

CURRICULUM VITAE
SALIM MAHMOUD ARAJI

Contact Information

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EDUCATION

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PH.D.) IN ECONOMICS: SEPTEMBER 2008 - MAY 2014

- University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI, USA
- Dissertation Title: Essays on the macroeconomic effect of natural resource rents*

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (M.B.A.), MAJOR IN FINANCE: MAY 2005 - MAY 2007

- Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI, USA

BACHELOR OF ARTS (B.A.) IN FINANCE: SEPTEMBER 2002 - DEC 2004

- Davenport University, Grand Rapids, MI, USA

Fields of Interest: *Macroeconomics, Economic Growth, Economic Development and Policy*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UNITED NATIONS ■ BEIRUT, LEBANON

FEB. 2017 –PRESENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION DIVISION (EDID)

First Economic Affairs Officer

- Analyzed and evaluated various socioeconomic indicators in the context of the SDGs goals for the ESCWA region to create composite indices for poverty, inequality, social protection, food security, employment, fiscal policy and administration, financial sector stability, monetary policy, external accounts, environment and health among others.
- Lead the employment agenda at EDID and the connection between macroeconomics, inclusive growth and decent employment for ESCWA states.
- Support in resource mobilization for thematic projects on employment, labor markets, labor policy and structural transformation for decent and value adding employment.
- Joined multiple diplomatic missions within the ESCWA region.
- Represent ESCWA in regional and international conferences, training and workshops

UNITED NATIONS ■ BEIRUT, LEBANON

JUNE 2014 –MAR. 2016

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION DIVISION

Economic Affairs Officer

- Developed, analyzed and interpreted socio-economic databases and qualitative information on fragile countries, using econometric and conceptual analysis to check the macroeconomic effect of Official Development Aid (ODA) on different economic outcomes.
- Drafted socioeconomic reports, outlooks and analytical studies on Western Asia countries.
- Studied the effect of economic, political, and institutional governance quality on economic development, human development and macroeconomic stability in Western Asian Countries.
- Contributed to Development Outlooks through highlighting pressing governance challenges for ESCWA countries and projected different scenarios based on the “business as usual” and the proposed visions.
- Prepared a macroeconomic framework and constructed a structural macro-econometric model and a VAR Model to simulate/forecast the impact of different macroeconomic policy scenarios on sustainable economic growth (Goal 8 of the SDGs) for ESCWA countries.
- Familiarity with Dynamic and Static CGE modeling and its use in simulating macroeconomic policy.
- Assigned as a focal point for a flagship publication on justice and coordinated among different contributing divisions.

- Prepared presentations to directors on the importance of building institutions for good governance as part of Syria's reconstruction plan.
- Attended and participated in multiple UN country team meetings as a division representative.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN ■ MILWAUKEE, WI

Ph.D. (Student) Researcher

JAN. 2011– MAY 2014

- Rendered high level of policy related research, including theoretical and empirical analysis of economics issues.
- Developed expertise in areas such as natural resources revenue management, international development, and economic growth
- Compiled and analyzed financial and economic information using state of the art econometric modeling
- Worked with various research databases such as the IMF, World Bank, OECD, EIU, the United Nations, and many other country-based datasets including household surveys (WVS, HIES, PISA, TIMSS, etc.).
- High proficiency in using statistical software such as STATA, E-views, R-Studio, Minitab, SPSS, GAMS(Beginner) and MS Office
- Carried out complex research and experimentation in strict conformance with established protocols
- An active team player, and collaborate well with colleagues

ERNST & YOUNG ■ MUSCAT, SULTANATE OF OMAN

Associate Financial Analyst

AUG. 2007–AUG. 2008

- Conducted multiple financial due diligence, business valuation, and feasibility studies
- Conducted comprehensive market research and monitor market trends
- Recognized as an excellent team player with proven ability in working collaboratively with multi-engagement teams
- Performed descriptive and multivariate statistical analyses of data while verifying data accuracy and validity
- Exemplified remarkable technical skills in drafting deliverables and developing financial models
- Assisted clients through complex transactions, taking them from the start of negotiations to a successful outcome.

