

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

The Arab Cybersecurity Strategy (ACSS)

Dr. Mohamed Hamdi, AICTO

Workshop on Building Trust in Digital Government Services, Beirut, 11-12 September 2023



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



Summary



01 The Methodology



02 The Challenges



03 The Vision



04 The Programmes



05 The Actions



06 The Controls

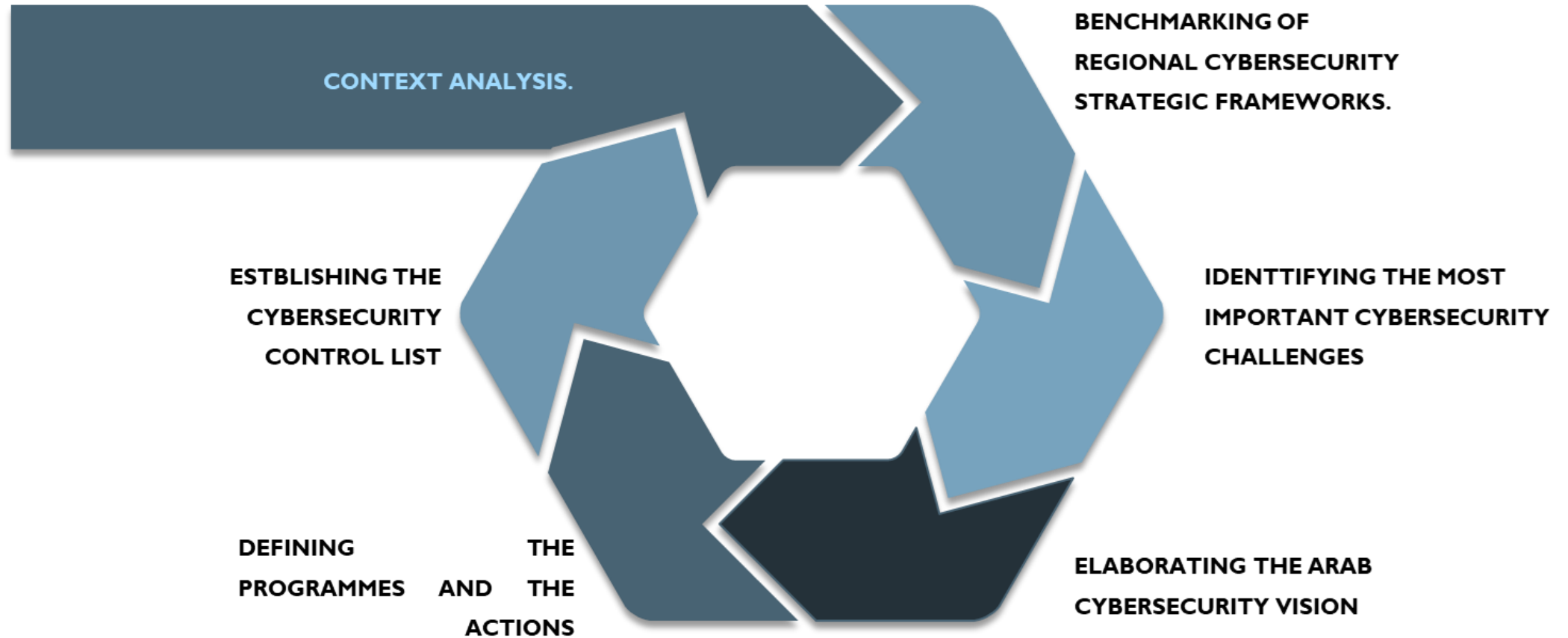


07 The Implementation?



08 Q&As

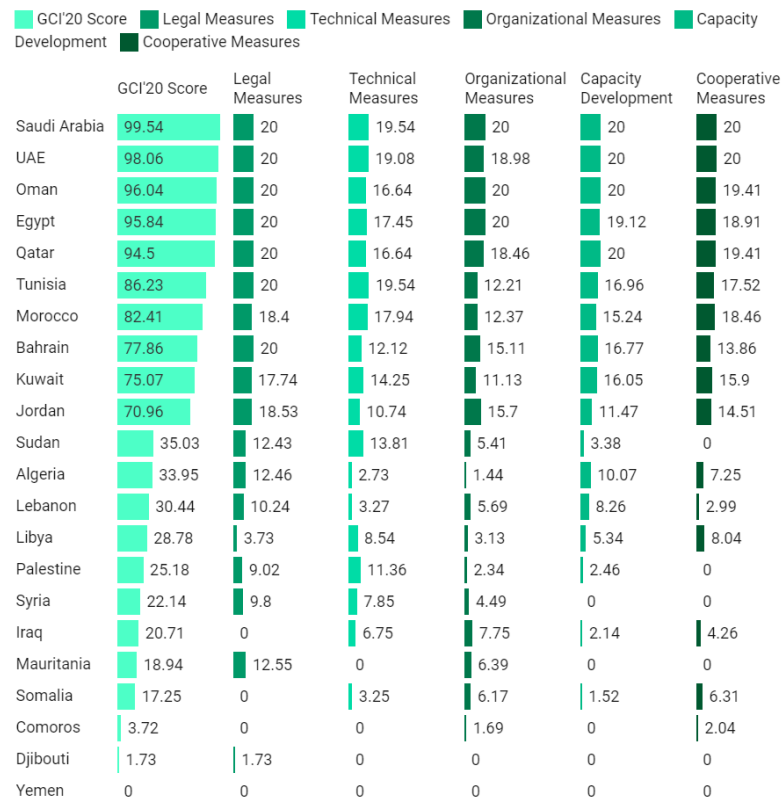
