



## SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Arab cities are vibrant centres of economic, cultural and social activity. Across the region, however, increasing and unplanned urbanization, largely due to poverty, climate change and conflict, places immense pressure on cities and human settlements as well as scarce natural resources. This is exacerbating exclusion and vulnerability. While cities have historically hosted diverse groups of internal and international migrants as well as displaced people, inequalities in and among cities and settlements are pervasive. Disparities persist in access to quality land and housing, services and infrastructure, as well as public spaces and a clean environment. To accelerate progress on SDG 11, Arab countries must meet the challenges of urbanization with people-centred planning and integrated spatial policies. Better governance in cities and settlements is another imperative, along with the sustainable management of natural resources, including land.

### Key facts

#### Urban population

The urban population in the Arab region grew more than fourfold from 1970 to 2010. It will more than double from 2010 to 2050.<sup>1</sup>



Most cities in the region suffer from a shortage of affordable housing.<sup>2</sup>

#### 70% in cities by 2050

Some 58 per cent of people in the region live in urban areas. The share is expected to reach 62 per cent in 2030 and 70 per cent in 2050.<sup>3</sup>



Escalating land values and the rapid appreciation of buildings since the mid-1970s have led to a segmented land market, a lack of affordable housing and the spread of unplanned urbanization.

**30.9%**

The average share of urban dwellers living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing is 30.9 per cent.<sup>4</sup> By country, figures range from 8 per cent in Tunisia to 47.2 per cent in Iraq and 91.6 per cent in the Sudan.<sup>5</sup>

#### 3.7 million refugees

#### 14.9 million IDPs

By mid-2018, there were 3.7 million refugees under the UNHCR mandate in the region, in addition to 5.4 million Palestine refugees registered with UNRWA. Close to 14.9 million people were internally displaced in the region in 2017.<sup>6</sup>



Currently, most displaced people live in non-camp settings, particularly in cities, adding pressure on local governments, which are at the forefront of meeting their daily needs.<sup>7</sup>

**98%**

Almost 98 per cent of people in the region are exposed to levels of particulate matter in the air that exceed World Health Organization guidelines.<sup>8</sup>

#### 5 Arab countries in top 10 polluted countries

Five Arab countries—Egypt, Kuwait, Libya, Qatar and Saudi Arabia—are ranked among the top 10 polluted countries worldwide. Three Arab countries—Egypt, Iraq and Saudi Arabia—are among the top 10 countries with the most deaths from air pollution.<sup>9</sup>



Cities across the Arab region remain largely inaccessible for persons with disabilities, despite some notable recent initiatives to improve physical accessibility, and address stigma and social exclusion.<sup>10</sup>



2%

Public spaces constituted just 2 per cent of Arab cities in 2016 compared to an average of 12 per cent in Europe.<sup>11</sup>

25% CO<sub>2</sub>

In several cities, private vehicles account for over two thirds of urban

## 5% of property value

Registration of property transactions in the region takes an average of 37.9 days compared to 20.3 days in Europe and Central Asia. The procedure imposes a cost estimated at 5 per cent of property value.<sup>13</sup>

## Urban governance

Participatory urban governance remains weak across the region. While Arab States are increasingly prioritizing urbanization in national agendas, the majority of national urban policies are in an early stage of development.<sup>14</sup>

trips. Transport contributes around 25 per cent of carbon dioxide emissions.<sup>12</sup>

## Measuring SDG 11 in the Arab region according to the global SDG indicator framework

Data are available for 4 out of 15 indicators, covering 3 out of 10 targets under SDG 11.

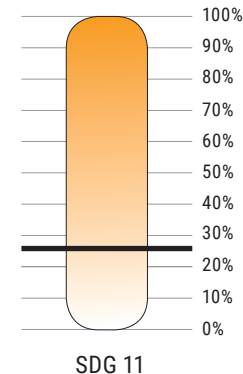
A number of the targets cannot be adequately measured in the region. These targets fall into three categories:

- Targets to ensure inclusive cities, and the participation of civil society in human settlement planning and management (targets 11.2, 11.3, 11.7 and 11.a).
- Targets to ensure sustainability in land management (targets 11.6, 11.3, 11.7, 11.a, 11.b and 11.c).
- Targets to ensure resilience to natural and human-caused disasters (targets 11.5, 11.6 and 11.b).

