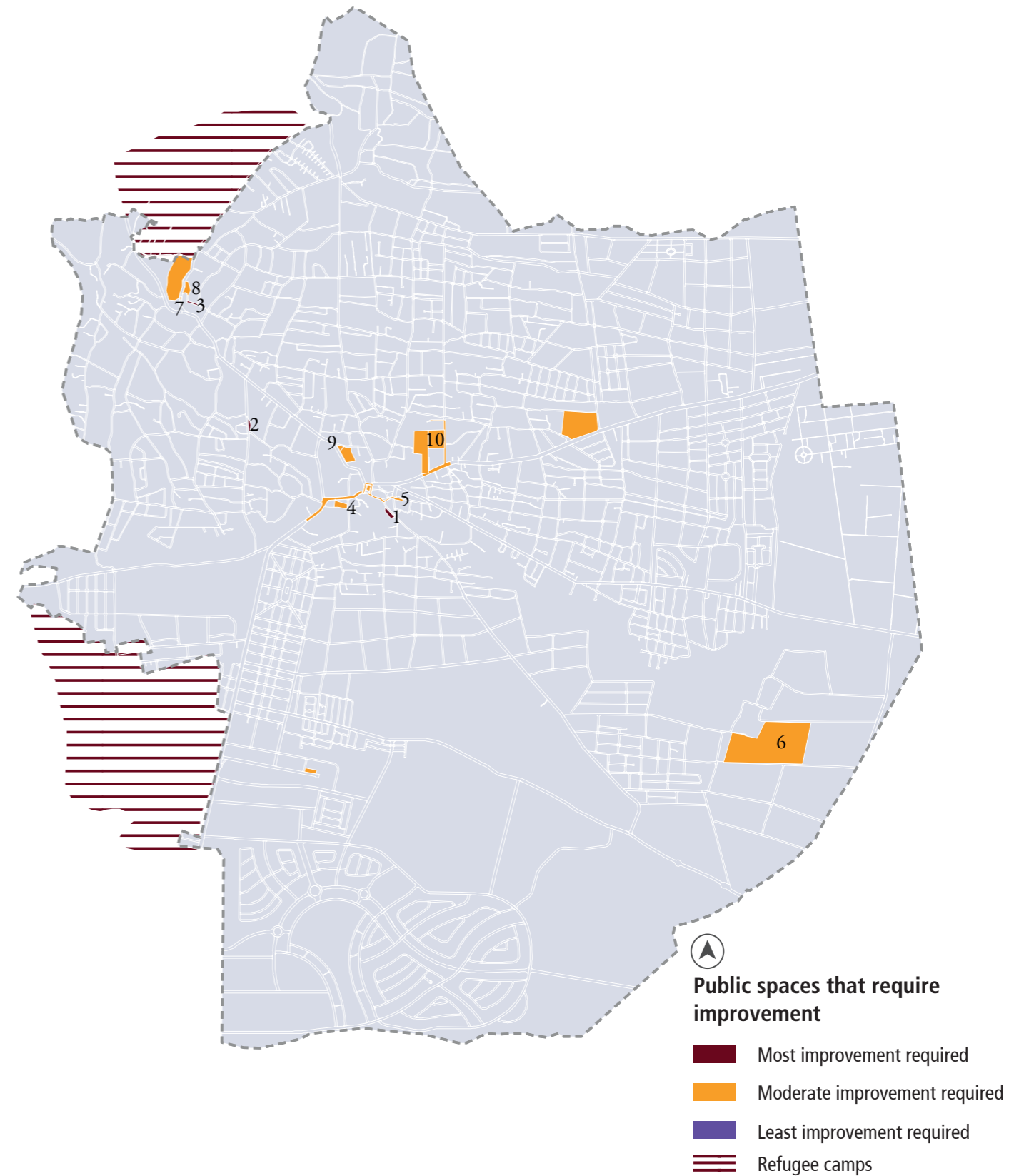
Public space in Jericho © Jericho Municipality

