



ITU Regional Workshop on Bridging The Digital Innovation Divide  
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# ITU Report on Entrepreneurship in Arab countries

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# Outlines

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## 1. Entrepreneurship and its Contribution to Society

- Regulations and Policy

- Entrepreneurship in Arab countries

- Access to finance

- Sources of funding

## 2. Strategic guidelines that prioritize training courses on entrepreneurship and digital skills in the Arab world.

- Structural conditions: hard factors and ICT constrains

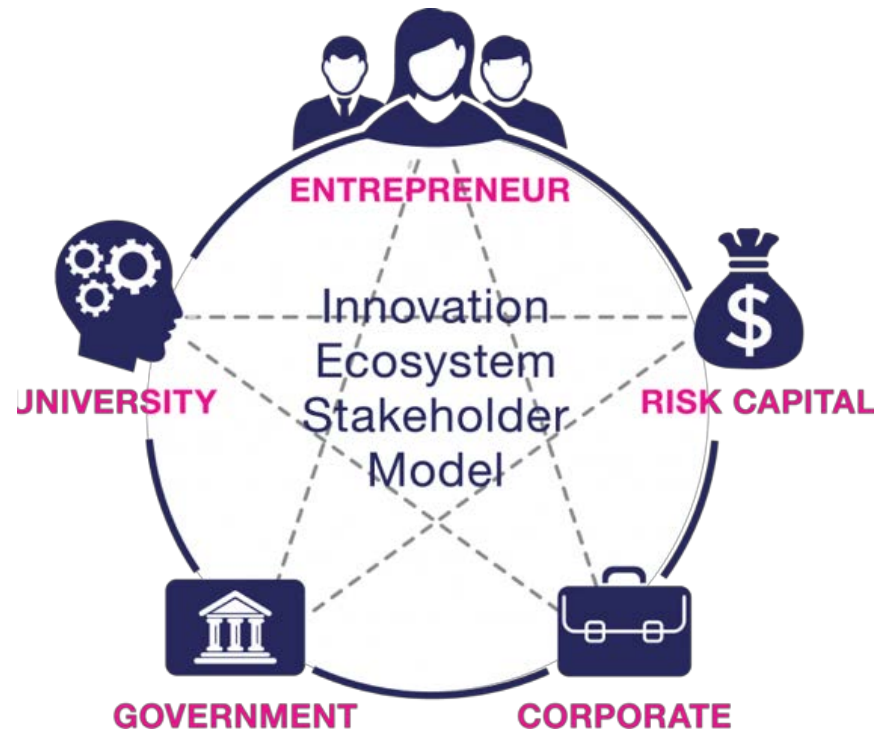
- Socio-cultural conditions: soft factors and business constrains

- Roadmap towards a capacity building plan in 22 countries

- Recommendations and the ways forward



# Background



- More than 90% of the world economy is driven by entrepreneurs, start-ups and SMEs: thus it is a driving force of economic stability, job creation, business innovation and green and inclusive growth
- **Project goal:** To gain a holistic understanding of the gaps and opportunities of Entrepreneurship and Innovation ecosystem in 22 Arab countries
- Formulation of the strategy and training courses on entrepreneurship and digital skills
- Recommendation on the way forward

<https://www.ntnu.edu/ihb/about-mit-reap>

# Framework for assessing entrepreneurship ecosystem and its success

The inputs estimated to predict the success of entrepreneurship



## Access to Finance

Individual investors  
Venture capital funds  
Public funding  
Debt financing  
Grant/subsidies  
Securities market



## Skilled Talent

Access to education and general degrees  
R&D and innovative skills  
Access to local and international labor market  
Entrepreneurship training



## Support and Networks

Accelerators/incubators  
Events  
University-industry partnerships  
Support: co-working spaces, technoparks  
Mentors, coaches, technical experts, advisers



## Culture

Society's attitudes toward entrepreneurship  
Entrepreneurial role models  
Media coverage  
Ambition, drive, hunger  
Social status of entrepreneur  
Tolerance, risk, mistakes, failure



