39th Annual Meeting of the Middle East Economic Association (MEEA)

Atlanta, January 4 to 7, 2019

The MEEA/ASSA Sessions are at Hilton Atlanta, Rooms 204 and 224
(ASSA Registration is located at Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Atrium Foyer)
The MEEA post-ASSA Sessions are at Andrew Young School of Policy Studies
(Downtown Atlanta, 14 Marietta Street, 7th Floor)

Acknowledgements:
The Middle East Economic Association wishes to thank the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, particularly Professor Paul Benson, for generously providing us with the space, facilities, and logistics for the conference, as well as Professors Marcus Marktanner and Luc Noiset (both at Kennesaw State University) for all their help and efforts as the local organizers of the 39th MEEA Annual Meeting.
MEEA Sessions
Monday, January 7th
Andrew Young School of Policy Studies

8:30-10:00

Session 1: Inequality and Poverty
Conference Room 749
Chair: Rana Hendy

75 Assessing the Impact of Fiscal Policy on Inequality and Poverty: Evidence From the Egypt Household Expenditure Surveys
Rana Hendy
1 How to Protect the Poor Food Insecure in the MENA region?
Chahir Zaki
118 The effects of Elders’ earnings on income inequality: Evidence from Turkey
NEBILE KORUCU

Session 2: Stock Markets, Investors, and the Economy
Conference Room 750
Chair: Riza Demirer

2 The predictive power of the U.S. term structure across emerging stock markets
Riza Demirer
32 Investor Attention and IPO Performance
Seza Danisoglu
130 Is Gold a Safe Haven? International Evidence revisited
Levent Bulut

Session 3: Businesses, Customers, and the State
Computer Lab 720
Chair: Nazire Nergiz Dincer

17 Institutions, State-Business Relations and Innovation in developing countries: The case of Tunisia and Morocco
Mohamed Ismail Sabry, Juliane Brach
76 Do Regulation, supervision and private monitoring enhance the MENA banking performance? (A parametric two-Stage Frontier Analysis)
Yassine Benzai
85 Productivity of Manufacturing and Services Sectors in Turkey
Nazire Nergiz Dincer
Session 4: Natural Resources, Exchange Rates, and Economic Growth
Conference Room G105
Chair: Mohamed BENBOUZIANE

12 Testing the Short and Long-Run relations between Petroleum revenue and government spending in Selected Oil-Dependence Economies
Asmaa Yaseen
120 Exchange Rate, Oil Price, and Economic Growth
Noha Emara
111 THE DYNAMIC EFFECTS OF OIL PRICE SHOCKS ON OUTPUT AND DOMESTIC PRICES IN EGYPT: AN SVAR APPROACH
Farah Al Shami

10:15 - 11:45
Session 5: Trade, FDI, and the Supply Chains
Conference Room 749
Chair: Chahir Zaki

7 Global Value Chains and Business Environment: Which Factors Do Really Matter?
Chahir Zaki
122 Gender Diversity, Productivity, and Wages in Egyptian Firms
Rami Galal
77 Foreign direct investment, financial development and the role of institutions in the MENA region
INES TROJETTE

Session 6: Climate Change, Ecology, and Investments
Computer Lab 720
Chair: Natalie Hilmi

35 Do Perceptions of Scientists and Economists Differ on Climate Change? Preliminary survey results from the Mediterranean
Nathalie HILMI, Alain Safa, Ramakanth Tallapragada,
25 Effect of gasoline prices on car fuel efficiency: Evidence from the Lebanon
Walid Marrouch
23 Do Reward and Reprimand Policies Reduce Electricity Distribution Losses?
Ayesha Ali
**Session 7: Monetary Policy and Institutions**
Conference Room 750
Chair: Wassim Shahin

60 Country Risk, Monetary Policy and Reserve Adequacy
Wassim Shahin
65 Central Bank of Egypt: Independence Status and Way Ahead
Heba Talla Emam
55 From Revolutions to Institutions: The Experience of Arab Reform and Economic Growth
Islam Abdelbary

