



REGIONAL PREPARATIONS FOR HABITAT III

UN ESCWA- UN HABITAT REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE ARAB STATES- HABITAT III SECRETARIAT

Results of the First Expert Group Meeting:

Electronic consultation on the Annotated Outline of the HIII Regional Report for the Arab Region: (EGM I: E-Consultation): 23 October- 03 November 2015)

Introduction:

1. ESCWA, together with UN Habitat Regional Office (ROAS) and Habitat III Secretariat held the first round of consultations on the Annotated Outline of the HIII Regional Report for the Arab Region during the period 23 October - 03 November 2015. The EGM was carried out electronically (e-consultation) during the period 23 October – 03 November 2015. The electronic consultation involved consulting UN stakeholders and key Experts and institutions, including experts from the League of Arab States Secretariat and Member States' representatives in the Technical Committee on Housing.
2. The participants in the consultation represented a group of experts with diverse substantive backgrounds and knowledge on issues pertinent to housing and urban development in the Arab region. The set of experts also ensured geographic diversity and gender balance.
3. The type of engagement with experts and UN stakeholders was primarily on the substantive level seeking their learned views and feedback on the proposed outline of the Regional Report presented in its proposed Annotated Outline which was shared with them together with background information on the processes of preparations towards Habitat III and the regional undertakings in this respect.
4. The electronic survey was sent out to 87 participants in total between 23 October and the extended deadline of 3 November 2015.
5. The outcome of the e-consultation will be incorporated in the annotated outline of the report and ultimately the body of the report and its main messages to feed into the global report prepared by UN Habitat Secretariat and presented to H III (Quito, October 2016).
6. Below are a summary and the full results of the electronic consultation.

Summary of Results of the E-consultation on the Annotated Outline of the HIII Regional Report for the Arab Region

Respondents

The e-consultation received 46 responses from 87 individuals invited, between 23 October and the extended deadline of 3 November. UN Agencies and Expert/Consultants contributed most responses followed by the League of Arab States and then UN Habitat.

Overview on the Regional Report

On a scale of very satisfied/satisfied/neither satisfied nor dissatisfied/dissatisfied/very dissatisfied, most respondents were satisfied that the overall purpose of the Regional Report was reflected in the Annotated Outline (AO). They were also largely satisfied with the conceptual framework grounding issues in the report and with how the Report will align with Agenda 2030.

Structure and Methodology for the Regional Report

Respondents agreed most strongly that the proposed structure served the final goals of the Report and that sub-regional levels of urbanization and pressures faced were accounted for. A majority of respondents felt the AO identified an evidence base to be used and that examples represent current housing and urban priorities. Under one third of respondents felt that examples selected illustrate implementation strategies in the region. The majority of respondents did not agree that examples provided a representative picture of the region, represent trends since HII or reflect drivers for change. 40% of respondents agreed that references cited are appropriate.

A range of additional references and literature was proposed by respondents. These can be found in the full results of the e-consultation. Recommendations for the bibliography include basic readings on urban development in the region, up-to-date scholarship beyond policy papers and further references on the 'southern' sub-region.

Thematic Content of the Annotated Outline

- i. Urban Trends, Urbanization and Development

The five key issues within Urbanization and Development were deemed relevant, in particular Demographic Trends and Population Movements. Further recommended key issues included: armed

conflict and occupation's impact on urban centers; migration, refugees and IDPs within the theme of Demographic Trends; gender equality; disability rights; informality (housing and economy); implementation of urban policies; rural-urban linkages; affordable housing; access to land; the political impact of urban trends and cities and culture.

On a scale of very satisfied/satisfied/neither satisfied nor dissatisfied/dissatisfied/very dissatisfied respondents broadly answered 'satisfied' that HIII objectives were met in the AO section on Urbanization and Development. Respondents commented that implementation strategies and tools needed to be specified at the local level and the relation of urban issues to laws and regulations. The impact of gender on youth employment and prospects was noted. It was felt that urban-rural dynamics needed clear definition and further exploration. Emphasis on a rights-based perspective and explaining the interconnectivity of negative trends was equally suggested.

ii. Urbanization and Economy

Respondents found the key issues relevant. The following issues were equally identified: the informal economy; rural-urban economic relations; access to employment and credit for women and persons with disabilities; legislation for investing in cities and for real estate development; SMEs; the private sector (including the state's engagement with the private sector) and obstacles to doing business; infrastructure and transport and investment trends.

HIII objectives were broadly felt to have been met, although only half of respondents felt that past trends since HII had been identified in the field of Urbanization and Economy. The impact of general themes such as trade and remittances on urbanization and urban trends was not deemed clear. The importance of extractive sectors to the Arab regional economy and potential for regional economic partnerships were highlighted. Within the issue of Migration and Remittances, the sustainability of labor migration and expatriate workers was suggested.

iii. Urbanization and Social Equity

The four key issues within Urbanization and Social Equity were all predominantly deemed very relevant. In addition, respondents recommended: citizen engagement and mechanisms for this (particularly in post-2011 uprising countries); urban poverty and slum formation; access to social protection (including for migrant labor); varied social welfare actors, spatial equity and planned/unplanned areas; public space in the city; socio-economic vulnerability following disasters; corruption and the rule of law; accessibility and inclusion of PwDs and women.

Over two thirds of respondents felt that Urbanization and Social Equity current trends and drivers for change were well identified. Past trends in this area were deemed less clearly identified. Additional

comments noted a lack of concrete examples and country-specific best practices to ground the issues raised. Clarification of the AO's definition of social equity was suggested to clarify subsequent discussion of growing disparities in social equities. Youth empowerment and local community participation in influencing policies was identified as a key driver for change. The role of targeting in social assistance in urban development was suggested. Additionally the correlation of women's and migrant employment in vulnerable sectors and the informal economy could be explored.

iv. Urbanization and Environment

Respondents rated the three Urbanization and Environment key issues broadly relevant, with Adaption Measures and Resiliency Building the least so. Additional issues identified included: disaster risk reduction (and vulnerability factors and infrastructure resilience); technology in resource management; multiple forms of pollution and regulation of this; waste management; informal settlements' impact on the environment; transportation; energy consumption (and energy's relation to SDGs); water resources; green industry and urban agriculture; regional dependence on oil; urban green spaces and quality of life.

When evaluating the AO against HIII objectives, current priorities and drivers for change were deemed better identified than past trends and policy/implementation strategies. The need for more specific examples and details was underscored. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the Center for Natural Disasters in Algeria were two examples proposed. The connection of water, food and energy and in particular harvest failure, rising food prices and the impact on the urban poor was deemed particularly pertinent to the Arab region. A broad approach to environment, thinking in terms of systems of sustainability and inclusion was recommended. Beyond the effect of climate change on the region, the impact of the region itself on climate change was suggested.

v. Urbanization and Governance

The three key issues within Urbanization and Governance were rated relevant overall, in particular Nation Urban Policies. Respondents proposed the following issues for consideration: inclusive participation in urban planning; data generation and implementation; local and national levels of governance mechanisms; public goods packages; governance by non-state actors; restrictions on civil society; principles of good urban governance; the 2011 uprisings' impact on urban governance; capacity strengthening for effective municipal service delivery; relation of democratization and decentralization; transparency among local authorities.

Agreement that the Urbanization and Governance section met HIII objectives ranged between 50 and 68%, with the identification of past trends the weakest. Further comments noted the need for more specific examples (decentralization in Sudan since 1980, for instance) and attention to sub-regional

differences. Clarification on why decentralization is taken to be an accepted premise was absent. Broad civil society participation and data collection, guidelines for implementation strategies for municipality capacity building and citizen participation were suggested in addition to linkages between municipal financing and delivery of public goods.

Overview of the content of AO

A majority of respondents felt the AO pointed towards key messages for the region and is guided by Goal 11 of Agenda 2030 (“Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”). Half or less of respondents were satisfied that regional challenges and development priorities were, on the whole, well identified. Additional challenges for the region included: urban safety and security; cultural dimensions and heritage of Arab cities; Human Rights; age-friendly cities; low participation of civil society; corporate capture.

Further development priorities for the Arab Region suggested were: planned city extensions and new urban communities; inter-regional and intra-regional cooperation; technology as a tool for development; reducing corruption; social inclusion; political stability for growth; access to reproductive health and protection of reproductive rights.

Evaluating the AO against HIII objectives

Considered as a whole, the AO was felt to succeed in typifying a baseline picture of the Arab city and in identifying housing and urban trends. Urban economy/prosperity policy options were seen as the best addressed, while urban planning and urban legislation/institution policy recommendations were only rated positively by a minority of respondents. Under half of respondents agreed that drivers for change were identified.

Overall, recommendations centered on strengthening a rights-based approach, developing evidence bases (including statistics for modeling and future projections) as part of a systematic approach to urban issues and considering holistic approaches to cities. Disability, gender and youth must be incorporated across the Report’s thematic chapters. Classification, analysis and comparison of sub-regional differences were felt lacking. Those broad messages in the AO were said to need sharpening and prioritization in order to later be developed into policy options and recommendations. Consideration of the root causes of challenges alongside frameworks and implementation guidelines at the local level were also proposed.

HIII Issues

Respondents rated the HIII Issues in importance. Each grouping of issues was deemed very important and averaged above 9 out of a possible 10 (Extremely Important).

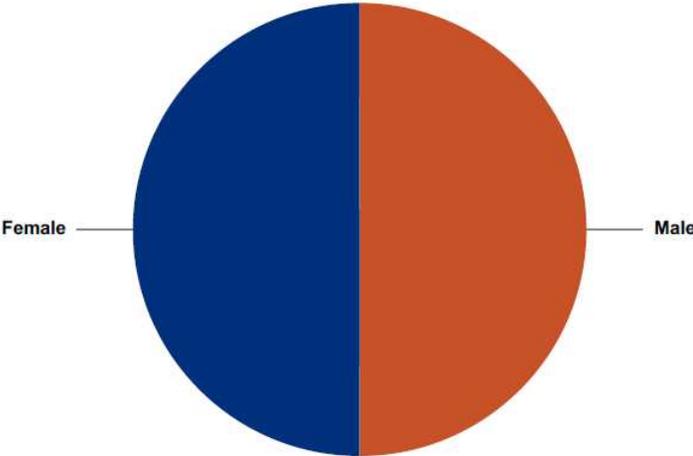
Results of the E-consultation on the Annotated Outline of the HIII Regional Report for the Arab Region

23 October - 3 November 2015

Demographics

Q2 Gender:

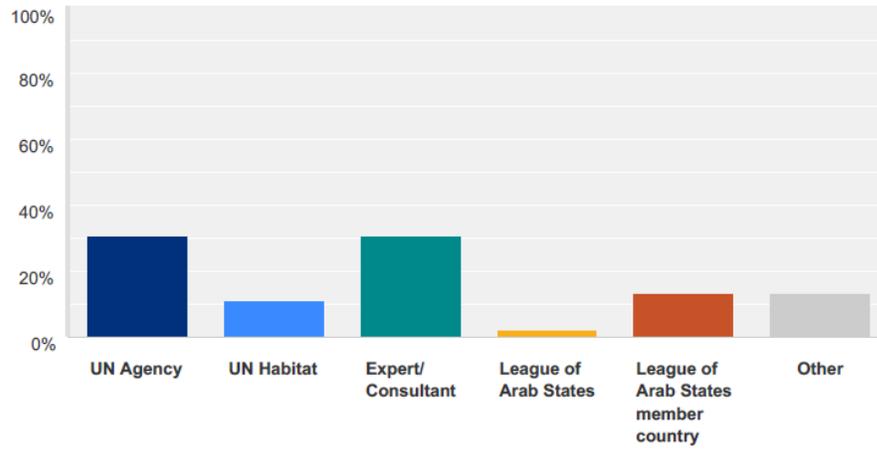
Answered: 46 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Male	50.00%	23
Female	50.00%	23
Total		46

Q3 Respondents according to Organization

Answered: 46 Skipped: 0

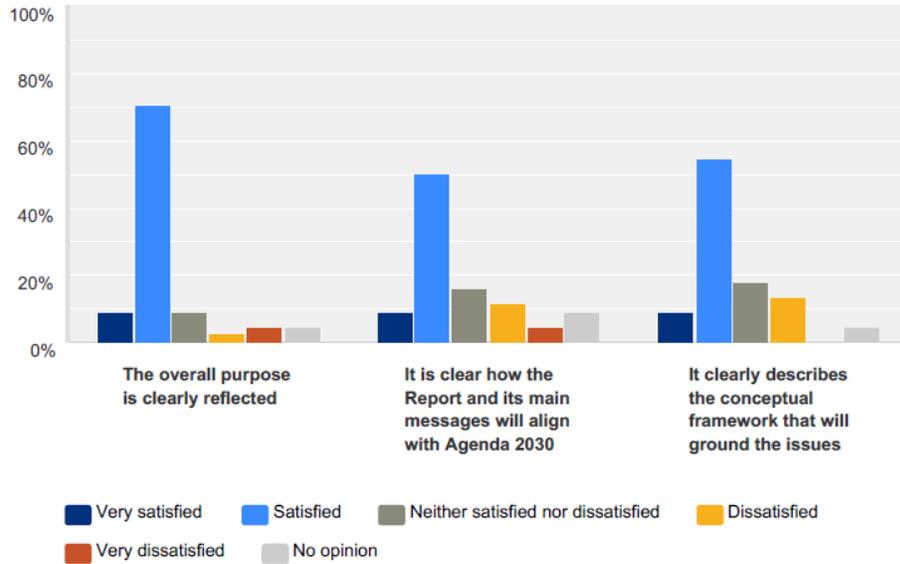


Answer Choices	Responses	
UN Agency	30.43%	14
UN Habitat	10.87%	5
Expert/ Consultant	30.43%	14
League of Arab States	2.17%	1
League of Arab States member country	13.04%	6
Other	13.04%	6
Total		46

A. Overview on the Regional Report

Q6 How satisfied are you with the following statements on the Annotated Outline?

