

Ahmed Elsayed

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CURRENT POSITIONS

- 2023 – Present Executive Director, J-PAL MENA at the American University in Cairo
- 2022 – Present Associate Professor, the American University in Cairo

APPOINTMENTS HELD

- 2022 – 2023 Director of Research, JPAL MENA at the American University in Cairo
- 2018 – 2022 Deputy Program Director of research area "Labor & Development", IZA – Institute of Labor Economics, Germany
- 2017 – 2022 Deputy Program Director of the special program area "Gender, Growth and Labor Markets in Low Income-Countries (G²LM|LIC)", IZA – Institute of Labor Economics, Germany
- 2017 – 2022 Senior Research Associate, IZA – Institute of Labor Economics, Germany
- 2015 – 2018 IZA Deputy Program Director of research area "Gender & Family"
- 2014 – 2017 Research Associate, IZA
- 2013 – 2014 Non-Resident Research Affiliate, IZA
- 2010 – 2014 PhD Candidate, Research Centre for Education and Labor Market (ROA), Maastricht University School of Business and Economics
- 2008 – 2010 Research Assistant, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) Assistantship Program
- 2005 – 2007 Teaching Assistant, Zagazig University, Egypt

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Econometrics, Development, Labor, Migration, and Experimental Economics

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

2022 – Present Research Fellow, IZA- Institute of Labor Economics, Germany
 2021 – Present Research Fellow, Economic Research Forum, Cairo, Egypt
 2014 – Present Research Fellow, ROA – Maastricht University

EDUCATION

2015 Ph.D. Economics, Maastricht University
 • Research Centre for Education and the Labour Market (ROA)
 • Dissertation Title: “Essays on Working Hours”
 • Dutch Research Council (NWO) Funding

2010 M.Sc. Business Research, Maastricht University
 • UM High Potential Scholarship [2008-2010]
 • School of Business and Economics (SBE)

2005 B.Sc. Commerce, Zagazig University (Egypt)
 • Major: Business Administration, English Section Program
 • Cumulative Grade: “Excellent with Honors”. First place during four consecutive years [2001-2005]

PUBLICATIONS

A) Journal Articles

The Women Empowering Effect of Higher Education, *Journal of Development Economics*, 163, 2023 (with A. Shirshikova)

Economic Development and the Organisation of Labour: Evidence from the Jobs of the World Project, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 2022, 20(6), 2226 - 2270 (with O. Bandiera, A. Heil, and A. Smurra)

Youths, Jobs and the Development of Africa, *Journal of Economic Perspective*, 2022, 36 (1), 81-100 (with O. Bandiera, A. Smurra, and C. Zipfel)

Empowering women in conservative settings: evidence from an intervention in rural Egypt, *Review of Economics of the Household*, 2022, 20, 1287–1322 (with S. Namoro and R. Roushdy)

Migration Shocks and Housing: Short-Run Impact of the Syrian Refugee Crisis in Jordan, *Journal of Housing Economics*, 53, 2021, 101761 (with I. Alhawarin and R. Assaad)

Global Terror, Well-Being and Political Attitudes, *European Economic Review*, 2020, (123) 103394 (with A. Akay, and O. Bargain)

Political Change and Informality: Evidence from the Arab Spring, *Economics of Transition*, 2019, 27(1), 31-66 (with J. Wahba)

Gradual Retirement, Financial Incentives, and Labor Supply of Older Workers: Evidence from a Stated Preference Analysis, *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 2018, 150, 277-294 (with A. de Grip, D. Fouarge, and R. Montizaan)

Terrorism and the Integration of Muslim Immigrants, *Journal of Population Economics*, 2018, 31(1), 45-67 (with A. de Grip)

Computer Use, Job Tasks, and the Part-Time Pay Penalty, *British Journal of Industrial Relations*, 2017, 55(1), 58-82 (with A. de Grip and D. Fouarge)

B) Books

Labour Markets in Low-Income Countries: Challenges and Opportunities (with D. Lam), Oxford: Oxford University Press, in print, November 2021

C) Datasets

Jobs of the World Database (with O. Bandiera), September 2021

D) Working Papers

Overcoming Youth Unemployment in Egypt: Randomized Evaluations Showcase the Promise of Active Labor Market Programs (with A. Osman and K. Hempel), 2018

