UN HABITAT

FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

A better quality of life for all
in an urbanizing world

Regional Group Meeting

Regional Office for Arab States

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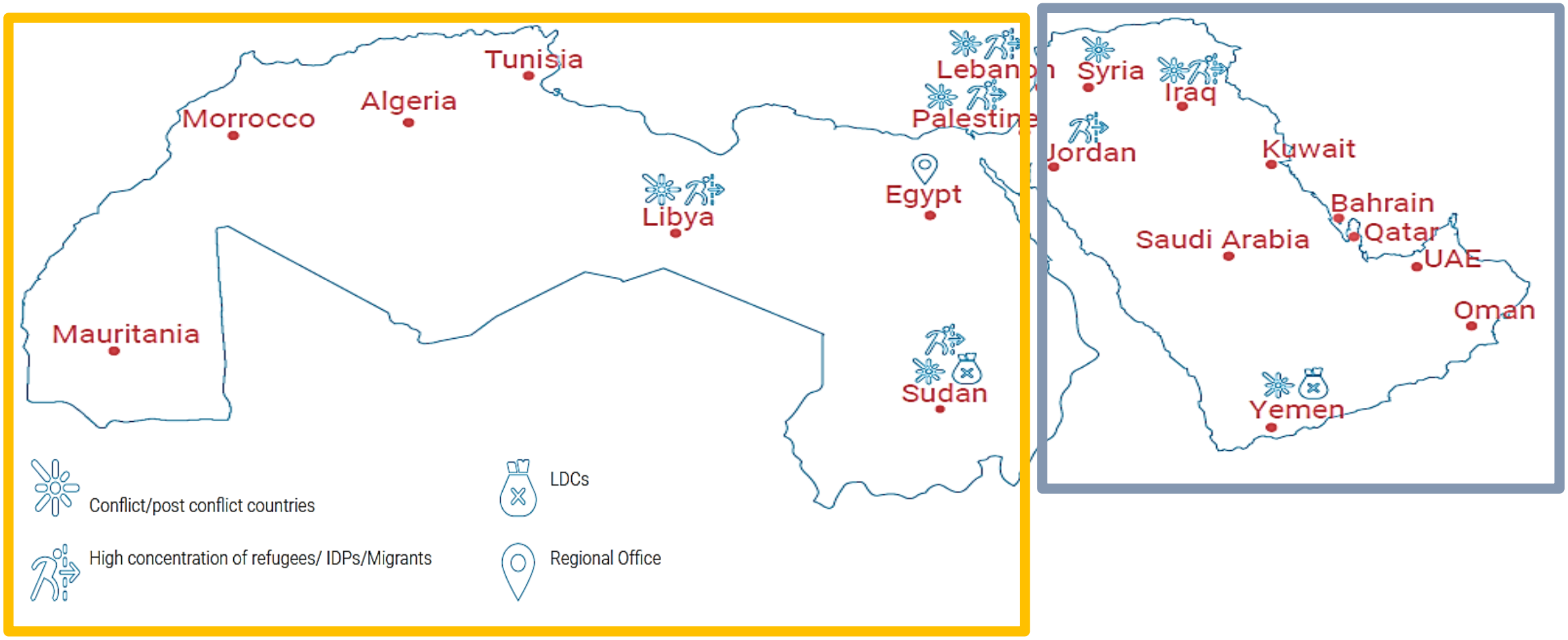
UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

ROAS Presence – General Facts

UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States (ROAS) has a mandate to provide policy advice, technical cooperation and capacity building for eighteen countries across the Arab region: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. ROAS currently has operational projects in **16 countries** and **14 operating** country offices/programmes



ROAS Presence – General Facts

More than **half** of total inhabitants of the region is **younger** than the age of **25**

Population in the Arab region is **436M** of wich **56%** live in urban areas

urban population is expected to reach **75%**

2020

2050

+ 81Milion
live in informal settlements

Average of **18%** of the population live below each country's national poverty line with around **38.2 Million** living in acute poverty

14.3 Million people are expected to be pushed into poverty as a result of COVID-19.

17 Million to lose their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

14.3 Million people are unemployed, ILO estimates The region has the highest unemployment rates in the world for women

Conflicts in Yemen, Libya, Palestine, Iraq, Sudan and Syria have led to **waves of displacement**

58% of the **world refugees** originated from the region

The region is home to **55.7 million** people who need humanitarian assistance, including **26 million** forcibly displaced

Estimated cost of **damage** and destruction of the physical infrastructure caused by the Syrian crisis: **USD 120 billion** (2018)

Syrian crisis has led to large-scale migration and displacement of over **5.6 Million refugees**

Arab region is the most **water scarce** region in the world with only **1.4%** of the world's renewable fresh water

Climate change-induced **sea-level rise** will impact over **43** port cities

Implementation of the Regional Strategic Plan (2020-2023)

