



# REGIONAL RESPONSE: ARAB STATES

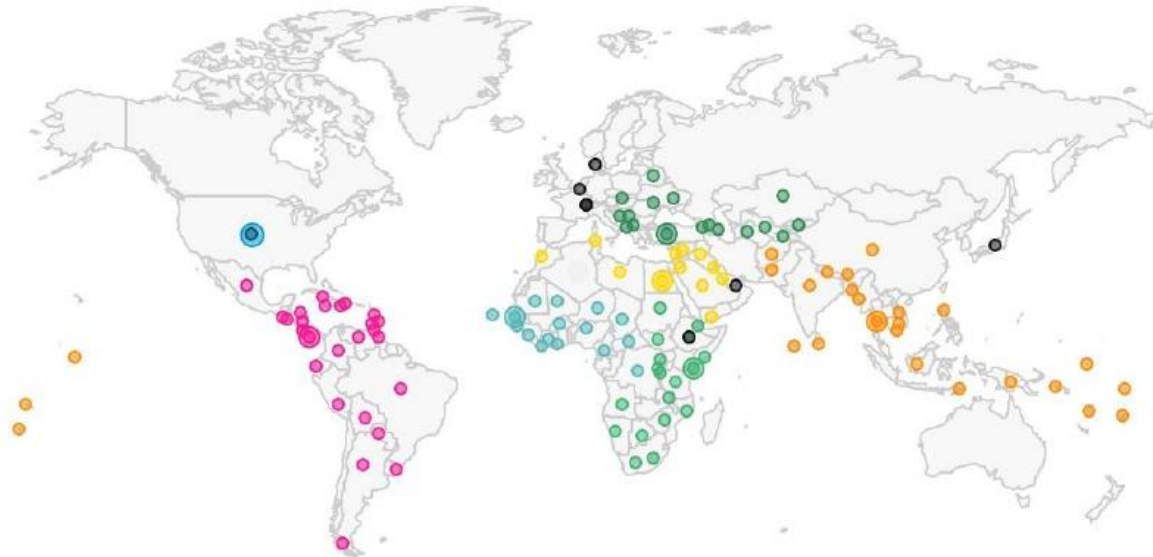
**SUSANNE MIKHAIL, REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

**JANUARY 2024**



## UN Women Locations across geographical regions

Region/Office/Country



- Asia & Pacific
- East & Southern Africa
- Americas & Caribbean
- West & Central Africa
- Europe & Central Asia
- Arab States
- Liaison Offices
- HQ

# 6 REGIONS - 4 AREAS - 3 MODALITIES



## AREAS

1. Ending Violence Against Women
2. Women Political Participation
3. Women Economic Empowerment
4. Women Peace And Security and Humanitarian

## MODALITIES

1. Normative
2. Coordination
3. Operation

# UN WOMEN ARAB STATES: HOW NORMATIVE, COORDINATION AND OPERATIONAL TOGETHER → IMPACT AT SCALE



- Regional Office for the Arab States
- Country Offices
- Cluster offices
- Covered by RO
- Liaison Office

# CONTEXT: RICH DIVERSITY IN CLOSE PROXIMITY

## Economic Outlook

- Wealthiest and poorest nations (GDP)
- Individual wealth concentration
- Stark gap between women and men labor force participation (21% and 77%)

## Gender Equality & SDG Progress

- Major advancements in labor law, less in family law
- Highest and lowest figures for women's political participation found within the region
- High levels of women's education, yet low level of labor force participation

## Humanitarian Needs and Crises

- Vast humanitarian needs: 55 million people. Windows for transition from humanitarian to development
- Most arid, water scarce, heat and drought prone among world regions

## Opportunities For Speedy Economic Growth

- Surging women's labor force participation
- increased intra-regional trade
- Capitalization on renewable energy
- Taxation models for increased social services