Challenges hampering the measurement of and reporting on SDG 11 in the region include the lack of data disaggregated by income, sex, age, ethnicity, religion, disability, migratory status, geographical location and other characteristics.

Furthermore, many SDG 11 indicators require data collection at the city level, outside the scope of routine data collection mechanisms such as censuses or household surveys. Among the 15 proposed indicators, seven require some form of local data collection and analysis as well as a clear method for data collection and analysis at the level of urban agglomerations. These indicators include 11.2.1 on public transport, 11.3.1 on efficient land use, 11.5.1 on people affected by disasters, 11.6.1 and 11.6.2 on urban solid waste and air quality, 11.7.1 on public space, and 11.b indicators on climate change and resilience.

Indicator coverage



A spatial component is a common feature of all non-traditional sources of data necessary for these seven indicators. All seven call for an understanding of the organization and density of human settlements, which can be attained through spatial analysis using techniques such as remote sensing and geographic information systems (GIS).

Monitoring and reporting at the city level depend on developing functional definitions of cities and rural areas as distinct units. Further, with more than seven targets requiring local data to produce national aggregates, new partnerships and systems for producing and processing data are needed. Collection and reporting of data are in many cases still the responsibility of ministries of planning rather than a distinct authority able to coordinate with cities and municipalities. Only a few urban observatories are engaged in data collection, policy consultations and reporting processes.

### SDG 11 CONTAINS ONE TARGET TO BE ACHIEVED BY 2020

**TARGET 11.b** - Substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency,

mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels

## The main barriers to making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable in the Arab region

The Arab region has witnessed a significant increase in urbanization over the past few decades. Population growth is a main factor as are poverty (SDG 1) and inequality (SDG 10). The lack of education and job opportunities in rural areas (SDGs 4 and 8), a largely unproductive agricultural sector and limited arable land (SDG 2) drive people to urban settlements. Climate change (SDG 13) is making matters worse as it exposes people to water stress and coastal flooding. Drought and water stress further erode rural livelihoods. Increasing pollution in cities is a major cause of illness and disease (SDG 3). Conflict has destroyed land, communities and infrastructure, and increased the movement of people from rural areas to urban centres, which struggle to accommodate waves of refugees and the internally displaced.

SDG 11 calls for participatory urban governance. While local and provincial elections have become more frequent and involve wider voter participation, mechanisms for citizen engagement, access to information, robust consultations, and the role of community-based organizations and youth in decision-making remain weak (SDG 16).

Many urban settlements are now marked by inequality and exclusion, growing slums, absent or inadequate essential services, such as sanitation (SDG 6), and ageing infrastructure (SDG 9). Unplanned or unregulated urban expansion has encroached on valuable agricultural land and reduced public and green spaces which are

Progress on SDG 11 contributes to **gender equality** and the empowerment of women and girls. In the Arab region, instability, conflict, and/or the lack of accessible, reliable and safe transport place greater limitations on women's and girls' mobility compared to that of men and boys. Threats of harassment in some areas also hinder the ability of women and girls to move freely, work and participate in public life.

In addition, cultural and social norms, prevailing customary laws, the complexity of land registration and a lack of information often prevent women from exercising their rights with regard to ownership of land and property.

Approximately 60 per cent of **solid waste** in Cairo is managed by formal and informal entities, while the rest is dumped illegally, causing serious ecological and public health problems.

Source: United Nations, 2017.

necessary for social and physical well-being. Combined, these different challenges limit the safety, mobility and rights of everyone, with extra burdens for vulnerable groups such as women, persons with disabilities, older persons, migrants, youth and children.

### THE FOLLOWING ARE THE KEY BARRIERS TO ACHIEVING SDG 11 IN THE ARAB REGION

**The main barrier is the absence of integrated, people-centred strategies to manage land, resources and rising urbanization.** This barrier has multiple dimensions.

#### Unaffordable housing

All countries in the region suffer from a shortage of affordable housing. The price of urban land is high and appreciates rapidly, and supply in dense settlements is limited. The private sector caters mainly to upper-middle income clients and demands for luxury housing. Low-income housing programmes cannot keep up with needs for affordable housing; the informal housing sector fills the gap. A large population of young people coupled with high levels of youth unemployment and often legal barriers to mortgage lending exacerbate unaffordability.



