



EGM on "Technology as a Renewed Hope to Achieving Gender Equality in the Arab Region: A Fact or Illusion?"

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اللجنة الاقتصادية والاجتماعية لغربي آسيا

ICT and SDGs : an Arab Region Gender Equality Lens

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الأمم المتحدة

الاستشهاد

ESCWA

Outline

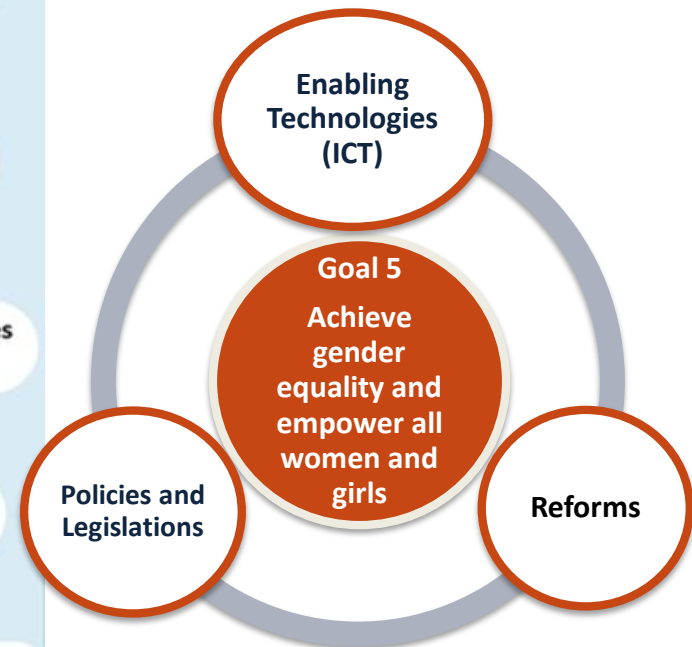
- Gender, ICT and the United Nations
 - SDGs and ICT
 - Gender and ICT in Numbers: Global and Regional
 - Conclusion
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Gender, ICT and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



