



UN-HABITAT REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ARAB STATES

Overview 2018

UN  **HABITAT**
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Foreword


The Arab region is one of the cradles of civilization- a region with rich resources, with its youthful well-educated population and natural resources, but marred with limited planning, conflicts and wars.

More than half of the Arab region population lives in cities and human settlements. By 2050, over 70 per cent of the Arab population will be urban. This urbanization trend brings both new opportunities as well as challenges if the Arab world is to sustain inclusive, resilient and safe cities and human settlements, while leaving no one and no place behind. Urbanization in the region will continue to be one of the most significant sources of economic and social transformation in the upcoming decades. Notwithstanding the significant progress made by Arab countries in managing urbanization, the Arab world still faces major challenges in achieving sustainable urban development, including socio-economic and political crisis, climate-change challenges, civil unrest, and conflicts across the region over the past decade.

Within the framework of Agenda 2030, the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda, and with a vision of achieving a better quality of life for all in an urbanizing world, the Regional Office for Arab States aims at supporting stakeholders in promoting transformative change in cities and human settlements leaving no one and no place behind.

With its belief that well-planned inclusive urbanization can be a solution to many of the region's challenges, UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States strives to support Arab countries in their efforts to advance sustainable urbanization as a driver of development and peace. UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States provides knowledge, policy advice, technical assistance and collaborative action to support its objectives in the Arab World, centering around the four main pillars of action within the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan: (a) Reduced poverty and spatial inequality in urban and rural communities; (b) Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions; (c) Strengthened climate action and improved urban environment; and (d) Effective urban crisis prevention and response.

UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States saw an exponential growth in the breadth and depth of its programming in the Arab region, thanks to our generous partners. Looking ahead to 2020-2021, we will continue to expand our partnerships in the region and globally to help our countries achieve their aspirations for a better future for all.



Zena Ali-Ahmad
Director
Regional Office for Arab States

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1 Introduction: UN-Habitat at a Glance

For more than 40 years, UN-Habitat has been leading the way in building partnerships, sharing knowledge and transforming lives through sustainable urbanization. Mandated by the UN General Assembly in 1978 to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements, and to develop and achieve adequate shelter for all, UN-Habitat envisions well-planned, well-governed, resilient and efficient cities and human settlements, with adequate housing, infrastructure, and universal access to employment and basic services. Its programmes and projects are designed to help policy-makers and local communities get to grips with human settlements and urban issues to achieve sustainable urban development to all.

Applying its technical expertise, normative and operational work, UN-Habitat implements the New Urban Agenda and Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals, with a specific focus on SDG 11 – to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. As custodian agency, UN-Habitat plays a coordination role of monitoring and assessing the implementation of SDG 11 indicators.



In 2018, UN-Habitat launched an ambitious reform agenda to make the Agency more 'fit for purpose'. Its new Strategic Plan (2020-2025) reflects the new vision of the Agency and responds to emerging global priorities, and is centered around four pillars, including reduced spatial inequality and poverty; enhanced

shared prosperity; strengthened climate action and improved urban environment; and effective urban crisis prevention and response. UN-Habitat response spans four main drivers of change, namely policy and legislation, planning, governance and financing/implementation.

UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States (ROAS), established in 2011, has a mandate to provide policy advice, technical cooperation and capacity building for eighteen countries across the Arab region: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. UN-Habitat is currently present in thirteen Arab countries, supporting partners through a diversified portfolio of more than USD 290 million (2014-2020). UN-Habitat programmes in Arab countries span across all focus areas of the organization, and stem from the priorities of the Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030 approved by the Arab Ministerial Council on Housing and Urban Development in 2016.

2 ROAS Profile

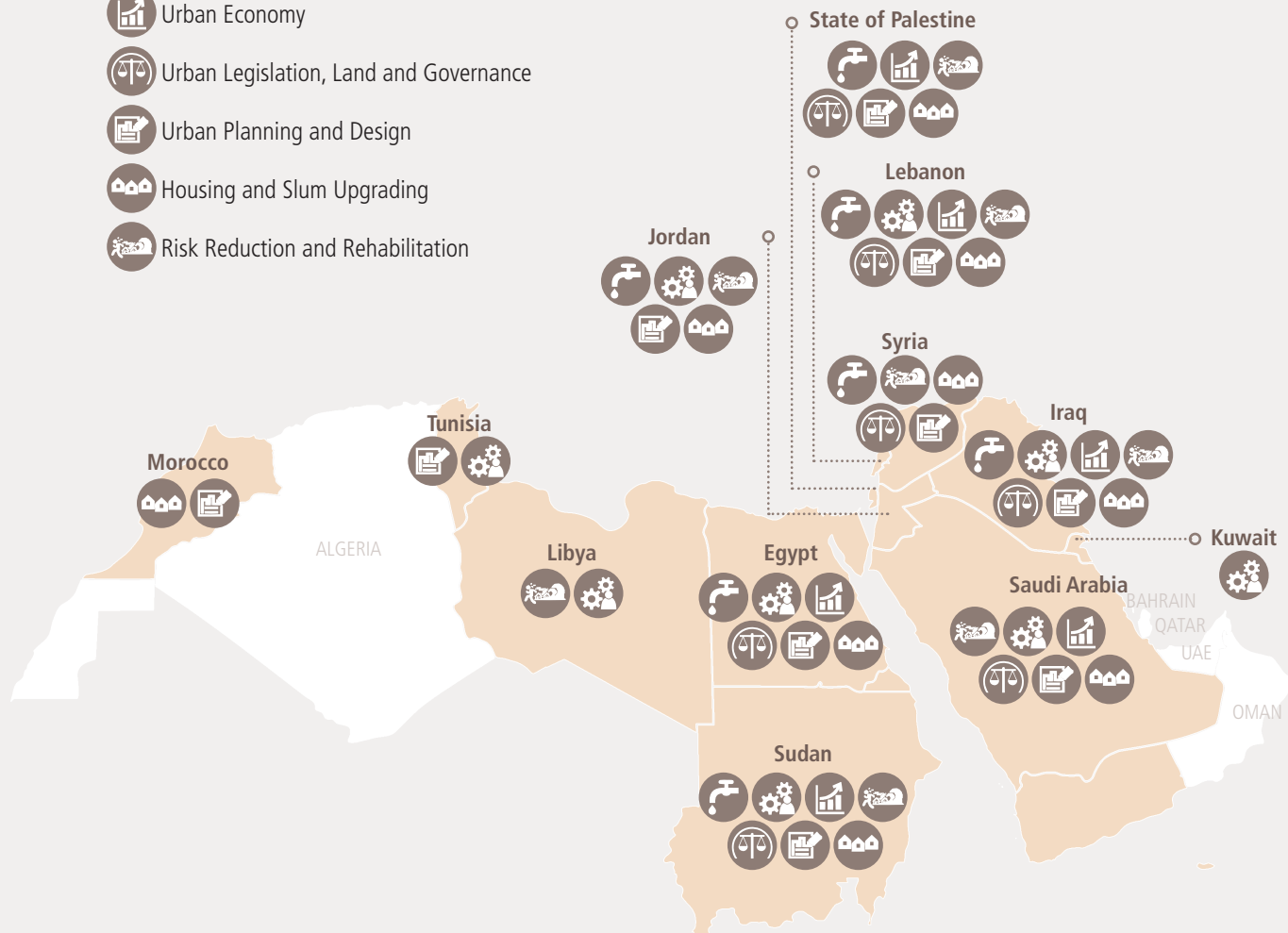
Where we are & What we do



In 2018, UN-Habitat ROAS has signed a Host Country Agreement with Morocco. ROAS is currently finalizing Host Country agreements with Bahrain and Algeria to support national governments in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, SDGs and Sustainable Agenda 2030.

What we do: UN-Habitat Thematic Areas under Active Portfolio

-  Urban Basic Services
-  Research and Capacity Building
-  Urban Economy
-  Urban Legislation, Land and Governance
-  Urban Planning and Design
-  Housing and Slum Upgrading
-  Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation



UN-Habitat is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities and is the UN focal point for urbanisation and human settlements. The work of UN-Habitat in the Arab Region cuts across 8 out of 17 SDGs. The main focus of work, however, is on SDG 11; “Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”, with 80% of the expenditures and 75% of staff time contributing towards SDG 11.

The work of UN-Habitat also contributes to eliminating poverty, ensuring healthy life and well-being for all, achieving gender equality, and ensuring the availability and sustainable management of clean water and improved sanitation. UN-Habitat also assists in providing access to affordable and clean sustainable energy, combating climate change and its impacts, and strengthening global partnerships for achieving sustainable development goals.