Improved policies for increasing equal access to **basic services** and promoting integrated, sustainable, and gender sensitive **public transportation**

Increased equal access to safe, accessible and inclusive **public spaces**

Strengthened **housing and slum upgrading** strategies, programmes and regulatory frameworks

Improved affordable and equitable access to **land, tenure security** and protection of **HLP rights**

Supported inclusive **urban upgrading** and regeneration of underserved areas

Reduced **Spatial inequality** and poverty in communities across urban-rural continuum

Enhanced shared **prosperity** of cities and regions

HUMAN RIGHTS, GENDER, YOUTH & INNOVATION

Strengthened **climate action** and improved urban environment

Effective **urban crisis** prevention and response

Supported **effective urban planning and regulatory frameworks** through NUPs and strategic urban and spatial plans

Increased access to accurate and timely **urban data** promoting knowledge-sharing and awareness

Strengthened **urban-rural linkages**

Improved capacity of cities to adopt policies, plans and strategies for improved urban and **municipal finance**

Improved tools and guidelines for designing and building **smart cities**

Increased use of **non-motorized** modes of **transport and mass transit**

Strengthened national capacity for building **climate resilience** and managing areas at risk of CC effects

Increased use of **energy efficient** solutions in the built environment by local authorities and communities

Strengthened regulatory, planning and policy **environmental frameworks**

Strengthened national and local capacities to **mainstream climate resilience** in urban planning

Upgraded **informal settlements** and ensured integration of informal settlements dwellers

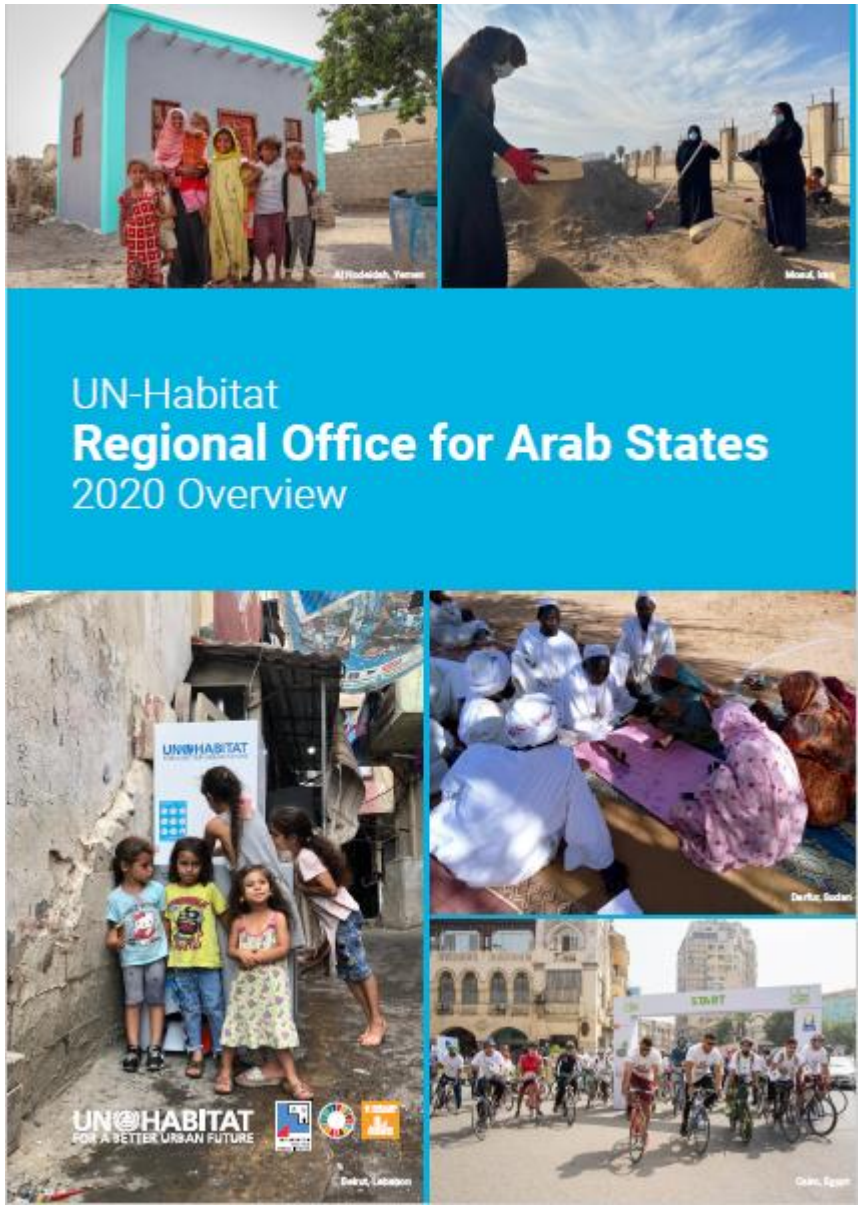
Supported **social cohesion** and re/integration of refugees, IDPs and safe return of vulnerable groups