**NORMATIVE,  
COORDINATION, AND  
OPERATIONAL - SCALE:  
HUMANITARIAN**

**Jordan**

**OASIS Humanitarian**

**70,000**

Women (Syrian refugees and Jordanian host communities) accessed protection services, cash assistance, job placements combined with child care services

**Regional LEAP: Syria, Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon & Jordan**

**100,000**

Women reached through a multi-disciplinary service package in 4 countries, including protection services, cash assistance, job placements, and entrepreneurial support

# GAZA HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

From 7 October 2023 to present:



Over 24,620 Palestinian civilians killed, of whom

**70%** were women or children<sup>5</sup>



Close to **1,000,000** women and girls have been displaced<sup>6</sup>



**2 mothers**

are killed every hour.<sup>7</sup>



At least **3,000**

may have become new widows and women heads of households.



At least **10,000**

children may have lost their fathers.



**No safe spaces**

for women survivors of gender-based violence are sufficiently operational.



Only **0.09%**

of funding through the Flash Appeal has been directed to national or local women's organizations.<sup>8</sup>



**Gender Alert:**  
The Gendered Impact of the Crisis in Gaza



January 2024

UN WOMEN

# GAZA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE – 6 MONTHS, 74 000 BENEFICIARIES



Humanitarian assistance provided for **9,337**



**2,300**  
Winter Clothes



**122**  
Food Items



**350**  
Dignity & Hygiene Kits



**324**  
PWD Support



**360**  
Dignity Kits to FJPUS at 11 Governorates



**5,881**  
Psychological Support

## Pillar 1



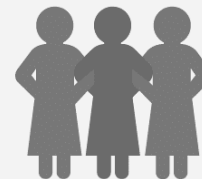
Supply immediate humanitarian assistance to women and girls, including through women's organizations

## Pillar 2



Strengthen accountability towards gender commitments in the coordination and implementation of the humanitarian response

## Pillar 3



Support Palestinian women to meaningfully influence political decision-making at all levels.



**NORMATIVE,  
COORDINATION, AND  
OPERATIONAL - SCALE:  
DEVELOPMENT**

**Egypt**

**Financial Inclusion**

**160,000**

women enabled to open bank accounts, access personal savings and micro-loans, increase their financial and digital literacy and increased savings (3-4 times)

**Men and Women for Gender Equality**

**96,000**

People reached following a 24 months of positive role modelling, a baseline of 62% of men and women with negative attitudes on gender equality, decreased to 42%

# WOMEN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

## THE PARADOX OF WOMEN'S EDUCATION AND WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT

THE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT  
GENDER INDEX FOR THE  
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