Table 4: Top 10 priority public spaces for improvement

No.	Name of Public Space	Safety index	Accessibility Index	Comfort index	User Index	Use Index	Physical facilities index	Green cover Index	Priority for Improvement
1	German market	32.7	16.1	61.5	0	50	30	0	27.2
2	Laardal garden	15.6	19.4	75	0	37.5	20	45.5	30.4
3	Ain As Sultan Trail	8.5	35.5	60	33.3	37.5	30	18.2	31.9
4	Vegetable market	9.9	19.4	62.5	66.7	37.5	40	0	33.7
5	Al-Aseelia Market	8.7	19.4	75	66.7	37.5	40	9.1	36.6
6	Al-Amal Sports City	7.5	29	100	33.3	50	55	18.2	41.9
7	Ain Al Sultan Street	26.3	19.4	62.5	66.7	62.5	30	27.3	42.1
8	Ain El Sultan Spring	17.9	29	75	44.4	62.5	40	27.3	42.3
9	Gemmayze Tree Market	6.6	29	100	66.7	62.5	30	27.3	46
10	Jericho playground	20.8	35.5	100	22.2	50	50	45.5	46.3

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.



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

GOALS AND STRATEGIES



GOAL 1

IMPROVE GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIPS IN THE CREATION, PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC SPACE

- Create innovative partnership models and frameworks to improve safety in public space.
- Create partnerships between local and national government to improve the green index in public spaces.
- Coordinate and cooperate with the Ministry of Local Government to increase the quantity and distribution of public space



GOAL 2

IMPROVE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF WELL-DESIGNED SAFE PUBLIC SPACES

- Develop standards and guidelines for creating safer and more inclusive public space (planning methodology)
- Improve quality of public space for comfort, aesthetics and enjoyment of public spaces
- Improve provision of public spaces and pocket gardens on the neighborhood scale.
- Increase street connectivity and improve street safety and in the city.



GOAL 3

CREATE AND PROMOTE RULES AND REGULATION AROUND PUBLIC SPACE

- Enforce the rule of law to avoid violations on the sidewalks that could compromise the safety of the pedestrians in the city.
- Launch an awareness campaign on the safety and inclusivity of public spaces.



IMPROVE GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIPS IN THE CREATION, PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC SPACE

INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIP MODELS AND FRAMEWORKS FOR IMPROVING SAFETY IN PUBLIC SPACE

In many cities, there is no clear understanding of the role of different government 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 to create safer and more inclusive public space in the city. Some local governments have created unified public space agencies to improve the institutional coordination in the management of public spaces. In Jericho, sexual harassment was reported as a concern in every fifth public space. All public spaces surveyed had street lighting, but about one third of all public spaces had uncollected garbage and loud noise (mainly from traffic), having in impact on women and girl's feelings of safety. There are different innovative models of managing safety in public space, ranging from simple models where national and local government provide safety and manage the space to more complex models of public, private, people partnerships. There are several good practices where engaging 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. A review of the different global models and discussions between the municipality and other key stakeholders can start the process of developing a model that would suit Jericho.