Supported **peacebuilding, reconciliation, stabilization** efforts and protection of HLP rights of IDPs, returnees and refugees

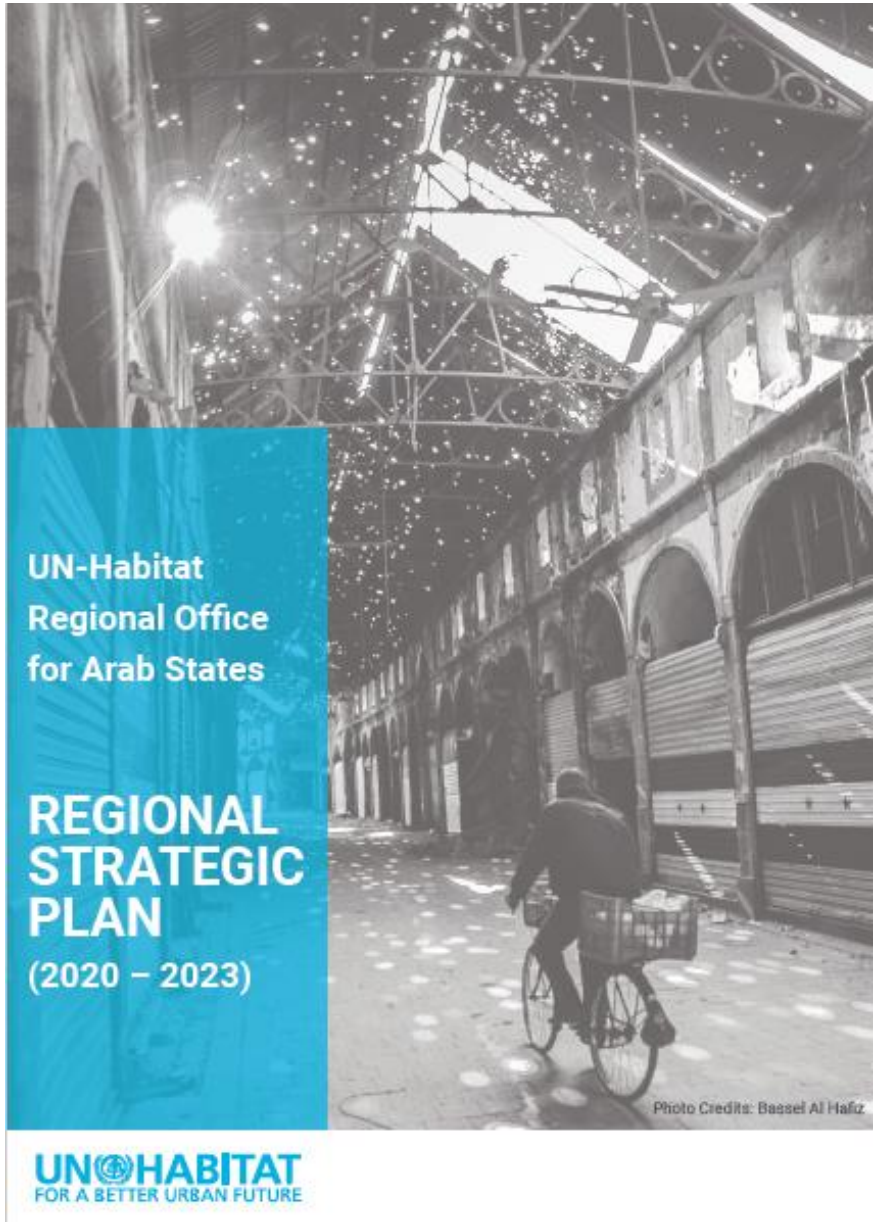
Strengthened capacities for evidence-based **crisis response and recovery** at the national and local levels

Supported recovery and reconstruction of **critical infrastructure**

Regional Strategic Plan (2020-2023)



ROAS Overview 2020
https://unhabitat.org/roas-overview-2020



IMPLEMENTATION OF SP 2020-2023: DoC 1

Lebanon

- Preservation of historic buildings and towns occupied by displaced population
- Support Local Development planning to municipalities impacted by the Syrian Refugees
- Support improvement of pedestrian mobility

Jordan:

- Safe, inclusive and accessible Public Space for Social Cohesion

Palestine

- Achieving Planning and Land Rights in Area C, West Bank – Palestine'
- Rehabilitation of Dar al Consul into a Residential and Civic Complex
- Eliminating Violence against women in the West Bank and Gaza Strip

Syria:

- Supporting restoration of basic services
- Supporting housing rehabilitation and safety

Iraq:

- Supporting recovery and stability of basic services
- Supporting Housing Rehabilitation
- Support to Housing, Land and Property Rights for IDPs in Nineveh

