

Insaf Guedidi

insaf.guedidi@gmail.com

<https://sites.google.com/view/insafguedidi/home>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/insaf-guedidi/>

Professional Summary

I bring strong expertise in international trade, Global Value Chains, and economic development, supported by a solid research background and academic experience. I have strong experience synthesizing academic and policy reports and translating complex evidence into clear, policy-relevant narratives and analytical notes for development contexts. My work combines rigorous analytical skills with strong writing and communication abilities. I was also awarded 3rd place in the AI for Trade Global Challenge organized by the Observatory of Economic Complexity (OEC) and the Center for Collective Learning at Corvinus University of Budapest. Research focuses on the intersection of trade, development, competitiveness, and sustainability, with policy-relevant contributions supported by international collaborations (UNECA, WTO Chair, University Jaume I).

Professional Experience

Universitat Jaume I

Postdoctoral Researcher

Castellón, Spain

Nov 2025– present

Universitat Jaume I

Visiting Researcher

Castellón, Spain

Oct–Nov 2024

Conducted a seminar and collaborated on empirical research related to trade policy and environmental outcomes in global value chains.

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

ECA Research Fellow

Kigali, Rwanda

2023–2024

Conducted policy-driven research on trade integration and AfCFTA's effects on agriculture; drafted official reports, policy briefs, and presentations; contributed to expert consultations and led a quantitative study on trade and welfare impacts.

World Trade Organization (WTO) Chair – University of Tunis

Junior Research Fellow

Tunis, Tunisia

2017–2022

Produced trade-related empirical research using STATA, drafted academic and policy outputs, and presented at international forums; contributed to understanding trade facilitation, GVCs, and WTO-aligned trade reforms.

Central Bank of Tunisia (BCT)

Visiting Researcher – Research Unit

Tunis, Tunisia

May–Oct 2021

Conducted sectoral analysis of Tunisia's GVC participation; assessed trade impacts of REER fluctuations; provided quantitative insights supporting central bank policy discussions.

Sorbonne Economics Center (CES), Université Paris 1

Visiting Researcher

Paris, France

Sept 2020–Jan 2021

Collaborated on environmental trade policy research; attended doctoral seminars and contributed to joint empirical studies.

REACH Initiative (UNOSAT/ACTED/IMPACT)

Database and Information Management Officer – Project Officer

Libya Mission

2017

Oversaw data quality for field assessments; managed data flows and surveys; supported teams through technical training and rigorous cleaning protocols in humanitarian settings.

HP Inc. (Information Technology) <i>Logistics Coordinator – Customer Care Monitoring</i> Coordinated client support operations for Francophone Europe; ensured service delivery and created reporting dashboards; supported clients in English and French under high-pressure deadlines.	Tunisia 2014–2016
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SOTUMAG (La Société Tunisienne des Marchés du Gros) <i>Finance Intern</i> Assisted in internal financial operations and cash flow monitoring.	Tunisia Jan 2014
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Société Tunisienne de Banque (STB) <i>Finance Intern</i> Supported auditing and validation activities in banking operations.	Tunisia Aug 2013
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Academic Background

Data science training program <i>Data analysis and machine learning using Python</i>	2025
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Ph.D. in Economic Sciences Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne & University of Tunis – ESSECT <i>Dissertation: Global Value Chains and Deep Trade Agreements</i>	2018–2022
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Master in Modeling of Decision and Information Systems Higher Institute of Management (ISG) – University of Tunis <i>Major: Forecasting</i>	2014–2017
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Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) Tunis Business School – University of Tunis <i>Major: Business Analytics — Minor: Finance</i>	2010–2014
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Baccalaureate Diploma in Mathematics	2009–2010
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Teaching Experience

- **Analyse empirique du commerce international**
Co-instructed with Prof. Leila Baghdadi
Université Franco-Tunisienne pour l’Afrique et la Méditerranée (UFTAM)
Graduate-level course focused on empirical methods in international trade, including gravity modeling and trade data analysis.
- **Trade Policy**
Co-instructed with Prof. Leila Baghdadi
Tunis Business School (TBS)
Undergraduate course covering trade theory, policy instruments, WTO frameworks, and regional integration dynamics.

Awards

- **AI for Trade Global Challenge - 3rd Place**

Awarded by the *Observatory of Economic Complexity (OEC)* and the *Center for Collective Learning at Corvinus University of Budapest* for an innovative project applying artificial intelligence to international trade analysis.

