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Ministry of Municipal & Rural Affairs

CPI PROFILE

Makkah Al-Mukarramah

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

مستقبل المدن السعودية
FUTURE SAUDI CITIES

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CPI PROFILE - Makkah

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Introduction

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) and Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (MOMRA) jointly launched UN-HABITAT Saudi Arabia Programme titled “ Future Saudi Cities Programme (FSCP)”. The UN-HABITAT Office has been providing technical support to the MOMRA and targets 17 key cities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The cities include Riyadh, Makkah, Jeddah, Taif, Medina, Tabuk, Dammam, Kathef, Ihsa, Abha, Najran, Jazan, Hail, Araar, AlBaha, Buraydah, and Sakaka, to respond to national and local urban challenges.

UN- Habitat provides a new approach for measuring urban prosperity: which is holistic, integrated and essential for the promotion and monitoring of socio-economic development, inclusion and progressive realization of the urban-related human rights for all. This new approach redirects cities to function towards a path of an urban future that is economically, politically, socially and environmentally prosperous. The new approach or monitoring framework, The Cities Prosperity Index (CPI), is a multidimensional framework that integrates six carefully selected dimensions and several indicators that relate to factors and conditions necessary for a city to thrive and prosper. The six dimensions include productivity, infrastructure development, equity and social inclusion, environmental sustainability, and urban governance. The CPI uses the concept of The Wheel of Urban Prosperity and the Scale of Urban Prosperity to enable stakeholders to assess achievements in cities. The City Prosperity Index (CPI) not only provide indices and measurements relevant to cities, but it is also an assessment tool that enables city authorities as well as local and national stakeholders, to identify opportunities and potential areas of intervention for their cities to become more prosperous.

Under FSCP, the UN-HABITAT, MOMRA, and Makkah Municipality together with its Local Urban Observatory have been working on developing urban statistics and spatial information (Geographic Information System) to provide relevant urban information that strongly support decision-making process on urban development and urban planning in the city.

This CPI Profile Report applies the CPI framework and provide a summary of the basic information and urban statistics about the City and gives an overview of the city’s achievements, opportunities and potential areas that contribute to its prosperity in areas such productivity, infrastructure development, equity and social inclusion, environmental sustainability and urban governance and legislation.

OVERVIEW OF THE HOLY CITY OF MAKKAH

Historical Background

Makkah is the holiest city in the Islamic world. It was in this city that Prophet Muhammad –the Messenger of God, peace be upon him, was born in the year 570 CE. Prophet Mohamed (peace be upon him) received the revelation of God's message in the year 610 CE, and it’s from the Holy City of Makkah that he started to preach/spread the message. The Grand Holy Mosque is in the city. All Muslims are expected to undertake a pilgrimage (hajj), to Makkah at least once in their lifetime during the Muslim month of Dhu-al-Hijah (the twelfth lunar month).

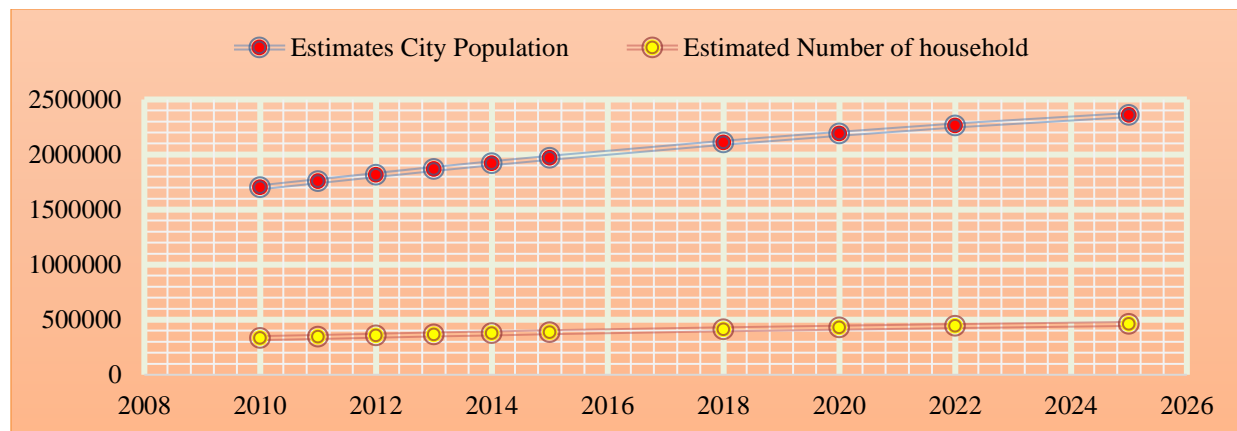
Geography and Location

The Holy City of Makkah is the capital city and the administrative headquarter of the Makkah Region. The city is located about 73 km east of Jeddah and sits at a height of 909 feet above sea level. The city lies in a valley region within a mountainous corridor often termed as the “Hollow of Makkah”, and covers a geographical area of about 1,349Km². The Holy City of Makkah exhibits a typical hot and dry, desert climate. In the summer the temperatures can go as high as beyond 40 °C (104 °F) and during winter it can go as low as 18 °C (64 °F). Makkah area has very low rainfall scattered between the months of November and January.

Demographic Background

The permanent population of City was about 1.5 million in 1429H (2010)¹, today it stands at about 1.97 million. The city population is about 22.2% of the regional population, and it is expected to reach 3.8 million by 1462H (2040). The annual growth rate of the permanent population is about 3.3%. Also, the city receives about 5million pilgrims each year during Hajj; it is expected to witness a sharp growth in the number of pilgrims in the next 30 years. The average household size in the city is 5.1 persons per household. The city of Makkah has a young population, 44% of the city’s population comprises of people below the age of 24 years, and 52% of the population is below 30 years, and only about than 3% of the population is above 65 years.

