

**MENA Gender and Economics Symposium:
Translating Research into Action
Symposium Schedule
November 17-20, 2009**

Tuesday, November 17

7:30 – 8:30 am Breakfast (Kennedy School)

8:30 am – 5:30 pm **Workshop on Leadership and Advocacy Tools** *Dr. Marshall Ganz*

Note: Only for those registered for workshop

12:15 -- 1:00pm

Lunch

Guest Speaker: **Dr. Graciela Chichilnsky** -- UNESCO Professor of Mathematics and Economics, Columbia University

“Explaining the Gender Gap and its Implications for Development”

Dinner—Free Program

Wednesday, November 18

7:30 – 8:30 am Breakfast (Kennedy School)

8:30 am – 6:00 pm **Workshop on Leadership and Advocacy Tools** – *Dr. Marshall Ganz*

Note: Only for those registered for workshop

Dinner—Free Program

Thursday, November 19

Note: All sessions will be held in Wiener Auditorium and all meals in Nye ABC, unless otherwise noted.

8:00 – 9:00 am Registration and Breakfast (at Kennedy School)

9:00 – 9:45 am

Welcome and Opening Session

*Hilary Rantisi, Director, Middle East Initiative, Harvard Kennedy School
Dr. Jorge Dominguez, Vice Provost for International Affairs, Harvard University
Dr. Ismail Serageldin, Director, Library of Alexandria
Professor Gary Becker, American Economist and Nobel Laureate (By video)
Dr. Shamsad Akhtar, Vice President, Middle East and North Africa Region, The World Bank
Dr. Ritva Reinikka, Director, Middle East and North Africa Region, The World Bank (by video)
Dr. Soukeina Bouraoui, Executive Director, Center for Arab Women Training and Research*

10:00 – 10:45 am

Session 1: Health

Chair: Guity Nashat, University of Illinois at Chicago, and GERPA Advisory Committee

Djavad Salehi Isfahani (Department of Economics, Virginia Tech): **“Family planning and rural fertility in Iran: a study in program evaluation.”**

Farag Abdel Moneim (The Egyptian Society for Population Studies and Reproductive Health): **“Health-sector Reform and Women’s Equitable Access to Reproductive Health Services”**

Discussant: Jennifer Olmsted (Drew College, New York)

10:45 – 11:00 am

Break

11:00 – 11:45 am

Session 2: Education and Intra-household Allocation

Chair: Taieb Hafsi, Universite de Montreal, and GERPA Advisory Committee

Rania Rochdi (Population Council, Cairo): **Intrahousehold Resource Allocation in Egypt: Effect of Power Distribution within the Household on Child Work and Schooling”**

Asma El Badawy (Mc Master University): **“Analysis of Educational Gender Inequalities in Egypt Using ELMPS 06: A Proposal.”**

Discussant : Bahja Jawad Aljishi, Member of the Shura Council and Chairperson of the Services Committee in the Council, Member of the Supreme Council for Women, Bahrain

11:45 – 12:30 pm

Session 3: Entrepreneurship

Chair: Mona Khalaf, Lebanese American University, and GERPA Advisory Committee

Ilina Srour (Consultation and Research Institute, Lebanon): **“Women Entrepreneurs in the MENA Region: Obstacles, Potential, and Prospects: the Case of Lebanon.”**

Taieb Hafsi (Universite de Montreal): **“Entrepreneurs and Wage Earners in Algeria: a Bivariate Probit Application by Gender and by Sector of Activity.”**

Discussant: Haifa Abu Ghazala, Senator to the Jordanian Upper House of Parliament and General Secretary to the Family council for Family Affairs.

12:30 – 1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Session 4: Poverty and Government Policy

Chair: Mouna Cherkaoui, University Mohamed V, Morocco and GERPA Advisory Committee

Khalid Sulaiman (Amman Center for Human Rights Studies) and Majd Hamad (King Hussein Bin Talal Institution, Jordan): “**Anti-poverty Policies in Palestine, Jordan, Egypt, and Morocco: An Assessment Study of Small Enterprise Programs from a Gender Perspective.**”

Erwin Corong (Monash University): “**Gender-sensitive Fiscal Policy for Poverty Reduction in Developing Countries: A Comparative Analysis of Algeria, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia.**”

Saleh Al-Kafri (Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics): “**The Role of Government Expenditure and Aid Programs to Empower Women-headed Households in the Palestinian Territory and Refugee Camps in Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon.**”

