

MEEEA

NEWSLETTER

MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION

Vol. 13 No. 1

Summer 2002

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Highlights of Washington D.C. Meeting

This year we have had an unusually large number of abstract submissions for our January 2003 Annual Meeting. Details of the program will be circulated after the program has been accepted by the ASSA. Nevertheless we have some highlights to look forward to. Please make note of some of these so that you can avoid time conflicts.

Last year, we experimented with a Poster session. It was very well received in general. I myself presented a paper in this session and found it quite challenging to give the highlights of the paper in about five minutes. A big advantage of such a session is the variety of topics and on-going research that one can get exposed to in a short period of time. Given the success and popularity of this experience we will have another poster session this year. Hence, for an extremely informative session at which you get to meet a number of people and share research experience with them on a one-on-one basis, please plan to attend this session. We will try to have this on the first day of the conference Friday January 3 at the 8 AM session. We have asked some of the “star” presenters in this format last year to present some of their new research in this session this year.

Given the considerable uncertainties about the current and future prospects and constraints on economic development and stability of the MENA region, Tarik Yousef has organized for us a Panel of the top policy analysts at the IMF, World Bank and other institutions to lead a discussion in which we hope there will be lots of dialogue with the audience on “What’s Ahead for MENA?”. We have requested this session to be on Saturday afternoon.

Other promising panels include one organized by Ragui Assaad on female labor force participation, and others on poverty, exchange rates, and goods

and labor flows, and capital markets and flows. For those planning to attend the ASSA meetings, please reserve time to attend these meetings of the MEEEA. See you in January if not before.

Jeffrey B. Nugent, University of Southern California

MEEEA’s Second Joint International Conference Summer 2003 University of Versailles

Following the success of MEEEA’s first joint European conference at SOAS last summer, we are pleased to inform you that we are planning to hold our second joint international conference in Europe in the summer of 2003. The host will be The University of Versailles in France and the conference chair will be Professor Jacques Charmes. The conference theme and exact dates will be announced in the next newsletter and will be posted on the MEEEA web site soon. Meanwhile if you have any questions to ask or suggestions to make, please contact either Jacques Charmes (Jacques.Charmes@bondy.ird.fr) or Hassan Hakimian (H.Hakimian@city.ac.uk).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW JOURNAL IN 2003

REVIEW OF MIDDLE EAST ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

Routledge, Taylor & Francis are proud to announce the release of a new journal for 2003, *Review of Middle East Economics and Finance*, edited by Wassim Shahin from the Lebanese American University.

Review of Middle East Economics and Finance aims at addressing applied original research in the fields of economics and finance pertaining to the Middle East and North Africa region including Turkey and Iran. Topic areas, although not exhaustive, encompass: Monetary and fiscal policies; Labor and welfare economics; International trade and finance; Banking; Financial markets and institutions; Financial instability and crisis; Investment and portfolio analysis.

Strong emphasis is placed on empirically based papers. The Journal includes a review section of books dealing with the above topics.

Manuscripts to be considered for publication should be submitted to: Wassim Shahin, Editor, MEEF, School of Business, Lebanese American University, PO Box 36, Byblos, Lebanon. Electronic submissions in a format other than pdf are encouraged and preferred at meef@lau.edu.lb

For more information on the journal or to request a free sample copy please visit our website at www.tandf.co.uk/journals.

IBN KHALDUN PRIZE

Reminder that submissions for the Ibn Khaldun Prize for the best paper on one or more Middle Eastern countries by a junior economist (no more than three years after receiving Ph.D.) must be received no later than December 10, 2002 at the following address: Prof. Jeffrey B. Nugent, Dept. of Economics, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0253, USA. The entries will be evaluated by a three person committee.

MEEA-CHRAF

MEEA's Committee on Human Rights and Academic Freedom (CHRAF) monitors infringements of human rights and academic freedom of economists in the Middle East. For information, please contact Co-Chairs of MEEA-CHRAF, Abbas Alnasrawi or Sohrab Behdad. Professor Alnasrawi may be reached at the Department of Economics, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 054505, USA. phone 802.656.3064, fax 802.656.8405, email alnasra@moose.uvm.edu Professor Behdad is at the Department of Economics, Denison University, Granville, OH, 43023 USA. phone 740.587.6404, fax 740.587.6348, email behdad@denison.edu.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE ARAB COUNTRIES AND THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION: UNIVERSITY OF EXETER, 23-25 SEPTEMBER 2002

The Institute of Arab & Islamic Studies, University of Exeter announces an International Conference on the Arab Countries and the World Trade Organization: Economic and Social Impact and the Prospects for Inter-Arab Cooperation.

Possible topics include: The experiences of individual Arab countries in liberalising foreign trade: macro and/or sectoral perspectives; Intra-Arab trade agreements and the WTO: short-term policies or long-term strategies; The WTO and the problems of Economic Development and of debt and external finance in Arab countries; The Arab countries in WTO negotiations; and Problems and Issues for the Arab Countries and the WTO.