Figure 1: Trend of Population and Household Units



Socio-Economic Background

The annual religious service of the pilgrimage is the backbone of the city’s economy, most economic activities and the main sources of income for the largest number of Makkah residents revolve around goods and services offered to the pilgrims which number about 5million p.a. The unemployment rate in the city is 4.7%, and employment in the city is comprised of about 17% of the informal type of employment. The annual average household income is USD (PPP) 32387, about SAR 121,451. There are many and various types of industrial products in the Makkah region. In terms of investments, oil refinery products is ranking first with 33.2%, followed by the food and

¹ National report KSA (2015), Third United Nation Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (HABITAT III)

beverage with 15.5%, building materials and glass wear with 11%, rubber, plastics and plastic products with 8.5%, basic metal industries with 5.4% and lastly the chemical substances and products by 2.6%. All these forms key sectors of employment in the city.

Trend on Urban Growth and Existing Spatial Plans

The Holy City of Makkah annually accommodates more than 5 million pilgrims coming from all over the world and also from the different regions within Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. As a result, it disrupts the urban system and affects the urban dynamics of the city. Apart from the rapid growth of the permanent population of the city, the Hajj has had a significant impact on the urban growth and development of the City as well. Although the surrounding mountain ranges constrain the urban extent of Makkah, the land use mix of the city has drastically changed over the last decade to cope with the increasing services required for the ever-increasing number of pilgrims and permanent inhabitants. Before 1955 the city growth was characterized by the confined distribution around The Holy Mosque, limiting the city area to about 700 hectares. During this time developments were mostly unplanned and spontaneous. The topographic barriers such as mountains were the main limiting factor for the city lateral spreading. Since 1955 there have been two distinct phases of the spatial evolution and development of the City. The first phase (from 1955 to 1986) witnessed a rapid growth; tunnels were constructed in Makkah to connect the new neighborhoods with the old city. During this phase, the Holy Mosque witnessed the first extension and modernization, at the expense of the surrounding areas. The second phase started from 1986 to the present and is characterized by the extensive modernization of old urban areas, the consumption of space parcels, and for the first time the development of urban areas on rock-cut parcels at the foot-slopes of surrounding mountains. The new plans for housing are now stretching on alluvial soil outside the old city core and being connected by modern transport networks and tunnels.

Figure 2 is showing the trend of urban growth limit control of the Holy City of Makkah.

City Prosperity Index (CPI) Assessment

Prosperity implies success, wellbeing, thriving conditions, safety and security, long life etc. Prosperity in cities, therefore, is about successfully meeting today's needs without compromising tomorrow and working together for a smart, competitive economy, in a socially inclusive society and a healthy, vibrant environment for individuals, families, and communities. Prosperity in cities is a process and cities can be at different levels of prosperity. In order to measure the level and also track how cities progress on the path to becoming prosperous, UN-Habitat introduced a monitoring framework: The Cities Prosperity Index (CPI). The CPI is a composite index with six carefully selected dimensions that captures all important elements of a prosperous city. This index along with a conceptual matrix, The Wheel of Urban Prosperity and a Global Scale of City Prosperity, are intended to help city authorities, decision-makers, partners and other stakeholders to use existing evidence and formulate clear policies and interventions for their cities.

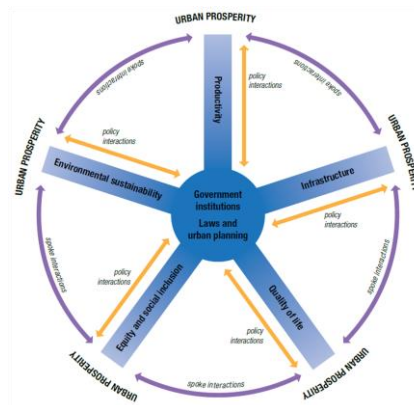
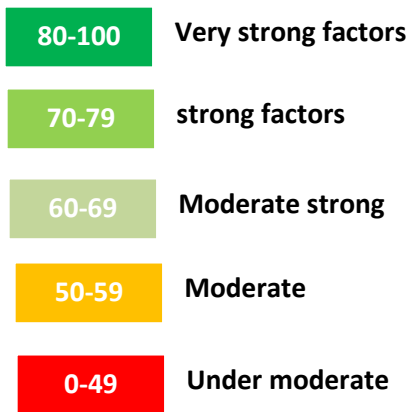


Figure 3: Scale of Urban Prosperity and the Wheel of Urban Prosperity

The UN-Habitat’s Cities Prosperity Index (CPI) allows authorities and local groups to identify opportunities and potential areas for action or adjustments in order to make their cities more prosperous. The CPI is a multidimensional framework that integrates several dimensions and indicators that are not only related but have a direct and indirect influence in regard to fostering prosperity in cities. These components are embodied in the following six dimensions: Productivity, Infrastructure Development, Quality of life, Equity and social inclusion, Environmental sustainability, and Governance and legislation. Each of the dimensions is comprised of several indicators measured differently. Since the indicators are measured in different units, the first step in the index computation involves the normalization of the indicators into values ranging between 0 and 1²; the normalized values are then aggregated stepwise to create the single value called the City Prosperity Index.

