



MENA GENERATION 2030 AN OPPORTUNITY TO ACT NOW

*Investing in children and youth today to secure a
prosperous Region tomorrow*

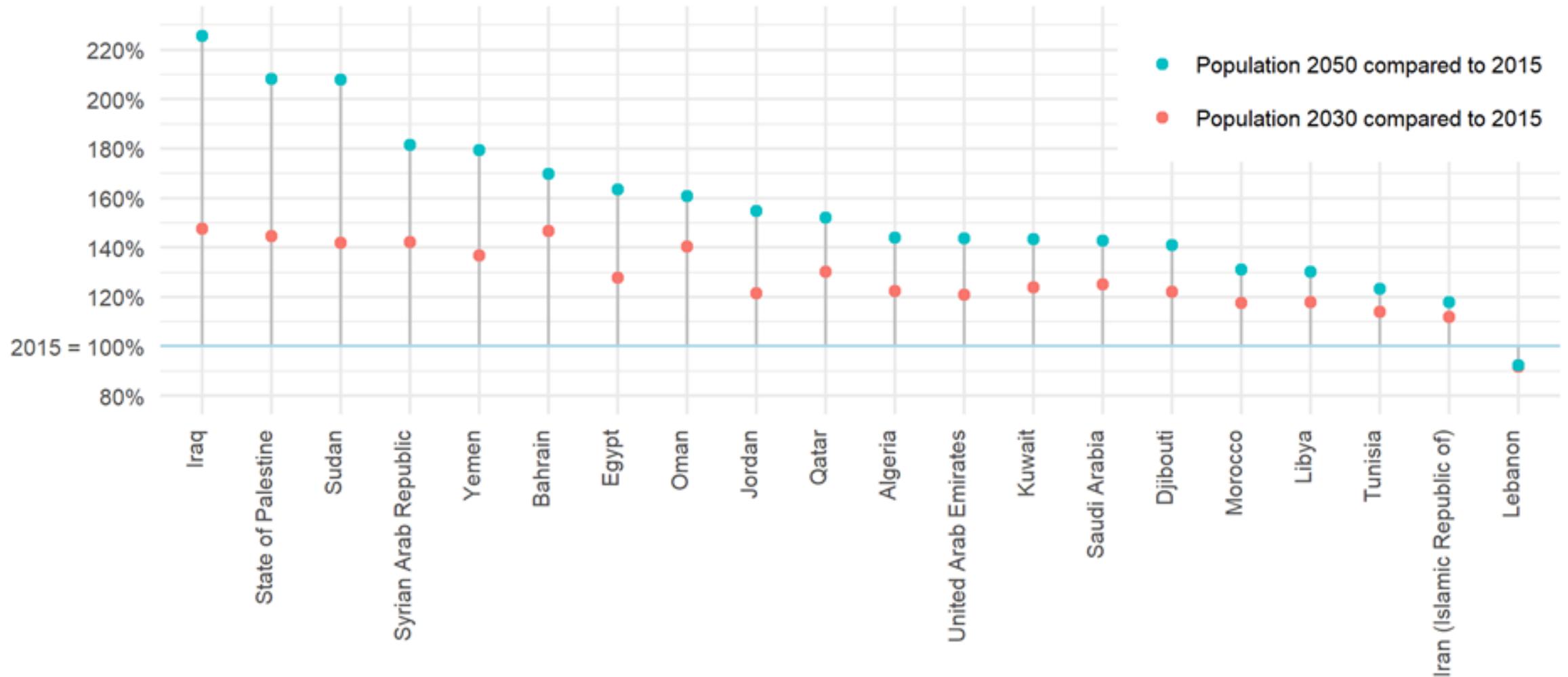
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MENA's population continues to grow, but at different speeds in different countries

