

HUMAN SECURITY IN ARAB REGION: FROM CONCEPT TO PRACTICE

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ABSTRACT: *This paper deals with human insecurity in Arab countries. First analyzing the existing methodologies for measuring human security then, I proposed some indicators that may serve as proxy descriptions of various aspects of human security. The paper uses the most recent information to highlight the state of human insecurity in the Arab countries. As is expected there is evidence to show that human security varies among the countries of the region from a low level of security to a high level of security. Then illustrate how to operationalize human security from concept to practice.*

KEYWORDS: Arab countries, human security, human security index

INTRODUCTION

Before the Human Development Report 1994 the “Security” was viewed as connected with the privilege of states in realist international relations and political science theories. Human Development Report 1994 indicates that “Security” should be viewed from the perspective of individuals.

In Human Development Report 1994, Human Security was comprehensively defined as "Freedom from fear and freedom from wants" and described as safety from threats like hunger, poverty, disease and environmental threats. Human Development Report 1994 laid out the four fundamental conditions of Human security as being universal, interdependent in its dimensions, people- centered and best secured through prevention.

The main goal of human security is to protect the fundamental core of all human lives from basic pervasive threats, in a manner that is associated with long term human satisfaction. Human security takes its shape from people: the main element that is to be secured. So any Human security index won't have the ability to measure each aspect of satisfaction.

Research objectives

The force of human security threats is different from country to country in Arab region, despite the shared of some of these threats in the majority of them. Also, the reasons of threats different from country to other in the same region.

Some threats caused by foreign countries, while others are caused by the state.

The UNDP divided human security threats in the Arab region to two categories: hard security, which included political instability, foreign intervention, conflicts and threats from vulnerable environmental issues.

The second one soft security, which included poverty, hunger , unemployment, lack of health care, and violence.

The objectives of this paper is to highlight the state of human security in the Arab countries and determine the main threats facing human security through constructing human security index which include indicators that describe various aspects of human security.

So, This paper is divided to three chapters. **Chapter one: the concept of human security** in this chapter we define the concept of human security and explain the relationship between human security and other concepts such as human development and human rights.

Chapter two: Measuring human security this chapter analysis the existing methodologies for measuring human security then, I proposed some indicators that may serve as proxy descriptions of various aspects of human security.

Chapter three: challenges to human security in Arab countries this chapter uses the most recent information to highlight the state of human insecurity in the Arab countries

CHAPTER ONE: THE CONCEPT OF HUMAN SECURITY

Human Security is a general concern. It is applicable to individuals all over the world, in rich countries and poor. Human security dealing with how people live , how they practice their decisions, whether they live in conflict or in peace and hoe they access to the market and opportunities.

Human security comprehensively defined by the UNDP in the 1994 Human Development Report as "*Freedom from fear and freedom from wants*" and its main dimensions is safety from threats like hunger, poverty, disease , environmental threats and conflict. (UNDP, 1994: 22)

Also the Commission on human security defined human security as "*a process of intervention to protect the vital core of all human lives in ways that enhance human freedoms and human fulfillment through protection of civil rights and provision of basic human needs*". (CHS,2003:5)

Human security integrates the components of security rights and human development. Human Security is focused on a multi- sectoral of securities. So, human security involves a comprehensive understanding of threats and causes of insecurity in various dimensions included economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community and political security. (United Nations Trust fund for human security, 2009:3)

Economic Security

Economic security needs a guaranteed essential income from profitable and secured work, or at least from publicly financed safety net. (UNDP, 1994: 26)

Economic security indicates not only sufficient income but also the stability of income. People who suffer from unemployment confront a sudden drop in income, while numerous other people who still have jobs are fearful of the proceeding cycle of downsizing and lessening.

Because of high unemployment rates and the growth of non- stable types of jobs, many people feel insecure about their economic futures. (Centre for international statistics at the Canadian council on social development, 1998:3)

Economic security threatened by poverty and unemployment.

Food Security

USAID defines food security as follows:

“When all people at all times have both physical and economic access to sufficient food to meet their dietary needs for a productive and healthy life”.

Attaining food security needs that the aggregate accessibility of physical supplies of food is sufficient, that individuals have satisfactory access to those food supplies through their production, through the market or from other sources, also, the utilization of food supplies needs to be suitable to meet the required dietary for individuals. (USAID, 1999:2)

The main issue facing food security is the distribution of food and lack of purchasing power. Prices of food are important element in determining the ability of poor people to access to food supplies and any increase in food prices will decrease the quantity of food in real term.

Food security threatened by hunger and malnutrition.

Health Security

Health security intends to ensure a base protection from diseases, infections and unhealthy lifestyles.

Poor people in rural areas and specially children are the most group suffering from threats to health security in both developing and developed countries (UNDP,1994:28)

Health security threatened by diseases, , malnutrition and lack of access to basic health care and unhealthy food.