3 ARAB STATES URBAN FACTS

58% of the total population of the Arab Region are living in Urban Areas and it is expected to reach **68%** by **2050**



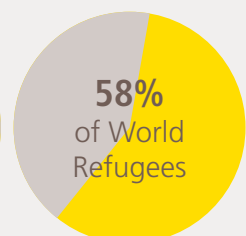
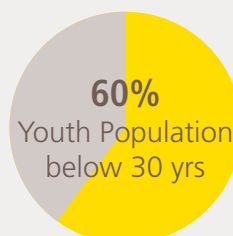
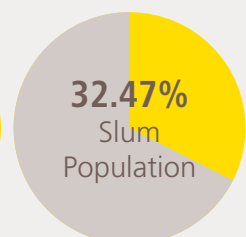
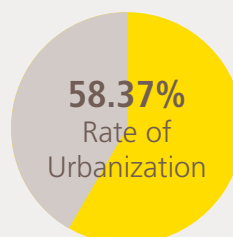
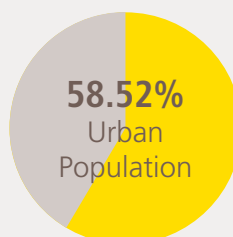
Overall Population
414,491,886



Population Growth
1.98%



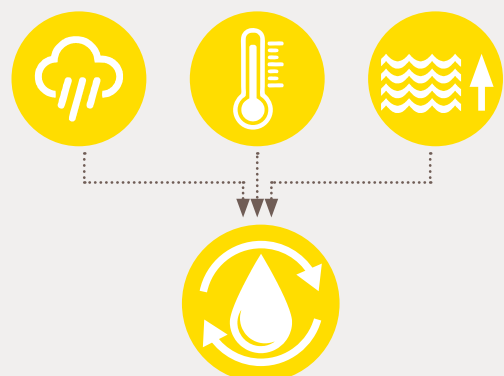
Net Migration
-544,526



Out of all world refugees originated from the Arab region, **60%** continue to live in the region



By **2030** the effects of climate change are expected to reduce renewable water resources by another **20%** through declining precipitation, rising temperature, sea level rise and expanding seawater intrusion into coastal aquifers.



4 Regional Highlights

Country Programming Frameworks

UN-Habitat works in countries under the United Nations Country Programming Frameworks, as resident and non-resident Agency. UN-Habitat's Host Country Programme Documents articulate the key challenges in urban development in a specific country, provide an overview of national urban policies and governance challenges, highlight the needs and priorities to achieving sustainable urbanization, and elaborate its response to address national priorities. During 2018, UN-Habitat signed new Country Programme Documents in Sudan and Palestine and is in the process of finalizing new agreements for Iraq, Lebanon, Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria.

Regional Strategies

UN-Habitat continued to provide technical support to the League of Arab States in its efforts to advance policies for sustainable urban development in the Arab region. Following the approval of the Arab Strategy for Housing and

Sustainable Urban Development 2030 by the Ministerial Council on Housing and Sustainable Urbanization in 2016, developed by LAS in cooperation with UN-Habitat, the implementation plan for the Arab Strategy was finalized and is awaiting official endorsement in the 2019 Arab Summit.

Evidence-Based Planning and Human Settlements Indicators

UN-Habitat supports data generation and capacity development on human settlement indicators in the Arab region for evidence-based urban policy-making and planning. In cooperation with the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), UN-Habitat organized the Arab Regional training workshop on human settlements indicators in Arab countries in mid-2018 to address the different methodologies for the collection of data for the SDG 11 indicators, including metadata issues, measurement methods, and reporting at the national, regional and global levels. The themes of urban policies, urban monitoring tools and approaches, and profiling of crisis-prone cities were addressed. The training was successful in strengthening cooperation among statistical data producers in the field of human settlements indicators, as well as between the producers and users of data and decision-makers in the Arab countries, in the framework of the national statistical systems and in coordination with statistical agencies.

► Arab Strategy -
Cover Page

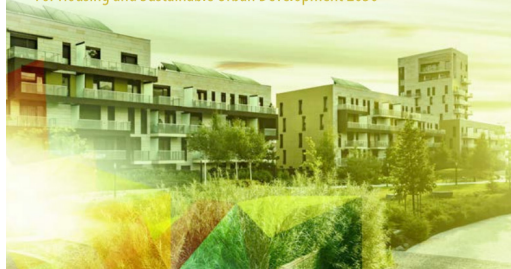


League of Arab States



Arab Strategy

For Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030



Sustainable, Inclusive and Evidence-based National Urban Policies

Urban policy and planning are key to the realization of SDG11 and ensuring inclusive and sustainable cities. UN-Habitat in the Arab region continued provides technical and financial support to the Governments of Jordan, Tunisia, Sudan, Egypt, Iraq and Lebanon to elaborate National Urban Policies. In Jordan, following the launching of the process, under the auspices of the Minister of Municipal Affairs with a wide participation of national stakeholders, the diagnosis phase is underway to guide the National Urban Policy (NUP) formulation. Tunisia is joining forces with Cities Alliance for the development of the NUP with broad participation from all stakeholders. Sudan and Lebanon are finalizing the diagnosis phase after thorough discussions with relevant national and local actors and will start the formulation of the policy proposal. In Iraq, UN-Habitat produced the National Urban Strategy framework to guide local plans.

Urban Crisis Recovery and Reconstruction

Urban profiling for post-crisis stabilization, recovery and reconstruction in conflict-affected cities in the Arab region.

As conflicts are becoming increasingly urban in nature, recovery and reconstruction activities become more complex. In many conflict affected cities, there is a lack of information about the urban context for which recovery and reconstruction programmes have to be developed to be responsive to the affected populations and the national needs. UN-Habitat is implementing a regional urban profiling project that aims at improving evidence-based humanitarian, stabilization and reconstruction planning in post-crisis recovery in selected conflict affected cities in the Arab region. Through this project, UN-Habitat will strengthen

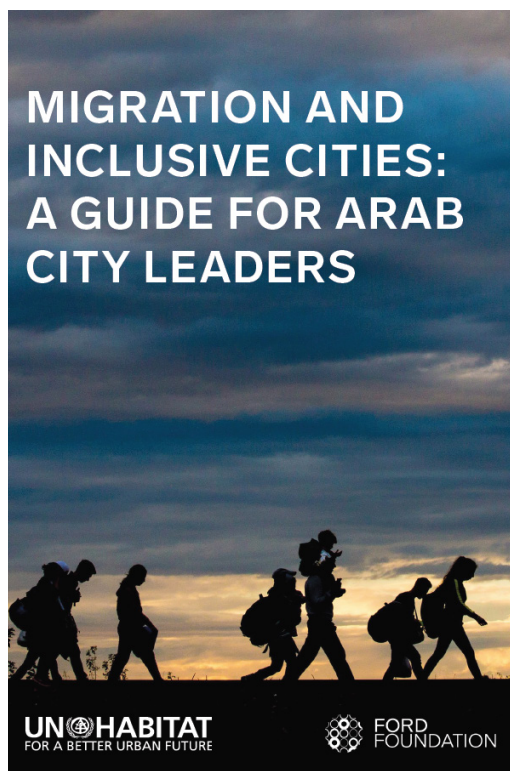
regional knowledge of evidence-based reconstruction and recovery planning and enforce national and local governments' capacities to plan humanitarian responses, stabilization efforts, and develop medium-term recovery plans and policies. The regional project will develop a baseline assessment of selected cities in conflict-affected areas in Yemen, Syria, Libya and Iraq through the urban profiling methodology which UN-Habitat has already pioneered in several cities in the region, tailored to national contexts.

In parallel, UN-Habitat launched a regional programme for urban crisis reconstruction and recovery targeting 5 countries of the region, along an integrated package of project proposals for aiming at sustainable recovery in conflict and post-conflict countries. The programme is starting to get resourced by different development partners.

Migration

The Arab region houses the highest number of migrants and refugees in the World, and Arab cities are grappling to address the resulting challenges. UN-Habitat, with support from UCLG and the Ford Foundation, finalized the "Migration and Inclusive cities: A Guide for Arab City Leaders", along with a toolkit for Arab local authorities to address migration issues. Adopting the principles of the Global Compact for Migration, the Guide and toolkit identifies case studies for consideration.