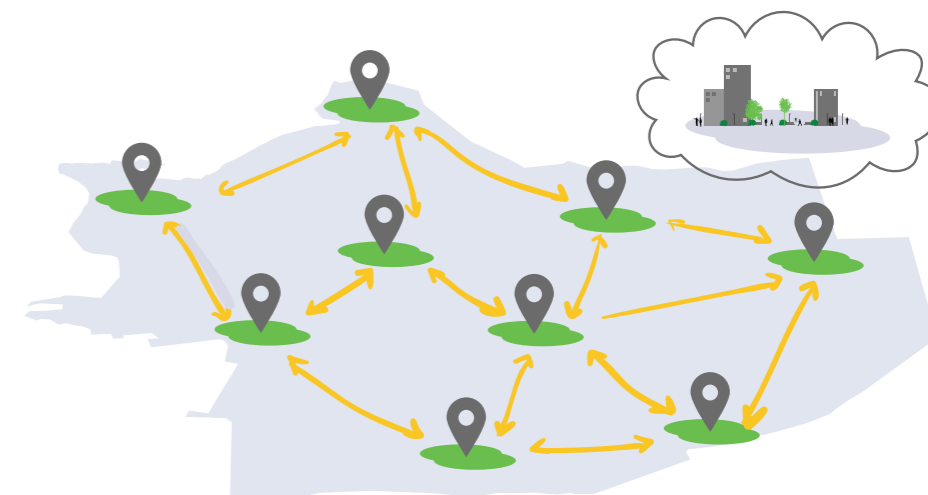
IMPROVE THE GREEN INDEX IN PUBLIC SPACE

Public spaces should also, ideally, be connected, forming a green network throughout the city. Jericho Municipality should establish a partnership with the National Government to develop 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. Improving the green index by providing layers of green infrastructure to the open spaces, neighbourhood spaces and streets while taking into consideration visual permeability and making sure not to block the vision or compromise safety. A programme for engaging communities in the growing of fruits and vegetables (urban farming) can contribute to the city's green index. This should be complemented by the development of 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.



INCREASE THE QUANTITY AND EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF GOOD QUALITY PUBLIC SPACES

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 a safe and comfortable public space. Only 1 per cent of land in Jericho is dedicated to open public space. To be able to reach the recommended amount of 12-15 per cent of land allocated to open public space and public facilities would require a coordinated and strong co-operation between the Municipality and the Ministry of Local Government to increase the quantity and ensuring equitable distribution across the city. This can be done through various planning tools such as master planning, urban regeneration and redevelopment, land appropriation, sub-divisions and land readjustment. A strategy to temporarily convert under-used or abandoned land for public use in underserved neighbourhoods would go a long way in providing those important neighbourhood spaces for women and girls. Other strategies to create more public space could focus on transforming parking lots to multi-functional spaces that when cars are not parked there can be converted into a weekly market, or a temporary children's skatepark.





CREATE AND PROMOTE RULES AND REGULATION AROUND PUBLIC SPACE

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 girls' safety is sometimes required. Due to the high levels of vandalism, rowdy behaviour and vehicle related nuisance such as illegal parking, car repairs or driving along pedestrian streets was common in Jericho's public spaces and rules and regulations for acceptable behavior in public spaces should be developed and enforced by the Municipal Council.



CREATE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON SAFETY AND INCLUSIVITY IN PUBLIC SPACE

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 the safety and inclusion of women and girls in public space would be key. Raising awareness, engaging, convincing and inspiring change through various media events, through social media and sponsored advertisements as well as storytelling, art and cultural events and local theatre in public space and schools all advocating for change.

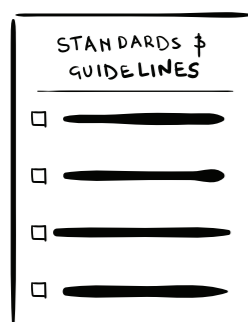




IMPROVE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF WELL-DESIGNED AND SAFE PUBLIC SPACE

DEVELOP PLANNING STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR CREATING SAFER AND MORE INCLUSIVE PUBLIC SPACES

Planning and design of public space through the lens of women and girls is key to be able to create safer and more inclusive spaces. To be able to guide the public space development in the city, Jericho would need to develop standards and guidelines. The standards and guidelines should 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, to reduce exposure to air pollution, soil pollution and waste; usability and liveliness for social and physical activity and intergenerational interactions.



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, greening the spaces, rehabilitation of street lighting and easy access to public transportation. Importantly, involve women and girls in all stages of the design of public spaces.