All invited participants will be scholars and specialists who have made significant contributions in a relevant field. Abstracts (up to 500 words) are required as soon as possible. Please send to:

Dr Kamil Mahdi. Email: k.a.mahdi@ex.ac.uk Fax: (44 1392) 264035 Tel: (44 1392) 264029. Postal Address: Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Exeter, Stocker Road, Exeter EX4 4ND, UK.

CONFERENCE ON THE JORDANIAN ECONOMY

A Conference on "The Jordanian Economy in a Changing Environment" organized by the Economic Studies Unit of the Center For Strategic Studies (CSS) will be held during the period from 15 to 17 May 2003 in Amman, Jordan.

You are invited to submit an abstract for an original piece of research for this Conference (in Arabic or English language). Authors should submit a proposal consisting of no more than 600 words describing the proposed outline of the papers. Proposals should include the theoretical underpinning of the research and the empirical investigation that the researcher intends to conduct. In addition researchers are asked to outline how their work would enhance the understanding of Jordanian economic current behavior and its future prospects. The deadline for submitting abstracts, along with a CV is the 30th of November 2002.

Please contact: Prof. Atheel Jomard css@css-jordan.org or Dr. Ibrahim Saif I.saif@css-jordan.org Economic Studies Unit Center for Strategic Studies University of Jordan Amman, Jordan Tel (+962) 6 5355666 Fax (+962) 6 5355515 or visit our web site at www.css-jordan.org

Recent Journal Articles

As part of the information services to MEEA members, the Newsletter will list and abstract recent academic journal articles on the economics of the Middle East. Authors who would like their articles to be listed or abstracted are encouraged to send them directly to the editor. Preference is given to articles from journals that are indexed by the *Journal of Economic Literature*.

- Adams, Richard. "Nonfarm income, inequality, and land in rural Egypt." *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, Vol. 50, No. 2, January 2002, pp. 339-363.
- Assaad, Ragui and Insan Tunalı. "Wage Formation and Recurrent Unemployment." *Labour Economics*, Vol. 9, No. 1, February 2002, pp. 17-61.
- Alami, Randa. "Military Debt: Perspectives from the experience of Arab Countries." *Defence and Peace Economics*, Vol. 13, No. 1, 2002, pp. 13-30.
- Arabsheibani, G. Reza and Lamine Manfor. "Nonlinearities in returns to education in Libya." *Education Economics*, Vol. 9, No. 2, August 2001, pp. 139-144.
- Bechri, Mohamed, Tijani Najah and Jeffrey B. Nugent. "Tunisia's Lending Program to SMEs: Anatomy of an Institutional Failure?" *Small Business Economics*, vol. 17, No. 4, 2001. pp. 293-308.
- Chiswick, Barry, Michael Beenstock and Gaston L. Repetto. "The Effect of Linguistic Distance and Country of Origin on Immigrant Language Skills: Application to Israel" *International Migration*, 39(3), September 2001, pp. 33-60.
- Cobham, David. "Economic Aspects of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict" *The Economic Journal*, Vol. 111, no. 472, June 2001, pp. F249-253.
- Dar, Humayon A. and John R. Presley. "The Gulf Co-operation Council: A slow path to integration?" *World Economy*, Vol. 24, No. 9, September 2001, pp. 1161-78.
- Eltigani, Eltigani. "Child bearing in five Arab countries." *Studies in Family Planning*, Vol. 32, No. 1, March 2001, pp. 17-24.
- Eltony, Nagy M. "Inflation caused by imports revisited: an empirical investigation of the case of Kuwait." *Journal of Energy and Development*, Vol. 27, No. 1, Autumn 2001, pp. 69-78.
- Guncavdi, O and B.Z. Orbay. "Exchange Rates, Domestic Market Structures and Foreign Trade." *Applied Economics*, vol. 34, No. 6, 2002, pp. 783-789.
- Guncavdi, Oner and S. Kucukciftci. "Foreign Trade, Factor Intensity in an Open Developing Country: An Input-Output Analysis for Turkey." *Russian and East European Finance and Trade*, Vol. 37, No. January-February 2001, pp. 75-88.
- Kaabia, M. Ben and J.M Gil. "Estimation and inference in cointegrated demand systems: an application to Tunisian meat consumption." *European Review of Agricultural Economics*, Vol. 28, No. 3, September 2001, pp. 349-370.
- Kenc, Turalay and Serdar Sayan, "Transmission of the Demographic Shock Effects from Large to Small Countries: An Overlapping Generations CGE Analysis," *Journal of Policy Modeling*, Vol. 23, No. 6, 2001. pp. 677-702.
- Krishna, Pravin and Devashish Mitra and Sajjid Chinoi. "Trade liberalization and labor demand elasticities: evidence from Turkey." *Journal of International Economics*, Vol. 55, No. 2, December 2001, pp. 391-409.
- Larson, MA, E. Nicolaidis, E, B. Al Zu'bi, N. Sukkar, K. Larakı, M.S. Matoussi, K. Zaim, C. Chouchani. "The impact of environmental regulation on exports: Case study results from Cyprus, Jordan, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey." *World Development*, Vol. 30, No. 3, June 2002, pp. 1057-1072.
- Mady, Tawfik M. "Sales Forecasting Practices of Egyptian Public Enterprises: Survey Evidence." *International Journal of Forecasting*, Vol. 16, No. 3, July-September 2000, pp. 359-68.
- Miles, R. "Employment and Unemployment in Jordan: The importance of the gender system." *World Development*, Vol. 30, No. 3, March 2002, pp. 413-427.
- Mohielden, Mahmoud S. and Peter W. Wright. "Formal and Informal Credit Markets in Egypt" *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, Vol. 48, No. 3, April 2000, pp. 657-70.
- Naceur, Samy Ben and Mahamed Goaid. "The determinants of the Tunisian deposit banks' performance." *Applied Financial Economics*, Vol. 11, No. 3, June 2001, pp. 317-19.
- Onaran, Ozlem. "Measuring Wage Flexibility: the case of Turkey before and after structural adjustment." *Applied Economics*, Vol. 34, No. 6, April 2002, pp. 767-781.
- Rutherford, Thomas F and David G Tarr. "Trade liberalization, product variety and growth in a small open economy: a quantitative assessment." *Journal of International Economics*, Vol. 56, No. 2, March 2002, pp. 247-272.
- El-Sakka, Mohammed Ibrahim and Naief Hamad Al-Mutairi. "Exports and economic growth: the Arab experience." *Pakistan Development Review*, Vol. 39, No. 2, Summer 2000, pp. 153-169.
- Schmitz, James A. Jr. "Government Production of Investment Goods and Aggregate Labor Productivity." *Journal of Monetary Economics*, Vol. 47, No. 1, February 2001, pp. 163-87.
- Al-Shamsi, Shaykha and Magda Kandil. "On the significance of trade relations between GCC countries and Japan." *Journal of Economic Integration*, Vol. 16, No. 3, September 2001, pp. 344-68.
- White, Gregory and Scott Taylor. "Well oiled regimes: oil and uncertain transitions in Algeria and Nigeria." *Review of African Political Economy*, Vol. 28, No. 89, September 2001, pp. 323-44.
- Zaki, Mokhlis. "IMF-Supported stabilization programs and their critics: evidence from recent experience of Egypt." *World Development*, Vol. 29, No. 1, November 2001, pp. 1867-83.