UN-Habitat has also partnered with the Mediterranean Host Municipalities Learning Network to organize a Peer-learning Training Workshop for local municipalities on "Strategic Planning for Local Economic Development". 40 participants from different Arab cities gained new capacities to develop Local Economic Development Strategies using the UN-Habitat toolkit on "Promoting Local Economic Development through Strategic Planning". The workshop was also an opportunity for peer-to-peer



exchange of experiences around local solutions to address job creation in the context of hosting refugees.

Public Space

Established in 2016, UN-Habitat's Regional Public Space Programme aims to overcome the misalignment between formal policies and planning, and informal or popular uses, practices and management of public space in cities. Through local pilot projects and policy advice at the city level, the regional programme on public space advocates for a paradigm shift in the way 'public

space' is perceived in order to support more participatory approaches in the design, maintenance and upgrading of public spaces that addresses the needs of women, girls, men and boys equally. Aligned with SDG 11.7: "By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities." the regional programme supported the elaboration and implementation of Public Space projects in Lebanon, Palestine, Egypt, Tunisia and Jordan. Each of these projects represent a different challenge that public space projects strive to untangle. In Tunisia, the project tackled issues of youth delinquency and lack of open spaces in an impoverished area in Djerba, in cooperation with a local NGO (Tunaruz), where the design of the public space was developed by local residents using Minecraft. In Lebanon, UN-Habitat rehabilitated a local market "Souq el Albessih" to ensure pedestrian horizontal circulation and movement for better economic value.

In Jordan, UN-Habitat is designing a public space in Zarqa, an under served area with a high concentration of refugees, to design an open public space that responds to the resident needs. In addition, the Global Public Space toolkit was customized as a learning tool for researchers and practitioners in the Arab region, in Arabic, with case studies from the Arab region.



CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

The UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2014-2019 identifies four cross-cutting issues to be mainstreamed in all UN-Habitat projects: Climate Change, Gender Equality, Human Rights and Youth, with the aim of ensuring that all UN-Habitat work 'leaves no one and no place behind.



UN-Habitat addresses cross-cutting issues through project support at the design phase, as well as the application of a mandatory marker system prior to project approval to assure integration of cross cutting issues in all projects. UN-Habitat also runs targeted programmes and projects addressing these issues at the global, regional and national scales.

Climate Change

UN-Habitat developed a regional programme for Climate Change and Urban Resilience for the Arab Region in line with the New Urban Agenda, SDGs and the Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030 and aligned with UN-Habitat Climate Change Strategy (2014-2019). The programme aims at supporting Arab cities mitigate their greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change impacts through a number of projects and tools. Through funding from the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM), and the Islamic Development Bank, and in coordination with the EU funded project CLIMA-MED, UN-Habitat organized a regional capacity building workshop in 2019 for Mayors from select Arab countries, to enhance knowledge on achieving adaptation and mitigation compliance, covering issues related to impact of climate change on cities, climate change adaptation and mitigation at the local level, climate scenarios planning tool, as well as mainstreaming climate change considerations in the recovery and

reconstruction processes.

UN-Habitat submitted a regional pre-concept note to the Adaptation Fund on "Increasing the Resilience of Displaced Persons (DPs) to Climate Change-related Water Challenges in Urban Host Settlements" at the regional level, and in Jordan and Lebanon. The project aims at increasing the resilience and adaptive capacities of displaced persons to climate change-related water challenges in urban host settlements, for increased resilience. The pre-concept note has been endorsed and UN-Habitat is currently in the process of developing the concept note for the project.

5 Country Highlights

BAHRAIN

Bahrain is one of the few countries in the world that has served as many citizens with their social housing programmes, covering more than 60% Bahraini citizens. However, the Government still faces an increasing housing backlog and relies predominantly on direct public intervention.

During 2018 UN-Habitat supported the Kingdom of Bahrain in the revision of its National Housing Policy, including the finalization of the National Housing Profile for the country. The Housing Policy includes diagnostics on the housing sector in the Kingdom, along with policy recommendations for ensuring adequate affordable housing to all citizens. UN-Habitat and the Government of Bahrain are discussing a second phase of cooperation to support the implementation of priority policy actions, including strengthen policy and regulatory capacity, housing intelligence system and development unit, and an institutional enhancement strategy, as well as service packages for low-income families.

EGYPT

UN-Habitat has been supporting the Government in Egypt to focus on pilot interventions that result in the creation of sustainable, efficient and vibrant cities as engines of growth.

In line with the New Urban Agenda (NUA), SDG 11, and Egypt's

national vision and strategies to achieve sustainable urbanization, UN-Habitat Egypt Office supports the Government, through three main programme pillars: Urban Policies, Governance and Legislation (UPGL); Inclusive Urban Planning and Design (UPD); and Urban Basic Services (UBS).

Under the **Urban Policies, Governance and Legislation Programme**, UN-Habitat advocated for the revision of several key laws relating to urban development. In 2018, efforts were concentrated on providing technical advice to the revision of legislation related to housing funds and the improvement of the draft new building law and local administration law.

UN-Habitat has continued its efforts to support the implementation of **land readjustment** in Egypt. Several pilot projects in Qalyoubia governorate have enabled the local governments to plan urban extension areas in small to medium sized cities. The projects included on-the-job training, as well as tailored training targeting landowners, local government units and local consultants, on participatory planning. UN-Habitat also supported the General Organization for Physical Planning - GOPP and local governments in the development, dissemination and adoption of two guidelines on managing urban expansion, including on the application of land readjustment in planning city extension areas, and detailed planning.

UN-Habitat provided technical support in drafting a **national urban**

policy for Egypt. The diagnosis has been finalized, based on which policy options have been formulated. The Policy is expected to be approved in 2019.

With support from UN-Habitat, a strategic plan for Sohag governorate was developed through a participatory process which ensured inclusivity and sustainability.

The **Urban Planning and Design programme** supported the Government to adopt an integrated framework for urban monitoring through the use and analysis of sectoral city-level indicators, and to set up local urban observatory units to track and monitor urban changes in Egyptian cities. UN-Habitat also supported the GOPP to apply principles of sustainable and integrated urban planning to foster urban development through the creation of compact, integrated and well-connected neighborhoods in El Warrak Island, Giza Governorate.

Given the important of participation in city planning, UN-Habitat organized public hearing sessions in 10 cities to ensure that city visions are developed in an inclusive and participatory manners, where urban boundaries and priority development projects for secondary cities were prioritized.

Within its **Urban Basic Services programme** pillar, River-Bed Filtration units were scaled up in 2018 based on the first showcase implemented by UN-Habitat in Menya in 2017. In order to support the process, UN-Habitat published Guideline Manual and National Feasibility Study Report, which explained the criteria and identified potential locations to implement RBF units. Based on this, the national Holding Company for Water and Wastewater (HCWW), along with a number of affiliated local companies in upper Egypt (Menya, Luxor, BanySwif), prioritized implementation of River Bank Filtration (RBF) units in potential areas over using the traditional Nile water intakes. The prioritized use of the lower


cost (nearly 5% of the current cost of water provision) and environmentally friendly RBF units enabled a significant increase in reach-out to beneficiaries with limited available financial and technical resources, impacting the lives of more than 500,000 residents. Scale up of RBF units and replication has also been initiated, as well as advocacy and capacity building activities.

In 2018, the programme “Clean Water for Integrated Local Development” was able to catalyze investments from Coca-Cola Egypt with cost sharing from the Egyptian Government. Additionally, the new programme “Supporting Innovation in Water and Sanitation Sector in Egypt (Efficient Provision and Resilience to Climate Change)” was also able to attract funds from Replenish Africa initiative (RAIN). To date, Coca-Cola Egypt has provided 403,000 USD and RAIN has approved that UN-Habitat’s role in implementing its global initiative with 477,000 USD. Implementation of both projects will start in 2019 targeting improved access to clean water and sanitation of 320,000 inhabitant in Egypt.

UN-Habitat supports the Ministry of Housing on the drafted New Egypt Housing strategy, based on the published Egypt housing profile, and in line with the global housing strategy recommendations. The new strategy offers a paradigm shift to focus on a more human rights-based approach to shelter, and to shift the role of the government from direct provision to the main sector enabler and managing body.

UN-Habitat provided support to the Government to identify, define and categorize urban upgrading areas within the City-Wide Urban Upgrading programme in Egypt, based on the newly introduced concept. In 2019, responding tools and piloting will be implemented.

UN-Habitat also drafted the new communication strategy for the Informal Settlement Development Fund



**About
1200**
landowners (including
their families) benefited
from improved security
of tenure in the projects
implemented in Egypt
in 2018.