## Regulations and Policy

Ease of doing business  
Compliance  
Trading across borders  
Digital policies  
Government R&D policies  
Venture-friendly legislation  
Institutions



## Market potential

Digital literacy / readiness: individual use, cloud migration, digitization of gov't services  
Domestic market size: B2B, B2C,  
Public procurement  
Local market efficiency  
Internationalization



## ICT infrastructure

Accessibility and affordability of Internet (mobile / fixed )  
Cloud & data center experience



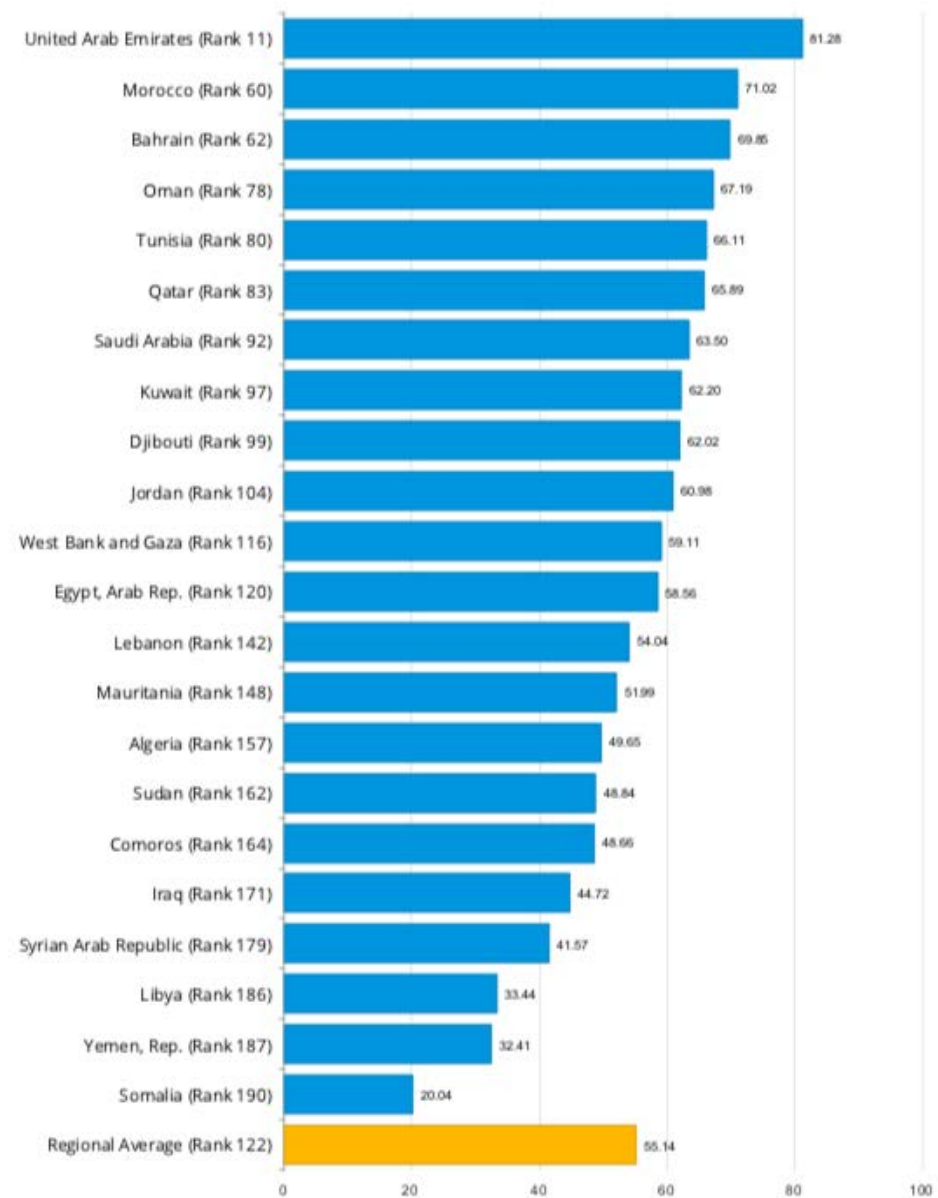
# Secondary data collection



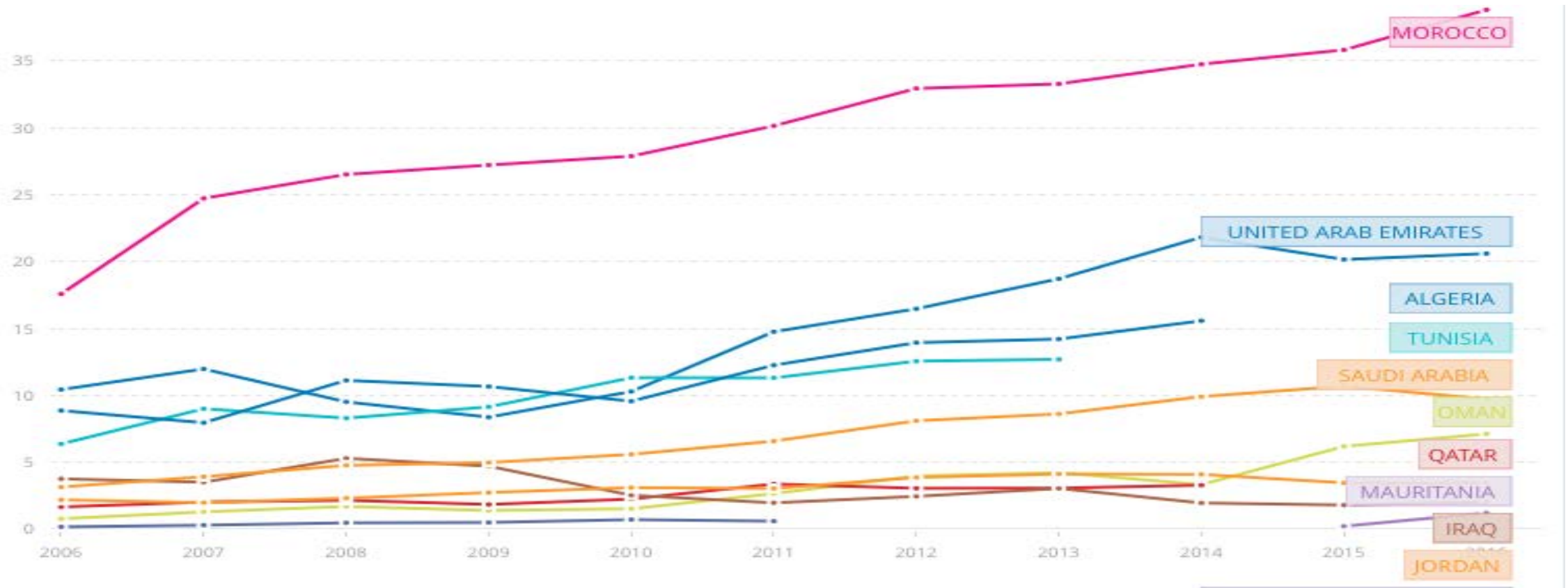
# Ease of doing business ranking by the WB

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How economies in Arab World rank on the ease of doing business



# Registrations of new businesses



# Societal values

	Entrepreneurship as a good career choice (% of adult population)	High status to successful entrepreneurs (% of adult population)	Media attention for entrepreneurship (% of adult population)
<b>Egypt</b>	83.4*	87.1	62.1
<b>Iran</b>	52.4	80.5	57.9
<b>Jordan</b>	73.5	82.3	74.7
<b>Morocco</b>	79.3	58.7	60.7
<b>Qatar</b>	71.2	80.4	66.7
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	81.3	78.7	75.9
<b>Tunisia (2015)</b>	71.1	72.1	48.3
<b>UAE</b>	75.1	82.3	83.8
<b>Average (MENA)</b>	<b>73.4</b>	<b>77.8</b>	<b>66.3</b>