Less School (Costs), More (Female) Education? Lessons from Egypt Reducing Years of Compulsory Schooling, IZA DP No. 13402 (with O. Marie)

Terrorism, Mental Health, Risky Behaviors and Human Capital: Evidence from Iraq, ERF WP No. 1440

E) Book Chapters, Policy Briefs, Media & Other Publications

Economic Development and the Organisation of Labour, (with O. Bandiera, A. Heil, and A. Smurra), VoxDev Articles, Oct. 2023

Egyptian Women in the Labor Market, Alternative Policy Solutions Podcast, August 2023

Expanding Higher Education Empowered Women in Egypt, VoxDevTalk interview, June 2023

Jobs of the World Database: A New Dataset on Labour Markets of Developing Countries, (with O. Bandiera), G²LM|LIC Policy Brief 41, 2021

Labour Market Effects of COVID-19 in Developing Countries and Policy Response, (with O. Bandiera), G²LM|LIC Synthesis Paper 12, 2021

Covid19 and the Labor Markets: Lessons, Challenges, and Opportunities. *Al-Ahram Democracy* (in Arabic), 79, 55-60. July 2020

Housing and Living Conditions in Jordan, in *The Jordanian Labor Market Between Fragility and Resilience*, Caroline Krafft and Ragui Assaad (Eds.) Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019.

Empowering Young Women through Business and Vocational Training: Evidence from Rural Upper Egypt (with R. Roushdy), IFAD/ILO Impact Brief Series 10, 2018.

Informality during Political Turmoil: Evidence from the Arab Spring (with J. Wahba), the Forum Policy Portal, Feb. 2018

Policy report on “Behavioral Economics and Saudization” for the World Bank and Ministry of Labor of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, (with J. Feld), March 2012

WORK IN PROGRESS

Impacts of Small-Scale Biogas Technology on Energy Access in Egypt: Field Experiment (with O. Deschenes, N. Pestel, M. Witte, and S. Atallah)

Job Counseling and Labor Market Outcomes: Field Experiment (with A. Osman)

Jobs, Training, and Irregular Migration: Field Experiment (with B. Crépon, D. Abdel Fattah, and J. Gazeaud)

Labor Supply Adjustments to Work-Related Stress (with T. Dohmen)

RESEARCH GRANTS (to J-PAL MENA)

Community Jameel / J-PAL MENA Scholars Fellowship, MIT (\$100,000)

360 Degree Edutainment Campaign and its impact on the target groups in Egypt, UNFPA (\$150,000)

Strengthening the Climate Change Adaptation Agenda in MENA, CECG (\$100,000)

Implementation of the Government Partnerships, MIT (\$1M)

Global Evidence for Egypt Spotlight Seminar Series III: A collaboration between UNICEF and J-PAL MENA at AUC, UNICEF (EGP 4.3M)

Research Funding by Sawiris Foundation on Subsidized Finances in Egypt, Sawiris Foundation (EGP M11.9)

A Big-Push Poverty Alleviation Program Implemented in Rural Egypt, the World Bank (\$70,000)

Designing Microfinance Products to Encourage Firm Growth, CEPR (GBP 245,000)

Air and Water Lab, Community Jameel (\$1.05M)

IQRA Evaluation Pilot Program, Sheikh Saud Bin Sakr Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research, (\$32,000)

Early Childhood Development and Women Economic Empowerment, World Bank (\$49,700)

Impact evaluation of a Training, Career Coaching, and Job Matching Program in Jordan, USAID Jordan (\$239,000)

South-South Learning Trip Indonesia-Egypt, Community Jameel (\$20,300)

Half-Cost Graduation Program in Egypt - Evaluation of a long-term follow-up, Social Protection Initiative, J-PAL (\$151,700)

Humanitarian Action Research Incubator in Cairo, J-PAL Europe/Paris School of Economics (EUR 18,000)

Migration in the Face of Climate Change Assessing the Potential of Ultra-Poor Graduation Programs, London School of Economics (\$62,700)

Advanced Course on Evaluating Social Programs for Researchers in the MENA Region, IZA G2LM-LIC Program (EUR 66,000)

The 2024 Jobs and Development Conference in Cairo, Egypt, several donors: GIZ, ILO, HKUST IEMS, World Bank, UNU-WIDER, IBS (\$119,000)

Impact Evaluation of multifaceted programs on combating root causes of irregular migration, joint with B. Crépon, D. Abdel Fattah, and J. Gazeaud, EU funding (\$350,000) , EIL funding (\$130,000)

