

**Sixth International Conference of the MEEA
14-16 March 2007
Zayed University, Dubai, UAE**

Schedule of Presentations

March 14, 2007

14:00 – 15:45 (Session A)

1. Financial Markets (1)

Session Chair: Mufeed Rawashdeh, American University in Dubai

“Trust Me, I’m Your Internet Banker – An Empirical Investigation Of Electronic Banking Presence in the United Arab Emirates” (695)

Bruce Q. Budd, Zayed University

Daniel B. Budd, Karzel Group

“Volatility Spillovers Across Major Stock Markets In GCC Countries” (510)

Ibrahim A. Onour, Arab Monetary Fund

“Wild Oil Prices, But Brave Stock Markets! The Case of GCC Stock Markets” (489)

Bashar Abu Zarour, University of Patras

“Financial Market Integration in the GCC: An Empirical Investigation” (621)

Simon Neaime, American University of Beirut

Salwa Hammami, American University of Beirut

2. Growth

Session Chair: Norman Wright, Zayed University

“The Information and Communication Technologies Impact on the MENA Countries’ Growth Performance” (716)

Imene Guetat, Faculté de Droit et des sciences économiques et politiques de Sousse

Imed Drine, Ecole Supérieure de Haute Etude de Sousse

“Reforms and Determinants of Economic Growth in MENA” (560)

Ahmad Saleh, Brunel University

“De-industrialisation and Fiscal Profligacy: Does the UAE suffer from the Dutch Disease?” (594)

Ajit Karnik, University of Wollongong in Dubai

Cedwyn Fernandes, University of Wollongong in Dubai

“International Technology Diffusion Through FDI And Human Capital: An Empirical Investigation From The Growth Of Total Factor Productivity In Tunisia And Morocco” (584)

Mohamed-Karim Abdellaoui, Université de Haute Alsace

Laurent Grimal, Université de Haute Alsace

“Modeling Total Factor Productivity: The Case of Egypt” (732)

Ahmed Kamaly, The American University in Cairo

3. Labor Markets

Session Chair: John Chilton, American University of Sharjah

“Determinants of Women’s Labour Market Participation in Five MENA Countries: A Three-Level Analysis” (543)

Niels Spierings, Radboud University Nijmegen

Jeroen Smits, Radboud University Nijmegen

“Labor Market and Private Sector Development Policies in a Labor Scarce, Oil Exporting Country” (579)

Samar K. Datta, Indian Institute of Management

Jeffrey B. Nugent, University of Southern California

Hatem Samman, Riyadh Bank

“Diversification, Migration, and Development in the Arab Gulf” (561)

Michael C. Ewers, The Ohio State University

“The Effects of Socio-Economic and Cultural Factors on Married Women's Employment in Shiraz, Iran” (511)

Arezoo Esmaeilikhatir, Shiraz University

March 14, 2007

16:15 – 18:00 (Session B)

1. Foreign Direct Investment (1)

Session Chair: Wasseem Mina, United Arab Emirates University

“FDI and International Trade Relations in Libya: Theoretical Approach and Econometric Analysis” (552)

Khaled R. Elbeydi, University of El Fateh

Tarak Brigha, University of El Fateh

Abdulhamid A. Yousef, University of El Fateh

“Technological Progress, FDI and Trade Opening: the Case of Tunisian Industry” (669)

Ayachi Fethi, University of Tunis El Manar

“The Nature of the Relationship Between Foreign Direct Investment and Portfolio Investment: Complementarities or Substitutabilities? The Case of Turkey” (498)

Nathalie Hilmi, International University of Monaco
Alain Safa, Université de Nice

“The Impact of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Inflows and Imports on the Economic Growth: A Time Series Analysis of Iran and Pakistan” (501)
Akbar Tavakoli, Isfahan University of Technology

2. Currency & Capital Account

Session Chair: Osamah Alkhazali, American University of Sharjah

“Policy Prerequisites for a Successful GCC Currency Union” (523)
Emilie Rutledge, United Arab Emirates University

“A New Age of Petrodollar Recycling?” (521)
Eckart Woertz, Gulf Research Center

“The Implementation of a GCC Single Currency” (645)
Ayesha Al Hashimi, University of Westminster