Environmental security

Environmental security is vital in today's world of environmental change. Environmental security can be divided to 3 categories: threats from impact of people activities on environment, threats from direct and indirect effects of environmental change and insecurity individuals like water scarcity and air pollution. (Mukherjee& Parihari, 2010:5)

Environmental security threatened by pollution, resources depletion, climate change, declining water availability and environmental degradation.

Personal Security

Personal security means to secure people from physical violence. , human life is progressively threatened by unpredictable violence.

Personal security threatened by various source

- Threats from the state
- Threats from other states like conflict and war
- Threats from people against each other like crime and violence.
- Threats facing a particular group like child abuse which based on dependence.
- Treats to self like using drugs.

Community Security

Community Security intends to secure people from the loss of traditional relationships and values

Community security threatened by collapse of language Inter-ethnic, and other identity based tensions.

Political Security

One of the main vital dimensions of human security is that people have to live in a society that distinction their fundamental human rights.(UNDP, 1994:30)

Political security threatened by human rights abuse and political repression.

Interdependence between different types of securities:

There are inter- relationships between the different dimensions of security. Each dimension affects the achieving of the other dimensions of securities.

For example

- Economic security is directly related to obtaining the basics needs of life food, clothing, shelter, education and health care. People who have more financial resources will have more access to educational, health, occupational and recreational opportunities.

The Economic security has both immediate and long term benefits. As sufficient financial resources permit people to plan for their future. (Centre for international statistics at the Canadian council on social development, 1998:5)

- Food security is an important dimension for a healthy life . If there is a problem of food in both quantity and quality, then life could be at hazard.

The problems related to food insufficient like malnutrition and under nutrition will affect health status and ability to work which affect productivity.

Hunger and malnutrition can also prevent or delay enrolment in school, loss days of work and diminished earnings. (Mukherjee& Parihari, 2010:5)

Without achieving food security in both quantity and quality, achieving all other dimensions of human security will be difficult.

- Health security is vital to achieve all other human security dimensions. Health influenced by non- health factors, and also an instrumental capability that affects all other dimensions of human security.

Improving health contribute to economic development because healthier workers tend to have higher productivity , less absenteeism from work and higher incomes. (Sauders, 2004:2)

- Environmental security threaten various dimensions of human security for example, climate change can affect health and has an impact on assets which influence different dimensions of human security both immediately or in long term . (Mukherjee& Parihari, 2010:5)

Relationship between Human Development and Human Security:

Human security and human development are similar in that both of them are concerned with human wellbeing and freedom from wants. However, **Human Development** concentrated on achieving growth and distributing its benefits equitably among people (*growth with equity*), while **human security** concentrated with insecurities that threaten human survival or the safety of daily life. What are sometimes called downside risks (downturn with security) (CHS,2003:5)

Human Development & Human Security are complementary, inter-related and overlapping along a line for improving human wellbeing.

From one viewpoint, human security is an essential prerequisite for the achievement of human development, since the range of opportunities can only expand if they are in a position to ensure their survival and their freedom. On the other, expanding accessibility of people to basic needs like education, health care, sufficient income and freedom from wants serves to improve their human development, which, in turn, enhance human security. Therefore, human security and human development are mutually reinforcing. (UNDP, 2009: 20&21)

Relationship between Human Security and Human Rights:

Human rights and human security can supplement each other although they are different concepts. As human rights determine the essential legal entitlements of people, human security includes personal safety. And human rights indicate conditions in which all people are entitled to live, Human security addresses the extremely survival of those people. (Taylor, 2009:22)

It would be more precise to consider human security as the conclusion of a set of conditions, one of them is respect for all human rights- whether political, economic, social or cultural.

Although respect human rights is one element of human security but it is not sufficient alone, as respect human rights does not for instance, secure people from climate change or disease. (UNDP,2009:21)

CHAPTER TWO: MEASURING HUMAN SECURITY

There are several attempts to build an index for human security but there is no globally satisfactory index. Statistical research indicates how complex and difficult to arrive to such an index.

- There are various definitions for human security and there is no consensus on one meaning of human security.
- The availability of data as some data are difficult to obtain for instance data on injury and violence (UNDP,2008:3)
- To measure human security we need both quantitative and qualitative indicators as human security relates to material and moral dimensions so, combining these two sorts in the same index is very difficult and open to criticism of subjectivity.
- Because human security is a multi-dimension concept construct one indicator facing difficulty in weighting and comparability. For example It would be difficult to combine

together threats come from environmental insecurity with threats come from conflicts.
(UNDP,2009:27)

A Review of Measuring Methodologies

a) Gary King and Christopher Murray (2000), Rethinking Human Security, Harvard University, Program on Humanitarian policy and conflict Research

This study classified the domains of wellbeing into 5 categories: income, health, education, political freedom and democracy. a single indicator is determined for each category on which individuals can score 1 or 0

For **Income:** GNP Per capita by purchasing power parity, **Health:** Quality of health care, **Education:** literacy rate, **Political freedom:** freedom house measure of societal freedom, and **Democracy:** portion of adults able to participate in elections.

b) Bajpai, kanti (2000), Human security: concept and measurement, kroc Institute occasional paper no. 19

This study defines human security as the protection from threats to human wellbeing whether direct and indirect threats.