### Inadequacy of basic services

Access to water and sanitation services varies widely in overcrowded and/or underserved cities and neighbourhoods. Solid waste in the region is expected to exceed 250 million tons per year by 2050,<sup>15</sup> yet many cities have not adopted integrated solid waste management practices, a shortfall that is already leading to urban and environmental crises. The use of clean energy varies but remains limited across the region.



### Inefficient public transport

Current urban planning in the region remains largely car-oriented and does not yet value the design of neighbourhoods to reduce vehicular traffic. In addition, public transport remains widely used in most cities but is in decline due to unreliability and/or low levels of comfort. Informal public transport fills the gap. The sustainability of transport remains a challenge; the sector is a major contributor to climate emissions and air pollution.



### Strained mobility or lack of access for persons with disability

Persons with disabilities in all Arab countries face physical barriers to their mobility, such as high curbs, narrow doorways, a lack of audible street signals, and so on. This severely limits their access to different spaces and institutions, and entrenches their social, economic, environmental, cultural and political exclusion.



Other barriers include:

### Conflict

Conflict has weakened the rule of law and the ability of states to provide basic services and spurred the spread of informal housing and land grabs. Camps for refugees and displaced persons are overcrowded, threatening safety and security, and basic services such as sanitation are substandard, leading to outbreaks of disease.

Conflict has also accelerated the destruction and/or deterioration of cultural and urban heritage in a number of cities, sometimes deliberately so, as in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic. The physical destruction of urban areas has torn apart communities and cut social ties. In many instances, conflict and its aftermath result in the segregation of groups and neighbourhoods along sectarian or ethnic lines.



### Vague, obsolete and/or cumbersome property registration and titling processes

They are a critical secondary barrier to achieving SDG 11. They undercut the ability to afford housing, use land productively, and secure the use and ownership of land and homes. The absence of clear and proper records as well as complicated processes to transfer titles impinge on the ability, especially among women, to access property and financing services (SDG 5).

Countries experiencing conflict often have outdated or ill-maintained records, a situation rendered worse by displacement and the destruction of housing, land and property documents. The result is increased social fragmentation and worsened insecurity.



Historic districts are not only part of the daily life of the population, but a significant economic asset, attracting tourists. Recognizing a shared **cultural heritage** also strengthens social cohesion. Algeria's National Scheme of Land Planning 2030 includes the protection and preservation of cultural heritage as a main pillar.

Source: People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, 2014.

## At risk of being left behind

Prohibitive land and property prices squeeze out **the poor and less well-off**, forcing them into informal, often unsafe housing in neighbourhoods with limited or inadequate essential services. The poor have little access to open, clean and green public spaces as these are concentrated in wealthy neighbourhoods. Gated communities and semi-private spaces that charge fees for entry are trends that cement social fragmentation and exclusion.

Strategies to build **resilience to disasters** must be attuned to socioeconomic inequalities in cities and elsewhere, and resources must be allocated accordingly. Overall, the region's relatively low number of disaster-related deaths and limited economic losses owe less to existing resilience strategies and more to a lower susceptibility to natural disasters than other parts of the world.

The poor, who can include rural-urban migrants, urban refugees and the internally displaced, and people in general living in slums or inadequate dwellings, are more vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change as well as natural and human-caused disasters.

The inability to move freely and access different spaces in cities, given the lack of accommodation for their needs, isolates **people with disabilities**. They are unable to get jobs, attend social and cultural events, engage with others, enjoy healthy green spaces and so on. Around three-quarters of people with disabilities in both Morocco and the State of Palestine cannot access public transportation because of a lack of accommodation.<sup>16</sup>

Creating inclusive spaces for persons with disabilities benefits other vulnerable groups or those with special needs, such as **older persons and small children**.

**Refugees, returnees and the internally displaced** often face discrimination. As they may be hidden or in hiding, their needs are not properly assessed. They also suffer

“My Community...A City for Everyone” was launched in **Dubai** in 2013 as an integrated initiative to tackle **social stigma around disability** and promote the inclusion of people with disabilities. The Dubai Road and Transport Authority has a critical role in transforming facilities, services and public vehicles to make them accessible for all.

Source: Government of Dubai, 2016.

from the destruction of supportive social networks and intermittent or no access to services. In Lebanon, an estimated 73 per cent of all non-Palestinian refugees live in rented spaces, a marker of insecure accommodation. A third of refugee households in Lebanon can be classified as overcrowded; families often share lodgings. An estimated 18 per cent live in tents in informal settlements, while 9 per cent occupy structures considered non-residential, such as garages, shops, worksites and farm buildings.<sup>17</sup>

## What the region can do to accelerate progress on SDG 11

The improvement of governance, land and property management and administrative frameworks, and access to affordable land and housing are all required in urban and rural areas.