Answered: 44 Skipped: 2

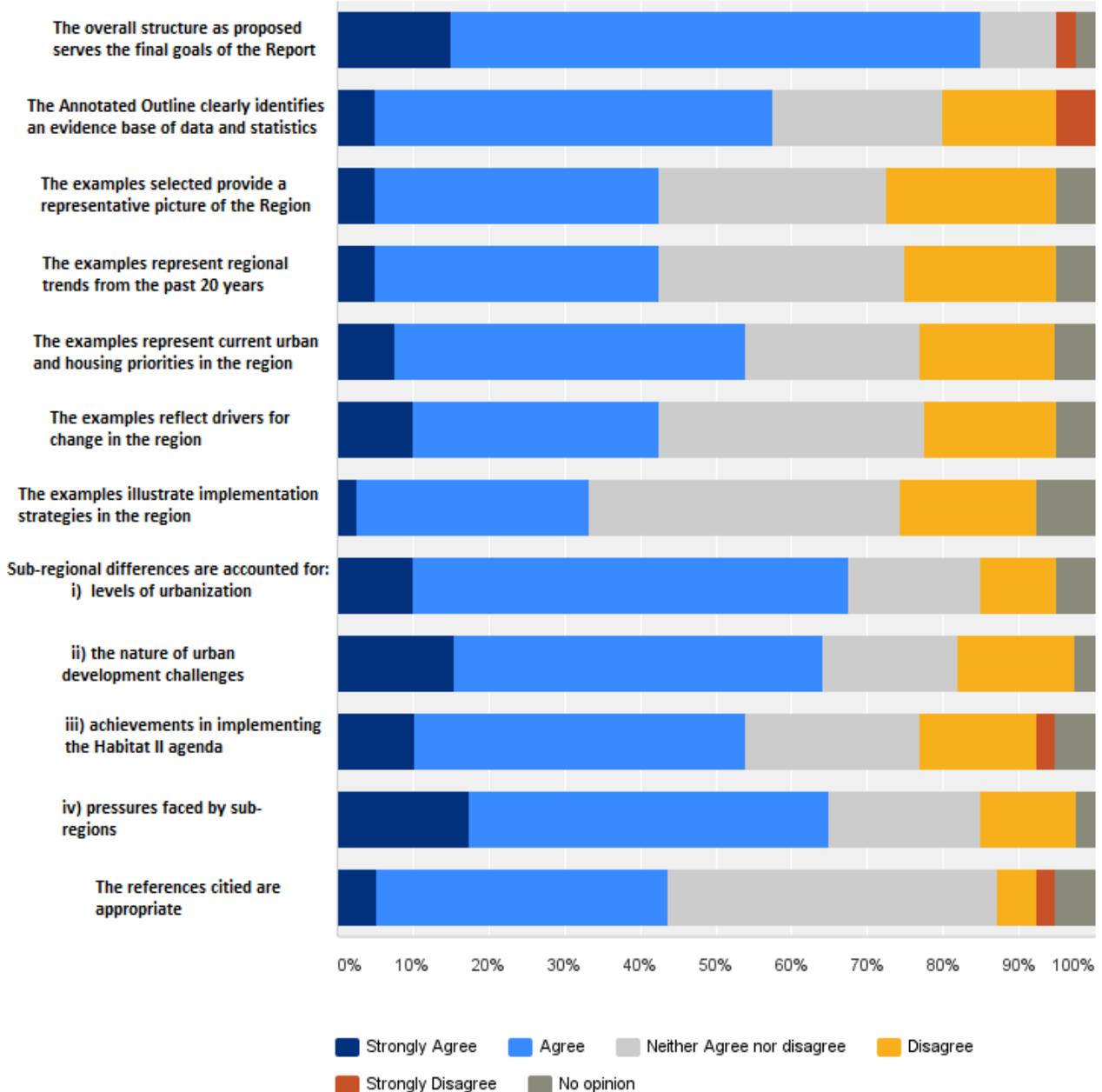


	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	No opinion	Total	Weighted Average
The overall purpose is clearly reflected	9.09% 4	70.45% 31	9.09% 4	2.27% 1	4.55% 2	4.55% 2	44	3.64
It is clear how the Report and its main messages will align with Agenda 2030	9.09% 4	50.00% 22	15.91% 7	11.36% 5	4.55% 2	9.09% 4	44	3.20
It clearly describes the conceptual framework that will ground the issues	9.09% 4	54.55% 24	18.18% 8	13.64% 6	0.00% 0	4.55% 2	44	3.45

B. Structure and Methodology for the Regional Report

Q7 Please evaluate the following statements on the structure and methodology of the Regional Report.

Answered: 40 Skipped: 5



	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No opinion	Total	Weighted Average
The overall structure as proposed by the Annotated Outline serves the final goals of the Report	14.63% 6	70.73% 29	7.32% 3	0.00% 0	4.88% 2	2.44% 1	41	3.83
The Annotated Outline clearly identifies an evidence base of data and statistics to be used	4.88% 2	53.66% 22	21.95% 9	14.63% 6	4.88% 2	0.00% 0	41	3.39
Collectively, the examples selected as evidence provide a representative picture of the Region	4.88% 2	39.02% 16	29.27% 12	21.95% 9	0.00% 0	4.88% 2	41	3.12
The examples selected as evidence represent regional trends from the past 20 years	5.00% 2	37.50% 15	32.50% 13	20.00% 8	0.00% 0	5.00% 2	40	3.13
The examples selected as evidence represent current urban and housing priorities in the region	7.50% 3	47.50% 19	22.50% 9	17.50% 7	0.00% 0	5.00% 2	40	3.30
The examples selected as evidence reflect drivers for change in the region	9.76% 4	31.71% 13	34.15% 14	19.51% 8	0.00% 0	4.88% 2	41	3.17
The examples selected as evidence illustrate implementation strategies in the region	2.50% 1	30.00% 12	40.00% 16	20.00% 8	0.00% 0	7.50% 3	40	2.92
Sub-regional differences in the following areas are satisfactorily accounted for: i) levels of urbanization	9.76% 4	58.54% 24	14.63% 6	12.20% 5	0.00% 0	4.88% 2	41	3.51
ii) the nature of urban development challenges	15.00% 6	50.00% 20	15.00% 6	17.50% 7	0.00% 0	2.50% 1	40	3.55
iii) achievements in implementing the Habitat II agenda	10.00% 4	45.00% 18	20.00% 8	15.00% 6	5.00% 2	5.00% 2	40	3.25
iv) pressures faced by sub-regions	17.07% 7	48.78% 20	17.07% 7	14.63% 6	0.00% 0	2.44% 1	41	3.61
The references cited are appropriate	5.00% 2	35.00% 14	42.50% 17	7.50% 3	5.00% 2	5.00% 2	40	3.13

8. Are there pertinent examples of sub-regional differences and issues not accounted for in the annotated outline?

- It is not clear how, which issues will be reviewed in a sub-regional breakdown. Also, the data bases are not clear.
- Capacity building is mentioned in the recommendation, but not in issues,
- Some issues to be mentioned : Gender issue due to the lack of participation of women in the Arab region (see UNDP report on development in the Arab Region) - Corruption as one of the main indicators to measure progress to be achieved at national and local level - Accountability also to be underlined - Participatory process integrating civil society, particularly as a condition in the post-conflict-process
- Specify the indicators of: Urban development; Housing in the whole sub-regional differences in Maghreb and Mashreq
- A deeper glance on the rural vs. urban difference and developed vs. under developed regions should have been further counted.
- Legislation differences as mentioned the inclusion of participation in some countries, expand on implementation of this aspect on the ground
- The ICT as engine to transition to smart sustainable urban development and its roles to move cities to smart

- I did not feel that there was enough focus on the plea of accessibility problems for PWDs
- Examples on Urban implementation of Policies for provision of public goods , public health specifically including access to health services; Healthy cities and cross sectoral collaboration
- Urban air pollution in big arab urban cities; Solid Waste generation and management in urban cities
- I strongly believe that this area requires further work in the elaboration of the final draft of the report. The outline does not give sufficient evidence of this.
- The component of urbanization in conflict emergency and humanitarian settings has not been fully accounted for. The outline should cover trends and drivers/challenges of urbanization under occupation, sectarian and civil war, multiple displacements and collective forced moves of communities, etc.
- There could be a greater emphasis on the country typologies in the region: Gulf States as NCCs, MICs, LDCs and countries in crisis. These critical differences impact on both analysis and response and do not necessarily fit in the geographic divisions presented (exception GCC).
- 1. Rural-Urban migration as a result of environmental shock. 2. Access to basic services - e.g., nutrition, 3. In social equity section, the challenges particularly in relation to access to social protection and livelihoods for local communities vis a vis refugee and IDPs - a major challenge in this region. Urban demographics have undergone significant changes as a result of rising conflict and persistent drought and water scarcity - putting enormous pressure on already fragile urban infrastructure. In this context, readiness of the urban centers or lack of it needs to be discussed.
- Maldistribution of housing (vacant units vs. underhoused population); economic globalization, macroeconomic trends and cyclical crises; capital flight; forced evictions; land administration/corruption; social production of habitat; all issues related to the stated objective "to review and evaluate the implementation of the Habitat II Agenda."
- Yes, would suggest to incorporate more in detail the issues of gender inequality and youth unemployment and their impact on urban development. What have been the social impacts and dynamics that have changed throughout the social upheavals across the region and how have they had an impact in accessibility and "rights" to access in urban spaces, services, etc. Youth and gender at are the center of the challenges facing this region in all areas and therefore should be mainstreamed throughout.
- The Arab Region cannot be dealt with concerning urban development as one region because of the obvious differences in the economies of the Arab countries. Therefore it should be dealt with on sub-regional basis according to the similarities in the economies
- Diversity in terms of impacts of agriculture or pastoral economy on urbanization.
- Housing Issues
- The issue of refugees and how to deal with it should have greater attention .
- Environmental issues also include mutiform pollution. Fighting corruption should be paramount (only mentioned once).
- Impact of occupation,
- Pertinent differences at sub-regional level are well taken into account
- Type of urbanization challenges in different sub-regions. Urbanization in the western subregion often stem from rural-urban migration, whereas the growth of cities in the GCC stems from population growth of already urban population

9. Do you recommend any recent and appropriate references or literature that do not feature in the preliminary bibliography of the Annotated Outline?