IMPROVE PROVISION OF PUBLIC SPACE BY CREATING NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD SPACES IN UN-SERVICED AREAS OF THE CITY

The survey found there were only 10 are neighbourhood level open spaces in Jericho and no pocket parks. Smaller neighbourhood and pocket spaces are critical spaces for women and girls to socialize, exercise and play as they often may not make the effort to travel across the city due to various chores at home or other commitments with the family. There is need to increase the number of smaller more intimate public spaces especially in the vicinity of the homes. This can be done through for example converting parking lots into public spaces, creating community gardens in residential inner courtyards or roof tops, restrict vehicular traffic on certain streets in a neighbourhood to create blocks of walkable streets as done in Barcelona (super blocks) and giving back the streets to the citizens. Many under-used or abandoned spaces become dump sites, contributing to insecurity and especially to women's unsafety. Temporarily upgrading or rehabilitating under-used or abandoned spaces is an efficient way of increasing the amount of quality public space within Jericho without having to wait for land to be rezoned, or re-appropriated.



IMPROVE STREET SAFETY AND STREET CONNECTIVITY

Safety for women and girls is enhanced when there are people out in the streets and public spaces. Improving street infrastructure and street connectivity is key in bringing people out into the public space through walking and cycling. Jericho can design and build a continuous network of tree-lined streets and sidewalks that are wide enough and with even surfaces for pushing strollers and for children to walk hand-in-hand with adults. Having surface texture that is appropriate, where there are curb ramps, with regular complete streets, street crossings and there is protection from motorized traffic can promote walking by women and girls. Importantly, Jericho should pay particular attention to safety, convenience, culture and comfort for people on foot, improving street lighting and providing seating opportunities for women to socialize or elderly people to rest while out.





