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الثاني للأراضي

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Land Administration and its Role for Reaching Food Safety and Peacebuilding in Syria.

Towards a New Paradigm for Sustainable Development in Rural and Urban areas.

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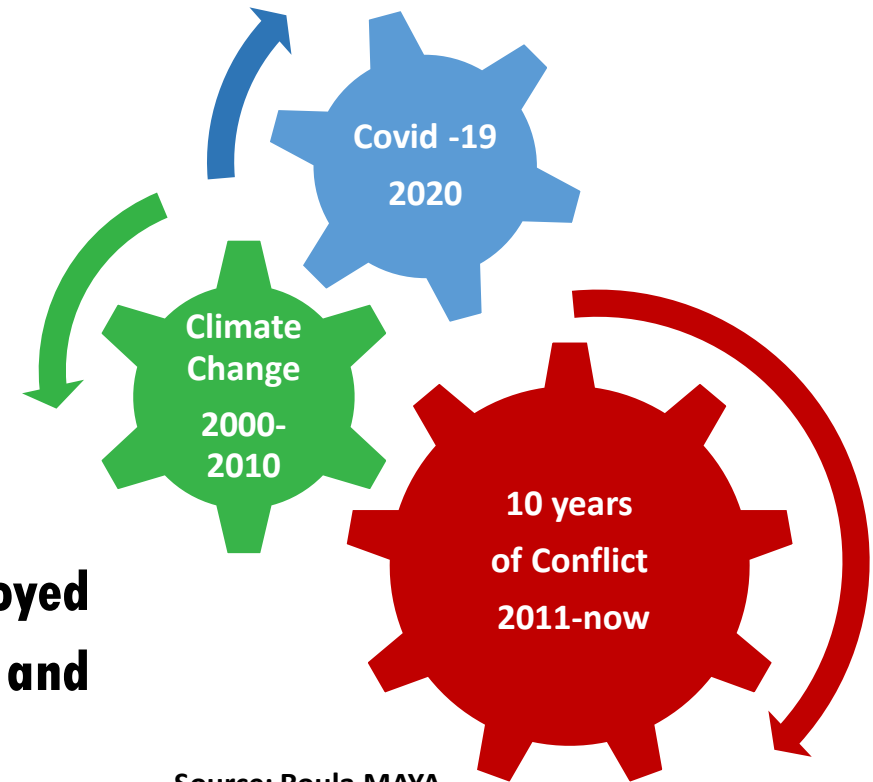
■ WHAT?

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- The conflict in Syria has entered its tenth year with no political solution in sight.
- The Syrian crisis is considered as one of the largest and most destructive contemporary humanitarian crisis in the modern world:
- Conflict for 10 years, (2011-now).
- Climate Change and waves of drought (2000-2010).
- Covid-19 Pandemic (2020- now).

➡ This conflict has left very large economic and social damages, destroyed infrastructure and a sharp contraction in the national economy and created the **largest humanitarian refugee crisis in the modern world.**

Figure 1: Syria is facing a triple crisis.



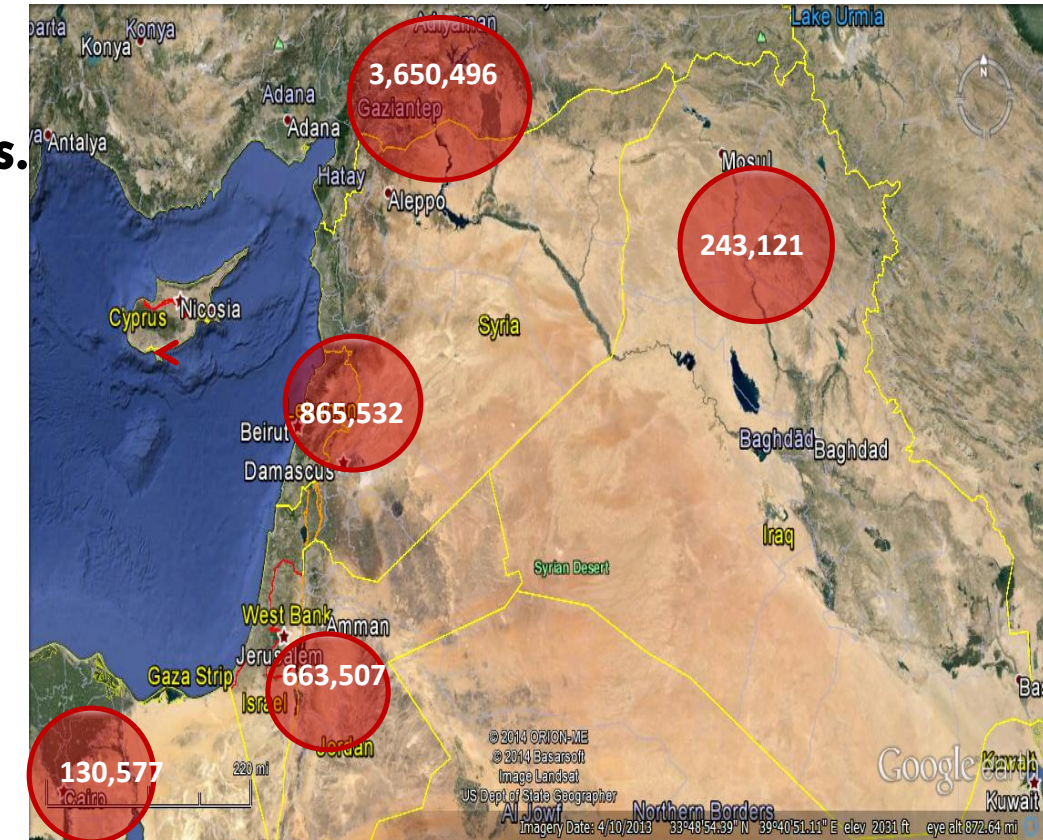
Source: Roula MAYA

SITUATION ANALYSIS: 10 YEARS OF CONFLICT (2011- NOW).