The Methodology



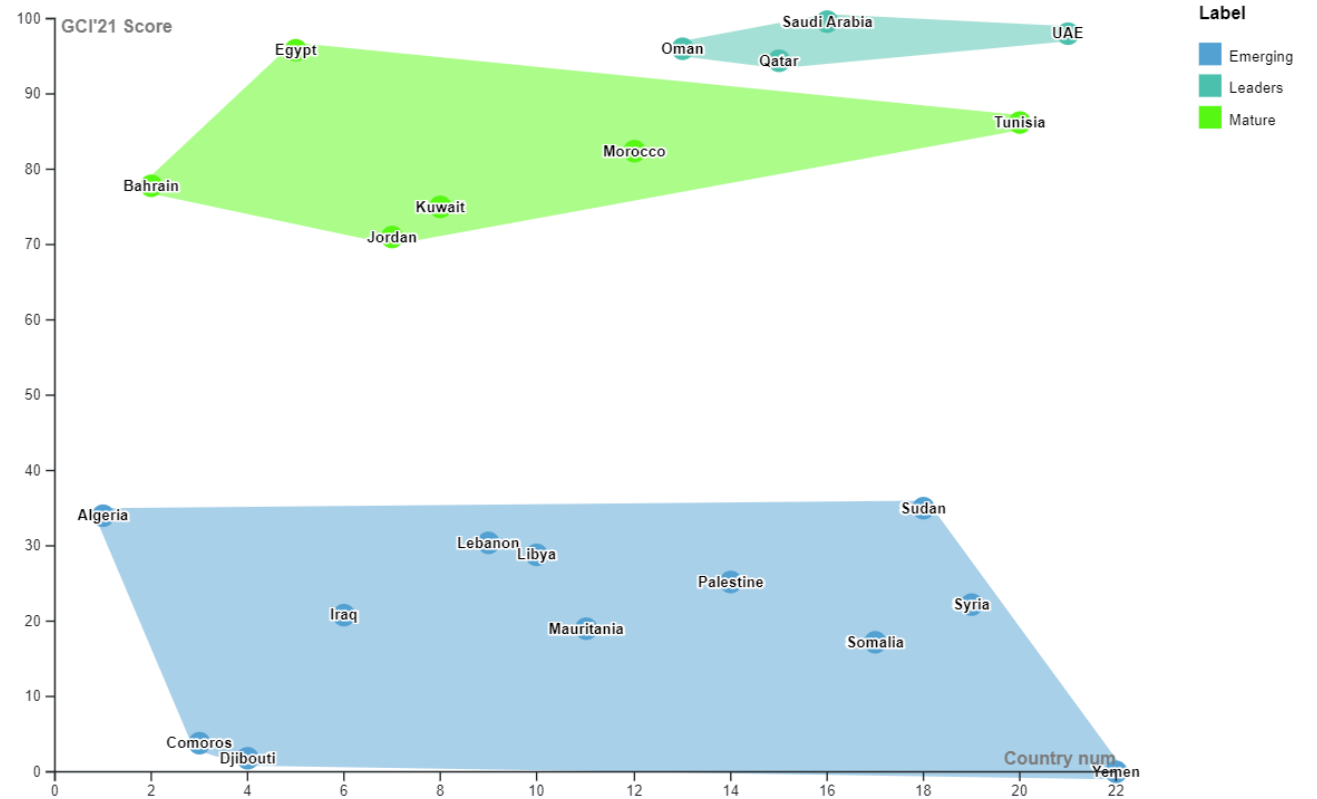
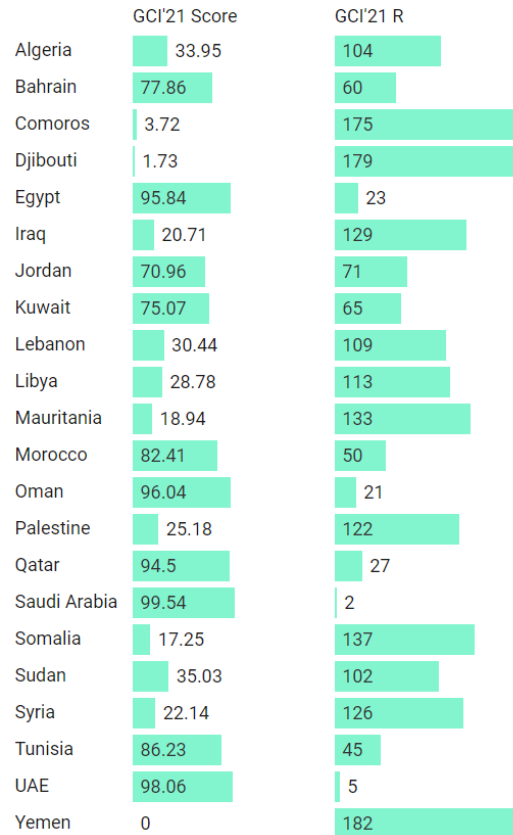
The Context: Cybersecurity in the Arab Region

ITU Publications

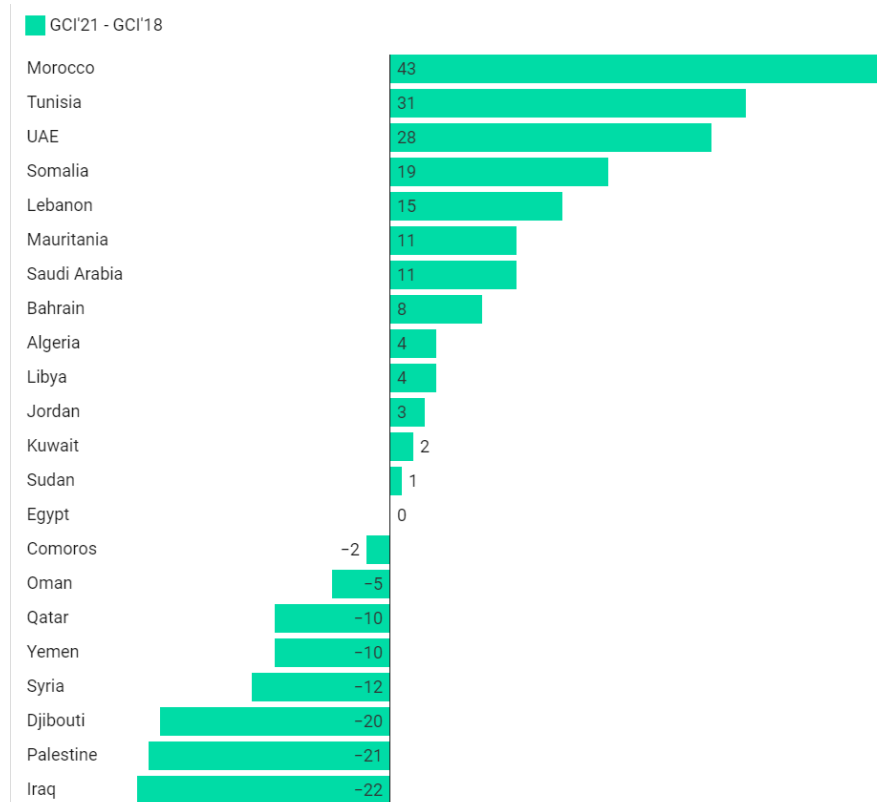
International Telecommunication Union
Development Sector



