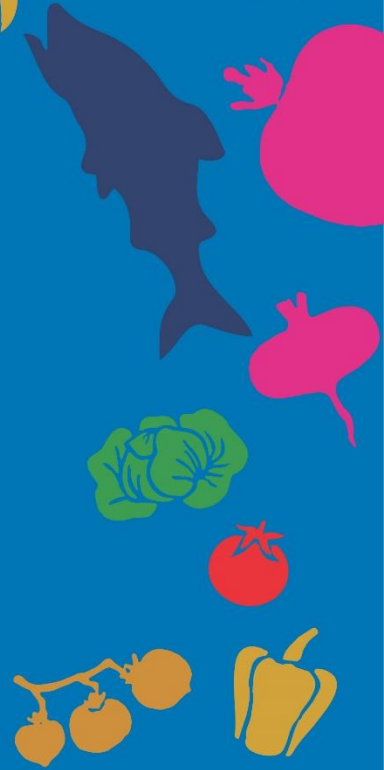
State of Food Security and Nutrition in the Arab region and National Pathways for Food Systems Transformation



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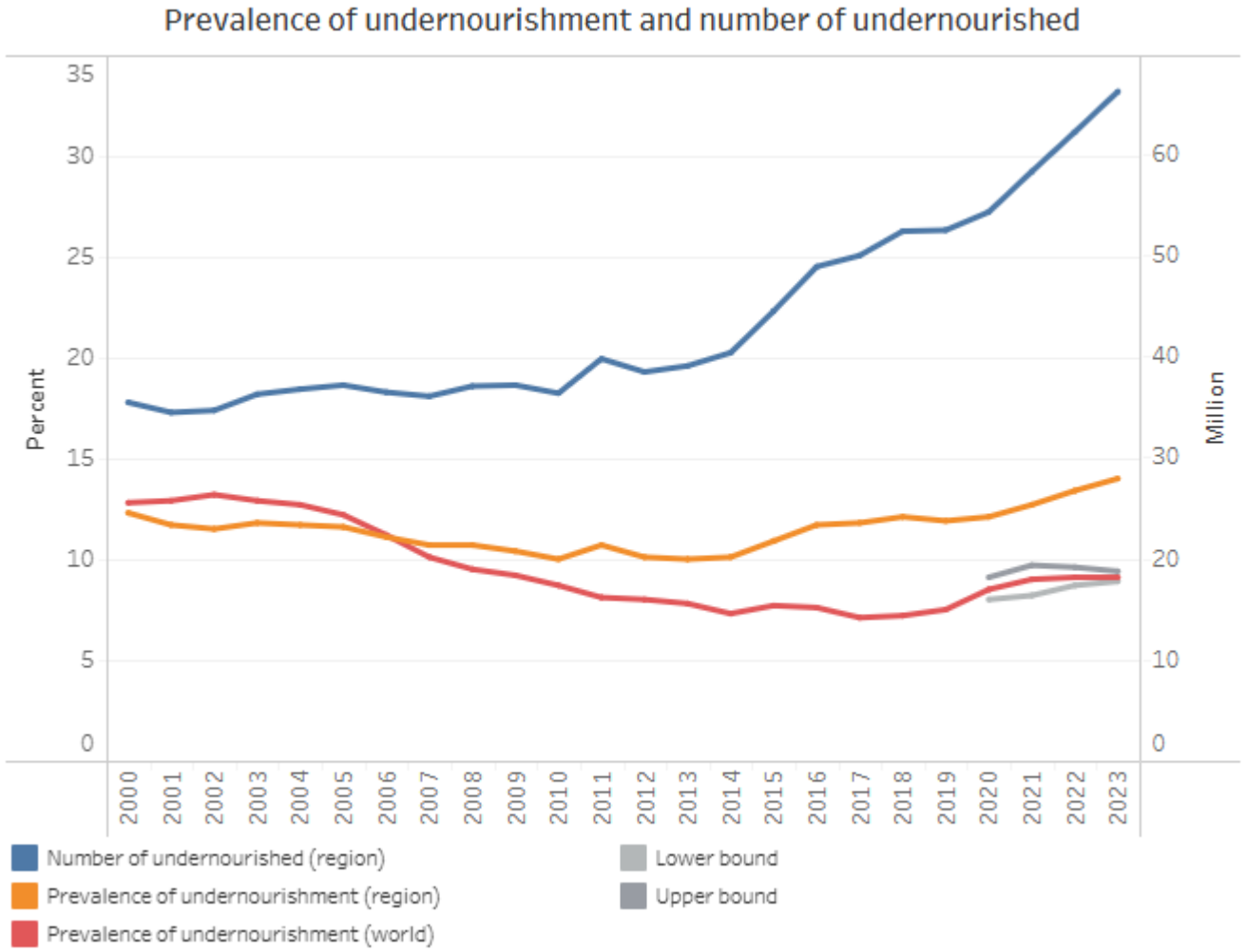
1. Overview of Food Security and Nutrition in the Arab Region