Direct threats: direct threats classified into 4 types 1) local threats like crime and child abuse, 2) national threats like ethnic violence and societal violence 3) regional threats like terrorism and government repression and 4) international threats like war, and conflicts.

Indirect threats: divided to societal level like lack of basic needs, hunger, disease, and population growth and global level like migration, and environmental degradation.

Bajpai's methodology is to measure the potential threats to the individual by combining both direct and indirect threats using quantitative data then he measure the ability of the individual to deal with potential threats. using qualitative data of peoples' or governments' capacities.

c) Longeran, Steve Gustavon and B. Carter (2000), the development of an index of human insecurity, global environmental change and human security project. International human dimensions programme on global environmental change. Research Report

The Report classified the domains of security as social, Environmental, Economic and Institutional.

for each domain they use four indicators:

Social: maternal mortality ratio , life expectancy, urban population growth, and young male population, .

Environmental: net energy imports, soil degradation, safe water & arable land.

Economic: real GDP per capita, GNP per capita growth, adult literacy rate & value of imports and exports of goods and services.

Institutional: public expenditures on defense versus education, gross domestic fixed investment, degree of democratization & human freedom index.

Data is measured at national level for all indicators as a time series from 1970 to 1995, then standardized data to a common scale. And finally composite the index using cluster analysis, assigning a degree of insecurity from one to ten to each indicator for each country.

d) David Hastings (2011), Human security index: update & New Release, (Document report, version2)

Human security index version 2.0 has been released in 2011. Version 1 was released in 2008.

Human Security Index consists of 3 components:

First: Economic Fabric Index

Second: Environmental Fabric Index

Third: Social Fabric Index

- a) Education subcomponent.
- b) Health subcomponent.
- c) Crime & Punishment subcomponent.
- d) Social stress subcomponent.

Constructing Human Security Index:

In this study, I looked at indicators that may serve as proxy descriptions of various aspects of human security.

Human Security Index (HSI) = Average (Economic Security Index, Food Security Index, Environmental security Index, Health Security Index, Peace Index)

Table (1): Human Security Index

Index	Indicators
Economic Security Index: Have 2 sub- components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequacy of income • Stability of income 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of people living below poverty line • GDP annual growth rate • Unemployment rate • Informal employment as % of total employment
Food Security Index	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proportion of undernourished in the population • The prevalence of underweight in children • Agriculture as % of GDP
Environmental Index	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of population with access to an improved water source • Percentage of population with access to improved sanitation • Carbon dioxide emissions (share of world to) • Traditional fuel consumption as %

	of total energy use
Health Security Index	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infant mortality rate • Under five mortality rate • Public health expenditure as % of GDP • Population with sustainable access To affordable essential drugs
Peace Index	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External Peace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military expenditures as a % of GDP • Imports of conventional arms transfers (as % of imports) • Armed forces personnel (as % of Total labor force)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Peace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People victimized by internal Homicides • Losses due to theft, robbery and Arson (as % of sales) • Perception of safety

CHAPTER THREE: OPERATIONALIZE HUMAN SECURITY IN ARAB COUNTRIES:

To convert the human security from concept to practice, human security need to determine the situations of insecurity using targeted, comprehensive and sustainable measures that are:

- People centered
- Context specific
- And prevention focused
- comprehensive
- multi- dimensions

According to these principles, human security converts from concept to practice with framework that provides the development of appropriate policies. (UN,2011:7)

There are five phases to convert human security concept to practice through designing, implementing and evaluating a human security program and evaluating a human security program.

- 1) Situational Analysis
- 2) Mapping and analysis of needs, vulnerabilities & capabilities
- 3) Build strategies
- 4) Implementation

5) Evaluating the Human security program.

Phase 1 : Situational Analysis:

The main goal of this phase it to determine the main threats to human security whether national, regional or international.

Economic Security in Arab countries:

Economic insecurity differs from country to another in Arab region. While rich countries suffer from low level of economic insecurity other low & medium income countries face high level of insecurity.

