



The Informal Employment in the Arab Countries

Statistics and Challenges

(Bahrain, Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia, Egypt, Sudan, Iraq, Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen)

*The 12th meeting of the expert group on Informal Sector Statistics
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An Arab Watch Report on Informal employment

- **Pointing on the fact that informal employment is not a marginal issue in the Arab countries. It is rather an intrinsic feature of the modern Arab economies and the division of labor therein. It is doomed to expand under current policies.**
 - *Even De Soto: “the Arab spring is the revolution of the “informals”. They seek to work in a regulated system that protects them and can be inclusive. But this system has not been invented yet”.*
 - *Also to remember are the by-laws of the ILO (1919): “World peace can only be built on social equity” and “the improvement of the working conditions is an urgent necessity”.*
 - **Apprehending Informal employment... a key element for tackling SDG 8 and others**
- **Comparing the characteristics of informal employment between Arab countries, clarifying definitions and categories from a rights-based perspective:**
 - **Informal sector**, a concept related to production units... (including households) → share of GDP.
 - **Informal employment**, is about **work relations** = informal employment in informal sector + in formal sector + in households.
 - **Distinction to be made with criminal activity!!!**

Assessing informal labor while statistics politicized!

Hussmann's matrix

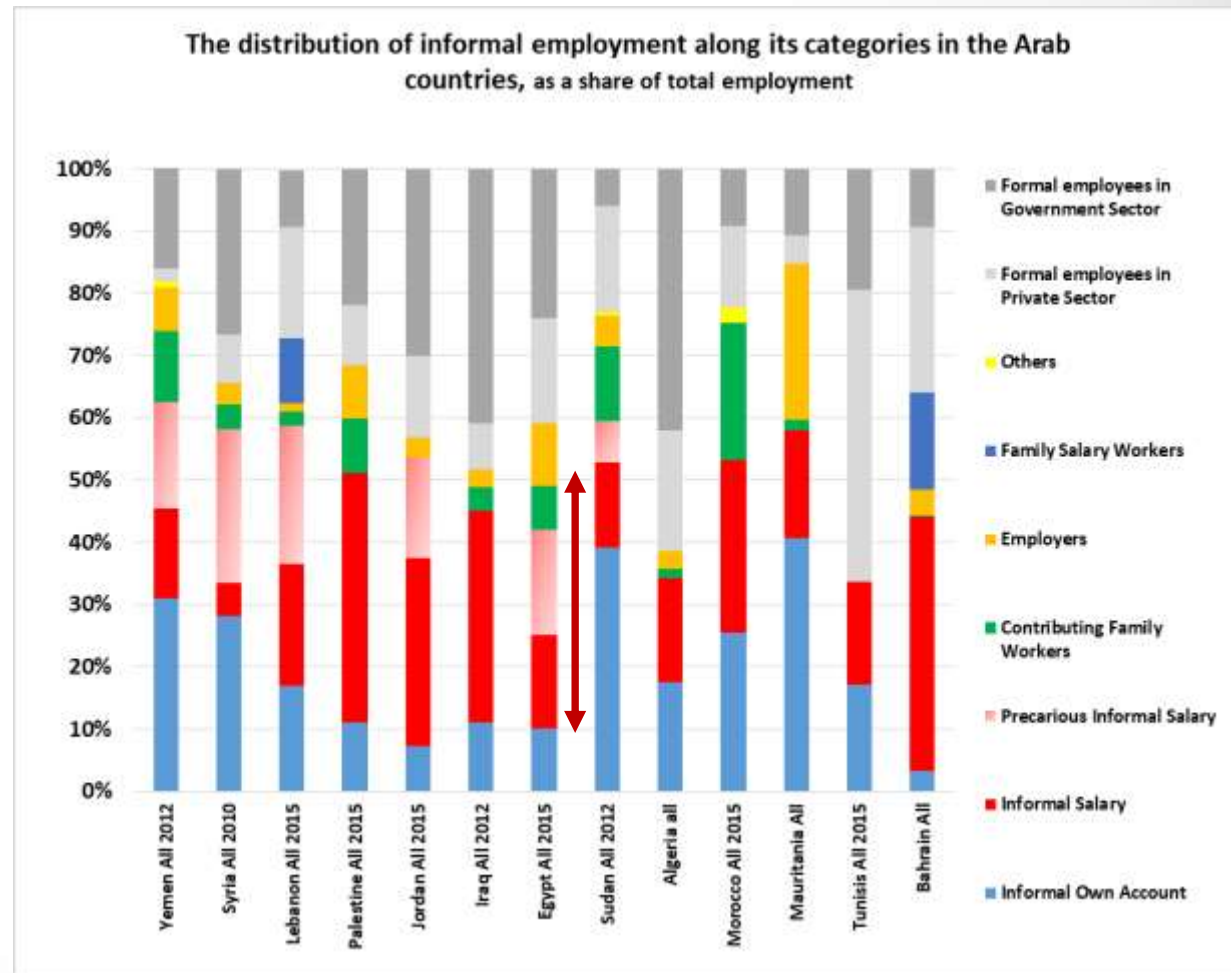
- Targeting the estimation of the general picture despite the problems of statistics.
- Create awareness on international standards for measuring Informal employment.
- Analyzing the influence of country' characteristics on the different categories, in particular on the distribution between own- and other-account (wage, ...) labor, and the influence of agriculture, public employment and migrations.
- Documenting categories by case studies, discussing dependency relationships (labor relations, place of work)

Bu Azizi situation: street vendors House workers without wage Most of foreign workers Sometimes Informal government employees Households workers

Production units by type	Jobs by states in employment								
	Own-account workers		Employers		Contributing family workers	Employees		Members of producers' cooperatives	
	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Formal sector enterprises					1	2			
Informal sector enterprises ^(a)	3		4		5	6	7	8	
Households ^(b)	9					10			

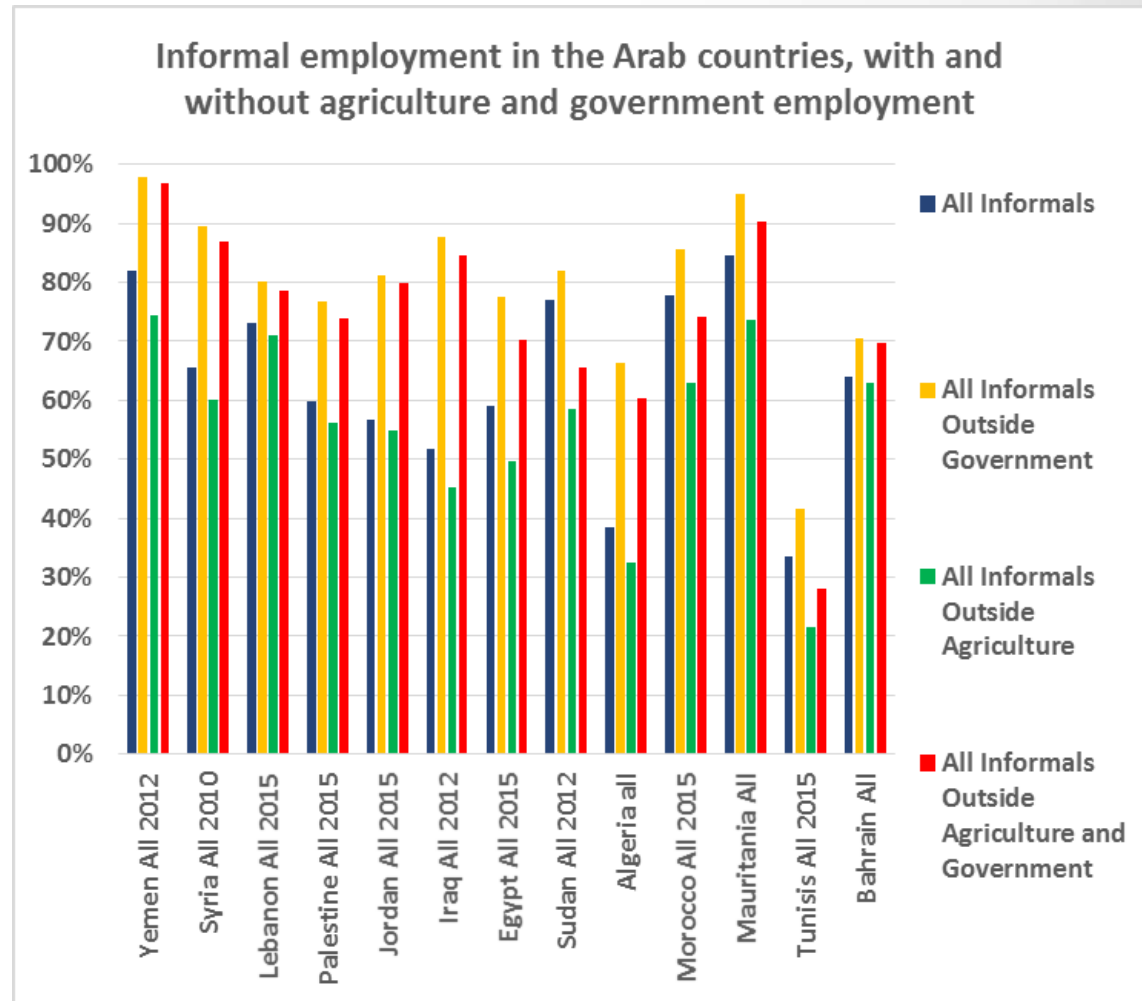
The general picture of informal employment in the Arab countries

- According to the latest LFSs
- Basic criteria is social security coverage
- **Significant differences**
- **High rate of informal employment > 50% of total** (except Tunisia and Algeria)
- **Other-account work** (with or without wage) **is dominant in informal employment**, and not own-account!!!
- **Strong influence of:**
 - Migrations
 - Agriculture
 - Public sector employment
- Need to clarify/coordinate measurement of household workers and contributing family workers.