Change in Total Population 2015 > 2030 > 2050

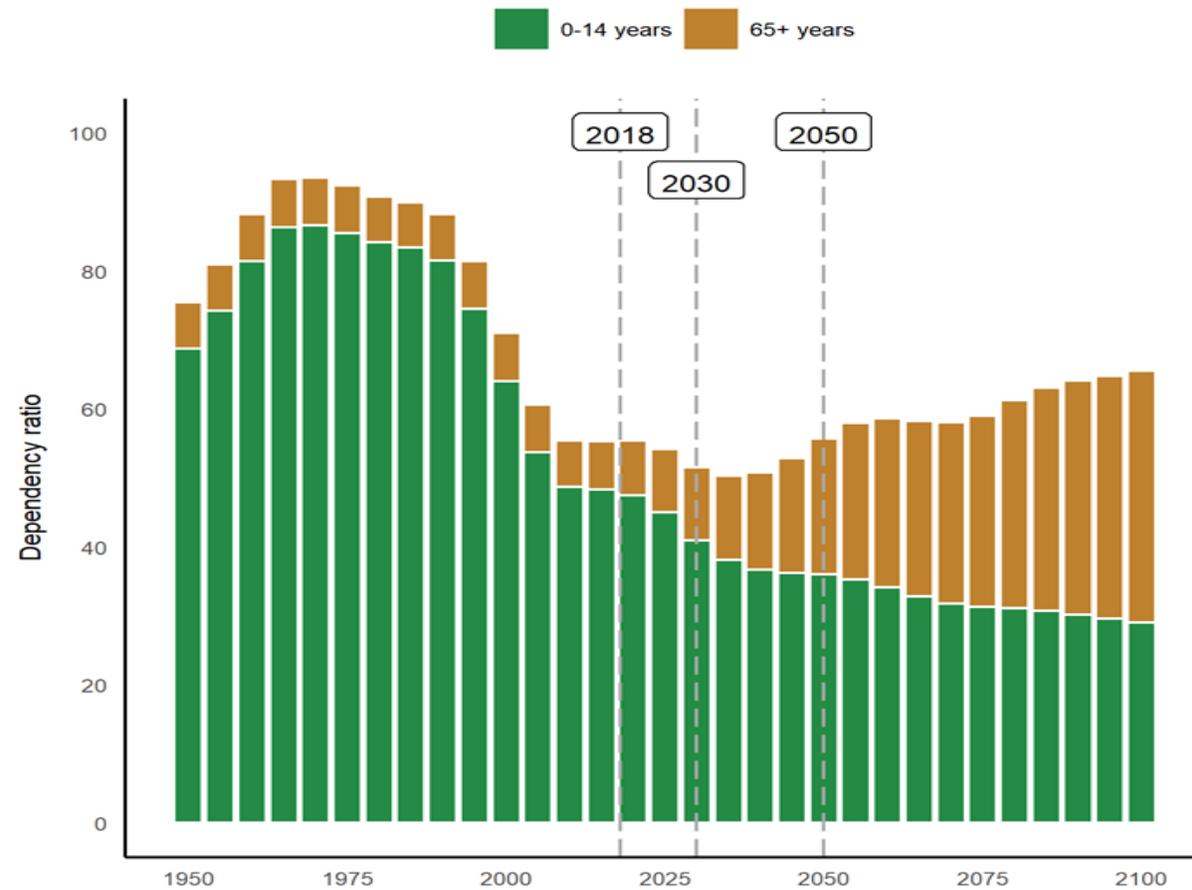


Prospect of a Demographic Dividend

During the first half of the 21st century an unprecedentedly *large proportion of the population will be in their most productive years, opening up the potential for a demographic dividend.*

A demographic dividend is the *economic growth, resulting from the demographic transition of a country's population* – a result of an increasing share of the working age population compared to dependent population (i.e. children and elderly), and thus creating *greater national wealth, which can spur consumption, production and investment.*

Evolution of the dependency ratio for the MENA region 1950-2100



Phases of a Demographic Dividend

Pre-dividend Countries: high fertility resulting in high child-dependency ratio – ***window of opportunity has not yet opened***

[Iraq, Sudan, Yemen, State of Palestine]

Early-dividend Countries: reduced fertility resulting in lower child-dependency ratio – ***window of opportunity is wide open***

[Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Libya, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Syria]

Late-dividend Countries: low child-dependency ratio, but increasing elderly-dependency ratio – ***window of opportunity is closing***

[Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, Qatar, United Arab Emirates]

(as of 2015)