# Fear of failure

		Fear of failure rate	Female/Male TEA
1	Lebanon	17.02	0.69
2	Egypt	30.2	0.4
3	Algeria	32.95	0.51
4	Libya	33.05	0.49
5	Saudi Arabia	34.35	0.83
6	Palestine	40.19	0.21
7	Tunisia	40.25	0.36
8	Qatar	41.86	0.99
9	Jordan	44.34	0.26
10	Morocco	52.9	0.37
11	United Arab Emirates	61.08	0.89

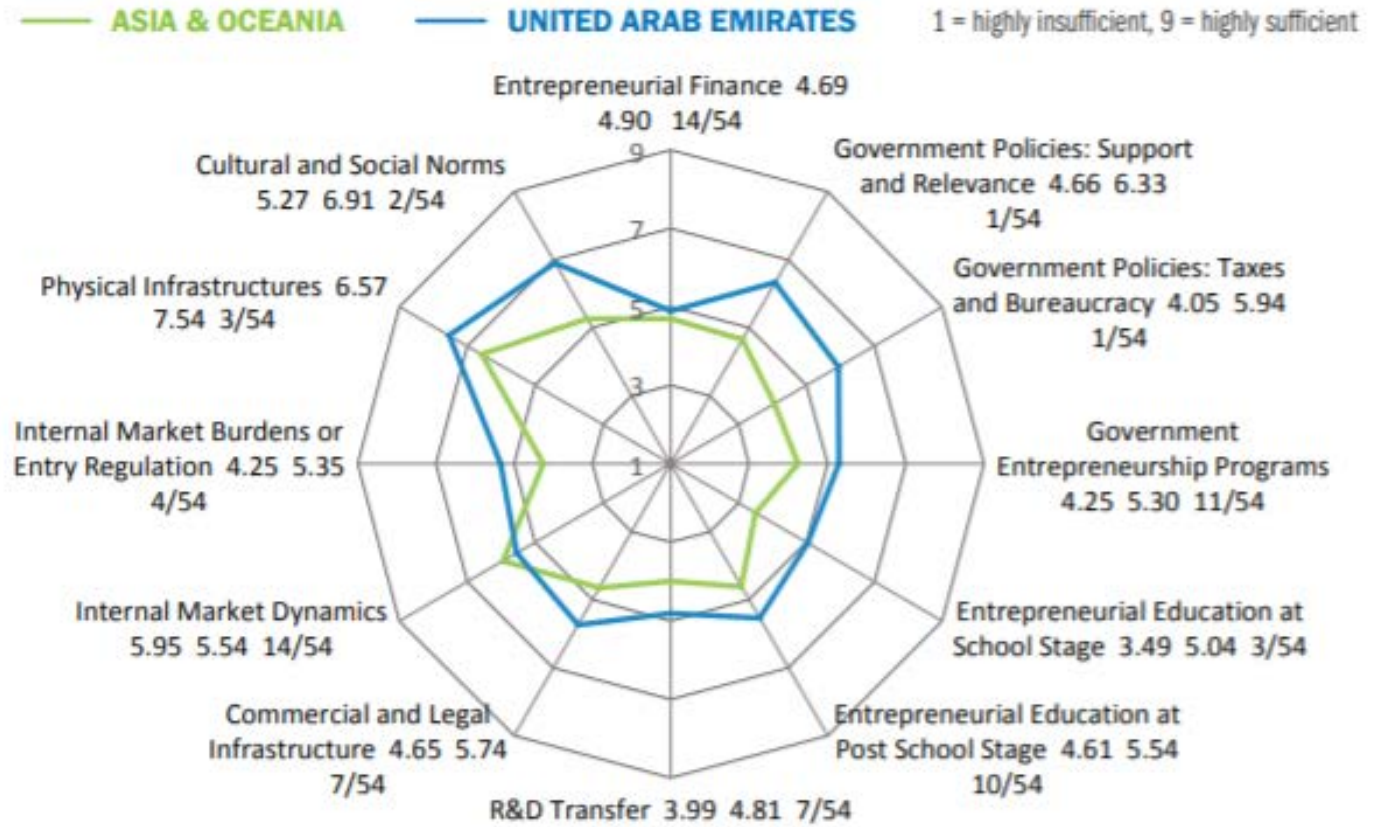
# MENA incubators, accelerators and co-working spaces