“Does Foreign Capital Inflow Cause Currency Black Market in MENA? Causality Testing in Heterogenous Panel Data“ (517)
Osman Suliman, Millersville University of Pennsylvania

3. Applied General Equilibrium Models

Session Chair: Ohan Balian, Dubai Executive Council & United Nations

“Trade Liberalization and Economic Diversification: A Dynamic CGE Model for the Economy of Qatar” (650)
Nico Vellinga, Zayed University
Eisa Abdelgalil, Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry

“Trade Liberalization and Economic Diversification: A Multi-Sector Dynamic CGE Model for a Typical Oil-Rich Gulf Country” (622)
Nico Vellinga, Zayed University

“Fiscal Policy Reform in Saudi Arabia: Results from a Dynamic General Equilibrium Analysis” (491)
Imtithal AL-Thumairi, King Saud University

“Time Series Approaches to Testing Income Convergence in MENA Countries” (556)
Haluk Erhat, Middle East Technical University

March 15, 2007

9:00 – 10:45 (Session C)

1. Foreign Direct Investment (2)

Session Chair: Eckart Woertz, Gulf Research Center

“Are the GCC FDI Location Determinants Favorable?” (658)

Wasseem Mina, United Arab Emirates University

“Do MENA Countries Really Benefit from Foreign Direct Investment?” (582)

Marouane Alaya, University Montesquieu of Bordeaux IV

“Determinants of the European Foreign Direct Investments and Governance in MEDA Countries: An Estimate by the Generalized Method of Moments” (615)

Ayachi Fethi, FSEGT-Tunis

Claude Berthomieu, CEMAFI-NICE

“The Role of Institutions in Private Investment: The Case of Middle East and North Africa” (637)

Ahmet Faruk Aysan, Bogazici University

Mustapha Kamel Nabli, The World Bank

Marie-Ange Véganzonès –Varoudakis, Université d’Auvergne

2. Inflation

Session Chair: Salwa Hammami, American University of Beirut

“Inflation, Inflation Uncertainty and Effective Factors on Inflation in Iran” (555)

Ali Salmanpour, Islamic Azad University of Marand

“Markov Switching and State Space Approaches for Investigating the Link Between Egyptian Inflation Levels and Uncertainty” (661)

Abdelwahed Trabelsi, Université de Tunis

Maha Achour, Université de Tunis

“Financial Stability, Money and Inflation Targeting in Turkey” (539)

Kazim Azim Ozdemir, Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey

“The Relationship Between Different Price Indices: Evidence from Turkey” (463)

Yilmaz Akdi, Ankara University

Hakan Berument, Bilkent University

Seyit Mümin Cilasun, Atilim University

3. Trade

Session Chair: Kenneth Wilson, Zayed University

“Estimation of the Demand Elasticity for Tunisian Exports: A Panel Cointegration Approach” (482)

Sami Khedhiri, University of Wollongong in Dubai
Tarek Bouazizi, Faculté des Sciences Economiques de Tunis

“A Dynamic Analysis for Palestinian Foreign Trade” (535)
Gaber Hussain Abugamea, Islamic University of Gaza

“Measuring Vertical and Horizontal Intra-Industry Trade: The Case for Turkey” (557)
Guzin Erlat, Middle East Technical University
Haluk Erlat, Middle East Technical University
Demet Senoglu, Middle East Technical University

“Determinants of Current Account Balances in Middle East and North Africa Countries” (593)
Aleksander Aristovnik, University of Ljubljana

“Competitiveness and Volatility: Interpreting Evidence from Developing Countries” (607)
Doaa Salman, October University for Modern Science and Arts

March 15, 2007

11:15 – 13:00 (Session D)

1. Institutions, Industrial Structure, and Productivity

Session Chair: Belaid Rettab, Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry

“The Economic Benefits of a Fully Integrated Middle East Power Grid” (734)
Brian H. Bowen, Purdue University
F.T. Sparrow, Purdue University
Marty W. Irwin, Purdue University
Alimorad Sharifi, Isfahan University
Ahmed Zobaa, Cairo University

“Changing Industrial Structure with Privatization in Turkey” (608)
Fatma Dogruel, Marmara University
A. Suut Dogruel, Marmara University