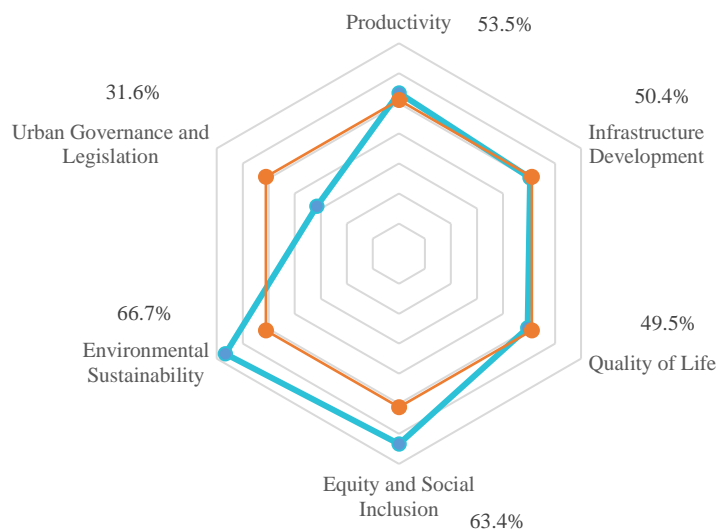
The following sections apply the CPI framework, the concept of the Wheel of Urban Prosperity and the Scale of Urban Prosperity to conduct an assessment of the level of prosperity in the city. The assessment provides an indication of the strengths or weaknesses in the factors of prosperity (in reference to the scale of urban prosperity); it also provides an indication of the level of achievement towards the set prosperity goals (based on the magnitude of the CPI scores); and highlights whether there are disparities between and within the six dimensions of prosperity (based on the concept of the Wheel of Urban Prosperity-stressing balance). An in-depth analysis of the findings will help to identify which particular sub-dimensions and indicators contribute to high or low values in each of the dimensions and the CPI scores.

² Can also be expressed in percentages so that values range between 0% and 100%, as used in this report.

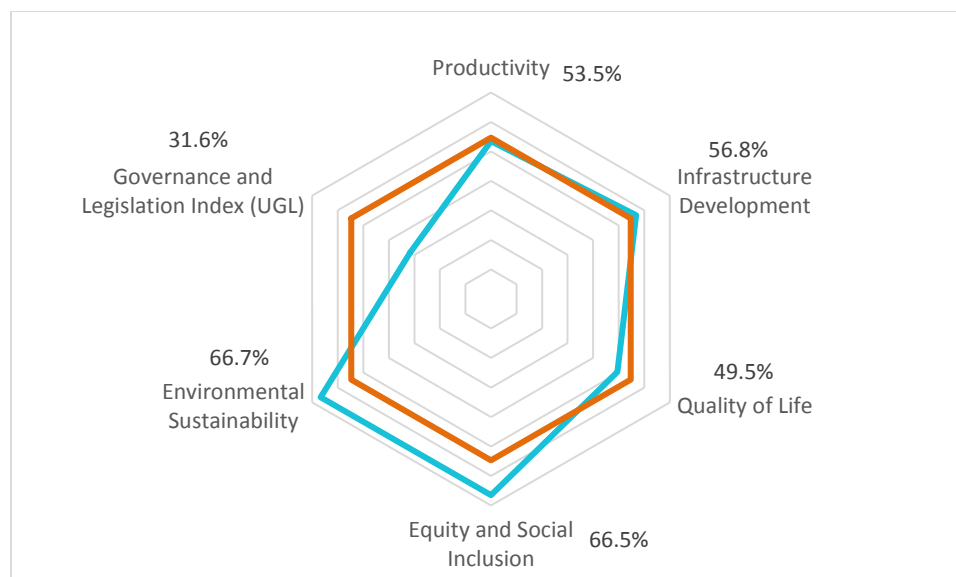
Overall City Prosperity Index

The overall CPI index is the aggregate of the six dimensions, the overall CPI for Makkah was computed using six dimensions and the radar chart below shows the score for each of the dimensions. The overall city prosperity index score is 54.1%; the city has a moderate rating according to the global scale of urban prosperity, The prosperity of cities requires a good balance of strong indicators of prosperity. A combination where some indicators are too low while others are very high is undesirable³. This moderate rating suggests that some of the city's prosperity dimensions are weak and presence of disparity between the dimensions. The dimensions of prosperity in which the city performs dimally include Infrastructure dimension (56.8%), Quality of life dimension (49.5%), Productivity (53.5%) and Urban governance and Legislation with 31.6%. There are 2 dimensions rated as moderately strong; equity and social inclusion with 66.5% and Environmental Sustainability with 66.7%. The mixture of low and high values is observable in the shape of the blue line in the radar chart below which instead of taking the shape of a round wheel it has an irregular shape. The orange line is the overall CPI index line.

Figure 3: City Prosperity Index Dimensions



³ It's based on the concept of a round wheel, the urban wheel of prosperity, capable of driving a city to prosperity.



The analysis in the following sections will examine all the six dimensions of prosperity individually and identify areas of strengths and weaknesses within each that can inform appropriate recommendations.