A. Basel Al-Yousfi, Sound environmental management of solid waste - the landfill bioreactor, UNEP, Regional Office for West Asia

<http://unpan1.un.org/intradoc/groups/public/documents/ARADO/UNPAN020863.pdf>

Aqaba Declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction in Cities: Aqaba, Jordan 21/3/2015

<http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/publications/32077>

http://www.unisdr.org/files/32077_aqabadeclaration2014.pdf

David Sims, "Egypt's Desert Dreams: Development Or Disaster?" (Cairo: AUC, 2015)

<http://www.ibtauris.com/Books/Earth%20sciences%20geography%20environment%20planning/Geography/Human%20geography/Egypt%20Desert%20Dreams%20Development%20or%20Disaster.aspx?menuItem=%7B95E6B7D7-722E-4EB3-BB18-4469F3C6CC71%7D>

David Sims, "Understanding Cairo: The Logic of a City Out of Control" (Cairo: AUC, 2012)

http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1468-2427.2012.01216_4.x/abstract

Diane Singerman, "Cairo Contested: Governance, Urban Space, and Global Modernity" (Cairo: AUC, 2011)

<http://www.aucpress.com/p-3601-cairo-contested.aspx>

Framework for actions on the follow up programme of action of ICPD

<http://icpdbeyond2014.org/about/view/29-global-review-report>

Global Assessment Report 2015

<http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/gar/2015/en/home/>

Housing and Land Rights Network, ed., "The Land and Its People: Civil Society Voices Address the Crisis over Natural Resources in the Middle East/North Africa" (Cairo, HLRN, 2015)

IOM World Migration Report 2015, Migrants and Cities: New Partnerships to Manage Mobility

http://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/wmr2015_en.pdf

Manama Declaration on Cities and Human Settlements in the New Millennium

Ministry of Housing and Urban Policy, Kingdom of Morocco

<http://www.mhu.gov.ma/Pages/default.aspx>

Mohamed El Raey; Air Quality and Atmospheric Pollution In the Arab Region, ESCWA and LAS, Beirut

<http://www.afedonline.org/afedreport/english/book4.pdf>

Mostafa K. Tolba and Najib W. Saab, Arab Environment: Future Challenges, Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED), 2008, Beirut, Lebanon

<http://www.afedonline.org/en/inner.aspx?contentID=347>

Mostafa Kharoufi, Urbanization and Urban Research in the Arab World

<http://www.unesco.org/most/khareng.htm>.

Myriam Ababsa, Baudouin Dupret and Eric Denis, eds., "Popular Housing and Urban Land Tenure in the Middle East: Case Studies from Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey (Cairo: AUC, 2012)

<http://www.aucpress.com/p-4735-popular-housing-and-urban-land-tenure-in-the-middle-east.aspx>

National Reports Presented to Habitat III

Series of UN-Habitat (various years) National and City profiles for Bahrain (Manama, Muharraq), Egypt (Alexandria, Tanta, Suez + others), Iraq, Lebanon (Tripoli), Morocco, Palestine, Somalia (12 cities), Sudan (Khartoum), Tunisia

Study on Ways and Methods to Eliminate Sexual Harassment in Egypt: Results / Outcomes and Recommendations Summary

http://www.dgvn.de/fileadmin/user_upload/DOKUMENTE/English_Documents/Sexual-Harassment-Study-Egypt-Final-EN.pdf

The Arab Strategy for Housing and Urban Development 2015 [Arabic language]

The envisaged Arab Strategy for sustainable urban development

The ICPD Beyond 2014 Review; <http://www.unfpa.org/events/icpd-beyond-2014-review-process>
http://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/event-pdf/93632_unfpa_eng_web.pdf

UN Habitat, "Cairo: A City in Transition" (Nairobi: UN-Habitat, 2011)
<http://unhabitat.org/books/cairo-a-city-in-transition-2/>

UN Habitat II Agenda and Global Plan of Action (UN, 1996)
<http://unhabitat.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/The-Habitat-Agenda-Istanbul-Declaration-on-Human-Settlements-20061.pdf>

UN Habitat Lebanon 2014, Reforming Urban Planning System in Lebanon

UN Habitat Lebanon & UNHCR 2014, The Housing Land and Property Issues in Lebanon: Implications of the Syrian Refugee Crisis
<https://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=6600>

UN Habitat, Gender Responsive Urban Planning and Design
<http://unhabitat.org/books/gender-responsive-urban-planning-and-design/#>

UN Habitat, Global Report on Human Settlements 2009: Planning Sustainable Cities
<http://mirror.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=2831>

UN Women, Gender on the Move: Working on the Migration-Development Nexus from a Gender Perspective
http://www.unwomen.org/~media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/genderonthemove_low2b%20pdf.ashx?v=2&d=20141013T121507.

UNEP, Environment Outlook for the Arab Region, Environment for Development and Human Well-being, 2010
[http://eoar.cedare.int/report/EOAR_Full%20Report%20\(EN\).pdf](http://eoar.cedare.int/report/EOAR_Full%20Report%20(EN).pdf)

UNFPA, Framework of Actions for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
<http://www.unfpa.org/publications/framework-actions-follow-programme-action-international-conference-population-and#sthash.dqJoGpEj.dpuf>

UNISDR Making Cities Resilient campaign
<http://www.unisdr.org/campaign/resilientcities/>

UNISDR Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
<http://www.unisdr.org/we/coordinate/sendai-framework>
http://www.unisdr.org/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordrren.pdf

UNISDR Urban Risk Reduction and Resilience
<http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/publications/37966> http://www.unisdr.org/files/37966_finalwp3.pdf

WHO, Final report of the Urban Settings Knowledge Network - Our cities, our health, our future: acting on social determinants for health equity in urban settings
http://who.int/social_determinants/publications/urbanization/en/

WHO and UN HABITAT, Hidden cities: Unmasking and overcoming health inequities in urban settings (2010)
http://www.who.int/kobe_centre/publications/hidden_cities2010/en/

WHO, Interventions on urban health
http://www.who.int/kobe_centre/interventions/en/

WHO, Healthy urban planning
http://www.who.int/kobe_centre/interventions/urban_planning/en/

World Bank, The Little Green Data Book, 2015 Washington
<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/22025/9781464805608.pdf>

World Bank MENA Region, MENA Economic Monitor, Inequality, Uprisings, and Conflict in the Arab World, October 2015
<http://www.worldbank.org/en/region/mena/publication/mena-economic-monitor-october-2015-inequality-uprising-conflict-arab-world>

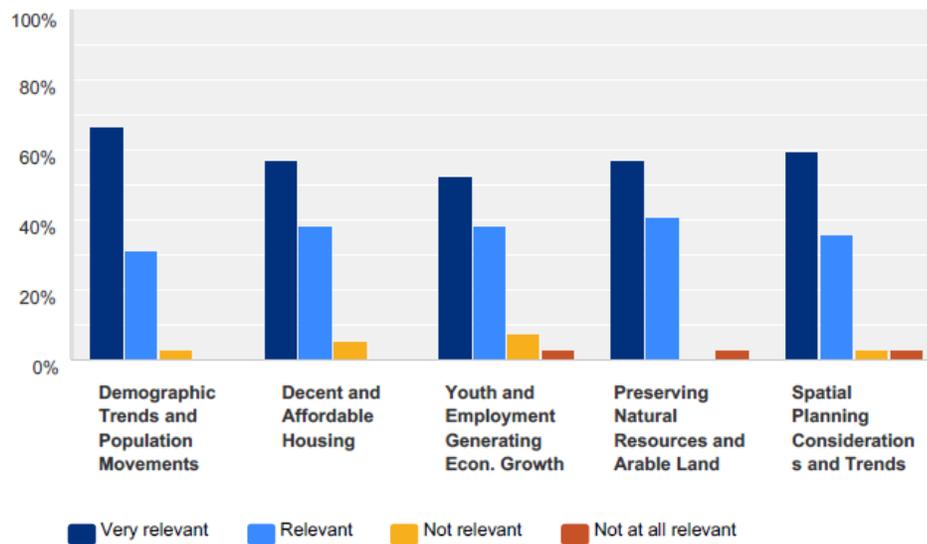
World Bank, World Development Report 2012: Gender equality and Development
<https://www.google.com.eg/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0CBsQFjAAahUKEwi4r6iglufIAhUKWRoKHWYIA40&url=https%3A%2F%2Fsites.resources.worldbank.org%2FINTWDR2012%2FResources%2F7778105-1299699968583%2F7786210-1315936222006%2FComplete-Report.pdf&usg=AFQjCNGw5e0pUk8fpLfjPGBzMkl5uoLlJQ&bvm=bv.106130839,d.d2s>

C. Thematic Content of the Annotated Outline

vi. Urban Trends, Urbanization and Development

Q10 In a discussion of Urban Trends: Urbanization and Development, how relevant do you find the following key issues?

Answered: 42 Skipped: 4



	Very relevant	Relevant	Not relevant	Not at all relevant	Total	Weighted Average
Demographic Trends and Population Movements	66.67% 28	30.95% 13	2.38% 1	0.00% 0	42	3.64
Decent and Affordable Housing	57.14% 24	38.10% 16	4.76% 2	0.00% 0	42	3.52
Youth and Employment Generating Econ. Growth	52.38% 22	38.10% 16	7.14% 3	2.38% 1	42	3.40
Preserving Natural Resources and Arable Land	57.14% 24	40.48% 17	0.00% 0	2.38% 1	42	3.52
Spatial Planning Considerations and Trends	59.52% 25	35.71% 15	2.38% 1	2.38% 1	42	3.52

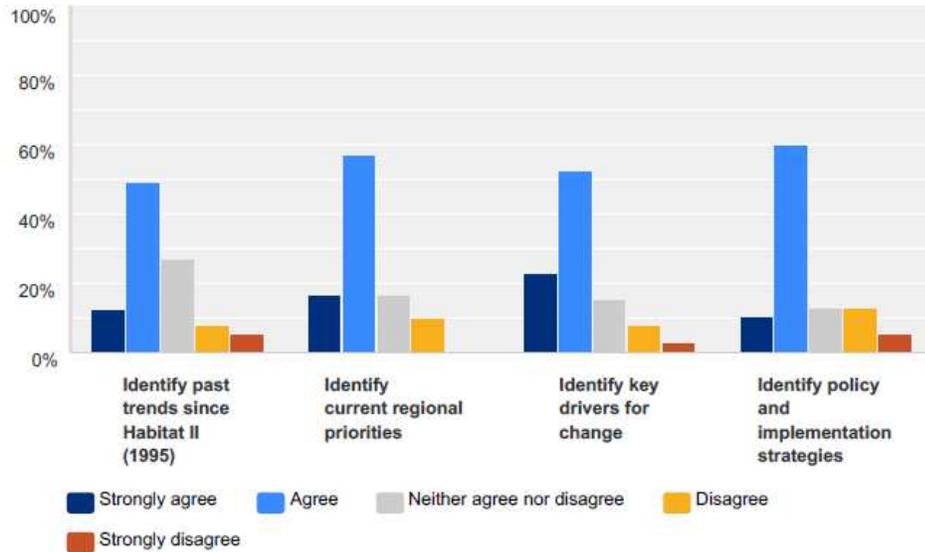
11- Should any further key issues related to Urbanization and Development be included in the Report?