■ WHAT?

- In March 2011, the number of population in Syria was 21.4 million before the conflict began.
- It is estimated that the conflict has claimed over 400,000 lives.
- About 2 million wounded, a large percentage of them disabled (each dead corresponds to 5 wounded).
- The national poverty rate exceeded 80 % in 2021.
- About 5,584,889 Syrian refugees in 4 February 2021.
- There is 9.3 million people in Syria were considered food insecure, with one million severely food insecure.

Figure 2: The number of Syrian refugees in neighboring countries on 17 February, 2021.



Source: R. MAYA based on the data of UNHCR 2021, and satellite images Google earth 2014.

The conflict has led to the destruction and weakening of the economic and social infrastructure and strongly impacted people life's and safety in all dimensions.

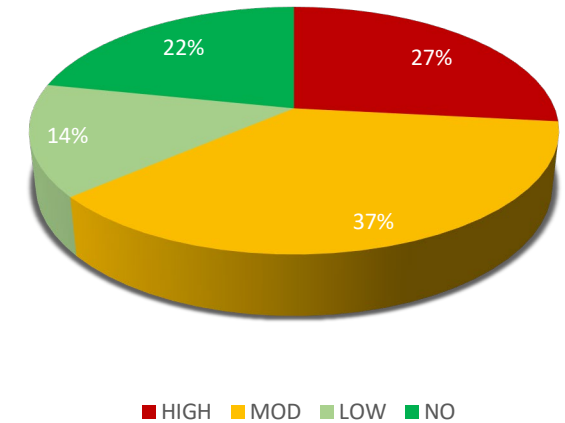
■ WHAT?

SITUATION ANALYSIS: CLIMAT CHANGE 2000-2010

Even before the conflict, ACSAD was announced since 2009 the regional early warning for desertification.

- **Desertification:** 68 Percent of lands in Syria are susceptible to desertification.
- **Drought:** The waves of drought which faced Syria between 2000- 2010 increasing desertification caused by climate change and human factors and lead to lands degradation, Flora and Fauna species and human communities.
- **Forced displacement:** The drought forced around 60 thousands of farming families to leave their homes and lands and moved to cities for searching alternative work after several unproductive years between 2007-2009.

Figure 3: Lands in Syria Vulnerable to drought.



Source: R. MAYA based on (ACSAD, 2009:14).

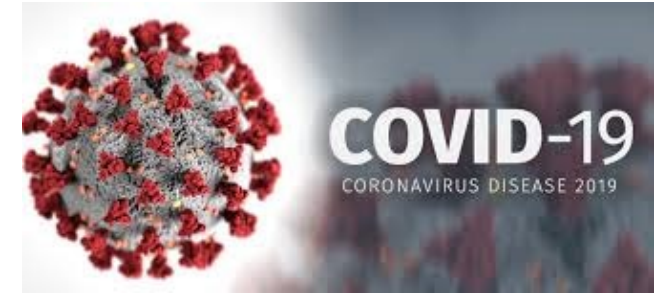
Therefore, Syria was in the grip of a severe economic crisis, which exacerbates food insecurity and poverty status before 2011.



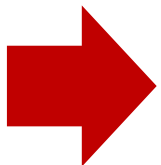
■ **WHAT?**

SITUATION ANALYSIS: COVID- 19 PANDAMIC (2000- NOW)

According to OCHA (Syria, Feb.2021), the number of COVID-19 cases reported by the Ministry of Health (MoH):



- **14,048 COVID-19 cases (921 fatalities, 7,561 recovered).**
- **The number of teachers/administrative staff have recorded 1,263 infection and included 11 death of teachers and three school doctors in only January 2021.**
- **COVID-19 lockdown measures were rising food and fuel prices by more than 200% in less than a year. Now, the basic food basket cost 76,000 Syrian Pounds (20 times higher than pre-crisis cost).**
- **Exchange rates make it more difficult for families to meet their basic needs. Evaluation and volatility of the informal SYP/USD exchange rate. The informal exchange rate was around SYP 694 in 2019. After a record low in June 2020 (approximately SYP 3,200 to US\$ 1). In June 2020, the Central Bank of Syria devalued the official exchange rate to SYP 1,256 to US\$ 1).**



In addition to multiple crisis related to conflict and climate change the COVID-19 related factors has affected heavy negative the fragile socio-economic.

■ **WHY? IMPACT OF TRIPLE CRISIS: SYRIA AT THE HEAD OF FOOD INSECURITY MAP**

The Arab World

- **Egypt: 4.5 million.**
- **Tunisia: 0.5 million.**
- **Morocco: 1.8 million.**
- **Sudan: 7.5 million.**
- **Mauritania: 0.3 million.**
- **Syria: 9.3 million.**

➡ **According to WFP, in April 2020, 9.3 million people in Syria were considered food insecure, with one million severely food insecure.**

Figure 4: The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2020- FAO.



