



Friday 15 December 2006

9:00 – 5:30	Early Registration	
9:00 – 17:00	Advisory Committee Meeting (Closed Meeting)	
9:00 – 13:30	Parallel Sessions (4)	
	Country Profiles	GERPA
	9:00-9:30 Opening Remarks - Samir Radwan - Tarik Yousef	9:30-11:00 Inaugural Session - Ismail Serageldin - Abdelatif Al-Hamad - Mustapha Nabli - Guity Nashat - Heba Handoussa
	9:30-10:30 Session I: Bahrain Country Profile - Macro/ Fiscal, Finance, Trade, Governance and Labor issues	
	10:30-11:00 Open Discussion	
11:00-11:30	Contact Break	
	11:30-12:30 Session II: Oman Country Profile - Macro/ Fiscal, Finance, Trade, Governance and Labor issues	11:00-13:30 Health Proposals Moderator: Ahmed Galal
	12:30-13:00 Open Discussion	
13:30-15:00	Lunch	
15:00 – 17:30	Parallel Sessions (3)	
	Country Profiles	GERPA
	15:00-16:00 Session III: Yemen Country Profile - Macro/ Fiscal, Finance, Trade, Governance and Labor issues	15:00-16:30 Poverty Proposals Moderator: Ibrahim Elbadawi
	16:00-16:30 Open Discussion	
16:30-17:00	Contact Break	
	17:00-17:30 Closing Remarks - Tarik Yousef	16:30-19:30 GERPA Advisory Committee Meeting
		17:00-19:00 Education Proposals Moderator: Ibrahim Elbadawi



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16:30-17:00	Contact Break														
17:30 – 19:30	Commission on Growth and Development														
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.E. Mahmoud Mohieldin - A. Michael Spence - H.E. Mustafa Nabli 														



Saturday 16 December 2006

08:00 – 09:00	Registration						
09:00 – 10:00	Opening Ceremony - Samir Radwan, <i>Managing Director, Economic Research Forum</i> Welcome Address: - H.E. Abdelatif Al-Hamad, <i>Director General and Chairman, AFESD – Chairman, Board of Trustees, ERF</i> Keynote Speaker: - Walter Fust, <i>Director-General, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, SDC</i> Commission on Growth and Development - A World Bank Initiative: - H.E. Mahmoud Mohieldin, <i>Minister of Investment, Egypt</i> - A. Michael Spence, <i>Phillip H. Knight Professor, Emeritus and Former Dean, Stanford Graduate School of Business and Nobel Laureate (2001)</i>						
10:00 – 11:00	Plenary Session: Oil: Impact on the Global Economy Chair: H.E. Abdelatif Al-Hamad, <i>Director General and Chairman, AFESD - Chairman, Board of Trustees, ERF</i> Speakers: - Robert Mabro, <i>Fellow, St Antony's College, and Former Director, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies</i> - Majed Al- Moneef, <i>Governor of Saudi Arabia to OPEC</i> - Musa Essayyad, <i>Saudi British Bank Chair Professor of Finance, King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals</i> - Walid Khaddouri, <i>Director, Al-Hayat Business Desk, Dar Al-Hayat</i> - Adnan Shihab-Eldin, <i>Former Acting Secretary General, OPEC and Senior Research Advisor, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies</i>						
11:00 – 11:30	Contact Break						
11:30 – 13:00	Plenary Session: Oil: Impact on the Global Economy – (Continued)						
13:30 – 15:00	Lunch						
15:00 – 16:30	Parallel Sessions (5)						
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15:00 – 15:45							
15:45 – 16:30							
16:30 – 17:00	Contact Break						
17:00 – 19:30	Research Fellows Meeting						
20:30	Welcome Dinner						



Saturday 16 December 2006

Opening Ceremony

Plenary Session

The rise in oil prices since 2002 is likely to have long-term effects on the economies of the GCC countries in particular as well as on the regional and global economies in general. This plenary will focus on the different perspectives to this phenomenon including OPEC's role, the effect of the rise in prices on spending trends in oil producing countries, the effect of rising prices on world inflation, and the effect of investments resulting from capital surplus on world financial markets.

