

## II. Fragility dimensions in NEN

- Relatively new vs chronic situations: 6 fragile Arab states of which 3 are MICs
- Socio-political unrests (Arab spring, recent protests in BiH, changes in the Failed State Index)
- Fragility-poverty nexus: Arab exceptionalism



### IFAD's Engagement in Fragile Situations in NEN: Cases of Bosnia & Herzegovina and Egypt



## I. Fragility in NEN operations

- 40% of countries have fragile and conflict-affected (FCA) situations
- 3 of the top 5 countries in the world with the highest youth unemployment rates are in NEN



# IFAD's Engagement in Fragile Situations in NEN: Cases of Bosnia & Herzegovina and Egypt



## III. Case of Bosnia & Herzegovina

- Key fragility attributes in BiH:**
- "Convulsed" institutional set-up (2 entities, 3 governments) with implications for projects (e.g. PMU duplication)
  - High unemployment rate at 20% for youth at circa 50% (4th globally in terms of youth unemployment)

**Total portfolio investments:** IFAD financing of USD 71 mil mobilized USD 100 mil in co-financing (mainly from DFID) with an outreach of 116,000 HH (1.8% rural population)

**Type of IFAD interventions:** support to on- and off-farm rural enterprises as well as rural infrastructure upgrades

**Key IFAD contributions to building resilience:**

- An increase of 60% in average monthly agricultural income for 181
- 205 small rural infrastructure schemes to improve market linkages
- 146 loans to small and medium enterprises (SMEs)
- Mitigating loss of market access (e.g. trade with Croatia)

## IV. Case of Egypt

**Key fragility attributes in Egypt:**

- Long transition has weakened governance
- Youth unemployment rate of 25%
- No access to financial markets due to Government shutdown

**Total portfolio investments:** USD 659.4 mil incl. USD 323.1 mil of IFAD financing for an outreach of 1.3 mil HH

**Type of IFAD interventions:** investing productivity in the oldlands and promoting the settlement of smallholders in the newlands (desert land located in Lower Egypt) incl better quality services, pro-poor sustainable use of natural resources, and rural on- and off-farm income-generating opportunities

**Key IFAD contributions to building resilience:**

- Job creation incl through VCD to offset the rural-urban disparities which are contributing to fragility (more than 60,000 permanent and 80,000 seasonal jobs generated in the West Nile basin project)
- A fourfold increase in annual HH income, reaching USD 8,300
- 6 PMAs (more than 30,000 members) incl. contracts with nearly 50 companies (Pine, Agro Foot, Green Valley) and GLOBALGAP certification



Thank You!



## Take away messages

- IFAD keeps engaged and modulates its approach to fragile situations
- It builds resilience to conflict by investing in rural areas, more likely to be neglected in any fragile situation
- It focuses on medium- to long-term development to consolidate and sustain results on the ground, while maximizing synergies with other agencies involved in relief and emergency interventions

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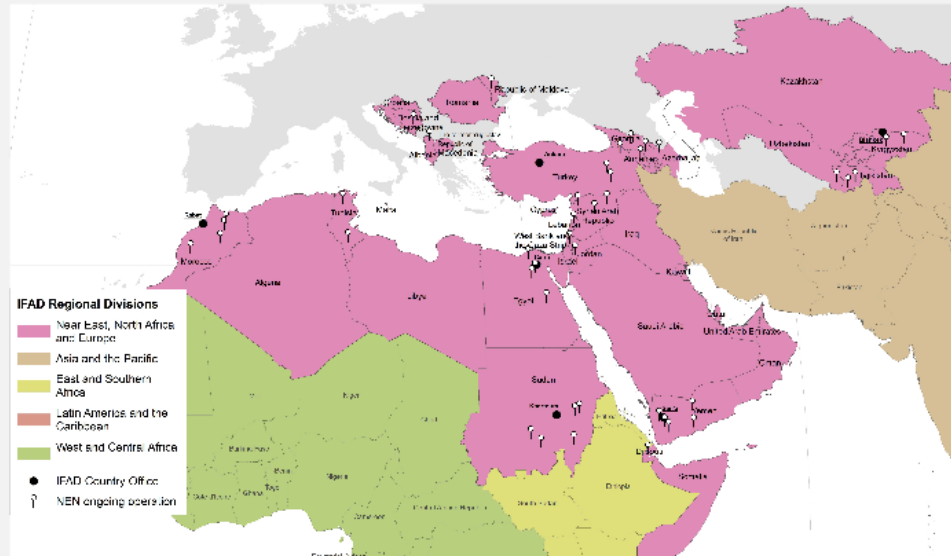
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