

Dr Ala'a Shehabi

☎ +97336119116 | ✉ alaashehabi@yahoo.co.uk | Sex: Female | Nationality: Bahraini/British | Address:1, Seaview 5, Block 257, Road 5710, Amwaj Island, Bahrain

Professional Experience

- January 2010-
Current
- Bahrain Institute for Banking and Finance**
Lecturer in Economics
- I teach the following courses:
 - University of Wales Bachelors degree: Money and Macroeconomics, Introduction to Economics
 - Banking Studies Diploma Program: Foundation Economics and Advanced Economics
 - Short Profesional Development Courses: Country Risk Analysis, Demystifying Hedge Funds, Economics for Bankers, Quantitative Methods for Risk Management
- July 2007 –
August 2009
- RAND Europe (think-tank/consultancy part of the global RAND Corporation), Cambridge, UK**
Associate-level Analyst
- Providing quantitative and economic analysis in projects that inform public policy decision-making, particularly in the public services such as transport, ICT, education and health. This includes estimating discrete choice models and other econometric and general economic analytical input in various projects.
 - Knowledge and experience of contract research and consulting for different clients – proposal responses to tenders, input in key deliverables, efficient and timely delivery of research products to clients
 - Knowledge and experience of different study approaches, impact assessments, policy appraisal and cross-country comparative studies particularly in the EU and UK, interviewing, workshops, presentations
- 2005-06
- Pamplona Capital Management (fund of hedge funds), London**
Quantitative Research Analyst
- Carried out risk factor modeling on all hedge funds in the portfolio
 - Researched the contentious issue of the benchmarking problem for alternative investments
 - Carried out workshops for staff explaining the use of statistical tools in performance measurement
- 2004
- Spyre Asset Management (fund of hedge funds), Abbey National Bank, London**
Research Intern
- Developed a systematic hedge fund performance attribution methodology using multifactor modeling by identifying risk factors driving hedge fund returns
 - Assessed the risk-adjusted alpha performance of hedge funds in Spyre portfolio and potential managers under consideration
 - Attended conference on 16th September 2004; “Hedge funds, theories and practices” organized by BSI Gamma Foundation in University of Lugano, Switzerland
 - Researched the construction of investible hedge fund indices and hedging systematic risk associated with these indices
- 2003-05
- Imperial College Business School, Imperial College London**
Graduate Training Assistant
- Teaching seminars for; undergraduate course: Macroeconomic Policy and postgraduate MSc course: Statistical and Financial Econometrics computer workshops
- 2002
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Manama, Bahrain**
Internship
- Researched, wrote and co-designed the Office’s Annual Activity Report for 2000 distributed to all international offices including HQ in Vienna
 - Conducted interviews to select the candidates for annual training course part of the Entrepreneurial Development Program and evaluating their business proposals for financial viability
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Education

May 2007	Ph.D. Economics/Econometrics, Imperial College Business School, Imperial College London <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Thesis title: An <u>investigation into the application and evaluation of density forecasts</u>
Sept 2002	M.Sc. Economics and Finance, Warwick Business School, University of Warwick, UK
May 2001	B.Sc. (Honours) Economics and Statistics, University College London, UK
May 1998	A-levels Economics (A), Maths (A), Chemistry (A) Arabic (B), Woodhouse College

Training

Professional courses:

Managing Projects and People Course (2009)

Discrete Choice Modeling Course (2007)

British Council InterAction Leadership Programme (2007-08) -9 –month program which involved a Pan-African event in Dakkar, Senegal October 2007

Public Policy, Business Ethics and Social Responsibility (2006) , MBA Elective course, Imperial

Youth Empowerment Scheme, Future Leaders (2006), Art of Living Foundation, London

MCB Effective Negotiation Course (2006), London

Oxford Young Muslim Leadership Programme (2006), Prince of Wales Trust Initiative Christ Church College, Oxford University by the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies and Prince's Trust UK

- Included lunch at Buckingham Palace with Head of Royal Household, meeting with Prince of Wales in Clarence House

EDHEC-Olympia Alternative Investment Certificate (2005), EDHEC Business School, Nice, France

- In-depth introduction to the fundamentals of hedge fund strategies; overview of the practical aspects and positive and negative contributions of including hedge funds in investors' portfolios