Contact Break

Plenary Session

Lunch

Parallel Sessions (5)

Macroeconomics

Chair: Robert Mabro

Governance Institutions and Private Investment: An Application to the Middle East and North Africa

By: Ahmet Faruk Aysan, Mustapha Kamel Nabli, and Marie-Ange Varoudakis

Discussant:
Sultan Abu Ali

Social Capital and Economic Growth: Empirical Investigations on the Transmission channels

By: Ghazi Boulila, Lobna Bousrih, and Mohamed Trabelsi

Discussant:
Ahmed Kamaly

Sectoral

Chair: Atif Kubursi

A Comparative Efficiency Analysis of Interest Free Financial Institutions and Conventional Banks: A Case Study on Turkey

By: Savas Alpaya and Kabir Hassan

Discussant:
Wafik Grais

The Redistributive Effects of Health Care Financing in the Occupied Palestinian Territory: A Decomposition Analysis Approach,

By: Awad Mataria, Mohammad Abu-Za'ineh, Khaled Qalalwa, Boubou Cisse, Jean-Paul Moatti

Discussant:
Zeki Fattah

Trade

Chair: Ahmed El-Goueily

Policy Reform in Maritime Transport Sector: The Case of Turkey

By: Subidey Togan

Discussant:
Hanaa Kheir-El-Din

Technology Spillovers Due To Foreign Ownership & Productivity of Domestic firms

By: Luisito BERTINELLI, Mehmet Teoman PAMUKÇU, and Eric STROBL

Discussant:
Jeffrey B. Nugent

Contact Break

Research Fellows Meeting

Welcome Dinner



Sunday 17 December 2006

09:00 – 13:30

Board of Trustees Meeting

(Closed meeting)

09:00 - 12:00

Parallel Sessions (5)

Finance

Labor Markets

09:00 – 09:45

Chair: Ibrahim El-Badawi
Financial Guarantees As Innovation Tool In Islamic Project Finance,
By: M.Kabir Hassan and Issouf Soumaré
Discussant:
Adam B. Elhiraika

Chair: Ali Abdel Gadir
Targeting the Poor in Egypt, A ROC Approach,
By: Magued Osman, Enas Zakareya and Walaa Mahrous
Discussant:
Heba Handoussa

09:45 – 10:30

The Role of the Financial Sector In The Design of the Macroeconomic Policy "Empirical Investigation for Egypt",
By: Nevine Mokhtar Eid
Discussant:
Abdel Hameed Bashir

Poverty and Geographic Targeting in Egypt: Evidence from a Poverty Mapping Exercise,
By: Rania Roushdy and Ragui Assaad
Discussant:
Nader Kabbani

10:30 – 11:00

Contact Break

11:00 – 11:45

A Test of the News Model of Stock Price Determination in an Emerging Market: The Case of Kuwait,
By: Sulaiman T. Al-Abduljader and Imad Moosa
Discussant:
Mine Cinar

The Determinants of Early Retirement in Egypt,
By: Fatma El-Hamidi
Discussant:
Aysit Tansel

12:00: 13:30

Parallel Sessions (5)

Finance

Labor Markets

Chair: Izak Atiyas
Discussions of
Background Papers

Chair: Ali Abdel Gadir
Discussions of
Background Papers

13:30 – 15:00

Lunch

15:00 - 16:00

Plenary Session

Keynote Address: - Gary Becker, *Professor of Economics, University of Chicago and a Nobel Laureate (1992)*

16:00 - 17:30

Plenary session: Democracy and Development

Speakers:
- Samir Makdisi, *Director, Institute of Financial Economics, American University of Beirut*
- Ibrahim El-Badawi, *Lead Economist, Development Economics Research Group, The World Bank*

18:00 - 19:00

Plenary session: Promoting Trade in Services on the MENA Region: A Pilot Project

Speakers:
- Raed Safadi, *Head, Trade Policy Dialogue Division, Trade Directorate, OECD*

