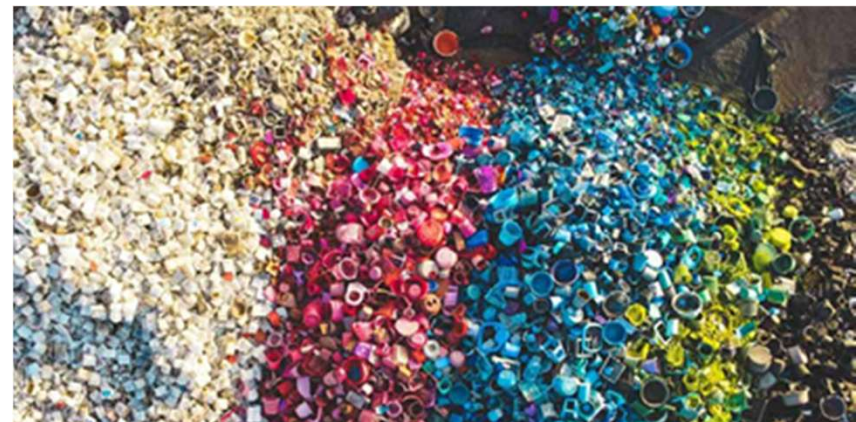




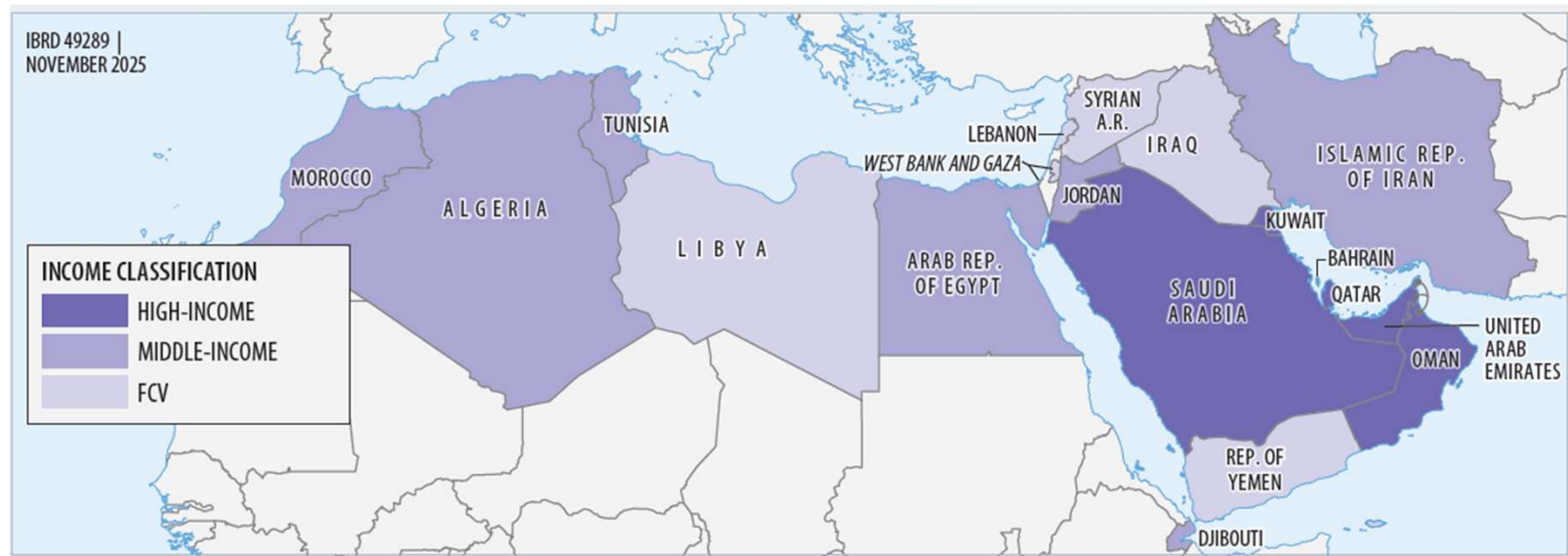
From Waste to Value:

An Opportunity for the Middle East and North Africa Region to tackle marine plastic pollution