Impact Evaluation on the Indirect Effects of nurses training, joint with Marc Witte, Selim Gulesci, Sawiris Foundation for Social Development (\$200,000)

Pilot grant on biogas technology adoption, joint with Samer Atallah, Nico Pestel, Marc Witte, Olivier Deschenes, K-CAI/ JPAL (\$70,000)

Research grant for the construction of the Jobs of the World Database, IZA/FCDO G²LM|LIC initiative 2019-2022, Joint with Oriana Bandiera (€240,000)

Impact Evaluation of the NEQDAR Program for Women Empowerment in Egypt, ILO/Taqeem, 2016-2017 (\$50,000)

RCT on the Impact of Counseling on Youth Employment, World Bank/ EU Emergency Employment Investment Project (EEIP) 2015-2018, Joint with Adam Osman (\$250,000)

AWARDS AND HONORS

2010 – 2014	Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek/ Dutch Research Council (NWO) PhD funding
2008 – 2010	UM High Potential Scholarship, Maastricht University
2006	Honor by President of Egypt, top graduates of Egyptian universities
2004	Traveling grant to Germany, Ministry of Youth, Egypt

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2022 – Present	Economics of Poverty Alleviation, Advanced Topics in Economics, AUC school of Business
2017 – 2022	IZA/DFID Short Course on Program Evaluation, IZA
2017 – 2022	Gender Inequality and Public Policies, German Development Institute
2010 – 2014	Labor Economics (Master course), Maastricht University

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP SCIENTIFIC CO-ORGANIZATION

2024	<p>Second Annual EIL Evaluating Social Programs Course, Cairo</p> <p>South-South Learning Trip for Egypt's high-level government officials to Indonesian Government in Jakarta</p> <p>LEID Workshop for the Climate Change Information Center, Renewable Energy, and Expert Systems</p> <p>Global Evidence for Egypt (GE4E) Spotlight Seminar on Digital Learning</p> <p>Humanitarian Action Research Incubator Workshop</p> <p>2024 Jobs and Development Conference</p> <p>IZA/J-PAL/UNICEF Advanced Research-Focused ESP Course and Conference</p> <p>Bab Amal Targeting Ultra-Poor Dissemination Workshop</p>
2023	<p>G²LM LIC & BREAD Conference on Development Economics, Nairobi</p> <p>Partnership Development for Climate Adaptation in Arab States Conference, Cairo</p> <p>Evidence on Local Development in Egypt Conference, Cairo</p> <p>Evaluating Social Programs targeting NGOs, Cairo</p> <p>J-PAL@20 Ramadan Iftar, Cairo</p> <p>Global Evidence for Egypt Conference: Using Evidence to Inform Decision-Making, Cairo</p> <p>First Annual EIL Evaluating Social Programs Course, Cairo</p>
2022	<p>5th IZA/World Bank/NJD/WIDER Jobs and Development Conference, Cape Town</p> <p>IZA/FCDO G²LM LIC - Jobs of the World Project Launch Workshop, London</p> <p>IZA/FCDO Book Launch "Labour Markets in Low-Income Countries: Challenges and Opportunities"</p>
2021	6th IZA/FCDO G ² LM-LIC Research Conference: New Research on Labor Markets in Low-Income Countries, Online

- IZA/FCDO ONLINE Short Course on Research Skills for South Asia, Online
4th IZA/World Bank/NJD/WIDER Jobs and Development Conference: Building Better Jobs for the Post-Covid19 Era, Online
- 2020** IZA/FCDO ONLINE Short Course on Research Skills for Sub-Saharan Africa, Online
5th IZA/FCDO G²LM-LIC Research Conference: New Research on Labor Markets in Low-Income Countries, Online
3rd IZA/WB/NJD/WIDER Conference on Jobs and Development Conference, Online
- 2019** Labor Markets in South Asia: Evidence and Policy Lessons, Kathmandu, Nepal
Jobs, Gender and Poverty - IZA/DFID G²LM|LIC Launch Workshop, LSE, London
2nd IZA/World Bank/NJD Conference on Jobs and Development: Improving Jobs Outcomes in Developing Countries, WB, Washington DC
IZA 3rd Workshop on Gender and Family Economics, Viña del Mar, Chile
- 2018** Labor Markets in Eastern Africa: Evidence and Policy Lesson, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
GLM|LIC Conference on Labor in Low-Income Countries, Michigan
GLM|LIC session on Labor Market Policies in Developing countries in 1st IZA/World Bank/NJD Conference on Jobs and Development, Bogota, Colombia
IZA 2nd Workshop on Gender Economics, Barnard College, New York
- 2017** IZA 1st Workshop Gender & Family Economics, Bonn