NOT EXHAUSTIVE

<p><b>Egypt</b></p>	<p><b>Morocco</b></p>		
<p><b>Saudi Arabia</b></p>	<p><b>Lebanon</b></p>	<p><b>Kuwait</b></p>	<p><b>Jordan</b></p>
<p><b>UAE</b></p>	<p><b>Bahrain</b></p>	<p><b>Qatar</b></p>	<p><b>Tunisia</b></p>



# Selected country profiles: UAE



# Tunisia

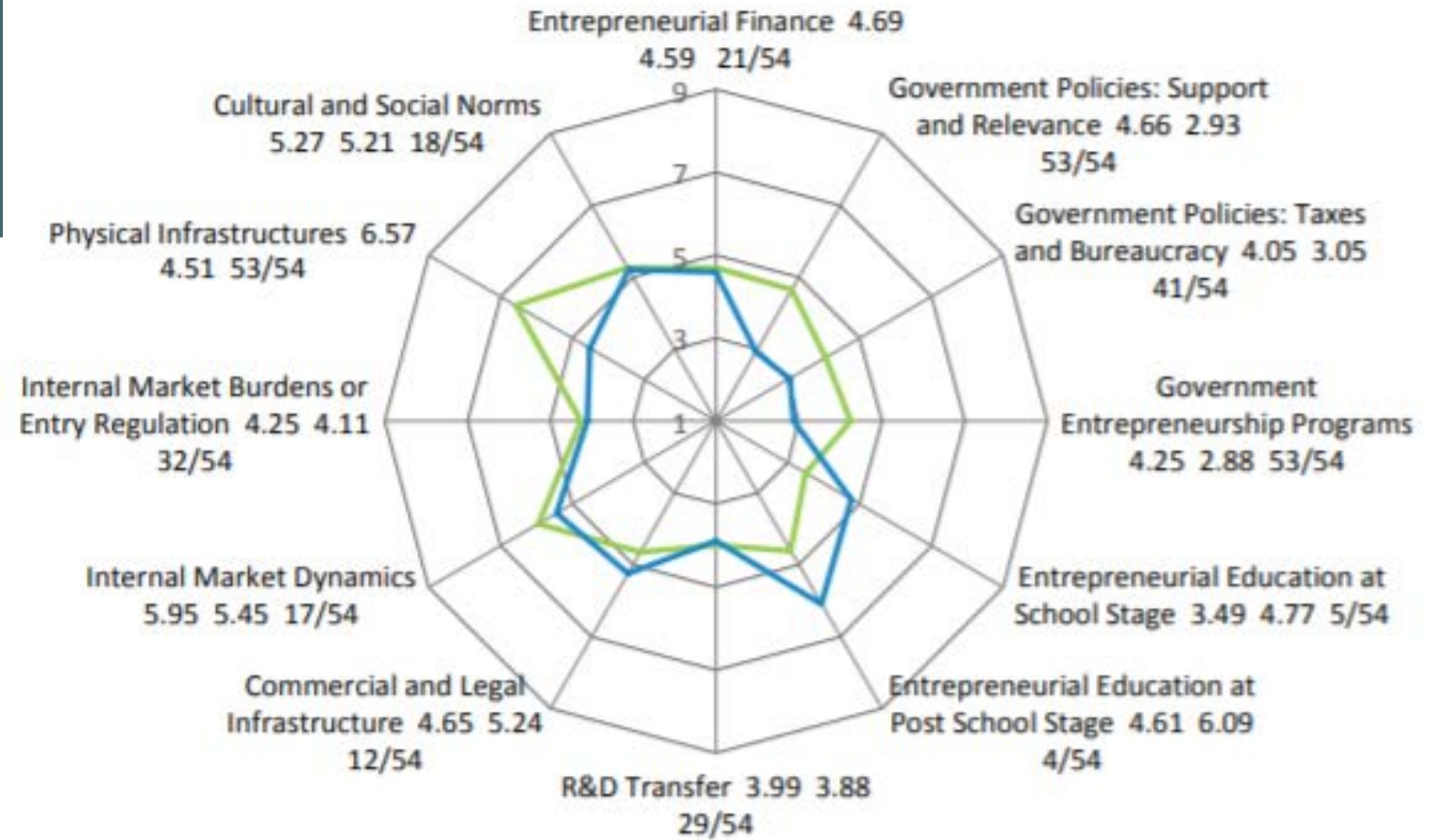


# Lebanon

— ASIA & OCEANIA

— LEBANON

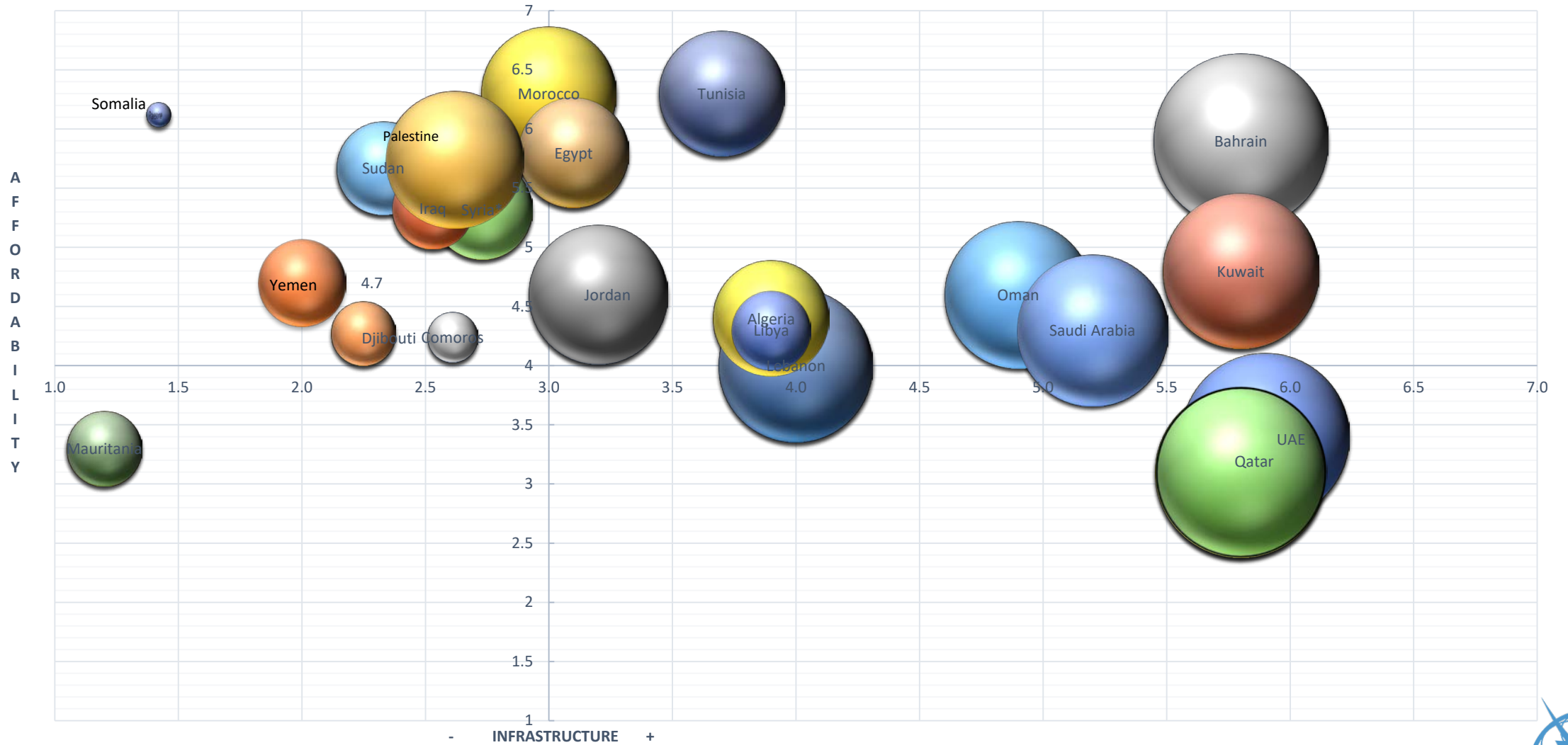
1 = highly insufficient, 9 = highly sufficient