Overview of Food Security and Nutrition in the Arab Region

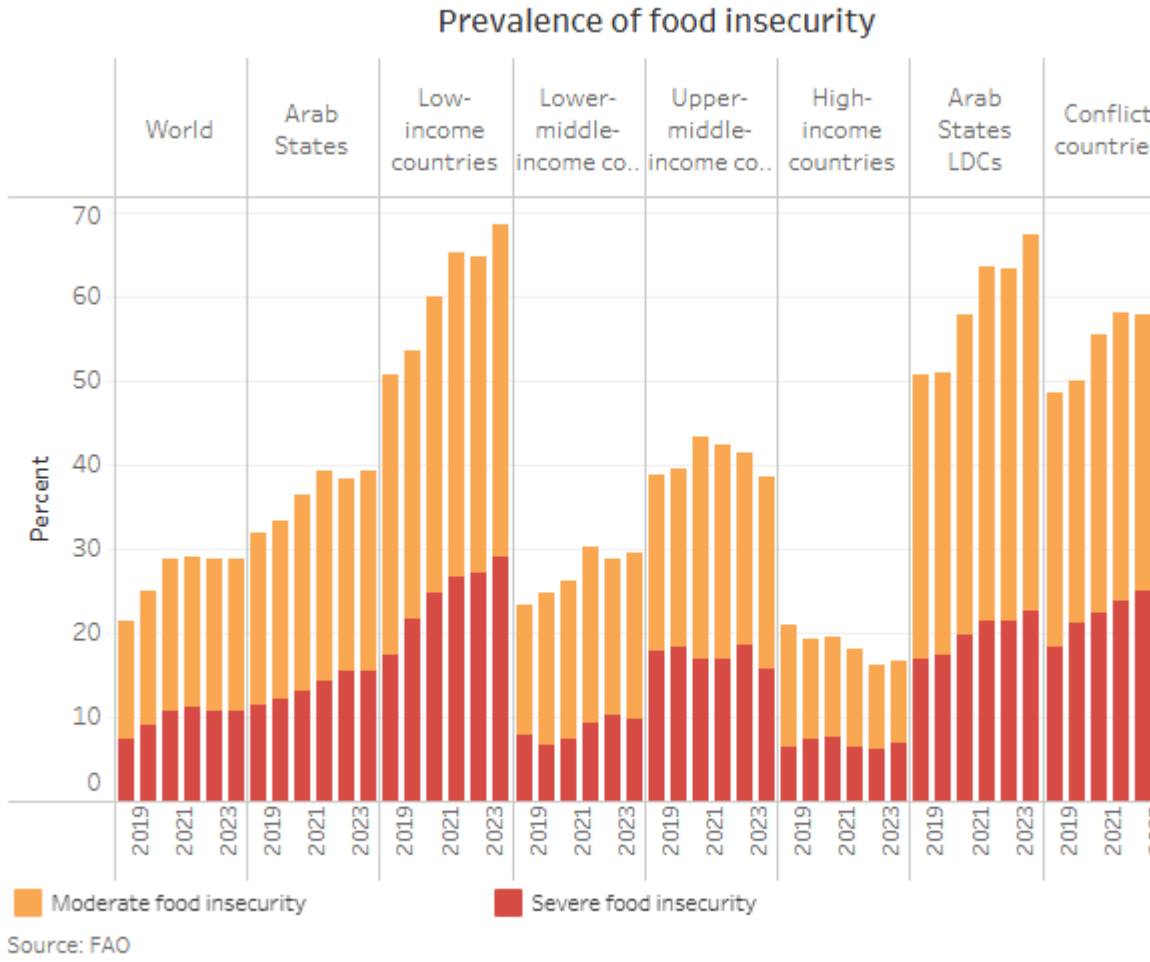
- The number of undernourished people in the region is increasing sharply since COVID and reached a record high in 2023 (66,1 million people)
- Prevelance of undernourishment in the region (14.0%) is higher than the world average (9.1%)
- It is the highest in low-income countries in the region: Somalia, Syria and Yemen.