EGYPT: CAIRO'S FIRST BIKE RACKS PROJECT

For the first time in Cairo, bike racks were installed in the heart of the city. The project, known as Sekketak Khadra is a partnership between UN Habitat, Cairo governorate, the Danish Embassy and Nahdet el Mahrousa NGO. The project aims to improve cycling infrastructure in the city as way to encourage cycling as a mode of transport. The project installed 110 bike racks accommodating up to 200 bikes in three Cairo neighborhoods. The idea started in May 2016 when UN Habitat Egypt conducted an online survey to better understand the needs of cyclists and received over 800 responses. The survey asked for suggestions for improving cycling conditions and the need for 'a place to park the bike' came in second right after the need for bike lanes. For this reason, UN Habitat Egypt proposed the design and installation of a number of bike racks to provide a much-needed service with an aim of promoting an alternative sustainable mode of transport for Cairo. The implementation of this project was possible as a result of the strong leadership and commitment of Cairo Governorate. The Governorate is committed to promoting cycling to improve mobility options for the city's residents.

"It wasn't there, then it was a dream, then it became a reality and now everyone is using it." Khalil Shaat, Project's Focal Point and Head of Informal Settlement Unit at Cairo Governorate.



The bike racks are being installed in three Cairo neighborhoods that are known for their growing cycling culture; Heliopolis, Downtown Cairo and Old Cairo. Mapping studies and workshops were conducted to understand the best locations for the bike racks, as a result the racks are being installed mostly around areas of commerce and recreation with high pedestrian activity and nearby metro and bus stations to integrate with the existing transport system. The initiative has already attracted a lot of interest from other governorates, organizations and the general public due to its potential impact, it is estimated that the installed bike racks will cater up to 800 bikes on a daily basis.

(ISDF), which includes a key component of awareness and empowerment of informal settlements residents.

Under the **Mobility Portfolio**, New Urban Communities Agency (under Ministry of Housing), in partnership with UN-Habitat, improved transportation plans for Greater Cairo through multi-stakeholder engagement and planning for a Gender-sensitive Bus Rapid Transit System connecting new communities to central Cairo. The service plan, concept designs and financial model for the system has been finalized and approved in 2018. In addition, a comprehensive gender study report was developed in 2018 to ensure gender-sensitive planning in and around the BRT corridor and stations. A study tour was also conducted for government representatives from multiple governmental entities, including local governorates, ministries and authorities, with the aim of building the capacities of officials within the context of South-South cooperation. As a result

of the multiple discussions and capacity building conducted to government counterparts, a sustainable mobility PMU decree has been drafted to establish an agency unit under the Ministry of Housing to operate the different sustainable transport projects in the new communities.

In addition, UN-Habitat has supported Cairo Governorate in planning for a more accessible Downtown Cairo through developing concept designs for 12 KMs of bike lanes in the heart of the city for implementation and is now supporting the necessary tendering documents for the procurement and operation of the first public bike sharing system planned for downtown Cairo. Both steps are critical to implementing a paradigm shift for Cairo to become more walkable, inclusive, and connected.

With funding from the Cairo Governorate, Danish Embassy and NGO Green Arm, 110 bike racks were installed in three different neighborhoods in the

heart of the city, accommodating up to 200 bikes. The project aims to improve cycling infrastructure in the city as way to encourage cycling as a mode of transport which can save commuters' time and money as well as reduce traffic congestion and air pollution.

IRAQ

UN-Habitat has been active in Iraq since 1996. After 2003, UN-Habitat became largely engaged in early recovery efforts, particularly those supporting internally displaced persons (IDPs) through the provision of shelter and reconstruction solutions for durable return. Since then, the portfolio of UN-Habitat Iraq has expanded beyond emergency responses to include both humanitarian and recovery programmes, such as providing IDPs and returnees with shelter and water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure, and promoting urban recovery of areas affected by conflict. IN parallel, UN-Habitat Iraq supported development efforts of the Government through the provision of technical and capacity development initiatives, including the development

of the National Urban Strategy and the National Housing Policy, upgrading informal settlements, and support to decentralization and area development schemes. UN-Habitat also chairs the Housing, Land and Property Rights Sub-Cluster in Iraq under the Protection Cluster.

As soon as the defeat of the so-called Islamic State of Iraq and Levant terrorists' group (ISIL) was declared, UN-Habitat started promoting urban recovery and supporting returnees through community-based rehabilitation of war-damaged houses and aligned infrastructure. UN-Habitat implements a holistic integrated programme for durable return where community members are capacitated and employed to undertake the rehabilitation of war-damaged houses, thereby creating job opportunities and supporting livelihoods, as well as encouraging them to engage in the rebuilding of their community. This approach empowers the community members both socially and economically, increase community ownership, and encourage targeted communities to discuss and address their problems

▼ Pictures of Before and After reconstruction in Sinjar and Teleskof



towards peaceful recovery and resilience. Since 2016, UN-Habitat has rehabilitated more than 3,000 war-damaged houses in key liberated cities, including Mosul, Ramadi, Fallujah, Sinjar, and towns in Ninewa Plains.

UN-Habitat ensures that housing, land and property rights of the returnees are addressed through means such as the provision of legal

support, verification and recognition of occupancy rights, advocacy, and capacity development support. In Sinjar, Ninewa Governorate, UN-Habitat supports housing, land and property rights of vulnerable minorities as the Yazidi and Christian returnees, including women. UN-

Habitat mapped property claims of Yazidi returnees and verified occupancy rights through community-based consultations, and in collaboration with the local authorities. To date, more than 1,000 Yazidi members have ensured their property rights, for the first time in

their history in Iraq, through Occupancy Certificates that recognize their housing occupancy rights. UN-Habitat's initiative on housing, land and property rights in Sinjar has been strongly supported and fully endorsed by the Ministry of Justice, with an official agreement by the Ministry to replace the occupancy certificate by property ownership document.

In line with the New Urban Agenda, UN-Habitat works with the national and local government counterparts to promote adequate services, housing and decent job opportunities in Iraq through three key tools:

(a) National and Governorate Urban Strategy

UN-Habitat supported the Ministry of Planning as well as nine governorates of Basra, Maysan, Muthanna, Qadissiya, Kerbala, Najaf, Thi-Qar, Wassit and Babil to draft their Urban Strategies. Indicators on poverty, quality of life, and socio-economic development potential have been developed and the analytical work is ongoing.

(b) National Housing Policy

Building on the National



**Since 2016,
UN-Habitat has
rehabilitated**

more than 3,000 war-damaged houses in key liberated cities, including Mosul, Ramadi, Fallujah, Sinjar, and towns in Ninewa Plains.

At the end of 2017, the number of people returning to their area of origin has surpassed the number of people displaced in Iraq, for the first time since the beginning of the crisis in June 2014. To accommodate vulnerable returnees and tenants whose houses are severely destructed or totally destroyed, in 2018 UN-Habitat established three shelter sites equipped with low-cost core housing units and basic infrastructure in Anbar Governorate. These low-cost core housing units can be incrementally expanded if required, providing affordable and durable shelter solutions to returnees and thereby facilitating their reintegration to and rebuilding of lives in the areas they return to.



IRAQ: A Safe, Voluntary and Dignified return in Ramadi

Ahmed Salih, a 28-year old breadwinner for a family of eight that fled the city because of ISIL's occupation. When the city of Ramadi was liberated from ISIL in 2016, Ahmed and his family were eager to return to Ramadi, but found their house damaged as a result of the military operations. Without a decent place to live, the family had to return to the IDP camp in Ameriyat Fallujah.

UN-Habitat's urban recovery programme and its community-based committee helped Ahmed to engage in discussion and planning for recovery of Tameem neighborhood. Ahmed himself was hired to rehabilitate his house, not only helping his family to regain comfort and safety but also to earn a living. Ahmed also participated in technical trainings conducted by UN-Habitat and its local NGO partner Al-Karam enabling him to maintain and rehabilitate his house in the future. Back in Ramadi with his family, Ahmed is now hoping to help vulnerable women who lost husbands and fathers with housing rehabilitation. Including Ahmed's family, a total of 723 families (3,419 individuals) benefited from this intervention, making possible a safe, voluntary and dignified return to their homes.



Ahmed Salih is one of the beneficiaries of UN-Habitat's project implemented in Ramadi, Anbar Governorate "Promoting Urban Recovery in Newly Liberated Areas in Iraq" generously funded by the Government of Japan.