Delphine Arri
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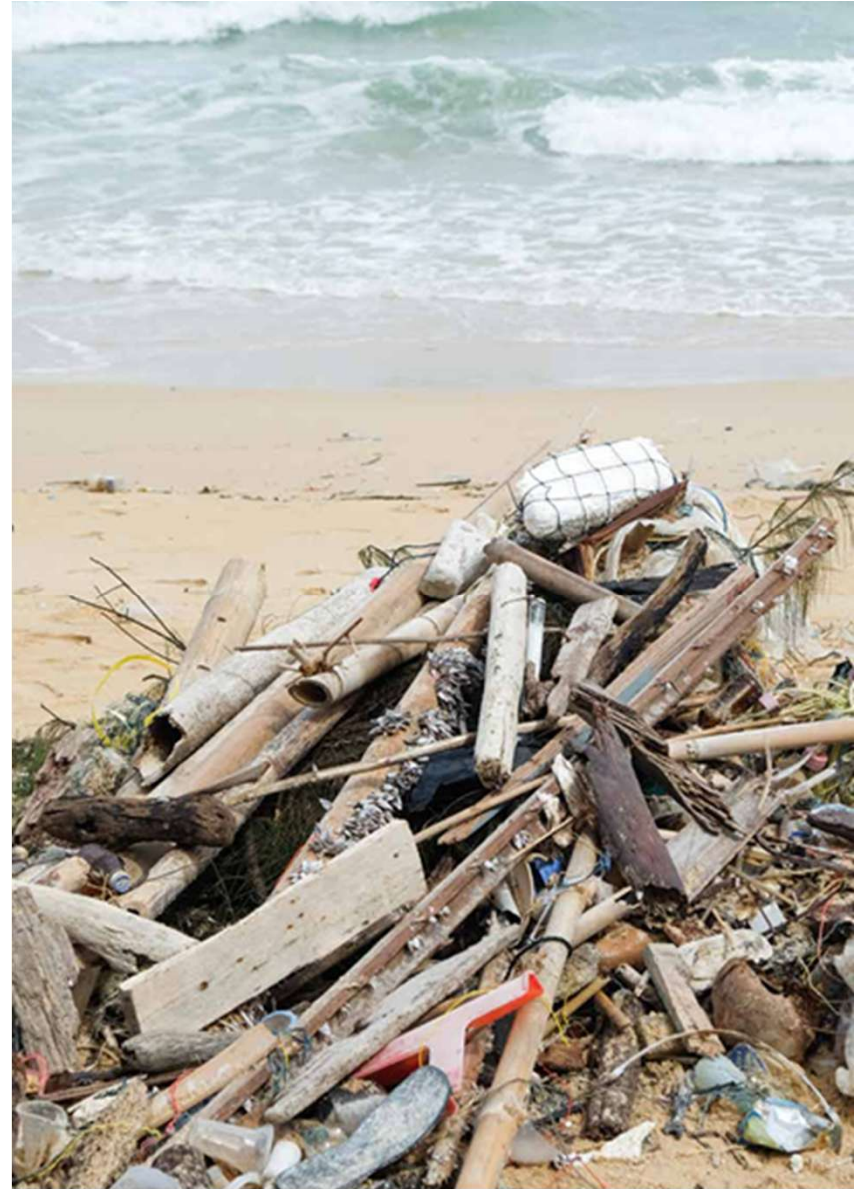
Middle East and North Africa region



- **High urbanization**
 - Currently:
 - 470 million people
 - 65% reside in urban areas
 - **Projection by 2050:**
 - 643 million people
 - **85% residing in urban areas**
- **Huge Income Disparity:**
 - GDP/ capita average is \$5,910
 - Ranging from \$53,450 in Qatar to less than \$1,000 in Syria and Yemen.