- The impact of conflict and the need for reconstruction. The impact of refugees and migration. Informality and slum development.
- Extensions on agricultural lands, rural immigration, informal areas, preservation of historic, cultural, and natural resources while developing cities

- To promote appropriate tools for the implementation and accompaniment of urban policies, national and local level, particularly in the post-conflict context - The involvement of all stakeholders including civil society should be enhanced, with a strong advocacy for a process of decentralization and deconcentration
- Effects of climate change and disasters
- 1) Disaster risk trends in urban areas, 2) vulnerability factors and infrastructure resilience. 3) Urban risk coupled with demographic trends and stress on natural resources.
- Accessible housing, disability rights
- The best practices in the management of the public land
- The following key issues need to be considered in the report: - the situation of vulnerable and marginalized population categories, mainly women and the disabled. - standards of accessibility within relevant urbanizing programs. - the inclusivity of related local and national urbanizing policies. - the level of participatory and ownership approach pursued within relevant policy development processes and mechanisms.
- Environmental aspects beyond agricultural land (could be included in the same subject) this could include pollution, emissions, improvements in fuel, etc..
- Use of ICT/Telecom as key enabler for sustainable development
- Whether everyone is included or not
- Cities and culture; Solidarity and community engagement; urbanization and health
- Reference to National Urban Policies and role of urban areas in generating national wealth; reference to cities as "battleground where sustainable development will be lost or won" (SG statement)
- Population dynamics are not very well addressed when population mobility has a direct bearing on population settlements and is a clear root cause for urbanization. It therefore cannot be looked at as a factor interacted with urbanization. An overarching chapter needs to be devoted to population dynamics and mobility in the Arab region. Such chapter would help analyze drivers of urbanization and other relevant issues in the region. It can comprise a) population size, distribution, and movements including refugees IDPs, forced migration, b) latest migration trends, sending, transit and destination; c) urban/rural population mobility in both directions; d) root causes of population mobility and linkages of population mobility with urbanization. In addition, knowledge sectors remain very weak, often detached from government.
- Social protection
- Gender related issues, equality and women empowerment and Access to Basic Services
- To add the word "sustainable" to the second part on Decent and Affordable Housing
- All related Habitat II commitments, population policies (if any), human rights framework, relevant constitutional and legislative developments
- Perhaps not as a separate topic but to be thoroughly addressed in the youth section is women and employment- generating economic growth. The socio cultural challenges and impacts of migration being confronted with traditional roles of men and women in societies and their access to urban spaces and employment.
- The effect of occupation and armed conflicts on urbanization and development and sustainability in the Region in particular in Palestine, Iraq, Syria, Sudan, Libya and Yemen
- Push factors of rural areas, in particular spatial inequalities such as income, social service provision (e.g. education and health etc)
- Affordable Housing, Land-use Management and GIS Mapping-Youth unemployment and Innovative Governance
- Importance of promoting civil society involvement in all aspects of urban management including development
- Urban-rural linkages

Q12 Are the following objectives met in the Urban Trends: Urbanization and Development section of the Annotated Outline?

Answered: 42 Skipped: 4



	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Total	Weighted Average
Identify past trends since Habitat II (1995)	12.20% 5	48.78% 20	26.83% 11	7.32% 3	4.88% 2	41	3.56
Identify current regional priorities	16.67% 7	57.14% 24	16.67% 7	9.52% 4	0.00% 0	42	3.81
Identify key drivers for change	22.50% 9	52.50% 21	15.00% 6	7.50% 3	2.50% 1	40	3.85
Identify policy and implementation strategies	10.00% 4	60.00% 24	12.50% 5	12.50% 5	5.00% 2	40	3.58

13- Please provide any additional comments on Urbanization and Development below.

- The narrative is largely focused on challenges and some opportunities with limited consideration of the policies and strategies and progress and prospects in this regard.
- It is not clear why some issues are discussed here and not in the subsequent chapters, for example in the chapters on environment, governance, economy. It would be good to structure the discussion in this chapter along the key issues identified.
- I think it should be mentioned in the very beginning that sub regions offer a large diversity, whether regarding their economy, or their institutional settings, that present a challenge to reach a common ground regarding the drivers for change
- It would be good to also include a "Review of existing building codes and regulations for urban resilience/development" and to focus on disaster risk management. The Sendai Framework for DRR mentions: "Encourage the establishment of necessary mechanisms and incentives to ensure high levels of

compliance with existing safety-enhancing provisions of sectoral laws and regulations, including those addressing land use and urban planning, building codes, environmental and resource management and health and safety standards, and update them, where needed, to ensure an adequate focus on disaster risk management;"

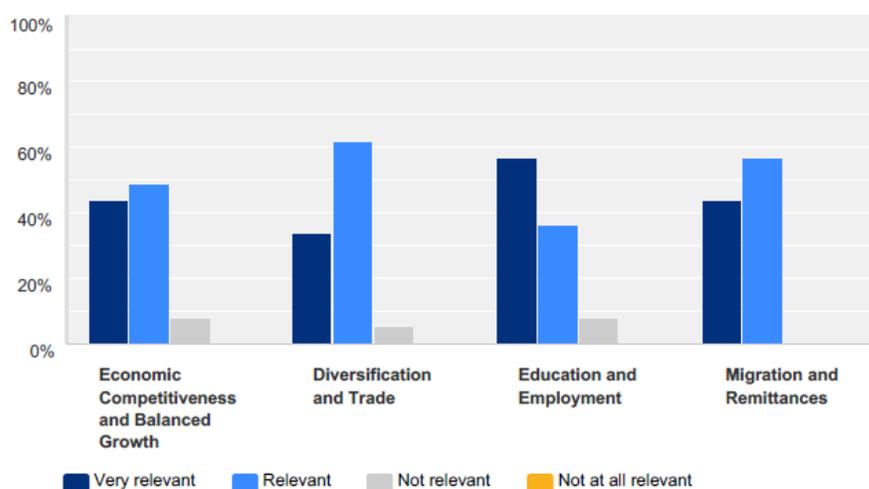
- Add issues on access to land such as security of tenure, speculation, public land ownership...
- The political instability in the region will make the answer and results of the study difficult
- In addition to the issues related to "revolutions since 2011" and current emergencies, war on cities , lessons learnt on implementation of HABITAT II and pre-requisites for the move towards SDGs are not well delineated
- Please take into account illegal immigration. Displaced people from the cities as a result of events in the Arab region, Displaced entire cities in Libya as a result of current events
- As it stands, an annotated outline can certainly not provide the whole range of issues to be addressed. I assume that this section will be further elaborated during the course of the preparation of the comprehensive report. I refrain from commenting here, awaiting the final draft.
- On technical matters: the classification of urban/rural should be revisited. Recent statistics disseminated by many Arab countries are misleading and the classification of urban/rural is not useful for analysis and understanding urbanization trends and dynamics. This report is an opportunity to further sharpen urbanization relevant conceptual issues and the classification of urban communities/localities in the region. In Many countries the classification of urban localities is based on administrative considerations and not urbanization factors which make the classification of urban/rural misleading in the analysis. In addition it is critical to reflect the regional context and dimension particularly structurally incorporating components on urbanization and conflict; this is to cover the trends/directions of urbanization under occupation, sectarian, civil war, etc. Other Issues of relevance are a) technology development and impact on urbanization; b) political impact of urbanization trends and classification; c) ruralization of cities, governance and engagement of newcomers to urban areas; d) alienation and political/social unrest and safe space; e) partnership.
- It would be useful to review the 3RP strategy and plans and see how it could support inclusive and holistic urban and rural development.
- Nothing in this section of the Annotated Outline suggests integrity with the primary purpose "to review and evaluate implementation of the Habitat Agenda since Habitat II." The acclaimed "rights-based perspective" is completely absent.
- As above, youth employment is mentioned as a challenge, but gender differentials are not made. Across the region there is a significant difference between male and female youth unemployment so this needs to be broadly explored in relations to its impacts to urban development and feminization of poverty. Secondly, on the issue of youth joining militias and young females being forced in to difficult marital situations needs to be thoroughly developed in relation to
- 1) Making explicit the interconnectivity or interdependence between negative trends would give clear and systematic understandings to the readers. 2) Some explanations about disparity between urban and rural areas would give nuanced understandings of various problems of urbanization and urban areas. 3) Review of development of the urban governance system would be helpful to understand the difference of urban governance between pre and post 2011 periods 4) Review of the gender aspect since the HII would be needed if data are available.
- As most of urban problems are associated with laws and regulations enforcement it might be useful to shed some light on this issue .
- Key implementation strategies and development tools are to be well specified at the level of the local municipalities, to support local finance management, public private partnership, and participation of all community stakeholders.
- This part is the most elaborate in the text
- The section begins with a statement to the effect that many Arab governments have since HII come to appreciate the virtues of "participatory approaches". I'm not sure, though, what this really is supposed to mean. What kind of participation are we talking about, and what are the indications of such having been more prevalent since HII? Similarly, in the second paragraph, there is talk of "multi-stakeholder partnerships" having been brought about by UN agencies and the development community. Sounds great,

but what does it mean? What kind of multi-stakeholder partnership? Who were the stakeholders, and what have the partnerships lead to? But perhaps this will all be explained more in detail in the actual report.

vii. Urbanization and Economy

Q14 In a discussion of Urbanization and Economy, how relevant do you find the following key issues?

Answered: 39 Skipped: 7



	Very relevant	Relevant	Not relevant	Not at all relevant	Total	Weighted Average
Economic Competitiveness and Balanced Growth	43.59% 17	48.72% 19	7.69% 3	0.00% 0	39	3.36
Diversification and Trade	33.33% 13	61.54% 24	5.13% 2	0.00% 0	39	3.28
Education and Employment	56.41% 22	35.90% 14	7.69% 3	0.00% 0	39	3.49
Migration and Remittances	43.59% 17	56.41% 22	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	39	3.44

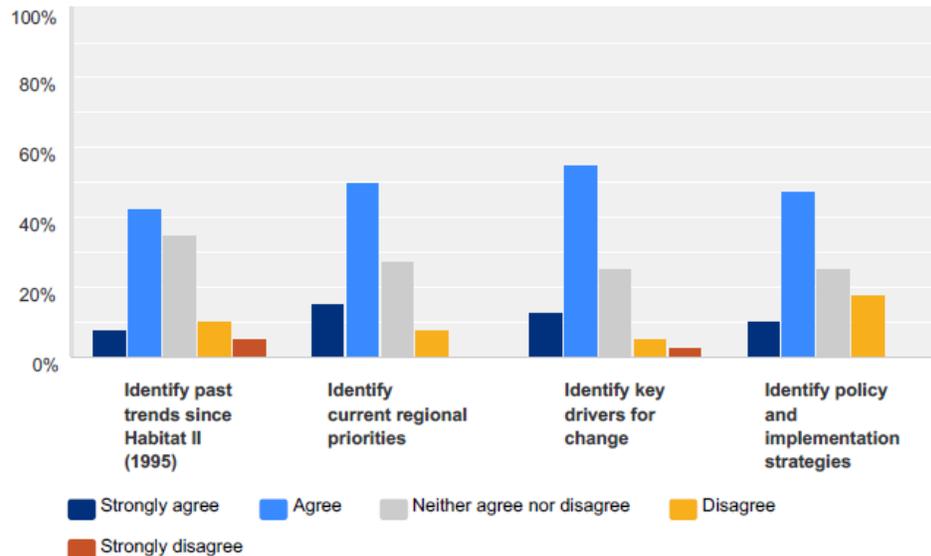
15- Should any further key issues related to Urbanization and Economy be included in the Report?

- Unbalanced financial distribution between rural and urban, research to support productivity
- It be useful if we can go into more relevant details about the regions' strategy for Urbanization
- Investment in disaster risk reduction is essential to strengthen urban resilience, reduce exposure of assets and livelihoods to disaster risk in urban areas and to safeguard development investments.
- 1)Contribution of cities to urban economy 2)informal economy
- A dynamic comparison between sub - regions in (demography, urbanization, people living in under - equipped areas and the access to decent housing and public services, poverty, urban planning document)
- Yes. Same as mentioned in the previous section.
- Legislation encouraging investment in cities (speed of registering new businesses, tax breaks, etc...) The Dubai Jabal Ali could be used here as a good practice

- Equal opportunities for groups such as women and PWDs
- Private sector Social accountability
- Role of cities contributing to national economy, further specified by contribution. Oil economies among Arab states, and reference to urban development.
- Access to credit and resources particularly for women and other groups at structural disadvantage; legislation on land ownership and real estate development in connection with monopoly and exclusion; and how to provide social protection cushioning to the informal sector while creating/innovating with mechanisms to check and mitigate the adverse effects and uncertainties of this sector on the overall economy
- Equal access to employment for men and women
- Skill development and capacity building; Incorporation of women in the workforce in a meaningful way.
- Transport, labor markets, food systems, rural development (as committed in Habitat II)
- Issues of access to employment and access to formal income should also be addressed.
- 1) Economic linkages between urban and rural areas as a key dimension of "Urbanization and Economy". All the issues above can be explained in the context of this linkage. And it is crucial to figure out the implication of economy for urban policies.2) Relationship between the state and economic agents (companies, workers, etc.)
- Regional Networking of Youth oriented vocational training, knowledge exchange, and long-term educational assessment
- The importance of SMEs; access to credit and removing obstacles to doing business
- Investment trends and development of housing prices. Spatial economic development.