Table (2) Economic Security Index in Arab countries

indicator country	Proportion of people living below poverty line	GDP annual growth rate	Unemployment rate	Informal Employment As % of Total employment
Algeria	5.7	3	10.2	
Bahrain	11.0	-	4.0	
Djibouti	-	-	50.0	
Egypt	19.6	7.2	9.4	24.8
Emirates	-	6.3	3.9	1.6
Iraq	22.9	-	14.7	3.0
Jordan	13.0	7.9	12.8	
Kuwait	-	4.4	1.4	4.0
Lebanon	8.0	8.5	15.0	
Libya	-	3.8	18.2	22.3
Mauritania	46.7	1.9	30.0	
Morocco	9.0	5.6	9.1	52.9
Oman	-	7.7	6.7	
Palestinian	34.5	-	21.5	36.1
Qatar	-	12.2	0.3	0.1
Saudi Arabia	-	4.4	5.4	
Somalia	43.2	-	34.7	
Sudan	-	8.3	19.7	35.3
Syrian	12.3	5.2	9.2	42.5
Tunisia	3.8	4.5	13.3	
Yemen	34.8	3.9	15.0	

Sources:

- Proportion of people living below national poverty line and unemployment rate from Arab Monetary Fund, Arab Economic Report 2010, p. 311& 315
- GDP annual growth rate from world development indicators 2011, p.33&34
- Informal employment as % of total employment from Human Development Report 2010, p.188,189&190

The two major challenges to economic security in the Arab region are unemployment & poverty

Unemployment:

The main cause of economic insecurity in Arab region is unemployment. Arab Labour Organization estimate the average unemployment rate in Arab countries of about 14.4 percent of the labour force in 2005 compared with 6.3 percent for the world.

For the national unemployment rates, it varies from country to country ranging from about 1 percent in Qatar and Kuwait to about 30 percent in Mauritania and Somalia.

Unemployment in Arab Countries varies along different age groups, gender and educational levels. The most groups influence by unemployment in Arab region are youth, women and higher educational people. (Chaaban, 2010:20)

Youth (ages 15-24) in Arab region facing higher rates of unemployment compared to overall unemployment (except for Djibouti and Syrian) . Arab labor organization estimates the average youth unemployment rate in the Arab countries as 30 percent in 2005 compared to 14.4 percent at the world level, 21 percent for sub- Saharan Africa, 16 percent for Latin America and the Caribbean, and 16.4 percent for south East Asia. High youth unemployment hinder economic development in Arab region as it considers a loss of productivity. (Gadir, 2009:7)

The unemployment rates in the Arab region suffer from gender discrimination. The youth unemployment rate for women are 31.2 percent in 2005 compared to 25 percent for men. The female youth unemployment rate varied from country to another. In Jordan it estimated at 59 percent (compared to 35 percent for males) and in UAE estimate at 5.7 percent (compared to 6.4 percent for male) (UNDP,2009:108)

One of the main reasons behind poor performance of employment and increasing unemployment among educated youth in the Arab region is mismatch between workers' skills and skills needed in the market.

This mismatch is severe especially for those who just leaving school and have no work experience. As , the education system in Arab region produces skills that are not needed by employers, while raising the desires of the individuals who obtain them. Therefore, the unemployed are not interested in the current opportunities; also, the employers are not willing to fill the vacancies with the available candidates.

The second reason that the public sector jobs are characterized by stability, lower efforts and more prestige than the private sector. As a result, some of new candidates motivating to wait for employment opportunities in public sector.

Poverty:

The Arab populations living below the international poverty line of US\$2 per person per day estimate at about 21% in 2007. This implies that about 50 million Arabs were living under state of income insecurity. (ESCWA,2009:5)

The overall average real GDP per capita in Arab region estimated at US\$7688 in 2007. But there is a great variation between Arab countries from a high of US\$ 91839 for Qatar to a low of US\$ 1936 for Mauritania (ration of 1:47). (Gadir,2009: 4)

The poverty in Arab region tends to be higher in rural areas and increases at a greater rate than urban poverty.

According to the Human Poverty Index (HPI) Arab countries (except Kuwait and Somalia), an average of 22 percent of the population was deprived from basic needs like education , health care and a satisfactory standard of living. (ESCWA,2009:5)

A main cause of economic insecurity in the Arab region is that most income growth in Arab countries has derived by oil related revenues, whether directly through fuels exports, like in GCCS or indirectly through oil related goods and services, workers' remittances, intra- regional public and private expenditure like in Egypt, Lebanon, and Jordan. This lead to fluctuation in the economic growth in Arab region and subject to motion of international oil market. (gadir,2009:5)

Food Security in Arab countries:

The Arab countries import a large portion of its essential food supplies and the growing food shortage increases the risk of undernourishment in the poorer countries of the region.