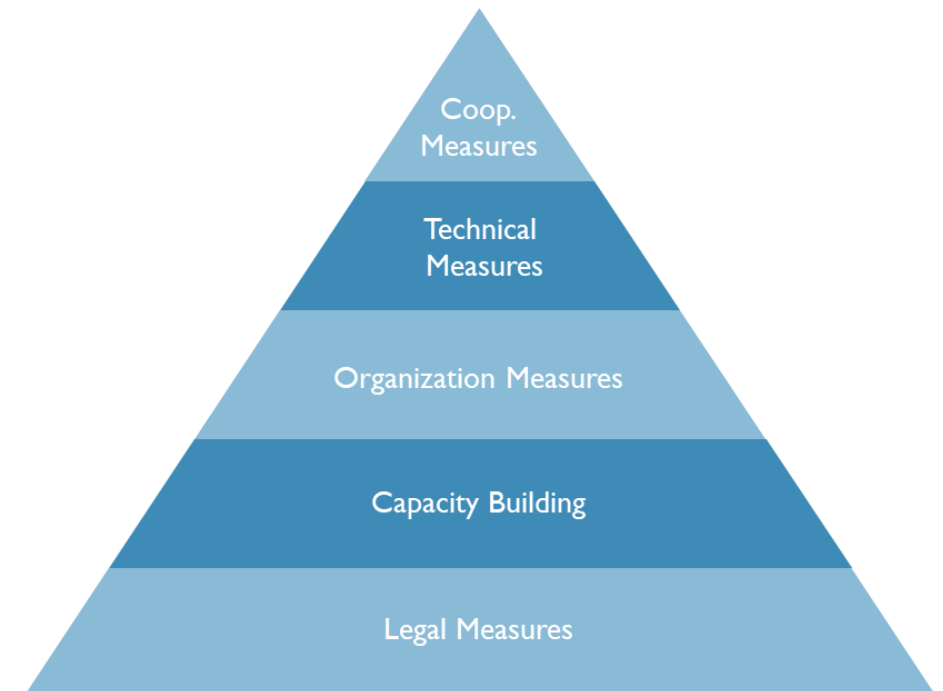
The Context: GCI-based classification



The Context: Differential GCI rank (2018-2020)

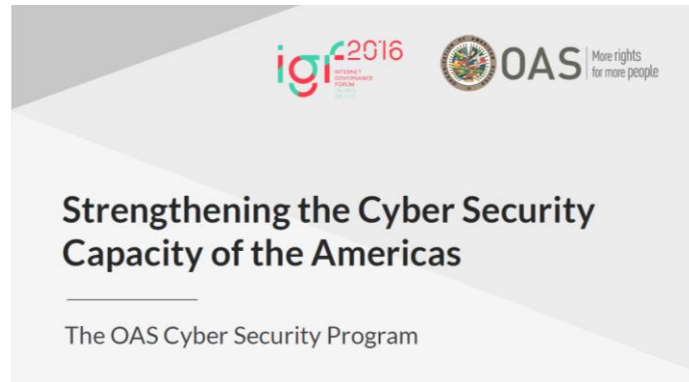


Key Success Factors (PCA)