The Productivity Dimension

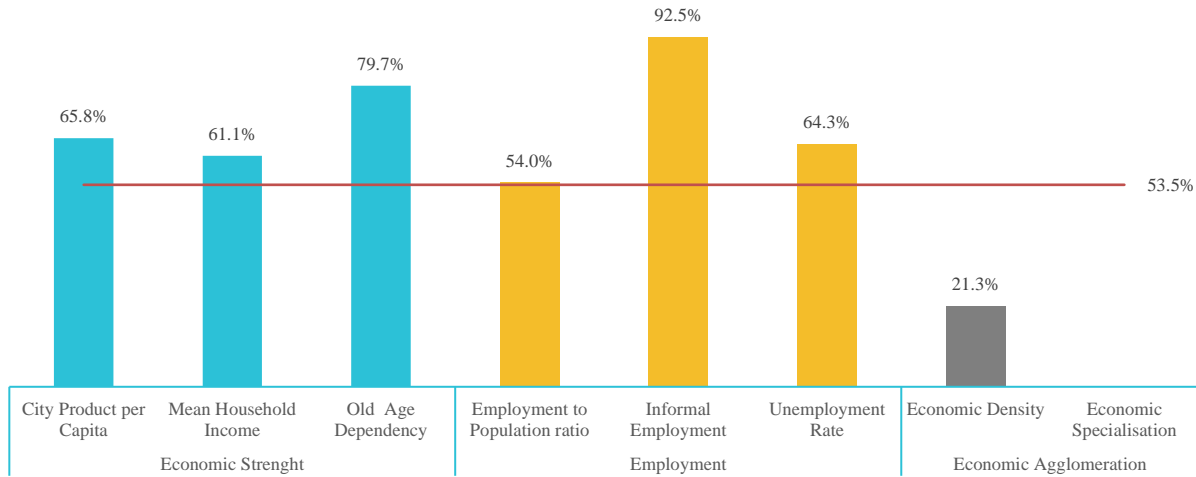
The productivity dimension measures how a city contributes to economic growth and development, how it generates income, employment and provide equal opportunities to its inhabitants. The findings show that the productivity index for the Holy City of Makkah is 53.5% which is moderate according to the global scale of prosperity.. According to the findings in the table below, economic growth (69%) and employment (70%) sub-dimensions are strong whereas the economic agglomeration which measures the spatial distribution of the outcomes of productivity is under moderate (21%), pulling the average down. It is, therefore, clear that the productivity of the city is generally strong.

Table 2: Productivity Index (53.5%)⁴

Sub-Dimension	Indicator	Actual	Units	Standardized	Comments
Economic Growth (68.9%)	City Product per Capita	19,552.00	USD (PPP)/Inhab	65.8%	M. Strong
	Mean Household Income	29,824.00	USD(PPP)	61.1%	M. Strong
	Old Age Dependency Ratio	4.97	%	79.7%	Strong
Employment (70.3%)	Employment to Population Ratio	54.55	%	54.0%	Moderate
	Informal Employment	15.82	%	92.5%	V. Strong
	Unemployment Rate	4.59	%	64.3%	M. Strong
Economic Agglomeration (21.3%)	Economic Density	182,361,374	USD (PPP)/km ²	21.3%	Under moderate

⁴ Makkah Municipality, Makkah Urban Observatory Report, Makkah, 2017.

Figure 4: Productivity Indicators



The overall score for the productivity dimension is weak mainly because of two indicators namely economic density and employment to population ratio. By tackling these two indicators, the productivity of the city should move from moderate to strong.

The Infrastructure Dimension⁵

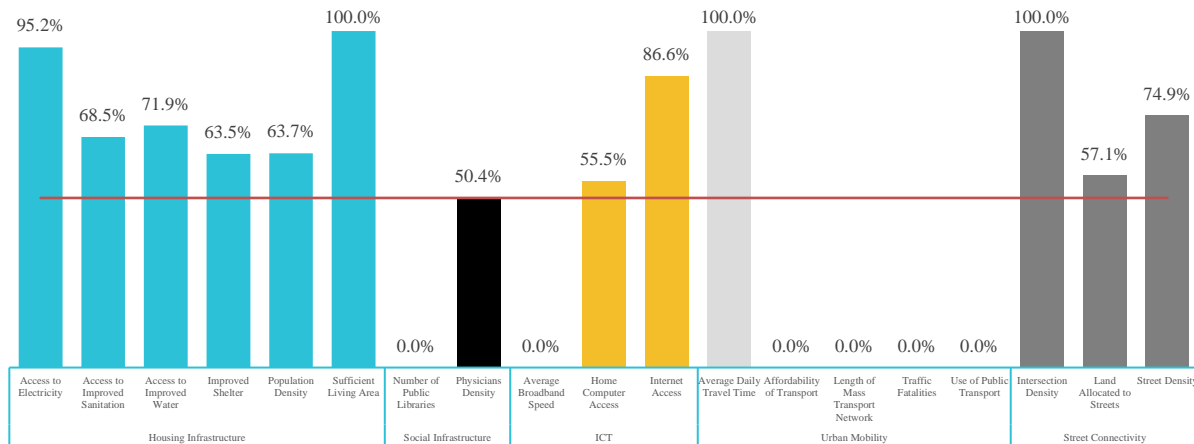
Well-functioning basic urban infrastructure is a fundamental element for building a prosperous urban community. Infrastructure ensures public health and safety, supports the local economic development and contributes toward the delivery of public services to the community. The benefits of a functional basic urban infrastructure, therefore, are overwhelmingly community-wide. The infrastructure dimension measures how a city uses its resources to provide a functional and efficient basic infrastructure, physical assets and amenities. Basic services such as piped water, sanitation, electricity, road network, and information and communications technology are required to sustain the population, economic development, and a better quality of life. The statistics in the table below indicates that the Holy City of Makkah has a moderate infrastructure development index with 56.8%. The weakness in the infrastructural development is associated with the social infrastructure with 25.2% and urban mobility with 33.3%. Nevertheless, the city enjoys a strong housing infrastructure with 77.13%, ICT infrastructure with 71.1% and street connectivity with 77.3%.

⁵ Makkah Municipality, Makkah Urban Observatory Report, Makkah, 2017.