THE CHALLENGE

UNDERSTANDING WASTE IN MENA

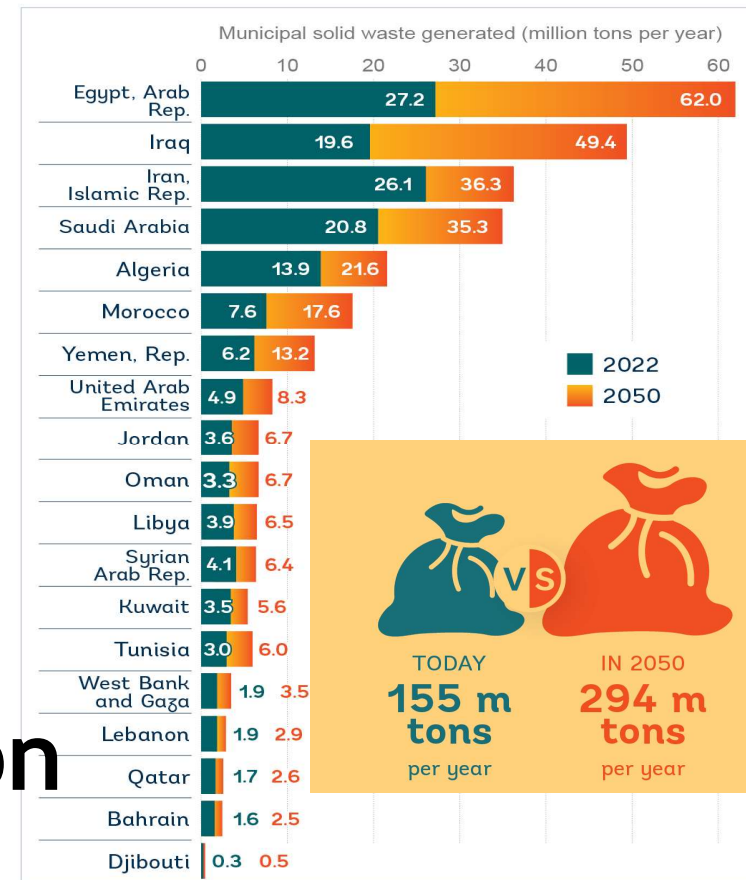


The MENA region is facing a waste crisis...

MENA generates **more** waste per person than East Asia, South Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa and the **Global** average

\$7.2 billion
per year

**COST OF ENVIRONMENTAL
DAMAGE**



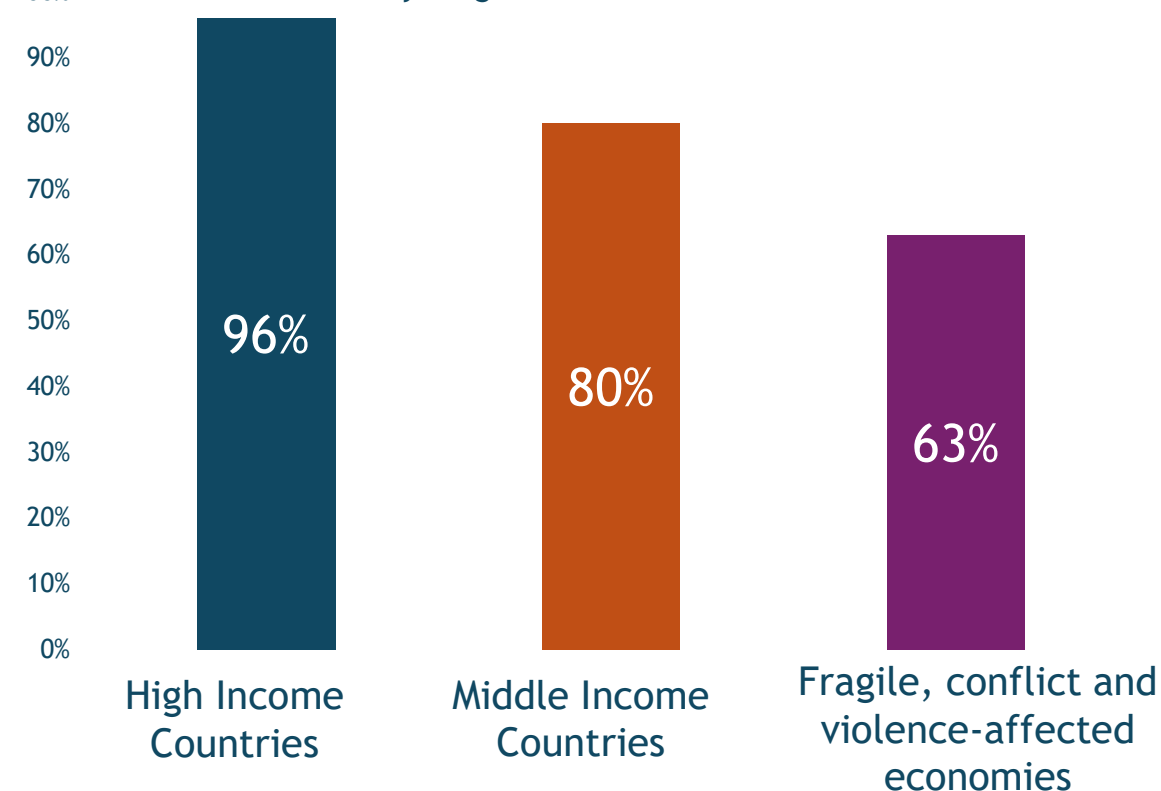
... and waste is expected to double by 2050 with no action