Housing Policy update with technical support of UN-Habitat in 2017, the Government of Iraq and UN-Habitat developed Housing Reconstruction and Housing Sector Development Strategy in Cities Affected by Terrorism and War. This Strategy aims to set guidelines to provide adequate housing to those affected by the conflict, including rehabilitation of damaged houses, construction of low-cost core housing incremental units, and upgrading informal settlements. The Government of Iraq and UN-Habitat are currently working on the detailed plan to implement the Strategy.

(c) Law on Informal Settlements

UN-Habitat has been supporting the Government of Iraq since 2011 to develop legal, financial and institutional framework to address challenges faced by IDPs in informal settlements. The Law on Informal Settlements has been developed and is now ready to be voted for at the parliament. UN-Habitat is implementing pilot informal settlements upgrading projects in Mosul, Ramadi and Basra.

Moreover, to support 'building back better' Mosul, Iraq's second largest city and was the de facto capital of ISIL

in Iraq, UN-Habitat, in collaboration with UNESCO and key government counterparts, developed the Initial Planning Framework for Reconstruction of Mosul. The Framework aims to facilitate the transition of Mosul from an emergency response and stabilization phase to reconstruction. It is the first step of coordinated strategic urban planning in post-conflict Mosul, providing a baseline for the development of a future longer-term plan.

JORDAN

In Jordan, UN-Habitat continues to support the government of Jordan at the national and local levels, to provide integrated, sustainable and inclusive human settlements for all, in line with the country's national vision and priorities, Vision 2025, and in response to the challenges posed as a result of hosting Syrian refugees since 2011.

In 2018, UN-Habitat initiated the development of a National Urban Policy for Jordan, under the patronage of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, to support the Ministry in establishing a coordination framework to define a national vision for its urban future, promote institutional collaboration and policy coherence



▲ Public Space Workshop, Jordan

among all stakeholders responsible of urban affairs, and catalyze more sustainable practices. A first workshop was organized with the participation of national and local authorities, UN and international development agencies, urban experts and practitioners, planning professionals, academia, specialized NGOs and other stakeholders to initiate a national consultation on the objective of the National Urban Policy for Jordan and agree on the key priority areas that will guide the policy elaboration process. The workshop helped to build a momentum for the importance of NUP and mobilized national stakeholders to take part in the diagnosis phase.

Al-Ghweirieh neighborhood in Zarqa is one of the most heavily populated and dense neighborhoods, hosting around 72,121 Syrian refugees. The area suffers from severely dilapidated shelter conditions, overcrowded and poor shared infrastructure and huge shortage of youth and women-friendly open spaces and parks. UN-Habitat partnered with Al-Ghweirieh neighborhood to design and implement a safe, inclusive and accessible public space using Minecraft as a participatory approach to engage youth and women. The new

public space will provide an adequate urban environment for all neighborhood residents including women, youth-host communities and refugees, and will enhance the community's cohesion and inclusiveness.

The design of the new space was undertaken through a participatory Minecraft workshop, in partnership with the municipality and the engagement of the neighborhood residents from different age groups. All the innovative ideas of the participants were compiled in one design for the space that is currently implemented by the local authorities of the municipality.

UN-Habitat started the implementation of a project to improve the sustainability of WASH service delivery in Zaatari and Azraq Refugee Camps. A comprehensive assessment of the water supply and wastewater monitoring system was conducted in the two camps in coordination with UNICEF and UNHCR. The planning of six hygiene promotion and community mobilization activities started with international NGOs, ACTED and ACF, and will take place in the first quarter of 2019 to benefit 300 camp residents, including women, men, youth and children.

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

In the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, UN-Habitat has been providing technical and policy support for better informed



**More than 10 Million
inhabitants of the different
cities where the profiles
and demo projects were
developed have benefited
from the projects**

and inclusive policies and programmes on sustainable urbanization at the local, national and regional levels. The Future Saudi Cities Programme also supports the elaboration of improved laws and regulations for decentralized and coordinated city-level urban strategic plans and projects, enhanced individual and institutional capacities for managing sustainable urbanization nationally, regionally and locally, as well as and strengthened partnership and exchange on Saudi urbanization process.

In 2018, UN-Habitat produced 15 City profiles through a participatory inclusive process with the participation of all the stakeholders and a strong representation of women and youth. The profiles focused on decentralized governance and urban management in areas within the urban boundaries of the 15 cities.

UN-Habitat produced economic and financial analyses for 15 Saudi cities (Jeddah, Riyadh, Makkah, Taif, Tabuk, Madinah, Skaka, Hail, Arar, Al Asha, Al Baha, Abha, Najran, Jazan, and Qatif), to identify strategic economic sectors for investment, along with policy tools and mechanisms to help competition, improve productivity, and harness the economic potential of the cities reviewed. The outputs were generated using a participatory approach. In fact, the round tables organized during the workshop held in Riyadh, Makkah,

Taif, Tabuk, Madinah, Skaka, Hail, Arar, Al Asha, Al Baha, Abha, Najran, Jazan, Jeddah, and Qatif contributed significantly to understanding the local context and the expectations of policy makers, public officials, private sector interests, and academics. The results of the round tables were included in the resulting publications as local economic development policy recommendations. UN-Habitat also supported urban analysis through the production of 7 City Prosperity Index Profiles, as well as developing the State of Saudi Cities Report.

With support from UN-Habitat, the Ministry of Municipality and Rural Affairs (MOMRA) implemented 2 foundational training courses (International guidelines of urban and territorial planning; and urban data monitoring) and 3 tailor-made programs (Urban design for medium and small cities; women and youth urban lab; and sustainable urban transportation) targeting capacity development efforts for more than 150 municipal technical staff. UN-Habitat also supported the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs in organizing the Second Saudi Urban Forum which provided a framework for local authorities, experts, civil society and citizens at all levels to engage in a conversation about sustainable solutions for a better future for Saudi cities.

KUWAIT

UN-Habitat office in Kuwait was established in March 2004. Since its establishment it has played a pivotal role in supporting national efforts for sustainable urbanisation in Kuwait through providing technical support to National and Gulf states counterparts, strengthening agency initiatives, and managing relationships with partners.

UN-Habitat activities in Kuwait have contributed to leveraging partnerships and raising awareness on multiple urban challenges, including the importance of open Public Spaces, through organizing several awareness

raising events with counterparts. The activities engaged different age groups, including youth and school students.

UN-Habitat participated in several country-based activities, such as “Public Space for Peace”, which commemorated a decade of the UN-Habitat work in supporting urban development in Kuwait. UN-Habitat also supported the Kuwait Municipality in organizing the “Green Building Conference”, as well as SDG-11 workshop.

UN-Habitat signed an agreement with Engineers without Borders- Kuwait to enhance the role of Youth in Sustainable Urban Development in the country and abroad.

In collaboration with Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), UN-Habitat organized a seminar on the partnership with private sector in Arab States to explore converging interests in urban recovery, with a focus on land tenure security and housing. The event targeted participants from international organizations, Governments and private sector, who discussed frameworks, contexts and tools to facilitate the partnership with private sector in urban recovery.

LEBANON

With the absence of national urban policies and insufficient urban planning actors, and with the adopted

outdated urban planning frameworks, UN-Habitat in Lebanon focuses on the advocacy and implementation of programs and interventions that contribute to achieving the targets of SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda.

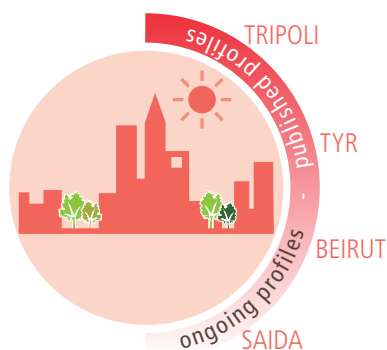
Within its efforts to respond to the urban crisis and address urban vulnerabilities, UN-Habitat initiated City and Neighborhood profiles as tools to identify challenges within urban vulnerable localities. In cooperation with all stakeholders, UN-Habitat identified major challenges facing different communities, and prioritized locally owned solutions, as well as created coordination platforms amongst all stakeholders of the targeted areas. Based on the prioritized needs, UN-Habitat implements multi-disciplinary projects responding to challenges and needs including in community infrastructure such as water, sanitation and hygiene, energy, public spaces, livelihoods, and social stability.

In 2018, UN-Habitat, with funding from the Swiss Development Cooperation, finalized the construction of Maachouk Multi-Purpose Center, which provides women, youth and children, in host and refugee communities, with a variety of socio-recreational activities to enhance social cohesion.