Towards an Arab Cybersecurity Strategy

Motivation



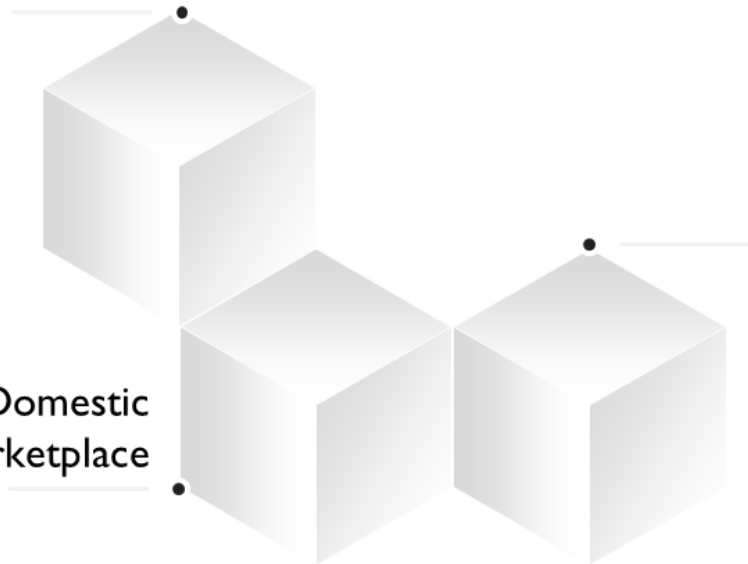
Towards an Arab Cybersecurity Strategy

Motivation

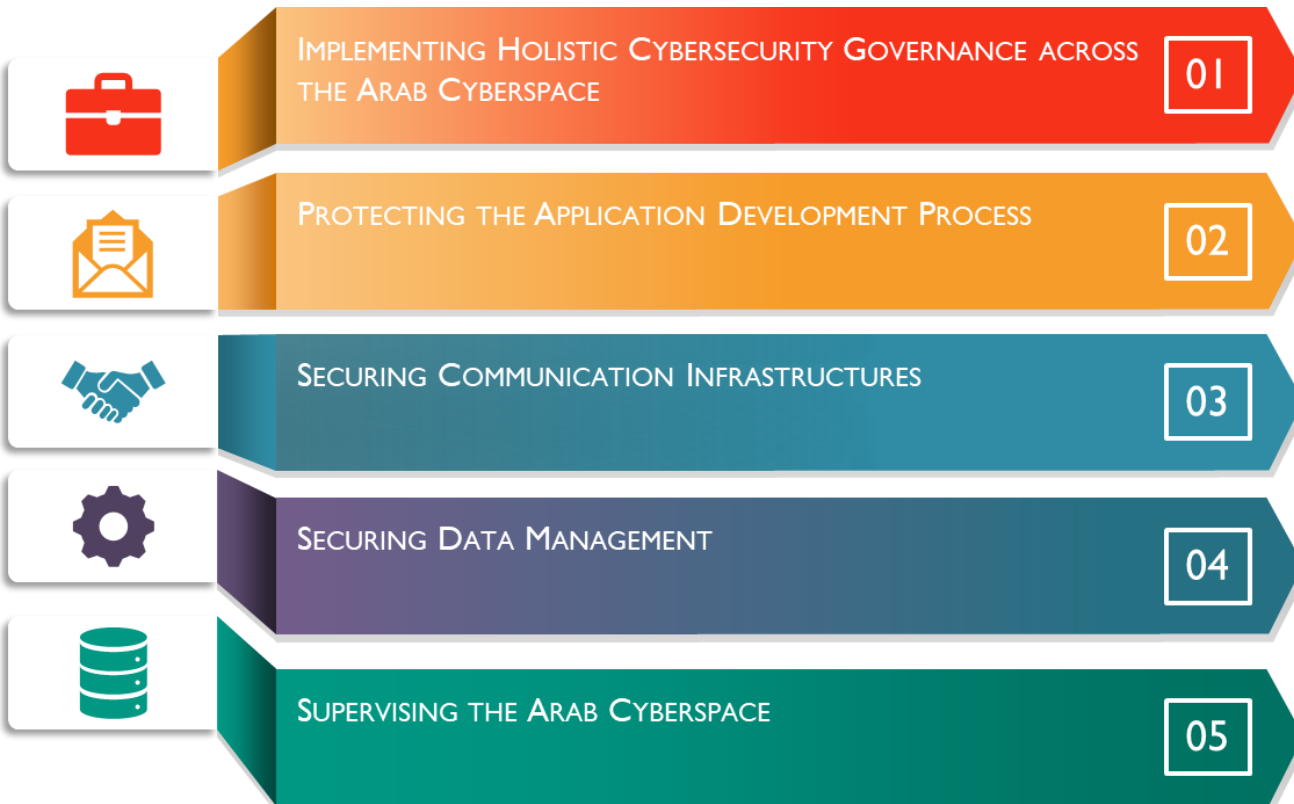