Waste Collection in MENA is efficient

79% in average for the region, comparable to global benchmark

MENA countries collectively spend US\$3.5 billion per year on waste collection

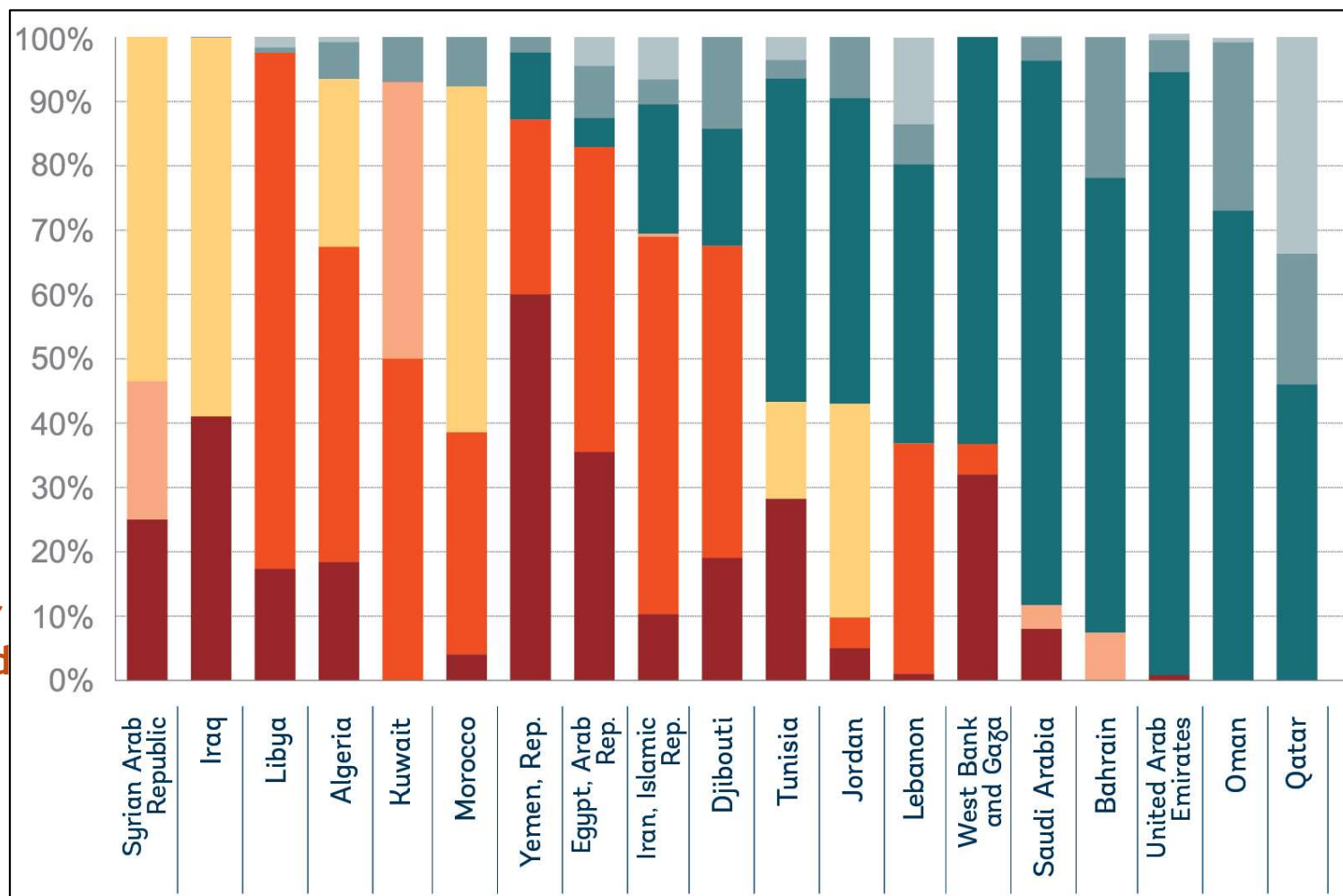
100% % of waste collected by weight



Where does waste go?