Discussant: Mohamed Bakir, Statistician/ Independent Consultant, Iraq

2:30 – 3:15 pm

Session 5 : Time Use and Income Distribution

Chair: Golnar Mehran, al-Zahra University, Iran and GERPA Advisory Committee

Mirette Azizi (Assiut University): “**Anachronism: Developing Strategies to Measure Time Use in Egyptian Households without Clocks.**”

Rana Hendy (Universite Paris I, France) and Chahir Zaki (Universite Paris I, France): “**Rethinking the distributional effects of Trade Liberalization in Egypt: A Microsimulation Ananlysis**”

Discussant: Rashida Hamadani, Chairperson of the Women's National Committee, Yemen

3:15 – 3:30 pm

Break

3:30 – 4:15 pm

Session 6: Migration

Chair: Rahma Bourquia, President of Universite Mohamed V, Morocco and GERPA Steering Committee

Mehmet Tossun (University of Nevada at Reno) and Sami Zouari (Institut Supérieur de Gestion Industrielle de Sfax): “**Migration, Gender, and Attitudes: A Comparative Study of Turkish Migrants in Germany.**”

Asma Elbadawy (McMaster University) and Rania Roshdi (Population Council, Egypt): “**Impact of Migration on Women and Children in Egypt.**”

Discussant: Noha Bayoumi, Member of the Lebanese Association of Women Researchers.

4:15 – 4:45 pm

Session 7: Concluding Remarks and Next Steps

Dr. Mustapha Nabli (*Former Chief Economist and Director of the MENA region, current Senior Advisor to the Chief Economist of the World Bank and GERPA Steering Committee*).

Overall summary of the conference, decisions by the SC/AC for next GERPA activities.

5:00 – 6:30 pm

Additional Harvard University Middle East Initiative Event – Open to the Public

Lecture by Dr. Ismail Serageldin, *Director, Library of Alexandria and Chair of the GERPA Steering Committee*

“Knowledge Beyond Books: the Case of the New Library of Alexandria”

(Please see flyer for additional details.)

7:15 pm

Transportation to dinner at Harvard Faculty Club

7:30 – 9:00 pm

Official Dinner with address by *Ambassador Nicholas Burns* and *Dr. Ismail Serageldin*

Friday, November 20

8:00 –9:00 am Breakfast

9:00 – 10:30 am **Translating Research into Action**

Moderator: Sherine Jayawickrama, Domain Manager, Humanitarian NGOs, Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations, HKS

Kimberly Pfeifer, Director of Research, Oxfam America

Krista Jacobs, Economist, International Center for Research on Women

10:30 – 10:45 am Break

10:45 – 12:30 pm **Roundtables with respective groups (ANGED, PGN and GERPA)**

ANGED and GERPA (Room Nye A)

Chair: Soukeina Bouraoui

Paper Presented:

Hanan Heikal, Practice Leader for Diversity and Inclusion, Proctor & Gamble: “The MENA Factor - Myth or Reality for Women in P&G?”

Followed by a Roundtable discussion of the priority areas for research, advocacy, and policy making for ANGED-GERPA collaboration

Moderated by Dominique Lallement, Independent Evaluator for GERPA

PGN and GERPA(Room Nye BC)

Chair: Haleh Esfandiari, Director Woodrow Wilson Center

Papers presented:

1) Parassto Shajari, Hadi S. Esfahani: *Education and the Labor Force Participation of Women in Iran*

2) Jennifer Olmsted: *Gender and Globalization: The Iranian Experience*

3) Hanieh Zaie: *Strengthening Civil Society in Iran Via Women’s Press and Women’s NGOs*

4) Nancy Calleger: *Complexities of Microfinance in Afghanistan*

5)-- Negar Gobadi: *Health Houses, Total Fertility Rate and Female Participation in Rural Iran*

Discussants: Farzaneh Rudi, Djamshid Assadi, Fatemeh Moghadam,

12:30 – 1:30 pm **Lunch (Nye ABC)**

Guest Speaker: Anoucheh Ansari, Founder of PRODEA and first female private space explorer and first astronaut of Iranian descent.

“Imagine, inspire, be the change”

1:30 – 3:00 pm **Continuation of Roundtables**

Report from “behind the scene”by Amel Elwida (journalist al-Ahram newspaper)

ANGED Page on CAWTAR Website

Launch of the ANGED Awards

PGN business and plans

Chair: Nadereh Chamlou

Open tribune – 5 minute each

PGN business – Roksana Bahramitash

PGN Website – Pari Esfandiari

Launch of PGN Awards

3:00 – 3:30 pm **Concluding Remarks (Nye ABC)**

*Soukeina Bouraoui -- CAWTAR
Nadereh Chamlou – The World Bank*