### 1. Introduce and strengthen people-centred urban planning:

- Connect rural and urban development strategies so they are complementary and equally address the needs of diverse populations.
- Adopt land management strategies at the city and national levels in alignment with social and environmental as well as economic development, and ensure access and affordability, the adequacy of social and green spaces, and sustainable land use.
- Invest in and prioritize healthy cities and ensure multisectoral approaches linking urban, health and environmental sustainability policies.
- Introduce laws and mechanisms to increase the safety and mobility of women and girls, and protect against harassment in public spaces.
- Prioritize participatory urban governance, including through mechanisms for citizen engagement in decision-making.
- Empower local governments and push for the decentralization of decision-making and resource allocation.
- Foster the development of smart applications to enhance inclusivity in sectors such as transportation, health, education and other services.

### 2. Enhance the collection of data at the national and local levels:

- Build capacities for data collection in cities, including to feed data into national statistical systems.
- Allocate adequate financial resources for municipalities to monitor urban development at the local level.
- Establish local and national urban observatories to analyse the state of urban development, its impact on different social groups, and links with sustainability and inclusion.
- Increase the use of smart technology, GIS, satellite imagery and big data to fill local data gaps.

### 3. Invest in accessibility for all:

- Invest in making cities and human settlements physically accessible to all, including women, people with disabilities, older persons, young people and children. This includes retrofitting buildings, improving the accessibility of public transport and other infrastructure, and adequately allocating public spaces and green areas.

**4. Ensure sustainability through regulation and technical expertise:**

- Regulate public and private transport, improve infrastructure to ensure sustainability, and build technical expertise on new technologies for producing cleaner fuel while upgrading fuel specifications.

**5. Enforce and protect housing, land and property rights for vulnerable groups:**

- Eliminate discriminatory laws, and enhance enforcement and access to justice for women, minorities, internally displaced people, returnees and others.
- Reform land titling and registration mechanisms, and mainstream and simplify procedures.

- Enhance equitable access to natural resources, including land among different social groups and communities, and protect against displacement and eviction.
- Introduce mechanisms to increase women’s access to financial resources including mortgages.

**6. Prioritize inclusive urban planning and land management in reconstruction efforts in conflict and post-conflict countries:**

- Ensure citizen-led recovery and reconstruction, and engage youth as much as possible.
- Preserve and protect natural and cultural heritage at risk, and restore damaged and destroyed tangible and intangible heritage.

**SDG 11 targets and indicators in the Arab region**

**Target**

**Indicator**

**Data**

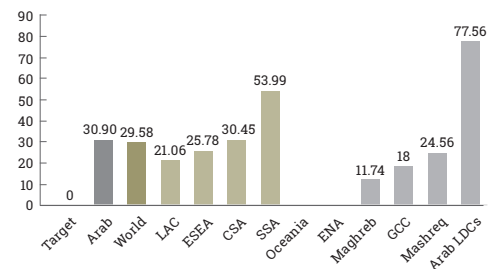
**11.1**

By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums

**11.1.1**

Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing

Figure 1 Proportion of the urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (percentage)



Note: Data on this indicator are only “available for all developing countries, as it has been reported yearly by UN-Habitat in the MDGs’ reports” (United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b), which explains the lack of data. All means are weighted by total urban population for 2014 (United Nations Population Division, 2017b; United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b). The calculated Arab regional aggregate includes the data values of the following Arab countries for 2014: Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Yemen.

**11.2**

By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons

**11.2.1**

Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.

**11.3**  
By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries

**11.3.1**  
Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate

Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.

**11.3.2**  
Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operate regularly and democratically

Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.

**11.4**  
Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage

**11.4.1**  
Total expenditure (public and private) per capita spent on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by type of heritage (cultural, natural, mixed and World Heritage Centre designation), level of government (national, regional and local/municipal), type of expenditure (operating expenditure/investment) and type of private funding (donations in kind, private non-profit sector and sponsorship)

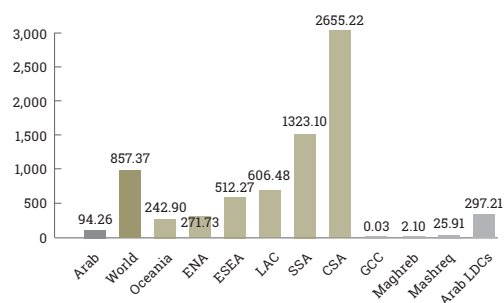
Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.