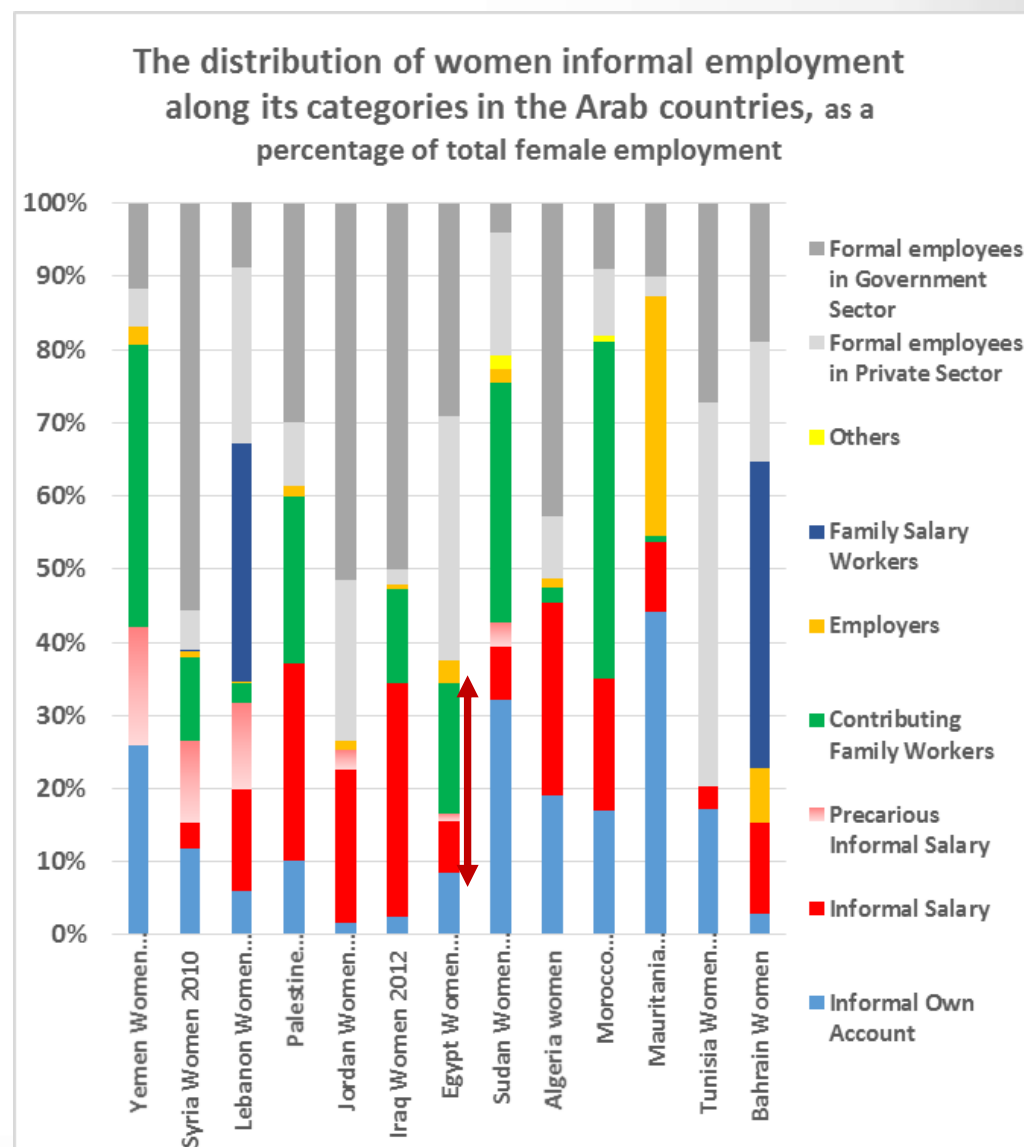
The general picture of informal employment in the Arab countries

- Outside agriculture and government employment, informal employment > > 60% of urban employment (except Tunisia).
- + a share of informal employment within public sector employment.
- Other-account work (wage + CFW) is the dominant characteristic of urban informal employment in most Arab countries...



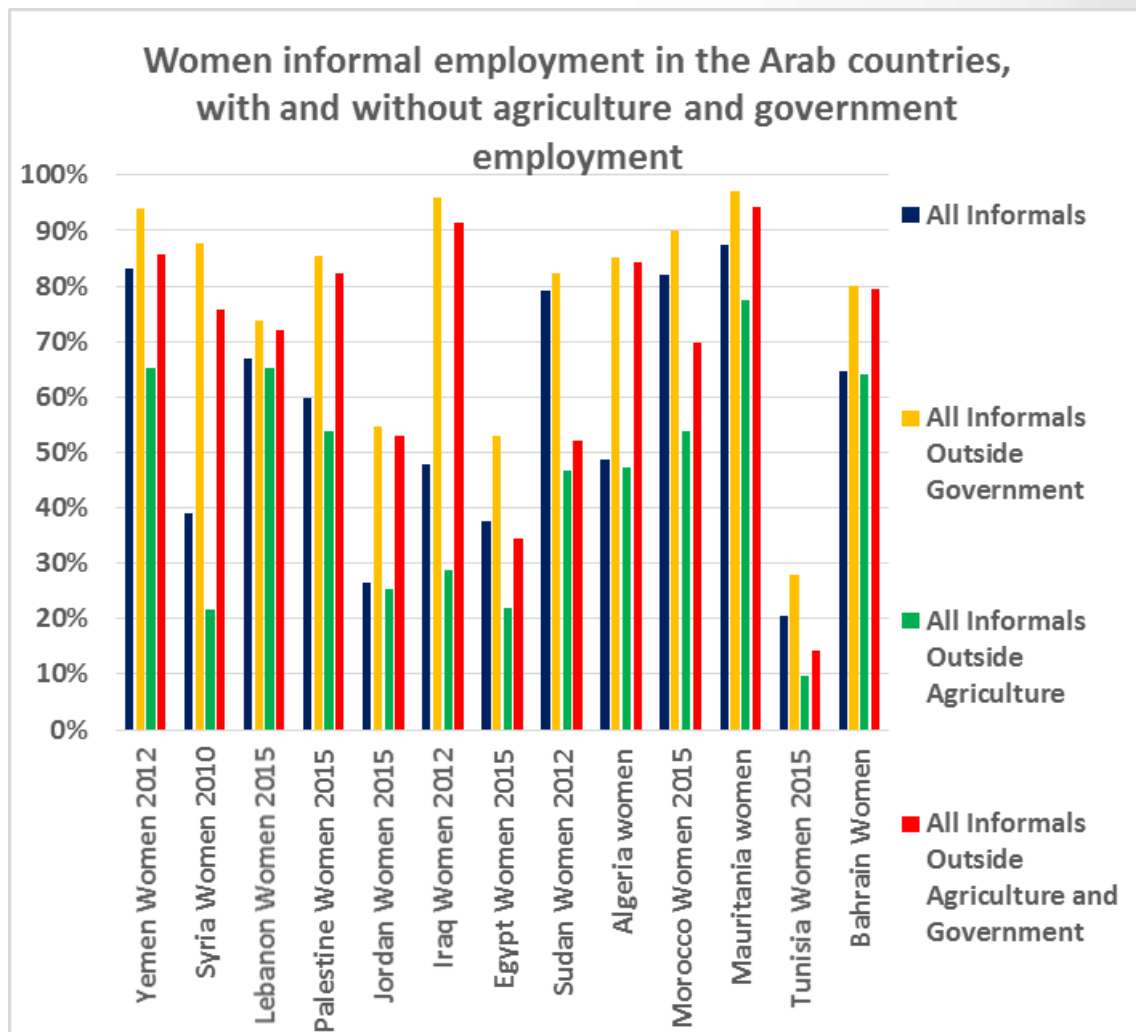
The general picture for women informal employment in the Arab countries

- **Generally, women are less involved than men in informal employment.** (except agriculture and household workers).
 - **Informality amongst (non-paid) contributing family workers is dominant in Yemen, Palestine, Sudan and Mauritania.**
 - **Informality amongst household salary women workers is dominant in Lebanon and Gulf countries (migrants)**
- **Strong variations between countries**
- **Other-account work is the main characteristic of women informal employment.**



The general picture for women informal employment in the Arab countries

- **Outside agriculture and government, women informal employment, similar to that of men, > 60% of total women employment (except Tunisia).**
 - **Outside government employment, the share of informality in women employment increases drastically in most Arab countries.**
 - **Outside agriculture, the share of informality decreases to 10% in Tunisia, 22% in Egypt and Syria, 25% in Jordan and 29% in Iraq.**
- **Outside agriculture, other-account work is the main characteristic of women informal employment.**



A major statistical challenge: Informal employment, demography and migrations

- **Population and migrations:**

- Gulf countries, Lebanon, Jordan: **incoming migrant workers** constitute a significant share of the population and labor force... with strong yearly variations ***“Policies adapt the work force to the labor market, and not the contrary!”*** ... 64% of migrant workers are here for less than ONE year... no rights
- ➔ **The highest growth rates of population are in the Gulf!**
- Lebanon, Jordan, Syria (2010): **refugees** constitute a significant share of population and quickly in labor force
- Some countries experienced significant **circular work migrations**
 - Syria (1/7) v.s. Lebanon (1/3) , Egypt v.s Libya

LFS and HHS essential tools for policies

- Some countries experience accelerated rural–urban migrations ➔ **high (>+6%) growth rates of urban LF.**