Gender, ICT and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

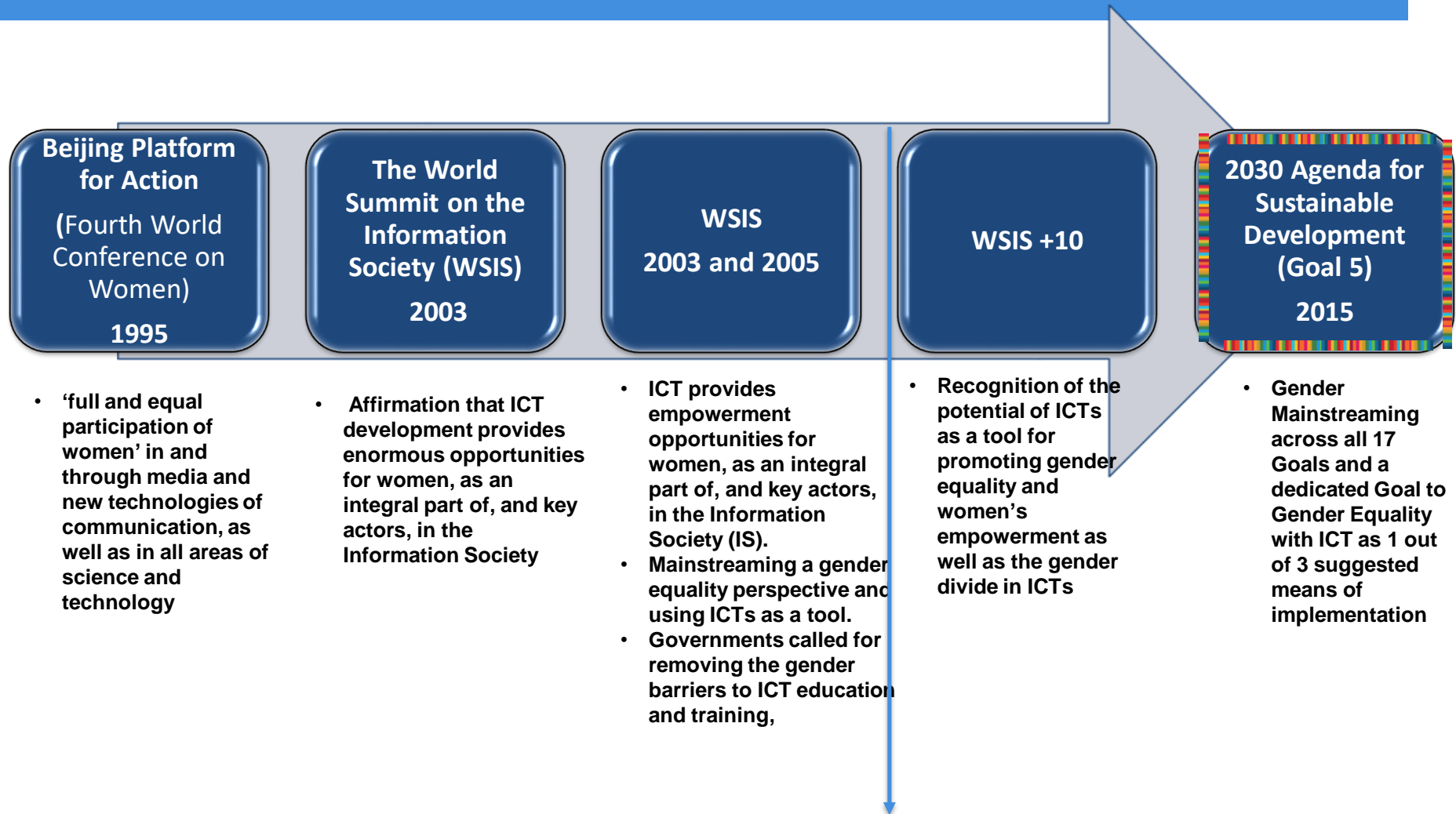
Goal 5 Targets



Goal 5 Means of Implementation

Gender, ICT and the United Nations

Major Milestones



UN Commission on the Status of Women CSW 55, 2011:

“Access and participation of women and girls in education, training and science and technology, including for the promotion of women’s equal access to full employment and decent work”

SDGs and ICT: An Overview



ICTs as a **key enabler** and **mean to implement** and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets

*The spread of **information and communications technology** and **global interconnectedness** has great potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge the digital divide and to develop knowledge societies, as does scientific and technological innovation across areas as diverse as medicine and energy.*

TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD: THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SDGs and ICT: An Overview



4.b By 2030, substantially increase support for scholarships available to developing countries, in particular LDCs, SIDS and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and **information and communications technology**, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries.



5.b Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular **information and communications technology**, to promote the empowerment of women.



9.c Significantly increase **access to information and communications technology** and strive to provide **universal and affordable access to the Internet** in least developed countries by 2020.



17.8 Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular **information and communications technology**.

SDGs and ICT : WSIS - SDG Matrix



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS \ WSIS ACTION LINES LINKAGES

	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	e-gov	e-bus	e-lea	e-hea	e-emp	e-env	e-agr	e-sci	C8	C9	C10	C11
SDG 1	■	■	■	■	■			■		■			■	■			■	
SDG 2			■	■		■		■					■		■		■	
SDG 3	■		■	■					■				■				■	
SDG 4			■	■		■		■	■		■		■		■		■	
SDG 5	■		■	■		■		■	■		■		■		■		■	
SDG 6			■	■										■	■		■	
SDG 7			■	■										■	■		■	
SDG 8		■	■	■		■		■			■		■		■		■	
SDG 9		■	■	■			■	■				■				■	■	
SDG 10	■		■	■		■					■		■				■	
SDG 11		■	■	■		■						■		■		■	■	
SDG 12			■	■						■		■		■		■	■	
SDG 13			■	■								■		■			■	
SDG 14			■	■								■		■			■	
SDG 15			■	■								■		■			■	
SDG 16	■		■	■		■	■	■								■	■	
SDG 17	■		■	■		■	■	■		■	■		■	■			■	■

[Detailed ALs](#)

<https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/sdg/>

One of the 1st conventions and summits that began shedding light on the issues of technology and gender as well as using ICTs as a tool for women empowerment and gender equality