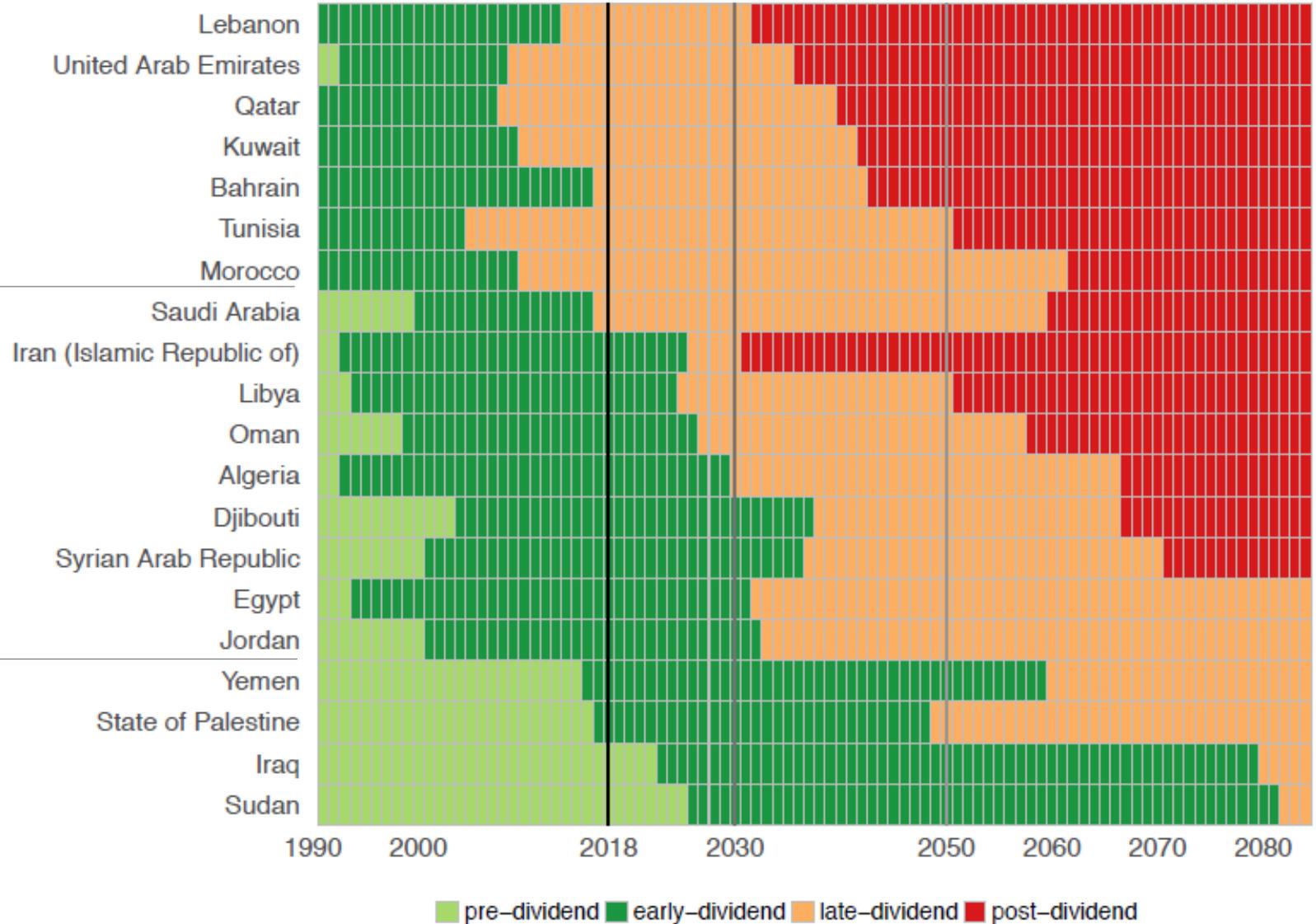
Countries by Demographic Phase 1990-2085

Late-dividend Countries:

Early-dividend Countries:

Pre-dividend Countries:

(as of 2015)



Prerequisites for a Demographic Dividend

However, prerequisites for ensuring that the window of opportunity for accelerated economic growth is realized:

- *Political and social stability*
- *Inclusive and equitable economic and social policies*
- *Expanded employment opportunities*

The most favorable period is between now and 2040:

The temporary age structure can boost economic growth, as long as *appropriate policies allow for continued investment in the human capital of children, adolescents and youth*, and the growing working age population is productively absorbed by the labor market.