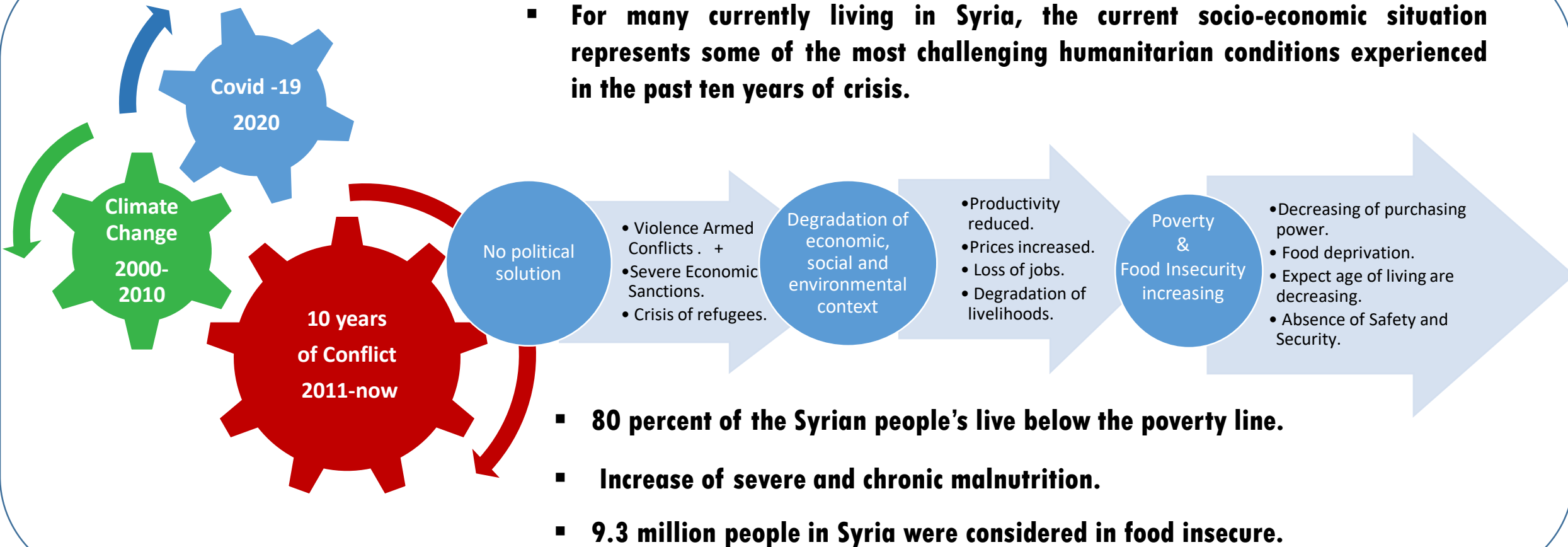
Source: <http://www.fao.org/state-of-food-security-nutrition/2-1-1/en/#>

IMPACT OF TRIPLE CRISIS: SYRIA AT THE HEAD OF FOOD INSECURITY MAP

■ WHY?

Figure 5: Impact of triple crisis on food security

- For many currently living in Syria, the current socio-economic situation represents some of the most challenging humanitarian conditions experienced in the past ten years of crisis.

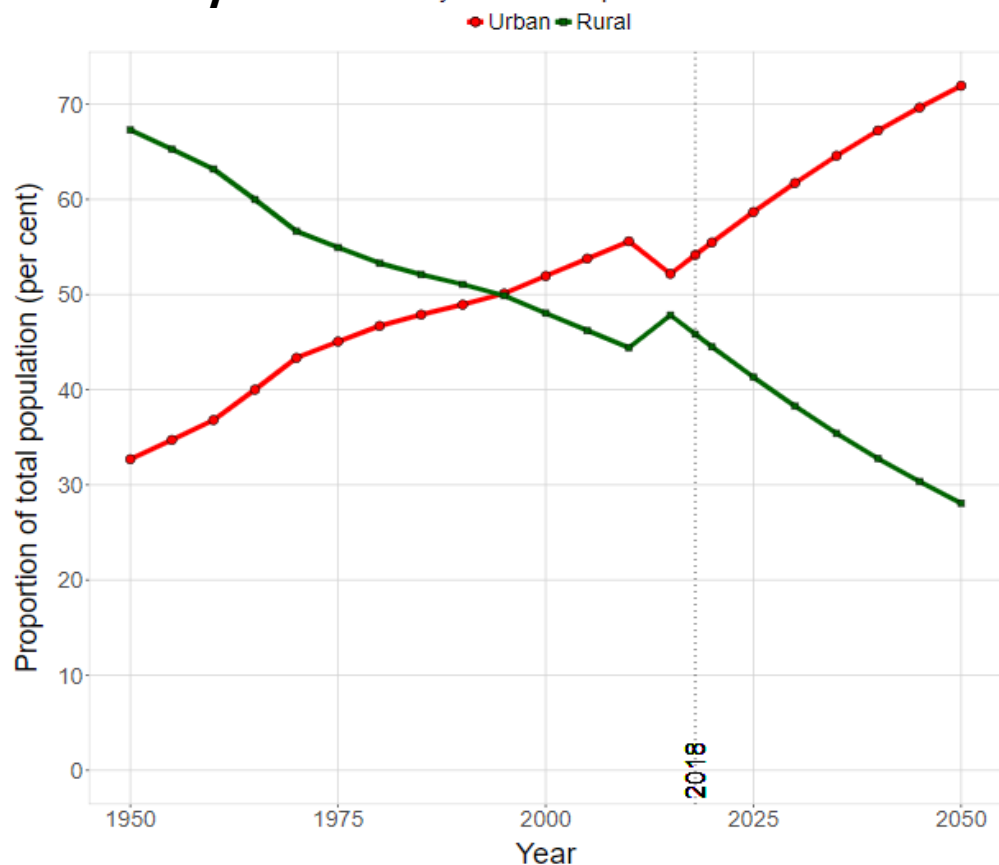


Source: Roula MAYA

■ WHY?