**Session 8: Labor Markets and Labor Productivity**
Conference Room G105
Chair: William Duncan

79 Determinants of Change in Labor Productivity in Manufacturing Sub-sectors in Turkey
Gulsah Ozsahin
99 MACROPRUDENTIAL POLICIES, PERSISTENCE OF UNCERTAINTY AND LEVERAGE DYNAMICS: A STUDY FOR REAL SECTOR IN TURKEY
Nuray Guner
16 Nonviolence Revolutions and Labor Market Impacts: Case studies in Egypt and Tunisia
William Duncan

**12:00 - 13:30**

**Session 9: Employment, Unemployment, and the Career of Mid-East Economists**
Conference Room 749
Chair: Mahmoud Haddad

33 Transition of youth to self-employment and Entrepreneurship: An empirical analysis from Palestine
Mahmoud Haddad
38 The Role of Education on Unemployment Duration: Do more educated respond differently to more generous Unemployment Insurance benefits?
S.Elif Filiz
74 Publishing and Career Growth of MENA Economists
Rana Hendy
Session 10: Water and Sustainable Development
Conference Room 750
Chair: Hisham Foad

97 Exploring the sources of water insecurity in the Middle East
Hisham Foad
45 Big Data and Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Suzanna Elmassah

Session 11: Monetary Policy, Informalization, Poverty
Computer Lab 720
Chair: Leila Dagher

133 The Stock Markets’ Response to Oil Shocks: Revisiting the Evidence for the GCC
Leila Dagher
68 The Indebted Hand-to-Mouth
Nazmul Islam
50 THE INFORMALIZATION OF THE EGYPTIAN ECONOMY (1998-2012): A FACTOR IN GROWING WAGE INEQUALITY?
Amirah El-Haddad

Session 12: Conflict, Revolution, Terrorism and Institutions
Conference Room G105
Chair: Marcus Marktanner

134 Palestine - Conflict and Aid Dependency as a Source of Income?
Marcus Marktanner
69 Keeping It in the Family: Female Inheritance, In–marriage, and the Status of Women
Duman Bahrami-Rad
84 Thank you, Infidels! Welfare Programs and Islamic State recruitment
Marcus Marktanner, Moamen Gouda

14:30 - 16:00

Session 13: Financial Inclusion
Conference Room 749
Chair: Noha Emara

90 The Impact of Macroprudential Policies on Financial Inclusion: Evidence from Selected MENA Countries
Ayah El Said
119 Financial Inclusion and Economic Growth: The Role of Governance In Selected MENA Countries
Noha Emara
FIntech, Remittances, and Financial Inclusion: The case of MENA region
Arafet Farroukh

Session 14: Growth and Development
Computer Lab 720
Chair: Mahmoud Haddad

113  Growth spillovers to developing MENA
Ergys Islamaj, Raju Huidrom, Jesper Hanson

39   Does Foreign Aid Support Growth in the Agricultural Sector?
Ozgur Kaya

58   Inclusive Growth in the Middle East: Before and After the Global Financial Crisis
Ece H. Guleryuz

Session 16: Marriage and Intrahousehold Decisions
Conference Room G105
Chair: Bulent Anil

82   Disentangling the Gender Peer Effect
Bulent Anil

108  The Formation and Distribution of Individuals’ Social Capital in the MENA Region
Jieun Lee

115  Implications of Membership in Village Credit Unions on Social Capital among the
Poor: Experimental Evidence from Rural Egypt
Mohamed El Komi

Session 18: Fiscal Policy and Macroeconomic Standards in MENA
Conference Room 750
Chair: Mohamed Trabelsi

103  Fiscal Policy and Income Inequality
Mohamed Trabelsi

124  Exchange Rate Regimes and Economic Activity in MENA Countries: GARCH versus
ANN Models
Mohamed BENBOUZIANE

42   Credit Cycles in the MENA Region: Do They Exist? Do They Matter?
Leila Aghabarari
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