Barriers to a Demographic Dividend

Political and social instability: *enormous costs of conflict and violence*, including vulnerability to death and injury, violence at home and school, lack of access to school resulting in *uncertainty and loss of investment, especially in human capital*.

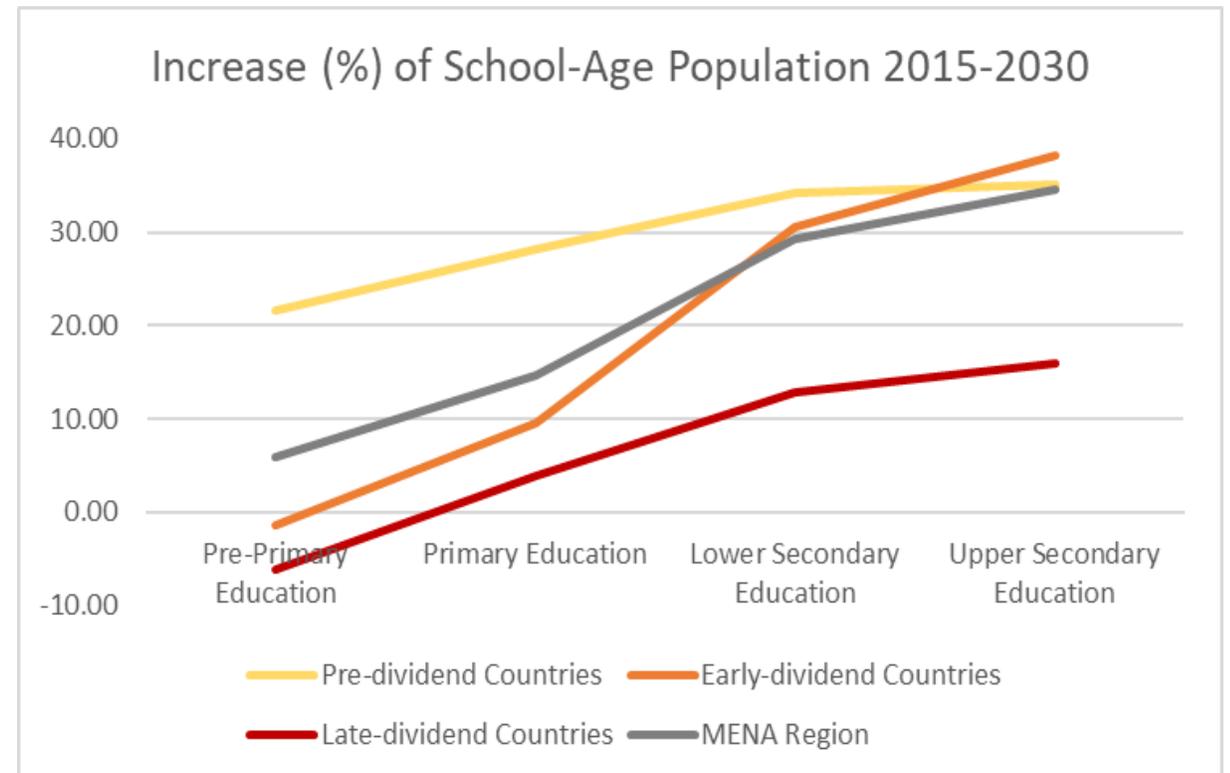
Exclusive and inequitable economic and social policies: *continued marginalization of adolescents and youth*, particularly young women, the poor, refugees and those with disabilities – severely *compromising their ability to contribute to society and the economy*.

Limited employment opportunities: *education systems are failing to facilitate learning towards skills required by the labor market*, and markets are in turn failing to generate jobs – *youth unemployment in the region is the highest in the world*.

Implications for Education Service Provision

By 2030, the countries in the MENA region will face an ***increase of 25 million (+23%) additional students*** to be accommodated in the already stretched education system.