Q16 Are the following objectives met in the Urbanization and Economy section of the Annotated Outline?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 6



	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Total	Weighted Average
Identify past trends since Habitat II (1995)	7.50% 3	42.50% 17	35.00% 14	10.00% 4	5.00% 2	40	3.38
Identify current regional priorities	15.00% 6	50.00% 20	27.50% 11	7.50% 3	0.00% 0	40	3.73
Identify key drivers for change	12.50% 5	55.00% 22	25.00% 10	5.00% 2	2.50% 1	40	3.70
Identify policy and implementation strategies	10.00% 4	47.50% 19	25.00% 10	17.50% 7	0.00% 0	40	3.50

17- Please provide any additional comments on Urbanization and Economy below.

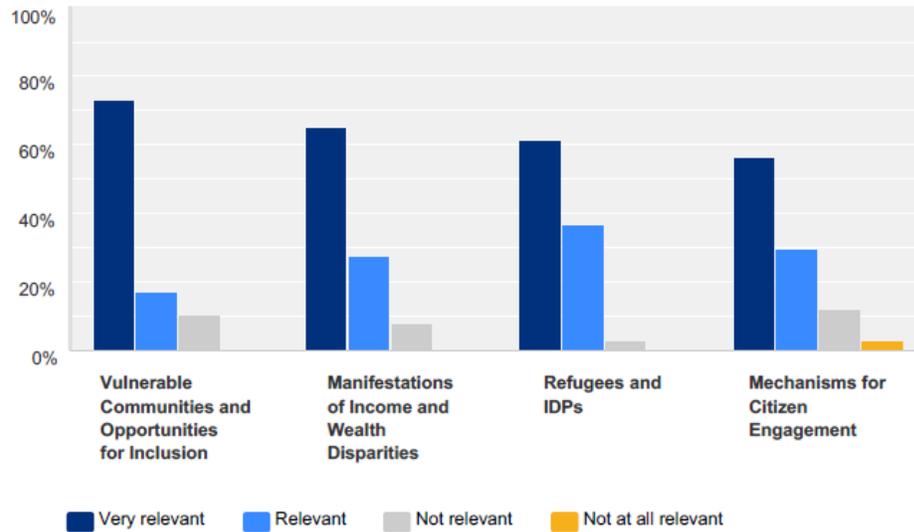
- Extractive sectors (oil and others) play a key role in Arab economies and need to be linked to issues of urbanization.
- The statements are extremely general and many of them would fit any world region. In addition, it is not clear how the issues raised are related to urbanization. The discussion needs to be much more specific, underscored with facts and figures.
- If Disaster risk is not reduced, expected future losses will become a critical opportunity cost for development. Especially in those countries where disaster risk now represents a significant proportion of capital investment and social expenditure, the capacity for future development will be seriously undermined. In such circumstances, it is difficult to achieve sustained, let alone sustainable, development. Global Assessment Report 2015 : <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/gar/2015/en/home/>
- Urbanization needs to consider the economic potential and contributions of PWD as well as the social cost of exclusion.

- The need to create regional economic complementarities and synergies to strengthen productivity in the various cities through joint investment projects that benefit from the relative strengths of the various cities.
- More focus needed on women employment , and support in terms of day care, wages, and facilitation or flexible work; expatriate workers and sustainability; Transport infrastructure and cities connections (example for referral health systems and access)
- Further elaboration on informal economies; youth employment dissatisfaction and driver for labour migration.
- A focus on the informal economy which is not only a common feature among the Arab States but is also employing a significant size of the workforce
- Past trends since Habitat II are not adequately captured
- Nothing in this section of the Annotated Outline suggests integrity with the primary purpose "to review and evaluate implementation of the Habitat Agenda since Habitat II." The acclaimed "rights-based perspective" is completely absent.
- The section is too short to assess whether the objectives listed above have been achieved. The key is how to provide detailed explanation about those issues listed above. Again it is quite important to highlight the implication of those issues and policies addressing them for rural areas as well as urban areas. Secondly, the role of the state in governing the private sector and market should be included in this section, since the relationship often shapes the living standards or quality of life of the city residents and sometimes lives of their families living in rural areas.
- To try to identify some mega economic projects that can influence the economic development in the region
- Perhaps a slightly large proportion of the section could be devoted to the issues of youth unemployment and the urban
- Informal economies. Also, there is quite a lot of focus on overarching trends and priorities (regarding e.g. remittances and trade) - I wonder whether it would be possible to shed more light on how this actually impacts upon towns and cities. For instance, would more trade lead to more urbanization? How would it affect urban dwellers?

viii. Urbanization and Social Equity

Q18 In a discussion of Urbanization and Social Equity, how relevant do you find the following key issues?

Answered: 41 Skipped: 5



	Very relevant	Relevant	Not relevant	Not at all relevant	Total	Weighted Average
Vulnerable Communities and Opportunities for Inclusion	73.17% 30	17.07% 7	9.76% 4	0.00% 0	41	3.63
Manifestations of Income and Wealth Disparities	65.00% 26	27.50% 11	7.50% 3	0.00% 0	40	3.58
Refugees and IDPs	60.98% 25	36.59% 15	2.44% 1	0.00% 0	41	3.59
Mechanisms for Citizen Engagement	56.10% 23	29.27% 12	12.20% 5	2.44% 1	41	3.39

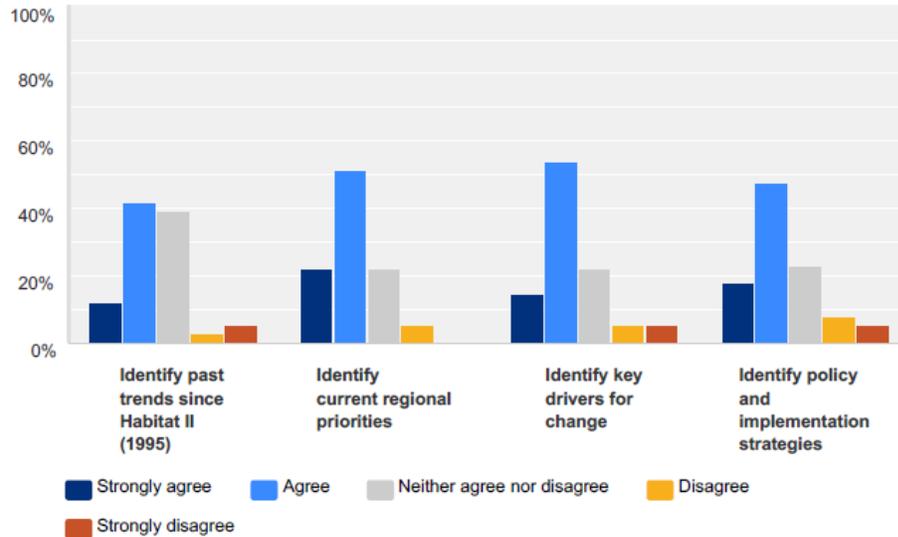
19- Should any further key issues related to Urbanization and Social Equity be included in the Report?

- Informality needs to be looked at more closely
- Urban poverty and slum development. Equitable access to social and communal services. Accessibility and the inclusion of persons with disabilities.
- Accessibility to land for all, including women and youth
- Include migrants more broadly not only refugees and IDPs; as other migrants also experience exclusion
- 1) Disasters-induced migration, 2) socio-economic vulnerability of urban population at risk from disasters, 3) Cultural heritage
- Policies for protection of foreign workers/labor/refugees
- Disability as an urban issue related to equity and accessibility apart from social protection.
- Development of regional funds/programmes to support cities hosting refugees
- Social protection, governance in cities and participation opportunities, link between equity and economic growth and well-being

- Spatial equity in the context of planned and unplanned areas, urban mobility components
- Gender and youth issues in particular, access to sexual and reproductive health services and elimination of gender based violence in "the city" are paramount and need to be better reflected in the outline
- Housing and land tenure security, access to services, gender equality, root causes of disparities
- The section on mechanisms for citizen engagement is key and should look at what has happened in the post revolution/post uprising countries in terms of human rights and political freedoms and how this continues to affect stability.
- The effect of subsidies removal on the urbanization and social equity
- 1) various sources of conflicts and violence in urban settings (other than the sources in material dimensions such as cultural and religious etc etc. which are potentially associated with the existing policies and institutions) 2) The role of diverse actors in social service delivery in urban settings which are critical to implementation of social welfare policies
- Emphasis on Citizen Engagement: Smart citizens in smart cities – urban OPEN systems
- Characterization of the economic role of women
- Rights in the city
- Perhaps the gender perspective could be given some attention. For instance, are urban public spaces accessible to and safe for women? Are women included amongst stakeholder being consulted by authorities?
- Multilateral poverty , rural versus urban equality and equity, equitable access to services; urban versus rural poverty and equity
- Urban poverty & inequality; gender equality; equitable access to basic urban services.

Q20 Are the following objectives met in the Urbanization and Social Equity sections of the Annotated Outline?

Answered: 41 Skipped: 5



	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Total	Weighted Average
Identify past trends since Habitat II (1995)	12.20% 5	41.46% 17	39.02% 16	2.44% 1	4.88% 2	41	3.54
Identify current regional priorities	21.95% 9	51.22% 21	21.95% 9	4.88% 2	0.00% 0	41	3.90
Identify key drivers for change	14.63% 6	53.66% 22	21.95% 9	4.88% 2	4.88% 2	41	3.68
Identify policy and implementation strategies	17.50% 7	47.50% 19	22.50% 9	7.50% 3	5.00% 2	40	3.65

21- Please provide any additional comments on Urbanization and Social Equity below.

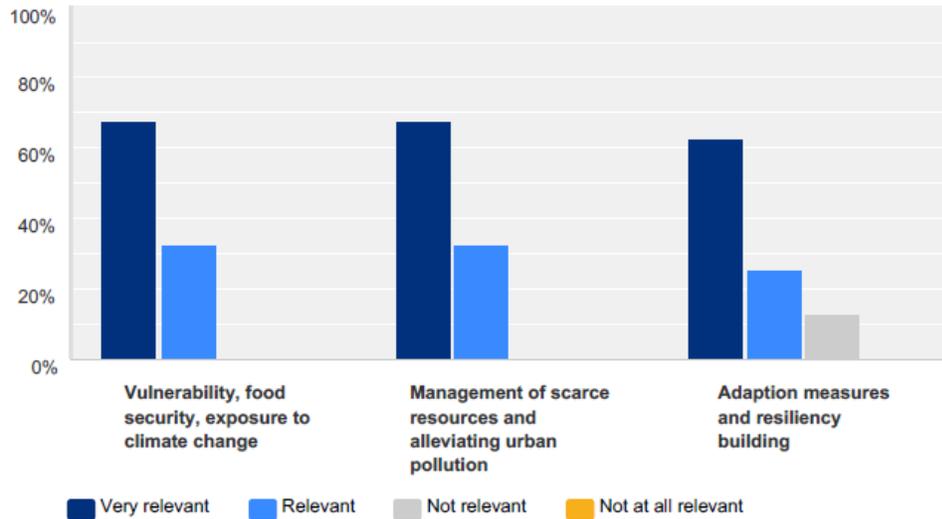
- Some of the statements are very general. The discussion needs to be more specific, based on evidence and with examples from the region.
- Include migrants more broadly not only refugees and IDPs; as other migrants also experience exclusion. Local, grass roots strategies for social cohesion and inclusion could also be discussed.
- I suggest studying sustainability of the strategy making use of the knowledge gained from the past trends
- Holistic approaches to inclusive urban development require administrative and coordinating capacity. Implementing agencies must look beyond government to new forms of participation and mechanisms for articulation of innovative solutions. Youth focus planning that's inclusive of PWD.
- The annotated outline should mention the best practices in certain countries so they serve as an example for other countries
- Review of labour and taxation laws (particularly at the local/city level) to support issues such as subsidies and transfer of wealth as well as provision of urban services, affordable housing, etc...
- Limited examples in this section