**11.5**  
By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations

**11.5.1**  
Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people

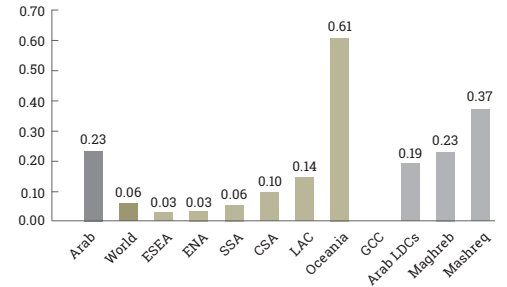
Figure 2 Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people

(a) Number of people affected by disaster per 100,000 people



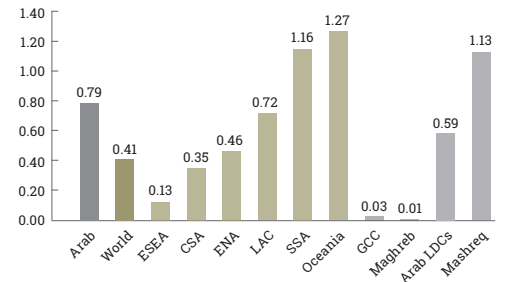
Note: The number of people affected by disaster is multiplied by 100,000 and divided by population to get total country numbers. All means are population weighted using the latest (2015) population estimates (United Nations Population Division, 2017a; United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b), expressed per 100,000 people. The calculated Arab regional aggregate includes the data values of the following Arab countries and years: Syrian Arab Republic (2009), Yemen (2010), Kuwait (2011), Djibouti (2012), Tunisia (2013), Morocco (2014), Comoros, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, State of Palestine and Sudan (2017).

(b) Number of deaths due to disaster per 100,000 people



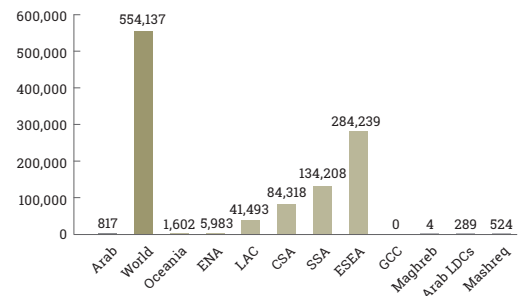
Note: The number of deaths due to disaster is multiplied by 100,000 and divided by population to get total country numbers. All means are population weighted using the latest (2015) population estimates (United Nations Population Division, 2017a; United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b), expressed per 100,000 people. The calculated Arab regional aggregate includes the data values of the following Arab countries and years: Syrian Arab Republic (2009), Yemen (2010), Kuwait (2011), Djibouti (2012), Tunisia (2013), Morocco (2014), Lebanon (2016), Comoros, Egypt, Jordan and State of Palestine (2017).

(c) Number of missing persons due to disaster per 100,000 people



Note: The number of missing persons due to disaster is multiplied by 100,000 and divided by population to get total country numbers. All means are population weighted using the latest (2015) population estimates (United Nations Population Division, 2017a; United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b), expressed per 100,000 people. The calculated Arab regional aggregate includes the data values of the following Arab countries and years: Tunisia (2009), Jordan and Yemen (2010), Djibouti and Morocco (2011), Comoros (2017).

Figure 3 Sum of the numbers of damaged and destroyed dwellings attributed to disasters

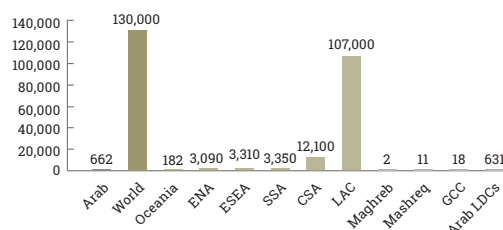


Note: Aggregates are the total sum of country values (United Nations Statistics Division, 2019a). The calculated Arab regional aggregate includes the data values of the following Arab countries and years: Syrian Arab Republic (2009), Yemen (2010), Djibouti (2012), State of Palestine and Tunisia (2013); Comoros, Lebanon and Morocco (2014), Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait and Somalia (2017).