IMPACT OF TRIPLE CRISIS: URBANIZATION & LAND DEGRADATION

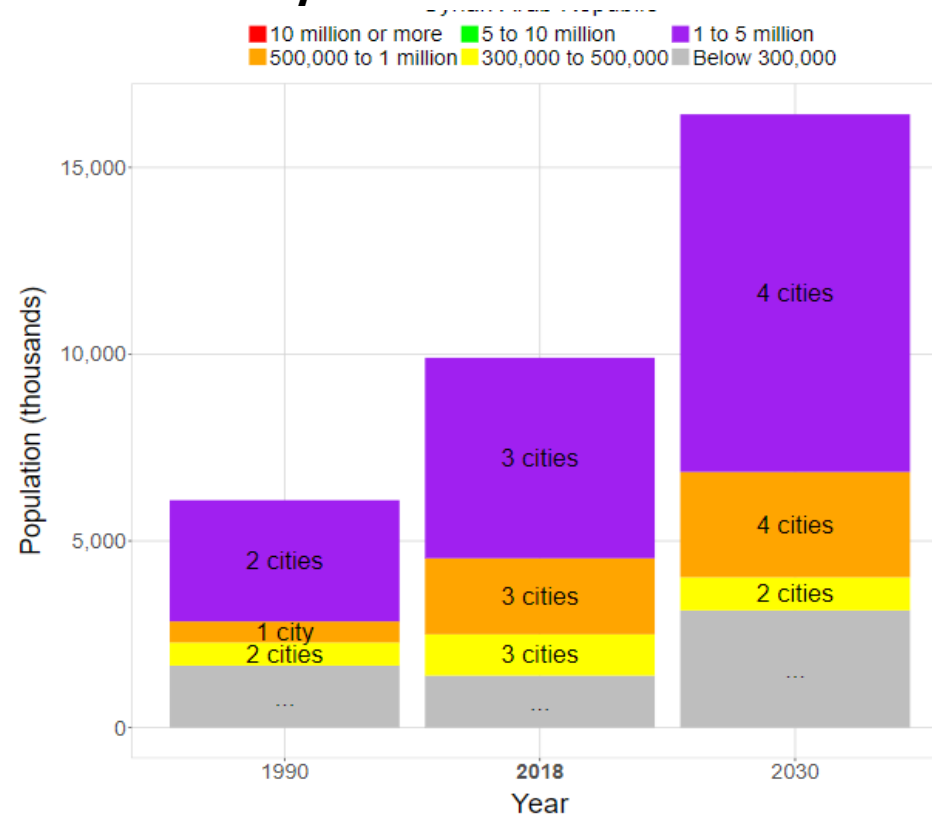
Figure 6: Percentage of population in urban and rural areas in Syria.



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Note: Urban and rural population in the current country or area as a percentage of the total population, 1950 to 2050.

Figure 7: Urban Population by size class of urban settlement in Syria.



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Note: Urban population by size class of urban settlement and number of cities, 1990, 2018 and 2030. The grey area is a residual category that includes all urban settlements with a population of less than 300,000 inhabitants.

Source: United Nations. Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Dynamics, World Urbanization Prospects 2018.

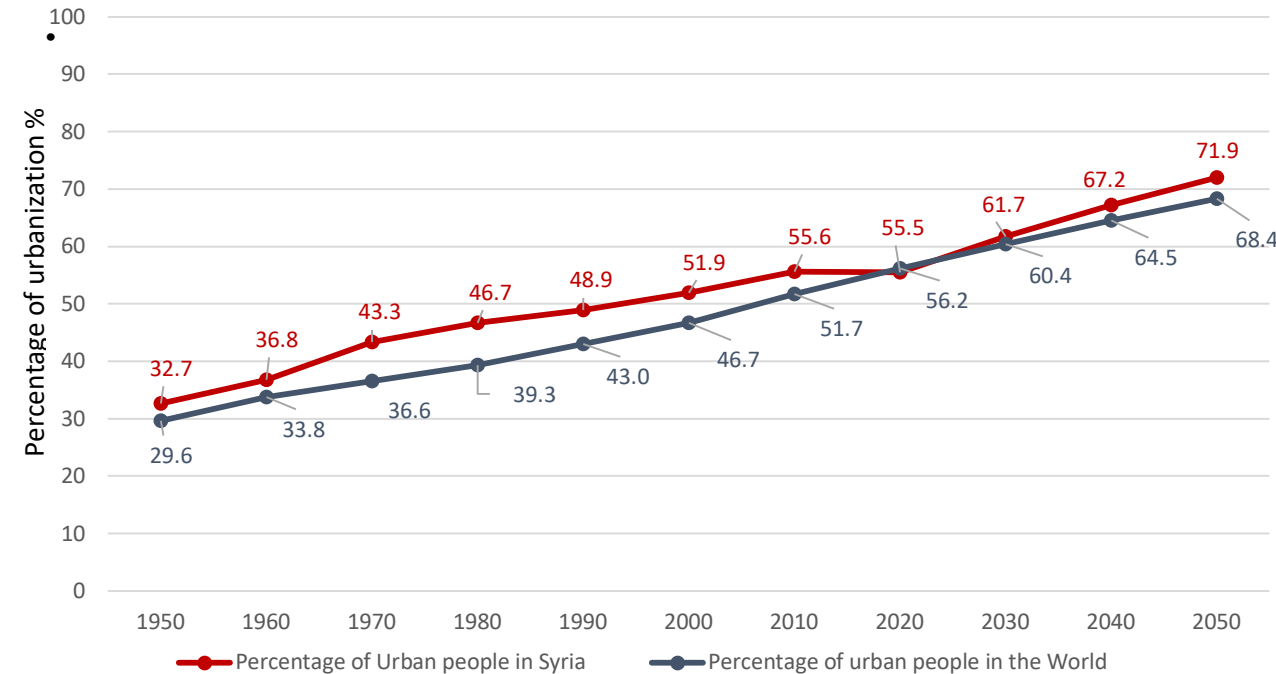
<https://population.un.org/wup/Country-Profiles/>