- **WTO Chair PhD Funding**

Supported by the *World Trade Organization Chairs Programme* at ESSECT, DEFI, University of Tunis.

- **TRADE-DSM Project Fellowship**

Project “*Analysis of trade opportunities between South African and Tunisian SMEs: the TRADE-Decision Support Model (DSM) approach*” [n°C120192040000000661900362], under bilateral cooperation between the Government of Tunisia and the Government of South Africa.

- **Bourse d’alternance for Doctoral Students**

Granted by the *Ministère de l’Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche Scientifique, Tunisia* for a 3-month research stay in Paris, France.

- **Top 5 Best Paper Prize for Young Economists**

Awarded at the International Conference organized by LIEI - *COVID-19, GVCs, Finance and Migration*, Hammamet, Tunisia.

Publications and Work in Progress

- Guedidi, I. & Martínez-Zarzoso, I. (2026). *African Upstream Global Value Chain Exposure to the EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism*. [Working Paper]
- Guedidi, I. & Martínez-Zarzoso, I. (2026). *Green Trade Policies and Mediterranean Integration*. [Forthcoming book chapter in *Mediterranean Economies*]
- Guedidi, I. (2026). *Repositioning Tunisia in the AfCFTA Era: Difficulties, Reflections, and Prospects for Progress*. In D. Nfor Yuni, B. Seetanah, & T. Kiriti-Nganga (Eds.), *From Policy to Practice: Challenges and Ways Forward on the Implementation of the AfCFTA* (pp. 79–109). Springer.
<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-032-14051-7>
- Guedidi, I. & Martínez-Zarzoso, I. (2025). *Trade Policy and Embodied CO₂ Emissions in Bilateral Trade*. [Working paper under revision after peer-review]
- Guedidi, I. (2025). *Repositioning Tunisia in the AfCFTA Era: Difficulties, Reflections, and Prospects for Progress*. [Book chapter- Forthcoming]
- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. (2025). *Improving Food Security in Eastern Africa Through Greater Intra-Regional Trade: A Review of the Issues*. *UNECA Policy Report*, Kigali.
<https://www.uneca.org/improving-food-security-in-eastern-africa>
Note: Insaf Guedidi contributed to this report under the lead authorship of Andrew Mold.
- Guedidi, I., Martínez-Zarzoso, I., & Baghdadi, L. (2024). *Global Value Chain Participation and Economic Growth in North Africa: Examining Nonlinearities*. [Working Paper]

- Guedidi, I. (2024). *The Impact of the AfCFTA on Agricultural Trade and Welfare in Africa: General and Partial Equilibrium Effects*. United Nations. Economic Commission for Africa. Subregional Office East Africa (SRO-EA).
<https://repository.uneca.org/publication/>
- Martínez-Zarzoso, I., Baghdadi, L., Guedidi, I., & Voicu, A.M. (2024). *Are Environmental Provisions Reducing Emissions within Global Value Chains?* [Book chapter- Forthcoming]
- Guedidi, I., & Baghdadi, L. (2022). *Exchange Rates and Value Reallocation in Global Value Chains: Evidence from Tunisia*. [Working paper under revision after peer-review]
- Guedidi, I., Baghdadi, L., & Martínez-Zarzoso, I. (2024). *Trade Facilitation in Global Value Chains: Assessing the Role of Maritime Connectivity and Trading Across Borders*. *Journal of International Trade and Economic Development*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09638199.2024.2399597>
- Baghdadi, L., & Guedidi, I. (2021). *Global Value Chains in the Age of Internet: What Opportunities for Africa?* In: *Adapting to the Digital Trade Era: Challenges and Opportunities*. World Trade Organization, pp. 54–69.
WTO Chapter Link
- Guedidi, I., & Baghdadi, L. (2021). *CO₂ Emissions, Environmental Provisions and Global Value Chains in MENA Countries*. *ERF Working Paper*.
ERF Publication Link

Peer Reviewing

- *International Economics, Middle East Development Journal (MEDJ)*, GTAP 28th Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis, the Journal of International Trade and Economic Development (JITED), Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems- Agricultural and Food Economics section, and International Economics.

