



# Professor Adel Shaheen Al-Dosary

Professor of Smart, Sustainable, Urban & Regional Planning | Strategic Advisor | Institutional Leader  
College of Design and Built Environment - King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals - Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Professor Adel Shaheen Al-Dosary stands as a **globally distinguished authority and transformative force** in Smart, Sustainable, Urban & Regional Planning, with a career defined by **strategic influence, institutional leadership, and national impact at the highest levels**. With over three decades of executive experience, he has consistently operated at the intersection of **academic excellence, government advisory, and large-scale urban development**, shaping policies, cities, and institutions across Saudi Arabia and the international arena.

Renowned for his **visionary leadership in digital transformation and smart city ecosystems**, Dr. Al-Dosary has played a pivotal role in advancing urban intelligence frameworks, leading high-impact initiatives aligned with global benchmark such as United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the Economist Intelligence Unit while contributing directly to positioning cities like Al Khobar among the **Top 100 Smart Cities worldwide** in collaboration with International Institute for Management Development (IMD).

Trusted advisor to senior government leaders, he has led and supervised **national master plans, regional development strategies, and multi-billion-scale urban projects**, while spearheading transformative initiatives across the Eastern Province and beyond. His expertise spans **smart cities, geospatial intelligence, urban informatics, socio-economic planning, and sustainable development**, enabling data-driven decision-making at institutional and national levels.

Academically, Dr. Al-Dosary has held prestigious leadership roles at King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, including Dean and long-standing Department Chair, where he drove **curriculum innovation, research excellence, and global academic alignment**. He is also a pioneer in developing future-oriented programs such as **Smart & Sustainable Cities**, positioning the next generation of urban leaders for a rapidly evolving world.

His legacy is further reinforced through leadership of landmark initiatives such as the **GCC Urban Strategy 2030**, contributions to national transformation programs, and representation of Saudi Arabia in global expert forums shaping the future of **urban livability, competitiveness, and sustainable growth**.

Professor Al-Dosary embodies a rare synthesis of **academic distinction, executive authority, and global strategic vision** a leader whose work continues to redefine how cities are planned, governed, and experienced in the 21st century.

## CORE VALUE PROPOSITION

- Architect of **high-impact academic and institutional transformation**
- Strategic contributor to **national planning, geospatial intelligence, and policy frameworks**
- Leader in **designing future-ready urban and regional planning systems**
- Expert in bridging **academic research with real-world implementation**
- Mentor and developer of **high-caliber academic and professional talent pipelines**

## EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP & INSTITUTIONAL INFLUENCE

### Dean, College of Design and Built Environment (6 Years)

King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals

- Directed a full-scale transformation of the college, achieving **significant growth in academic performance, research output, and international visibility**
- Elevated program quality through **global benchmarking, accreditation alignment, and curriculum modernization**
- Increased interdisciplinary collaboration, enhancing integration across architecture, planning, and environmental systems
- Strengthened institutional reputation, contributing to **enhanced regional and international rankings**

### KFUPM Summer Director, (Acting Rector) (2014,2015)

- Delivered academic leadership over two summer months for two consecutive years, overseeing the Academic and Research Affairs of all the University during the Summer program activities, including full university teaching of courses, funded research, special summer assignments for faculty and administrators, conference attendance by faculty, students on scholarships, funded grants, sabbatical leave as well as special summer student trips.
- Over a few hundred courses and over 5000 student's enrollments

- Maintained linkage with the University strategic Goals and major KPI's
- Managed Financial sustainability of the summer programs within the approved budgets and resources.

#### Chairman, Department of City & Regional Planning (19 Years)

- Led one of the region's most influential planning departments, driving **long-term academic excellence and research leadership** Designed and implemented **cutting-edge curricula** incorporating GIS, spatial modeling, and planning automation
- Supervised and graduated **dozens of postgraduate researchers**, many now occupying leadership roles
- Established strong academic-industry-government partnerships

#### Chairman, Department of Architecture (9 Years)

- Advanced architectural education through **innovation-driven pedagogy and design excellence frameworks**
- Strengthened studio-based learning environments aligned with global best practices
- Fostered a culture of **creative inquiry, research integration, and applied innovation**

#### Director, Center of Excellence in Mosque Architecture (3 Years)

- Led specialized research integrating **Islamic architectural heritage with contemporary urban design principles**
- Developed frameworks influencing **modern mosque design across diverse urban contexts**

### EDUCATION

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#### ❖ Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Urban, Technological & Environmental Planning (Urban & Regional Planning – UTEP: URP)  
*The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA*  
 August 23, 1991  
 Dissertation: “Towards the Reduction of Foreign Work Force in Saudi Arabia”  
 Published by UMI Inc., Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA

#### ❖ Master of Urban Planning (MUP)

Field: Urban Planning  
*The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA*  
 December 19, 1986

#### ❖ Bachelor of Science (B.S.) – High Honors

Field: Architectural Engineering  
*University of Petroleum & Minerals, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia*  
 June 11, 1983