MENA countries collectively spend **US\$4.2 billion per year** on waste treatment and disposal

—but not always in the most efficient way



Legend:



Not properly managed



Properly managed

There are missed opportunities to reduce waste and make economic gains

Currently



In MENA countries

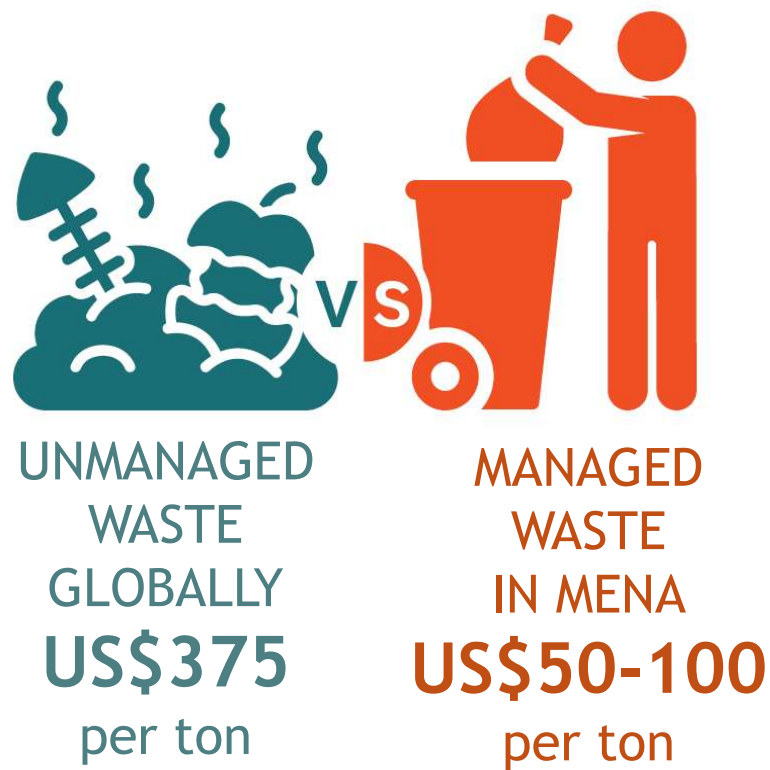
ONLY
10%

of waste is
recycled, reused
or composted

83%

of collected waste
has potential for
reuse, recycling or
energy recovery

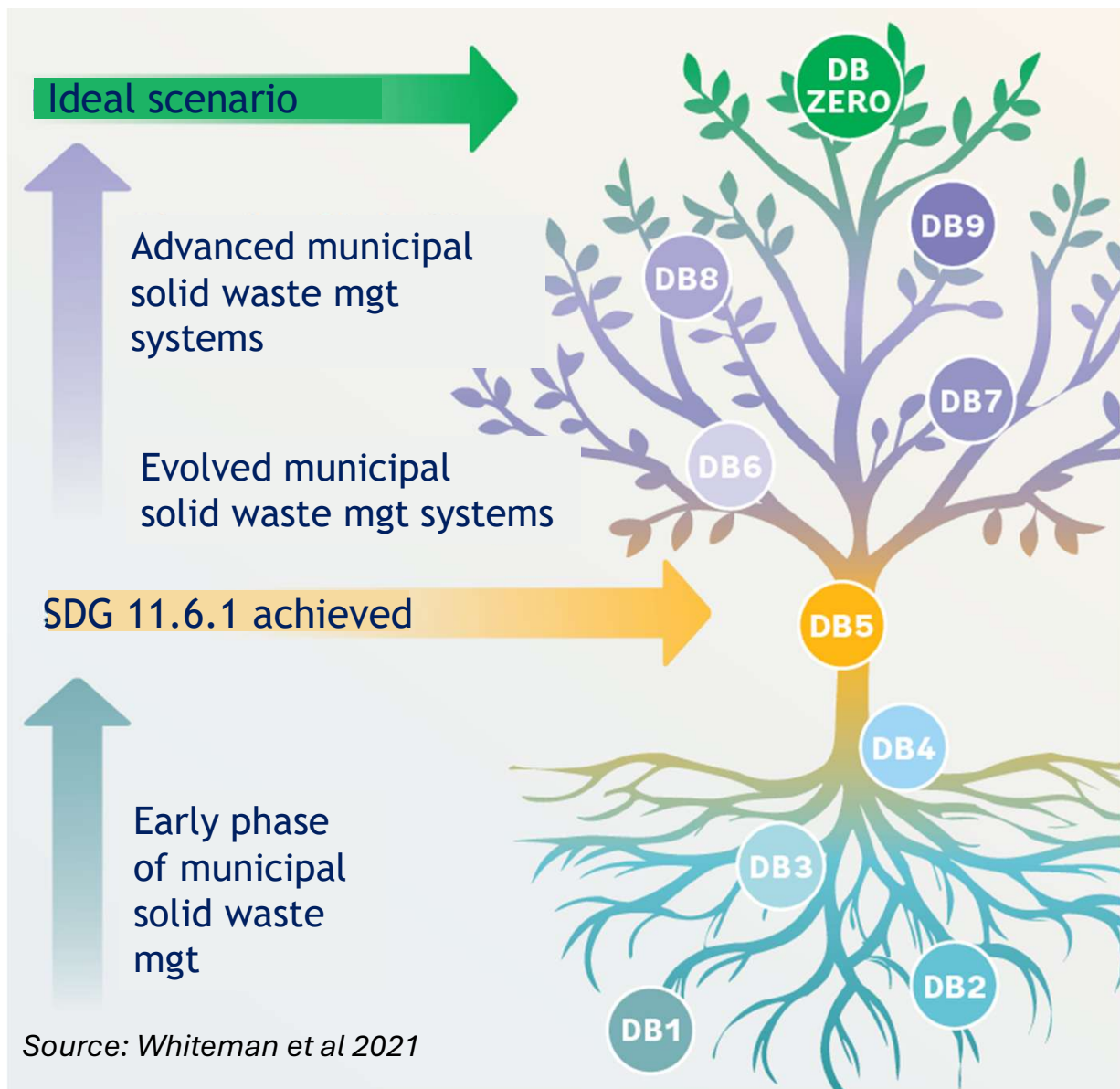
Proper waste management far outweigh the associated costs



OPPORTUNITIES TO TURN THE TIDE



Development Band: Assessing countries' performance and trajectory



**Almost all
MENA
countries
can achieve
universal
collection
and
controlled
disposal**



To get there, more and better spending is needed

Currently:

To achieve SDG Target 11.6, all MENA countries would need to improve efficiency and increase spending on SWM by an additional 50%

US\$7.7 billion

annual spending increase

US\$11.6 billion



By 2050:

To achieve almost universal collection, a good degree of control over disposal & treatment, and develop circular measures (e.g., reduce, reuse, recycle),

annual spending increase

US\$22 billion

This level of spending is expected to be affordable for the region
(considering projected economic growth)

With different entry points, countries would benefit from 3 priorities

1. Secure more financing for waste management

Potential revenue sources:

- User fees
- Public-private partnerships
- Extended producer responsibility mechanisms

2. Reduce waste, especially food and packaging waste



3. Improve institutional accountability & coordination

Key ingredients of success:

- Coordination
- New governance models
- Data

To lay the foundations for a more circular economy, support private sector development, benefit the informal sector, and create better jobs.

Better waste management is within reach across MENA region



High-income countries

are well positioned to pursue advanced circular economy approaches and maximize benefits.

Achievable outcome by 2050

Waste disposal is reduced from 87% to less than 30%.



Middle-income countries

can extend collection services, ensure safe disposal, and promote recycling and other waste-reduction solutions beyond current low levels. Appropriate circular economy opportunities can be seized or scaled up.

Achievable outcome by 2050

Universal collection with 40% of waste is diverted away from landfills.



Economies affected by fragility, conflict, and violence

can prioritize reliable waste collection and building capacity for better disposal control. Initiatives suited to local contexts offer the best path forward.

Achievable outcome by 2050

70% of total waste is collected and disposed of in sanitary landfills and 20% is collected and diverted away from landfills. The remaining fraction—10%—is not collected.





In a nutshell...

Better waste management is within reach across the MENA region:

there are opportunities to transform waste into a driver of economic growth, sustainability, and social well-being through tailored circular economy approaches.



**Waste Management
in the Middle East
and North Africa
World Bank**





Thank you!

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