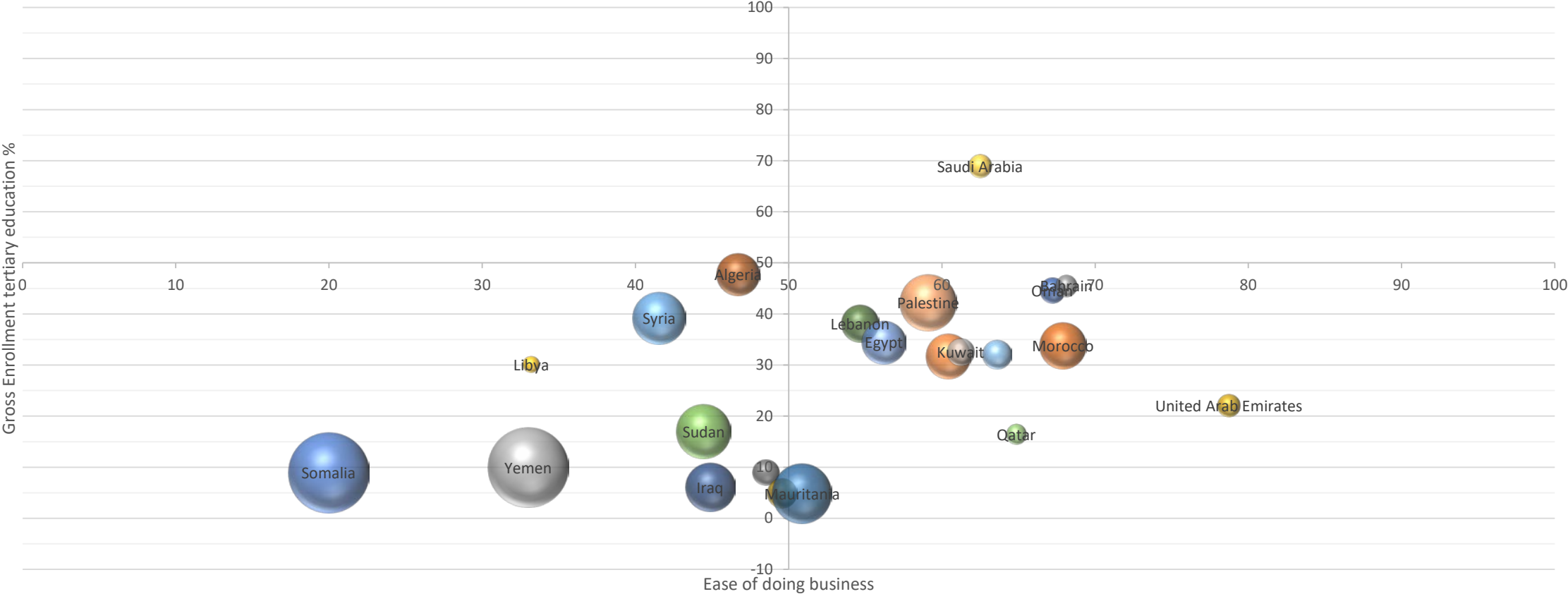
Part II  
Training courses on  
entrepreneurship and  
digital skills in the Arab  
World



## Economic conditions of 22 Arab countries



# Soft conditions to develop training programs





Country	Infrastructure	Accessibility	Digital literacy and Skills	Business environment	Gender equality
UAE	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green
Bahrain	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Morocco	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow
Oman	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Yellow
Qatar	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green
Tunisia	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Green
Saudi Arabia	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green
Kuwait	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Jordan	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Egypt	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Lebanon	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Mauritania	Red	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Red
Djibouti	Red	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow
Comoros	Red	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow
Algeria	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Iraq	Red	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Red
Sudan	Red	Green	Red	Yellow	Red
Syria	Red	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Red
Libya	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Green
Yemen	Red	Yellow	Red	Red	Red
Somalia	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red
Palestine	Red	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Red



