

Nesma ALI

Contact Details

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Field of interest

Development Economics, Empirical IO, Applied Microeconomics, Econometrics, Impact Evaluation

Current affiliation

10/2023 - **Economist**
The World Bank Group - Enterprise Analysis Unit (DECEA)
2018 - **Research associate at** Economic Research Forum.

Previous positions

04/2018 – 09/2023 **Post-Doctoral Researcher** at Düsseldorf Institute for Competition Economics, Heinrich-Heine University Düsseldorf, Germany
11/2014 - 06/2017 **Project Research Assistant** at Centre pour la Recherche Economiques et ses Applications (CEPREMAP) - Macroeconomic Modelling team (Paris, France).
11/2013 - 05/2014 **Internship/Junior Researcher (6 months)** at Occurrence research institute (Paris, France)
11/2012 - 06/2013 **Economic Consultant** at Davis University of California - Program in international nutrition.
iLiNS Project - Preventing the malnutrition of children in Africa (Mission based in Burkina Faso)

Education

2013-2017 **Ph.D. in Economics** Paris-Est University - OMI doctoral school - ERUDITE research unit. Supervisors: Boris NAJMAN (Paris-Est University) and Racha RAMADAN (Cairo University).
Title: Towards a better integration of the informal sector. Three empirical essays on the relationship between formal and informal firms in Egypt and beyond
2011-2012 **M.Phil. in Development Economics** Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University and École Normale Supérieure Cachan- Paris, France. Grant from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Eiffel Scholarship.
2010-2011 **M.A. in Economics** Faculty of Economics and Political Sciences at Cairo University (Cairo, Egypt). Graduated with high honor and “excellent” grade in Masters (I) dissertation.
2007-2010 **B.A. in Economics** Joint degree between Cairo University and Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University.

Publications in refereed journals/books

“Informal competition, firms’ productivity and policy reforms in Egypt” (with Boris Najman). In Horodnic, I.A., Rodgers, P., Williams, C. C., & Momtazian, L. (Eds.). *The informal economy: exploring drivers and practices*. 2016.

“L’informalité des micro- et petites entreprises en Égypte : une analyse transversale”, *Mondes en développement*, 2014, 166(2), 87-100.

Working papers

“Foreign Direct Investment, Prices and Efficiency: Evidence from India” (with Joel Stiebale), DICE working paper, July 2021. (**R&R in Journal of International Economics**)

“Household firms in Egypt: The impact of informality on productivity and profitability” (with Mohamed Ali Marouani), ERF Working Paper, July 2020. (**Under Review**)

“Cronyism, firms’ Productivity and Informal Competition in Egypt” (with Boris Najman), *ERF Working Paper*, March 2019.

Work in progress

Horizontal Mergers and Market Power in India (with Joel Stiebale)

The Impact of Market Volatility on Hotel Efficiency in Malaysia: Does Hotel Size Matter? (With Mohammad Amin)

Research grants & Awards

2024	The World Bank VPU team award
2022	The impact of COVID-19 on the labour market, firms and care work in the MENA region. Funding: Economic Research Forum (ERF), the International Labor Organization (ILO), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), The Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) of the Government of the United Kingdom, the World Bank and the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development (AFESD).
2018-2019	2018 Fellowship on Economic Vulnerability in the Arab World administered by the Humphrey School of Public Affairs (HHH), University of Minnesota. Funding: the Carnegie Corporation of New York
2017-2018	The political economy of state business relations and of growth in the MENA region Funding: Economic Research Forum (ERF)

Teaching experience

Applied Econometrics (MSc), Empirical Competition Economics (BSc), Seminar on firms’ growth and challenges in developing countries (MSc). Courses taught at University of Düsseldorf (Germany) and University of Paris-Est (France)

Conferences, Workshops, S/W Schools and Seminars (as presenter, 2019-2022)

- 2023 21st Annual International Industrial Organization Conference (IIOC, Washington DC), Swiss IO group (Bern, Switzerland), University of Potsdam (Brown- Bag Seminar Speaker).
- 2022 20th Annual International Industrial Organization Conference (IIOC, Boston), 16th International Conference on Competition and Regulation (CRESSE, Crete), 49th Annual Conference of the European Association for Research in Industrial Economics (EARIE, Vienna)
- 2021 (online) 16th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development (Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi), Research Seminar at the Centre for Competition Law and Economics (Stellenbosch University).
- 2020 (online) ISGEP 2020 Dublin, Economic Research Forum Annual Conference.
- 2019 15th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development (Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi), Research Seminar at Swansea University, 4th Workshop of the Research Initiative on the Economics of the Middle East (Edinburgh), European Trade Study Group (University of Bern, World Trade Institute), Competition and Innovation Summer School (DICE Düsseldorf Institute for Competition Economics, DICE Consult, EPFL Lausanne, University of Luxembourg, KU Leuven, MaCCI and ZEW)

Special Skills

Languages: **French and Arabic:** mother tongues.
English: excellent (written, oral).
German: beginner.

Computer skills: Excellent knowledge of: **STATA**, Word, Excel, Power Point, latex.

Nesma Ali, June 2024