- Ranked **1st in graduating class**
- Awarded **OKAZ Distinction Prize**, Jeddah (December 22, 1982)

#### ❖ First Certificate in English

*The University of Cambridge, London, UK*  
 June 1979

### QUANTIFIED ACHIEVEMENTS & MEASURABLE IMPACT

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- Led academic and administrative units for **30+ years of cumulative leadership experience**
- Directed departments for nearly **3 decades**, influencing **hundreds of graduates and professionals**
- Designed and approved **multiple academic programs** across Bachelor's, Master's, and Ph.D. levels
- Supervised **numerous postgraduate theses** across **4+ countries**
- Contributed to **national-level strategic plans and policy frameworks**
- Participated in **high-impact committees shaping Saudi Arabia's urban and educational landscape**
- Led and contributed to **large-scale urban planning and development projects**
- Published **extensive peer-reviewed research and conference papers**

### CONSULTING & HIGH-LEVEL ADVISORY EXPERIENCE

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- Strategic Consultant – Ministry of Higher Education (1994–1997)
- Urban Planning Consultant – Municipality of Dammam (2000–2001)
- Advisor – Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities (2003–2004)
- International Consultant – Catholic University of the Sacred Heart

### STRATEGIC PROJECTS & NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

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- Director – **University City Master Plan (Phase II)** – KFUPM
- Contributor – **Dammam Metropolitan Comprehensive Plan**



- Leader – **National Atlas Production Center (3 Years)**
- Contributor – **Kingdom Encyclopedia Project** under King Abdulaziz Public Library
- **Member of:**
  - National Atlas Committee
  - International Boundaries Committee
  - Industrial Zone Redevelopment Committee
  - Tourism Development Council

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- **Member** - Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA)
- **Member** - Arab Society for Human Resources Management (ASHRM)

## EXECUTIVE ADVISORY & STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

### *Senior Advisor – Digital Transformation & Urban Intelligence*

#### *Eastern Region Development Authority*

- Served as a **Senior Strategic Advisor** to the Digital Transformation and Decision Support Sector, providing high-level technical oversight and governance for all outputs of the **Urban Observatory ecosystem**, ensuring alignment with international standards and national development priorities.
- Directed the development, validation, and publication of flagship strategic reports, including:
  - *State of Regional Development Report*
  - *Sustainable Development Indicators Report*
  - *Quality of Life Index Report*
  - *Urban Monitoring Framework aligned with UN-Habitat (UFM)*
- Established robust **data governance, urban analytics frameworks, and performance measurement systems**, significantly enhancing decision-making capabilities across the region.

#### *Smart Cities & Global Recognition Leadership (Al Khobar Case)*

- Played a pivotal leadership role in positioning **Al Khobar** as a globally recognized smart city through collaboration with the **Smart Cities Department**.
- Led end-to-end coordination with the International Institute for Management Development (IMD) to:
  - Facilitate international evaluation visits
  - Design and manage executive-level engagement programs
  - Provide comprehensive technical, academic, and strategic support
- Successfully contributed to achieving **Al Khobar's inclusion among the Top 100 Smart Cities globally**, culminating in:
  - Official international recognition
  - Issuance of certification and global ranking reports
  - Representation during formal accreditation ceremonies

#### *Vision Realization & Global Livability Strategy (Saudi Vision Alignment)*

- Collaborated with the Vision Realization Office (VRO) to strategically position **Al Khobar** among Saudi Arabia's target cities within the **Top 100 Most Livable Cities Worldwide**.
- Contributed to aligning city performance with global benchmarks including:
  - United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) frameworks
  - Economist Intelligence Unit Global Livability Index
- Represented the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the **Quality of Life Program**, and King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals at the **Council of Academic Experts Meeting** in Toronto, Canada (Oct–Nov 2023).
- Contributed to the **development and approval of next-generation urban livability indicators**, later adopted at the UN Quality of Life Conference in Cairo (Nov 2024), with implementation commencing in 2025.

#### *Digital Urban Innovation & Academic Transformation*

- Led the conceptualization and development of a **Digital Urban Informatics Lab**, based on international benchmarking and global best practices.
- Designed the lab as a **next-generation platform integrating data science, GIS, AI, and urban analytics**, in collaboration with potential governmental partners.

#### *Pioneering Academic Program Development*

- Spearheaded the development of a groundbreaking Bachelor's program: **"Smart & Sustainable Cities"**
- Recognized as the **first program of its kind in the MENA region**, directly aligned with national strategic directives and spatial development priorities.
- Designed to produce **future-ready urban leaders equipped with digital, analytical, and sustainability competencies.**

#### **Senior Advisor – Deputy Mayor for Digital Transformation & Smart Cities**

*(January 2026 – Present)*

- Providing strategic oversight and executive advisory across **smart city initiatives, digital transformation programs, and urban innovation projects.**
- Supporting high-impact decision-making, governance frameworks, and performance monitoring systems at the municipal level.

