

INSTITUTIONS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2007

ERF 14th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
28th-30th December 2007 | Conrad Cairo Hotel, Cairo, Egypt

AGENDA

8:00 – 9:00 **REGISTRATION**

9:00 – 11:30 **OPENING AND PLENARY SESSION 1: INSTITUTIONS AND ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE**

Chairperson: *Abdlatif Al-Hamad* (Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development)

Opening Remarks: *Ahmed Galal* (Economic Research Forum)

Speakers:
Dani Rodrik (Harvard University)
Hadi Esfahani (Illinois University)
Ibrahim Elbadawi (World Bank)

11:30 – 12:30 **COFFEE BREAK**

12:30 – 14:00 **PARALLEL SESSIONS**

11:30 – 12:30

12:30 – 14:00

INSTITUTIONAL ECONOMICS / GOVERNANCE

Elections, Earthquakes and Economic Policies

Nile Ballroom A

Chairperson: *Nemat Shafik*

Speakers:
Hadi Salehi Esfahani, Djavad Salehi-Isfahani and Ali Hashemi

Voting for Populism: An Analysis of Iran's 2005 Presidential Election

Ali Akarca and Aysit Tansel

Impact of the 1999 Earthquakes on the Outcome of the 2002 Parliamentary Election in Turkey

Discussant:
Mustapha Nabli

FINANCE

Information and Sovereign Risk

Nile Ballroom B

Chairperson: *Samir Makdisi*

Speakers:
Fatih Özatay, Erdal Özmen and Gülbin Şahinbeyoğlu

Emerging Market Sovereign Spreads, Global Financing Conditions and U.S. Macroeconomic News

Mahmoud Haddad and Sam Hakim

The Impact of War and Terrorism on Sovereign Risk in MENA Countries

Discussant:
Hasan Ersel

MACROECONOMICS

Monetary Policy and Transmission Mechanisms

Nile Ballroom C

Chairperson: *Faika El-Refaie*

Speakers:
Simon Neaime

Monetary Policy Transmission and Targeting Mechanism in the MENA Region

Rania Al-Mashat and Andreas Billmeier

The Monetary Transmission Mechanisms in Egypt

Discussant:
Magda Kandil

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

Manufacturing/Exports

Aida Meeting Room

Chairperson: *Khalid Sekkat*

Speakers:
Mohamed Goaid and Houda Jendoubi

The Upgrading Program & Efficiency in Tunisia Manufacturing Industries: Evidence from Firm-Level Panel Data

Khalil Meslouhi

Modélisation TAR des Fonctions de Demande D'importation et D'exportation Marocaine

Discussant:
Bernard Hoekman

LABOR AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Learning from New Data Sources: Youth Careers and Household Mobility

Cleopatra Meeting Room

Chairperson: *Massoud Karshenas*

Speakers:
Nader Kabbani and Leen Al-Habash

Raising Awareness of Alternatives to Public Sector Employment among Syrian Youth

Insan Tunali

Analysis of Attrition Patterns in the Turkish Household Labor Force Survey, 2000-2002

Discussant:
Jackline Wahba

MICROECONOMICS AND SECTORAL STUDIES

Agriculture: Productivity Growth and Trade Liberalization

Nefertiti Meeting Room

Chairperson: *Saad Nassar*

Speakers:
Mohamed Chemingui and Chokri Thabet

Agricultural Trade Liberalization & Poverty in Tunisia: Micro-simulation in a General Equilibrium Framework