“What Are The Main Constraints To Firm Growth In Syria? An Econometric Analysis Using Survey Data” (600)
Nauro Campos, Brunel University
Ahmad Saleh, Brunel University

“Democratic Basis of Local Governance in the MENA Region: Economic Freedom as a Prerequisite” (550)
Nevine M. Eid, Cairo University

2. Financial Markets (2)

Session Chair: Scheherazade S. Rehman, The George Washington University

“An Analysis of the Distribution of Extreme Stock Returns in the GCC Emerging Markets” (492)

Aktham Maghyereh, United Arab Emirates University

Haitham Al-Zoubi, The Hashemite University

“Mean Reversion and Weak-Form Efficiency in the Doha Securities Market” (537)

Hicham Benjelloun, Qatar University

Jay Squalli, Zayed University

“Exploring Time Variation of Stock Betas in Pakistan” (471)

Aneel Kanwer, KASB Securities

“The Behavior of Returns in the Middle East and North Africa Emerging Equity Markets” (653)

Chiraz Labidi-Makni, IHEC Carthage

Thierry Ané, IESEG School of Management and the University of Reims

“What Drive Short-term GCC Stock Markets Returns?” (509)

Ibrahim A. Onour, Arab Monetary Fund

3. Inequality and Income

Session Chair: Salem Kanoun, University of Nice Sophia-Antipolis

“The Effect of Human Capital and Gender on Personal Income in Iranian Urban Areas During 1991-2003” (691)

Zahra Mila Elmi, Mazandaran University

Ladan Noroozi, Plan and Management Organization

“Education Financing, Income Inequality and Economic Growth” (624)

Salwa Trabelsi, ESSEC

Ghazi Boulila, IHEC

Mohamed Trabelsi, Institut Supérieur de Gestion de Sousse

“An Empirical Analysis of the Impact of Public Expenditures on Education In Regional Poverty Reduction In Tunisia” (617)

Saoussen Ben Romdhane, Université de Nice Sophia Antipolis

Olfia Soukri, Université de Paris

“Inequality, Public Goods Provision and Development: The Case of Primary Education (with Special Reference to MENA)” (580)

Sripad Motiram, Dalhousie University

Jeffrey B. Nugent, University of Southern California

“Is Migration a Good Substitute for Education Subsidies?” (469)

Frédéric Docquier, Catholic University of Louvain

Ousmane Faye, University of Liège

Pierre Pestieau, Catholic University of Louvain

March 15, 2007

14:00 – 15:45 (Session E)

1. Trade Policy (1)

Session Chair: Jay Squalli, Zayed University

“The GCC as a Customs Union: Economic Assessment” (680)

Harib Amimi, APU

“Customs Union Implications of UAE Trade with the GCC” (724)

Belaid Rettab, Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Marietta Morada, Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry

“The Potential Role of RIAs in Enhancing the Credibility of Reforms: The Case of the Syrian-European Partnership Agreement” (683)

Anja Zorob, German Institute of Global and Area Studies

2. Higher Education

Session Chair: Michael O’Brian, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research

“Higher Education Capacity Building: Key Strategic Choices of the United Arab Emirates” (737_171)

Warren H. Fox, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research

Richard O. Miller, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research

“Capacity Building in the Banking Sector: Cooperative Efforts of Higher Education and Financial Institutions to Improve Human Capital” (737_172)

Hani A. Kablawi, The Bank of New York

“Higher Education Reform in the Middle East Region” (737_173)

Bahram Bekhradnia, Higher Education Policy Institute

“Restructuring Higher Education and Science Policies in the Arab Gulf and Mediterranean Countries” (704)

Samia Satti Osman Mohamed Nour, University of Khartoum

3. Employment, Unemployment, and Investment

Session Chair: Jeffrey Nugent, University of Southern California

“Unemployment in Turkey: An Analysis in Comparison with Some Selected Middle Eastern Countries” (546)

Mehmet Huseyin Bilgin, Kadir Has University

Ismihan N. Kilicarslan, Kadir Has University

“Regional Employment Growth and Spatial Dependency in Algeria, 1990-2002” (577)

Yacine Belarbi, CREAD-Algiers

Abdallah Zouache, University of Saint-Etienne

Bernard Boureille, University of Saint-Etienne

“The Paradox of Investment in the Tunisian Tourism Sector: Overcapacities, Rent and Governance” (657)