KSA:

- Technical support to the Effective Implementation of the national Developmental Housing Initiatives

Egypt

- Integrated Urban Development Projects in Egypt (RAS El hekma, Sharm El Sheikh)
- Innovative mobility project
- Land readjustment pilot projects
- Hayenna Project

Sudan:

- Support to improve access to basic services in north and south Darfour for IDPS and host community
- Support to Housing, Land and Property Rights

Yemen:

- Supporting restoration of basic services
- Supporting housing rehabilitation and safety

IMPLEMENTATION OF SP 2020-2023: DoC 2

Lebanon:

- Towards a national Urban Policy in Lebanon
- Strengthening development planning and management

Tunisia:

- Towards a National Urban Policy in Tunisia

Jordan:

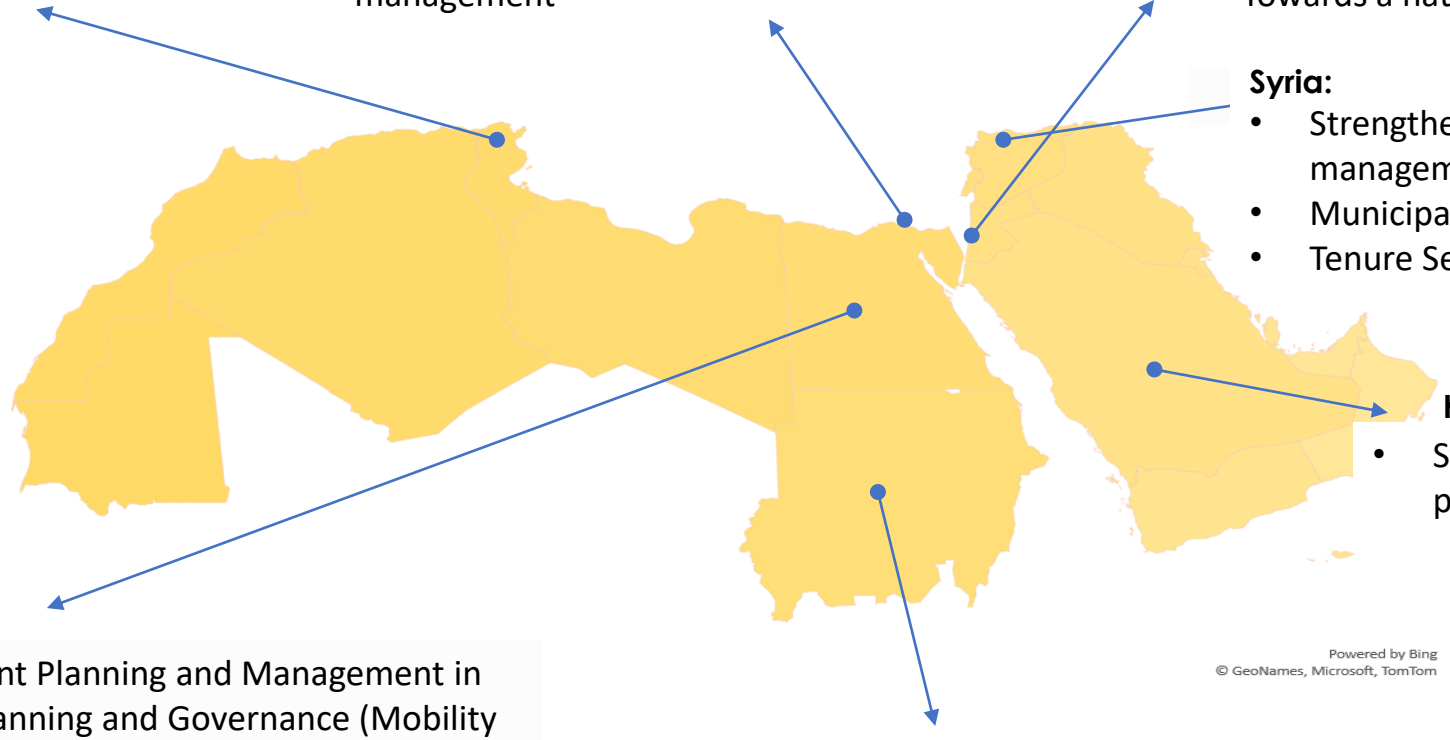
- Towards a national Urban Policy in Jordan

Syria:

- Strengthening development planning and management
- Municipal Technical Support
- Tenure Security

Regional

- National Urban Policies in Arab Countries
- State of Arab Cities report 2020: Financing Sustainable Urbanization



KSA:

- Strengthening development planning and management

Egypt:

- Strengthening Development Planning and Management in Greater Cairo on Urban Planning and Governance (Mobility Component)
- Finalization of National Urban policy
- Participatory Citywide Urban Upgrading

Sudan:

- Strengthening development planning and management

IMPLEMENTATION OF SP 2020-2023: DoC 3

Lebanon:

- Increasing the resilience of both displaced persons and host communities to climate change-related water challenges
- Rubble to Mountain campaign
- the adoption and use of renewable energy sources, recycled water, green construction Materials in target neighborhoods

Syria:

- Climate change resilient communities through integrated natural resource management in Eastern Ghouta in Rural Damascus
- Support green recovery

Iraq:

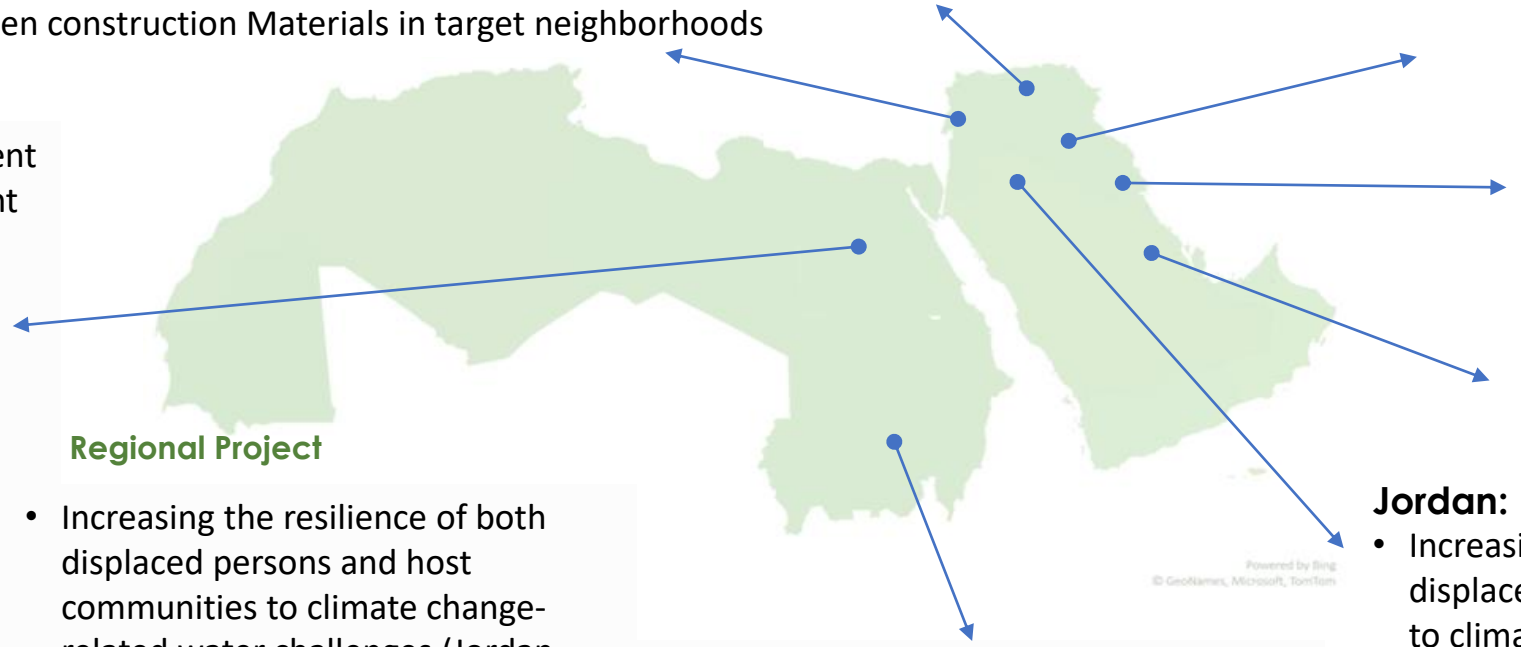
- Support green recovery and reconstruction efforts
- Supporting Innovation in water

Kuwait:

- Support -Greening Kuwait

Egypt:

- Strengthening Development Planning and Management in Greater Cairo
- Supporting Innovation in water and Sanitation in Egypt: clean water for Integrated local Development
- Al Warrak Island development
- Sharm el Sheikh green development



Regional Project

- Increasing the resilience of both displaced persons and host communities to climate change-related water challenges (Jordan and Lebanon)
- SDG Climate Nexus Facility

Bahrain:

- Support green public space

Sudan:

- Supporting Innovation in water and Sanitation
- Support green recovery and reconstruction efforts

Jordan:

- Increasing the resilience of both displaced persons and host communities to climate change-related water challenges
- Strengthening the social stability and resilience of vulnerable Jordanian communities and Syrian refugees in Amman against flash floods”

IMPLEMENTATION OF SP 2020-2023: DoC 4

Lebanon:

- Respond to the sudden and urgent multi-dimensional humanitarian crisis
- Enhancing access to Social & Basic Services to host & Refugee Population in Beirut
- Improving the Well-Being of Host & Refugee population in “Maraach”
- Response to Port Beirut Explosion

Palestine:

- Support urban Farming interventions to alleviate quarantine effects
- Improving well-being and livelihoods and food security

Syria:

- Restoration of Minimal Functionality of Infrastructure in contested areas
- Strengthening Capacity to Address HLP Issues
- Build Urban and Rural Resilience and the Conditions for Recovery
- Improve the Safety of Residential Buildings for Female Returnees and Residents
- Urban Profiling to Strengthen the Conditions for Inclusive Urban Recovery and Returns

Egypt:

- Support resilient, effective urban crisis prevention and mitigation measures

- **Regional Project**: Urban Profiling for Post-Crisis Stabilization, Recovery and Reconstruction in Conflict-Affected Cities in The Arab Region (Regional project)

Sudan:

- Emergency support to IDP return in Al Salam locality, South Darfur State
- Building Sustainable Peace and Social Cohesion

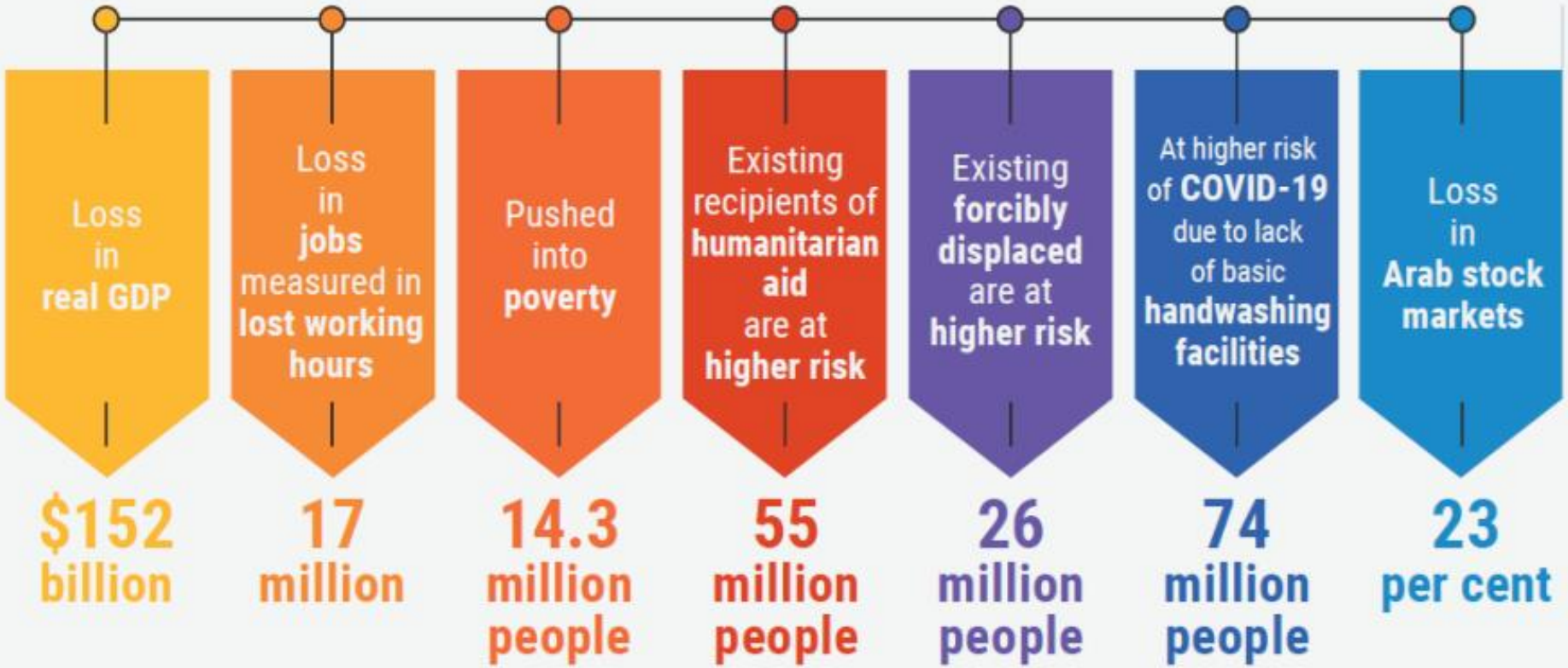
Iraq:

- Emergency shelter and NFI assistance to improve living conditions of most vulnerable families
- Strengthening the Long-Term Resilience of Subnational Authorities in countries affected by the Syrian and Iraqi Crises
- Support to Reconstruction and Peacebuilding of Liberated Cities in Iraq”

Yemen:

- Prevention of Water Borne Disease Outbreak through Emergency Repair and Upgrade of Damaged Waste Water Facilities
- Emergency Response to the Immediate Shelter and WASH Needs for IDPs in Displaced Areas and Conflict Affected Neighborhoods
- Neighborhood Profiling Towards a Development Oriented Urban Recovery Process in Yemen

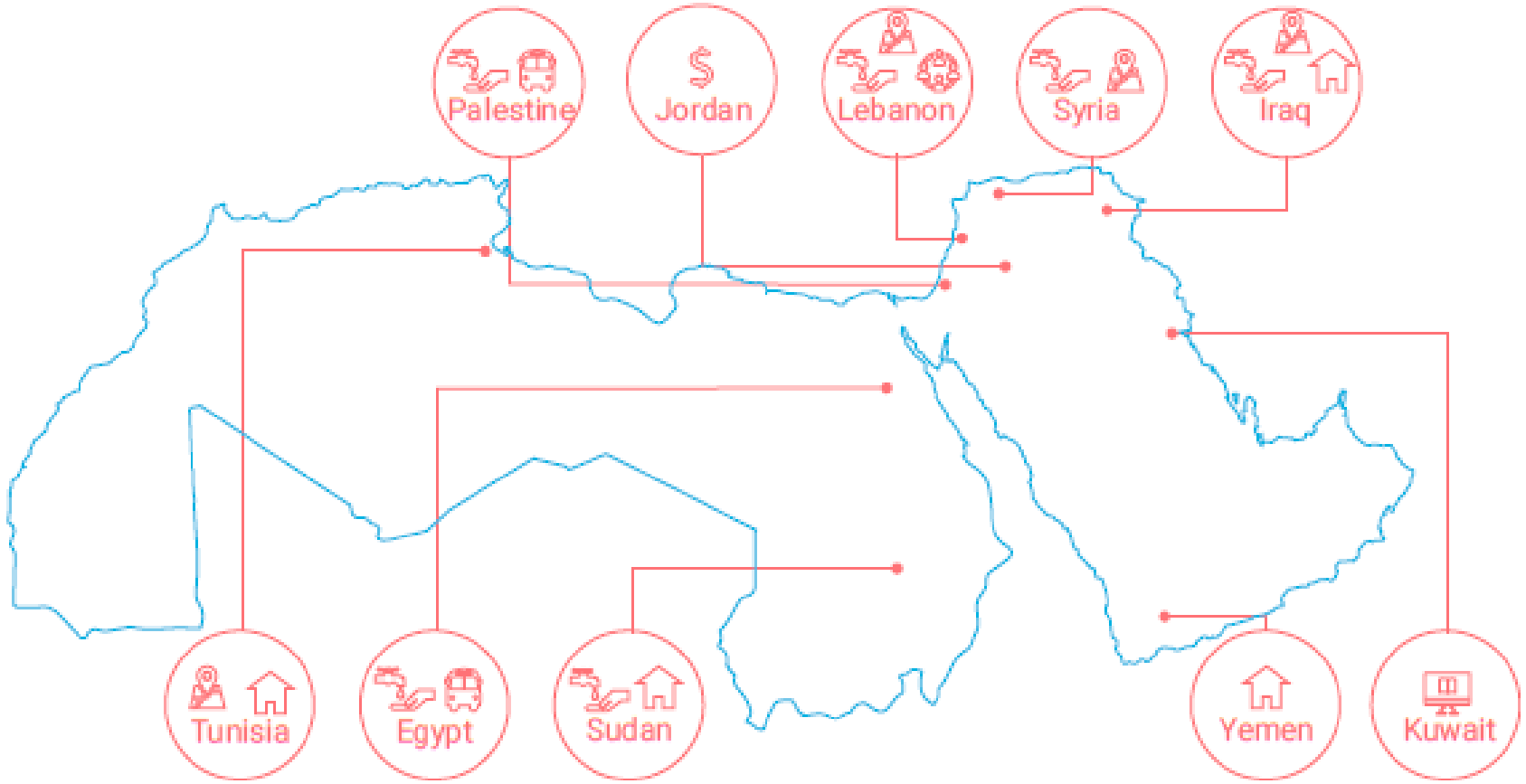
ESTIMATED IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN THE ARAB REGION