Mounir Belloumi and Mohamed Salah Matoussi

Agricultural Productivity Growth in MENA Countries

Discussant:
Azzeddin Azzam

14:00 – 15:30 LUNCH BREAK

14:00 – 15:30

15:30 – 17:00 PARALLEL SESSIONS

15:30 – 17:00

INSTITUTIONAL ECONOMICS / GOVERNANCE	FINANCE	MACROECONOMICS	INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS	LABOR AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	MICROECONOMICS AND SECTORAL STUDIES
Governance, Corruption and Natural Resources	Financial Markets in The MENA Region	Economic Growth	Liberalization and Productivity/ Efficiency	Labor Markets in Egypt	Health Care
Nile Ballroom A	Nile Ballroom B	Nile Ballroom C	Aida Meeting Room	Cleopatra Meeting Room	Nefertiti Meeting Room
Chairperson: <i>Ziad Bahaa El-Din</i>	Chairperson: <i>Mouna Cherkaoui</i>	Chairperson: <i>Taher Kanaan</i>	Chairperson: <i>Zeki Fattah</i>	Chairperson: <i>Insan Tunali</i>	Chairperson: <i>Heba Nassar</i>
Speakers: <i>Nisreen Salti</i>	Speakers: <i>Samy Bennaceur, Narjess Bou-bakri, and Samir Ghazouani</i>	Speakers: <i>Ghazi Boulila, Afrah Larnaout Gouider, and Mohamed Trabelsi</i>	Speakers: <i>Sofiane Ghali and Sami Rezgui</i>	Speakers: <i>Ragui Assaad and Rania Roushdy</i>	Speakers: <i>Sufyan Daghra, Awad Mataria and Khalid Abu-Khalid</i>
Natural Resources, Institutions & Growth	Privatization & Financial Market Development: A Comparison between MENA Countries & Other Regions	When Does Capital Account Liberalization Promote Growth? Evidence from Emerging & Developing Economies	FDI Contribution to Technical Efficiency in the Tunisian Manufacturing Sector	Job Quality Among the Nonwage Workers in the Agriculture & Non-agricultural Sector in Egypt	Management of HAV in Countries under Conflict: Palestinian Case, as Cost-Consequences Analysis
<i>Mohammad Reza Farzanegan</i>	<i>M. Kabir Hassan and Jung-Suk Yu</i>	<i>Masoud Nili and Solmaz Moslehi</i>	<i>Nadia Belhaj Hassine and Magda Kandil</i>	<i>Lamia Kandil</i>	<i>Heba A. Elgazzar</i>
Illegal Trade in the Iranian Economy: A MIMIC Approach	Rational Speculative Bubbles: An Empirical Investigation of the Middle East & North African (MENA) Stock Markets	The Role of Government Activities in Explaining the Growth Failure of the Oil Exporting Countries	Trade Liberalization, Agricultural Productivity & Poverty in the Mediterranean Region	Is Discrimination the Source of Segregation? An Empirical Study of the Egyptian Labor Market	Income & the Use of Health Care: An Empirical Study of Egypt & Lebanon
Discussant: <i>Jean-Philippe Platteau</i>	Discussant: <i>Izak Atiyas</i>	Discussant: <i>Samir Makdisi</i>	Discussant: <i>Subidey Togan</i>	Discussant: <i>Djavad Salehi-Isfahani</i>	Discussant: <i>Heba Handoussa</i>

17:00 – 17:30 COFFEE BREAK

17:00 – 17:30

17:30 – 19:30 RESEARCH FELLOWS MEETING (closed meeting) | Nile Ballroom

20:30 WELCOME DINNER

9:00 – 11:00 **PLENARY SESSION 2: ECONOMIC VERSUS POLITICAL COMPETITION**

Chairperson: *Gobind Nankani* (Global Development Network)

Speakers: *Jean-Philippe Platteau* (Facultés Universitaires Notre-Dame de la Paix)
Mustapha Nabli (World Bank)
Abdel-Moneim Said (Center for Political and Strategic Studies, Al Ahram)

11:00 – 11:30 **COFFEE BREAK**

11:00 – 15:00 **ERF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING** (closed meeting) | [Horus Meeting Room](#)