ESRC Financial Econometrics Training Course, University of Exeter

Skills

Research interests: policy analysis, policy evaluation, social and economic development, strategy, capacity-building, academic teaching

Business management skills: excellent project management, business planning, recruitment interviews, event management, quality assurance processes, client liaison, budgeting, proposal writing, mentoring

Methodological skills:

- *Quantitative analysis;* economic modeling (CGE modeling), impact assessments, surveys, simulation modeling (Monte Carlos), Statistics: General, time series forecasting, principal components/factor/cluster analysis, ordinal logit, multinomial logit, factor analysis
- *Qualitative research;* report writing, face-to-face and telephone interviews, workshops, focus groups, coding,

Analytical skills: problem structuring, logic modeling, process mapping, cost-benefit analysis

Languages: English and Arabic (fluent)

Software & Programming Packages Microsoft Office, Excel, SPSS, VBA, Eviews, PCGive, Alogit, Gauss, International Futures Modeling System, Stata

Extra-curricular activities

- Member of the Executive Committee of the “Bahrain Young Scholars Symposium” to be held end of 2011
- Member of the steering committee of Mosaic Bahrain
- Member of the advisory group of the Mosaic Leadership summer school and a mentor on the Prince’s Trust Mosaic Mentoring Scheme launched November 2007 to help disadvantaged high school children (Prince=HRH Prince Charles)
- Fundraising activities included organising a charity dinner at Sheraton Park Tower attended by 90 people raising over \$20,000 towards a fund to rebuild wells and water pumps in Sudan and raised \$10,000 through sponsorship by trekking across the Atlas Mountains in Morocco
- Photographer, member of college photography society, participated in two exhibitions at Blythe Gallery, extensive portfolio focusing on culture and people in Bahrain and Senegal
- Lecture annually in Madingley Hall, Cambridge as part of the International Relations short course at the Centre of International Studies, University of Cambridge (2008 and 2009)

Reports/publications

Shehabi, A. and Sat Paul Parashar (2011), “Investor Relations Practices in Bahrain- A Survey” (forthcoming paper)

Hassan, Emmanuel, Christopher Austin, Claire Celia, Emma Disley, Priscillia Hunt, Sonja Marjanovic, Ala’a Shehabi, Lidia Villalba-Van-Dijk, Christian Van Stolk (2009), , “ Health and Wellbeing at Work in the United Kingdom”, August 2009, Prepared for the Department of Health. Available at www.nhshealthandwellbeing.org

Van Stolk, Christian, Tony Starkey, Ala’a Shehabi, Emmanuel Hassan (2009), “NHS Workforce Health and Wellbeing Review, Staff Perception Research”, August 2009, Prepared for the Department of Health. Available at www.nhshealthandwellbeing.org

Shehabi, A (2009) “Quantitative techniques in performance audit” Chapter Eighteen, in the Performance Audit Handbook. Available to download http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/TR788.html

Levitt, R., Janta, B., Shehabi, A., Jones, D., Valentini, E. (2009), “Language matters – The supply of and demand for UK born and educated researchers with skills in languages other than English” TR-657-BA January 2009 Prepared for the British Academy. Available at www.rand.org

Marjanovic, S., Soper, B., Shehabi, A., Celia, C, Reding, A. and Ling, T. (2009) “Changing the translational research landscape a review of the impacts of Biomedical Research Centres in England” Prepared for the UK Department of Health. Available at www.rand.org

Cave, Jonathan, Constantijn van Oranje-Nassau, Helen Rebecca Schindler, Ala’a Shehabi, Philipp-Bastian Brutscher, Neil Robinson (2009), "Trends in connectivity technologies and their socioeconomic impacts. Final report of the study: Policy Options for the Ubiquitous Internet Society " Prepared for the DG Information Society and Media. Available at www.rand.org

Shehabi, A., Krapels, J., Ling, T. (2008), “The governance and management of Academic Health Science Systems: key findings from examples from across the world” PM-3095-DH, RAND Corporation [restricted document]

Shehabi, A., Hallsworth, M. and J. Grant (2008), “Options appraisal of a Value For Money study on the supply of UK scientists, PM-2478-NAO, RAND Corporation [restricted document].