0.969

THE SUB-INDEX SCORE FOR ECONOMIC  
PARTICIPATION AND OPPORTUNITY IS

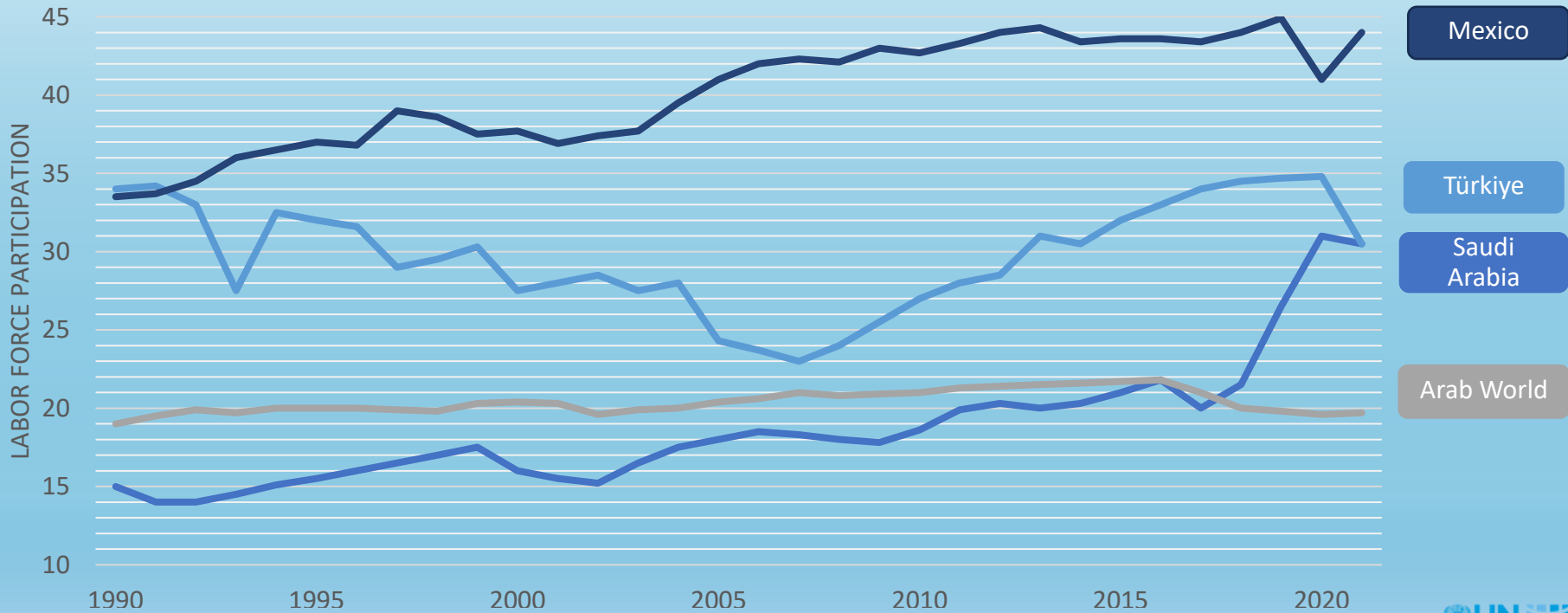
0.425

THIS REPRESENTS IN UNNECESSARY  
LOST REVENUE

575

BILLION

# SCALE AND SPEED: ROBUST INVESTMENT IN ANALYZING THE “FORMULA” FOR HOW WOMEN LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION CAN SURGE



# AN UNPRECEDENTED COALITION OF PARTNERS: SURGING WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT

Jan 2022

## Political Partnerships

22 Member States  
- [CSW Declaration 2022](#)

May/June 2022

## Regional Media Partnerships

2 largest media houses: CNN Arabic and ITP Media

## UN Partnerships

22 UN agencies: Regional Collaborative Platform

Feb/Mar 2023

## Private Sector Partnerships

520 companies signed the WEPs

[Marketing ToolKit](#)

## UN Partnerships

UN Women, ESCWA, UNDP and UNFPA on [Gender Justice](#)

[and the Law](#)

UN Women and ILO on Decent Work

May 2023

## Financial Institutions Partnerships

14 National Banks, 2 Regional Banks, IFC and the World Bank

## Data and trends compilation

First Arab States platform launched: [GENTRACK](#)

Sep 2023

## Donor Partnerships

8 donors

Oct 2023

## Academic Partnerships

[Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices of Institutional Actors on Paternity Leave and the Role of Men in Childcare in the MENA Region](#)

**Q2 -2024**

**LAUNCH OF THE REGIONAL PROGRAM**

# A MULTIDISCIPLINARY MODEL FOR SURGING WOMEN'S LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL LEAD – HEAD OF STATE  
SUSTAINABLE FINANCING

LEGAL AMENDMENTS

SOCIAL NORMS

MASS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

PRIVATE SECTOR – 140 000 JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**GREEN ECONOMY**

**56,000 JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

**CARE ECONOMY**

**96,000 JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

**STEM ECONOMY**

**120,000 JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

■ ■ Two Enablers ■ ■ ■ ■ Four Accelerators ■ ■ ■ Three Amplifiers

**THANK YOU**