11:30 – 13:00 **PARALLEL SESSIONS**

11:00 – 11:30

11:30 – 13:00

INSTITUTIONAL ECONOMICS / GOVERNANCE Political Economy of Trade and Investment Treaties Nile Ballroom A	FINANCE Banking Nile Ballroom B	MACROECONOMICS Fiscal Policy & Economic Performance Nile Ballroom C	INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS Services/Migration Aida Meeting Room	LABOR AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT Employment Patterns in North Africa Cleopatra Meeting Room	MICROECONOMICS AND SECTORAL STUDIES Impact of Trade on Incomes Nefertiti Meeting Room
<p>Chairperson: <i>Mustafa El-Sayyid</i></p> <p>Speakers: <i>Sonia Naccache</i></p> <p>The Political Economy of Trade Policy In Tunisia</p> <hr/> <p><i>Wasseem Mina</i></p> <p>BITs Contracting & FDI Impact in the GCC Countries</p> <p>Discussant: <i>Hadi Esfahani</i></p>	<p>Chairperson: <i>Ali Soliman</i></p> <p>Speakers: <i>Hamadi Matoussi and Aida Abdelmoula</i></p> <p>Using a Neural Network-based Methodology for Credit-Risk Evaluation of a Tunisian Bank</p> <hr/> <p><i>Ghassan Omet, Ibrahim Saif and Hadeel Yaseen</i></p> <p>Market Discipline & Deposit Insurance: Evidence from Some Middle Eastern Banks</p> <p>Discussant: <i>Simon Neaime</i></p>	<p>Chairperson: <i>Sultan Abou-Ali</i></p> <p>Speakers: <i>Fatih Ozatay</i></p> <p>Expansionary Fiscal Contractions: New Evidence from Turkey</p> <hr/> <p><i>Imtithal A. Al-Thumairi</i></p> <p>The Impact of Fiscal Policies on Saudi Macroeconomic Performance, Economic Sectors, & Income Distribution: A Dynamic CGE Analysis</p> <p>Discussant: <i>Mine Cinar</i></p>	<p>Chairperson: <i>Ahmed Ghoneim</i></p> <p>Speakers: <i>Saoussen Ben Romdhane</i></p> <p>Liberalizing Trade in Services in Tunisia: General Equilibrium Effects</p> <hr/> <p><i>Adil Abdalla, Brahim Razgallah and Jamel Eddine Zarrouk</i></p> <p>Migration, Workers' Remittances & Bilateral Trade Creation: Evidence From Arab Countries</p> <p>Discussant: <i>Raed Safadi</i></p>	<p>Chairperson: <i>Samir Radwan</i></p> <p>Speakers: <i>Ilham Haouas and Mahmoud Yagoubi</i></p> <p>The Flexible Forms of Employment & Working Conditions: Empirical Investigation from Tunisia</p> <hr/> <p><i>Nacer-Eddine Hammouda and Moundir Lassassi</i></p> <p>Essai Sur Le Potentiel Entrepreneurial En Algerie</p> <p>Discussant: <i>Ragui Assaad</i></p>	<p>Chairperson: <i>Gouda Abdel Khalik</i></p> <p>Speakers: <i>Fatma El-Hamidi</i></p> <p>The Effect of Trade Liberalization on Industrial Segregation & Wage Determination: Evidence from Egypt</p> <hr/> <p><i>Mohammad Bakhshoodeh</i></p> <p>Impacts of World Prices Transmission to Domestic Markets & Welfare of Marginal Households: An Empirical Application to Rice in Iran</p> <p>Discussant: <i>Radwan Shaban</i></p>

13:00 – 15:00 LUNCH BREAK

13:00 – 15:00

15:00 – 17:30 PARALLEL MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

15:00 – 17:30

BACKGROUND PAPERS

SOCIAL ISSUES
Aida Meeting Room

Chairperson: *Ali Abdel Gadir Ali*

Speakers:
Simel Esim, Sufyan Alissa and Mansour Omeira
Labor Governance & Economic Reform in MENA
Lessons from Nordic Countries

Kivilcim Metin Ozcan, Selin Sayek Boke and Mine Kara
The Determinants of the Perception of Happiness about Quality of Life amongst Turkish People

Tarek Selim
The Education Market in Egypt: A Game Theory Approach

Mohammad Abu-Zaineh, Awad Mataria, and Jean-Paul Moatti
Decomposing Health Care Use Inequality in the Palestinian Context: A Microsimulation Approach

Awad Mataria, Rita Glacaman, Angelo Stefanini, Nermala Naidoo, Paul Kowal and Somnath Chatterji
The Quality of Life of Palestinians under a Chronic Political Conflict: Assessment & Determinants

ECONOMIC GROWTH
Cleopatra Meeting Room

Chairperson: *Ibrahim Elbadawi*

Speakers:
James H. Cassing and Stephen Tokarick
Policy Distortions & Growth: Theory & Evidence for the Case of Egypt

Zouhour Karray & Slim Driss
Regional Growth in Tunisia: Economic Geography Forces & Industrial Structure

Bassam AbuAl-Foul
Foreign Aid & Economic Growth in Egypt & Jordan: An Empirical Analysis

Rabie Nasser
Could New Growth Cross Developing Countries Empirics Explain the Single Country Growth of Syria During 1965-2004?