■ **WHY?** **IMPACT OF TRIPLE CRISIS ON URBANIZATION & LAND DEGRADATION**

- **Acceleration of Urban development from 51,9 percent in 2000 to 55,5 percent in 2020.**

- **It recorded 76% in certain cities by the end of 2014 .**
- **40% (3.2 million) of IDPs in Syria are being hosted in cities in Aleppo, Lattakia, Tartous and several cities in Rural Damascus.**
- **By this accelerated rates urbanization affects every aspect of food systems.**
- **Around 35% of urban schools are not operating due to damage or to occupation.**
- **More than 50% of hospitals in cities are not operational.**
- **Around 760,000 housing units in Syrian cities were damaged.**
- **Historic and traditional urban centres were massively destroyed (Aleppo, Homs, Deir ez-Zor, Dara'a, Douma, and Daraya).**

Figure 8: Trends of Urbanization in Syria & World in 100 years.



Source: Roula MAYA, based on Data of United Nations. Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Dynamics, World Urbanization Prospects 2018.

<https://population.un.org/wup/Country-Profiles/>

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Confirmed that:

➡ **“Effective land administration ensures preparedness and resilience, participatory and inclusive land use planning, monitoring of land-cover change, sustainable resource management, building back better, and the protection of our planet’s natural resources and environment for future generations”.**

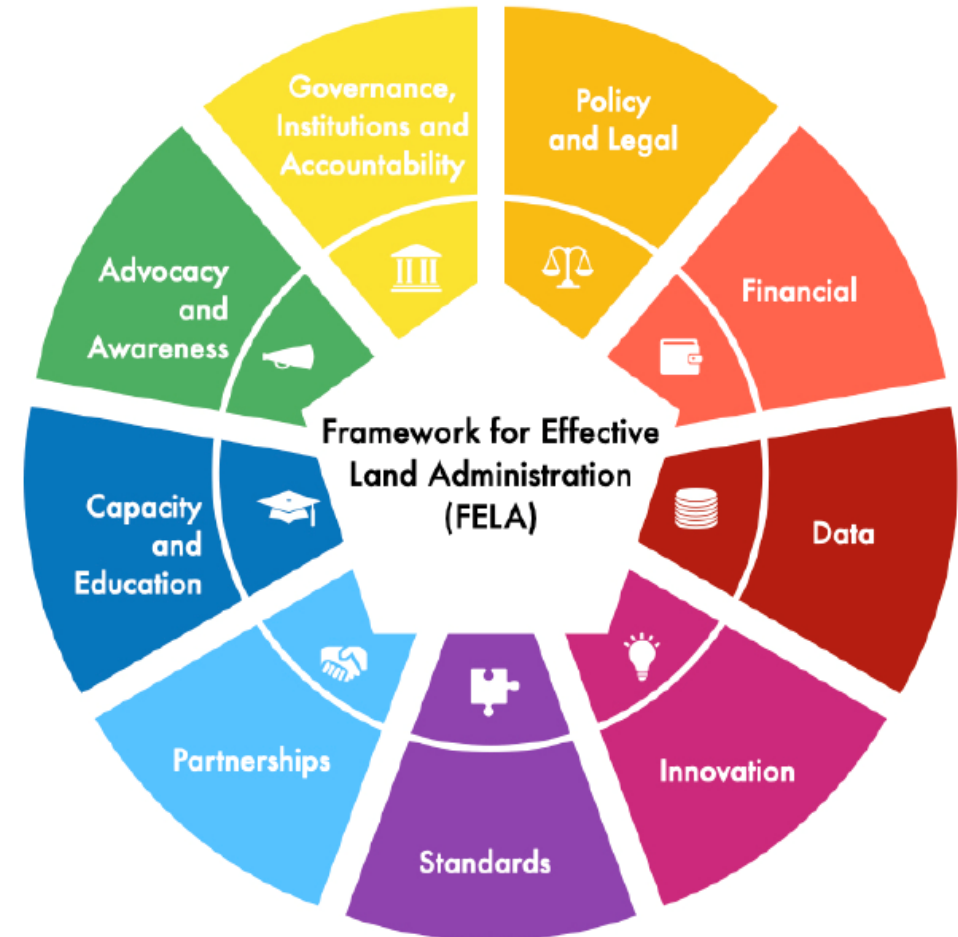
■ HOW?