Table (3): Food Security Index in Arab Countries

indicator country	Te Proportion of undernourished in population	The prevalence Of underweight In children	Agriculture as % of GDP
Algeria	4	11.1	9.2
Bahrain			0.4
Dijibouti	24		3.3
Egypt	4	6.8	13.0
Emirates			1.1
Iraq		7.1	5.2
Jordan	6	3.6	2.9
Kuwait	5		0.2
Lebanon	3	4.2	5.5
Libya		5.6	3.0
Mauritania	10		18.8
Morocco	6	9.9	15.0
Oman			1.4
Palestinian	16		-
Qatar			0.1
Saudi Arabia	4	5.3	3.0
Somalia		32.8	-
Sudan	20	31.7	30.4
Syrian	4		21.7
Tunisia		3.3	8.2
Yemen	38	43.1	12.1

Sources:

- Prevalence of underweight % of children under age 5 from world development indicators 2010, p.36
- The proportion of undernourished as % of total population from Arab human development report 2009, p.234
- Agriculture as % of GDP from Arab Economic Report 2010, p.327

The food insecurity in Arab region are subject to demand and supply factors.

Demand side:

The Demand for food in Arab region increases due to population growth, urbanization and income growth.

The population growth rate of Arab region is 1.7 percent, which is higher than the world rate of 1.1 percent. The problem not only the growth of population but also their purchasing power. The income growth rate of Arab region outpaces the global average, at 3.4 percent to 3 percent.

For Urbanization, urban population growth rate is 3 percent (1990-2006) compared to 2.2 percent for the world. (FAO, 2009:7)

Supply side:

There are numerous obstacles to Arab food independence. Environmental factors represent one of the most difficulties. Just 14.1% of the total land area of the region is suitable for agriculture, and of this just about 35% is actually under cultivation.

Although the Arab region has 4.5% of the world's population, it has just 1% of the world's renewable water resources. The per capita share of this is about 1000 cubic metres a year, compared to the global per capita average of 7000 cubic metres. (Maguid, 2010:4)

Another problem concerning the supply side is the low cereal yield growth. For the period 1990-2007 average cereal yields increased 14.5 percent in the Arab countries compared to 21.5 percent in the world.(FAO,2009:8)

Environmental Security in Arab countries:

Environment in Arab region suffers from water scarcity and land degradation. Also, population growth, urbanization, and over exploitation of resources contribute to environmental problems.

Table (4): Environmental security index in Arab Countries

indicator country	% of population With access To an Improved Water source	% of population With access to Improved Sanitation	Carbon Dioxide Emissions (share of World total)	Traditional fuel Consumption As % of Total energy use
Algeria	85	94	0.7	6.4
Bahrain	-	-	0.1	-
Djibouti	92	67	-	-
Egypt	96	44	0.5	9.4

Emirates	100	97	0.5	0.0
Iraq	77	76	0.3	-
Jordan	98	85	0.1	1.3
Kuwait	100	100	0.3	0.0
Lebanon	100	-	0.1	0.4
Libya	72	97	-	1.7
Mauritania	51	38	-	-
Morocco	83	72	0.1	6.1
Oman	-	89	0.1	0.0
Palestinian	94	99	-	-
Qatar	100	100	0.2	0.0
Saudi Arabia	96	99	1.1	0.0
Somalia	29	23	-	-
Sudan	70	35	-	86.5
Syrian	87	97	0.2	0.0
Tunisia	99	85	0.1	-
Yemen	66	46	0.1	4.0

Sources:

- % of population with access to an improved water source & % of population with access to improved sanitation from Arab Economic Report p.318
- Carbon dioxide emissions from Arab Human Development Report 2009, p.249
- Traditional fuel consumption from Human Development Report 2010, p.353,354 & 355

The most important threats to environmental security in Arab region are threats related to water shortage, pollution and climate change.

Water Scarcity:

Total available water in the Arab region is about 300 billion cubic meters per year. Total available surface water resources in the Arab region are 277 billion cubic meters per year, only 43 percent originates within the Arab region, the remaining. External surface water resources shared with neighboring countries outside the region which estimated for 57 percent of the total available surface water in the region. (UNDP,2009:37)

There was a classification to countries below the water poverty line (per capita water availability is below 1000 cubic meters/year). Out of 22 countries in this classification fifteen of them are Arab countries. In 2008, per capita water cubic meters/year in Qatar, Kuwait, Libya and Bahrain is 91, 95,111 and 112 cubic meters /person/ year respectively. (Selim, 2004:10)

The main reason of water scarcity in Arab region is that most of them are in arid or semi- arid regions. Also, increase demand for water due to population growth and economic growth increase water shortage.

Pollution:

Pollution considers threat to human security as it deteriorates of air, water and soil.

Water pollution: the water pollution in Arab region is mainly due to expanded utilization of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and horticultural and veterinary medical treatments that leave durable pollutants that in the end find their way into the water. Also, the domestic and industrial wastewater has significant role in water pollution.

The lack of access to safe drinking water threatens human security in various ways.

- For health: diseases related to unsafe water are the most killers of children under five like diarrhea and filariasis.
- For education: lack of access to safe water affects attendance at school. Time spent collecting water reduces time available for schooling.