Gender and ICT in Numbers: Global

In low- and middle-income countries

Women are

10% 

less likely than men to own a mobile phone

184 million

fewer women own a mobile than men

In low- and middle-income countries

Over

1.2 billion

women do not use mobile internet

Women are

26% less likely than men to use mobile internet 

There is a significant gender gap in mobile usage



– particularly for more transformational services



Women in South Asia are 26% less likely to own a mobile than men and 70% less likely to use mobile internet

Cost 

is the greatest barrier to both mobile ownership and to mobile internet use

Other key barriers, often felt more strongly by women than men,

include lack of perceived relevance, safety and security-related issues and low digital literacy and literacy

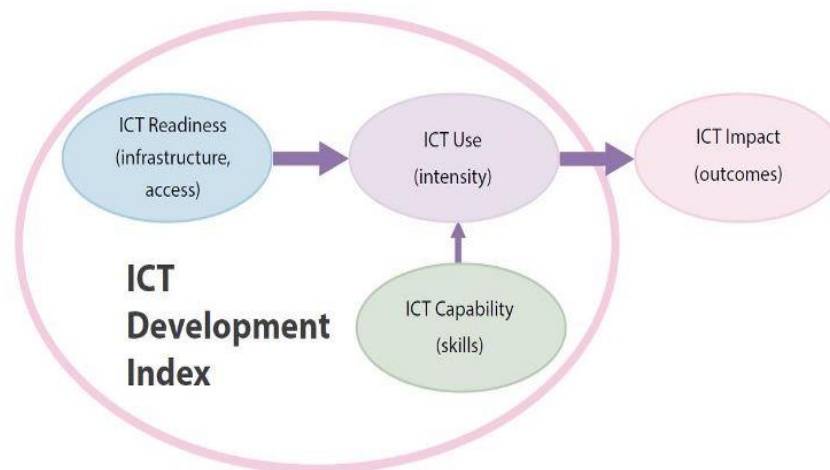


Women are less aware of mobile internet compared with men

\$15 billion 

The estimated incremental 12 month revenue opportunity if mobile operators in low- and middle-income countries could close the gender gap in mobile ownership and mobile internet use today

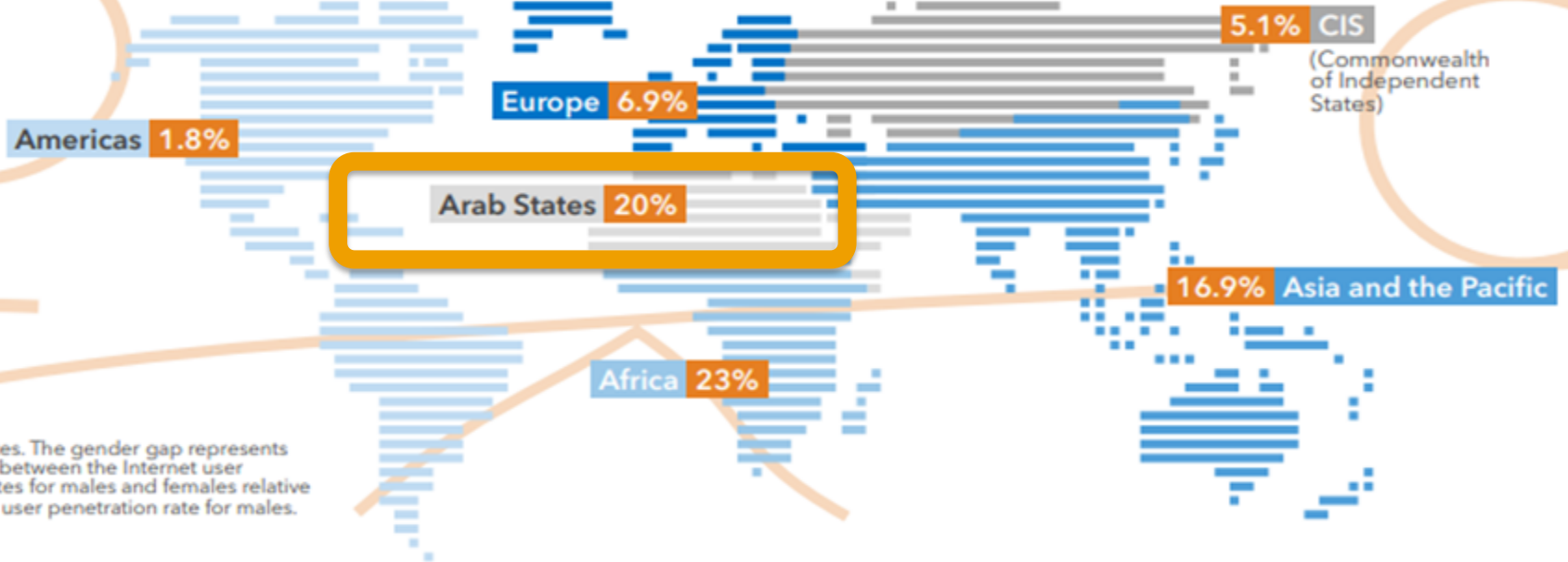
Gender and ICT in Numbers: IDI – Arab Region