Ali Abdallah, University Paris XII

Philippe Adair, University Paris XII

“Growth and the Service Sector in GCC Countries” (605)

Abdelhamid Mahboub, Zagazig University

Doaa Salman, October University for Modern Science and Arts

March 15, 2007

16:15 – 18:00 (Session F)

1. Money and Monetary Policy (1)

Session Chair: Emilie Rutledge, United Arab Emirates University

“Measuring Monetary Policy Shocks under Inflation Targeting in Turkey” (713)

Gulcay Tuna, Eastern Mediterranean University

“Making Monetary Policy in a Transition Economy: The Case of Algeria in the 1990s” (616)

Mohamed Cherif Ilmane, Former Vice-Governor of the Bank of Algeria

Abdallah Zouache, University of Saint-Etienne

Khaled Bouabdallah, University of Saint-Etienne

“Economic Variability and Monetary Policy: The Optimal Exchange Rate Regime for an Oil-Exporting Country” (544)

Almukhtar Al-Abri, Sultan Qaboos University

“The Velocity of Money and Monetary Policy: Lessons for the Monetary Authority in Saudi Arabia” (581)

Fahad Albadi, Institute of Public Administration

2. Exchange Rates

Session Chair: Hassan Hakimian, Cass Business School

“Exchange Rate Regimes and Economic Performance: Evidence from MENA Countries Using Pool Mean Group (PMG) Estimation” (692)

Mohamed Benbouziane, Tlemcen University

Abdelhak Benamar, Tlemcen University

Tahar Ziani, Tlemcen University

“Financial Integration and Real Exchange Volatility: Evidence from MENA Countries” (670)

Drine Imed, IHEC Sousse-EUREqua-Paris 1
Hadj Amor Thouraya, CEMAFI-URMOFIB

“Choosing the Exchange Rate Regime in a Resource Exporting Country: A New Keynesian Perspective” (640)

Matthias Grote, University of Bayreuth

Bernhard Herz, University of Bayreuth

“Does the Commercial Interdependence Between Countries Affect the Choice of an Exchange Arrangement: Evidence from the Maghreb Countries” (520)

Naziha Fakhri, Université de la Méditerranée, Aix-Marseille II

3. Financial Markets (3)

Session Chair: Michael Owen, Zayed University

“Modeling Portfolio Management in Islamic Banking: The Case of Iranian Agricultural Bank” (603)

Habibollah Salami, University of Tehran

Farshid Esharghi, University of Tehran

Kazem Sadr, University of Shahid Beheshti

“How Useful are Index Funds in Saudi Arabia?” (538)

Abdulkader Mohamed Ahmed Abdullah, Qatar University

Hicham Benjelloun, Qatar University

“Analyzing the Competition in the Credit Card Market in Turkey with the New Empirical Evidence” (638)

Ahmet Faruk Aysan, Bogazici University

Nusret Ahmet Muslim, Bogazici University

“Forecasting Stock Returns through a Composite Dynamic Multifactor Model” (575)

Stefano Bonini, Università Commerciale “L. Bocconi”

Vincenzo Capizzi, Università degli Studi del Piemonte Orientale

Alessandro Cipollini, University of Milan-Bicocca

March 16, 2007

10:15 – 12:00 (Session G)

1. Trade Policy (2)

Session Chair: Ohan Balian, Dubai Executive Council & United Nations

“United Arab Emirates Potential Gain as a Member of the GCC Customs Union” (611)

Gwendolyn Rodrigues, University of Wollongong in Dubai

Nandini Kaul, University of Wollongong in Dubai

“International Competitiveness and Foreign Trade Specialization of the Mediterranean Neighboring Countries and the EU/15” (499)

Bahri Yilmaz, Sabanci University

Gökce Akin, Sabanci University

“The Economic Islamicity Index (EI2)” (666)

Scheherazade S Rehman, The George Washington University

Hossein Askari, The George Washington University

“Emerging Energy Issues at the WTO: The Potential Impact on Oil Markets and the MENA Region” (664)

Susan L. Sakmar, University of San Francisco School of Law

2. Macroeconomics

Session Chair: Jeffrey Nugent, University of Southern California

“Political Stability, Investment Profile and Macroeconomic Performance” (573)