**11.5.2**  
 Direct economic loss in relation to global GDP, including disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services

**Figure 4** Direct economic loss attributed to disasters (millions of current United States dollars)



Note: Aggregates are the total sum of country values (United Nations Statistics Division, 2019a). The calculated Arab regional aggregate includes the data values of the following Arab countries and years: Syrian Arab Republic (2009), Yemen (2010), Djibouti and Kuwait (2011), Comoros and Tunisia (2013), Morocco (2014), Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, State of Palestine and Sudan (2017).

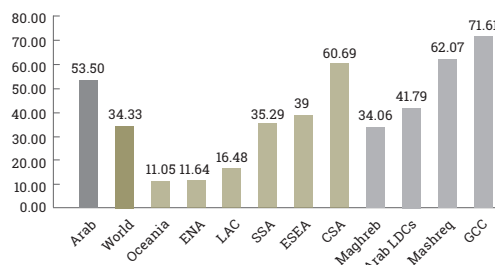
**11.6**  
 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management

**11.6.1**  
 Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated, by cities

Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.

**11.6.2**  
 Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5 and PM10) in cities (population weighted)

**Figure 5** Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter in cities



Note: All means are weighted by total urban population for 2016 (United Nations Population Division, 2017b; United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b). The calculated Arab regional aggregate includes the data values for all Arab countries in 2016 except the State of Palestine.

This indicator represents "the mean annual concentration of fine suspended particles of less than 2.5 microns in diameters (PM2.5), which is a common measure of air pollution. The mean is a population-weighted average for urban population in a country and is expressed in micrograms per cubic meter [ $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ]" (United Nations Statistics Division, 2019b).

**11.7**  
 By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities

**11.7.1**  
 Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.

**11.7.2**  
 Proportion of persons victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age, disability status and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months

Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.

<p><b>11.a</b> Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, per-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning</p>	<p><b>11.a.1</b> Proportion of population living in cities that implement urban and regional development plans integrating population projections and resource needs, by size of city</p>	<p>Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.</p>
<p><b>11.b</b> By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2030-2015, holistic disaster risk management at all levels</p>	<p><b>11.b.1</b> Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030</p>	<p>Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.</p>
<p><b>11.c</b> Support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, in building sustainable and resilient buildings utilizing local materials</p>	<p><b>11.c.1</b> Proportion of financial support to the least developed countries that is allocated to the construction and retrofitting of sustainable, resilient and resource-efficient buildings utilizing local materials</p>	<p>Adopted criteria to obtain a regional average are not met for this indicator.</p>

Note: Central and Southern Asia (CSA); Eastern and South-Eastern Asia (ESEA); Europe and Northern America (ENA); Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC); Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC); Arab Least Developed Countries (Arab LDCs); Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand); Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA).

All figures are based on the Global SDG Indicators Database (United Nations Statistics Division, 2018) except for the inclusion of updated data (United Nations Statistics Division, 2019a) for the following indicators: 11.5.1 [Number of people affected by disaster (number); Number of deaths due to disaster (number); and Number of missing persons due to disaster (number)] and 11.5.2 [Direct economic loss attributed to disasters (millions of current United States dollars)].

## ENDNOTES

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1. UN-Habitat, 2012.
2. Ibid.
3. United Nations Population Division, 2018.
4. Slums are "(r)epresented by the urban population living in households with at least one of the following four characteristics: lack of access to improved drinking water; lack of access to improved sanitation; overcrowding (three or more persons per room); and dwellings made of non durable material" (UN-Habitat, 2003).
5. Calculated by ESCWA, see figure 1. For more details on the country level, refer to the annex complementing this report.
6. Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, 2018; UNHCR, 2018b; UNRWA, 2018. Note that data on refugees include people referred to by UNHCR as "refugees and people in refugee-like situations". Data on Palestinian refugees under the mandate of UNRWA are not included in UNHCR data.
7. United Nations, 2017.
8. Ibid.
9. WHO, 2018.
10. ESCWA, 2018.
11. The Economist, 2016; ESCWA, 2018. Regional country groupings are per the references.
12. Calculated by ESCWA based on IEA, 2019.
13. World Bank, 2019, pp. 27-28.
14. UN-Habitat estimation as of 2019.
15. Kaza and others, 2018, p. 59.
16. ESCWA, 2017; Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social Development, 2014.
17. UNHCR, 2018a.

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