Source: FAO

Overview of Food Security and Nutrition in the Arab Region

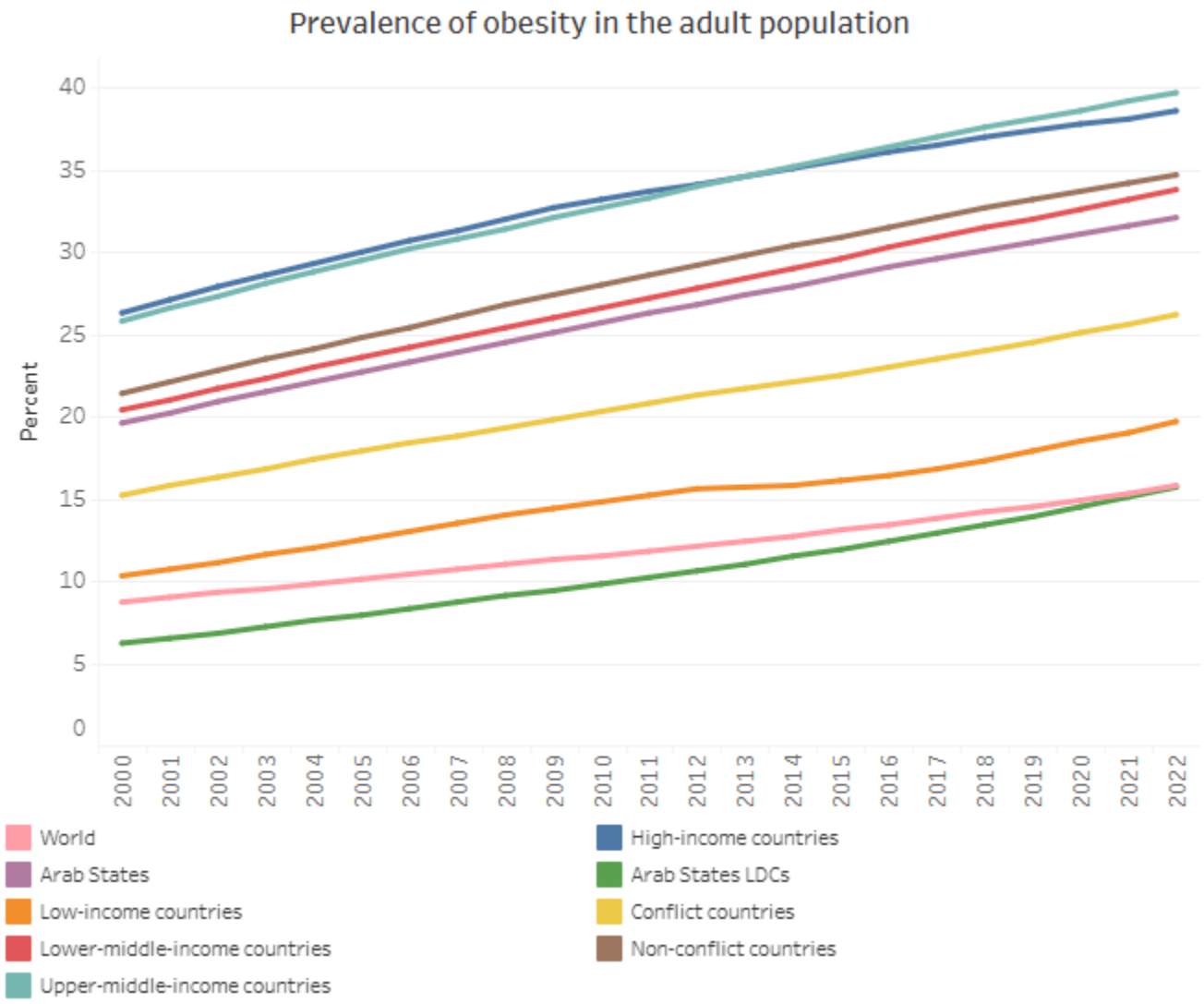
- The prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity is the highest among low-income countries (68.5%), Arab LDCs (67.4%) and conflict countries (58.9%).