- **Participation Rates to the labor force**

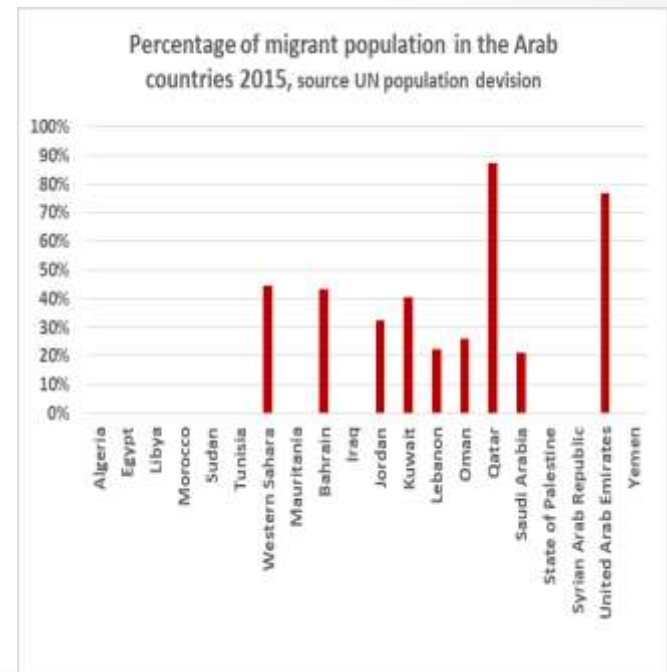
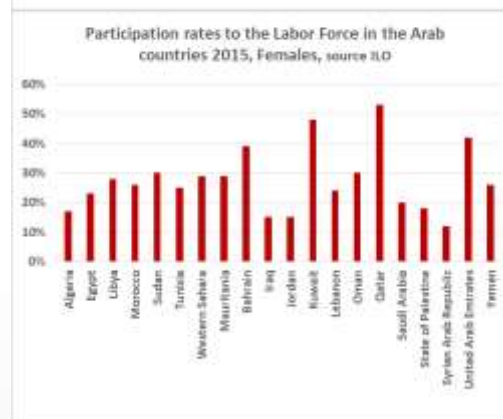
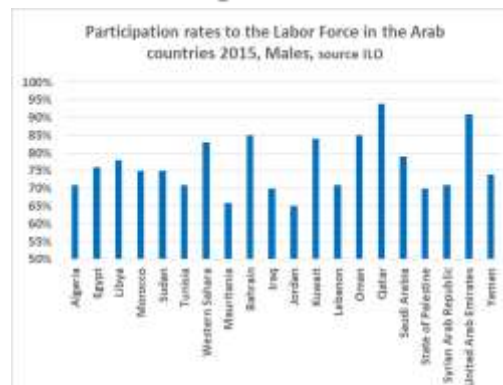
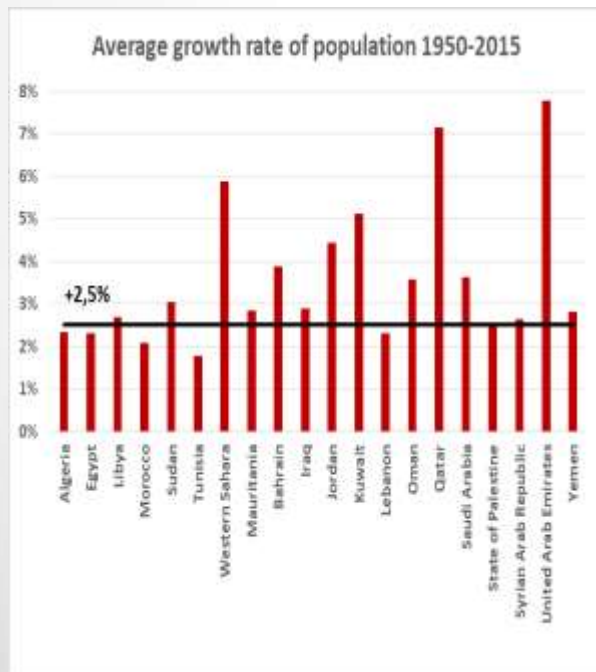
- **Most of migrant (and female) workers effectively work ➔ apparent increase in participation**
- **Policies reduce participation of refugees ➔ apparent decrease in participation**
- **Rural–urban migrations reduce participation, especially for women**

Major reason behind women low participation

Informal employment in the Gulf countries

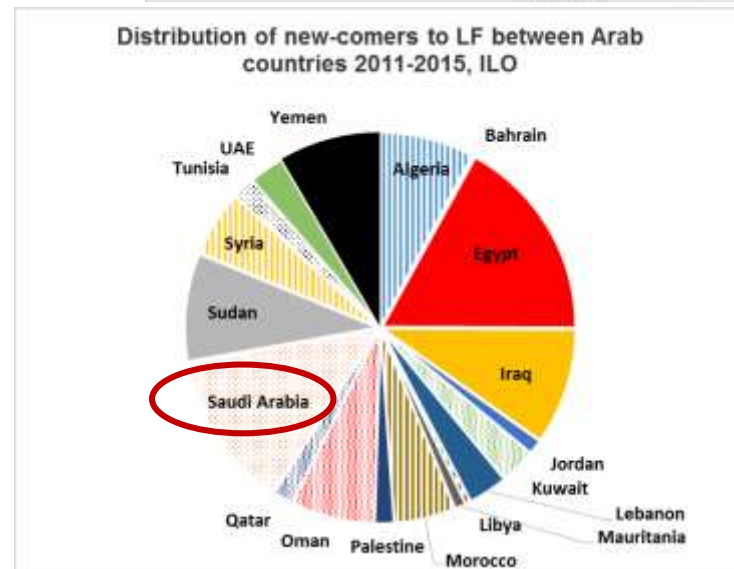
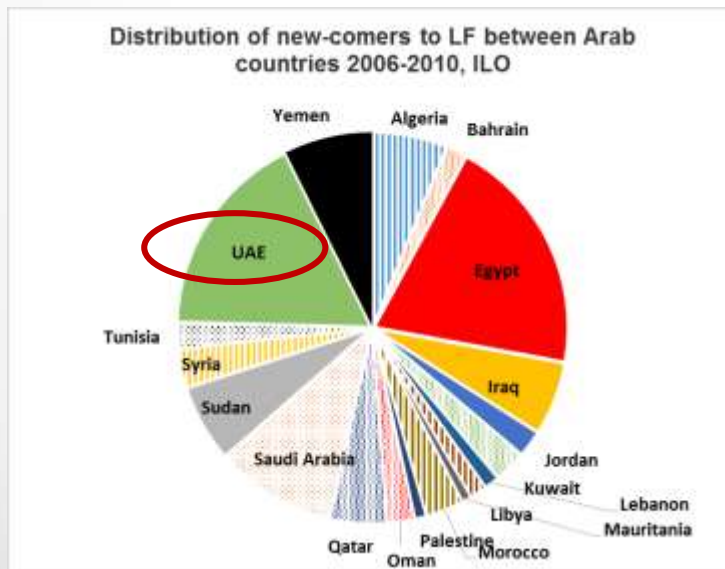
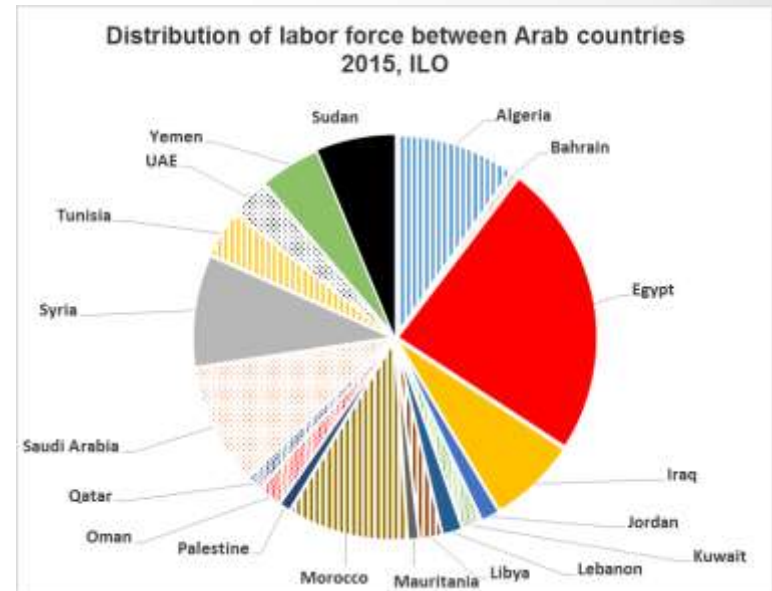
The example of Bahrain

- **Demographic growth is mainly fixed by incoming migration...90% of migrants participate to LF. So what does participation to LF means in Gulf countries? Female participation 36%!!!**
- **Gender unbalance: 62% men! As most of incoming migrants are men.**
- **8,000 Bahraini new-comers every year to LF, out of total of 59,000 in 2006–2010.**
- **A Gulf countries' cahracteristic: Labor Force adapts itself to the Labor market, and not the opposite !!!!!.**



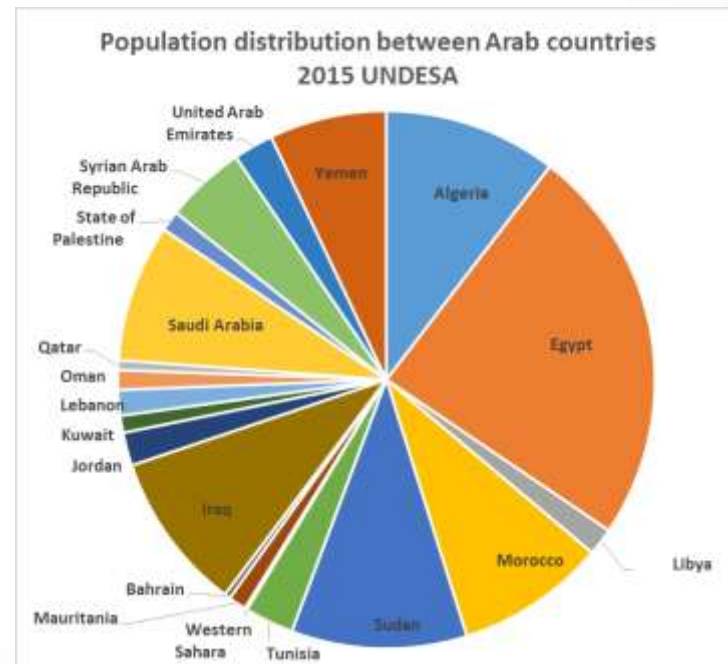
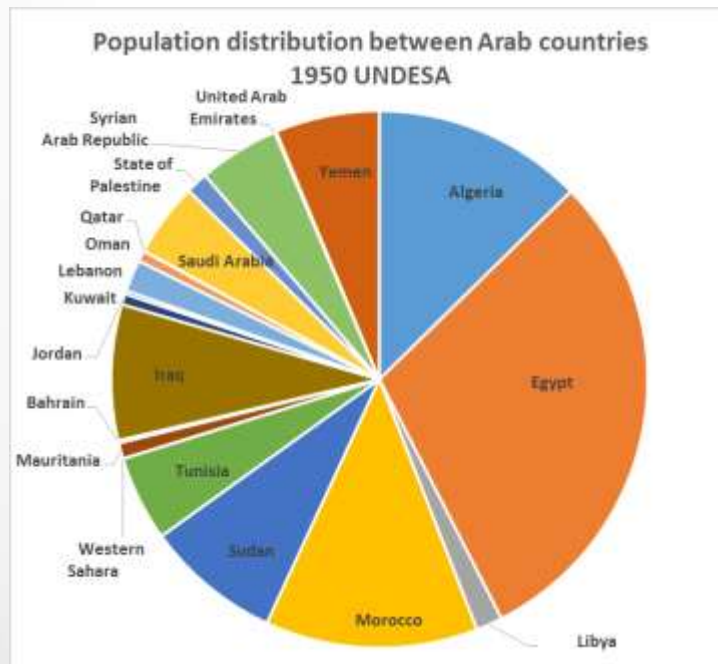
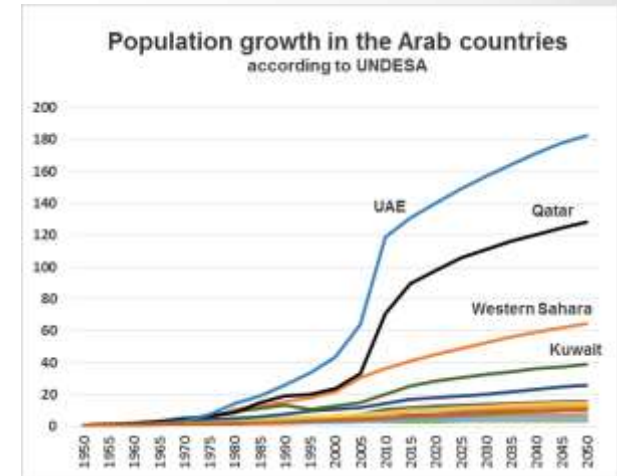
A challenge important for future perspectives