Also, water scarcity and water pollution threaten agricultural sector and food production. Water deficiency can additionally cause conflicts among neighboring countries.(UNDP,2009:134)

Air pollution: the main causes of air pollution in Arab countries are energy and industrial production and vehicular emissions. Around 90% of air pollution in urban areas was due to vehicular emission because of poor maintenance, low quality fuel, and the problem of traffic.

Also air pollution affected by Stationary sources, like outdated power generation stations.

Climate change:

Like the entire world, Arab region will be affected by climate change in the near decades.

Climate change influences human security in various ways: (Pan African climate justice alliance, 2009:15-18)

- **Climate change & income security:** climate change will hinder economic growth due to changes in natural systems and resources, infrastructure and labor productivity. A reduction in economic growth straightforwardly influences poverty through decrease in income opportunities.
- **Climate change & food security:** climate change influences agricultural sector through modifying yields and changing areas where harvests can be grown.
- **Climate change & environmental security:** Arab region suffers from water stress as the consequence of water shortage, which leads to conflict among neighboring countries about utilization of water, decrease in water services, crop failure and food insecurity.

Also, increased temperatures and fluctuating rainfall will influence availability of water in Arab region.

- **Climate change & health security:** climate change affects the exposure to physical & biological threats like new diseases and extreme weather. It additionally influences air, food and water which are the main determinants of human health.
- **Climate change & peace security:** climate change will increase the conflicts among nations due to the competition for food, water, energy and land.

Health Security in Arab countries :

Health is vital to human security, because it is valuable in itself since survival and protection from illness are at the center of any idea of human's well being. And also affect achieving other dimensions of human security.

Improvement in health care enhances human opportunities, freedom and progress.

Table (5): health security index in Arab countries

indicator country	Infant Mortality Ratio (%)	Under five Mortality Ratio (%)	Public health Expenditures As % of GDP	Population with Sustainable Access to Affordable Essential drugs
Algeria	3.4	3.9	-	95-100
Bahrain	1.0	1.2	2.6	95-100
Dijibouti	7.6	9.5	5.5	80-94
Egypt	2	2.3	2.4	80-94
Emirates	0.7	0.8	1.9	95-100
Iraq	3.6	4.4	1.9	80-94
Jordan	1.7	2.0	5.4	95-100
Kuwait	0.9	1.1	1.7	95-100
Lebanon	-	-	3.9	80-94
Libya	1.5	1.7	1.9	95-100
Mauritania	7.5	11.8	2.0	-
Morocco	3.2	3.6	1.7	50-79
Oman	1.0	1.2	1.9	80-94
Palestinian	2.4	2.7	-	-
Qatar	0.9	1.0	2.9	95-100
Saudi Arabia	1.8	2.1	2.7	95-100
Somalia	11.9	20.0	-	0-49
Sudan	7.0	10.9	1.3	0-49
Syrian	1.4	1.6	1.6	80-94
Tunisia	1.8	2.1	-	50-79
Yemen	5.3	6.9	1.5	50-79

Sources:

- Infant mortality ratio & under five mortality ratio from Human Development report 2010, p.197,198&199
- Public health expenditures from human development report 2010, p.202
- Population with sustainable access to affordable drugs from Human development report 2003, p.232

Health indicators vary from country to another in Arab region. For instance, the maternal mortality ratio ranges from 4 deaths per 100,000 live births in Kuwait to more than 400 per 100,000 births in Djibouti, Mauritania, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen.

And Infant mortality rate indicator, it varies from lower than 8 per 1000 live births in United Arab Emirates to more than 80 per 1000 live births in Yemen, Djibouti and Mauritania.

The main challenges that facing health security in Arab countries are:

Financing health:

The expenditures on health vary among Arab countries. Health expenditures as a percentage of GDP ranging from low like in Qatar 2.4 percent and Somalia 2.6 percent to higher like in Lebanon 12 percent and Jordan 10 percent.

There are intra-regional disparities in spending on health as it ranges from \$25 per capita (in PPP terms) to \$871 per capita.

Most of Arab countries suffer from rural- urban disparities in access to health care.

Private expenditure plays an important role in funding health care in Arab countries as it constitute between 20- 72 percent of total health expenditures. (UNDP,2009:157&158)

Human resources:

The real challenge in human resources is not only the shortage of human resources like nurses, pharmacists, dentists and Physicians but also the imbalance in the health workforce represented in terms of quantity, quality and unequal distribution between urban/ rural areas and private/ public sector.

So, Arab countries need to re- evaluate policies & plans for human resources in health sector to improve these imbalances.