Source: FAO

Overview of Food Security and Nutrition in the Arab Region

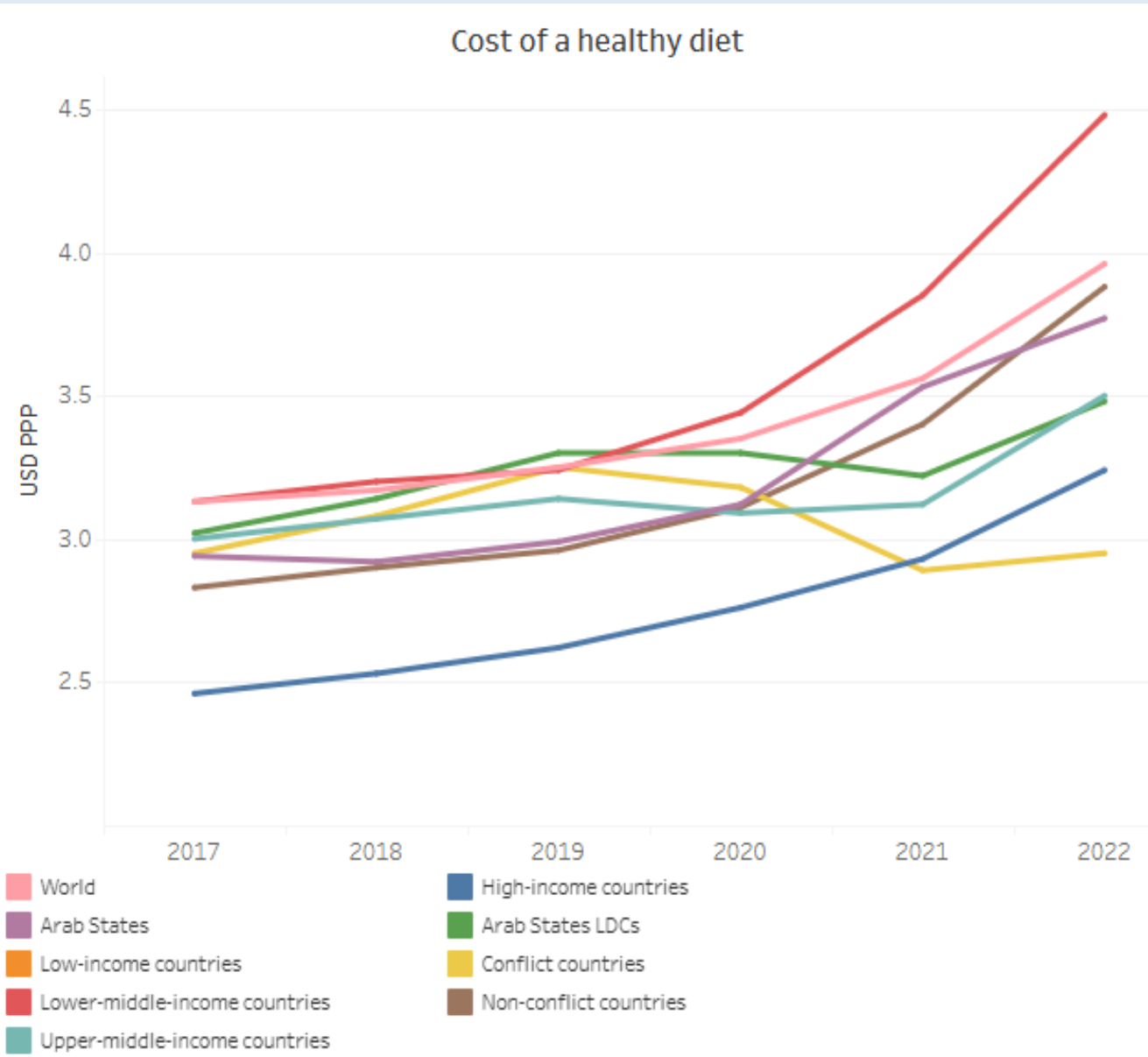
- The prevalence of obesity in Arab countries (32.1%) is more than double the world average (15.8%)
- It is the highest in upper-middle income (39.7%) and high-income countries (38.6%)