IDI 2017 Rank	Economy	IDI 2017 Value	IDI 2016 Rank	IDI 2016 Value	Rank Change	IDI 2017 Rank	Economy	IDI 2017 Value	IDI 2016 Rank	IDI 2016 Value	Rank Change
1	Bahrain	7.60	30	7.46	↓	10	Morocco	4.77	98	4.57	↓
2	Qatar	7.21	36	7.12	↓	11	Algeria	4.67	106	4.32	↑
3	United Arab Emirates	7.21	34	7.18	↓	12	Egypt	4.63	104	4.44	↑
4	Saudi Arabia	6.67	45	6.87	↓	13	Libya	4.11	112	3.93	↓
5	Oman	6.43	64	6.14	↑	14	Palestine	3.55	122	3.42	↓
6	Lebanon	6.30	65	6.09	↑	15	Syria	3.34	124	3.32	↓
7	Jordan	6.00	66	5.97	↓	16	Sudan	2.55	141	2.56	↓
8	Kuwait	5.98	70	5.75	↓	17	Mauritania	2.26	152	2.08	↑
9	Tunisia	4.82	95	4.70	↓	18	Djibouti	1.98	161	1.80	↑
						19	Comoros	1.82	162	1.78	↓

Gender and ICT in Numbers: Digital Divide

The 2016 global Internet user gender gap* is 12%



Note: *Estimates. The gender gap represents the difference between the Internet user penetration rates for males and females relative to the Internet user penetration rate for males.

