

PUBLIC SPACE ASSESSMENT

KHAN YOUNIS, GAZA | PALESTINE

ELIMINATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP



Canada



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PUBLIC SPACE INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

Towards safety for women & girls in public spaces



Canada



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DEFINITIONS

Antisocial behaviour

Anti-social behaviours are acts that create community concern. These range from misuses of public space, such as fighting or drug use and dealing, to disregard for community safety, such as dangerous driving or drunk and disorderly behaviour. Other examples include acts that cause environmental damage, such as graffiti or litter. Anti-social behaviour can range from what is socially unacceptable through to acts that break the law.

Experiences of crime/harassment

To encounter/undergone a form of crime or harassment,

Gender equity

The process of being fair to both women and men. To ensure fairness, measures must be available to compensate for historical and social disadvantages that prevent women and men from operating on a level playing field. Gender equity strategies are used to eventually attain gender equality. Equity is the means and equality is the result.

Harassment

Harassment is any improper and unwelcome conduct that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to cause offence or humiliation to another person. Harassment may take the form of words, gestures or actions which tend to annoy, alarm, abuse, demean, intimidate, belittle, humiliate or embarrass another or which create an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

Infrastructural problems

Issues related to the physical state of public spaces.

Mono-functional spaces

Spaces that are limited to only one activity.

Multi-functional spaces

Spaces that are used for different types of activities at different times of the day.

Perception of safety

A generalized judgment about the chance of crime. Different times of day, and physical location may affect perception of safety.

Pluri-funtional spaces

Spaces with different kinds of activities at the same time.

Public space

All places publicly owned or of public use, accessible and enjoyable by all for free and without a profit motive. UN-Habitat categorises public spaces into streets, open public spaces, and public facilities.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is any unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favour, verbal or physical conduct or gesture of a sexual nature, or any other behaviour of a sexual nature that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to cause offence or humiliation to another.

Social problems

A social problem is any condition or behavior that has negative consequences for large numbers of people and that is generally recognized as a condition or behavior that needs to be addressed.

Urban Safety

Safety does not only mean lack of criminal behavior, fear or aggression. Safety points to the certainty of being respected as an individual at the physical, social and psychological levels. ‘Safety’ goes beyond the multiple ways of crime and violence. In fact, safety is firstly a foundation for the deployment of human abilities, freedom, solidarity, multiculturalism and creativity. Safety does not only cover the individual’s life, but embraces also society and the city. Safety is also a social value, since it is the foundation for the common good of societies that allows a fair and equitable development for all its members. Safety is one of the pillars of good governance and is the basis of freedom and equality for people’s full and equal

Walkability

Defines much more than just providing citizen with “the ability to walk”. Several characteristics result in optimal walkability such as physical access, places and proximity. Defining a walkable neighbourhood extends beyond pedestrian concerns, as the ability to walk in a neighborhood indicates not only a type of mobility and means of travel, but also a type of sociability between neighbors, which, together, likely affect the physical, mental, and health of people in the community.



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CHAPTER

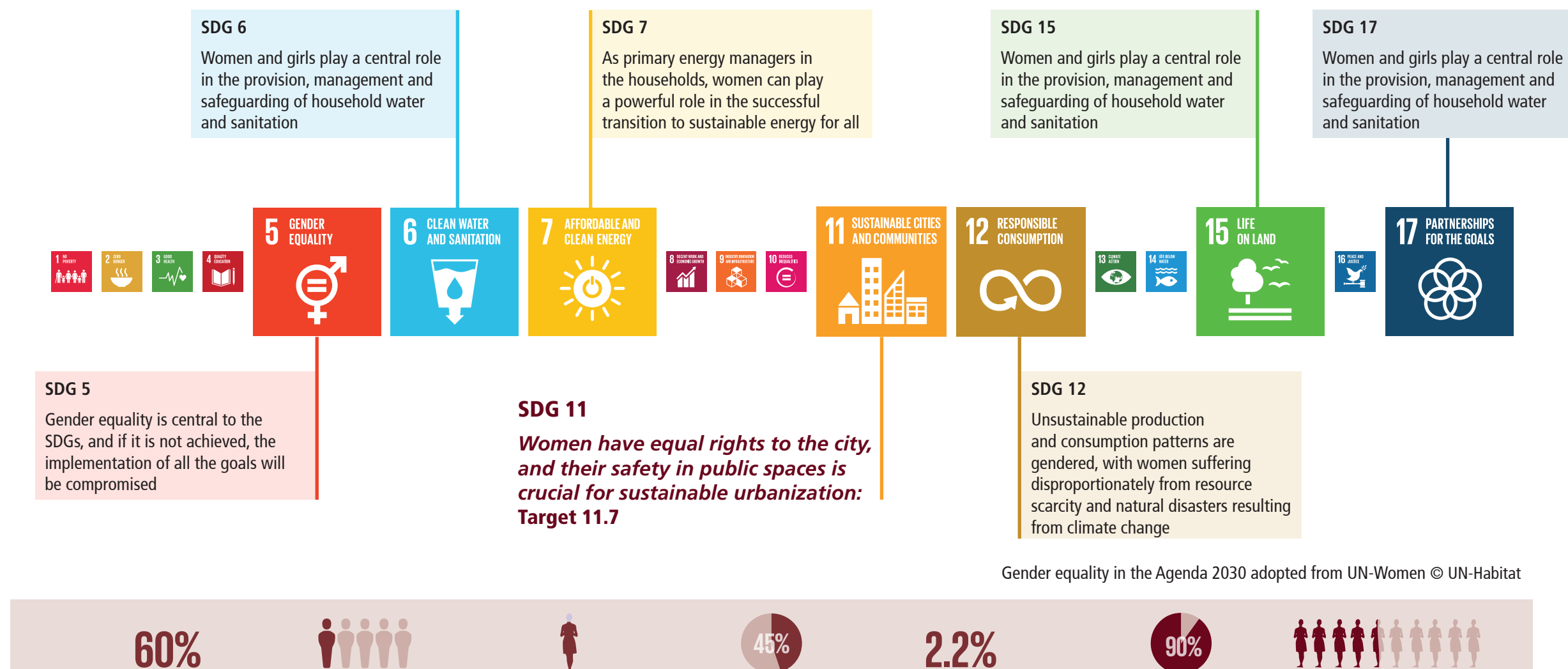
BACKGROUND

- Global Framework
- UN-Habitat's Public Space Programme
- UN-Habitat in Palestine
- HAYA Joint Programme

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK ON SAFETY, GENDER AND PUBLIC SPACE

While cities are powerful engines of development and innovation, they are also home to slums and many millions of vulnerable women and girls. Sexual harassment and other forms of violence against women and girls in public spaces are present in cities as well rural areas, and even in online spaces. As a result, it is an impediment to the rights of women and girls to the city, and to enjoy the opportunities of urbanization. The outcome is often gender exclusion and the lack of participation of women and girls in development.

With the 2030 Agenda, governments will need to choose strategies and interventions that have the greatest impacts across a number of goals and targets. The 'safe cities' idea for women includes their equal right to the city and public places within it, which includes their right to be mobile in the city at any time of the day, as well as their right to idle in public spaces without any threats of harassment or sexual violence. The global community agreed that public space plays a key role in achieving inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements. This means that interventions in public space



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