Public space in Jericho © UN-Habitat

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CHAPTER

ANNEXES AND REFERENCES

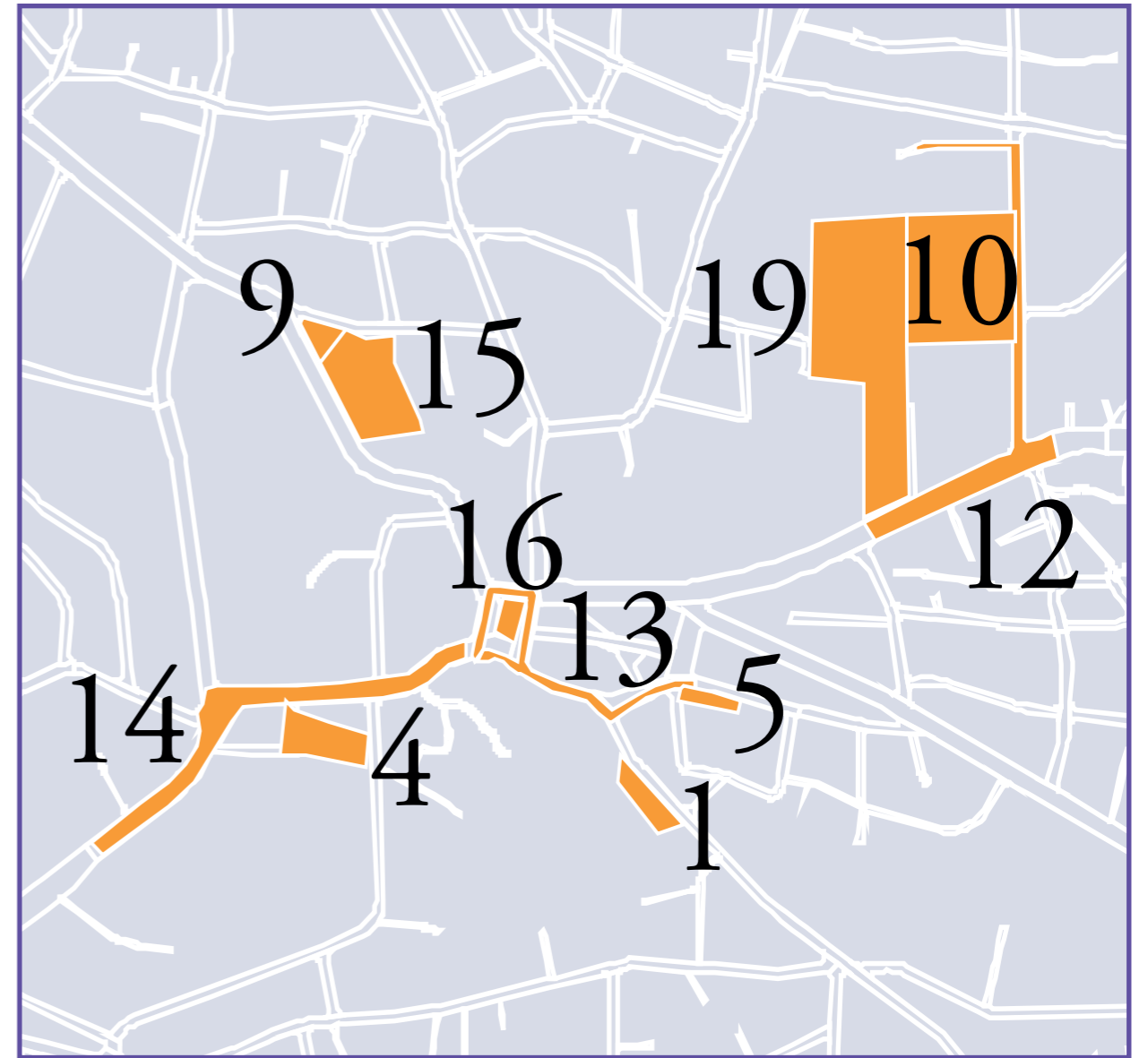
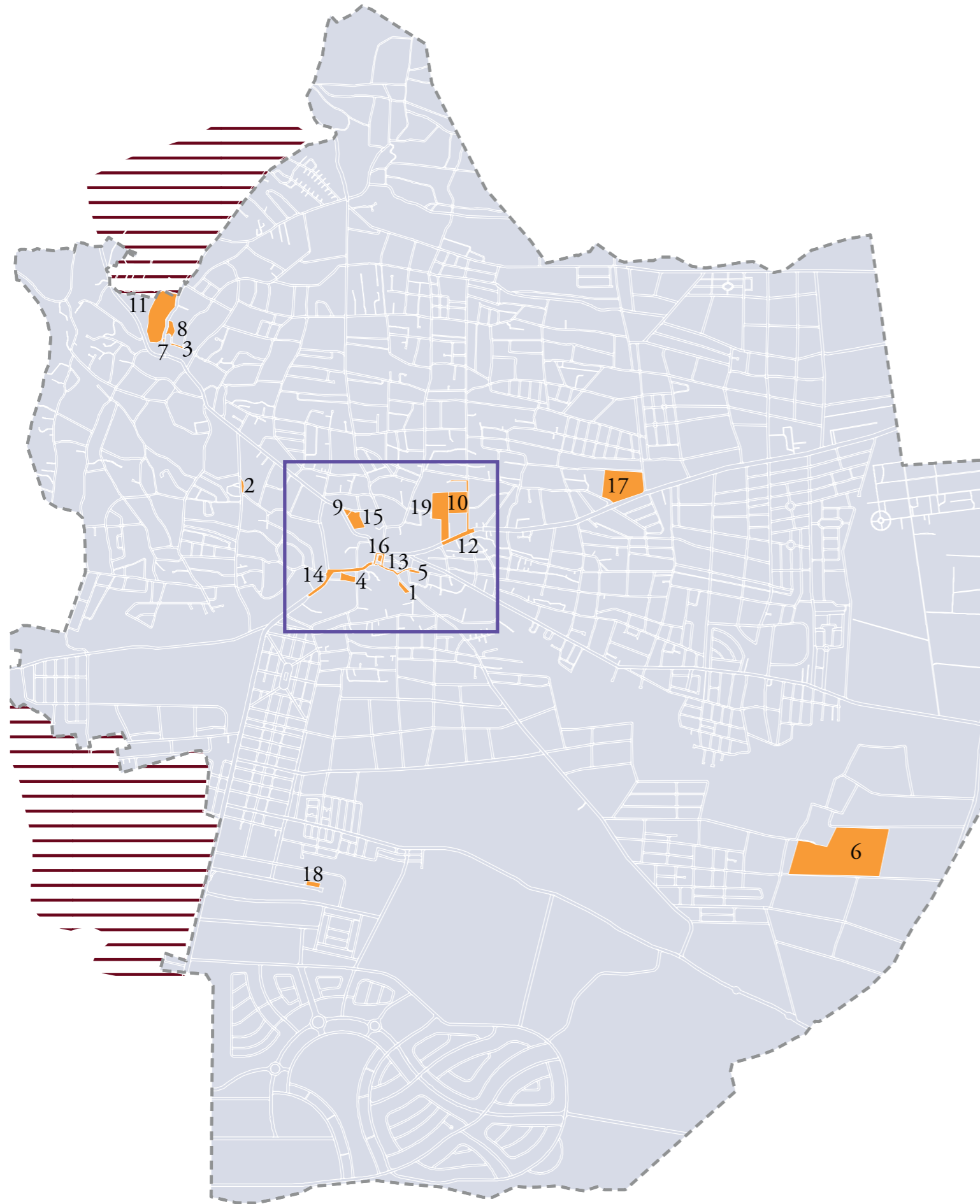
- Annexes
- References