- **The relative distribution of the labor force between Arab countries**
 - Egypt, Syria, Algeria, Morocco and Iraq
- **Acceleration of LF growth**
 - Especially in the Gulf countries (migrants!?)
 - Major difference in the dealing with the effects of crises between Gulf and non-Gulf states

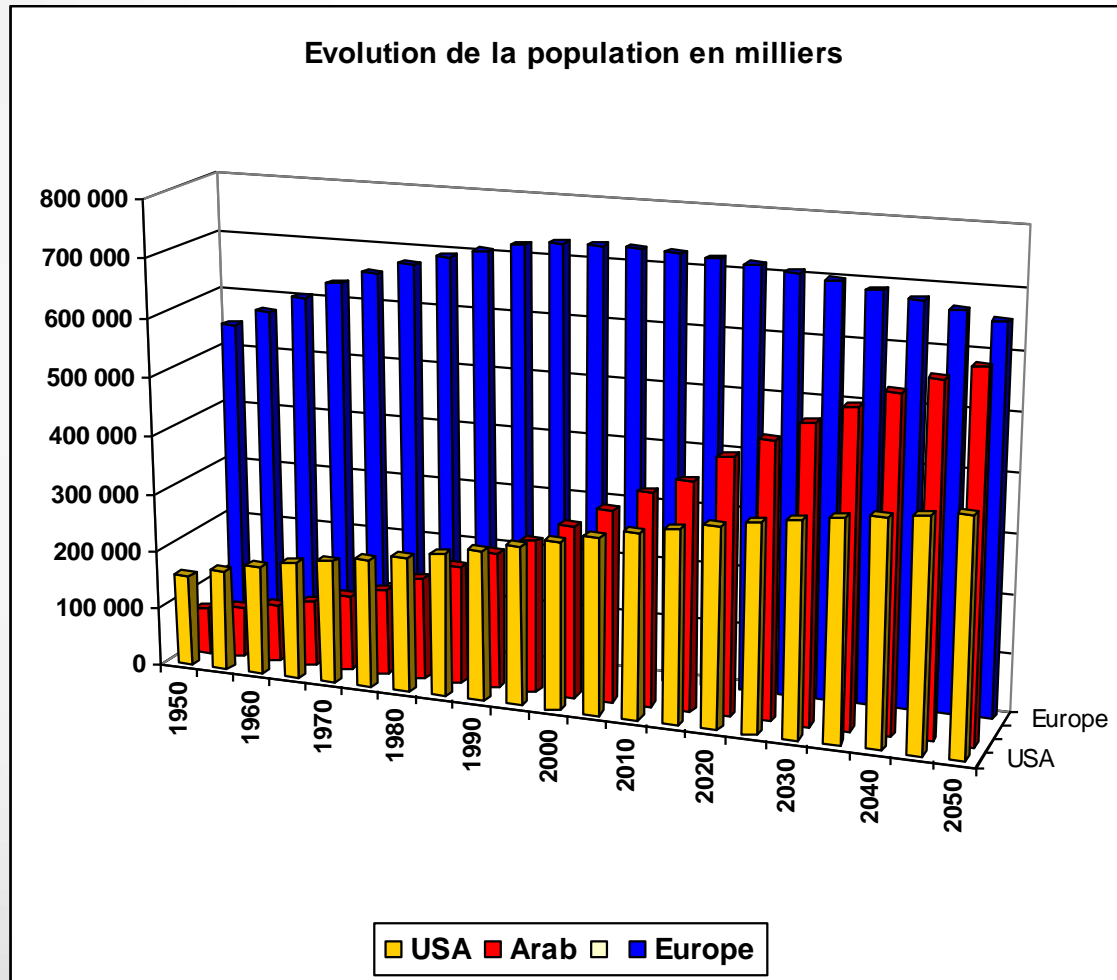


A challenge important for future perspectives

- **A major change has occurred in the population weight of Gulf countries**
 - Gulf: from 6% to 14% of total population... (UAE x 140)
- **Major influence of migrations**
 - Internal migrations between non-Gulf countries (wars!)
 - Outward migration from non-Gulf countries
 - Inward migration to Gulf countries... not from Arab non-Gulf countries



The informal employment in the Arab countries shall have a global impact, especially on Europe



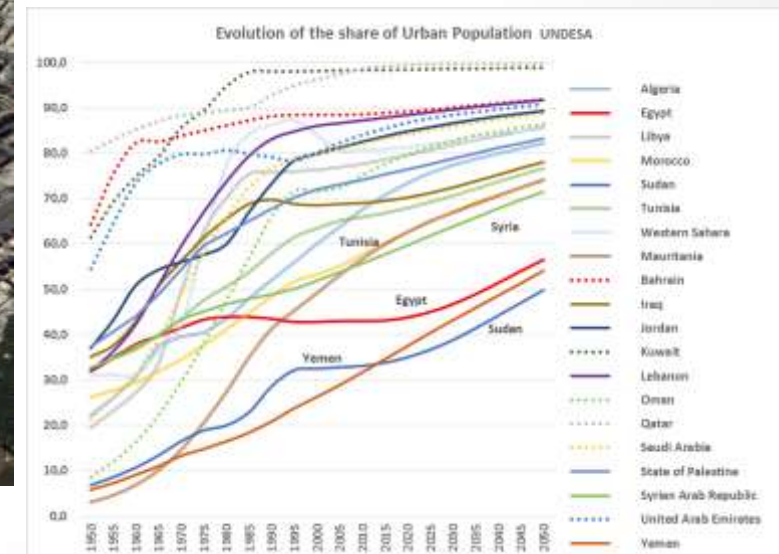
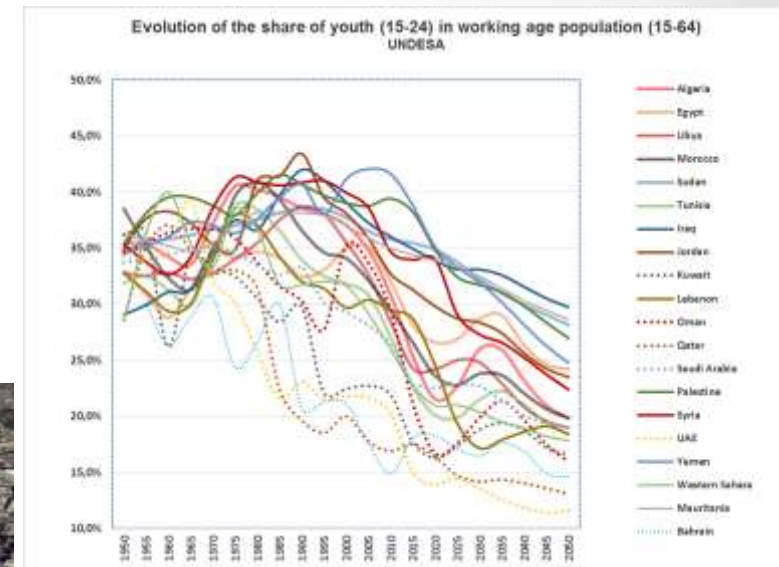
Comparison of total population
between Arab countries,
Europe and the US

No social protection → no
citizenship → troubles → wars
and migrations

A youth bulge + accelerated rural-urban migration

➔ youth tsunami = « Arab spring »

- The end of the youth bulge
 - Latest in Yemen and Palestine
- New acceleration of rural-urban migration
 - Especially in Egypt and Sudan



Informal employment in the Gulf countries

The example of Bahrain

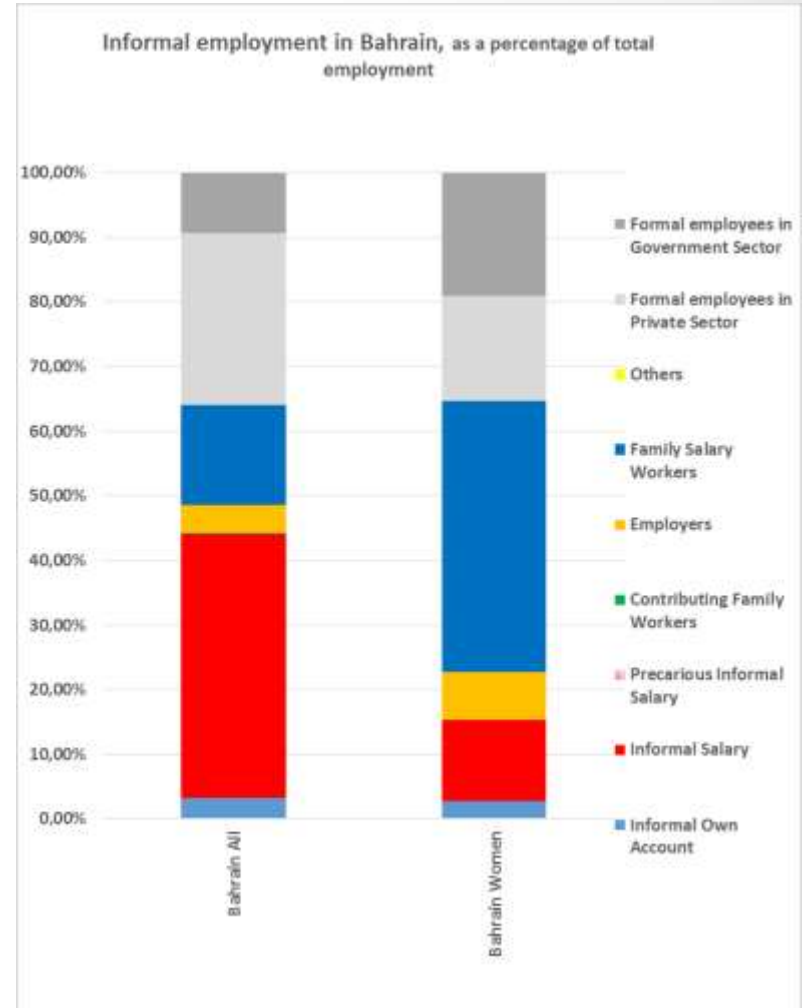
- **For Bahrainis:** informality is among own-account and employers
- **For migrant workers:** Informality is among formal sector employees and domestic workers