01 Sharing Threat Information

02 Creating a Domestic Cybersecurity Marketplace

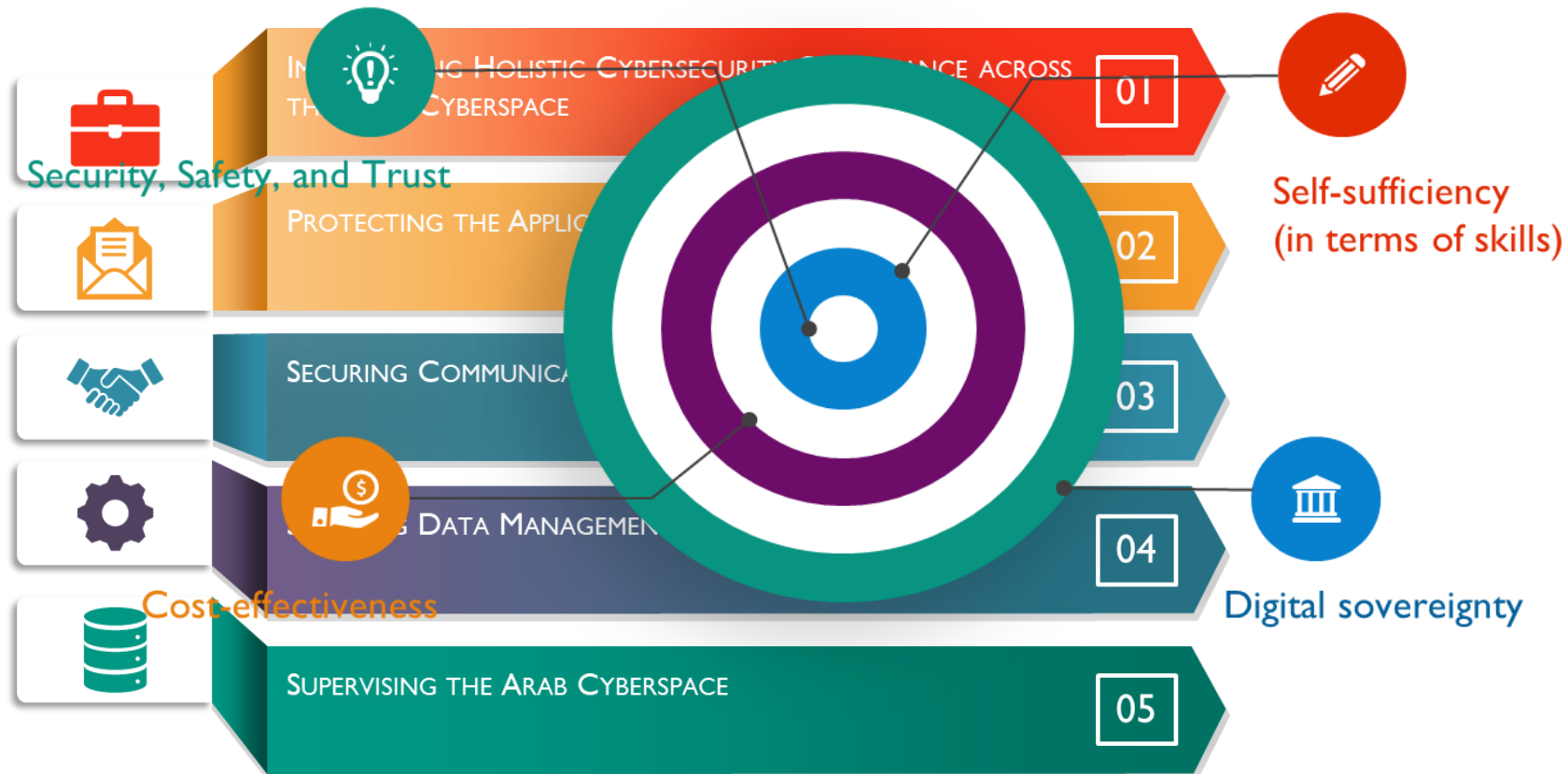
03 Setting Common Cybersecurity Body of Knowledge