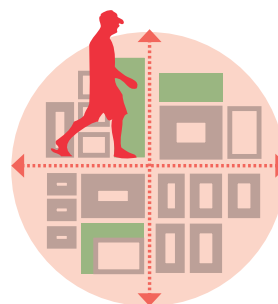
The intervention also included upgrading stairs and alleys in the dense neighborhood of Maachouk to increase

► Children in Bourj Hammoud's Nabaa Public Space waiting in line for their turn to play.





**UN-Habitat
Lebanon published
two City Profiles,
with two ongoing
as well as 3
Neighborhood
Profiles published, 4
forthcomings.**



safety and security measures, mainly for women and elderly groups, and the upgrading communal sewage and storm water networks in Maachouk to eliminate health and environmental risks on residents.

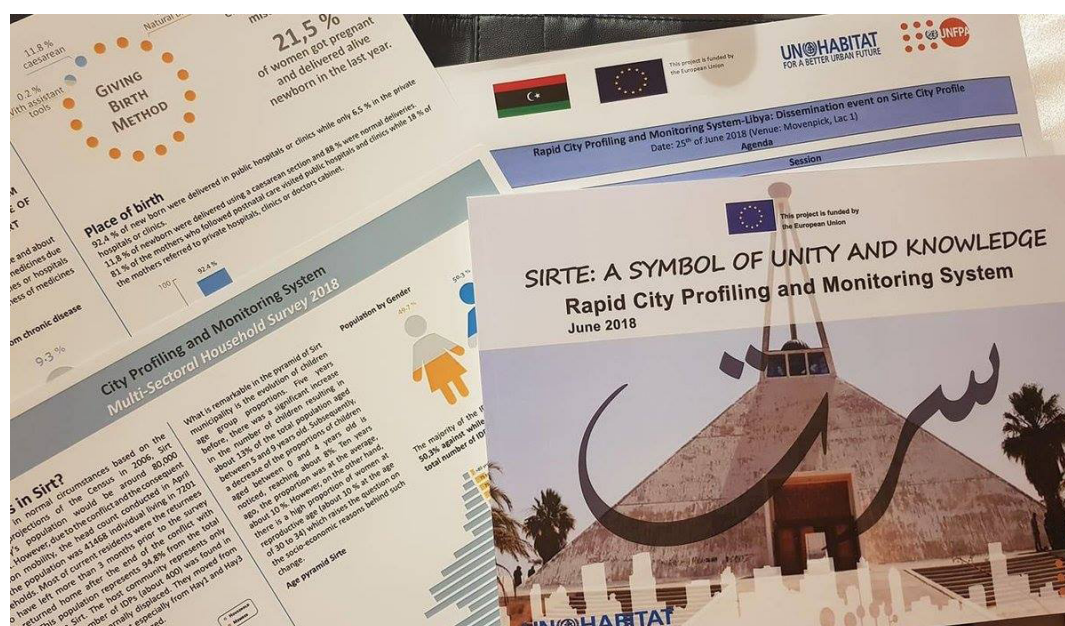
UN-Habitat also completed several public spaces upgrading projects in 2018, aiming to create a safe, inclusive, accessible and green public space for everyone. In Nabaa the upgraded public space served to decrease the social tension between Lebanese host community and Syrian refugees. UN-Habitat has also revitalized and upgraded the Clothes Market – Souk El Albisah in Bab El Tebbaneh, Tripoli to boost the economic situation of the locals, as well as rehabilitated a public space in Haddadine in the City of Tripoli.

With funding from the Italian

Cooperation, UN-Habitat developed the Old Saida neighborhood profile; supported the establishment of a Community Center in the Old City which will offer social services and vocational training to children and youth; Rehabilitated and upgraded communal spaces within substandard buildings , enhancing tenants' accessibility and safety; as well as rehabilitated a firefighting center to support the brigade expanding their involvement in safety/ fire related activities with the aim to reach out to larger vulnerable population groups in Old Saida.

UN-Habitat also collaborated with the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Lebanon to improve the safety of streets in Nabaa through installing solar lights to address the needs of children and women.

“It is of high interest to all stakeholders to expand the geographical coverage of UN-Habitat’s city profiling tool to reach all Libya in the future”. Mr. Essam Garbaa, Head of the international Cooperation Office in the Ministry of Planning.



LIBYA

UN-Habitat finalized the Libya Rapid City Profiling and Monitoring System in October 2018. The project was implemented in close collaboration with the Libyan Ministry of Planning, the Bureau of Statistics and Census, the Urban Planning Agency and target municipalities, and in coordination with relevant ministries, UN agencies, and international NGOs. The profiles were perceived as “A milestone to promote the evidence-based planning on the central and local levels in Libya”.

The project targeted six cities (Benghazi, Sirte, Sebha, Ubari, Al Kufra, Janzour) and was the result of multiple consultations with local authorities and international stakeholders. It includes several evidence-based recommendations to support decision making by the Government and UN agencies to address the most critical short, medium and long-term needs and to coordinate the interventions in each city to respond efficiently to the most urgent necessities.

The published profiles provide a detailed assessment of urban functionality and services, with a focus on the conflict-implications in terms of demographic changes, infrastructural and housing damages, the socioeconomic landscape and the coping mechanisms adopted by the population.

The elaboration of the profiles included a capacity development element, where 16 urban technicians and project coordinators benefited from training on Geo information System software as a step to ensure the sustainability of updating the urban spatial database of the six municipalities. The Libya data portal has been developed and will be activated to allow local authorities and key humanitarian actors in Libya to visualize and extract data at a household and neighborhood level. The city profiling data has also contributed to the dataset informing the humanitarian actors in Libya on the estimate number of

people in need (PiN) in the Humanitarian needs overview, HNO 2019.

UN-Habitat has re-activated the Institutional Development and Capacity Building project with the Urban Planning Agency (UPA), its multi-pronged implementation mechanisms is comprised of supporting the UPA in three components:

(1) Tailored technical training packages focusing on GIS mapping;

(2) conducting a research on informal settlements in Libya;

(3) re-activation of the 3rd generation of the urban master plans;

This partnership and cooperation between UN-Habitat and the Urban Planning Agency will support the agency in establishing the first national urban observatory in Libya.

PALESTINE

Governments at the 19th Session of the UN-Habitat Governing Council in 2003 adopted by consensus resolution 19/18 calling on UN-Habitat to establish a Special Human Settlements Programme for the Palestinian People (SHSPPP) and a Technical Cooperation Trust Fund. The programme aims at improving the human settlements conditions of the Palestinian people, and in so doing contribute to reaching peace, security and stability in the region. UN-Habitat plays a substantive role in Palestine - leading debate on urbanization issues, supporting NGOs, government and private sector firms on spatial planning, and informing advocacy efforts by the international community on planning and building rights for Palestinian communities.

In 2018, UN-Habitat Palestine implemented Small scale interventions to create public spaces in the Palestinian neighborhoods in East Jerusalem benefiting 17,000 neighborhood residents. UN-Habitat also supported the Palestinians' Right to Development in East Jerusalem through providing technical support to Palestinian communities to develop plans for their neighborhoods.

PALESTINE: Children of Wadi El Joz Community in East Jerusalem have a safe space

UN Habitat, in partnership with Bimkom - Planners for Planning Rights, Al Enaya Community Center and the Green Mosques Youth Group, inaugurated Wadi Al Joz community garden, which was developed as part of the "UN Habitat Global Public Space Programme". The project established an inclusive public space in Wadi Al Joz neighborhoods in East Jerusalem that improves the urban environment and the living conditions for the residents, in particular children and youth, and also supports the community initiatives and encourage community participation.

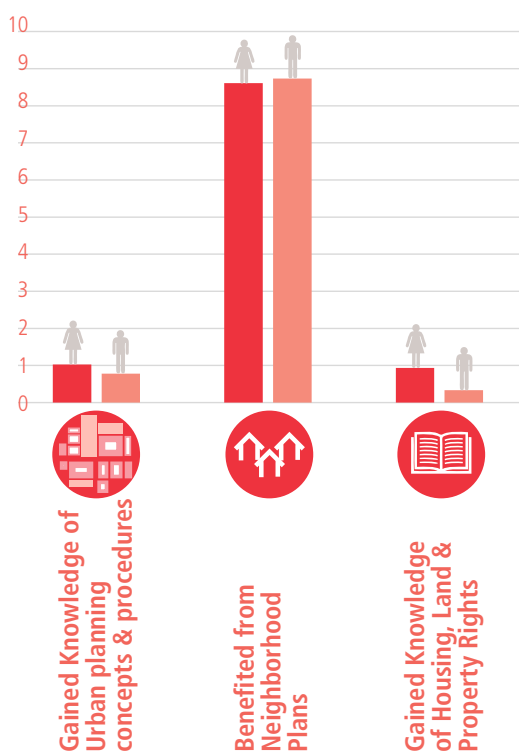
This project followed from UN-Habitat's successful interventions in the public spaces in Sur Baher in East Jerusalem and El Shoka in Gaza Strip. The public space in Wadi Al Joz was designed utilizing Minecraft as a tool to engage the community, especially youth in the design process. UN-Habitat organized a three days Minecraft workshop with Wadi Al Joz local community, followed by several community consultations to reach a consensus on the garden's final design. More than 25,000 residents who suffer from a severe lack of public spaces will benefit from this garden.