Table 3: Infrastructure Development Index (56.8%)

Sub-Dimension	Indicator	Actual	Units	Standardized	Comments
Housing Infrastructure (77.13%)	Access to Electricity	95.18	%	95.2%	V. Strong
	Access to Improved Sanitation	68.50	%	68.5%	M. Strong
	Access to Improved Water	71.90	%	71.9%	Strong
	Access to Improved Shelter	63.46	%	63.5%	M. Strong
	Population Density	9,553.94	Inhab/Km2	63.7%	M. Strong
	Sufficient Living Area	97.33	%	100.0%	V. Strong
Social Infrastructure (25.2%)	Number of Public Libraries	0.21	#/100,000 inhab.	0.0%	Under moderate
	Physician Density	2.10	#/1,000 inhab.	50.4%	Moderate
ICT (71.1%)	Average Broadband Speed	-	Mbps	-	-
	Home Computer Access	55.50	%	55.5%	Moderate
	Internet Access	86.60	%	86.6%	V. Strong
Urban Mobility 33.3%)	Average Daily Travel Time	27.00	minutes	100.0%	V. Strong
	Affordability of Transport	-	%	-	-
	Length of Mass Transport Network	-	Km/1M Inhab.	-	-
	Road Safety (traffic fatalities)	40.14	#/100,000 inhab.	0.0%	Under moderate
	Use of Public Transport	5.37	%	0.0%	Under moderate
	Street Connectivity (77.3%)	Intersection Density	111.10	#/km2	100.0%
	Land Allocated to Streets	23.12	%	57.1%	Moderate
	Street Density	14.98	Km/KM2	74.9%	Strong

Figure 5: Infrastructure Development Indicators



The score observed in the urban mobility infrastructure dimension is due to very low usage of public transport, high rate of fatal traffic accidents and lack of mass public transport system. Similarly, the social infrastructure also has under moderate rating mainly because only one of its indicators is strong, the rest are under moderate, for example, the city has an inadequate number

of public libraries and medical personnel compared to its large and rapidly growing population. The ICT infrastructure is generally strong mainly because of the high internet access (86.6%); however, it is hampered by the low access to home computers with 55.5%. Similarly, the street connectivity is also strong but has one under moderate indicator, the amount of land allocated to streets.

The Quality of Life Dimension

Quality of life is about happiness, well-being and a sense of security in the society. The quality of life index is a measure of the level of achievement a city has made in the provision of important services and facilities that directly affect the well-being of individuals and the society at large. Such services and facilities may include social services, education, health, recreation, safety, and security, etc. Although the quality of life index for the Holy City of Makkah is only 53.3% which according to the global scale of prosperity rating is moderate, it has some strong sub-dimensions to build on to achieve a high quality of life. The main sources of strength in the quality of life are the health provision with 60.5% and the safety and security with 91.8%. The other two dimensions are under moderate, especially availability of public spaces for recreation is low.

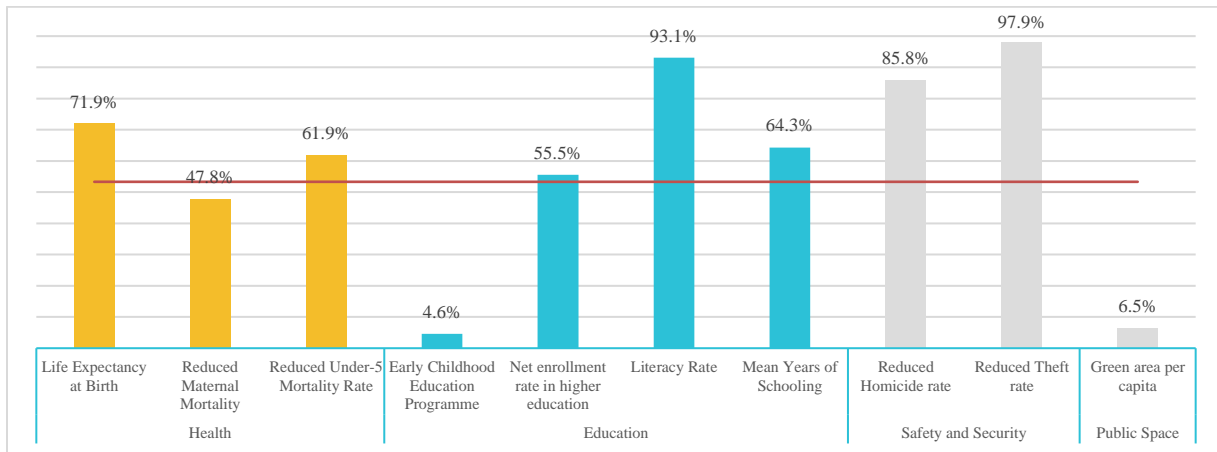
Table 4: Quality of Life Index (53.3%)⁶

Sub-Dimension	Indicator	Actual	Units	Standardized	Comments
Health (60.5%)	Life Expectancy at Birth	73.80	years	71.9%	M. Strong
	Eradicate Maternal Mortality	38.70	#/100,000 live births	47.8%	Under moderate
	Eradicate Under-5 Mortality	11.80	#/1000 live births	61.9%	M. Strong
	Vaccination Coverage	-	%	-	-
Education (54.4%)	Early Childhood Education	4.63	%	4.6%	Under moderate
	Net Enrolment in Higher Education	55.54	%	55.5%	Moderate
	Literacy Rate	94.00	%	93.1%	V. Strong
	Mean Years of Schooling	9.00	%	64.3%	M. Strong
Safety and Security (91.8%)	Homicide Rate	2.87	#/100,000 inhab.	85.8%	V. Strong
	Theft Rate	32.11	#/100,000 inhab.	97.9%	V. Strong
Public Space (6.5%)	Green Area per Capita	0.98	m ² / inhabitant	6.5%	Under moderate
	Accessibility to Open Public Space	-	%	-	-

To improve the quality of life, the focus should be directed to under moderate indicators such as uplifting the situation in early childhood education programmes and provision of more public spaces especially the green area per capita. Net enrolment rate in higher education is also low.

⁶ Makkah Municipality, Makkah Urban Observatory Report, Makkah, 2017.