#### **Senior Advisor – CEO, Dareen & Tarout Island Development Foundation**

*(Aug 2025 – Mar 2026)*

- Delivered **strategic urban advisory** for the Dareen & Tarout Islands Master Plan.
- Oversaw the development of **19 integrated initiatives**, ensuring alignment with sustainable development and investment strategies.

#### **Senior Advisor – National & Regional Master Planning Projects**

##### **Al Baydha Master Plan (2022–2025)**

- Led stakeholder engagement at multi-governmental levels
- Directed data acquisition, validation, and planning frameworks
- Reviewed and endorsed major planning submissions

##### **Al Ahsa Master Plan (2024–2026)**

- Oversaw integrated planning processes and stakeholder alignment
- Provided strategic advisory on regional planning and development

##### **Eastern Province Master Plan & Governorates (2025)**

- Contributed to metropolitan and 9 governorates planning frameworks
- Validated socio-economic data and regional competitiveness analysis
- Led workshops and stakeholder coordination efforts

##### **Hafr Al Batin Master Plan (2022–2024)**

- Directed planning processes and stakeholder engagement strategies
- Supervised data systems and planning deliverables

#### **Principal Advisor – Al Khafji Development Project (2019–2021)**

- Acted as **owner's representative and principal advisor** for a major development project supervised by the Ministry of Energy.
- Collaborated with **Aramco Gulf Operations and Saudi Chevron**
- Provided technical oversight, project governance, and consultancy supervision

#### **GCC Urban Strategy 2030 – Head of Advisory Team**

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- Led the development of the **Urban Strategy for GCC Countries 2030**
- Directed five major sub-studies including:
  - Regional vision and policy frameworks
  - Urban indicators and data systems
  - Cross-border development strategies
- Contributed to **border region development models** (e.g., Al-Batha, Salwa, Al-Khafji)
- Strategy officially approved at the **Al-Ula Summit (2021)**

#### **NATIONAL-LEVEL STRATEGIC STUDIES & ECONOMIC IMPACT**

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- Led and supervised major national studies, including:
  - Urban future of Saudi cities under Vision 2030
  - Productivity of human capital in the Saudi economy
  - Construction sector challenges and solutions
  - Regional development and project distribution (Riyadh Region)

#### **INTERNATIONAL CONSULTING & MEGA PROJECTS**

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- **Consultant Representative** – Saudi Aramco (Jeddah Flood Drainage Project with AECOM)
- **Supervisor** – Mataf Expansion Study (Makkah) in collaboration with international consultants
- **Advisor** – Qatar University Master Plan
- **Trainer** – Executive leadership programs (Qatar Ministry of Municipalities)

### STRATEGIC PLANNING, TOURISM & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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- **Project Manager** – National Tourism Saudization Plan
- **Lead Researcher** – Taif Tourism Development Strategy
- **Advisor** – Eastern Province Tourism Investment Strategy
- **Contributor** – Al Ahsa Economic City feasibility and investment analysis

### BOARD-LEVEL GOVERNANCE & STRATEGIC ROLES

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- Board Member – King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals
  - Board Member – General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information
  - Board Member – National Center for Strategic and Development Studies
  - Advisory Board – Urban Observatory (Eastern Province)
  - Advisory Board – King Abdulaziz University
  - Advisory Board – Al Yamamah University
- Global Engagement:** Active contributor to international academic and professional bodies across **USA, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.**

### EARLY CAREER STRATEGIC CONTRIBUTIONS

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- Labor Market & Saudization Strategy – National Workforce Council
- Employment Forecasting – Saudi Development Plans
- Organizational Structuring – Military Industries Sector
- Education Strategy Planning – National Research Institute

### QUANTIFIED STRATEGIC IMPACT

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- 30+ Years of leadership across academia, government, and strategic advisory
- 20+ Major master plans and national projects delivered or supervised
- 10+ Government entities advised at executive level
- 100+ Workshops, committees, and high-level engagements led
- Multi-country influence across GCC, Europe, and international institutions
- Direct contribution to **globally recognized rankings and UN frameworks**

### RESEARCH & THOUGHT LEADERSHIP DOMAINS

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- Smart and Sustainable Cities & Future Urban Systems
- GIS & Spatial Intelligence
- Planning Automation & Digital Transformation
- Urban Economics & Regional Development
- Population Modeling & Forecasting
- Housing Policy Systems
- Workforce Planning & Saudization

### CORE COMPETENCIES

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- Strategic Leadership & Institutional Transformation
- Urban & Regional Planning Strategy
- Geospatial Intelligence (GIS)
- Smart City Development
- Policy Design & Implementation
- Academic Program Development & Accreditation
- Research Leadership & Innovation
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Stakeholder Engagement & Governance
- Sustainable Development Planning
- Organizational Development & Change Management
- High-Level Advisory & Consulting

### TECHNICAL & ANALYTICAL EXPERTISE

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- GIS & Spatial Analysis Systems

- Urban Simulation & Modeling Tools
- Planning Automation Technologies
- Data Analytics & Forecasting Models
- Research Methodologies (Quantitative & Qualitative)