Creating public spaces that are safe and secure for community use helps improve urban environment and the living conditions of the residents, in particular women, youth, and children and at the same time provide higher levels of safety and well-being inside these neighborhoods that still lack the existence of public spaces and playgrounds due to the discriminatory policies imposed by the Israeli planning authorities.

"This experience was not only fun to play, but also allowed us to creatively design our playground and see our ideas implemented on the ground," said Ahmad, one of the workshop participants.



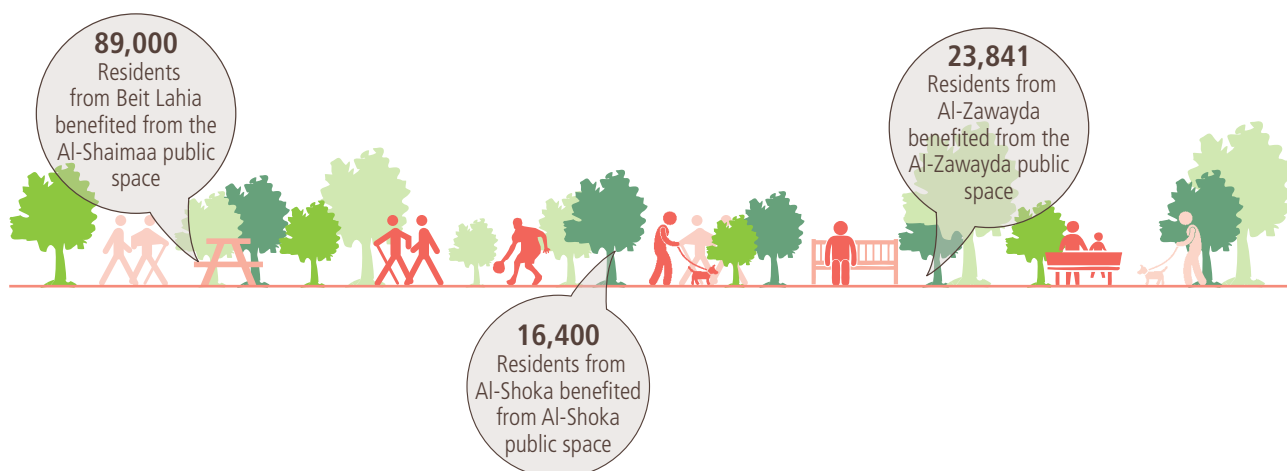
Fig.5.1: Community members benefited through Participatory Spatial Planning Support Programme (Thousands)



Through the three Phases of Dar Al Consul rehabilitation project, UN-Habitat supported the renovation and rehabilitation of residential units and courtyards in the historic area of Dar Al Consul benefiting more than 40 families residing in the complex.

In Gaza, the Participatory Spatial Planning Support Programme, contributed to improving the municipal capacity of technical staff in eight municipalities to conduct and monitor participatory spatial planning, participate effectively in the planning process, updating the master plan and developing two neighborhood plans for each targeted municipality.

UN-Habitat implemented the project "Utilizing digital technology to promote human rights and develop safe and inclusive public spaces in Gaza Strip" contributing to enhancing youth and adolescents' civic participation and awareness of their rights; engaging female architects in gender inclusive site-



planning; engaging community members (female and youth) in the design and implementation processes of inclusive public spaces; developing safe and accessible public spaces in an inclusive and gender responsive manner; and enhancing the capacity of local councils to use digital technology for gender and youth inclusive public infrastructure. The project has also developed an interactive website to make information on spatial plans and land use related regulations available for local community.

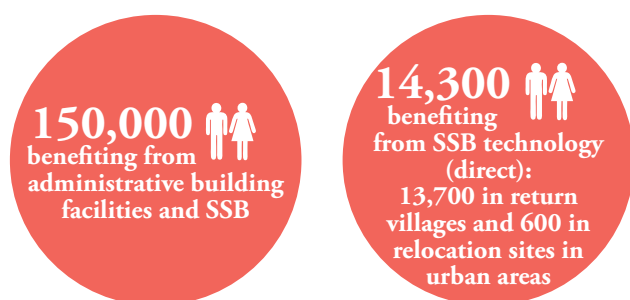
Within the aforementioned project a training program was conducted to improve the knowledge of 90 youth and adolescents (48 females and 42 males) on gender equality concepts, SCR 135 and GBV prevention

accessible public spaces were developed and are currently functional in three marginalized communities, 1873 (821 women, 138 men, 601 female youth and adolescents, and 313 male youth and adolescents) benefited from awareness raising workshops conducted on SGBV, SGVs and women's rights as human rights, as well as two online applications for reporting SGBV and online case management; and two mobile applications with easy content of CEDAW and UNSCR 1325.

SUDAN

UN-Habitat has been supporting the Government of Sudan in developing and implementing sustainable urbanization strategies since 2005. A comprehensive programme has been developed to address urbanization trends, promoting and enhancing urban-regional planning strategies, basic services delivery, housing development, and livelihoods. The approach and activities implemented differ across each region of intervention, taking advantage of policy-making with informed technical advice and demonstrating activities at the ground level, mainstreaming participatory approaches, institutional capacity development and community involvement.

UN-Habitat provides concrete response to specific national and local needs agreed upon with governmental counterparts, translated into key interventions in upgrading and



and response, 42 Awareness raising workshops were conducted to give 717 youth (428 females, 289 males) basic understanding of civic participation with a focus on recovery and reconstruction process, Three Minecraft participatory workshops conducted to engaging 113 youth and adolescents (54 females and 59 males) in the design process of safe public spaces, three inclusive and

prevention of informal settlements, development of pro-poor policies, introduction of environmentally friendly construction technologies to mitigate deforestation and strategic regional, territorial and urban planning. The common denominator of these interventions is the need to address problems and opportunities created by the rapid urbanization process in Sudan and to respond to the specific and urgent needs in Darfur Region, all of which contributes to the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2014-2019.

In 2018, UN-Habitat implemented the “Construction of Public Buildings/Facilities and Housing in Return Sites and Urban Settings” project, which aims at improving physical access to administrative buildings and social services in return sites and urban settings in the five Darfur States. The project that is implemented in partnership with 6 NGOs resulted in increased access to 21 administrative buildings and public facilities, as well as provision of durable and affordable houses through direct and small grants and self-help housing construction. As such, 215 house units are constructed using the stabilized Soil Blocks as a model in the return villages and urban sites in collaboration with the Voluntary Return Reintegration Commission VRRRC. The project also

provided capacity building on alternative environmentally sustainable and cost-effective construction where 312 youth were trained on SSB production with nearly 40% female participation. As a direct result, five Enterprises were established to extend the self-help housing after the project life span using the SSB technology.

SYRIA

UN-Habitat has been active across Syria since 2013, with offices in Damascus, Homs, and Aleppo. The main programmatic focus is to strengthen the resilience of communities and cities to cope with the effects of a protracted crisis.

