Cities are often planned and managed with limited consideration for the differences in lifestyles, urban experiences, and uses of public space between men and women. Tunisian cities are not an exception in that regard, as municipal plans and programmes rarely account for women’s specific needs and preferences.

The Femmedina Inclusive City Programme created public spaces that are responsive to the economic, political, cultural and social needs of women in the Medina and that stimulate women’s empowerment and participation in urban development.

Women’s Engagement in Cities profile of the Medina of Tunis

The profile of women’s engagement in the Medina shows the need of promoting the participation of women in the economic, cultural, social and political life in the Medina of Tunis.
**FEMMEDINA KEY DATA**

Femmadena enables women to reappropriate urban space in the Medina of Tunis and empowers them to realize their full socio-economic potential as residents of the city.

**PUBLIC SPACES FOR WOMEN**

1. Women’s Safe Haven: Market stalls for women and playground facilities for their kids
2. Workshop center for women and civil society organizations in the municipal buildings of Bab Souika
3. The Hive: Women-centered recreational space with playground facilities
4. The Green Escape: Public library and playground facilities in Parc du Passage
5. The Hidden Park: Women-oriented urban garden
6. Workshop center for women and civil society organizations in the municipal buildings of Bab Bhar
7. The Learning Hub: Capacity-building center for artisanal and entrepreneurial women

**KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DESIGNING GENDER-SENSITIVE URBAN PROJECTS**

**BEFORE THE PROJECT:**
- **Develop** a stakeholder map and engagement plan to clarify the roles and expectations of stakeholders.

**DURING THE PROJECT:**
- **Develop** a management and sustainability model for each designed intervention as part of the co-design process.
- **Design** a capacity-building program to train selected municipal stakeholders as champions of women’s participation in the urban space.

**AFTER THE PROJECT:**
- **Collect** on a regular basis, data on women’s use and perceptions of the developed interventions.
- **Build** the community’s capacities in managing and sustaining public spaces.

**CAPACITY-BUILDING ON GENDER-SENSITIVE PLANNING**

- **11 MUNICIPAL STAFF MEMBERS** trained in gender-sensitive urban planning
- **17 MUNICIPAL STAKEHOLDERS** participated during the analysis workshop
- **87% HIGH SATISFACTION** of workshop and training participants reported high satisfaction

- **~1,500 WOMEN BENEFICIARIES**
- **7 PUBLIC SPACE INTERVENTIONS**

*Femmadena’s philosophy and approach are great. Such projects are needed for women in the Medina. For example, the implemented interventions in Sidi Bechir and Bab Souika are likely to empower women economically, which is a key issue for women in those areas. I would love to see the project replicated in other indigent areas in Tunis, such as Hraira or Zouhour.*

MUNICIPAL ARCHITECT, MUNICIPALITY OF TUNIS