PATHWAYS FOR EFFECTIVE LAND ADMINISTRATION

Figure 9: Nine Pathways of the Framework for Effective Land Administration.

“Effective land administration supports poverty eradication, food security, and can support ensuring dignity and equality through documenting, recording and recognizing people to land relationships in all forms, notwithstanding the potential to undermine dignity when the information is misused”.

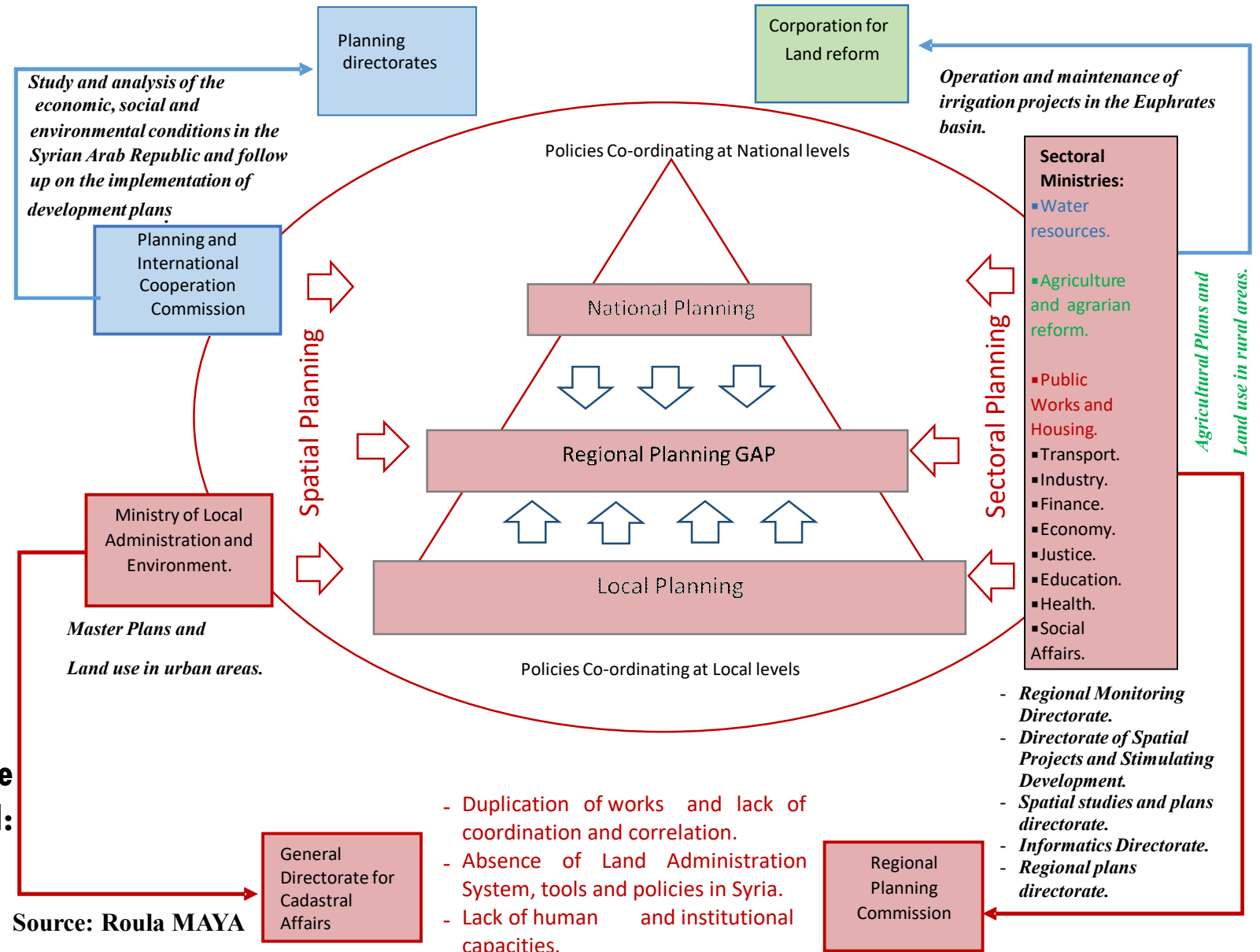
UN-GGIM, May 2020.



■ WHO, Where?

LAND ADMINISTRATION & PLANNING SYSTEMS IN SYRIA

Figure 10: The planning systems in Syria at National, Regional, Local, and sectoral levels.



Land always represented a crucial part in the life of humanity. Land is source of food and the symbolizes the security element to people.

Land administration came to regulate and satisfy the human needs in reaching this type of security.

Land administration is a multidisciplinary and integrated tool that includes technical, legal, managerial, political, economic and institutional dimensions.

The multiplicity of authorities in Syria, the absence of a clear strategy for land: Administration, Use, Tenure & Development.

LAND ADMINISTRATION IS THE KEY TOOL TO ASSURE FOOD SECURITY IN SYRIA

Figure 11: Land Administration Paradigm to assure food security in Syria: Challenges and Priority Actions.