Analysis of informal employment in Bahrain				
2015	number of workers (000)	% of total employment	% of Bahrainis employed	% of migrants employed
Bahraini Own-account workers (3)	23	3,2%	15%	
Migrant Own-account workers (3)	1	0,1%		0%
Bahraini employers (4)	30	4,2%	19%	
Migrant employers (4)	1	0,1%		0%
Bahraini Contributing family Workers (9)	1	0,1%	1%	
Migrant Contributing family workers(9)				
Bahraini wage workers in formal sector (2)	4	0,6%	3%	
Migrant wage workers in formal sector (2)	293	40,9%		52%
Bahraini wage workers in informal sector (6)				
Migrant wage workers in informal sector (6)				
Migrant wage workers in households	111	15,5%		20%
المجموع	464	64,8%	37%	75%
		716	157	559
Analysis of female informal employment in Bahrain				
2015	number of workers (000)	% of total employment	% of Bahrainis employed	% of migrants employed
Bahraini Own-account workers (3)	4,5	2,8%	8%	
Migrant Own-account workers (3)	0	0,0%		0%
Bahraini employers (4)	12	7,5%	21%	
Migrant employers (4)	0	0,0%		0%
Bahraini Contributing family Workers (9)			0%	
Migrant Contributing family workers(9)				
Bahraini wage workers in formal sector (2)			0%	
Migrant wage workers in formal sector (2)	20	12,5%		19%
Bahraini wage workers in informal sector (6)				
Migrant wage workers in informal sector (6)				
Migrant wage workers in households	66,9	41,9%		65%
المجموع	103,4	64,7%	29%	84%
		159,8	56,8	103

Informal employment in the Gulf countries

The example of Bahrain

- **Informal Bahrainis**
 - Own-account, employers and free professions
 - New employments created by new technologies
 - Precarious employment in public sector, especially women (ex. kindergarten)
 - Producing families
- **Informal migrants**
 - « loose » employment... migrants having lost official residency... 50,000 (10% of total employment), not is LFS?
 - Household employees... 60% of them women
 - **64% of migrant workers are here for less than ONE year... no rights**
 - **77% for less than 3 years**
- **Informal employment 65% of total**
 - Almost same percentage between Bahrainis and migrants
 - Despite the fact that Bahrain is best country in the Gulf respecting workers rights!



Informal employment in Bahrain (general picture)

% of total employment

The shares of informal employment categories in Bahrain (% of total employment)														
Type of production unit	Jobs by Status in Employment													
	Own-account workers			Employers			Contributing		Wage workers			Members of cooperatives		
	Informal		Formal	Informal		Formal	Informal		Informal		Formal	Informal		Formal
	Bahrainis	Migrants		Bahrainis	Migrants		Bahrainis	Migrants	Bahrainis	Migrants		Bahrainis	Migrants	
Formal sector enterprises									0,6%	40,9%				
Informal sector enterprises	3,2%	0,1%		4,2%	0,1%		0,1%	0,0%	0,0%					
Households									?	15,5%				

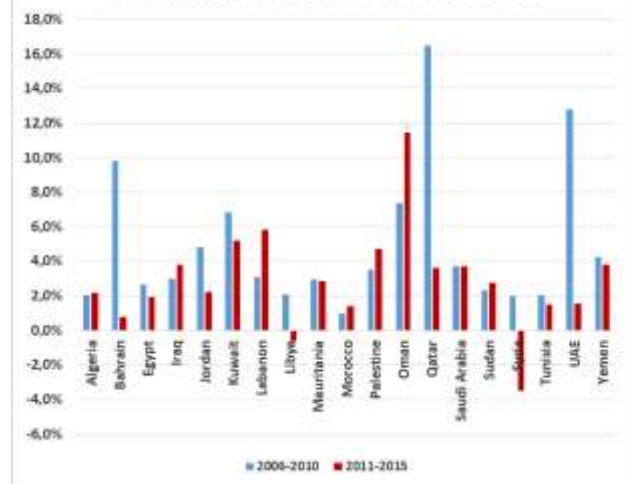
Hussmann's matrix

**The issue of informal labor is essentially in policies concerning migrant workers
A strongly regulated Informal employment !!!**

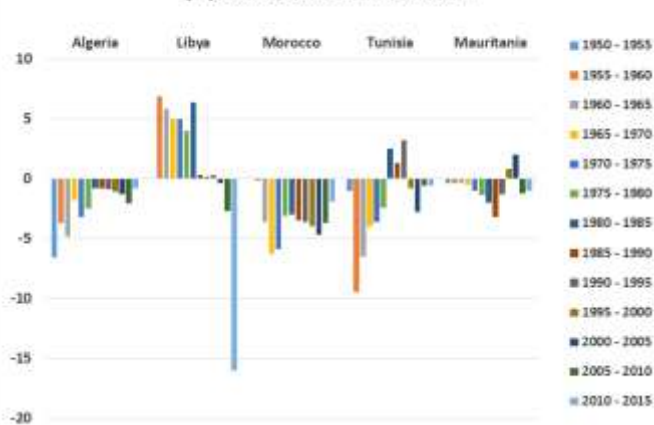
Informal employment in the Maghreb countries

- **Outgoing migration had a strong impact on population growth (still in Morocco -0,5% yearly)**
- **Incoming migration and “Arab Spring” effects shock in Libya and Tunisia**
- **All Maghreb countries passed their youth bulge.**
- **Accelerating rural–urban migration**
- **Stagnation (decline in some cases) of participation rates to labor force**

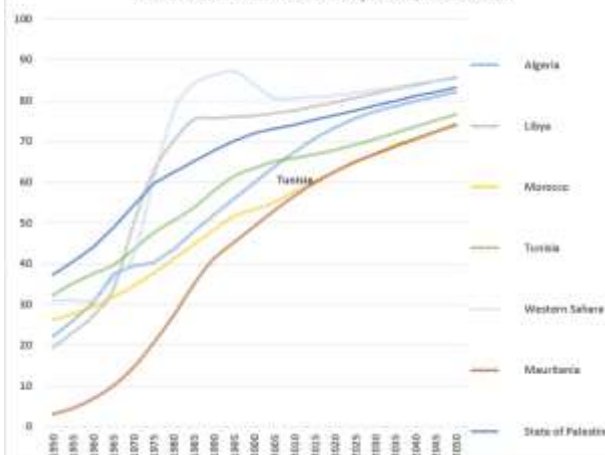
Growth rates of Arab labor force, source ILO



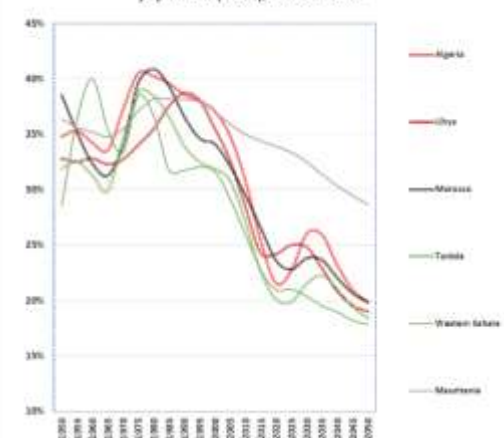
Migration Rates in Maghreb Countries, share of 1000
population, source United Nations



Evolution of the share of Urban Population, source UNDESA



Evolution of the share of youth (15-24) in working age population (15-64). source UNDESA.



Informal employment in the Maghreb countries

Algeria

- **Informal employment 39% of total (49% in 2005), because of large public employment and decline of agriculture employment**
 - **Nevertheless, 66% of employment outside government is informal (similar to Morocco)**
 - **For women, informal employment 49%, 85% if government employment excluded (54% non-permanent wage).**
 - **Non-permanent employment large, including in government and public sector**
 - **2011–2015 : jobs created <80% of newcomers**
- Statistical challenge: measuring non-permanent work and Contributing family**

% of total employment

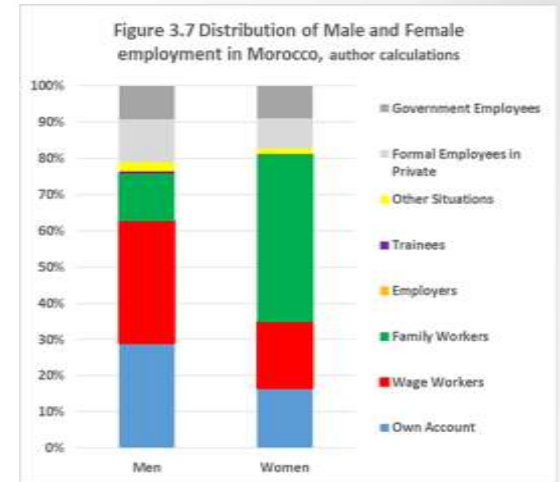
Table 3.4 The shares of informal employment categories in Algeria (% of total employment)

[illegible]

Informal employment in the Maghreb countries

Morocco

- **Informal employment 78% of total**, low public employment and large agriculture employment
- **86% of employment outside government**, 63% outside agriculture (similar to Algeria!!!)
- **For women**, informal employment 82%, **90% if government employment excluded**
- **A large share of contributing family workers.**
- **2011–2015 : jobs created <80% of newcomers**, despite low growth of labor force (outgoing migration, etc).



