

## ARAB REGION 2017 IN REVIEW

### POPULATION

The Arab region has unique demographic characteristics

415

million inhabitants (2017)

24%

live in Egypt



60%

less than 30 years old



The youth faces paramount challenges



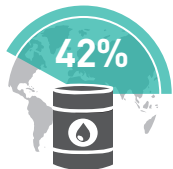
28%

youth unemployment rate (2017)

This rate is estimated to remain **high** by 2021

### ECONOMY

The Arab region is the richest in proven oil reserves in the world and owns considerable natural gas reserves



of the world's proven oil reserves (2016)



of the world's production (2015)



of the world's proven natural gas reserves (2016)

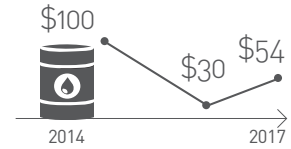


of the world's production (2016)

The region has faced **grave economic conditions**

46% ↓

drop in oil prices (2014-2017)



• GDP growth stagnated at an average of 3% (between 2013 and 2016)



• 6 countries registered a gross public debt at above 77% of GDP (2017)

• Kuwait was the only country maintaining a fiscal surplus, 8 countries had their surpluses turning into deficits, and 6 countries had their deficits increasing (between 2012 and 2017)

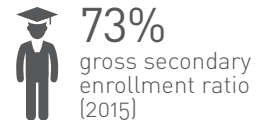
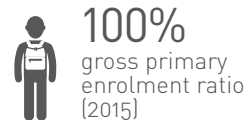


• Inflation (average consumer prices) surpassed 20% in 3 countries (2016): 32.8% Libya | 26.9% Sudan | 23.5% Egypt

• 11.2% unemployment rate (2017), the highest in the world (5.8% worldwide)

### EDUCATION

The most remarkable achievements in the region have been made in the education and health sectors:



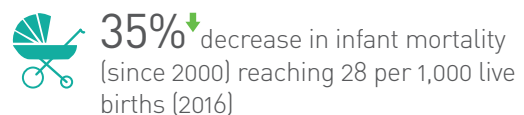
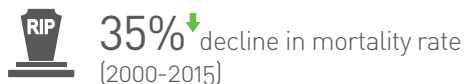
Most of the Arab countries have closed gender parity across all stages of education

**But,**

**17 million** children out of school (2015)

**31%** gross tertiary enrollment ratio, below the world average 35.6% and developing countries 74.3% (2015)

### HEALTH



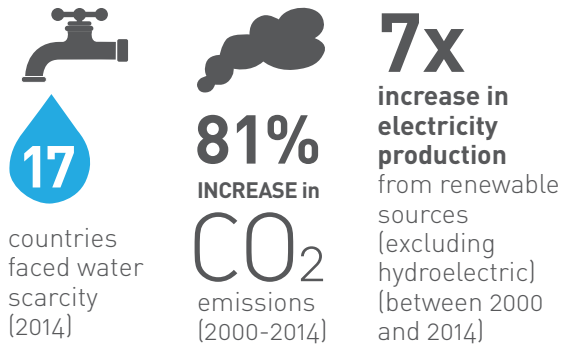
**But,**

**862,858** cholera cases in Yemen (October 2017)

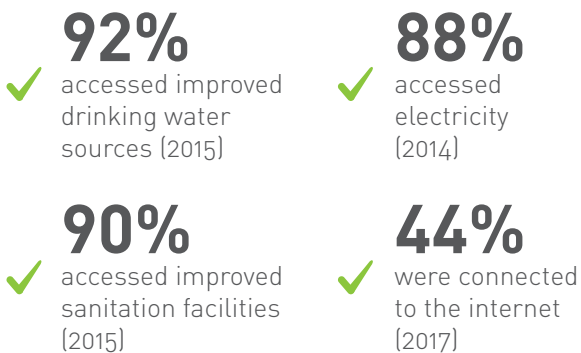
**77,783** cholera cases in Somalia (October 2017)

## WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

The region is the most water scarce in the world and is riddled with critical environmental challenges:



## ACCESS TO SERVICES



## GENDER

A deep gender gap continues to hold back the region:



**Gender-based violence** is still prevalent

- **37%** of women experienced some form of violence in their lifetime
- **14%** of girls marry under the age of 18

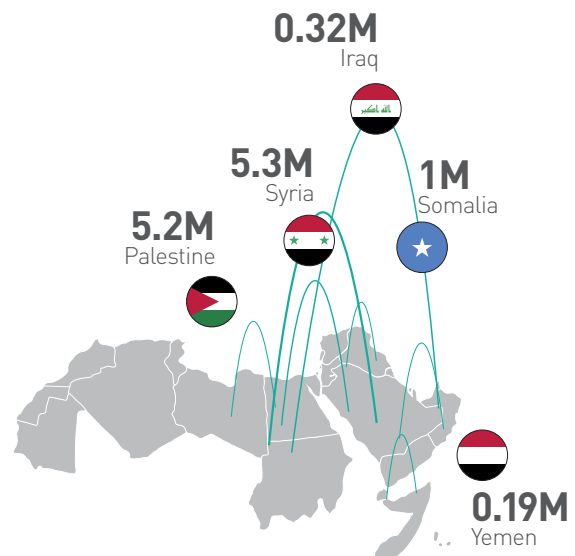
## • Girls and women aged 15 to 49 subjected to female genital mutilation

98% in Somalia (the highest in the world)  
93% in Djibouti, 87% in Egypt and Sudan,  
69% in Mauritania, 19% in Yemen and 8% in Iraq.

## ARMED CONFLICTS AND HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

Forced migration in the region has reached record levels.

**58%** world refugees originated from the Arab region (2016) of which **60%** continue to live in the region



Leaving **56 million** people in need of humanitarian assistance in **6 countries** in the region: Yemen, Syria, Iraq, Sudan, Somalia and Libya and inflicting huge GDP losses USD 613.8 billion since 2010 (2017)

### Sources:

Based on the latest available data:  
(1) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Aquastat, (2) International Energy Agency (IEA), (3) International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Economic Outlook, (4) International Telecommunication Union (ITU), (5) The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), (6) The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), (7) The World Bank, 4 February 2016, By the Numbers: The Cost of War & Peace in the Middle East, (8) United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), (9) United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), World Population Prospects, (10) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Institute for Statistics, (11) United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), Humanitarian Needs Overviews, (12) UN Women, (13) The World Bank, World Development Indicators, (14) World Economic Forum (WEF), (15) World Energy Council (WEC), (16) World Health Organization (WHO), 26 October 2017, Cholera Outbreak in Somalia and Yemen, (17) International Labour Organization (ILO), ILOSTAT