Structural inequalities in



Literacy

Education



Employment



Income level



Have contributed to

Gender inequality and the Digital gender gap



Least-developed countries



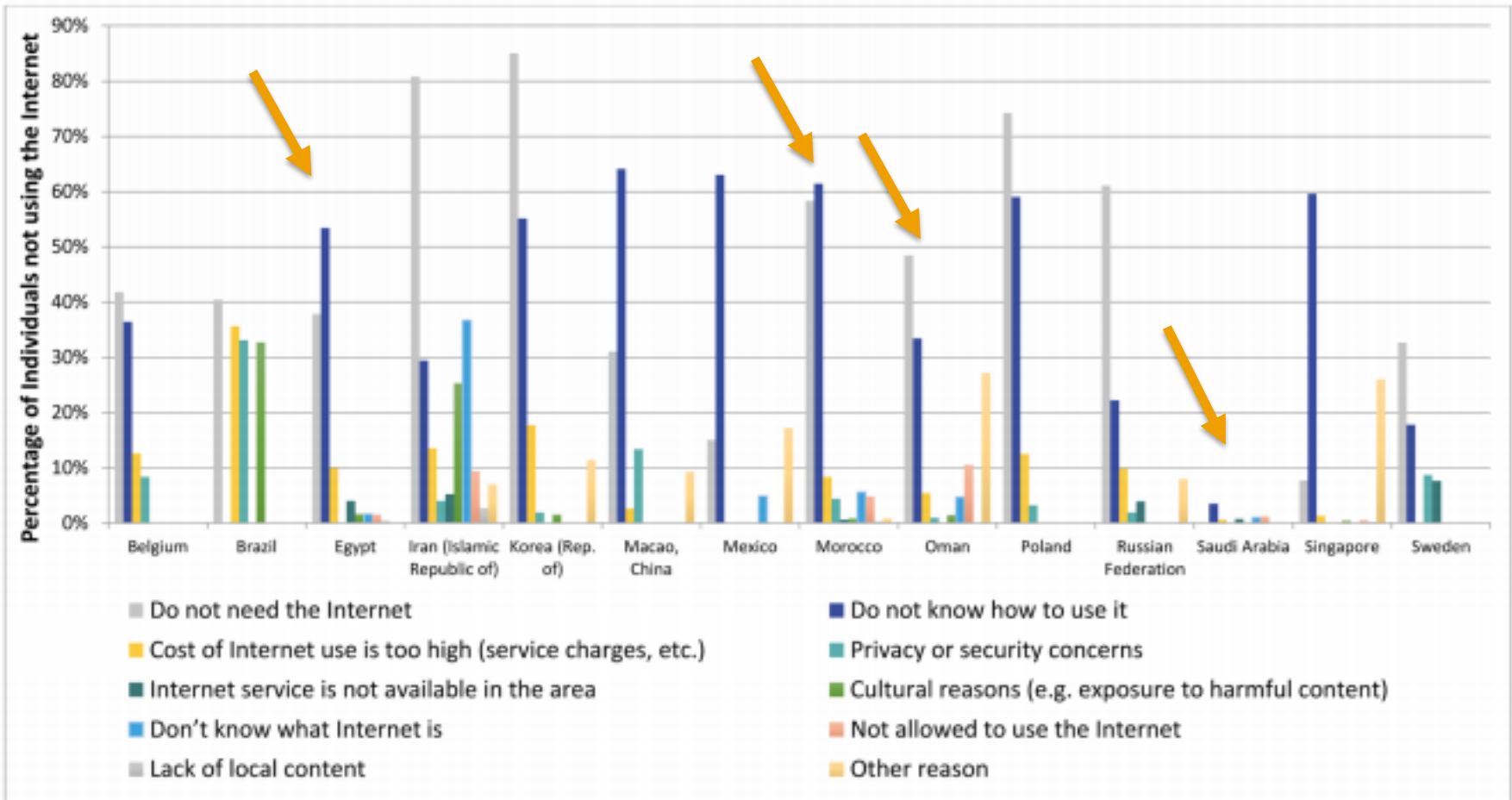
Developing countries



Developed world

Gender and ICT in the Arab Region

Proportion of individuals not using the Internet, by type of reason, 2016

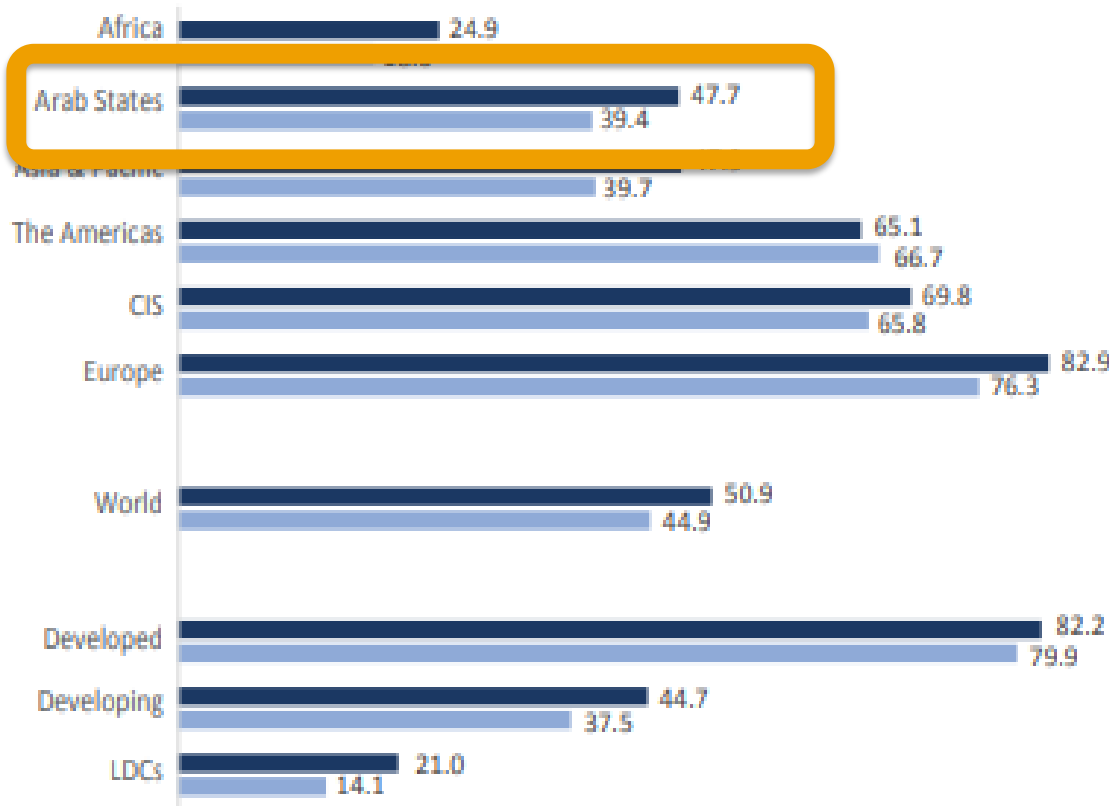


Note: Data for Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Singapore refer to 2015 and 2017, respectively.

