Conference Poster

Urban Oman Exhibition Panel 10 - Driving Forces 1

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As urbanization is a complex process, driving forces of urbanization have been identified at different levels and in different sectors. The transformation from rural to urban areas is a result of changes in socioeconomic conditions and policies implemented by governments. Therefore, understanding the driving forces of urbanization is crucial for policymakers to develop effective urban planning and management strategies.

The driving forces of urbanization can be classified into three main categories: demographic, economic, and environmental.

**Demographic Factors**
- Population growth and migration: The growth of population in urban areas is a primary driving force of urbanization. As people move in search of better living conditions and job opportunities, urban areas experience rapid growth.
- Land demand: The demand for residential plots has increased significantly in Oman, particularly in Muscat and its suburbs. The increased demand for new plots has led to the development of new residential areas.

**Economic Factors**
- Economic growth: Oman's economy has experienced significant growth in recent years, leading to increased urbanization. The development of new commercial and residential areas has been supported by the government's policies.
- Urban development: Oman has been promoting urban development through various initiatives, including the development of new residential areas and the expansion of existing ones.

**Environmental Factors**
- Climate change: The effects of climate change, such as sea-level rise and increased temperatures, are expected to impact urban areas in Oman. Urban planners need to consider these factors in their planning strategies.

These driving forces of urbanization have contributed to the rapid growth of urban areas in Oman, particularly in Muscat and its suburbs. Understanding these forces is crucial for sustainable urban development and management.