% of total employment

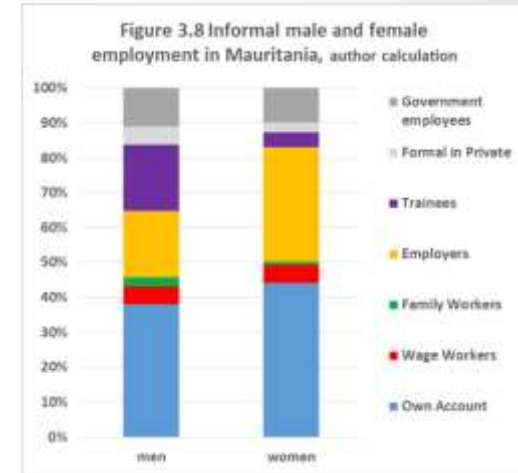
Table 3.6 The shares of informal employment categories in Morocco (% of total employment)

[illegible]

Informal employment in the Maghreb countries

Mauritania

- Informal employment **85% of total**, low public employment and large agriculture employment
- Nevertheless, **95% of employment outside government**, 74% outside agriculture
- For **women**, informal employment 87%, **95% if government employment excluded**
- A significant share of employers !!!
- 2011–2015 : jobs created <95% of newcomers, despite high growth of labor force (+3,1% annually).



Statistical challenge: measuring informal employers

% of total employment

Table 3.7 The shares of informal employment categories in Mauritania (% of total employment)

[illegible]

Informal employment in the Maghreb countries

Tunisia (Best Case)

- Informal employment **34% of total**, average public employment and small agriculture employment
- **42% of employment outside government**, 22% outside agriculture
- For **women**, informal employment 20%, 28% if government employment excluded
- Large horizontal extension of social security
- 2011–2015 : jobs created **<59%** of newcomers, relatively high growth of labor force (+1,8% annually).
Strong deterioration

% of total employment

Table 3.8 The shares of informal employment categories in Tunisia (% of total employment)

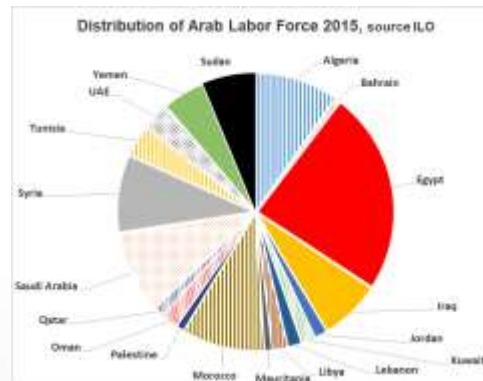
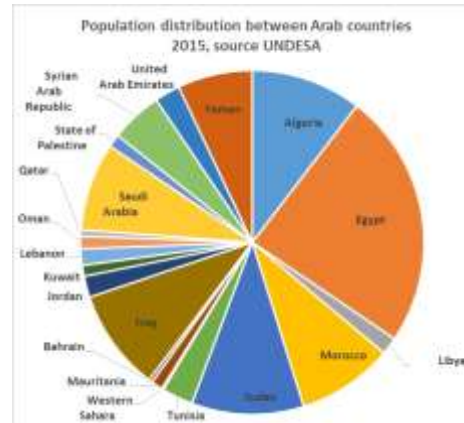
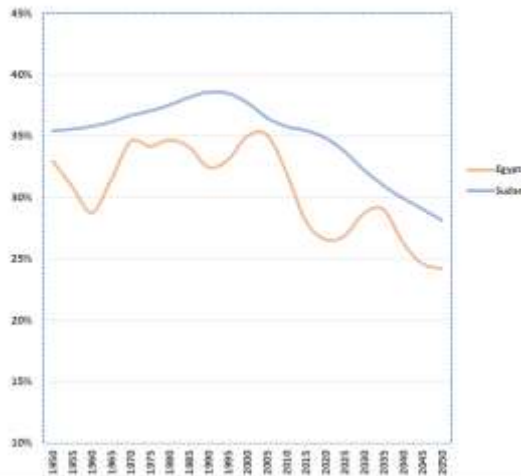
Type of production unit	Jobs by Status in Employment								
	Own-account workers		Employers		Contributing Family	Wage workers		Members of cooperatives	
	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Formal sector enterprises						?			
Informal sector enterprises	17,1%		?			7,1%		2,3%	
Households						9,3%			

Informal employment in the Nile Valley countries

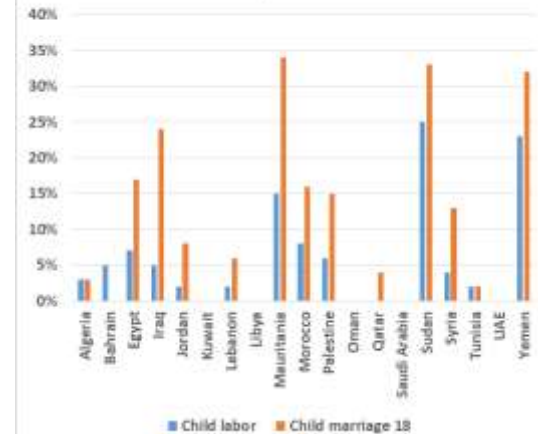
- **Outgoing migration low**, except undocumented Sudanese migration to Egypt and elsewhere
- **Low incoming migration** and “Arab Spring” effects shock in Egypt
- **Long duration youth bulge....**
- **Rural-urban migration only starting**
- **Child labor a major issue**

Statistical challenge: measuring child employment

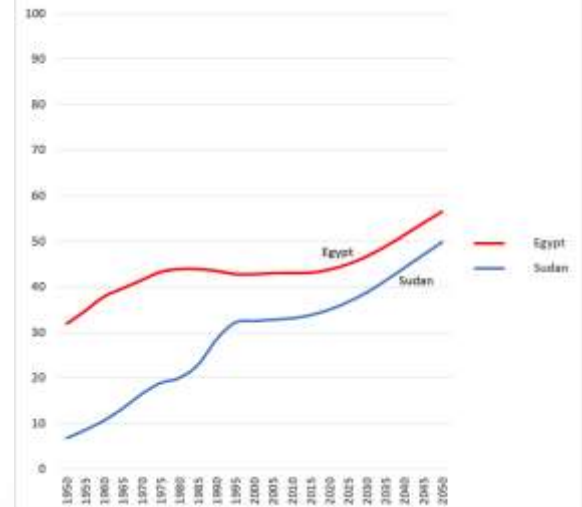
Evolution of the share of youth (15-24) in working age population (15-64), source UNDESA



Child Labor and Child Marriage in Arab Countries, source UNICEF



Evolution of the share of Urban Population, source UNDESA



Informal employment in Egypt

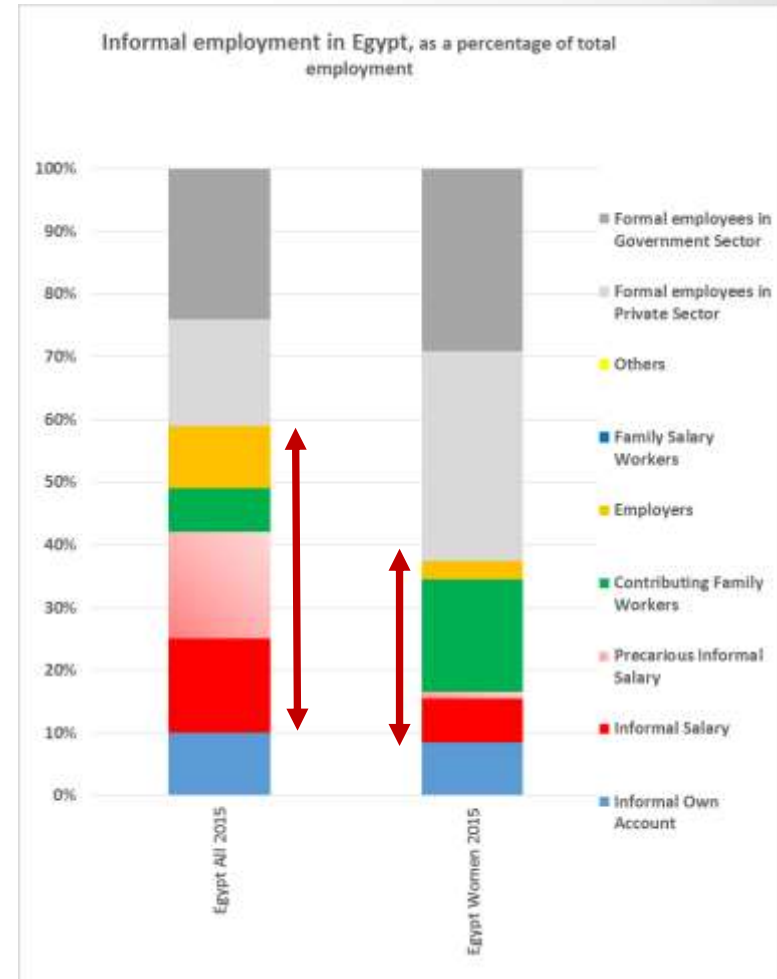
- End of the youth bulge; 25% youth, low outward migration.
- No major rural–urban migration wave; 57% of population still rural; but **acceleration**.
- New entrants to LF 690,000 yearly in 2006–2010 (240,000 women), reduced to 560,000 in 2011–2015 (126,000 women).
- New job opportunities **only 50% of labor demand** in 2011–2016, 60% for women.
- 24 million male employed, only 4 million women.
- Unemployment: male 9%, female 35%.
- **Informal employment : 59% of total employed, only 38% of the women employed.**
 - Main characteristic is other-account work (wage, ...)
 - Low own-account employment

Distribution of employed (men and women) in Egypt as for status in jobs		
ELMPS 2012	% of all employed	% of informally employed
Government services	26%	
Public sector	4%	
Wage regular work in private sector	11%	
Wage regular work in informal sector	15%	25%
Irregular wage work	17%	29%
Contributing family workers outside agriculture	2%	3%
Contributing family workers in agriculture	5%	8%
Own-account workers outside agriculture	8%	14%
Own-account workers in agriculture	2%	3%
Employers	10%	17%
Total employed	100%	
Total informally employed	59%	100%