- Comment relates to previous sections' comments; the annotated outline is just a starting point and requires definitely further elaboration in order to make qualified comments. Hence, further comments will be provided on the final draft.
- Women's employment continues to be more concentrated in vulnerable jobs and in the informal sector in the city; while youth unemployment rates are twice as much as average unemployment rates in the Arab region and certainly much higher for female youth. Of relevance is also the extent to which young people are structurally empowered to participate in shaping, monitoring or sanctioning public policy making and in influencing policies that secure and sustain a universal cushioning social protection agenda
- In refugee context, child labour, role of women in informal sector need to be discussed. Furthermore, the importance of targeting for social assistance, conditional vs. unconditional assistance and how these can trigger market revival/development, especially in smaller urban areas.
- Nothing in this section of the Annotated Outline suggests integrity with the primary purpose "to review and evaluate implementation of the Habitat Agenda since Habitat II." The acclaimed "rights-based perspective" is completely absent.
- The section is too short to answer the question 20. Please refer to the answers to the question 19.
- Identify Local Digital Agendas to promote future city innovation strategies, stimulating innovation, creativity & social diversity
- Special attention should be given to fight against corruption, and to the promotion of the rule of law
- I am not sure I fully understand the description in this section relating to the increasing disparity and the consequences thereof. For instance, there is a reference to "the widening gap in marketable skills within the middle classes". This would need some further explanation - who are the middle classes, and how do we know rising disparities result from a widening gap in marketable skills within this group? I think it might be worthwhile to give some further initial consideration to what social equity really means, and how the absence of it can be discerned. The first paragraph speaks of ensuring the rights (rights to what?) of vulnerable groups and expanding their access to services. Perhaps the rest of the section could engage a bit more with these matters?
- Participation as a driver of change and role of local communities in ensuring equality of access to services , and urbanization even in rural areas

ix. Urbanization and Environment

Q22 In a discussion of Urbanization and Environment, how relevant do you find the following key issues?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 6



	Very relevant	Relevant	Not relevant	Not at all relevant	Total	Weighted Average
Vulnerability, food security, exposure to climate change	67.50% 27	32.50% 13	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	40	3.67
Management of scarce resources and alleviating urban pollution	67.50% 27	32.50% 13	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	40	3.67
Adaption measures and resiliency building	62.50% 25	25.00% 10	12.50% 5	0.00% 0	40	3.50

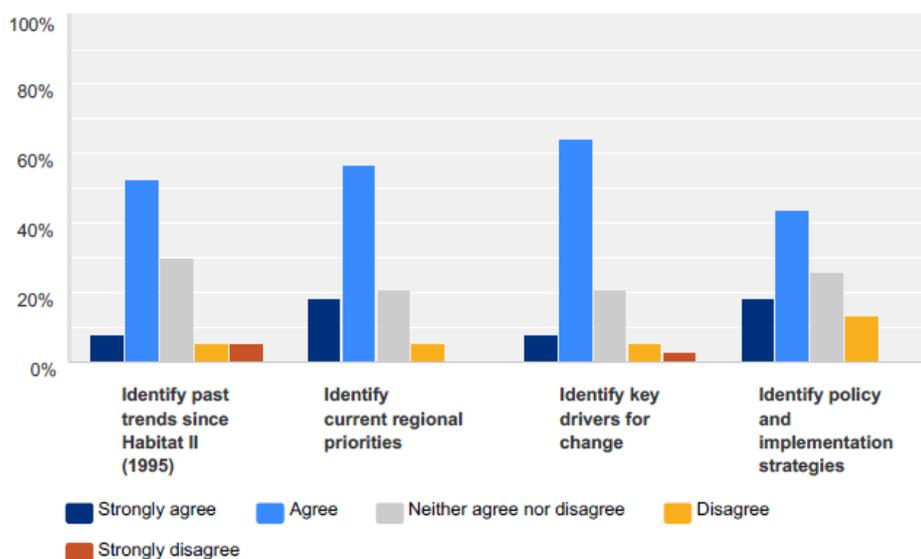
23- Should any further key issues related to Urbanization and Environment be included in the Report?

- Dependence of Arab countries on oil industry and related implications for the environment, energy consumption etc should be considered
- Disaster risk reduction. Transport and energy consumption.
- Risk, hazard management
- Links between urban displacement and disasters; exposure of marginalized / already displaced communities to further environmental risks in urban settlements
- Again here it's important to raise 1) Disaster risk trends in urban areas, 2) vulnerability factors and infrastructure resilience. 3) Urban risk coupled with demographic trends and stress on natural resources.
- The environment is physical and social and shapes and is shaped by prejudice. People with disabilities are invisible and want to be seen and heard as equal stakeholders in development.
- Non-polluting production, introduction of urban agriculture (to address food security and environmental issues)

- We would suggest to add the use of ICTs as tool for mitigating the effect of climate change, the role of ICTs in management of scarce resources, e.g smart water management
- Links to SDGs on energy , Pollution and regulation (industrial zoning, environmental and health impact,)
- Urban air pollution and waste generation and management
- Further elaboration of water issues pertinent in the Arab region; environmental vulnerabilities, also in relation to currently ongoing conflicts in the region posing a threat to overall environmental component in sustainability discourse.
- The institutional set up
- Opportunities of the inclusive green economy (or could come under Economy section). Green space and quality of life.
- Measures to combat pollution, waste management, privatization of natural resources
- Clean and renewable energy should also be covered in the last section.
- -1) is there any Arab regional or transnational initiative to address the environment issues? I think it would be necessary to go beyond city and national level in this section. 2) It would be great good practices of community level initiatives to address environment issues.
- Strengthen local governance approach to understand, pursue, and manage resilient urban development and design disaster risk emergency plan
- Pollution is multiform; it includes air pollution, waste management, road safety, etc.
- Disaster risk management, impact of informal settlements on environment, social corporate responsibility
- Disaster risk reduction and a clear delineation of the green and brown urban agendas

Q24 Are the following objectives met in the Urbanization and Environment sections of the Annotated Outline?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 6



	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Total	Weighted Average
Identify past trends since Habitat II (1995)	7.50% 3	52.50% 21	30.00% 12	5.00% 2	5.00% 2	40	3.52
Identify current regional priorities	17.95% 7	56.41% 22	20.51% 8	5.13% 2	0.00% 0	39	3.87
Identify key drivers for change	7.69% 3	64.10% 25	20.51% 8	5.13% 2	2.56% 1	39	3.69
Identify policy and implementation strategies	17.95% 7	43.59% 17	25.64% 10	12.82% 5	0.00% 0	39	3.67

25- Please provide any additional comments on Urbanization and Environment below.

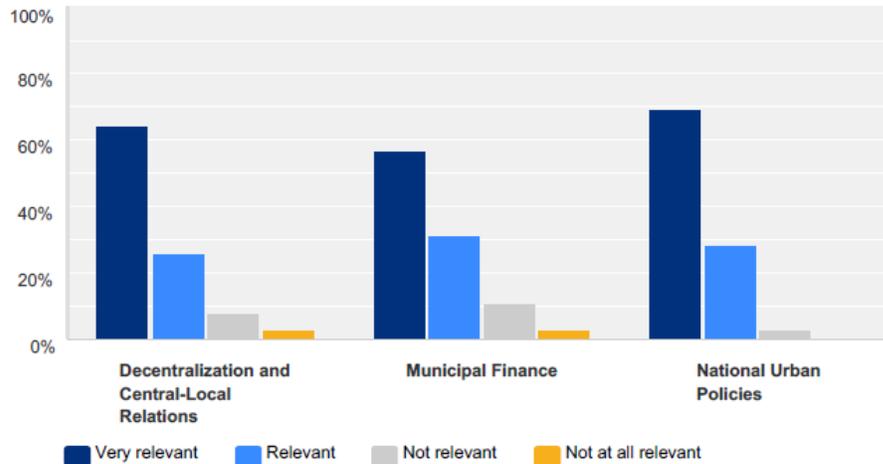
- The discussion should be more based on facts, more specific to the Arab region.
- Could make reference to the just adopted "Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030", specifically priorities 3 and 4 and linking them to the goals of the Arab strategy for housing and sustainable development (see following excerpt from Sendai): For Example: "(f) Promote the mainstreaming of disaster risk assessments into land-use policy development and implementation, including urban planning, land degradation assessments and informal and non-permanent housing, and the use of guidelines and follow-up tools informed by anticipated demographic and environmental changes;"
- Take a broad approach to environment and think of ecologists and systems of sustainability and inclusion.
- More on lessons learnt, and failures. The section does not mention the lack of investment in some countries, governance aspects and capacities needed
- Further elaboration in the final draft of the report required. Comments will be provided then as annotated outline cannot be considered to address the whole package of issues.

- This section needs to be elaborated more especially, when it comes to policy and implementation strategies.
- Disaster Risk Reduction
- Harvest failure, rising food prices... impact on poor urban dwellers; Nexus – water-energy-food is missing – very relevant in Arab region; Stability of supply of food; Food safety, cold chain – rising temperature; Livelihoods, unemployment, informal sector, role of women
- Nothing in this section of the Annotated Outline suggests integrity with the primary purpose "to review and evaluate implementation of the Habitat Agenda since Habitat II." The acclaimed "rights-based perspective" is completely absent.
- The section is too short to answer the question 24.
- I think it may be a chance to refer to the recently established Center for Natural Disasters in Algeria and its hopeful role in serving the Arab region .
- Multifarm pollution requires more attention; tackling this issue requires large contribution of the population.
- There is much focus in the section about how Arab cities are affected by climate change - what about how they are affecting it..?
- Social corporate responsibility as a driver for change, regulation enforcements as another driver for change, role of
- Municipalities and local governments as drivers for change

x. Urbanization and Governance

Q26 In a discussion of Urbanization and Governance, how relevant do you find the following key issues?

Answered: 39 Skipped: 7



	Very relevant	Relevant	Not relevant	Not at all relevant	Total	Weighted Average
Decentralization and Central-Local Relations	64.10% 25	25.64% 10	7.69% 3	2.56% 1	39	3.51
Municipal Finance	56.41% 22	30.77% 12	10.26% 4	2.56% 1	39	3.41
National Urban Policies	69.23% 27	28.21% 11	2.56% 1	0.00% 0	39	3.67

27- Should any further key issues related to Urbanization and Governance be included in the Report?

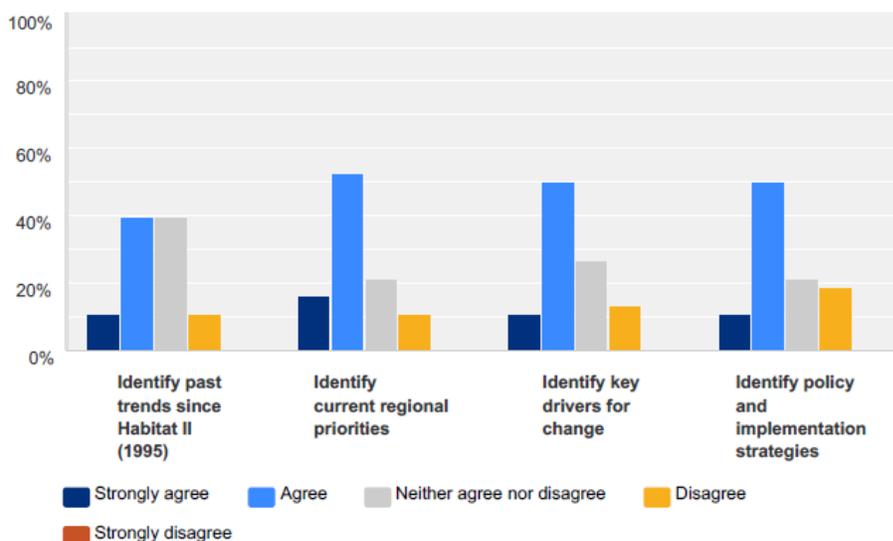
- Issues of institutional capacity and legislation should be looked at more closely
- Urban property registries and related taxation. Local governance and public participation. Approaches to slum upgrading and inclusion. social housing policies. Public spaces in the cities.
- Capacity building, knowledge management
- The report should pay special attention to certain mode of governance developed by some Arab countries (contracting and decentralized partnership) particularly in the Maghreb countries.
- Participatory approaches to the development of urban planning
- Defining public goods package and principled approach for applying them in cities , citizen's participation and compact (roles and responsibilities)
- Local government role in addressing conflict and displacement at local level; principles of good urban governance; issues raised during Arab spring and addressing those in post Arab spring governance - has there been any progress - drivers for further conflict... lack of implementation of legislation and policies; customary laws in the context of national legislation; youth, gender aspects, human rights
- Active participation and involvement in public policy making and in delivery quality social services of different groups of interest (particularly those marginalized and underserved groups) is at the core, along with the generation, analysis and use of data and knowledge; the integration of population dynamics in

development planning, the continued expansion of global and national human rights accountability systems, and adequate access to resources and cooperation need to be better reflected in the governance section putting critical emphasis on the participation of women and the young people in shaping public policies that affect their life, livelihood and social services in the city

- The institutional set up at the central level, examining how the central level is dealing with municipal affairs? Is there a ministry dedicated to local authorities or do they fall under the ministry of Interior?
- The tools to develop accountable and responsive municipal governance, and strengthen capacity for effective municipal service delivery
- Should cross reference sections on citizen engagement from the social section.
- More skills needed in software planning rather than hardware planning; results based monitoring
- Review region's local governance types (local authorities v. local government), constitutional and legislative frameworks for local spheres of government/governance, trends in citizen participation in planning and operations of governance
- Restrictions/limitations on civil society and their effective voice and participation is one of the main challenges and risks in the region and should be included in this section.
- -1) Isn't there any tension or conflict between urban governance on the one hand and on the other hand, Arab regional level or global level governances?2) Issues related to democratization are missed. Explanation about interaction between democratization (introduction of representative system etc.) and decentralization would make clear the challenges and opportunities of urbanization for good governance.
- Citizens participation.
- I'm not sure what the purpose of the chapter is or which definition of governance will be used, but one idea could be also to include such governance which is done by non-state actors. I am not sure why the chapter should limit itself to focusing on decentralization from state- to local level - but then again, I'm not sure what the purpose is.
- Development of regulations, procedures and institutions. Sets of re-enforcers, inclusive participation in urban planning and implementation.

