Fragility

SDC uses the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) definition of fragility. OECD defines fragility as ***the combination of exposure to risk and insufficient coping capacity of the state, system and/or communities to manage, absorb or mitigate those risks*** (OECD, 2016).

Fragility is a complex topic, which is generally conceptualized in relation to five dimensions:

Political	Societal	Economic	Environmental	Security

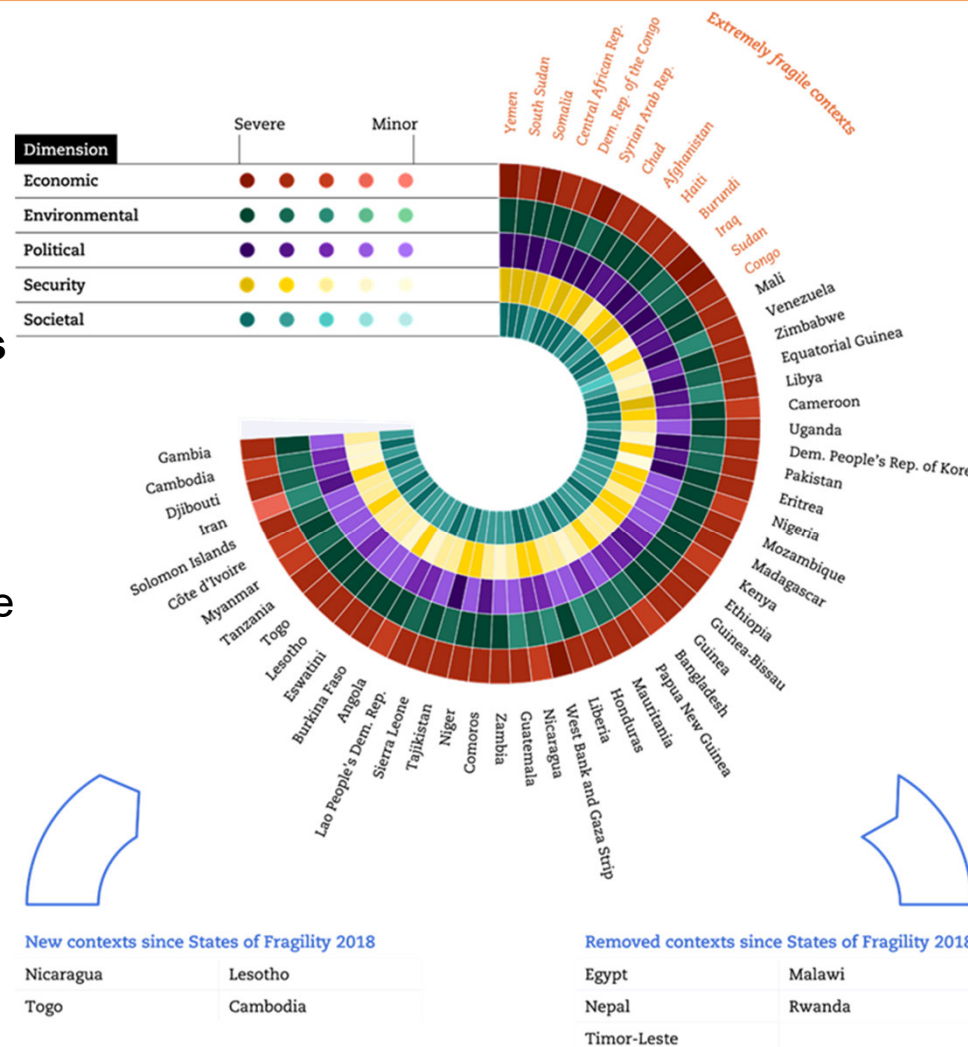# SDC's engagement in fragile contexts

45% of the priority countries defined by SDC (2021-24) are considered by OECD as fragile or extremely fragile contexts

Fragile Contexts
Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lao PDR, Mali, Mozambique Myanmar, Niger, Occupied Palestinian territories, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe

Extremely Fragile Contexts
Afghanistan, Burundi, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia and Syrian Arab Republic

How to work in fragile contexts?

SDC's mandate in fragile contexts is to work with its programmes and policy influencing towards:

- The reduction of the causes of fragility and violent conflict;
- The strengthening of government-society and inter-community relations in order to reduce violence and support resilience in times of crisis;
- The enhancement of protection, respect and enjoyment of human rights.

SDC is doing this by:

- Applying a conflict sensitive program management!