



Resume'
Alia El Mahdi, Ph.D.

Personal Data

Name	Alia Mohamed Abdel Monem El Mahdi
Social Status	Married and have 2 daughters.
Address:	Home: City View, Gate 3, Building 74, Duplex 1, 19 Cairo Alexandria Desert Rd, 6 th October- Egypt.
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Email	alia.almahdi@gmail.com , a_elmahdi@feps.edu.eg elmahdi@egypols.org
Work	Professor of Economics, and Former Dean of the Faculty of Economics & Political Sc.- Cairo University.
Languages	Native Arabic (5), Fluent in German (4) and English (4) and moderate in French (2).

Education:

PH.D:	Cairo University, Dec 1984
M. A.	Cairo University Aug. 1980
B. A.	Honors, Economics, Cairo University, July 1976

Experience:

**Present
Positions**

June 2019-to date: CEO of the Egyptian Iron and Steel Association

March 2015- to date: CEO of Egypols (a consultancy company for Polling and Socio-economic Research).

Jan 1995-to date: Professor of Economics- Faculty of Economics and Political Sc- Cairo University;

**Previous
Positions**

March-June 2012 : Visiting Professor at the University of Chicago- Paris Center

August 2008 to September 2011: Dean of Faculty of Economics and Political Sc.- Cairo University

**Other
Positions**

January 2006-to 2008 Director of the Center of Economic and Financial Studies and Research (CEFRS), Cairo University

July 2010 to February 2011: Member of Shura Council (Parliament, Upper Chamber.

November 2010 to date: Policy Advisor at the Economic Research Forum for the Arab Countries, Turkey and Iran.

September 2004 to October 2005 Vice President of October University of Modern Science and Arts.

September 2001 to September 2004 Vice Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Political Science for Post-Graduate Studies and Research, Cairo University.

Feb.2000-to Oct.2006 Trainer in the area of macroeconomic policy to the Egyptian Capital Market Association's members.

Nov. 1995 - to 2010: Research Associate at the Economics Research Forum, Cairo.

Recent Selected Publications

- El Mahdi, A., 2020, Policy Paper ورقة سياسات لتعويض العمالة غير الرسمية في مصر عن تداعيات أزمة كورونا FEPS, Cairo University, Cairo.
- El Mahdi, A., Abdallah, A.; (2019), Survey on the 2017/2018 Graduates of the Egyptian Dual System, GIZ, Egypols, Cairo.
- El Mahdi A., S. El Shawarby, A. El Nakeeb, (2019) Towards a more Competitive Tax System for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, ENCC and USAID, Cairo. (Arabic)
- El Mahdi, A., M. El Garf, et al., (2018) Increasing Female Participation in the Labor Market and developing her Skills, ENCC and USAID-Seed Program, Cairo. (Arabic)
- El Mahdi, A. et al., (2018) The Beneficiary Satisfaction Survey of the Emergency Employment Investment Project (EEIP), World Bank and MSMEDA, Cairo.

El Mahdi, A., A. El Nakeeb. D. Barakat, 2018, "Cairo: A Vibrant Investment City", in The State of African Cities 2018–The geography of African Investment, UNHABITAT, file:///C:/Users/Alia/Downloads/The%20State%20of%20African%20Cities.pdf

- El-Mahdi, A. and Ali Abdallah, 2016, "Gender and Rights in the Informal Economy in Egypt", in "Supporting women as economic actors in the MENA region", The Imperial College Press, London.
- El Mahdi, A., et al; "The role of farmed fish in the diets of the resource-poor in Egypt"; (2015); WorldFish. Penang, Malaysia. Program Report: 2015-05.
http://pubs.iclarm.net/resource_centre/2015-05.pdf
- El Mahdi, A. & O. El Khawaga, (2015), "Education Systems and Their Impact on the Labor Market", in Ayadi,R., Dabrowski, M., Ed., Economic and Social Development of the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Countries, Springer, # SBN 978-3-319-11122-3.
- Hakimian, H, Mona Said, Alia El Mahdi, 2014, Inclusive Growth in MENA: Employment and Poverty Dimension in comparative context, etal, FEMISEResearch-FEM35-16,
<http://www.femise.org/en/2014/03/recherches/etude-femise-fem35-16/>