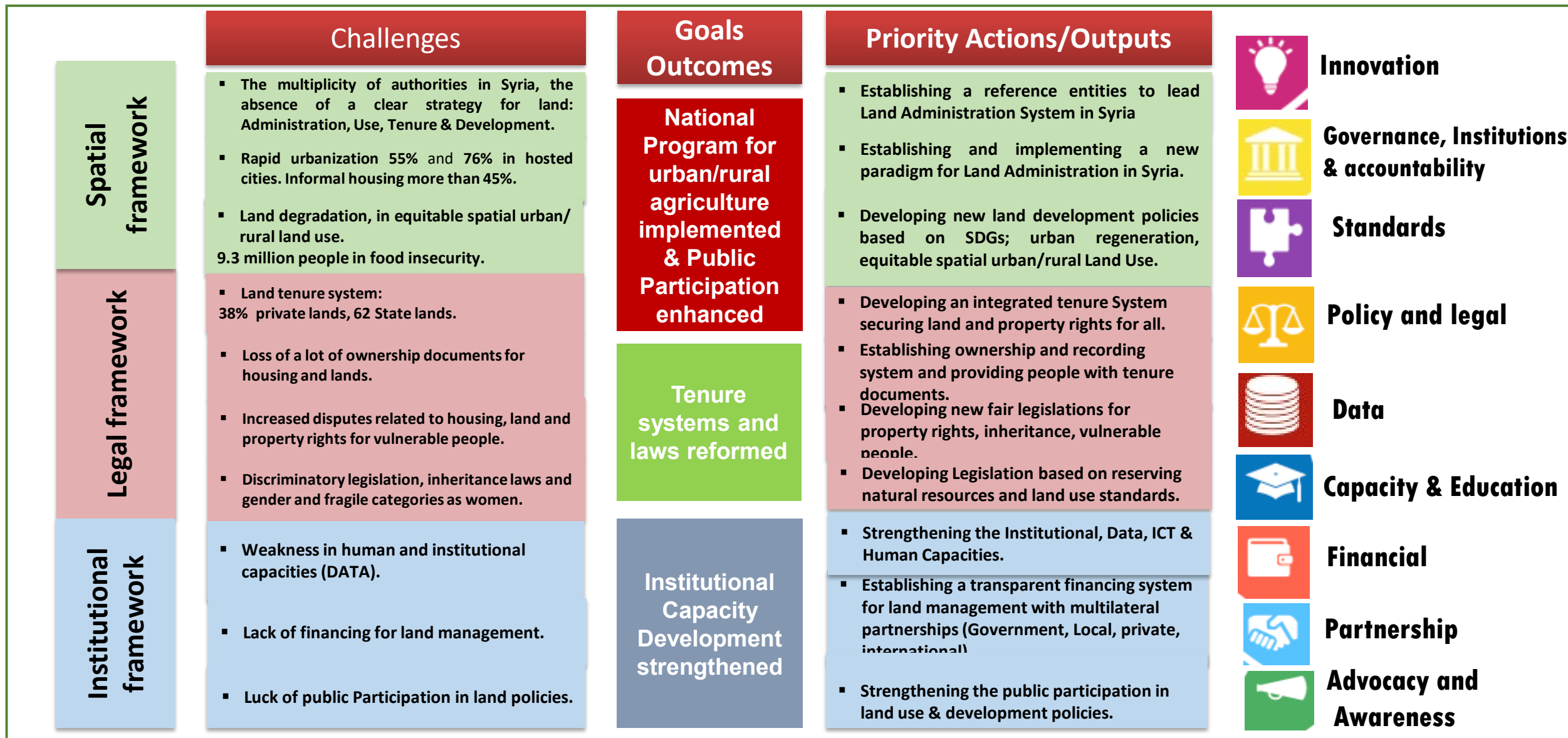
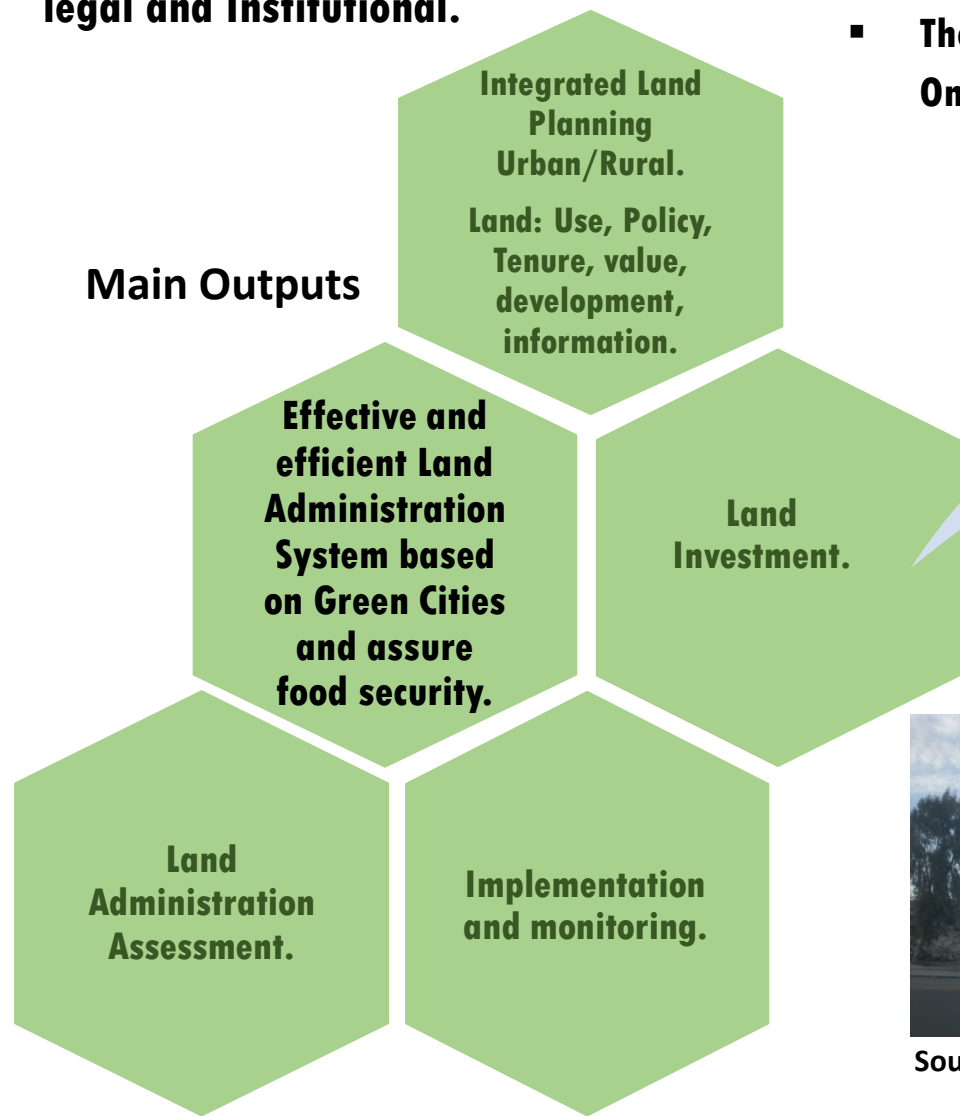