Q28 Are the following objectives met in the Urbanization and Governance section of the Annotated Outline?

Answered: 38 Skipped: 8



	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Total	Weighted Average
Identify past trends since Habitat II (1995)	10.53% 4	39.47% 15	39.47% 15	10.53% 4	0.00% 0	38	3.50
Identify current regional priorities	15.79% 6	52.63% 20	21.05% 8	10.53% 4	0.00% 0	38	3.74
Identify key drivers for change	10.53% 4	50.00% 19	26.32% 10	13.16% 5	0.00% 0	38	3.58
Identify policy and implementation strategies	10.53% 4	50.00% 19	21.05% 8	18.42% 7	0.00% 0	38	3.53

29 - Please provide any additional comments on Urbanization and Governance below.

- Discussion should be better based on evidence and more specific to the Arab Region, including sub-regional differences.
- You could explore transnational linkages between cities, e.g. networks created by migrants and diasporas
- Include PWD.
- Linkages between municipal financing and delivery of public goods
- Further elaboration of content expected for the final draft of report, hence, comments will be provided then.
- Wide civil society participation and data to monitor the priorities, performance, service delivery and use of public funds and resources are vital parts of governance. The revolution in information technology provides the potential to bring this information to people around the world, including young people and

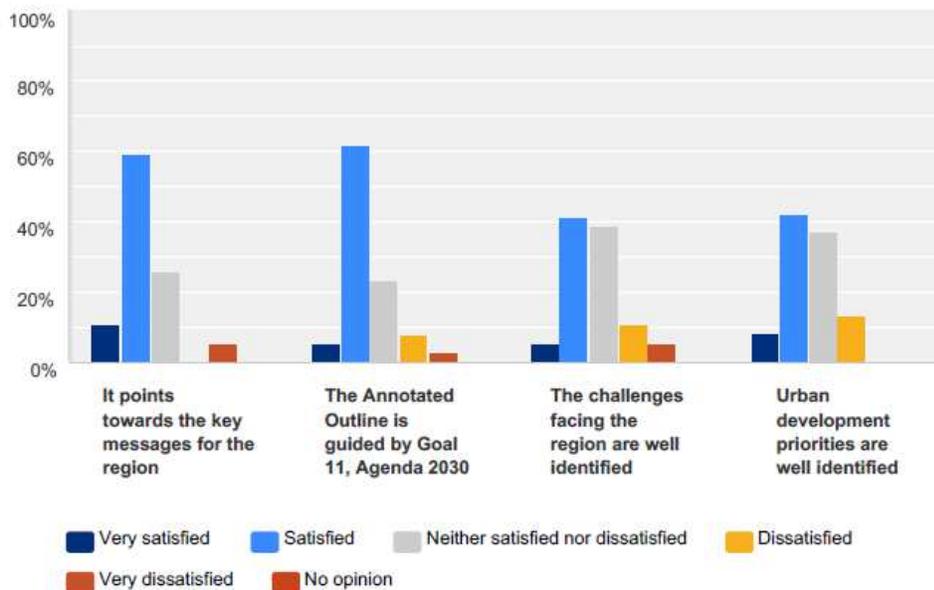
those who are marginalized and deprived, thereby creating a foundation for broader knowledge, transparency, inclusion and accountability

- Decentralization in Sudan has made great strides since 1980. It should be highlighted as a model for the region and perhaps globally.
- Establish the guidelines for implementation strategies to strengthen the capacity of key municipalities provide an entry point for citizen engagement, promote an enabling environment for sustainable local economic development, and enhance the profile and credibility of municipalities as representative institutions.
- Nothing in this section of the Annotated Outline suggests integrity with the primary purpose "to review and evaluate implementation of the Habitat Agenda since Habitat II." The acclaimed "rights-based perspective" is completely absent.
- The section is too short to answer the question no.28.
- Promotion of democratic and transparent management of local authorities is paramount for sustainable cities
- I'm not sure I would entirely accept the apparent premise that decentralization is somehow always the appropriate policy to pursue (or that it is necessarily "an accepted principle" - accepted by whom?). Furthermore, I do not entirely follow the account provided in the third paragraph. How has the task of "reforming entrenched bureaucratic processes...been made more difficult by the departure of the more qualified professionals"? Could it be clarified how this has affected decentralization?

D. Evaluating the Annotated Outline against HIII objectives

Q30 In an overall assessment of the Annotated Outline's content, how satisfied are you with the following statements?

Answered: 39 Skipped: 7



	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	No opinion	Total	Weighted Average
It points towards the key messages for the region	10.26% 4	58.97% 23	25.64% 10	0.00% 0	5.13% 2	0.00% 0	39	3.69
The Annotated Outline is guided by Goal 11, Agenda 2030	5.13% 2	61.54% 24	23.08% 9	7.69% 3	2.56% 1	0.00% 0	39	3.59
The challenges facing the region are well identified	5.13% 2	41.03% 16	38.46% 15	10.26% 4	5.13% 2	0.00% 0	39	3.31
Urban development priorities are well identified	7.89% 3	42.11% 16	36.84% 14	13.16% 5	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	38	3.45

31- Can you identify any other challenges facing the region?

- Urban transport related issues missing from the outline and this is key for sustainability in the Arab region. Urban safety and security needs consideration including from a gender perspective. The cultural dimensions of Arab cities is not reflected.
- Migration, refugees, conflict, weak investment in economic infrastructure. Private sector investment in housing
- Construction as money laundering activity driving up prices. Destruction of cultural heritage.
- Water scarcity
- Human Rights - Right to the City as a component of citizenship - Gender equity - Youth to be promoted by reinforcing education and qualification.

- Improve data collation and analysis of extensive and intensive disaster risk losses, including losses in informal settlements and losses in livelihoods of the informal sector. Allocation of resources and development of tracking mechanisms, to incorporate urban resilience in national and sectoral development budgets; More work is needed to empower local communities to participate in the incorporation of urban resilience in national/regional/global strategies and policies. Integrating urban resilience in national development planning through ensuring that disaster risk reduction issues are captured in national urban strategies and plans, as well as city development plans.
- Vision for future of region.
- Focus more on IDPs and Refugees both on political and peace building as well as supporting host cities in accommodating refugees with a future vision on use of investments when refugees go back home.
- Absence of the policies and regulations of the ICTs generated e-waste in Arab region, Absence of the regional strategies of using of ICTs for Smart Sustainable Development
- Migration, refugees, inclusivity, poverty
- How to balance the push for urban development with ensuring self sufficiency and food importation dependency?
- Ensuring that cities are age friendly
- Urban environmental issues
- Pollution - air and water; heritage and cultural identity; impact of conflict and displacement on urban and national development; relationship to Europe and other regions; housing and neighbourhood approaches; planned city extensions and new urban communities; inter-regional cooperation/ south-south exchange, as well as across Arab regional dynamics; etc.
- Poor and weak participation of civil society, including women's groups and the young people in the formulation management and implementation of public policies that affect their access to basic social services and their livelihood in the city, and their exclusion from the range of areas of governance (including eligibility for public office and decision on use and distribution of public resources), and the absence of functioning and sustained universal social protection floor for all remain some of the serious challenges facing the region
- Increasing citizens' engagement in urban management and development is a big challenge in the region.
- Rising sea level and risks to coastal cities; Possible uprising in violence and protests as countries withdraw subsidies;
- Challenges of macro economy, corporate capture, dependency, multiple occupations and their consequences, underdeveloped citizenship culture, patriarchy, women's housing and land tenure equal to men, prospects of public-private-popular partnerships, land-value capture (as committed in Habitat II, para. 76h)
- Social inclusion and equitable access, as well as gender and youth do not come out very strongly in the document as it stands. Suggest to ensure this is covered in all sections.
- Occupation, Political instability due to foreign interference, Wars and armed conflicts, Terrorism
- The decreased share of water consumption specially in Egypt Iraq and Gaza strip which may lead to political unrest .
- Promotion of democracy; fight discrimination against women; promotion of SMEs; promotion of birth control.

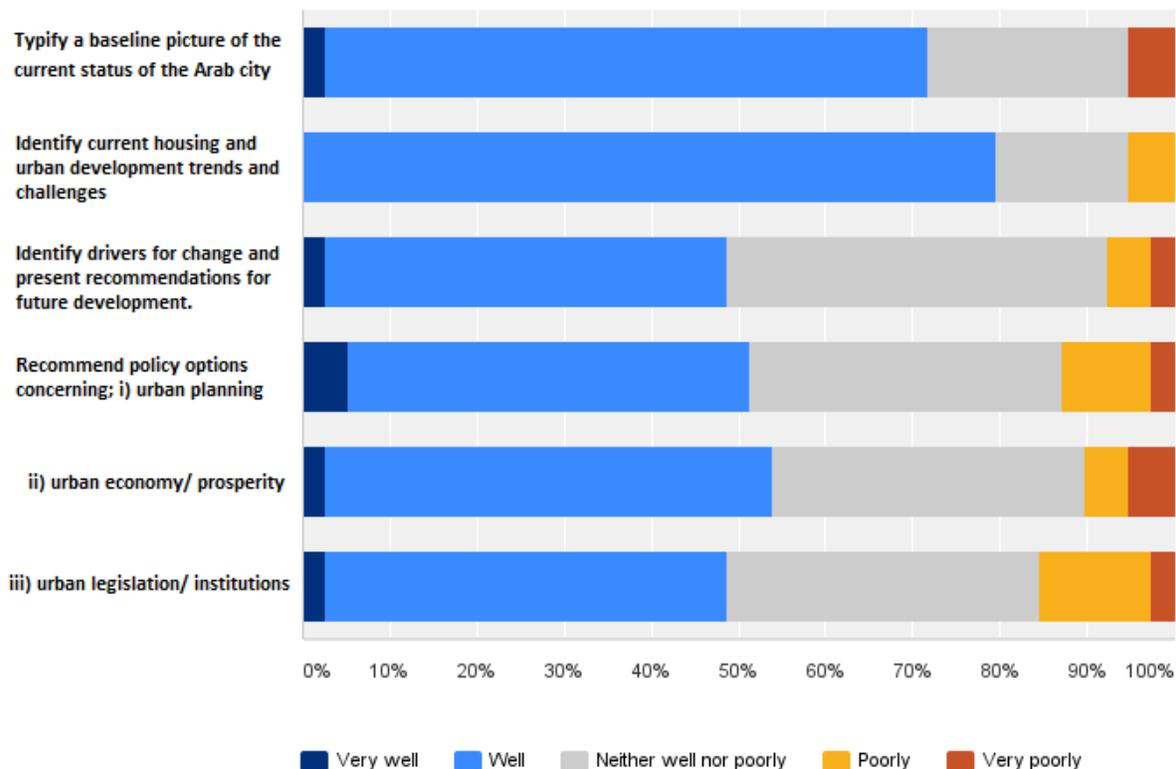
32- Can you identify other development priorities?