Source: FAO

Overview of Food Security and Nutrition in the Arab Region

- The cost of a healthy diet is sharply increasing since 2020. It was 3.77 USD in 2022.
- 32.6% of the population could not afford a healthy diet in 2022.



Source: FAO

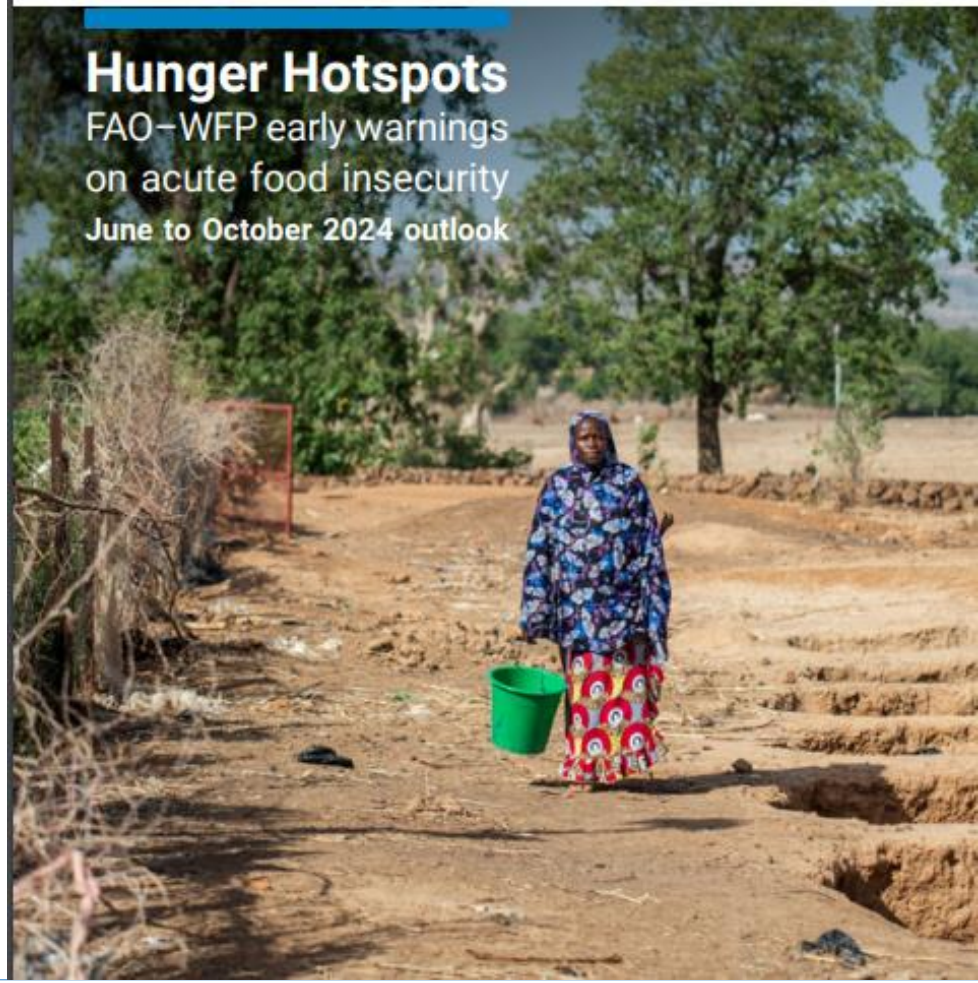
Overview of Food Security and Nutrition in the Arab Region