Also, the Arab countries need to concentrate about quality rather than quantity of human resources by providing the required training (WHO,2004:6)

Peace Security in Arab countries:

Occupation and military intervention threaten human security through three levels:

- a) Institutional level
- b) Structural level

And c) material level

First: institutional level: they violate an anti- force law that prohibits utilization of power in international relations with the exception of self-preservation ; they interfere in the formation of government in a way that serves the occupier not the occupied country.

Second: Structural level: they redistribute wealth and power according to their new rules and consequently increase divisions among people.

Third: Material Level: occupation and military intervention are forces by power and there will be resistance by power and heavy casualties between occupied and occupier.

Occupation and military intervention hinder economic opportunities and lessening freedom as they exponential effects.

The history shows that occupation and military intervention repudiate human rights, threaten human security and hinder human development. And these applicable to all occupations and military interventions, whether in the Arab region or other regions.

Table (6): External peace in Arab countries

indicator country	Military Expenditures As % of GDP	Armed forces Personnel (as % Of total labor force	Imports of Conventional arms Transfers (as % of Imports)
Algeria	-	2	0.47
Bahrain	3	5	0.55
Djibouti	3.7	3	0
Egypt	2.3	3	1.15
Emirates	-	2	1.4
Iraq	5.4	8	0.5
Jordan	5.9	6	0.8
Kuwait	3.2	2	0.6
Lebanon	3.9	5	0
Libya	1.3	3	0.02
Mauritania	0.2	2	0
Morocco	3.4	2	0.16
Oman	7.7	4	2
Palestinian	-	6	0
Qatar	-	1	0
Saudi Arabia	8.2	3	0.15
Somalia	-	-	-
Sudan	-	1	0.5
Syrian	3.4	6	0.05
Tunisia	-	1	0.08
Yemen	4.2	2	0

Sources:

- Military expenditures & Armed forces personnel from Human Development report 2010, p.202, 203&204
- Conventional arms transfers from Arab Human Report 2009, p. 251& total imports from Arab Economic Report 2010, p.385

Table (7): Internal peace in Arab countries

indicator country	Perception of safety	Losses due to Theft robbery & arson (as % of sales)	People Victimized By homicides
Algeria	-	0.9	1.4
Bahrain	-	-	1.0
Djibouti	84	-	-
Egypt	73	3.0	0.4

Emirates	91	-	0.6
Iraq	34	-	6.3
Jordan	-	0.1	0.9
Kuwait	86	-	1.0
Lebanon	56	0.5	5.7
Libya	-	-	2.2
Mauritania	-	0.6	4.0
Morocco	75	0.0	0.5
Oman	-	-	0.6
Palestinian	47	-	4.0
Qatar	79	-	0.8
Saudi Arabia	77	-	0.9
Somalia	74	-	-
Sudan	79	-	0.3
Syrian	84	-	1.1
Tunisia	-	-	1.2
Yemen	65	-	4.0

Sources:

- Perception of safety: according to human development report 2010 p. 180 survey refer to people answering yes to the question do you feel safe walking alone at night
- Losses due to theft, robbery & arson from world development indicators 2011, p.296,297
- People victimized by homicides from Arab human development report 2009, p.252

Occupation , military intervention and Revolutions:

Occupation and military intervention have demanded an overwhelming cost regarding lost lives and opportunities with negative impacts on jobs, income, education, health and the environment.

Occupation, military intervention and Revolutions influences human security through:

- Threats to life
- Threats to economic conditions
- Threats to accessibility of the basic needs like food, health and education
- Threats to environment

Threats to life:

In Iraq: the death rate almost doubled from 3.17 per 1000 inhabitants before the attack to 6.01 per 1000 afterwards and the quantity of violent deaths increased ten times, moving from 0.1 for every 1000 to 1.09 for every 1000 after the attack.

In Occupied Palestinian territory: between 2000 and 2008 , the aggregate number of Palestinians harmed by live ammunition, rubber bullets, gas and other weapons estimated at 32,569. (UNDP,2009:168-171)

Revolutions: there are huge deaths as a result of Revolution. However, the actual number of deaths through revolutions in Egypt, Tunisia, Syria and Yemen are still not available.

Threats to economic conditions and livelihoods:

Occupation and military intervention has a negative effect on economic opportunities through: (UNDP,2009:179)

- The country will be at high risk so the investors will stay away and consequently investment rate will reduce.
- Government institutions cannot operate efficiently because of high level of insecurity, corruption and a divided society
- Because of conditions related to occupation and military intervention skilled professionals migrate which called Brain Drain.

Threats to people's access to Basic needs:

Occupation and military intervention will threaten access to basic needs like education, food, shelter, and health care.

In addition, military intervention and occupation will increase poverty, unemployment, violence and displacement of people.

Threats to environment:

Occupation and military can affect environments through two ways: first: environment as a cause of conflicts, sometimes the environment is a source of conflicts through competition of resources

Second: environment will affect by conflicts, the environment can be damaged by welfare from competition of resources.