Distribution of women employed in Egypt as for status in jobs		
ELMPS 2012	% of all employed	% of informally employed
Government services	49%	
Public sector	3%	
Wage regular work in private sector	7%	
Wage regular work in informal sector	7%	18%
Irregular wage work	2%	6%
Contributing family workers outside agriculture	3%	8%
Contributing family workers in agriculture	15%	36%
Own-account workers outside agriculture	8%	20%
Own-account workers in agriculture	2%	4%
Employers	3%	7%
Total employed	100%	
Total informally employed	41%	100%

Informal employment in Egypt

- **Informal employment: 59% of total, only 38% for women**
 - **Outside agriculture: 50% of total employment, only 22% for women**
 - **Outside agriculture and Gvt: 70% of total, only 34% for women**
- **91% of youth employment are informal... most of it in the formal sector !!!!**
- **First jobs for youth 79% informal for men, only 15% for women.**
- **The share of precarious work is increasing: from 8% in 2006 to 17% in 2012.**
- **A significant share of contributing family work without wage for women.**
- **A significant share of government employment is informal.**
- **Informal sector contribution to GDP estimated between 35% and 68%.**
- **Children work 4% (5–11 years), 13% (12–14 years).**



Statistical challenge: measuring informal contribution to GDP

Informal employment in Sudan

- **Strong influence of war and crisis**
- **Informal employment 77% of total**, large agriculture employment
- **Nevertheless, 82% of employment outside government**, 59% outside agriculture
- **For women**, informal employment 79%, 82% if government employment excluded, 47% outside agriculture
- **Large share of contributing family workers**
- **2011–2015 : jobs created <85% of newcomers**, while labor force grow at 3,0% yearly

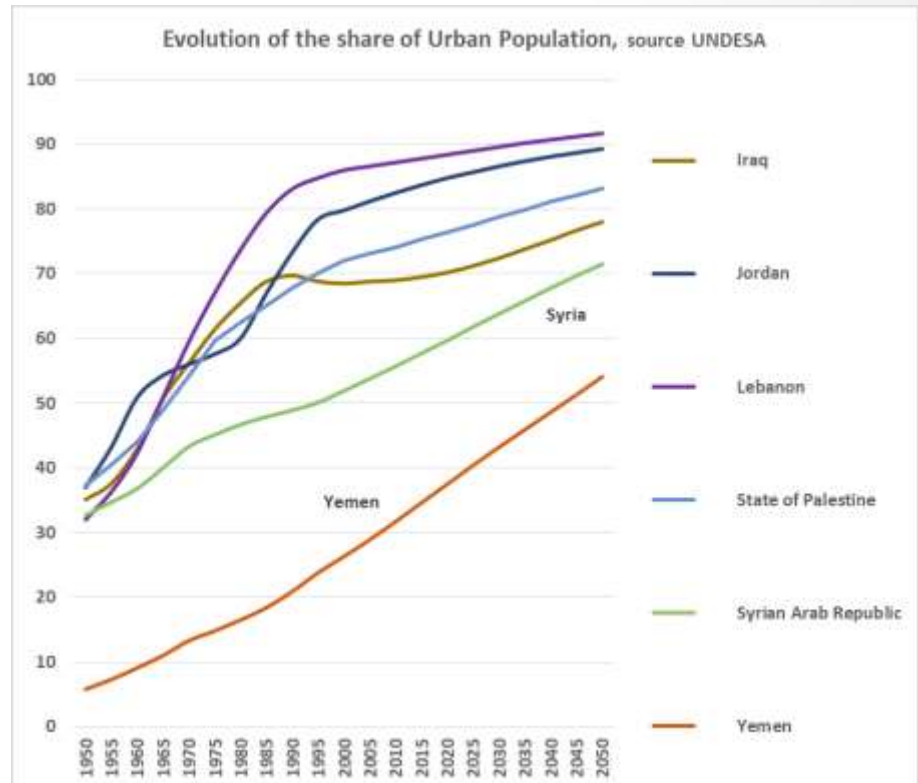
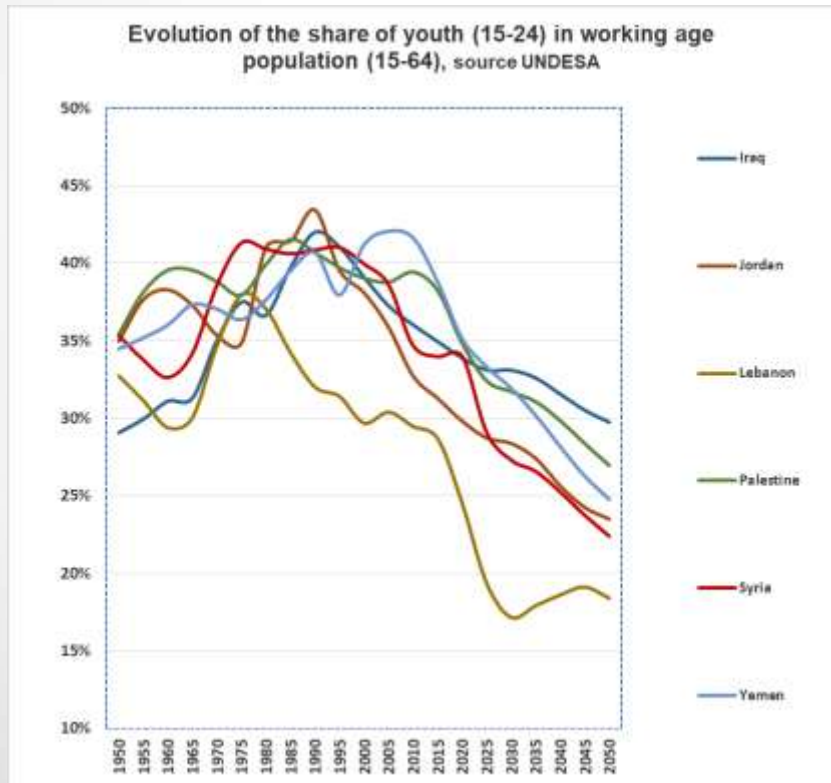
% of total employment

Table 3.13 The shares of informal employment categories in Sudan (% of total employment)

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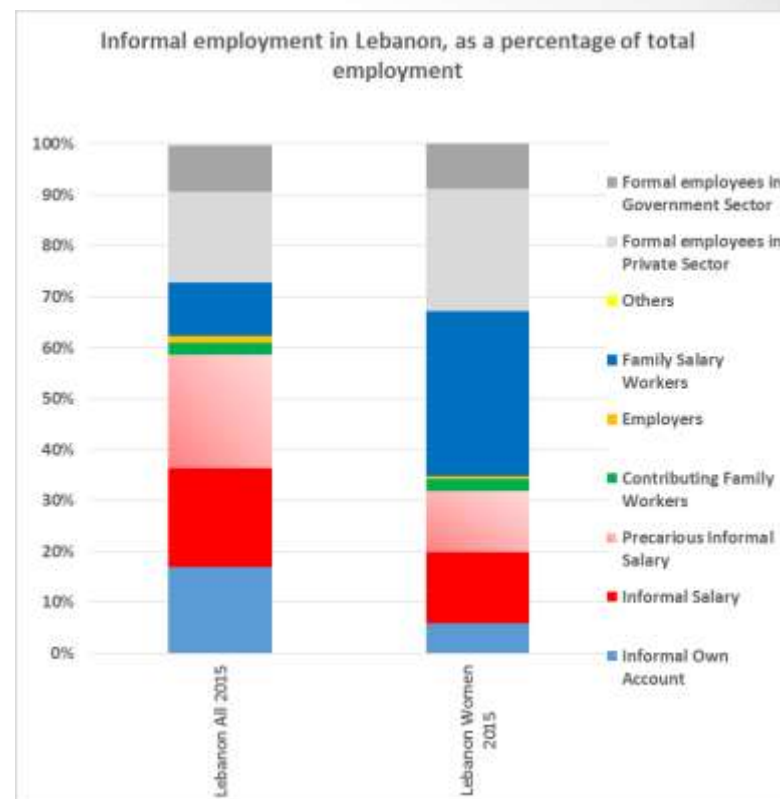
Informal employment in the Mashriq countries

- **Strong internal and inter-country migrations**
- **Strong “Iraqi invasions “ & “Arab Spring” effects shocks in all countries**
- **Strong youth bulge effect....**
- **Rural-urban migration strong → youth tsunami → unrest and conflicts**



Informal employment in Lebanon

- No youth bulge, 29% youth... but **high outward migration rates** (1–2% yearly).
- **Lebanese, Palestinian, Syrian and other foreign labor force** (including large share of domestic workers)
- **Inward migration = 2/3 of demographic growth**
- **Urbanized population: 90% in cities**
- **Yearly newcomers to LF 44,000 in 2006–2010, becoming 110,000 in 2011–2015** (1/3 women).
- **Participation:**
 - **Men: Lebanese 42%, Palestinians 42%, Syrians 47%**
 - **Women: Lebanese 21%, Palestinians 15%, Syrians 19%,**
- **Unemployment:**
 - **Men: Lebanese 9%, Palestinians 9%, Syrians 30%**
 - **Women: Lebanese 18%, Palestinians 14%, Syrians 68%**
- **Informal employment:**
 - **Lebanese 59%, Palestinians 95%, Syrians 99%, other migrants 90%.**
- **Main characteristic of informality : wage workers**
- **Own-account share is generally weak, but high for Lebanese in medium income country!!!!**



Informal employment in Lebanon

- Global picture of the country linking LFSs for each category of workers. But does not allow to follow changes since 2011.
- 85% of those working in Government and public sector temporary contracts = informal?
Statistical challenge: LFS extremely politicized
- Share of informal sector in GDP 36% (World Bank)
- Child labor: Lebanese 2%, Syrians 8%
- Poverty: 29% of population, 8% in extreme poverty (WB), other studies: Lebanese 3%, Palestinians 66%.....