Based on the latest FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity, five hunger hotspots (Palestine, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, and Yemen) are in the NENA region, out of the 18 global hotspots.

Palestine and Sudan are at the highest level of concern.

The Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen are hotspots of very high concern.

Since October 2023, Lebanon has been added to the list of hunger hotspots.



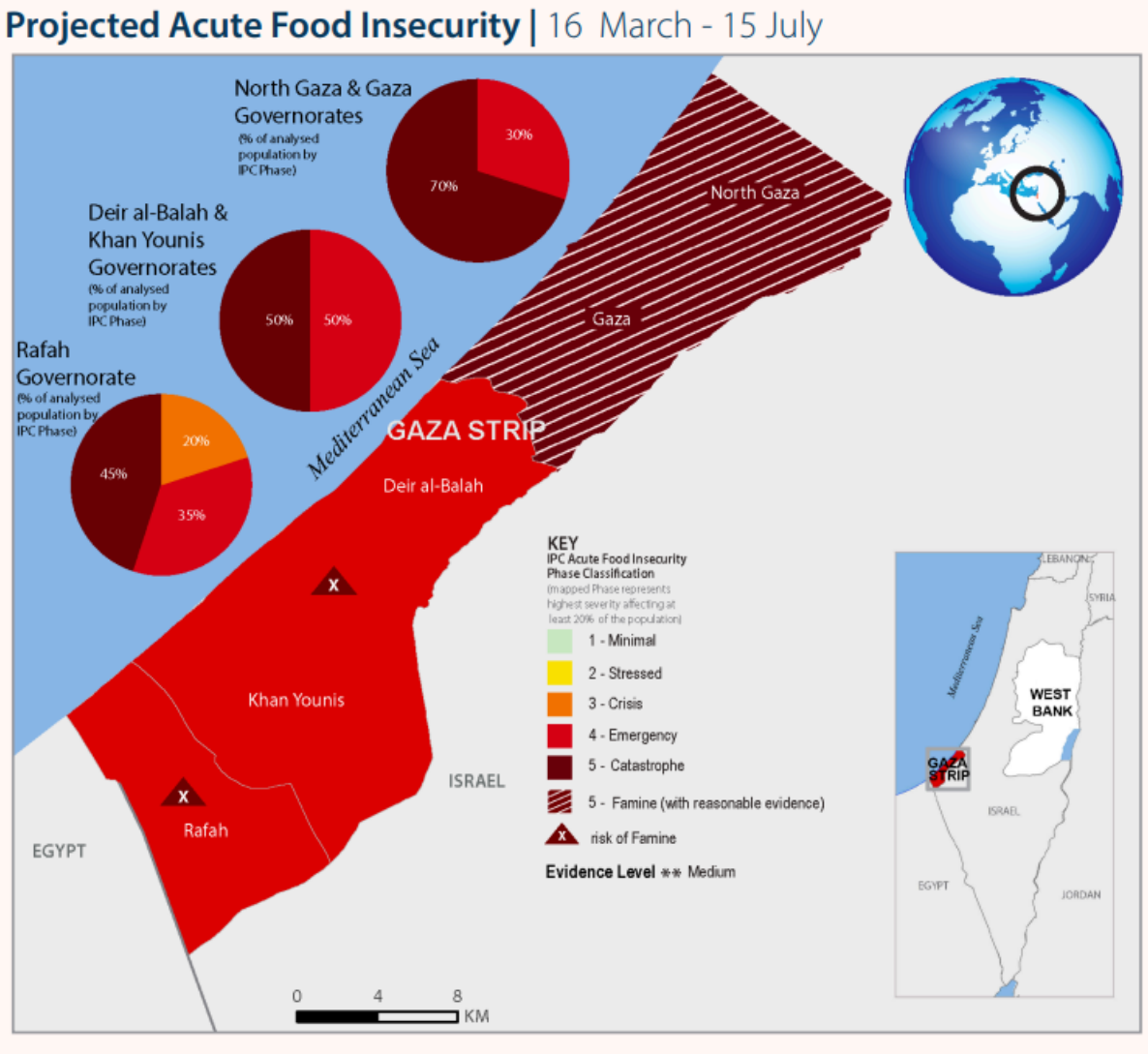
Source: FAO–WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity: June to October 2024 outlook