MACROECONOMICS/ INSTITUTIONAL
Nefertiti Meeting Room

Chairperson: *Mustapha Nabli*

Speakers:
Magda Kandil and Ida A. Mirzaie
The Impact of Capital & Remittance Flows on Economic Performance in MENA Countries

Wajih Khallouli
Shift contagion in Middle East & North Africa Stock Markets

Søren Schmidt
The Developmental Role of the State in the Middle East: Lessons from Syria

Samaouel Beji
Financial Openness & Financial Development in the South Mediterranean Sea Countries : Institutional Approach & Calculation of Development Thresholds

MICROECONOMICS/FINANCE
Nile Ballroom C

Chairperson: *Heba Handoussa*

Speakers:
Abdelhamid Mahboub and Doaa Salman
ICT, Market Contestability & Economic Performance: Lessons from ERF Countries

Mahmoud Haddad, Ghassem Homaifar and Said Elfakhani
Intertemporal Test of Beta Stationarity Performance of Islamic Sector Structured Mutual Funds

Samir Maliki and Abderrezak Benhabib
Measuring Water-Poverty Relationship in Algeria using ROC Curves

Abid Fathi and Salma Fourati
To What Extent Profit Margin; Value Added Growth & Ownership Concentration Can Portrait Corporate Governance System?

SPECIAL EVENT

PANEL ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT
Nile Ballroom B

Chairperson: *Tarik Yousef*

Speakers:
- Djavad Salehi-Isfahani
- Navtej Dhillon

A Framework for your Policy Research in MENA

- Ragui Assaad, Egypt
- Nader Kabbani, Syria
- Ibrahim Saif, Jordan

Country Perspectives

Discussant:
Cynthia Lloyd

Open Discussion

15:00 – 17:30 EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON PROMOTING TRADE IN SERVICES IN THE MENA REGION (by invitation) | Nile Ballroom A

9:00 – 11:00 PLENARY SESSION 3: HOW INSTITUTIONS CHANGE OVER TIME

Chairperson: *Ahmed El-Darsh* (Former Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Egypt)

Speakers: *James Robinson* (Harvard University)
Tarik Yousef (Dubai School of Government)
Atif Kubursi (McMaster University)

11:00 – 11:30 COFFEE BREAK

11:30 – 13:00 PARALLEL SESSIONS

11:00 – 11:30

11:30 – 13:00

FINANCE	MACROECONOMICS	INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS	LABOR AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	MICROECONOMICS AND SECTORAL STUDIES
Institutions and Performance	Exchange Rate Economics	Spillovers	Health and Poverty	Empirical Approaches to Sectoral Analysis
Nile Ballroom B	Nile Ballroom C	Aida Meeting Room	Cleopatra Meeting Room	Nefertiti Meeting Room
Chairperson: <i>Samy Bennaceur</i>	Chairperson: <i>Mongi Boughzala</i>	Chairperson: <i>Mohamed Lahouel</i>	Chairperson: <i>Ali Abdel Gadir Ali</i>	Chairperson: <i>Atif Kubursi</i>
Speakers: <i>Mahmoud Sami Nabi & Osman Suliman</i> The Institutional Environment & the Banking - Growth Nexus: Theory & Investigation for MENA	Speakers: <i>Ahmet Atil Asici</i> Parametric & Non-Parametric Approaches to Exits from Fixed Exchange Rate Regimes	Speakers: <i>Nadia Belhaj Hassine</i> Technology Diffusion, International Spillovers & Human Capital in the Mediterranean Agricultural Sector	Speakers: <i>Sami Bibi</i> Could the Behavioral Responses Justify the Absence of Conditional Direct Transfers to Fight Poverty in MENA Region?	Speakers: <i>Lahcen Achy, Azzeddine Azzam and Khalid Sekkat</i> Inference of Oligopoly Power with Limited Data: Manufacturing in Morocco
<i>Sidi Mohamed Rigar & Sanae Solhi</i> Structure du Capital et Gouvernance des Sociétés cotés au Maroc	<i>Brahim Razgallah</i> The Macroeconomics of Workers' Remittances in GCC Countries	<i>Teoman Pamukçu & Erol Taymaz</i> Testing For Wage Spillovers To Uncover Human Capital Transfers From Foreign To Domestic Firms In The Turkish Economy	<i>Hala Abou-Ali</i> Out-of-pocket payments for health care: The case of Egypt 1999-2005	<i>Nurhan Davutyan</i> Estimating the Size of Turkey's Informal Sector: An Expenditure Based Approach
Discussant: <i>Wafik Grais</i>	Discussant: <i>Ibrahim Elbadawi</i>	Discussant: <i>Mahmoud El-Gamal</i>	Discussant: <i>Heba El-Laithy</i>	Discussant: <i>Hanaa Kheir-El-Din</i>

13:00 – 15:00 LUNCH BREAK

13:00 – 15:00

15:00 – 16:00 PLENARY SESSION 4: AWARDS CEREMONY AND CLOSING