Figure 6: Quality of Life Indicators



Analysis of Equity and Social Inclusion Dimension

Every municipality is unique, so there are many critical paths to advance equity and inclusion. When a municipality works for those who are most at risk of exclusion, including the youth, children, and women from a diversity of backgrounds, they work for everyone. In the 21 century and beyond cities should be inclusive and resources distributed equitably among all citizens. No matter how rich a city is with high average income or good infrastructure - no city can claim to be prosperous when large segments of its population live in deprivation. The equity and social inclusion dimension measures the level of achievement of cities in the distribution or sharing of the benefits of prosperity among its inhabitants. Due to data unavailability problems only one of the three sub dimensions of equity and inclusion was used, the gender inclusion sub dimension. Based on the available data, the city of Makkah has a gender inclusion sub dimensional index of 66.5%. This is indicative of a fairly gender inclusive city.

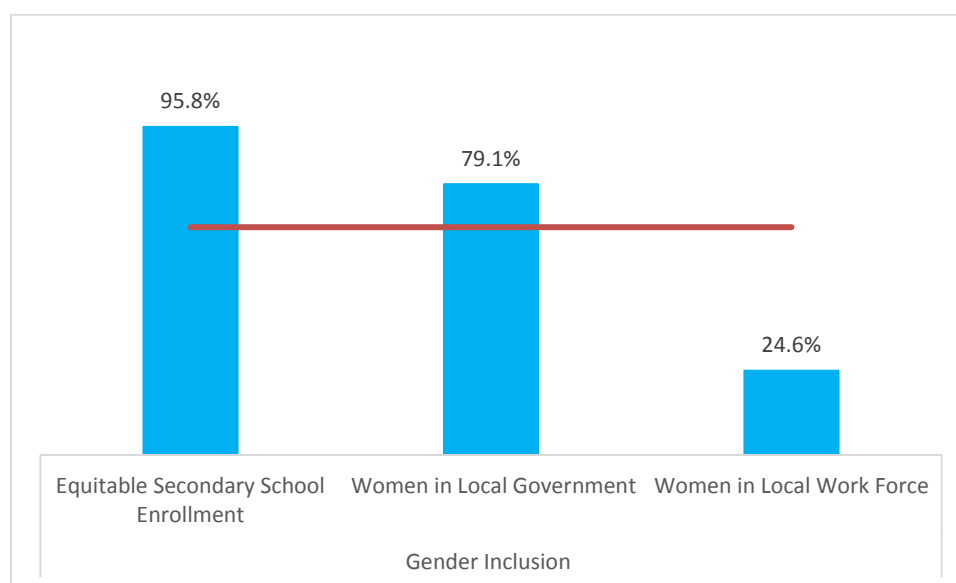
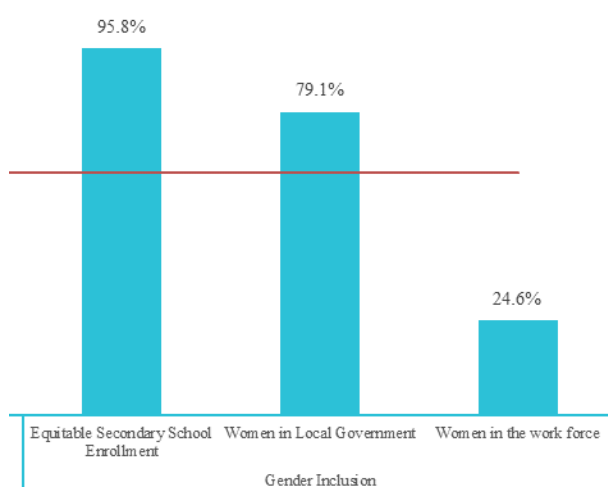
The main source of strength within the gender inclusion sub dimension is equitable secondary enrolment and women in local government with 95.8% and 79.1%, respectively. The main source of weakness is the number of women in the city’s workforce with a score of 24.6%, calling for prioritization of policies that promotes more participation of women in the workforce.

(66.5%).

Table 5: Equity and Social Inclusion Index (66.5%)⁷

Sub-Dimension	Indicator	Actual	Units	Standardized	Comments
Gender Inclusion (66.5%)	Equitable Secondary School Enrollment	0.96	∞	95.8%	V. Strong
	Women in local government	39.57	%	79.1%	Strong
	Women in the workforce	12.30	%	24.6%	Under moderate

Figure 7: Equity and Social Inclusion Indicators



⁷ Makkah Municipality, Makkah Urban Observatory Report, Makkah, 2017.

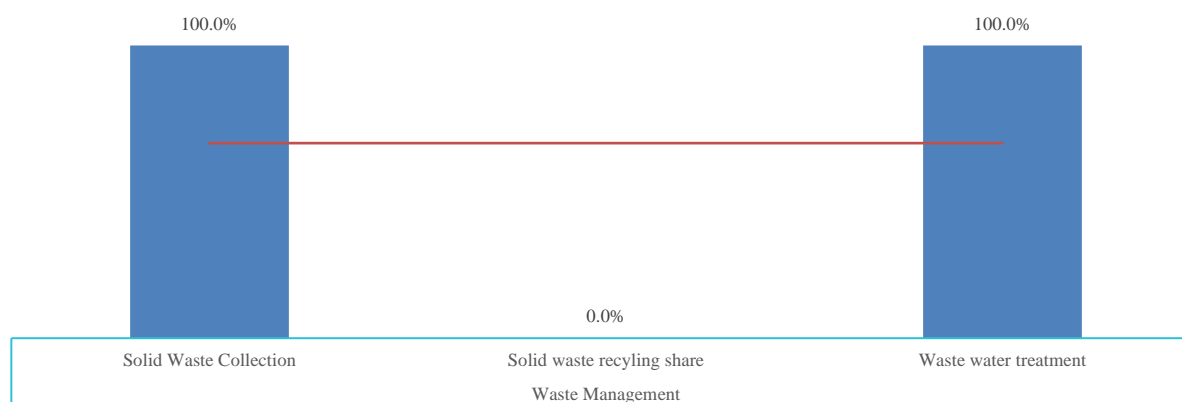
Analysis of Environmental Sustainability Dimension⁸