Source: ITU.

Gender and ICT in Numbers: Digital Divide

Internet penetration rate for men and women, 2017*



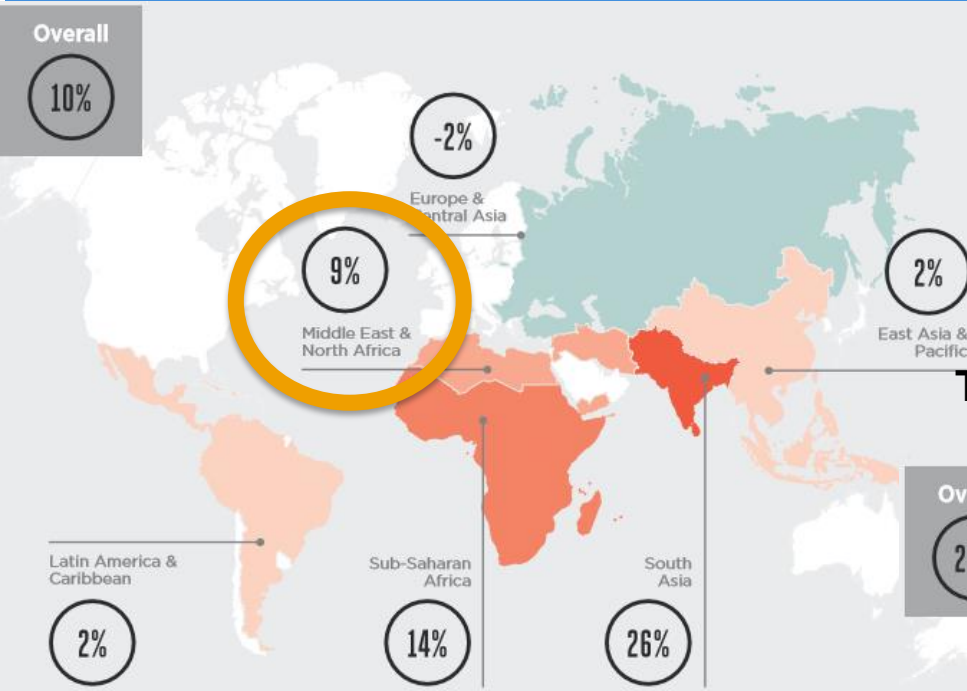
Economy name	Latest year	Gender	
		Male	Female
Bahrain	2016	97.5	99.0
Egypt	2016	44.2	38.2
Mauritius	2016	55.0	49.5
Morocco	2016	63.1	53.5
Oman	2016	72.2	67.4
Palestine	2014	59.6	47.5
Qatar	2015	94.1	91.7
Saudi Arabia	2016	93.7	92.9
Sudan	2016	16.9	11.0
United Arab Emirates	2016	91.5	88.9

Source: ITU.