M. Umur Tosun, Hacettepe University

M.Cahit Guran, Hacettepe University

Aydm Ulucan, Hacettepe University

“An Application of the Zivot and Andrews Testing Approach for Detecting Structural Breaks in the Lebanese Economy” (659)

Charles Harvie, University of Wollongong

Mosayeb Pahlavani, University of Sistan and Baluchestan

Ali Salman Saleh, University of Wollongong

“A New IS-LM Framework for the Turkish Economy in the Aftermath of the 2001 Crisis” (572)

Cem Payaslioglu, Eastern Mediterranean University

“Channels for Linking Public Debt Sustainability and Poverty: An Application to Tunisia” (549)

Salem Kanoun, University of Nice Sophia-Antipolis

“Macroeconomic Determinants of Migrants’ Remittances in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Countries (SEMC)” (686)

El Mouhoub Mouhoud, Université Paris Dauphine

Joel Oudinet, Université de Paris XIII

Elif Unan, Université de Paris XIII

3. Agriculture & Resources

Session Chair: Azzeddine Azzam, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

“High Oil Prices and Economic Activity in MENA Countries: Is There an Asymmetric Impact?” (693)

Mohamed Benbouziane, Tlemcen University

Abderrezak Benhabib, Tlemcen University

Abdelhak Benamar, Tlemcen University

“Multifunctional Agriculture, Ecology and Economic Diversification in Oil-Exporting Economies” (583)

Janaki Ram Pillarisetti, University of Brunei Darussalam

Roger Lawrey, University Brunei Darussalam

Azman Ahmad, University of Brunei Darussalam

“Economic Evaluation of Cotton Production in the Gezira Scheme: 1970-2004” (627)

Mohamed Osman Ahmed Bushara, University of Gezira

Abdel-Motalib M. Ahmed, University of Gezira

“The Impact of the 2005-2006 Avian Influenza Crisis on the Turkish Chicken Sector” (620)

Gokhan Ozertan, Boğaziçi University

Sayed Saghaian, University of Kentucky

Aslihan Spaulding, Illinois State University

March 16, 2007

14:00 – 15:45 (Session H)

1. Foreign Direct Investment (3)

Session Chair: Fawzy Omran, University of Sharjah

“Determinants of Domestic Investment in Jordan: ARDL Techniques” (729)

Suleiman W. Almasaied, Al al-Bayt University

“The Hidden Role of Cultural Factors on FDI Mobility to Jordan” (533)

Nojoud Habash, University of Patras

“Assessing the Employment Effect of FDI Inflows to Egypt (1974-2005)” (655)

Nada Massoud, Cairo University

“Oil & Gas Investments in Capital Flows: Lessons from the Egyptian Case” (532)
Randa Alami, SOAS, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies

2. Financial Markets (4)

Session Chair: Hicham Benjelloun, Qatar University

“Financial Integration in Egypt: ‘A Laugh to Keep from Crying’” (656)
Nevine M. Eid, Cairo University

“More on Finance and Growth: A Panel Cointegration Approach” (711)
Jawaher Ben Salem, Faculté des Sciences Economiques et de Gestion de Nabeul
Mohamed Trabelsi, Institut des Hautes Etudes Commerciales de Carthage

“Real Convergence in the GCC Economies Since the Mid-20th Century” (586)
Ismail H. Genc, American University of Sharjah
Anil Rupasingha, American University of Sharjah

“Are the GCC Stock Markets Still Rewarding? An Empirical Analysis of the UAE Stock Market” (679)
Sami Khedhiri, University of Wollongong in Dubai
Naeem Muhammad, University of Wollongong in Dubai

3. Entrepreneurship and Industrial Development

Session Chair: David McGlennon, Zayed University

“Developing an Effective Management Model to Support Dubai's Entrepreneurial Business Model” (651)
Ivana Adamson, Zayed University
Hikmat A. Alrawi, University of Dubai

“Entrepreneur Activity in the UAE: Where It's at and Where it's Going!” (738)
Declan McCrohan, Zayed University
Kenneth Preiss, Zayed University

“Mechanisms for Seeking and Developing Entrepreneurs to Fulfill National Labor Requirements in Kuwait” (515)
Nasreddine Saadouli, Gulf University for Science and Technology