LONE MORTGAGE ■ DEARBORN, MI, USA

Loan Specialist

JAN. 2004 – JAN. 2006

- Pivotal in originating mortgages for residential and commercial purchases, refinance, and new home construction
- Assessed loan transaction packages for preliminary approval or denial in accordance with bank guidelines
- Gathered all required documentation for processing and underwriting each transaction
- Held responsible for preparing and presenting all related deal points

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY: (PART-TIME)

VISITING LECTURER, Economic Challenges of the Middle East (MS. Level, Economics)

Aug. 2016–Present

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-WHITEWATER: (FULL-TIME)

Lecturer, Statistical Methods in Economics and Business Administration

2012–2014

Lecture, Principles of Microeconomics Theory

2013–2014

Lecturer, Applied Macroeconomics (Graduate level, MBA)

Spring 2013

Lecturer, Principles of Macroeconomics

Spring 2013

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE: DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS (PART-TIME)

Instructor, Intermediate Macroeconomics

2010–2012

Instructor, Principles of Macroeconomic Theory

2009–2012

GTA, Principles of Macroeconomic Theory

2009–2010

GTA, International Economics

Spring 2010

Publications

- Governance in the Arab Region: Addressing Challenges and Envisaging the Future. Risk Governance and Control Journal, Financial Markets and Institutions, Volume 6, Issue3, 2016. *With Denise Sumpf.*
- Natural resource revenues: Effect on the pattern of domestic investments relative to international assets investments. *International Economics and Economic Policy*, May 2017.

Working Papers

- Income transfers and human capital: Application to resource-rich countries. A theoretical and empirical approach. ERF Working Paper. (*Won the Best Paper Award at the Economic Research Forum Conference, Cairo.*) Sent for publication.
- Targeting debt in Lebanon using a structural macro-econometric model. *With Vladimir Hlasny and Vito Intini*
- The socioeconomic implication of the Israeli occupation on Palestine. *With Vladimir Hlasny and Vito Intini*

Work in progress

- Measuring Justice in the Arab world. *“With Vito Intini, Vladimir Hlasny and Sama Hajj Sleiman.*

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

- Statistic and Economic Research Center for Islamic countries, Ankara, Turkey** *Feb 2013*
Presented: Income transfers and human capital: Application to resource-rich countries. A theoretical and empirical approach.
- U of Wisconsin-Madison: 10th Midwest International Economic Development Conference** *Apr. 2013*
Presented: Income transfers and human capital: Application to resource-rich countries.
Commented On: “The Joint impact evaluation of asset and cash transfers in Brazil”:
The treatment effect approach.
- Economic Research Forum (ERF): 20th Annual Conference, Cairo, Egypt** *Mar. 2014*
Presented: Income transfers and human capital: Application to resource rich countries. A theoretical and empirical approach. *Won the Best Paper Award in Macroeconomics.*
- Midwest Economic Association (MEA) 2015 Annual Conference, Minnesota, USA** *Mar. 2015*
Presented: Natural resource revenues and its effect on the pattern of domestic investments relative to international investments. (Paper Accepted)
- IMF-CEF: Macroeconomic Management and Fiscal Policy, Kuwait, Kuwait** *Oct. 2015*
Trained mid to senior government officials on Labor markets, fiscal policy and inclusive growth.
- Middle east Economic Association, 15th International Conference, Doha, and Qatar** *Mar. 2016*
Presentation: Natural resource revenues and the evolution of investments.
- Economic Research Forum (ERF): 23th Annual Conference, Amman, Jordan** *Mar. 2017*
Presented: Targeting debt in Lebanon using a structural macro-econometric model.
- Arab NGO Network for development American University of Beirut:** *May. 2017*
Peer review: The informal economy in the Arab nations: A comparative perspective
By Martha Chen.
- Union of Arab Banks: Financing reconstruction in the aftermath of the Arab Transition, Beirut, Lebanon** *May. 2017*
Presented: Post-conflict fiscal regime in conflict affected countries.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

The American Economic Association
European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists
Lebanese Economic Association
Midwest Economic Association
Midwest International Economic Development Association

Academic Services

ADDITIONAL PROFICIENCY

TECHNICAL SKILLS: STATA, R-Studio, E-views, Minitab, SPSS, GAMS(Beginner) and Microsoft Office Suite.

LANGUAGES: Bilingual in Arabic and English.

Trainings

- ESCWA, Beirut, Lebanon:** Training on Structural Macro-Econometric Modeling. *Nov. 2014*
- ERF Cairo Egypt:** Training on "Measurement and Analysis of Opinion. Poll Data using the World Value Survey (WVS). *May 2015*
- ERF Cairo:** Training workshop on "Applied Micro-econometrics and Public Policy Evaluation." *Jan. 2016*

REFERENCES

Vito Intini, Chief of Section

UN-ESCWA

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University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee

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