Overview of Food Security and Nutrition in the Arab Region

- In Gaza, according to the latest IPC analysis, the whole population of Gaza is experiencing high levels of food insecurity at Phase 3 (Crisis) or higher.

- Half of the Gaza Strip's population (1.11 million people) is expected to face catastrophic conditions (IPC Phase 5), the most severe level in the IPC Acute Food Insecurity scale.

- The hostilities have caused widespread damage to assets and infrastructure indispensable to survival.
  As of 20 May 2024, 57.3 percent (8 660 ha) of all cropland has been damaged.
  Home barns (537), broiler farms (484) and sheep farms (397) were the most damaged agricultural infrastructures.

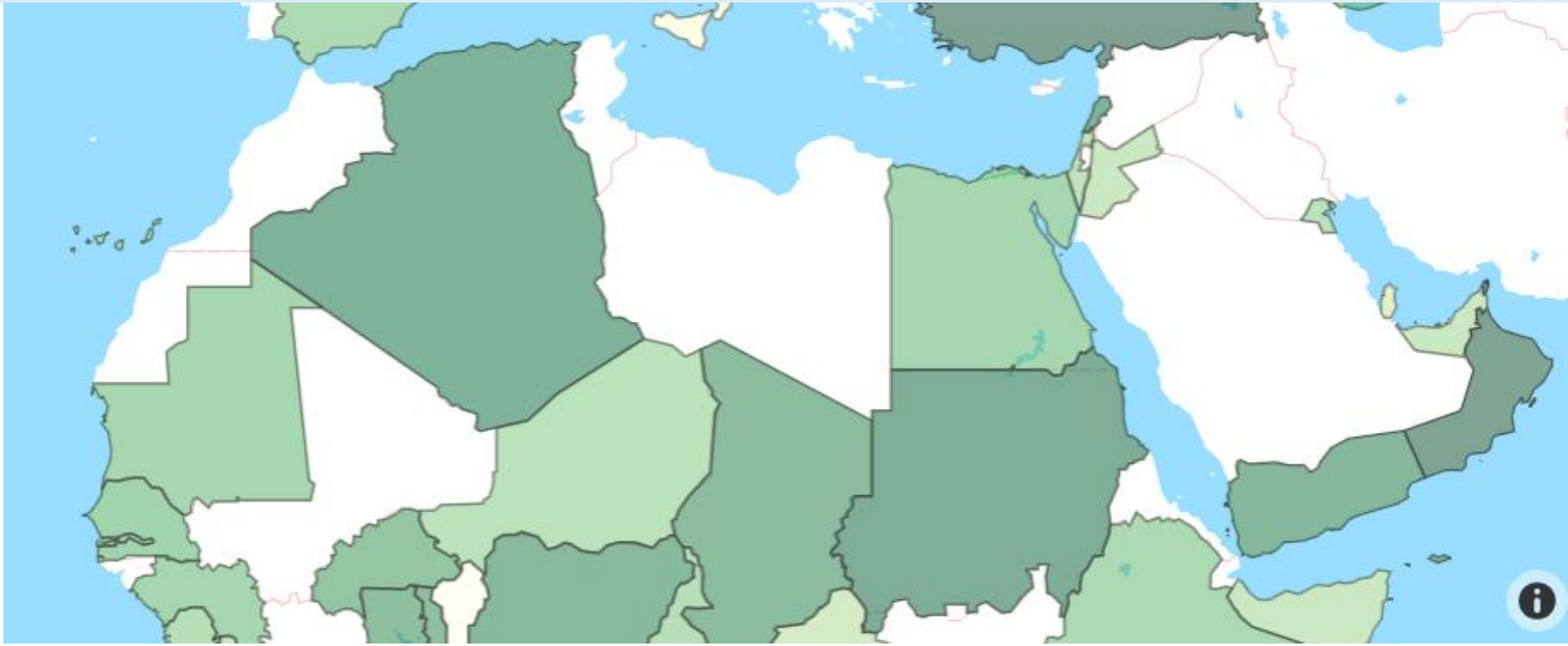


Source: IPC Acute Food Insecurity Special Snapshot | 15 February - 15 July 2024, FAO

2. National Pathways for Food Systems Transformation in the Arab region

National Pathways for Food Systems Transformation

There are 11 National Pathways for Food Systems transformation: Algeria, Egypt, Sudan, Mauritania, Jordan, Lebanon, Yemen, Oman. Kuwait, Qatar, UAE.



Source: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/member-state-dialogue/national-pathways-analysis-dashboard/en

National Pathways for Food Systems Transformation

There are 8 National Pathways for Food Systems transformation that contain the theme „Climate and disasters resilient Development Pathways”:
Algeria, Egypt, Sudan, Mauritania, Lebanon, Yemen, Oman, Qatar.

Source: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/member-state-dialogue/national-pathways-analysis-dashboard/en

National Pathways for Food Systems Transformation

Examples of Climate and disasters resilient Development Pathways