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	German market	Government	Government	Neighborhood	32.7	16.1	61.5	0	50	30	0	27.2
2	Laardal garden	Government	Government	Neighborhood	15.6	19.4	75	0	37.5	20	45.5	30.4
3	Ain As Sultan Trail	Government	Others	Neighborhood	8.5	35.5	60	33.3	37.5	30	18.2	31.9
4	Vegetable market	Government	Government	Neighborhood	9.9	19.4	62.5	66.7	37.5	40	0	33.7
5	Al-Aseelia Market	Non-Government	Non-government	Neighborhood	8.7	19.4	75	66.7	37.5	40	9.1	36.6
6	Al-Amal Sports City	Government	Government	City level	7.5	29	100	33.3	50	55	18.2	41.9
7	Ain Al Sultan Street	Government	Government	City level	26.3	19.4	62.5	66.7	62.5	30	27.3	42.1
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9	Gemmayze Tree Market	Government	Government	Neighborhood	6.6	29	100	66.7	62.5	30	27.3	46
10	Jericho playground	Government	Government	City level	20.8	35.5	100	22.2	50	50	45.5	46.3
11	Sultan Hill	Government	Government	City level	7.8	25.8	100	88.9	37.5	50	18.2	46.9
12	the schools' Street	Government	Government	Neighborhood	36.2	22.6	85.7	77.8	50	50	18.2	48.6
13	Al-Maskubiyya Street	Government	Government	Neighborhood	11.9	22.6	100	88.9	62.5	30	27.3	49
14	Al Quds street	Government	Government	City level	18.8	29	100	88.9	62.5	20	27.3	49.5
15	The Russian Museum	Non-Government	Non-Government	City level	6.6	35.5	100	0	87.5	50	72.7	50.3
16	City center	Government	Government	City level	20.2	61.3	75	88.9	37.5	50	27.3	51.4
17	Al Esteraha - General Administration of crossings and borders	Government	Government	City level	3	45.2	100	88.9	37.5	80	18.2	53.2
18	Jericho Governmental Hospital	Government	Government	Neighborhood	10.5	41.9	100	100	37.5	85	18.2	56.2
19	Spanish garden	Government	Jointly managed	City level	27.9	19.4	90	66.7	62.5	80	63.6	58.6

Values are in percentages. Higher percentage means better performance



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

REFERENCES

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

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