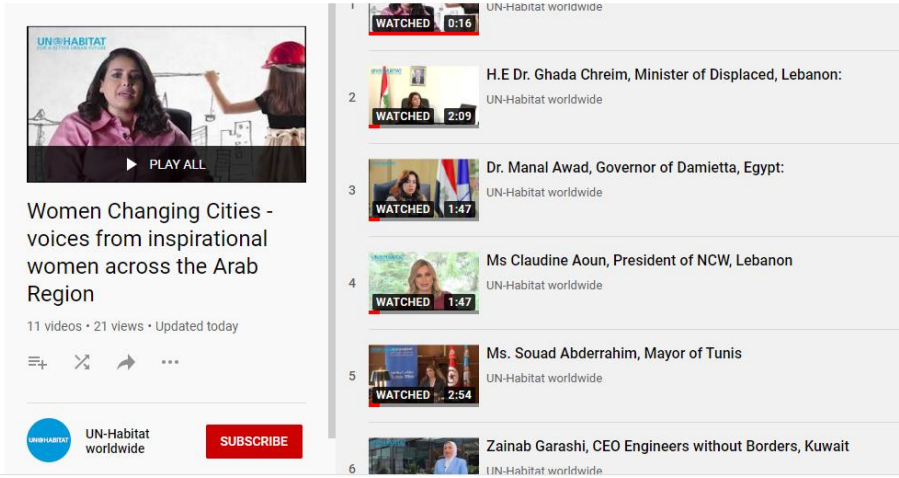
Source: ESCWA calculations and estimates (all figures are of July 2020 and are likely to increase as the pandemic evolves).

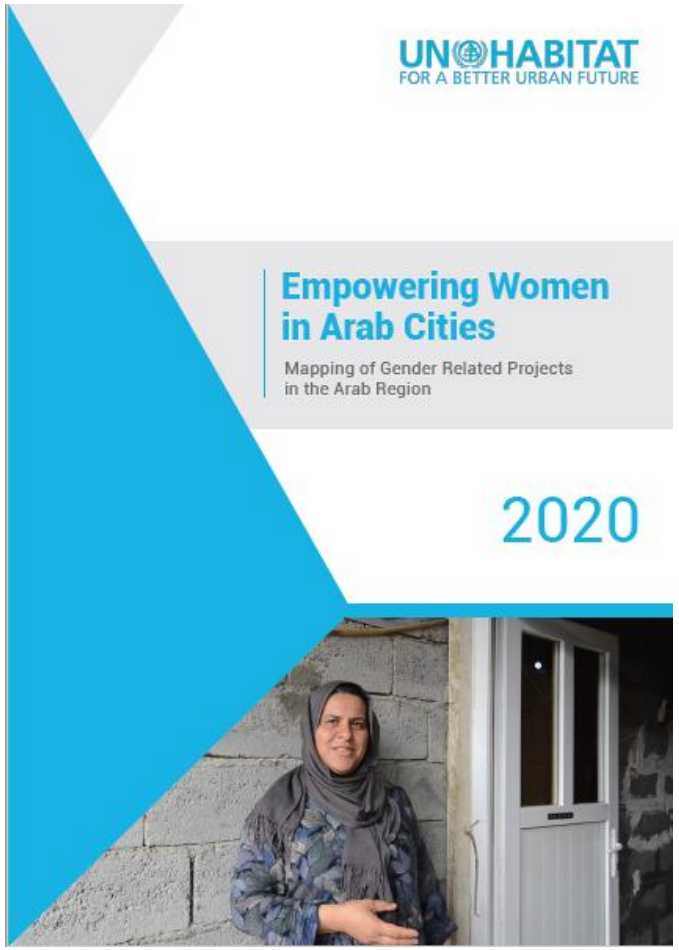
UN-HABITAT RESPONSE TO COVID-19 IN THE ARAB REGION

- Mapping and Spatial Analysis of Hot spots
- Integrated community driven Solutions
- Mitigating the Economic Impact of COVID-19
- Fast-track Learning for Cities and Communities
- Affordable water and sanitation
- Housing options and security tenure
- Urban mobility and transport



Empowering Women in the Arab Region





ROAS Portfolio Strategic Plan (2020-2023)

61.2 million USD

is the value of projects implemented in Arab States Region 2020-2021

More than 40 New projects

Signed in Arab States Region in 2020

Our work in 2020 would not have been possible without the generous support of our donors:

UN-HABITAT ROAS Thematic Knowledge Products

Knowledge Products

- Egypt's first National Housing Strategy
- National feasibility study and guideline for Riverbank Filtration units in Egypt
- Hebron, Ramallah and Al-Bireh, and Jerusalem City-region Plans.
- Placemaking Toolkit: Designing People Places, Palestine.
- Policy framework to foster tenure security and resilience for Bedouin communities in Area C, Palestine.
- The Human Rights Impact Assessment Mechanism and Local Outline Plans in the So-called "Area C"., Palestine.
- Darfur Land Administration report

Knowledge Products

- State of Yemen Cities Report.
- Lebanon NUP guides on housing and transport.
- State of Saudi Cities Report

Knowledge Products

- Local climate action in the Arab region" English version
- Local climate action in the Arab region" Arabic version

Knowledge Products

- Neighborhood profile portal in Lebanon
- Yemen Urban Data Portal
- Yemen Urban Profiles
  - Aden Profile
  - Sanaa Profile
  - Al Hodeidah Profile
  - Zinjibar Profile
  - Ta'iz Profile
  - Al Hawtah Profile
  - Sa'dah Profile

Thank you

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