Rapid population growth is threatening the sustainability of cities and the quality of city life. Mass urbanization can lead to social instability, undermining the capacity of cities to be environmentally sustainable and economically successful. Cities should ensure that as they grow and develop economically, the city environment is not destroyed or degraded but remains healthy and loveable; the city's natural assets and resources are preserved for the sake of the future generations. The ESI measures how cities' progress towards a sustainable city environment. The findings in the table below show that the Holy City of Makkah has a moderately high sustainability score of 66.7%. Due to data unavailability, the environmental sustainability index was computed using one sub-dimension for waste management. There is no data on the use of renewable energy and the data on solid waste recycling indicates that no recycling of solid wastes is done currently. Therefore, the city's main weakness areas is lack of solid waste recycling.

Table 6: Environmental Sustainability Index (66.7%)

Sub-Dimension	Indicator	Actual	Units	Standardized	Comments
Waste Management (66.7%)	Solid Waste Collection	100.00	%	100.0%	V. Strong
	Solid waste recycling share	0.00	%	0.0%	Under moderate
	Waste water treatment	100.00	%	100.0%	V. Strong

Figure 8: Environmental Sustainability Indicators



Although the management of waste collection is very good, there is no waste recycling programme at all; this may lead to huge landfills which are also a big threat to the environment. Overdependence on fossil fuel as the only source of energy is not advisable as well.

⁸ Makkah Municipality, Makkah Urban Observatory Report, Makkah, 2017.

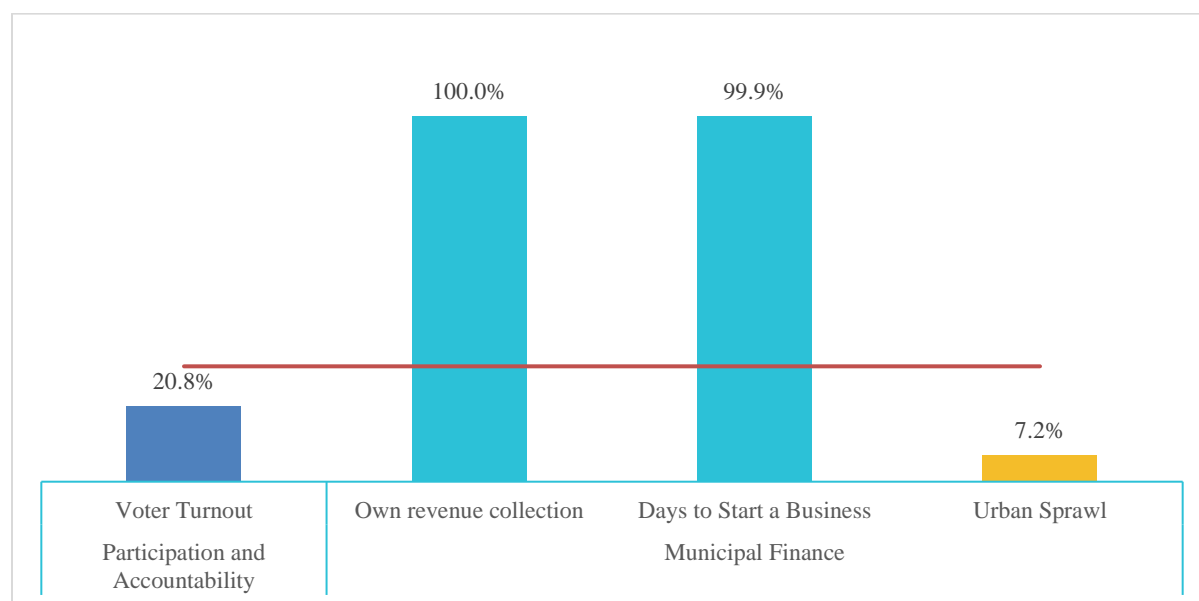
The Governance and Legislation Dimension⁹

Good governance and applicable legislation are prerequisites for sustainability and growth; it's only through good urban governance and accountable leadership that a city can be able to deploy appropriate and effective policies, laws and regulations, and create adequate institutional frameworks required for growth and prosperity. With an index of 31.6%, the Holy City of Makkah which means an under moderate index.

Table 7: Governance and Legislation Index (31.6%)

Sub-Dimension	Indicator	Actual	Units	Standardized	Comments
Participation & Accountability (20.8%)	Municipal Voter turnout	20.80	%	20.8%	Under moderate
Municipal Finance (66.6%)	Own revenue collection	100.00	%	100.0%	V. Strong
	Days to start a business	2.00	Days	99.9%	V. Strong
	Local expenditure efficiency	-	%	-	-

Figure 9: Governance and Legislation Indicators



SWOT Analysis based on City Prosperity Index Assessment

This section attempts to analyze the findings of the CPI and use it to identify areas of Strength, Weaknesses or Challenges, Opportunities for growth and possible Threats that the city may have so that appropriate recommendations and actions can be designed.

⁹ Makkah Municipality, Makkah Urban Observatory Report, Makkah, 2017.