RESEARCH IN MIDDLE EAST ECONOMICS
VOLUME 5: FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN THE MIDDLE
EAST

Hans Lofgren and Alan Richards. "Food Security and Economic Policy in the Middle East and North Africa"

Julia Devlin. "Agricultural Trade in MENA: The Building Blocks of Dynamic Comparative Advantage"

J. Anthony Allan and Jennifer Olmsted. "Trading water to solve the MENA water deficit: the political economy of MENA water, food and trade in a global context"

Peter Hazell, Peter Oram, and Nabil Chaherli. "Managing Livestock in Drought-Prone Areas of the Middle East and North Africa: Policy Issues"

Richard Adams. "The Political Economy and Distributional Impact of the Egyptian Food Subsidy System"

Channing Arndt and Wallace E. Tyner. "Policy and Progress in Moroccan Agriculture: A Retrospective and Perspective"

Mohamed Abdelbasset Chemingui and Sébastien Dessus. "Food Security in Tunisia: Trends and Policy Options"

John Kerr. "Price Policy, Irreversible Investment and the Scale of Agricultural Mechanization in Egypt"

Mylène Kherallah, Nicholas Minot, and Peter Gruhn. "Adjustment of Wheat Production to Market Reform in Egypt"

Jeffrey B. Nugent. "Yemeni Agriculture: Historical Overview, Policy Lessons, and Prospects."

Serdar Sayan and Nazmi Demir. "The Structural Change in Agriculture and Water Requirements in Turkey"

Jeremy D. Foltz. "Micro-Economic Perspectives on Tunisia's Agro-Export Strategy"

Paul J. Kaldjian. "Urban Food Security, the Rural Hinterland, and Istanbul's Lower Income Migrant Households"

Membership

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Middle East Economic Association, please fill out this form and return it to the Treasurer. The membership fee is \$25 for faculty and other professionals, \$20 for students, and \$10 for all members residing in a MENA country.

Name: _____

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The Middle East Economic Association, a non-profit international organization, was formed in 1978 and is affiliated with the American Economic Association and the Middle East Studies Association. The main objective of MEEA is to foster scholarship and to establish lines of communication among specialists interested in the Political Economy of the Middle East. **Web: www.meeaweb.org**

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