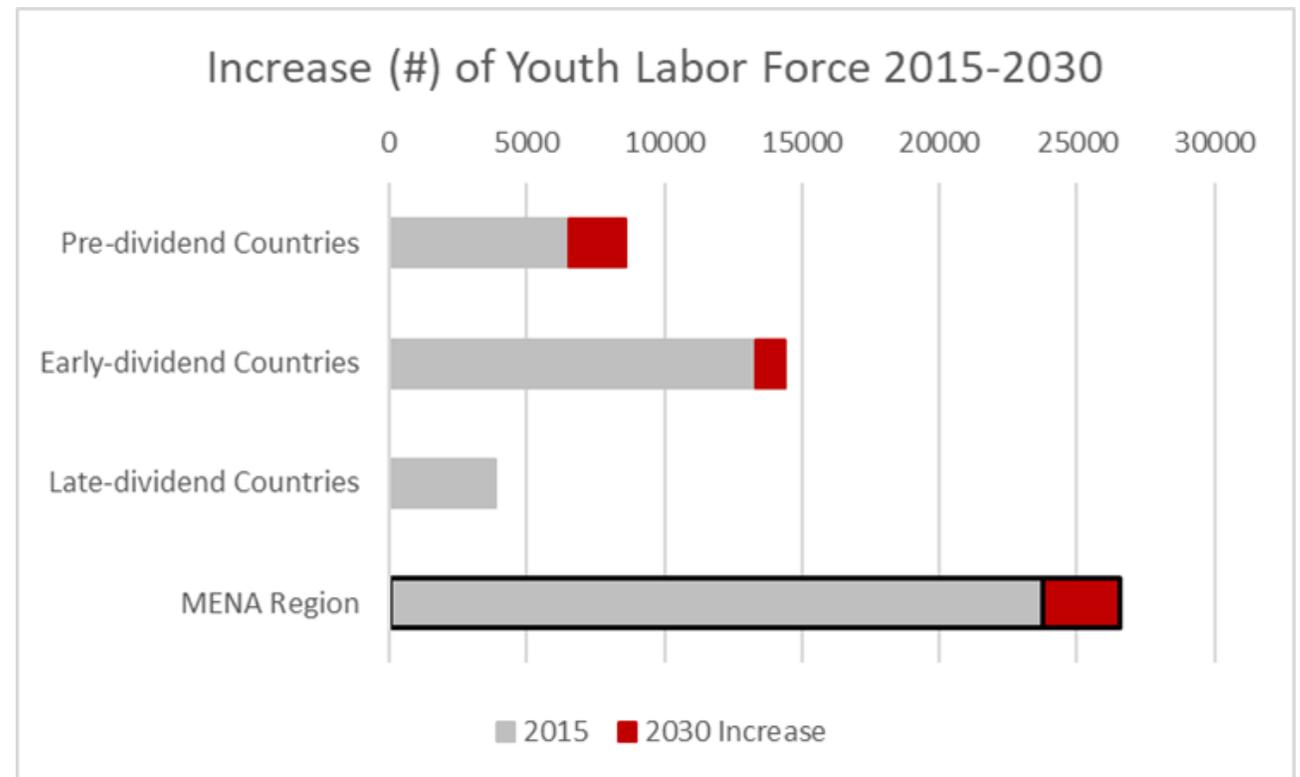
The projected increase is ***highest at lower and upper secondary*** education level. If countries do not address this enormous influx in an adequate manner, ***an additional 5 million children (+27%) may be out of school.***



Implications for the School-to-Work Transition

By 2030, the countries in the MENA region will experience an *increase of 39 million (+27%) new entries to the labor force*, to be accommodated in the national economies.

Youth unemployment rates in the region are currently the highest globally. *Education systems therefore need to nurture the skills demanded by the rapidly changing economy*, to enable successful transition to the labor market.