	Algeria	Egypt	Palestine	Libya	Syria	Iraq
Top training recommendation	Entrepreneurship skills	Entrepreneurship skills	Essentials of entrepreneurship	Soft skills	Essentials of entrepreneurship	Soft skills
2 <sup>nd</sup> training recommendation	Mid-level digital skills	Soft-skills	Entrepreneurship skills	Entrepreneurship skills	Entrepreneurship skills	Entrepreneurship skills
3 <sup>rd</sup> training recommendation	Digital entrepreneurship	Mid-level digital skills	Digital entrepreneurship	Mid-level digital skills	Digital Entrepreneurship	Digital entrepreneurship

	Yemen	Djibouti	Comoros	Mauritania	Somalia	Sudan
Top training recommendation	Essentials of entrepreneurship	Basic digital skills	Essentials of Entrepreneurship	Essentials of entrepreneurship	Basic digital skills	Digital entrepreneurship
2 <sup>nd</sup> training recommendation	Basic digital skills	Essentials of entrepreneurship	Basic digital skills	Basic digital skills	Management and financial skills at basic level	Basic digital skills
3 <sup>rd</sup> training recommendation	Management and financial skills at basic level	Digital entrepreneurship	Management and financial skills at basic level	Financial and management skills	Essentials of Entrepreneurship	Essentials of entrepreneurship

	Jordan	Morocco	Lebanon	Tunisia	Oman
Top training recommendation	Digital Entrepreneurship	Essentials of Entrepreneurship	Soft-skills	Digital Entrepreneurship	Entrepreneurship skills
2 <sup>nd</sup> training recommendation	Mid-level digital skills	Digital entrepreneurship	Digital Entrepreneurship	Mid-level digital skills	Digital entrepreneurship
3 <sup>rd</sup> training recommendation	Global entrepreneurship and innovation	Mid-level digital skills	Entrepreneurship skills	Management and financial issues to run a business	Soft skills

	Bahrain	UAE	Qatar	Saudi Arabia	Kuwait
Top training recommendation	Advanced digital skills	Global entrepreneurship and innovation	Global entrepreneurship and innovation	Entrepreneurship skills	Entrepreneurship skills
2 <sup>nd</sup> training recommendation	Global entrepreneurship and innovation	Management and financial issues to run business	Digital Entrepreneurship	Digital Entrepreneurship	Soft skills
3 <sup>rd</sup> training recommendation	Digital Entrepreneurship	Advanced digital skills	Advanced digital skills	Soft skills	Digital entrepreneurship

## Female entrepreneurship

HD rank	Country	Female share of graduates in science, mathematics, engineering, manufacturing and construction at tertiary level	Female share of employment in senior and middle management		Women with account at financial institution or with mobile money-service provider
		(%)	(%)		(% of female population ages 15 and older)
34	UAE	17,3	10	a	76,4
37	Qatar	15,8	12,2	a	61,6
	Saudi Arabia	17,4	6,8	a	58,2
43	Bahrain	12,6	14	d	75,4
48	Oman	39,8	18	c	63,5
56	Kuwait	n/a	13,61	a	73,5
80	Lebanon	18,0	8,4	a	32,9
85	Algeria	26,9	10,6	a	29,3
95	Jordan	18,4	2,4	b	26,6
95	Tunisia	37,2	14,8	a	28,4
108	Libya	n/a	<1		59,6
115	Egypt	7,7	4,9	b	27,0
119	Palestine	12,6	15,4		15,9
120	Iraq	n/a	2,4	b	19,5
123	Morocco	17,5	12,8	a	16,8
155	Syria	19,2	9	a	19,6
	Mauritania	16,8	4,5	b	15,5
159	a	n/a	4,09	e	17,9
165	Comoros	12,8	3,4	b	10,0
167	Sudan	n/a	14,2	b	8,8
172	Djibouti	n/a	0,2	b	1,7
178	Yemen	n/a			
..	Somalia	n/a	<1		33,7



Thank you for  
your attention

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