- El Mahdi, A. & A. Nawar, (2014), Employment and Productivity Growth in a Period of Structural Change 2001-2008, AfDB Economic Brief, African Development Bank, Tunis.
<http://www.afdb.org/en/documents/document/economic-brief-employment-and-productivity-growth-in-egypt-in-a-period-of-structural-change-2001-2008-49083/>
- El Mahdi, A., Social and Solidarity Economy, (2013) in FEMIP, Economie Social et Solidaire: Vecteur d' inclusivite et de creation dans les pays partenaires mediterraneens? (Social and Solidarity Economy: a Driver for inclusiveness and job creation in the Mediterranean partner countries?), FEMISE, Marseille.
- El Mahdi, A. and M. Metwali, (2013), Assessment of the Performnce of Micro and Small Enterprises in Egypt, CEFRS, SFD and African Development Bank Group, Cairo.
<http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Project-and-Operations/EG-2006-096-EN-ADB-BD-WP-EGYPT-AR-SFD-MSES-PROJECT.PDF>
- El Mahdi, A., et al., (2012) Dakahleya Governorate Housing Market Survey, SBI, EDG, May 2012.
- El Mahdi, A., (2012), "Improving Opportunities of the Micro and Small Enterprises in Egypt", Report prepared for Brookings Institute, Washington.
- El Mahdi, A., (2012) "The Economic Factors Leading to the 25th of January Revolution" Chapter 2 , in The January Revolution, the Factors behind it and Future Outlook, Nasser Military Academy (Arabic).
- El Mahdi, A. , (2012) "Future Outlook at the Economic Situation and its Impact on National Security Status" Chapter 5 , in The January Revolution, the Factors behind it and Future Outlook, Nasser Military Academy (Arabic).
- El Mahdi, A., (2011) The Arab Spring: the Unfinished Story: Socio-Economic Conditions and Labor Market Bottlenecks as Igniting Factors, The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies, Vienna (unpublished paper).
- El Mahdi, A., 2010, " Poverty and Informality: A Restraining or Constructive Relationship", ERF, Cairo, WP # 569, Cairo .

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- El Mahdi, A., 2013, "Informal Apprenticeship in the Small Enterprises: Alternative Approach", ILO, Cairo.
- El Mahdi, A. and etal, 2009, Child Poverty and Disparities in Egypt: Building the Social Infrastructure for Egypt's Future, Gloabal Study on Child Poverty and Disparities, CEFRS and UNICEF, Cairo.
[http://www.unicef.org/egypt/Child_poverty_and_disparities_in_Egypt_FINAL - ENG full report - 23FEB10.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/egypt/Child_poverty_and_disparities_in_Egypt_FINAL_-_ENG_full_report_-_23FEB10.pdf)
- EL Mahdi, A., 2009, "The Changing Economic Environment and the Development of the Micro and Small Enterprises in Egypt 2006", in Assaad, R., Ed., The Egyptian Labor Market Revisited, ERF, Cairo.
- El Mahdi, A., 2009, "The Repercussions of the Financial Crisis on the Economic Activity and Employment, in the Conference Book on: Social Implications of the Economic Crisis on the Egyptian Economy and the Ways out of it", Center of Economic and Financial Research and Studies, Cairo.
- El Mahdi, A., etal, 2009, "A Survey Study of the Implications of the Application of Quality Assurance Programs on the Improvement of Education", for the Quality Assurance Program, Ministry of Higher Education, Cairo. (Paper prepared to the Minister of Higher Education based on an empirical study).
- El Mahdi, A., etal, 2008, "Science and Technology in a Sample of Private Sector Companies in Egypt", Ministry of Higher Education, Cairo. (Paper prepared to the Minister of Higher Education based on an empirical study).
- El Mahdi, A. etal, 2008, Egypt's Human Development Report 2008, Ministry of Economic Development and UNDP, Cairo.
- El Mahdi, A. and H.El Said, Ed., 2007, The Role of Financial and Non-Financial Services in Supporting MSMEs in Egypt, CEFRS and the Egyptian Banking Institute, Cairo.
- El Mahdi, A. & M. Metwally, Ed.,2007 , Evaluation of the Privatization Program in Egypt (1992-2006), UNDP and Center for Economic and Financial Research and Studies, Cairo.

