

Strengths

- Infrastructure availability higher than in alternative locations in Aleppo
- Infrastructure reliability higher than elsewhere
- One stop shop for business start-ups operates well, generating licensing quickly

Opportunities

- Turkish and GAFTA FDI is attracted by land and infrastructure
- There is cluster development in one of the manufacturing sectors, such as engineering, food processing or chemical products
- Agglomeration economies result in virtuous cycle

Weaknesses

- Insufficient infrastructure staging, large tracts of serviced land sitting idle; land hoarding
- Excessive infrastructure standards, e.g. in roads
- High capital labor ratio, reduction job creation
- High commuting cost
- Lack of public transport
- Lack of SMEs nearby, lack of land use mix, lack of business services
- Forced relocation
- Long distances to suppliers
- Lack of input-output relations and complementarities among firms locating in the Industrial City

Threats

- Innovators are not attracted by the public sector dominance in Sheikh Najjar design and management
- Business services develop with little scope and variety, thus constraining efficiency
- Manufacturing declines, so less land is used than available
- Job creation is seriously reduced
- Forced relocation leads to significant efficiency and job losses