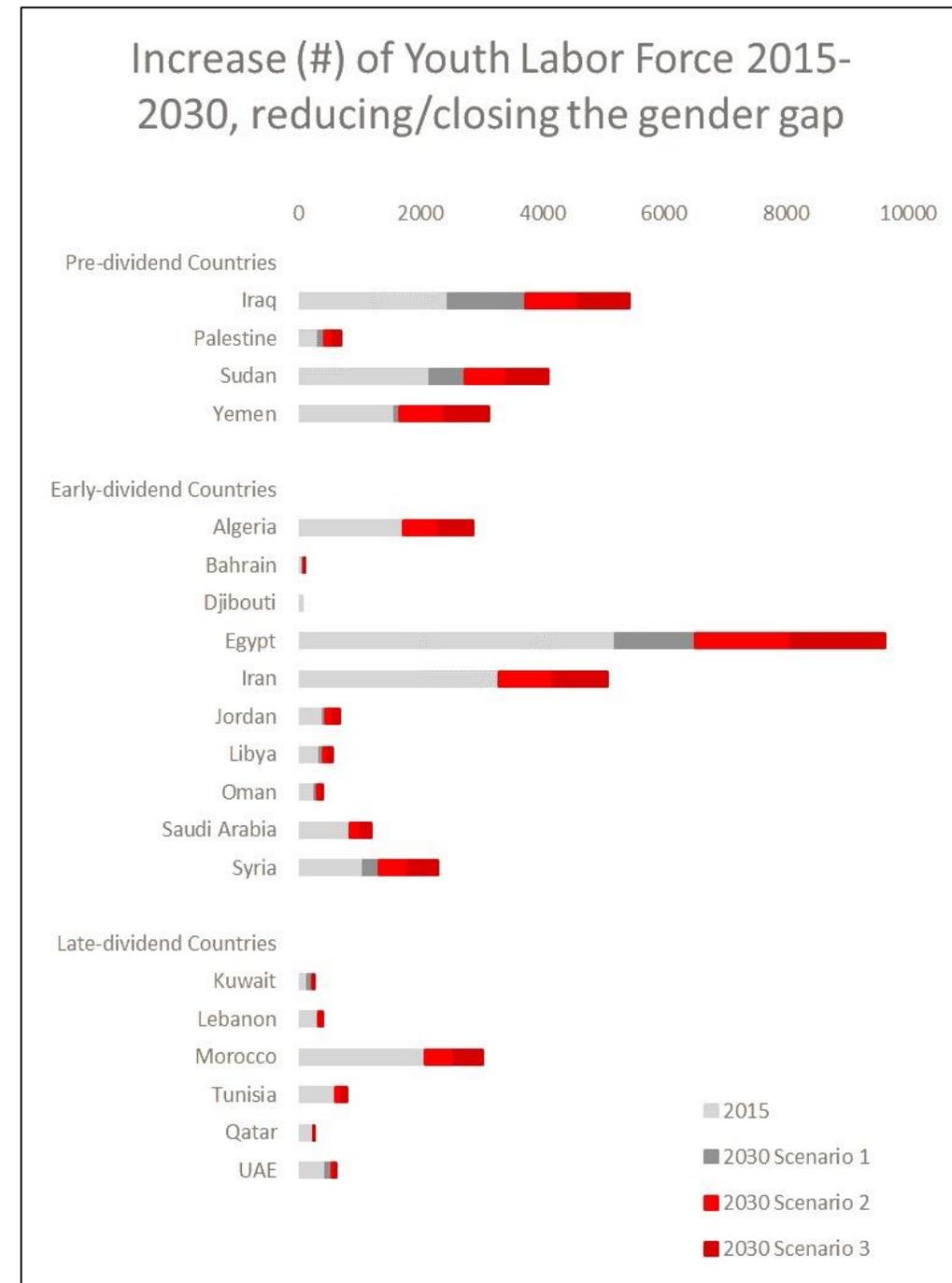
Potential of Female Labor Force Participation

Closing the gender gap in the youth labor force would unleash human capital to contribute to economic and social development.

Scenario 1: assumes the youth labor force participation rate for both men and women, remains the same for 2030.

Scenario 2: assumes the youth labor force participation rate for men is as in Scenario 1, while the rate for women increases to close the gap with the rate for men by 50%.

Scenario 3: assumes the youth labor force participation rate for men is as in Scenario 1, while the rate for women reaches the same level as the rate for men.





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Thank you! We welcome your questions and comments.