20:00

Dinner



Sunday 17 December 2006

Parallel Sessions		
Macroeconomics	Sectoral	Trade
<p>Chair: Saleh Nsouli <i>Asymmetric Effects Of Exchange Rate Fluctuations On Economic Performance</i></p>	<p>Chair: Zeki Fattah <i>The role of the tourism sector in economic development: lessons from Egypt and Tunisia</i></p>	<p>Chair: Raed Safadi <i>Environmental Regulation and Trade : The impact of higher water costs on the export of Tunisian dates and citrus,</i></p>
<p>By: Magda Kandil and Nergiz DINCER Discussant: Hadi Esfahani</p>	<p>By: Mondher Sahli, Jean-Jacques Nowak and Sylvain Petit Discussant: Sergio Alessandrini</p>	<p>By: Mohamed Matoussi and Ayadi Mohamed Discussant: Mahmoud A.T. Elkhafif</p>
<p><i>On the linkage between monetary policy and MENA stock markets?</i></p>	<p><i>Normative approach of Upstream-Downstream relationships in the tourism sector: implication for the Tourism policy of the South Mediterranean Countries,</i></p>	<p><i>Trade liberalization and firm level productivity change: the case of Morocco,</i></p>
<p>By: Samy Ben Naceur, Samir Ghazouani, Adel Boughrara Discussant: Ibrahim Saif</p>	<p>By: Riadh BEN JELILI, Hélène Djoufelkit and Abdelhakim HAMMOUDI Discussant: Javad Sadeghi</p>	<p>By: Michael Gasiorek, Patricia Augier, and Gonzalo Varela Discussant: Marwan Kardoosh</p>
Contact Break		
<p><i>Sustainability and Dynamics of MENA Public Debt and the Macroeconomic Implications of Public Insolvency</i></p>	<p><i>A Credit Scoring Model for Turkey's Micro & Small Enterprises (MSE's),</i></p>	<p><i>Revisiting the Unfinished Debate of the Impact of Health and Environmental Measures on Egyptian Agro-food Exports to the EU</i></p>
<p>By: Simon Neaime Discussant: Daa Nouredin</p>	<p>By: Nurhan Davutyan and Sems Ozar Discussant: Alia El Mahdi</p>	<p>By: Dina Atef Mandour Discussant: Lahcen Achy</p>
Parallel Sessions		
Macroeconomics	Sectoral	Trade
<p>Chair: Mongi Boughzala Discussions of Background Papers</p>	<p>Chair: Azzeddin Azzam Discussions of Background Papers</p>	<p>Chair: Khalid Sekkat Discussions of Background Papers</p>
Lunch		
Keynote Speech		
Democracy and Development		
Promoting Trade in Services		
Dinner		



Monday 18 December 2006

09:30 – 13:30

Plenary Session: Migration: Towards a Constructive Framework

Chair: Samir Radwan, *Managing Director, Economic Research Forum*

Speakers:

- Bernard Hoekman, *Research Manager, International Trade Group, Development Research Group, World Bank*
- Philippe Fargues, *Director, Euro-Mediterranean Consortium for Applied Research on International Migration (CARIM)*

Discussant:

- Hania Sholkamy, *Assistant Research Professor, Social Research Center, American University in Cairo*

11:00 – 11:30

Contact Break

13:30 – 15:00

Lunch

15:00 - 16:30

Parallel Sessions (5)

Finance

Chair: Moustafa El Said

15:00 – 15:45

Financial Innovations and the Stability of Long-Run Money Demand: Implications for the Conduct of Monetary Policy in three GCC Countries,

By: Saif S. Al-Sowaidi and Ali F. Darrat

Discussant:

Nidal Sabry

15:45 – 16:30

Efficiency and Productivity Change of Egyptian Commercial Banks (1995-2003),

By: Malak Reda and Ihsan Isik

Discussant:

Marwan Al-Zoubi

Labor Markets

Chair: Ragui Assaad

Presentation of the preliminary results of the Egypt Labor Market Panel Survey, 2006

By: Ragui Assaad

The Paradox of Insufficient Human Capital Investment and Graduate Unemployment: The Case of Iranian Labor Market,

By: Abolghasem Naderi

Discussant:

Nader Habibi

16:30 – 17:00

Contact Break

17:00 – 18:00

Closing session

Chair: Samir Radwan, *Managing Director, Economic Research Forum*

- Prize Ceremony for the best policy oriented papers
- Conference Conclusion



Monday 18 December 2006

Plenary Session

Lunch

Parallel Sessions (5)

Macroeconomics

Chair: Mouna Cherkaoui

*Do Capital Inflows Cause
Currency Black Markets in
MENA?*

By: Osman Suliman

Discussant:
Ghazi Boulila

*Financial Liberalization and
Money Demand in Morocco*

By: Younes ZOUHAR and
Abderrahman KACEMI

Discussant:
Bachir Hamdouch

Sectoral

Chair: Samir Makary

*Water Demand Management in
Arid Area: A DEA Input Distance
Function Approach to Analyse
Irrigation Efficiencies in South
Tunisia,*

By: Mounir Belloumi and
Mohamed Matoussi

Discussant:
Abdelfattah Abu-Shokor

*Cost Benefit Analysis Of Desert
Locusts' Control: A Multi-
Country Perspective*

By: Hala Abou-Ali and
Mohammed Belhaj

Discussant:
Sofiane Ghali

Trade

Chair: Subidey Togan

*What Constrains Services Trade in
Jordan: Weak Infrastructure,
Regulatory Barriers or Both?*

By: Marwan A. Kardoosh

Discussant:
Ahmed Ghoneim

*Exporting, productive efficiency
and product quality : an empirical
analysis of the agricultural sector
in the south Mediterranean
countries*

By: Nadia Belhaj Hassan

Discussant:
Jalaleddin Jalali

Contact Break

Closing Session