Distribution of employed in Lebanon along nationality, gender and job status															
Total employed			Other migrants			Syrians			Palestinians			Lebanese			
Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	
100%	28%	72%	13%	11%	1%	18%	2%	17%	6%	1%	5%	63%	14%	49%	Share of Total employed in Lebanon
															Wage workers
9%	9%	7%							1%	1%	1%	14%	18%	10%	Government Public sector
11%	22%	10%	10%	10%	10%	1%	1%	1%	4%	9%	3%	15%	34%	14%	Formal in private sector
29%	45%	22%	80%	80%	80%	22%	9%	23%	36%	60%	30%	20%	20%	20%	Permanent informal wage workers
23%	13%	26%	10%	10%	10%	72%	85%	71%	31%	12%	35%	10%	7%	11%	Vulnerable wage workers (daily, etc)
21%	7%	26%							18%	12%	20%	32%	14%	36%	Own-account
5%	1%	6%				5%	5%	5%	9%	3%	11%	5%	1%	6%	Employers
2%	3%	2%										3%	5%	3%	Contributing family workers
0%	0%	0%										1%	1%	1%	Trainees
0%	0%	0%							1%	3%	1%				Others
100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	TOTAL
73%	67%	74%	90%	90%	90%	99%	99%	99%	95%	90%	96%	59%	44%	63%	Share of Informal employment

Informal employment in Lebanon (general picture)

% of total employment

The shares of informal employment categories in Lebanon (% of total employment)

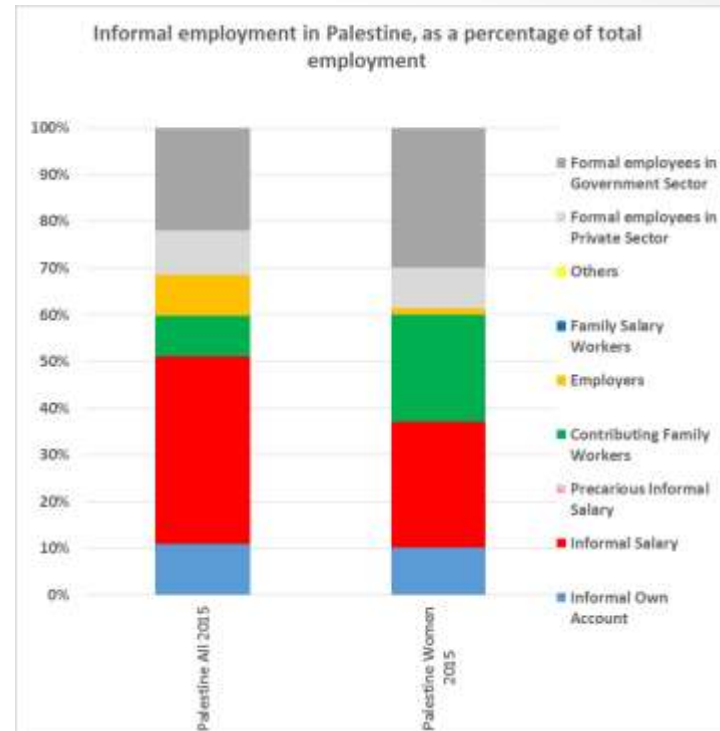
Type of production unit	Jobs by Status in Employment													
	Own-account workers			Employers			Contributing		Wage workers			Members of cooperatives		
	Informal		Formal	Informal		Formal	Informal		Informal		Formal	Informal		Formal
	Lebanese	Migrants		Lebanese	Migrants		Lebanese	Migrants	Lebanese	Migrants		Lebanese	Migrants	
Formal sector enterprises														
Informal sector enterprises	16,0%	1,0%		?	1,4%		2,2%	0,0%	19,4%	22,3%		?	?	
Households									?	10,1%				

The shares of women informal employment categories in Lebanon (% of total employment)

Type of production unit	Jobs by Status in Employment													
	Own-account workers			Employers			Contributing		Wage workers			Members of cooperatives		
	Informal		Formal	Informal		Formal	Informal		Informal		Formal	Informal		Formal
	Lebanese	Migrants		Lebanese	Migrants		Lebanese	Migrants	Lebanese	Migrants		Lebanese	Migrants	
Formal sector enterprises									13,8%	12,0%				
Informal sector enterprises	5,6%	0,4%		?	0,4%		2,5%	0,0%				?	?	
Households									?	32,5%				

Informal employment in Palestine

- In the middle of the youth bulge: 39% youth
- High unemployment 26% (36% female)
- Low female participation (WB 18%; Gaza 20%)... increasing
- 53,000 yearly newcomers to LF (+4,5% yearly), 15,000 women (+6,3%)
- New employment opportunities 70%, 50% only for women
- Major differences between WB and Gaza in public employment
- 17% of WB informal wage workers are employed in Israeli settlements
- WB accounts for 82% of all informals
- Latest specialized survey 2008??!!
- Share of own-account very small
- Informal sector contribution = 9 to 88% of GDP
- Child labor > 7% (6–14 years)
- Poverty = 26% of Palestinians, 50% of revenues below poverty line (especially WB).



Distribution of employed in Palestine (LFS of informality 2008)					
Women	Men	Total	Gaza	WB	
					Wage workers
30%	21%	22%	37%	16%	In Public sector
9%	9%	10%	16%	8%	Formal in formalprivate sector
27%	43%	40%	27%	45%	Informal in formal private sector
					Own account and employers
1%	10%	9%	5%	10%	Formal
10%	11%	11%	10%	11%	Informal
23%	5%	9%	5%	10%	Contributing family workers no wage
60%	60%	60%	43%	66%	Total of the informally employed

Informal employment in Palestine (general picture)

% of total employment

The shares of informal employment categories in Palestine (% of total employment)														
Type of production unit	Jobs by Status in Employment													
	Own-account workers			Employers			Contributing		Wage workers			Members of cooperatives		
	Informal		Formal	Informal		Formal	Informal		Informal		Formal	Informal		Formal
	West Bank	Gaza		West Bank	Gaza		West Bank	Gaza	West Bank	Gaza		West Bank	Gaza	
Formal sector enterprises									33,2%	6,9%				
Informal sector enterprises	8,5%	2,6%		?	?		7,4%	1,4%				?	?	
Households									?	?				

Statistical challenge: measuring employment in Israel and Israeli settlements

Informal employment in Jordan

- Strong influence of migrant workers: Egyptians, Asians, Syrians
- Strong division of labor between nationals and migrants
- Informal employment 57% of total, low agriculture
- 81% of employment outside government, 55% outside agriculture
- For women, informal employment 27% only, 55% if government employment excluded, 25% outside agriculture
- 2011–2015 : jobs created <82% of newcomers, while labor force grow at 2,4% yearly 2011–2015, 4,4% in 2000–2010.

	Male	Female	Total
Wage Workers	85,6%	96,8%	87,4%
whose in public sector	37,3%	51,5%	39,6%
whose in formal private sector	42,4%	42,6%	42,5%
whose in informal private sector	5,2%	0,6%	4,5%
whose in other sectors	0,6%	2,0%	0,9%
Employers	4,9%	1,3%	4,4%
Own-account workers	9,2%	1,7%	8,0%
Contributing Family Workers	0,1%	0,0%	0,1%
Non-waged workers	0,2%	0,2%	0,2%

% of total employment

Table 3.17 The shares of informal employment categories in Jordan (% of total employment)

Type of production unit	Jobs by Status in Employment													
	Own-account workers			Employers			Contributing		Wage workers			Members of cooperatives		
	Informal		Formal	Informal		Formal	Informal		Informal		Formal	Informal		Formal
	Jordanians	Migrants		Jordanians	Migrants		Jordanians	Migrants	Jordanians	Migrants		Jordanians	Migrants	
Formal sector enterprises								25,3%	5.0%					
Informal sector enterprises	6,0%	1,2%		3,2%	0,0%		0,1%	0,0%	3,4%	12,5%		?	?	
Households										?				

Informal employment in Iraq

- **Informal employment 52% of total**, very large public employment
- **88% of employment outside government**, 45% outside agriculture
- **For women**, informal employment 48%, 96% if government employment excluded, 29% outside agriculture
- **2011–2015 : jobs created <83% of newcomers**, while labor force grow at 4,3% yearly



% of total employment

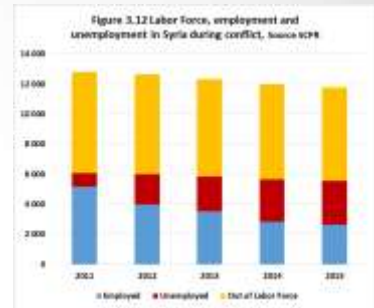
Table 3.14 The shares of informal employment categories in Iraq (% of total employment)

[illegible]

Table 3.15 The shares of Women informal employment categories in Iraq (% of total Women employment)

[illegible]

Informal employment in Syria (2010 before the conflict)



% of total employment

Table 3.23 The shares of informal employment categories in Syria 2010 (% of total employment)

Type of production unit	Jobs by Status in Employment								
	Own-account workers		Employers		Contributing Family	Wage workers		Members of cooperatives	
	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Formal sector enterprises					0,1%	5,4%			
Informal sector enterprises	28,1%		3,5%		3,9%	24,5%		?	
Households						0,1%			

Table 3.24 The shares of Women informal employment categories in Syria 2010 (% of total Women employment)

Type of production unit	Jobs by Status in Employment								
	Own-account workers		Employers		Contributing Family	Wage workers		Members of cooperatives	
	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Formal sector enterprises					0,1%	3,6%			
Informal sector enterprises	11,7%		0,8%		11,4%	11,2%		0,0%	
Households						0,1%			

Recommendations

- **A first step: bringing the statistics offices in the Arab countries to international standards**
 - The **regularity** of LFSs and HHISs: yearly, seasonally, comprehensive
 - A strong argument: How can progress on **SDG8** be measured without measuring progress on informal/decent employment? → **Joint UN agencies effort**
 - A strong argument: LFS and HHIS are **essential tools for policies** avoiding crises
 - Important capacity building is necessary:
 - Migrations (outgoing, incoming, rural–urban, ...) and informality
 - The Hussman's matrix approach
 - The issues of contributing family work, domestic work, non–permanent work (including in public sector), child work,
 - The internal gaps within the countries
 - Coupling with MSMEs surveys
- **Following steps: building capacities within CSOs, NGOs and Unions**
 - Creating **awareness/knowledge** on informal employment categories
 - Exchanging **international experiences**, including on **counter-surveys**
 - **Representation of informal workers is the key**