Note: * Estimates. Penetration rates in this chart refer to the number of women/men using the Internet, as a percentage of the respective total female/male population. CIS refers to the Commonwealth of Independent States.

■ Male ■ Female

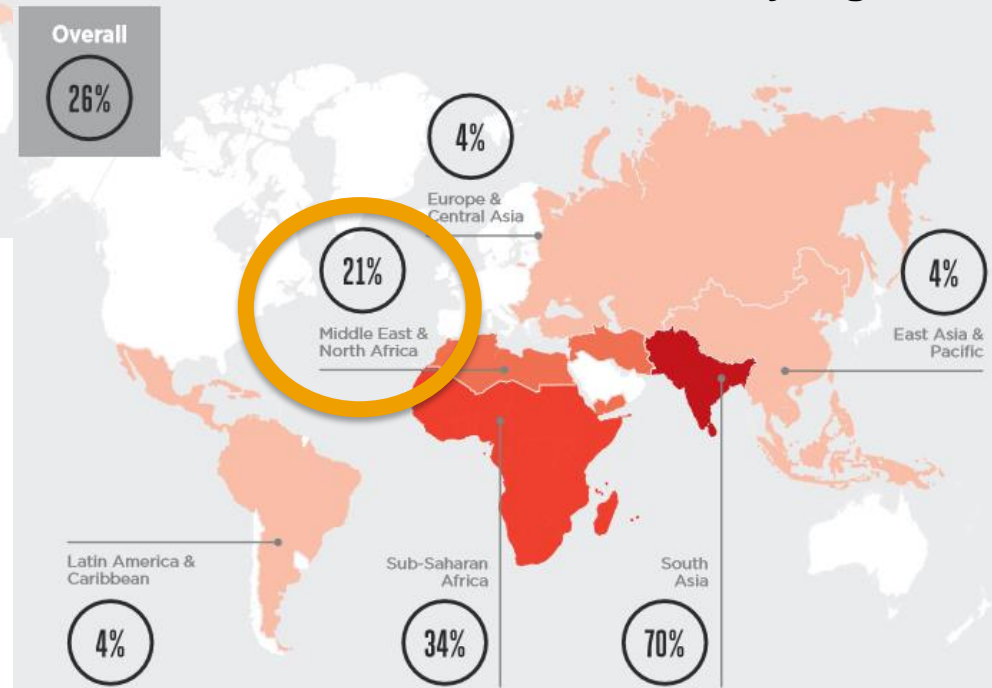
Gender and ICT in Numbers: Digital Divide



By 2021, over 90 percent of the world's population will be covered by mobile broadband networks. Source: Ericsson Mobility Report 2015 (Ericsson, 2015)

The gender gap in mobile internet use in low- and middle-income countries, by region

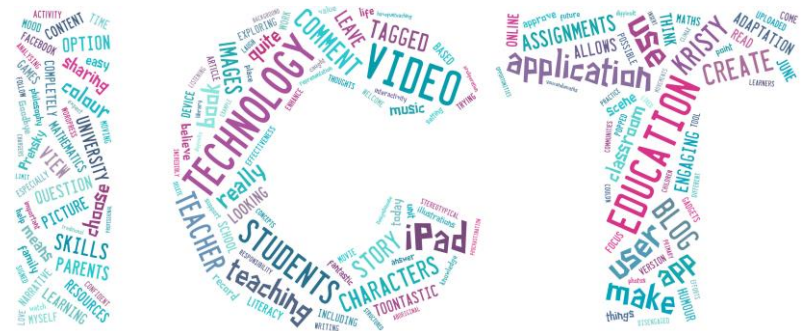
The gender gap in mobile ownership in low- and middle-income countries, by region



Conclusion



- Using ICT for Gender Equality in the Arab Region is challenging but the existing good practices give us hope
- Using ICT to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs, Goal 5 in specific, requires a detailed analysis of the targets from a technology perspective
- Thus, the importance of the study on ***“Technology as a Renewed Hope to Achieving Gender Equality in the Arab Region: A Fact or Illusion?”***





Thank You



UNITED NATIONS

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