Table 8: CPI Based SWOT Analysis

STRENGTH	WEAKNESSES
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Good economic growth fundamentals such as GDP per capita, high household income and, moderately low old-age dependency ratio. Good employment factors which is also good for the city economic stability. 2. The city has good housing infrastructure with access to basic services and utilities especially electricity, water, sanitation and living area. 3. Street connectivity is good, particularly on street density and intersection density. 4. On education the literacy rate is high and the mean years of school is also moderate. 5. Good safety and security in the city, as well as political stability in the country, provide a conducive environment for investments, growth, and development. 6. There is good healthcare provision in the city: a healthy population is productive, happy and peaceful. 7. Equitable secondary school enrolment is a very strong point towards achieving gender balance and inclusion. 8. Equity and inclusion in the city are among the highest, especially on gender and social inclusion. 9. The city has good environmental sustainability policies especially on the solid waste collection and wastewater treatment. 10. Governance and legislation are particularly good on municipal finance management and conducive environment for starting new businesses. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Weakness in productivity can be linked to the inability of the city to create jobs as indicated by weak employment to population ratio. Geographical distribution of economic development is also low as indicated by low economic density. 2. Weaknesses in infrastructural development are associated with poor urban mobility indicators such as poor road safety and little use of public transport. Social infrastructure is affected by low physician density and number of public libraries – libraries promote learning and access to information and provide empowering knowledge. Access to home computers – home computers and internet access improve access to information. 3. Provision of education has weaknesses especially early childhood enrolment and enrolment in higher education are too low. 4. Low physician density and high maternal mortality – compromises the quality of healthcare. 5. Weaknesses in Equity and social inclusion are mainly related to economic inclusion indicators such as poverty rate and income distribution as indicated by Gini coefficient. On gender inclusion, there are too few women in the workforce – literacy and education level among Saudi women is considerably high; this is a critical economic resource in terms of manpower. 6. Poor availability of public spaces in the city – limiting recreation and better quality of life. 7. On governance, the main issue is poor public participation.
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Good and Stable economic fundamentals create a good environment for growth and development in many areas of the economy. Eradication of the informal employment is a big advantage. 2. High internet access present good opportunity to encourage higher speeds and promote innovation in the ICT sector especially among the youth with young creative minds. 3. High street intersection density and street density which should encourage alternative means of transport such as walking and cycling especially early morning and evening. 4. Productivity, good economic fundamentals, good safety & security and political stability in the city provide a conducive environment for attracting foreign investments. 5. Literacy and education level among Saudi women is considerably growing due to equitable access to education; this is a critical economic resource in terms of manpower that can be used to fill the gaps of skilled manpower that the economy needs. 6. For the environment – the high rate of solid waste collection is a good starting point for recycling and ensuring a clean environment. 7. On education the literacy rate is high and the mean years of school is also moderate. Since it includes the youth and women, this becomes untapped potential to contribute allot to economic growth. There is allot of unutilized skilled manpower (human capital), especially among women. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Low employment to population ratio is not good in a country with generally young population; bulging youth population mean high labour force in near future. Risk of increased youth unemployment. 2. No renewable energy – complete dependence on fossil fuel which is not renewable source may not be the best for the city in the long run. Investment in other renewable energy sources such as the solar and the wind is advisable. 5. The poverty level is relatively higher in the city compared to other cities.

Local Urban Observatories

Introduction

Global Urban Observatory Network (GUO-Net) is a worldwide information and capacity-building network established by the United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-

HABITAT) to help implement the New Urban Agenda at the national and local levels. The GUO-NET consists of national and city-level institutions that function as National and Local Urban Observatories.

The purpose of GUO-Net is to support governments, local authorities and civil society:

- To improve the collection, management, analysis and use of information in formulating more effective urban policies;
- To improve information flows between all levels for better urban decision-making;
- To stimulate broad-based consultative processes to help identify and integrate urban information needs;
- To provide information and analyses to all stakeholders for more effective participation in urban decision-making;
- To share information, knowledge and expertise using modern information and communication technology (ICT);
- To create a global network of local, national and regional platforms for sharing information about the implementation of the New Urban Agenda;
- To share some tools and benefits provided by the GUO network;
- Training on using the urban indicator toolkit for data collection and analysis;
- Training on how to use the results of the urban indicators data for fundraising activities;
- Conferences of the network members for information exchange and city-to-city networking;
- Access to internet resources available at UN-Habitat's website including urban indicators databases and Urban Info system;
- Data used for evaluations done for the World Cities Report published biannually by UN-Habitat.

UN-HABITAT achieves these objectives through a global network of local, national and regional urban observatories and through partner institutions that provide training and other capacity-building expertise.

The UN-Habitat and MOMRA have previously established Local Urban Observatories in the 17 cities covered by the FSCP. A rapid survey conducted by UN-Habitat-KSA in June 2015 targeting the 17 LUO/cities, found out that only 15 LUOs existed. The findings also showed that 88% of Local Urban Observatories are under Municipal Departments while 12% are under Authority for Development within Municipality. It also revealed that 71% of the Local Urban Observatories were active while the operations of 23% of them were suspended due to unaccomplished staff/contractual arrangements.

Some of the data the Local Urban Observatories are required to collect in collaboration with the Municipals are GIS-related, so there is need to have collaborative work relations between the LUOs and the GIS departments within the Municipalities. The survey revealed that in terms of connections with the GIS departments, 59% of the LUOs have work relations with the GIS department while 18% do not. There was evidence that 71% of the LUOs have GIS data while 6% do not have.

HOLY CITY OF MAKKAH – Local Urban Observatory.

The Local Urban Observatory in the Holy City of Makkah was established in 2008 (11 years) as an independent unit located within the municipality to be responsible for developing tools, collecting and analyzing urban indicators at the city level. The LUO has a total of 13 employees, of which 7 are consultants provided by a private consulting firm contracted to do management of the LUO, three are Saudi consultant, and the other three are government staff. The contract with the consulting firm has lasted more than one year.

The LUO in Makkah has produced five rounds of urban indicators and are now working on the sixth round of urban indicators, so far they have produced a total of over 300 urban indicators.

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