The environment affect by war through collapsed buildings, discarded weapons, crashed airplanes and toxic released to water and air. (UNDP,2009:184)

Phase 2: Mapping and analysis of needs, vulnerabilities & capabilities

The main goal of this phase is to study deeper the threats of each dimension to determine the most vulnerable groups.

Human security Dimensions	Main threats	Needs / vulnerabilities	Examples of capabilities
<u>Economic security</u>	- Increased poverty - Increased unemployment - Lack of economic opportunities - Economic vulnerability.	<u>National:</u> - Volatile growth - High unemployment - Lack of economic opportunities	- Financial reserves - remittances

		<u>Regional</u> Lack of regional integration to respond to economic crises	
<u>Food Security</u>	- Increased hunger - Increased diseases related to malnutrition	<u>National</u> Food deficit and imports a large portion of food supplies <u>Regional</u> Lack of regional integration related to food issues	Diversified agriculture & economy
<u>Health Security</u>	- Spread of diseases - Disparities in health care provision especially between urban and rural areas	<u>National</u> - Lack of access to health care - Inequality between urban and rural in availability of health services <u>Regional</u> Lack of regional cooperation to manage the spread of diseases	Availability of human resources
<u>Environmental security</u>	- Climate change - Water scarcity - Air pollution - Resources depletion	<u>National</u> - Lack of access to safe drinking water especially in rural areas. - Mismanagement of natural resources <u>Regional</u> Lack of regional early warning and response systems	- Natural resource capital - Biodiversity
<u>Political security</u>	- Threats to economic conditions - Threats to access to basic needs - Corruption - Political violence	<u>National</u> - Lack of good governance -lack of Accountability system - Revolutions <u>Regional</u>	- Good Governance - Accountability and transparency

		Occupation and military intervention	
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Phase 3 : Build Strategies:

Build strategies that incorporate with the principles of human security and the protection and empowerment framework.

Human security Dimensions	Strategies to enhance Human Security	Capacities needed
<u>Economic Security</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assured access to sustainable income (sufficient employment opportunities) - Reduce income inequality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Human resources - Financing resources.
<u>Food Security</u>	Entitlement to food, by growing it themselves , having the ability to purchase it or through a public food distribution system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diversified of agriculture. - Availability of land & Water
<u>Health Security</u>	Access to basic health care and health services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Human resources - Financing resources
<u>Environmental security</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainable practices that take into account natural resource and environmental degradation. - Access to Safe drinking water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water availability - Natural resource capital - Public awareness - Biodiversity
<u>Political security</u>	Protection of human rights and protection from political or state repression.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good Governance - Accountability and Transparency in state affairs.

Phase 4: Implement in a participatory manner:

The main objective of human security project in Arab region is to improve the livelihood of vulnerable people include children and women especially in rural areas through comprehensive pro-poor economic development and applying human security policies.

Programming areas:

The Human security project in Arab countries must focus on the following objectives and activities.

- 1) Improve access to basic needs including food, health, education and water & sanitation. Especially for vulnerable groups like women and poor people in rural areas.
- 2) Reducing gender gap in access to employment and opportunities through providing productive assets, technical assistance and training to poorest women and most vulnerable people.
- 3) Protecting the environment and natural resources of people under conflict and building economic and structures destroyed by conflict.

Phase 5 : Human Security Impact Assessment:

There are several forms of evaluation. The most important evaluation is occur after implementation of the project to assess the success of the program but evaluation can take place during the project to assess the progress to improve or re- targeting the program. (UN, 2011:22)

There are six steps of human security impact assessment:

First step: collect data on the human security project (main objectives of the project, main activities, and the main beneficiaries of the project)

Second step: define direct and indirect impacts on people and determine externalities.

Third step: Analyze the negative impact on other insecurity dimensions.

Fourth step: Identify the costs and benefits at the aggregate level

Fifth step: Recommend improvements to the project.

Sixth step: Measure the effectiveness of the human security impact assessment by assessing its sustainability.

CONCLUSION

Human security defined as "*Freedom from fear and freedom from wants*" and its main features is safety from threats like hunger, unemployment disease , poverty and secure from harmful disruption in the patterns of life whether in homes, in jobs or in society.

There is no agreement about one indicator to measure all aspects of human security. And by analyzing the existing methodologies for measuring human security reveals that there are several attempts to broaden index to include more dimensions of human security. But the main problems facing these attempts are weighting, timeliness and accuracy.

One solution of broaden human security index may be using average of some indicators that reveals different dimensions of human security.

The paper highlights the state of human insecurity in the Arab countries and how to convert human security from concept to practice. The study reveals that there are great variations between Arab countries from low level of human security in some countries to high level of

human security in other countries. In addition, threats to human security in Arab countries are multi-dimensional and interdependent.

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