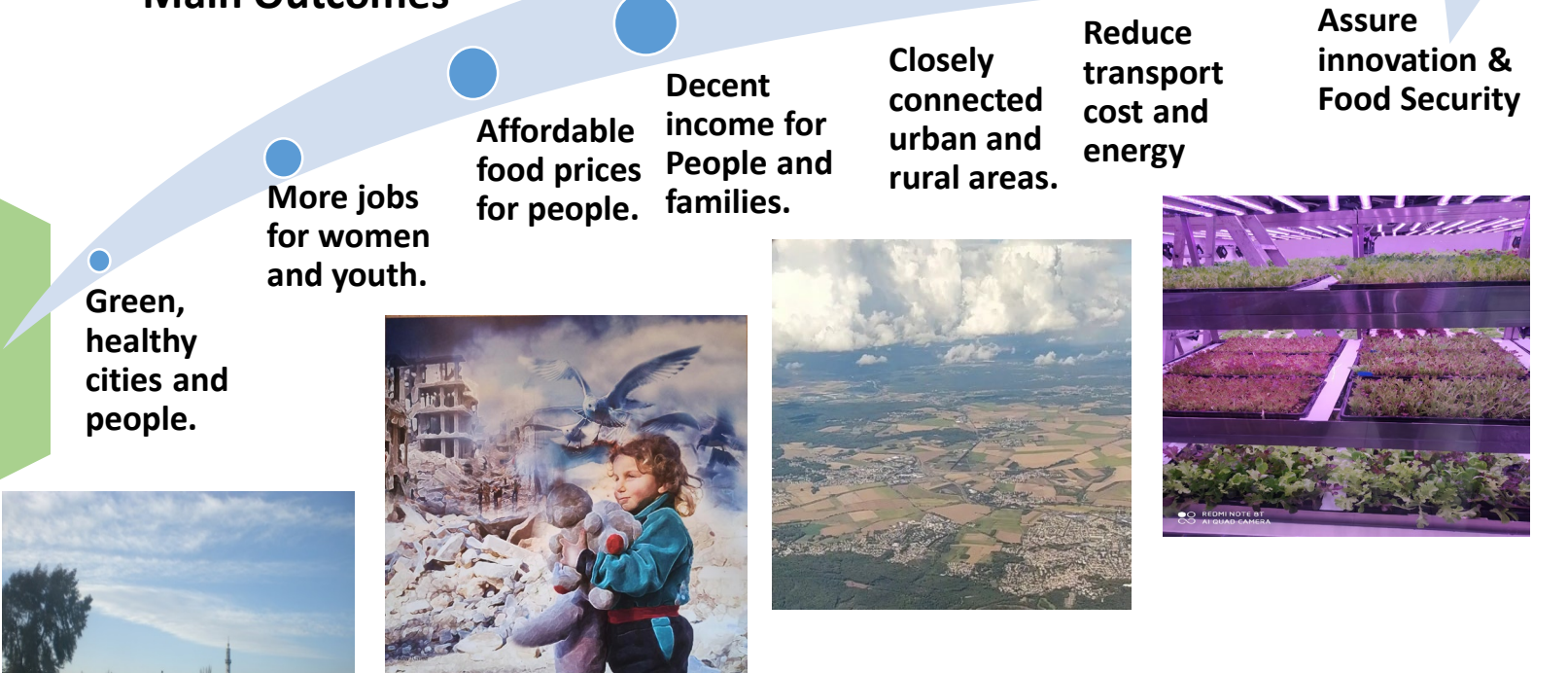
Figure 12: Integrated Framework, Spatial, legal and Institutional.



CONCLUSIONS AND MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REACHING FOOD SECURITY AND PEACEBUILDING IN SYRIA

- The short production cycle gives the advantage of urban agriculture. One square meter of garden can provide 20 kg of food per year.

Main Outcomes



- Syria loses more than 30 years of development and that will have so long-term effects on future generations.

- Peacebuilding in Syria, need and request the cooperation of all local, national, regional and international efforts to ensure prosperity and wellbeing for all.

THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION!



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