Ending violence in the Arab region:

Considerations on the safety and security dimensions of governance

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CURRENT REGIONAL DYNAMICS

- High incidence of conflict and instability: Root causes and driver remain unaddressed

- Vulnerabilities and hazards increasing to unprecedented levels

- Transformations (from conflict/megatrends) threaten future generations

Source: UCDP PRIO 19.1
ARMED CONFLICT — LAST 3 YEARS

1. 55.7m people in need of Humanitarian Assistance (2019)¹
2. 32% of worldwide conflict related deaths vs. 5% of world population (2018)²
3. 15m IDPs and 9m refugees. (2017)³
4. 35% of world’s terrorist attacks were in the MENA region (2017)⁴

¹ ESCWA calculations based on data from UNOCHA
² Uppsala Conflict Data Program. 19.1 and DESA population estimates
³ ESCWA calculations based on data from UNHCR and UNRWA
⁴ Global Terrorism Database, University of Maryland
GEOGRAPHIC PATTERNS OF CONFLICT IN THE REGION 2012-2017*

Source: UCDP Georeferenced Event Dataset (GED) Global version 18.1
*The boundaries shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
SUBNATIONAL PATTERNS OF CONFLICT OVER TIME IN IRAQ*

(2003-2011)

(2012-2018)

Source: UCDP Georeferenced Event Dataset (GED) Global version 18.1

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SUBNATIONAL PATTERNS OF CONFLICT OVER TIME IN IRAQ

Source: ACLED DATABASE

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SUBNATIONAL PATTERNS OF CONFLICT SUDAN* 2017

Source: UCDP Georeferenced Event Dataset (GED) Global version 18.1 and
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VULNERABILITY: CONFLICT AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, THE LIFE-CYCLE APPROACH

Conflicts hinder the skill formation process by disrupting familial and social environments, health care and school systems.

Life-Cycle: Shocks experienced at critical periods interrupt the process of skill formation with lifelong consequences.
VULNERABILITIES REDUCE THE CAPACITY TO ADDRESS DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES CAUSED BY MEGATRENDS
VIOLENCE BEYOND CONFLICT — LAST 3 YEARS

8 in 10 children have been subjected to some form of psychological aggression and/or physical punishment.

37% of women in the region have experienced some form of violence in their lifetime.

14% of Arab girls marry under the age of 18.

Low levels of intentional homicide.

1 SDGs Global database
2 WHO https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/85239/9789241564625_eng.pdf?sequence=1
4 SDGs Global database
CONCLUSION

- Levels of political violence in the region are unacceptable and evitable.

- The protracted nature of conflicts cause that root causes are not always addressed.

- The new conflict prevention approach envisaged by the UN system is closely linked with the dimensions of governance envisaged in SDG 16+

- Advances in ending violence will require indicators that provide a proper assessment on:
  1. Actual levels and patterns of specific types of crime, human rights violations/abuses and perceptions of safety;
  2. Casualties directly linked to conflicts;
  3. Quality of law enforcement and criminal justice institutions
  4. Institutional effectiveness for development, prevention and managing risks.
### Understanding Risks in the Arab Region

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**Cross-cutting**
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- SDG 16
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**Violent Exposure**
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- SDG 1, 2, 8
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**Social Vulnerability**
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**Political & Human Rights**
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**Prior Hazard**
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