UN-Habitat developed an urban area-based comprehensive programme of three components: (i) support to municipalities and communities to understand the impact of the crisis on housing, urban infrastructure and services; (ii) identification of priority interventions at the regional, city and neighbourhood levels through a rapid urban planning process; and (iii) funding interventions in priority neighbourhoods – shelter and WASH rehabilitation; street lighting; markets and open spaces

▼ **UN-Habitat local partner facilitating an event for children at an Open Space previously rehabilitated by UN-Habitat in Al-Husainiah, Rural-Damascus**



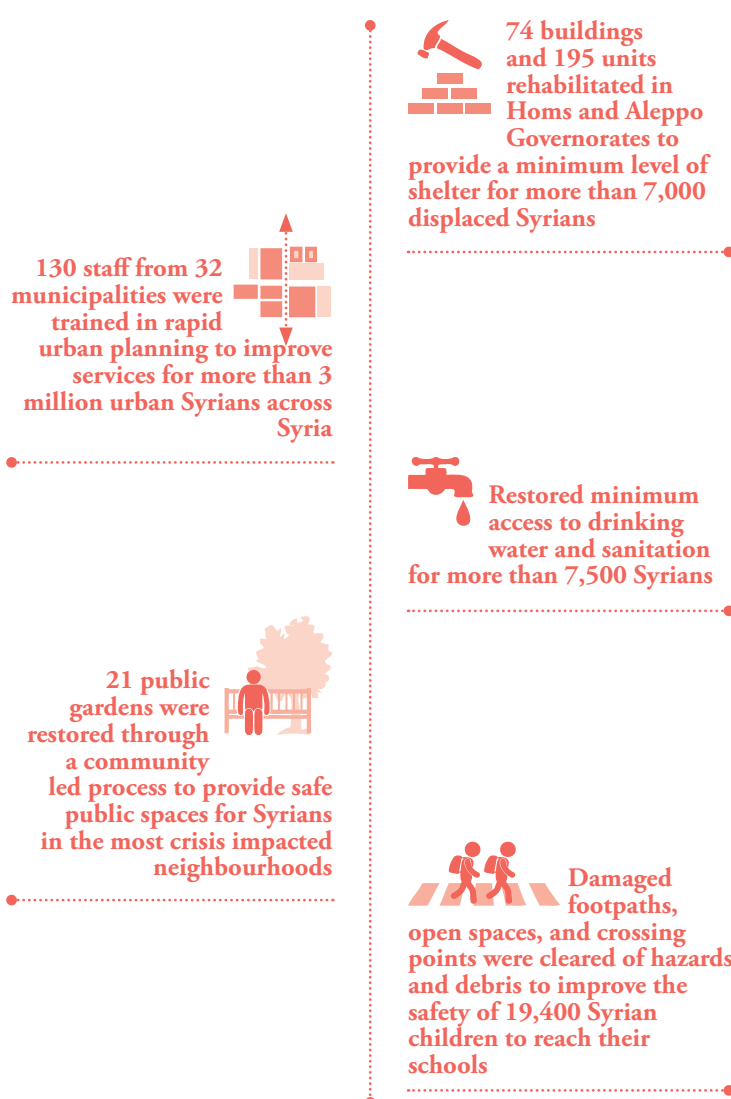
SYRIA: Women in Syria have a say in Local Planning

With the support from the Government of Japan through the Training for All – Phase 1 and No Lost Generation – Phase 1 programmes, UN Habitat built the capacity of municipalities to work with local women and jointly identify neighbourhood priorities that are important to women.

As part of the UN in Syria's Women's Day Event (8 March), women in the severely damaged neighborhood of Kallaseh in Aleppo City met with representatives from the Aleppo Municipality and other local community representatives to jointly identify neighborhood projects that the municipality and UN Habitat will deliver through a complementary Government of Japan grant. Women the project Zainab refers to, aims to use a previously rehabilitated by UN-Habitat garden (Qabaqib) as a location for the Marketing Centre, that could provide a space to sell products created by community women, providing them jobs and income, and further supporting their roles to benefit the community, the neighborhood, and the city.

"This workshop allowed us (women) to have a say in the way our neighborhood could be enhanced. Along with my group, we came up with a project idea that allows us to earn an honest penny by selling homemade products at a marketing center". Says Zainab, a thirty-two years old woman who was one of the participants.

UN-Habitat Syria has also led the development of a 2-year strategic framework for housing, land, and property (HLP) issues in Syria to support coordinated donor investments and is the co-convenor of HLP Technical Working Group that led dialogues with Government on the new land readjustment law in Syria.



rehabilitation; and livelihoods support.

In 2018, UN-Habitat's main projects and activities in Syria were:

- Municipal Technical Offices Support Programme (MTOS) – funded by Governments of Japan and Norway to provide urgent technical and capacity building support to municipalities and local communities to conduct rapid urban planning processes to coordinate investments using an urban area-based approach;

- Education for All Programme (E4A) – funded by Government of Japan and in partnership with UNICEF to identify priority schools for rehabilitation through UN Habitat's urban area-based approach, as well as the rehabilitation of open spaces adjacent to schools;

- Multi-sector interventions to restore shelter, WASH, livelihoods and community infrastructure in the most vulnerable areas through support from Norway and Germany;

- Structural damage assessment and basic shelter rehabilitation through OCHA's Emergency Response Fund (ERF) in Homs and Aleppo;

- Increased access to land and property documentation through strengthened cadastral services in Homs and Aleppo Governorates.

Together with other UN agencies (UNICEF; WFP, FAO, UNHCR, UNDP, and UNFPA), UN Habitat developed two



multi-agencies joint programmes and secured funding with UN-Habitat as the technical lead (urban planning and land management). In both cases, UN Habitat's expertise in urban information, urban planning, housing, and land management complemented the expertise the other UN agencies resulting in a common urban area-based approach to recovery and resilience and approach to understanding and responding to some of the significant land and property challenges facing refugee, IDP, and vulnerable Syrians.

UN-Habitat also led the development of a 2-year strategic framework for housing, land, and property (HLP) issues in Syria to support coordinated donor investments and is the co-convener of HLP Technical Working Group that led dialogues with Government on the new land readjustment law in Syria.

TUNISIA

In Tunisia, UN-Habitat implemented the Spring of Ouled Amor project as part of the Mediterranean City to City Migration Programme (MC2CM), aiming to counter an anti-immigrant narrative in Djerba- in a less fortunate neighbourhood called "Ouled Amor", where most residents are seasonal workers. UN-Habitat's interventions have contributed to endorsing the

integration of inhabitants of "Awled Amor" into the cultural and social fabric of Djerbian society. It also promoted the appropriation of the citizens' public space. In partnership with TUNARUZ association and the municipality, a set of cultural and artistic activities took place engaging more than 120 citizens from different age and social categories of "Ouled Amor" neighbourhood.

UN-Habitat, in partnership with TUNARUZ organization and Midoun municipality, upgraded the public space in Djerba. Based on a consultation approach, Minecraft was introduced for the first time in Tunisia as a community participation tool for the participatory design of public spaces. More than 20 people from the targeted neighbourhood, representing different age and social groups, were engaged in the participatory Minecraft workshop and introduced their ideas and vision for the design of the public space. Stakeholders from local government, the mayor's office, planners and architects attended and reviewed the presentations and ideas were integrated into the final design for rehabilitating the public space. The design of OFFAR public space, which will serve more than 3000 elders; women, kids and youth, has encapsulated the needs and creativity of its own community which will endorse the sense of responsibility and ownership of the citizens toward sustaining the public space once inaugurated.

The Global Urban Observatory of UN-Habitat continued its support to the government of Tunisia on reporting on urban SDG indicators, in partnership with the Africa Center for Statistics of the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). The Observatory pilots an approach that uses a national sample of cities to report on performance across all urban-related SDG indicators. Two training workshops were organized in Monastir and Tozeur for local authorities and national statistical agencies. The workshops focused on specific statistical tools and techniques developed by UN-Habitat to build country-level capacity on SDG 11 monitoring and reporting, including those that focus on spatial and non-spatial methods of data collection and measurement for all indicators. The tools, including the City Prosperity Index (CPI) and the National Sample of Cities, seek to enable all countries to harmonize reporting on SDG 11. The workshops also developed a workplan to guide data collection and analysis in the two pilot cities, leading to the establishment of an urban indicators database and a CPI profile report for each city.

Habitat in Yemen is a project on city and neighborhood profiling for six cities, and developing city level recovery and reconstruction plans, which will also contribute to the development of a National Recovery and reconstruction Plan.

UN-Habitat has established its presence in Aden and Sana'a in 2018, and the initial set of data and mapping process has been finalized for the two cities.

UN-Habitat has coordinated with different partners including the World Bank, GIZ and UNESCO to benefit from their experience related to damage assessment and information management on the situation in the cities of Yemen, as well as established coordination with the Ministry of Public Works in Aden for better targeted and coordinated humanitarian, recovery and development investments.

YEMEN

UN-Habitat started its operations in Yemen in 2018, with the aim of contributing to international efforts to bring peace-building and recovery to the war-torn country.

The first intervention of UN-

► **Rapid
City and
Neighbourhood
Profiling for
Urban Recovery
Process in
Yemen
workshop**



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