



Event Details

Title of Event

FUTURE SAUDI CITIES URBAN LAB - URBAN INNOVATIONS FOR A NEW VISION OF SAUDI CITIES

Organization Details

Organization: Ministry of Municipalities and Rural Affairs

Organization Country: Saudi Arabia

Summary

The Future Saudi Cities Programme (FSCP) is a joint programme developed by the Saudi Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs (MoMRA) and UN-Habitat, implemented in close cooperation with the municipalities of 17 major Saudi cities. The cities have been selected based on their different population sizes, geographic distribution, and a range of criteria based on capacities and economic potential to create a more balanced regional development among the cities of Saudi Arabia. The chosen cities are: Riyadh, Makkah, Jeddah, Taif, Madinah, Tabuk, Dammam, Qatif, Al-Ahsa, Abha, Najran, Jazan, Hael, Arar, Al Baha, Buraidah, and Skaka. Applied research, with a strong focus on action-oriented conclusions, was used to collect evidence to diagnose the strengths and weaknesses of the planning system and local planning practices in each city. The methodology utilized design tests and demonstration projects as avenues to apply and analyze potential solutions, before conclusion and policy recommendations. UN-Habitat's three-pronged approach considers spatial planning in relation to legal and institutional frameworks, in addition to financial mechanisms. In this way, success criteria for the sustainable implementation of a spatial plan should include flexible but enforceable rules and regulations, in addition to a financing strategy and projections. To achieve this objective, FSCP Urban established Lab approach to provide a comprehensive assessment for 17 target cities. The Lab provided analysis based on evidences and spatial analysis to the economy of each city including the promotion of the tourism and cultural heritages. Then, offering recommendations and road map from a socio-economic perspective such as; Makkah, Madinah (religious); Al-Ahsa, Skaka (historical); Taif, Abha (ecological). As a pragmatic explication of this approach, three local demonstration projects, representing essential elements of a strengthened and improved planning system, have been developed. These were elaborated to include schematic designs and feasibility studies that can later be transformed into implementation plans. Such implementation plans are projected to be undertaken by MoMRA, in collaboration with other partners in the Kingdom. FSCP Urban Lab process established partnership as a comprehensive approach to ensure that all social groups are engaged in the planning process to achieve this goal. FSCP Urban Lab implemented more than 22 regional workshops, more than 2000 persons participated and contributed during regional workshops. These regional workshops were a platform to exchange knowledge and raise capacity for audience (learning by doing).

Other Organization name

Prospective moderator, speaker(s) or panelist(s)

	First Name	Last Name	Role	Organization
1	Dr. Adurahman	Al Shaikh	Speaker	MOMRA
2	Dr. Khalid	Al Nifae	Speaker	MOMRA
3	Representative of Municipalities; Al-Ahsa, Arar, Buraidah	TBD	Speakers	MUNICIPALITIES
4	Saudi Urban LAB: Dr. Ayman	Elhefnawi	Speaker	UN-Habitat
5	UN-Habitat Urban Lab	TBD	Speaker	TBD
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