

ERF Ninth Annual Conference

*University City Hall, American University of Sharjah
Al-Sharjah, UAE, 26-28 October 2002*

AGENDA

THURSDAY 24TH OCTOBER

10:00 – 6:00 Global Research Project (GRP) – Closed Meeting
Country Profiles (CP) – Closed Meeting

FRIDAY 25 OCTOBER

10:00 – 6:00 Global Research Project (GRP) – Closed Meeting
Country Profiles (CP) – Closed Meeting
2:00 – 6:00 Advisory Committee Meeting – Closed Meeting

Special Activity: International Monetary Fund (IMF) Recruitment
Program (Check Recruitment Mission Display Table,
Conference Registration Area)

SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER

9:00 – 9:45 Registration
10:00-10:30 Opening Session (*Chair: Heba Handoussa, Managing
Director, Economic Research Forum*)
Welcoming Note
*His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan Ben Mohammed Al Qassimi,
Ruler of Sharjah.*
Dr. Jassim Al-Mannai, Director General Arab Monetary Fund.
Dr. Winfred Thompson, AUS Chancellor.

Morning (Parallel Sessions) 10: 30– 1:00

Session 1: Labor Issues (Chair: Samir Radwan)

Presentation: Human Development in A Century of Population
Growth and Scarcity: Prospects and Problems
Ismail Sirageldin

Paper: The Determinants of Child Labor in Urban Turkey
Meltem Dayioglu-Tayfur & Ragui Assaad

Discussant: *Aysit Tansel*

Paper: Why Are The Children's Out Of School?:
Factors Affecting Children's Education in Egypt
Suliman El-Daw & Safaa E. El-Kogali

Discussant: *Hassan Aly*

Session 1: Trade Issues (Chair: Gamal Bayoumi)

- Paper: Does Trade Liberalization Improve Productivity?
Plant Level Evidence from Turkish Manufacturing
Industry
Sule Ozler & Kamil Yilmaz
- Discussant: *Ali Bayar*
- Paper: Interaction entre investissements directs etrangers,
productivite et capital humain: Cas des industries Marocaines
Jamal Bouoiyour & Saïd Toufik
- Discussant: *Khalid Sekkat*
- Paper: The EU and the Southern Mediterranean: The Impact
of Rules of Origin
Patricia Augier & M.Gasiorek
- Discussant: *Ahmed Ghoneim*

Session 1: Finance Issues (Chair: Jassim Al Mannai)

- Paper: Risk and Return of Islamic Stock Market Indexes
Sam Hakim and Manoehehr Rashidian
- Discussant: *Samy Ben Naceur*
- Paper: Liberalization and Financial Integration of MENA Stock Markets
Simone Neaime
- Discussant: *Nasser Saidi*
- Paper: International Financial Crisis Contagion
Hanan Morsy
- Discussant: *Tarik Yousef*
- Project: Financial Liberalization, Financial Development and
Economic Growth: Conceptual Issues and Empirical
Evidence from MENA Countries
PI: M.Kabir Hassan

Session 1: Sectoral/Environment Issues (Chair: Subidey Togan)

- Paper: Are Small Firms Really Less Productive? An Analysis
Productivity Differentials and Firm Dynamics of
Erol Taymaz
- Discussant: *Alaa Essam El-Shazly*
- Paper: Efficiency of Labour-Use in the Tunisian's
Manufacturing Industries: A Flexible Adjustment
Model
Ilham Haouas & Mahmoud Yagoubi
- Discussant: *Azzeddine Azzam*

Lunch Break 1:00 – 2:30

Afternoon (Parallel Sessions) 2:30 – 5:30

Session 2: Labor Issues (Chair: Ismail Sirageldin)

- Project: A Comparative Study of the Economic Returns to Education in Egypt, Iran, Tunisia, & Turkey
PI: Djavad Salehi Isfahani
- Project: Private Return to Higher Education in the Sudan
PI: Esam Mohamed Ismail
- Paper: The Timing of Marriage, Fertility, and Female Labor Force Participation in Morocco
Ragui Assaad & Sami Zouari
- Discussant: *Djavad Isfahani*
- Paper: A Socioeconomic Analysis of Fertility Determinants with a Count Data Models: The Case of Tunisia
Frini Olfa & Abdel-Rahmen El Lahga
- Discussant: *Mohamed Tabibian*

Session 2: Trade Issues (Chair: Ahmed Galal)

- Paper: Quantifying the Impact of Services Liberalization in A Developing Country
Denise Eby Konan & Keith E. Maskus
- Discussant: *Bernard Hoekman*
- Paper: Institutional Endowment & Regulatory Reform In Telecoms: A Five- Country Comparison in the MEDA Region
Andrea Goldstein
- Discussant: *Mohamed Lahouel*

Session 2: Finance Issues (Chair: Hassan Ersel)

- Paper: Contagion in the Gulf Countries
Osman Suliman
- Discussant: Ibrahim El Badawi
- Paper: The Effect of Financial Liberalization on the Economic Development Process in case of Inefficient Banking
Othman Bouabdallah, Sami Nabi & Taoufik Rajhi
- Discussant: *Fadle Naqib*
- Project: Some Aspects of Liquidity in Islamic Banks: Case Study of Selected Banks in the MENA Region
PI: Badr-El-Din A. Ibrahim