SELECTED CONFERENCE AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2024** High Level Policy Roundtable on Impact Evaluations (Kuala Lumpur)/ Summer Workshop on the Economics of Inter-Group Relations and Integration (London) / Egypt Labor Market Panel Survey 2023 - First Drafts Discussion Workshop (Online) / Bena Project Evidence Dissemination Workshop (Assiut) / Lecture in Assiut University on Impact Evaluations (Assiut) / COP29 (Baku) / World Urban Forum (Cairo) / 2 World Bank Roundtable Discussions with Development Experts (Cairo) / IFPRI- Food Bank RCT Dissemination Workshop (Cairo) / UNU Wider Annual Conference

(Maputo)

- 2023** WB Jobs Flagship Seminar Series (Online)/ Women's Employment Amid Austerity: A Widening Gap, Alternative Policy Solutions (Cairo) / Forecasting Healthy Futures Summit (Abu Dhabi) / Bridging Evidence and Policy (BEP) Seminar Series Launch Event: "Impact Evaluation of Social Protection Programs" (Cairo) / First Regional Meeting of Social Development Banks (Sharm El Sheikh) / Technical Workshop with the Knowledge to Policy Center at the American University of Beirut (Beirut) / Arab Foundations Forum (Cairo) / Bridging Evidence and Policy (BEP) Seminar Series (Cairo) / ECES Seminar Series (Cairo)
- 2022** WB-MENA Seminar Series (online) / German Development conference (Stuttgart) / Society of Labor Economists Meeting – SOLE (Minneapolis) / IZA/FCDO G²LM|LIC - Jobs of the World Project Launch (London)
- 2021** CSAE Conference (online)/ Sawiris Foundation for Social Development Webinar/ JPAL MENA Future of work in Jordan post-Covid-19 Webinar / 25th Spring Meeting for young Economists (online)/ FCDO Webinar of Data for Development/ European Society for Population Economics (ESPE) annual conference (online) / ERF Panel Discussion on the Future of Work (online)
- 2020** ASSA 2020 Annual Meeting (San Diego) / GLAD Research Seminar (Gottingen & DENEb)/ ERF annual conference (online)/ IZA/WB/NJD/WIDER Conference (online)/ IZA-ECONtribute Human Capital Workshop (online)
- 2019** CSAE Conference (Oxford) / IZA/HSE Workshop on Skills and Preferences in Post-transition Economies (St. Petersburg)/ University of Bamberg
- 2018** Bielefeld University/ University of Sheffield/ University of Reading/ Maastricht University/ Central Bank of Turkey (Antalya)/ Labor Markets in East Africa Conference (Addis Ababa)/ IZA Workshop on education (Bonn)
- 2017** IZA Migration Meeting (Bonn)/ ERF Conference (Amman)/ IZA Labor & Development Workshop (Bonn)/ CMR-IZA Workshop (Cologne)/ ILO Seminar (Geneva)/ ERF Refugees Workshop (Cairo)
- 2016** EALE (Ghent) / IZA, OECD, World Bank, UCW Workshop (Rome)
- 2015** ERF Conference (Tunisia) / LEER Workshop (Leuven)/ LSE Labour

- Seminar (London)/SOLE/EALE Conference (Montreal)/ Workshop on Labor Market Dynamics in MENA (Cairo)
- 2014** EALE Conference (Ljubljana)/ DUHR Seminar (Maastricht)
- 2013** ERF Conference (Kuwait)/Migration, Global Development, New Frontiers Conference (UCL)/ IZA Summer School (Buch-Ammersee, Germany)
- 2012** BIBB/IAB Workshop (Bonn)/ DUHR Seminar (Maastricht)/ Conference Inequalities, Skills, and Globalization (Lille, France)
- 2011** INSCOPE Conference (Twente University)/ Workshop on Skills over the Life Cycle (Maastricht)

LANGUAGES

Arabic (Native), English (Fluent), Dutch (Good), German (Good)