- El-Mahdi, A. and others, 2006, "Role of Women in Economic Life: Research on Situation Analysis of Women in Egypt", DfiD, British Council, Cairo.
- El-Mahdi, A. et al, 2005 , MSEs Potentials and Succss Determinants in Egypt 2003-2004 (Special Reference to Gender Differentials), FEMISE report, RR0418, ERF, Cairo.
http://www.erf.org.eg/cms.php?id=publication_details&publication_id=459
- El-Mahdi, A. et al., 2005 , Choosing our Future: Towards a New Social Contract, Egypt Human Development Report 2005.
- El-Mahdi, A. M. Amer, 2005, "Egypt: Growing Informality 1990-2003", in Avirgan, T. et al. Editors, Good Jobs, Bad Jobs, No Jobs, Global Policy Network, Economic Policy Institute, Washington.
- El-Mahdi, A. and M. Osman, 2006, An assessment of the effevtiveness of small and Micro- enterprise Finance in Employment Creation.
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Recent Participation in International Conferences, Seminars and Workshops (last 10 years)

- 1st Pan-Arab Urban Development Symposium, 31st March 2019, Abu Dhabi.
- Urban Planning and Design Programme - UN-Habitat, as the moderator in the Smart Cities Workshop held in Cairo on March 25th, 2019.
- EMNES Policy Roadmap Workshop to be hosted by Centre for European Policy Studies at Place du Congrès 1, 1000, on 9-15 July 2018 in Brussels, Belgium.
- Sixth EMNES Scientific Workshop, Date: 10 May 2018, Amman, Jordan
- The Ministerial Conference Strengthening Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation through Research and Innovation (Malta, 3-4 May 2017).
- FEMISE Annual Conference and General Assembly meeting 29th and 30th of April 2017, Casablanca.
- The Agence Française de Développement (AFD) , "'Women's Economic Empowerment and Participation in the Labor Market in Egypt: Constraints and Opportunities" during a conference

dealing with "Women's economic empowerment in the Middle East and North Africa", 15 April 2015.

- The Expert Consultation on Expanding UHC to the Informal Sector and Vulnerable Groups in EMR 15-16 March 2015 Rabat, Morocco.
- ERF 20th Annual Conference – 22-24 March 2014 , Cairo.
- Egypt in Transition: Supporting Democracy through Dialogue
- 16-17 December 2013, Brussels.
- Bahrain Workshop III, on Fostering Participation in the Context of the Post-2015 Development Agenda , 24-27 June 2013.
- Regional Workshop on :”Rethinking Informality in the Arab Region: A Human Rights-based Approach, 16-18 April 2013.
- The Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Liberty as a panelist in the 2. Mediterranean Conference 25.04.2013 in Berlin. Please send us your paper on economy (1500 words) in Arabic as a word file no later than April 15, 2013.
- The MEDPRO Final Conference in Brussels on Tuesday 26 February 2013.
- Expert Group Meeting Citizen Engagement and the Post 2015 Development Agenda UN House, Beirut 3- 4 December 2012.
- “Inclusive Development in the South Med Countries and the Role of Eu-Med partnerships”, Marrakesh, 23-24 November 2012.
- The MEDPRO Stakeholder Meeting in Tunis on 5 and 6 November 2012.
- WB, Country Case Studies Workshop on “Employment and Growth”, 30 January 2012, WB headquarters, Washington, DC.
- The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw) and the Austrian Ministry of Finance and the Oesterreichische Kontrollbank AG, workshop on” Transition in the Middle East and North Africa”, 3rd December 2011.
- The MedPro Stakeholders" Engagement Meeting – SEG, 30 November 2011, Barcelona.

Other Activities

During the last twenty years I was responsible of undertaking several demand driven, policy oriented studies:

1- Studies were on Innovation & Technology , and Research & Development in the Egyptian Private Enterprises on behalf of the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research (two studies were conducted in this respect in 2008 and 2010).

2- An empirical study on the new suggested Medical Insurance Law and its degree of acceptance by the public and the acceptable conditions

from the perspective of the following three groups: the Households, the entrepreneurs and workers. This study was undertaken on behalf of the Minister of Health in 2010.

3- An empirical study on the Subsidy System and the Households' preferences of in-kind versus money subsidies. The study was requested by the National Democratic Party in 2008.

An empirical survey and study on a nationally representative sample of MSEs which was conducted in 2003 and its follow-up in 2004. This study was funded by FEMISE (An EU funded organization) and USAID as well as a number of other Arab funds.). This study was replicated in three other countries, with the same questionnaire form and methodology, namely in Morocco, Lebanon and Turkey.