Conference Talks and Seminars

2026

- XXVIII Applied Economics Meeting – *Exchange Rates and Value Reallocation in Global Value Chains: Evidence from Tunisia* (Jun 11–12) Cádiz, Spain
- INFER Annual Conference 2026 – *The Impact of the AfCFTA on Agricultural Trade and Welfare in Africa: General and Partial Equilibrium Effects* (Jun 4) Bucharest, Romania
- Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)–Policy Center for the New South Discussion – *The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism: A First Assessment from Africa and Europe* (Jun 3) Rabat, Morocco

2025

- XXII INTECO Workshop on Economic Integration – *GVC Participation and Economic Growth* University of Valencia, Spain
- FEMISE 20th Anniversary Conference – *Global Value Chains and Economic Growth in the MENA Region* Barcelona, Spain

- ERF 31st Annual Conference – *GVC Participation and Economic Growth in North Africa (Apr 27–29) Cairo, Egypt*

2024

- AfrEcon 2024 Conference – *Africa in the Global Economy*, German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS) (Dec 5–6) Bonn, Germany
- Seminar presentation on trade policy and GVCs, Universitat Jaume I (Nov 4) Castellón, Spain
- 9th Workshop on International Economics, Institute of International Economics, University of Alicante (Oct 17–18) Alicante, Spain
- Eastern Africa Regional Tourism Meeting and IGAD Sustainable Tourism Master Plan Workshop, UNECA and IGAD (June 17–21) Diani, Kenya

2023

- UNECA Second Joint Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts (ICSOE) (Sep 26–29) Bujumbura, Burundi
- 9th Sharif Policy Research Institute (SPRI) Research Event (online)
- Central Bank of Tunisia – *Impact of Global Value Chains on Tunisia's Economic Development Tunis, Tunisia*
- 2nd Annual Central Bank Conference on Development Economics in MENA, World Bank and Central Bank of Saudi Arabia Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

2022

- WCP Virtual International Conference on Trade and Investment, Doctoral Colloquium on AfCFTA (Online)
- 2nd DEFI-WTO Chair Brown Bag Seminar Tunis, Tunisia

2021

- Graduate Students' International Economics Seminar (GSIE) Paris, France
- 24th Annual GTAP Conference on Global Economic Analysis (virtual) (Online)
- International Conference organized by LIEI – *COVID-19, GVCs, Finance and Migration Tunis, Tunisia*

2020

- ERF Annual Conference – *CO₂ Emissions and GVCs in MENA* Cairo, Egypt
- 1st ISG-ESSECT-TBS Doctoriales Tunis, Tunisia

2019

- Doctoriales of ESSECT – *Economic Sciences Workshop on Trade Facilitation and GVCs Tunis, Tunisia*
- UNCTAD Summer School – *GVC Perspective of Trade Facilitation* Geneva, Switzerland

2018

- Member of Organizing Committee – 4th MENA Trade Workshop, Beit El Hikma Carthage, Tunisia

Languages

Arabic: Native **French:** Excellent **English:** Excellent
German: Basic **Spanish:** Basic (currently learning)

Technical Skills

Statistical Software	Tools & Platforms
Stata	
Python	Tableau, SQL, Git & GitHub
R, MATLAB, EVIEWS (basics)	Zotero & Mendeley, L ^A T _E X (Overleaf, Beamer)
CPLEX, LINGO	Kobo Collect, ProjectLibre, Photoscape

Community Involvement

Social Media Volunteer – TradeExperettes (2025–Present)
Podcast Contributor – VOA Africa Economic News (2023–2024)
Media Coordinator – Louis Braille Library Promotion Org. (2018–2019)
Treasurer – United Colleges Association UCA (2014)

References

- **Inmaculada Martínez-Zarzoso** – Director of the Institute of International Economics, Professor of Economics, Jaume I University (Spain) and University of Göttingen (Germany)
martinei@uji.es
- **Andrew Mold** – Director, Sub-Regional Office for Eastern Africa Chief of Regional Integration and AfCFTA, UNECA
mold@un.org
- **Leila Baghdadi** – Lead Economist at the Office of the Chief Economist for the MENA Region, World Bank
leilabaghdadi@gmail.com
- **Marc-Arthur Diaye** – Director of the Sorbonne School of Economics, Professor, University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
Marc-Arthur.Diaye@univ-paris1.fr
- **Mourad Abdessalem** – Director, Central Bank of Tunisia
MOURAD.ABDESSALEM@bct.gov.tn