The Challenges



The Challenges



The Vision

*“Towards a **secure, safe, inclusive** Arab society integrated into the global digital economy empowering **self-sufficient** solutions and expertise supporting digital **confidence** and **trust** within the Arab cyberspace.”*

The Programmes



The Actions

WP 1: Development of a Unifying Cybersecurity Assessment Framework

Define common cybersecurity maturity levels and assessment methodology

Elaborate the architecture of the regional cybersecurity framework

Define target score assignment policy per function and category

Design a cybersecurity scoring methodology

The Actions

WP 2: Promoting Training and Awareness in Cybersecurity

Create cybersecurity curricula for institutions

Create cybersecurity curricula for universities

Develop course materials and deploy online courses

Elaborate a regional cybersecurity awareness policy

The Actions

WP 3: Establishment and Development of a National Arab CSIRT

Elaborate an inventory of the national and sectoral CSIRTs/CERTs/CIRTs

Establish a coordination scheme between the stakeholders identified by the previous action

Define regional Incident Response Plans

Identify the needs of the regional CSIRT in terms of human resources, HW/SW components, and funding

Elaborate a roadmap for the regional Arab CISRT

Create the Arab CSIRT

The Actions

WP 4: Promoting Compliance to International Standards

Elaborate an inventory of the cybersecurity standards adopted in the region

Identify synergies and compositions alternatives between the adopted standards

Assess the gaps in terms of standard adoption and maturity

Elaborate a roadmap for cybersecurity standard adoption

Design and implement supervision mechanisms for the standard adoption roadmap

Elaborate an inventory of the cybersecurity standards adopted in the region

The Actions

WP 5: Enhancing the Maturity of Institutional and Administrative Structures

Define cybersecurity assessment policies for institutions and administrations

Compile assessment results and identify gaps

Elaborate a strategy to improve the cybersecurity maturity of institutions and administrations

Conduct continuous cybersecurity assessment to implement a sustainable vision

Define cybersecurity assessment policies for institutions and administrations

Compile assessment results and identify gaps₁₇

The Actions

WP 6: Supporting Research and Development in Cybersecurity

Analyse the impact of the advent of quantum computing on the secrecy of sensitive data in the Arab Cyberspace

Promote the development of zero-trust solutions to address regional problems

Facilitate research initiatives addressing the protection of data management and data movement

Organize regional cybersecurity conferences

Analyse the impact of the advent of quantum computing on the secrecy of sensitive data in the Arab Cyberspace

The Actions

WP 7: Developing Unifying Legal Measures

Conduct a study of the Arab cybersecurity legislations

Organise conferences to discuss the impact of cybersecurity innovation on regulatory frameworks

Develop cybersecurity regulatory measures to leverage the regional digital economy

Conduct a study of the Arab cybersecurity legislations

The Controls

GUIDELINES FOR SECURE COMMUNICATION NETWORKS

Giving evidence-based assurance regarding the security capabilities of communication infrastructures.