- Overall, the outline and report should provide a balanced perspective of challenges and opportunities. The current narrative leans more towards challenges.
- Social inclusion as a main priority for urban development, including accessibility for persons with disabilities.
- Exchange of expertise
- Local democracy - Reducing urban divide - Reducing corruption.
- Disability inclusive development is good for everyone. Universal design.
- Peace building and political stability as an underlying basis for urban growth and the delivery of adequate housing

- Use of ICTs for Smart Sustainable Development in Urban areas
- Education, political participation
- Youth employment outside urban areas and access to key services such as health and education
- Challenges as priorities; implementation a joint vision for the Arab region on housing and urban development, implemented at national and local level - collaboration at level of LAS to coordinate implementation of SGD implementation; dress conflict and equity issues, displacement, unplanned urban growth; etc.
- Addressing gender imbalances across the spectrum of social, economic and environmental development, harnessing evolving population dynamics including the youth bulge/fostering the determinants of demographic dividend, and ensuring a universal social protection floor should be considered an integral part of any future development agenda in the city. This is critical from two perspectives: a) evolving population dynamics, including changing population structures, population movement and distribution, and the emergence of age groups with critical development needs, youth and the older people in particular, as they have tremendous bearing on macro social and economic development and sustainability processes and outcomes, and b) access to reproductive health and protection of reproductive rights, within a gender equality perspective as they represent a critical challenge for achieving a dignifying human development and well-being for all. While the first set of issues i.e., population dynamics and changing demographic structures can be construed largely as cross-cutting, enabling factors for development goals, the second set of issues i.e., access to quality reproductive health services and protection of reproductive rights should be included in and monitored through clear development goal and target frameworks. Such goals can and should be facilitated by “enablers” including i) achieving peace and security (at the regional, national and sub-national level), ii) securing macro-economic and financial stability; (iii) committing to participatory and transparent governance and knowledge sharing at the national and sub-national level; and iv) committing to environmental sustainability (including strengthening cushioning and improving disaster management knowledge, technology, structures and practices).
- Maximizing the use of renewable energy sources.
- Need for greater investments in multi-hazard disaster preparedness.
- Overcoming jobless economic growth and investment, food sovereignty, local sovereignty over natural resources, respecting diverse land-tenure systems within the state
- As mentioned before youth and gender should be at the center point of the report and guiding the priorities identified.
- Sources of finance, Capacity building, Technology transfer suited to the region, Sustainability of the above three
- Promotion of democracy; fight discrimination against women; promotion of SMEs; promotion of birth control.

Q33 In an overall assessment, how well does the Annotated Outline address the following requirements of the Regional Report?

Answered: 39 Skipped: 7



	Very well	Well	Neither well nor poorly	Poorly	Very poorly	Total	Weighted Average
Typify a baseline picture of the current status of the Arab city (including existing gaps) from a rights-based perspective against which progress could be monitored.	2.63% 1	68.42% 26	23.68% 9	0.00% 0	5.26% 2	38	3.63
Identify current housing and urban development trends and challenges facing Arab countries.	0.00% 0	79.49% 31	15.38% 6	5.13% 2	0.00% 0	39	3.74
Identify drivers for change towards a more inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable urban agenda, and present recommendations for future development.	2.56% 1	46.15% 18	43.59% 17	5.13% 2	2.56% 1	39	3.41
Recommend policy options for the urban future of the region concerning; i) urban planning	5.13% 2	43.59% 17	35.90% 14	10.26% 4	5.13% 2	39	3.33
ii) urban economy/ prosperity	2.56% 1	51.28% 20	35.90% 14	2.56% 1	7.69% 3	39	3.38
iii) urban legislation/ institutions	2.56% 1	43.59% 17	35.90% 14	12.82% 5	5.13% 2	39	3.26

34- How could the Annotated Outline better meet the above HIII requirements?

- A "rights based perspective" is not really framing the outline. Urban planning, legislation related policy options needs strengthening.
- Develop the evidence base before jumping to specific issues. Develop a more systematic approach instead of random collection of issues. Develop a clear structure that leads from a review of developments to identification of trends and
- Drivers for change and then to conclusions and recommendations.
- The Annotated outline need to go into more details concerning the strategies, it also need to discuss sustainability of their plans, it should strengthen the role of the institutions and the NGOs to be used as the promoter for this.
- Include clear and explicit statement of the need to include persons with disabilities as equal stakeholders to development of cities not as separate special medical issue.
- Disability inclusion must be considered systematically throughout the overall annotation.
- The important thing is that these policy options are realistic and implementable with properly equipped local authorities to implement and maintain goals and objectives - this can only be achieved through participation, good governance and allocating the needed resources resulting from a strong urban economic base.
- We would suggest to include items related to Policies/Strategies of National Emergency Telecommunications Plans and its role in keeping the urban cities safe and resilient.
- Use statistics for more modeling and projections of needs, Cities as models for intersectoral collaboration
- Further elaboration on the issues is required, in more detail and depth. Feedback from H3 Secretariat on the outline would be appreciated, in order to seek "green light" on the proposed outline.
- It is critical to add security and safe space to the outline including a stronger component of participation in public policy making and in transparent governance and accountability.
- Expand more on the policy options.
- Development framework and implementation guidelines are to be more specified at the local level, with clear identification of governance socio-economic and spatial planning policy challenges. Emphasis on community based sustainable management tools, Disaster risk reduction and renewable energy infrastructural services.
- If the points mentioned earlier are incorporated, this will be a good document. Additionally, gender has to be a cross cutting issue that this document needs to address properly
- Follow the stated objectives "to review and evaluate implementation of the Habitat Agenda since Habitat II" and pursue a "rights-based perspective." Address root causes of disparities, including data on tenure status and living conditions, disaggregated by gender, generations, migration status, minority status, urban/rural context.
- For the baseline section, an extensive assessment of the situation of women and youth is important to include
- More recommendations and policy options for future development
- To visit some of the approved Arab Region strategies as Housing and Urban Development , Water and Environment .
- I have the feeling that the annotated outline favors a top-down approach; I recommend the inclusion of some bottom-up approach in this text.
- To include some additional issues to the report including the right to the city, social inclusion and accessibility to social and economic services, relationship to rural development, and secondary cities, Urban economic development strategies, housing policies
- By addressing additional critical issues and possibly developing a clearer conceptual framework.

E. Habitat III Issues

35. As part of the preparations for the Habitat III conference, the UN Habitat Secretariat identified a set of issues pertinent to the development of the New Urban Agenda. In your opinion, how important are the following issues as development priorities in the Arab Region? 10= Extremely Important, 1= Not at all important

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Rating Average	Response Count
Social Cohesion and Equity- Liveable Cities												
Inclusive Cities	28	4	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.50	38
Migration and Refugees in Urban Areas	26	2	7	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	9.32	38
Safer Cities	24	6	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.32	38
Urban Culture and Heritage	16	6	5	6	2	1	0	1	0	0	8.54	37
Urban Frameworks												
Urban Rules and Legislation	18	1 0	3	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	8.89	38
Urban Governance	24	8	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	9.37	38
Municipal Finance	20	1 0	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	9.16	38
Spatial Development												
Urban and Spatial Planning and Design	18	9	8	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	9.08	38
Urban Land	21	5	5	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	9.03	38
Urban-Rural Linkages	22	4	6	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	9.05	38
Public Space	20	6	9	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	9.11	38
Urban Economy												
Local Economic Development	23	6	4	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	9.18	38
Jobs and Livelihood	28	4	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	9.34	38
Informal Sector	22	8	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.26	38
Urban Ecology and Environment												
Urban Resilience	23	5	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	9.14	37
Urban Ecosystems and Resource Management	22	4	5	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	9.05	38
Cities and Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management	25	3	7	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	9.13	38
Urban Housing and Basic Services												
Urban Infrastructure and Basic Services	25	1 0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	9.45	38
Transport and Mobility	22	8	5	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	9.15	39
Housing	25	6	4	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	9.29	38
Smart Cities	13	9	7	5	3	0	1	0	0	1	8.33	39
Informal Settlements	22	5	7	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	9.11	38
											<i>answered question</i>	39
											<i>skipped question</i>	7

36. Do you have any further comments or suggestions on the Annotated Outline

- In large parts the statements so far in the annotated outline as much to general to serve as a basis for consultation. It seems the development of the report needs substantial more time and a number of more consultations on more substantial versions of the report.
- Following issues to be added : Human rights based approach, Right to the City, Gender equity, Reduction of corruption
- Access is universal and opens mobility for all. Standards guidelines and enforcement must be strengthened as well as regulatory processes and administrative penalties for noncompliance with access and safety considerations in the built environment.
- Emphasis on holistic approaches pulling together the various elements in a comprehensive synthetic way (social, economic environmental, governance, etc...)
- ICTs as main enabler for Sustainable Development; ICTs as driver for moving cities to smart, ICTs for poverty reduction in Urban cities, need for regional policies and regulations on E-waste and Disaster Management, Need for roadmap of transition the Arab cities to Smart and Sustainable
- Recent discussions at the level of the United Nations should be reflected in the report. This includes the overall resilience discourse (emerging from the Syria crisis) as well as the range of migration issues.
- The bibliography needs to be bolstered with basic readings on urban planning and development in the region; the "southern" part of the region doesn't figure well in the bibliography nor in the examples and discussion presented in the Outline.
- The policy papers are useful, but appear to be negotiated (compromise) texts, not necessarily reflecting the state of the art on the subjects. They leave some obvious gaps, including any evaluation of implementing the Habitat II commitments; a serious consideration of population trends and related policies; the centrality of human rights, in particular the human right to adequate housing (as affirmed in Habitat II); and balanced rural and urban development (as affirmed in Habitat II). The same omissions are reflected in the Annotated Outline. Filling these gaps requires a deliberate effort to recover these values in the Regional Report, especially since the UN-Habitat national reporting guidelines also omit these reporting criteria and the national Habitat III reports likely will not help much toward meeting the stated purpose and objectives of the Regional Report.
- The issue of safety did not come out clearly in any of the sections of the report. Given the limited mobility of certain parts of the population and the risks faced by women and girls, this should also be included either as a separate topic or included in the urbanization and social equity section.
- I believe this report is being prepared by the UN system. The League of Arab States, the only intergovernmental Regional organization that host the technical Secretariat of the only Arab ministerial council on housing and urban development was not consulted in the outline of this report. The Arab ministers for housing and urban development established a committee to draft the Arab report for habitat III. This committee was not consulted in this outline. Therefore it is difficult to accurately respond to questions that are supposed to represent the region.
- I think the current document has a good structure but need to be improved to incorporate other important issues. Conceptual framework which shows normative values is not clearly stood out. It may cause a problem in making the report coherent. It would be necessary to be clear about 1) how the region would envision "Inclusive, Safe, Sustainable and Resilient Cities" 2) "Inclusive, Safe, Sustainable and Resilient Cities" for "Whom?", 3) What efforts, official and unofficial, have been made and are being made in the name of urban development ? 4) What are the Institutions and policies making synergistic relationship between national development and inclusive, safe, sustainable and resilient cities 5) what are the shortcomings of the actors and institutions that are expected to partake in achieving this goal? and 6) what steps need to be taken to move forward?
- The Regional Report should be more relevant to The National Reports Presented to Habitat III conference particularly development priorities
- In order to achieve the objectives of the Annotated Outline of the HIII Regional Report for the Arab Region ,it should be focused on classification, analysis and comparison on the sub-regional differences for the sub- regions of: Mashreq, Maghreb, Gulf Cooperation Council and Southern countries
- Based on the challenges identified in the five main sections, the annotated outline should identify broad

- messages that could be (later) developed into policy options and recommendations. Some of these (embryonic) messages are already there but they need to be sharpened and prioritized. For example, under the banner of 'decent and affordable housing' clear messages can already be developed on slum upgrading, planned future land development, provision of basic urban services, construction of heavy infrastructure, etc. The same would apply to informal employment.