Algeria	**Technical assistance and financing of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures, reforestation, restoration of degraded land**
Egypt	Calculating the carbon and water footprint of agricultural and food products.
Mauritania	Promote sustainable agro-pastoral practices, sustainable land management: soil defense and restoration, water and soil conservation, Strengthen early warning systems
Sudan	Establish early warning system and community disaster management strategy, restoration of natural ecosystems
Yemen	Use of modern irrigation methods, early warning system for natural disasters.

Source: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/member-state-dialogue/national-pathways-analysis-dashboard/en

Examples of Climate and disasters resilient Development Pathways

Oman	**Establishing recharge dams, Mitigating the effects of climate change, Improved agricultural carbon footprint, Building sufficient and appropriate strategic stocks, diversifying import sources, plan for emergency and crisis management.**
Lebanon	Adopt climate-smart technologies, reduce emissions from agriculture, increase water use efficiency, and enhance local productivity. Drought-resistant varieties, smart crop management, mixed farming systems, blue and green water management, efficient farm operations and mechanization, bridging yield gaps, efficient fertilizer production, Early warning and risk analysis.
Qatar	Building strategic reserves, Monitor food supply risks on a regular basis

Source: https://www.unfoodsystemshub.org/member-state-dialogue/national-pathways-analysis-dashboard/en

THANK YOU!

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