GUIDELINES FOR SECURE SERVICE DEPLOYMENT

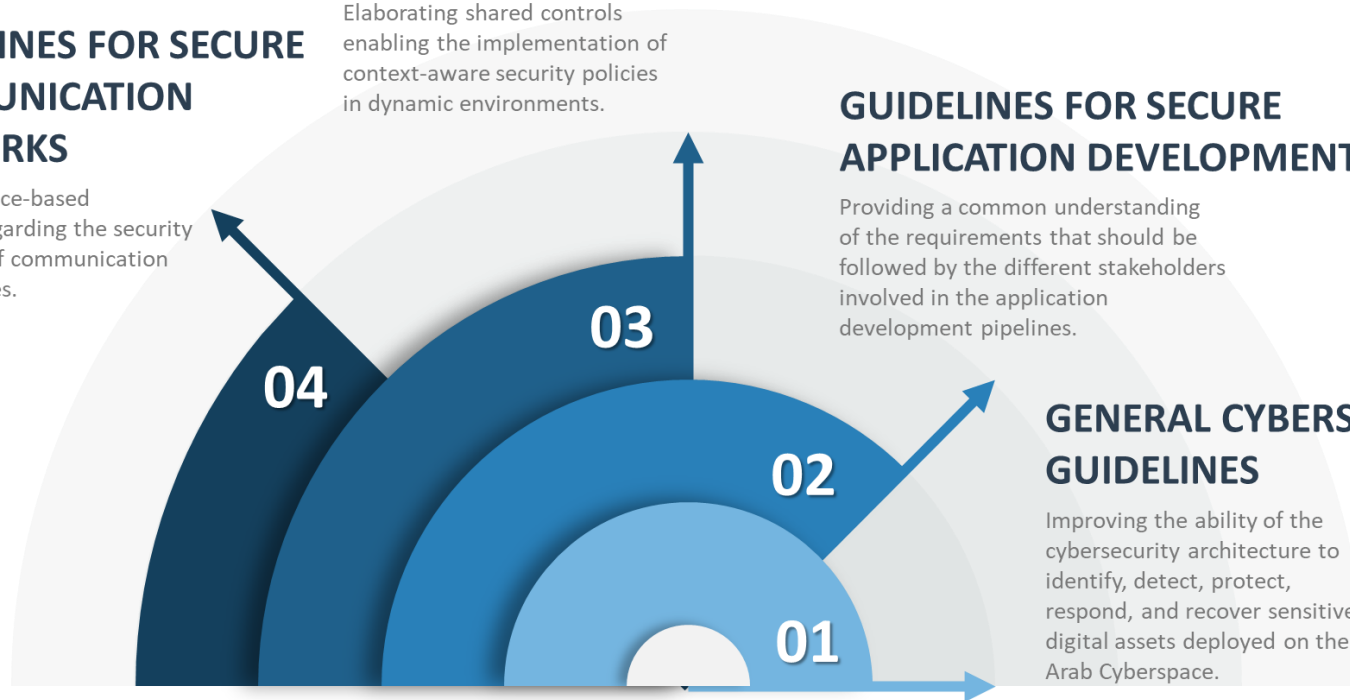
Elaborating shared controls enabling the implementation of context-aware security policies in dynamic environments.

GUIDELINES FOR SECURE APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT

Providing a common understanding of the requirements that should be followed by the different stakeholders involved in the application development pipelines.

GENERAL CYBERSECURITY GUIDELINES

Improving the ability of the cybersecurity architecture to identify, detect, protect, respond, and recover sensitive digital assets deployed on the Arab Cyberspace.



The Implementation





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