Session 2: Sectoral & Environment Issues (Chair: Azzeddine Azzam)

Paper: Modeling A Centralized Water Resources Allocation in a world of Water Scarcity and Incomplete Information
Mohamed Salah Matoussi & Saida Slama

Discussant: *Ahmet Halis Akder*

Project: Economics of Waste Water (Study Case: The Arab Region) - The Egyptian Case
PI: Raouf Khouzam

Project: Irrigation Management Focusing on Sustainability
PI: Gholam Reza Soltani

5:30 – 6:30 ERF Research Fellows Meeting – Closed Meeting

**WELCOME DINNER HOSTED BY THE ARAB MONETARY FUND 8:30PM
AT AL MOUBARAKIA BALLROOM – SHARJAH CONTINENTAL HOTEL**

SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER

10:00 – 4:00 **ERF Board of Trustees Meeting – Closed Meeting**

Morning (Parallel Sessions) 9:00 – 1:00

Session 3: Labor Issues (Chair: Seyfeddin Muaz)

Paper: Migration & the Production of poverty: The Refugee Camps in Jordan
Marwan Khawaja

Discussant: *Heba Nassar*

Project: Migration & Mobility in the Egyptian Labor Markets
PI: Jackline Wahba

Session 3: Macroeconomic Issues (Chair: Mongi Boughzala)

Paper: Evaluation of FDI flows into the MENA region
Ahmed Kamaly

Discussant: *Mohamed Lahouel*

Paper: A Palestinian Growth History, 1968-2000
Sebastien Dessus

Discussant: Mahmoud El Jafari

Paper: Financial Development and Long-Run Growth: Granger Causality in A Bivariate VAR Structure, Evidence from Tunisia: 1960-1998
Ghazi Boulila & Mohamed Trabelsi

Discussant: *Magda Kandil*

Session 3: Finance Issues (Chair: Sultan Abou Ali)

Paper: Cost of Equity In The Tunisian Banking Sector
Samy Ben Naceur & Samir Ghazouani

Discussant: *Mahmoud El Gamal*

Paper: T he Monetary Policy of The Central Bank of
Tunisia: An Assessment
Adel Boughrara

Discussant: *Izak Atiyas*

Lunch Break 1:00 – 2:30

Afternoon (Parallel Sessions) 2:30 – 5:30

Session 4: Labor Issues (Chair: Massoud Karshenas)

Project: Female Labor Supply in Egypt, Iran, & Turkey
PI: Insan Tunali

Project: Structural Adjustment & Gender Gap in Labor Market
Outcomes: A Comparative Analysis of Egypt
PI: Ragui Assaad

Presentation: *World Development Report 2004: Making Services
Work for Poor People*

Session 4: Governance & Political Economy Issues (Chair: Murat Sertel)

Paper: A Political Economy Model of Resource Pricing with
Evidence from the Fuel Market
Hadi Esfahani

Discussant: *Mohamed Bechri*

Paper: Economic Performance & Political Outcomes:
An Analysis of the 1995 Turkish Parliamentary
Election Results
Ali T. Akarca, Aysit Tansel

Discussant: *Noha El Mikawy*

Session 4: Macroeconomic Issues (Chair: Nabil Sukkar)

Paper: Financial Distress and Early Warning Signals:
A Non-Parametric Approach with Application to
Egypt
Alaa Essam El-Shazly

Discussant: *Osman Suliman*

Paper: The Performance of State-Owned Enterprises and
Newly Privatized Firms: Empirical Evidence from Egypt
Mohammed Omran

Discussant: *Sule Ozler*

MONDAY 28 OCTOBER

Morning (Parallel Sessions) 9:00 – 11:00

Session 5: Labor Issues (Chair: Ahmad El Darsh)

Project: Fertility, Human Capital, & Economic Growth in
MENA: A Multivariate Causal Perspective
PI: Ali Darrat

Project: An Empirical Examination of Small Business
Financing in the Middle East
PI: Sayed Abbas Ahmed

Session 5: Microeconomic Issues (Chair: Taher Kanaan)

Paper: Economic Fluctuations in MENA: Does Financial
Market Development Matter?
Ali Darrat & Mahmoud Haj

Discussant: *Ihsan Izak*

Paper: Currency Exposure, Market Power, and the Equity
Rate of Return: The Case of Iran
Ahmad R. Jalali-Naini & Hassan Ghalibaf Asl

Discussant: *M. Kabir Hassan*

Session 5: Sectoral & Environment Issues (Chair: Subiday Togan)

Paper: Government, Innovation and Technology Policy, An
International Comparative Analysis
Sunil Mani

Discussant: *Zeki Fattah*

Paper: Theoretical Framework for Environmental
Accounting-Application on the Egyptian Petroleum
Sector
Mohamed A Raouf A Aly

Discussant: *Mohamed El Sahlawi*

Session 5: Governance and Institutional Issues (Chair: Mustapha Nabli)

Presentation: Based on ERF Projects under Governance,
Institutions, and Political Economy of Growth
PI: Hadi Salehi Esfahani

Optional Activities 11:00 – 1:00

- 1- Tour of the American University of Sharjah
- 2- Tour of the Sharjah Free Zone

Lunch Break 1:00 – 2:30

Wrap-up & Closing Session (2:30 – 3:00)