Another nationally representative empirical survey on MSEs (a follow up of the previous two surveys) was conducted in 2011 and it was funded by the African Development Bank, and was launched in March 2013).

A study presented to Brookings Institute (July 2012) on "Improving Opportunities of the Micro and Small Enterprises in Egypt".

An empirical study on the Housing sector (Demand for Housing Microfinance in Dakahleya Governorate) funded by Shorebank Intl. Limited, SBI and EDG (July 2012).

I also undertook and supervised more than 9 urban planning studies for different cities and new cities in Egypt for the New Urban Communities Authority (New Borg El Arab City), UNHABITAT (Damietta, Port Said, Suez, Tanat, Baltim, Rashid and El Fayoum) and the Ministry of Communications (Borg El Arab industrial city, Sadat City and New Beni Sweif City).

The number of economic surveys which I was solely responsible of conducting exceeded 30 large scale or National surveys for both national and international organization and mainly in the field of economic topics especially MSEs and their dynamics, finance, challenges, productivity, labor/capital intensity, graduation to larger sizes, and ability to generate employment opportunities.

The public and political opinion polls that I was responsible of exceeded 2000 public opinion political and socio- economic polls.

I actively participated as paper presenter, discussant or chairperson in more than 50 international conferences and more than 200 domestic conferences.

I was responsible of hosting more than 50 conferences and workshops and seminars as Director of the Center of Economic and Financial Research and Studies and as Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Political Science.

My area of specialization is primarily is on the infomral labor markets and micro, small and medium sized enterprises. I have conducted numerous empirical research in this domain since 1988. Some of the studies I conducted are considered leading research which helped in changing several laws amongst them the Labor Law (2003) the Social Insurance (2010), they also led to the issuing of the Micro and Small Establishments Law (141 in 2004), which I participated in drafting and finalizing to be presented to the Parliament .

Some of the empirical research were translated into 2 or 3 languages other than Arabic: German, English and French (the Study on the Small and Medium –sized Enterprises in the Tenth of Ramadan City in 1996) and the parts of the Study on “The Informal Sector in Maarouf Quarter-Cairo” 1989 were translated into English and French.

- During the last 30 years I have been heavily involved in conducting socio-economic surveys and political polls. The fields of research varied and included several topics such as labor market research projects, micro and small enterprises surveys, surveys covering certain industrial enterprises especially in the areas of textiles and electronics, enterprise in industrial cities such as the Medium and Small Enterprises Complex in the Tenth of Ramadan City, samples of export industries, a sample of FDI enterprises, socio-economic household surveys and socio-economic and political polls. In addition, empirical research included widescale samples of 25000 households or more...
- The research studies and surveys that I was responsible of as PI were undertaken for different National and International organizations such as : the Ministries of Investment, Health, Higher Education, Supply, Scientific Research, Communication, SFD; and international organizations including ILO, African Development Bank (AdB), UNIDO, UNIFEM, UNICEF, FEMISE, CEPS, ERF, LSE, USAID, Arab Labor Organization, CAWTAR, Agence France de Development, World Fisheries, First Micro Finance (Agha Khan Foundation), Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, UNDP, DFid, Economic Policy Institute (Washington), WB, IFPRI, WFP, WHO, ESCWA, UNHABITAT.....
- I was also responsible of a few impact assessment studies such as one on the impact of certain microfinance packages offered by the Social Fund for Devevelopment and USAID to micro and small entrepreneurs as opposed to (a one to one) control group of micro and small entrepreneurs. The project was entitled “An assessment of the effevtiveness of Small and Micro- enterprise Finance in Employment Creation.
http://www.erf.org.eg/CMS/uploads/pdf/0313_final.pdf “

- In another study that was initiated by the Ministry of Higher Education, I was the principal investigator of the project: Higher Education Enhancement Project, Impact study for measuring project's return on beneficiaries (2008). The main target was to assess the impact of the new project on the different stakeholders (staff, students, university employees and community agents).
- As the CEO of Egypols, a consulting company that was established in March 2015, I have a group of highly specialized researchers, economists and statisticians. As a team we led several important researches during the last five years in cooperation with several national and international institutions such as GIZ, WFP, WB, University of Columbia, MIT, JPAL, AUC, Sawiris Foundation. Ministry of Social Solidarity, Ministry of Higher Education, Ministry of Trade and Industry. Ministry of Finance and Social Fund for Development.