

CURRICULUM VITAE

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Name: Ahmad SHIKH EBID

Senior Economist and M&E Expert

Country of nationality: Syrian Arab Republic

Date of birth: 19-Oct-1969

Gender: Male

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EMPLOYMENT DETAILS (21 years of experience)

Years	Position, organization, & country
Oct-2021 to Oct-2022	Economic Affairs Officer, P4 United Nations' Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) Lebanon <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Updated the database, conducted socioeconomic impact assessment of the conflict, sanctions, and COVID-19 on Syria.• Organized and conducted several substantive reviews for the reports: 1) the Strategic Policy Alternative Framework, 2) The benefit of peace in Syria for neighboring countries, 3) the human capital loss for Syria during the conflict.• For the study on the impact of sanctions on Syria I contributed to literature review, data mapping and collections, conducting 8 semi-structured interviews, and reviewing and clearing the draft work.• Established a working group on economic recovery and another one on social protection in Syria with 7 Syrian experts for each group.• Drafted guiding principles for economic recovery in Syria using value chain analysis approach.
Jan-2021 to Oct-2021	Economic Affairs Officer, P4 United Nations Volunteer, ESCWA Lebanon <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewed the draft background papers of the SPAF report as well as the main report and provided feedback to the authors.• Organized and moderated 6 expert group meetings attended by 15 to 35 experts and national and international stakeholders to discuss various aspects of the SPAF report.• Drafted the concept note for Syria conflict monitor with annotated outline and another one for assessing the benefits of peace in Syria for its neighboring countries.
Apr-2020 to Sep-2020	Senior Economist United Nations' Development Programme Syria <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Led a local team of 3 senior economic consultants in conducting a socioeconomic impact assessment of COVID-19 in Syria in coordination with the UN country team (UNCT) in Syria. Given the short time horizon between the assessment exercise and the breakout of COVID-19 crisis, the assessment was based primary data collection at the macro economy; the economic

sectors; micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs); and households levels and was done using Key Informants Interviews, and surveys. I also contributed to the updated version of this report for 2021 by full two sections on the SEIA on macroeconomy and economic sectors.

Oct-2019 to Dec-2020 Economic Affairs Expert

UN Economic and Social Commission for Western (ESCWA)

Lebanon

- Updated the socioeconomic impact (including the physical capital damage) assessment of the Syrian conflict on the Syria's macroeconomic indicators and presented the findings in an expert group meeting at ESCWA.
- Drafted a concept note and the research plan for preparing the second issue of the Strategic Policy Alternative Framework (SPAF II) and commissioned and supervised 10 background papers on selected themes to identify the relevant policy options for post conflict recovery.

Jun-2019 to Aug-2019 Senior Economist

UN Economic and Social Commission for Western (ESCWA)

Lebanon

Drafted a paper that discuss the indigenous drivers for economic recovery (IDER) in post-conflict Syria as follows:

- Explained the IDER in a post-conflict setting, the relevant actors, and the main policy considerations.
- Explored the main characteristics of post-agreement Syria and the policy options available.
- Explored what IDERs Syria may have in a post-agreement situation.
- Provided policy recommendations on how the defined IDER could be fostered towards accelerating economic recovery through inclusive growth.

Feb-2018 to Nov-2018 Team Leader-Reconstruction and Economic Recovery

UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Lebanon

- Provided regular updates on the macroeconomic development and the cost of the conflict in Syria.
- Organized and lead several expert group meetings (EGMs) to validate findings and evaluate the policy options for post-conflict reconstruction and economic recovery in Syria.
- Drafted the economic section in the Strategic Policy Alternatives Framework Synopsis; drafted press releases for the media; worked with the Advocacy and Networking Unit on building partnerships with Syrian and international stakeholders
- Co-authored the report "Syria at War: Eight Years On" and coordinated its data collection and validation, reviewed other contributors work and held the relevant EGMs.

December 2017

Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant

The United Nations' Population Fund for Population Affairs (UNFPA)

Syria

- Delivered the training as to 32 staff members. As such, I provided participants with a comprehensive understanding of the theory of change highlighting its importance for building the project's logical model.
- Enabled participants from using results-based management tools in conducting situation analysis, identifying the priority issues, mapping of causes and effects tree, setting of the targets tree, analyzing the alternative solutions, developing the targets and indicators, clarifying the assumptions

and risks, and formulating the logical framework matrix, planning for M&E, preparing result-based evaluation reports, activating the learning cycle using M&E outputs in reforming and modifying the projects and improving the planning process for future projects.

Feb-2017 to Nov-2017 Reconstruction and Economic Recovery Team

UN Economic and Social Committee for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Lebanon

- Provided regular updates on the socioeconomic impact assessment of the conflict in Syria.
- Estimated the macroeconomic cost of the conflict in Syria, projected the cost and time span for the catch-scenarios of GDP to pre-conflict level and estimated the financial gap required and its sources of funding. I provided resource mobilization proposals to bridge the funding gaps and analyzed the implications of funding options on public finance, debt, and the external accounts. I supported policies for nurturing the indigenous drivers for economic recovery (the productive capacities that survived the conflict) to accelerate job creation, income generation, and growth.

Sep-2016 to Sep-2016 Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant

Syrian Commission for Family Affairs and Population (CFAP)

Syria

- Delivered the training as specified where it included energizer exercise (Egg drop exercise), presentation, and practical exercises and case studies on the RBM cycle (planning, implementation and evaluation)
- The training was attended by 15 participants and lasted for four days between 17-20 September 2016.

Feb-2015 to Jun 2016 Macro-Economy Enabling Vehicle Coordinator

United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

Lebanon

- Built data base for macroeconomic indicators and bridged data gaps and had them checked within a consistency framework.
- Conducted situation analysis for the Syrian economy between 2000-2016 including estimating the total capital destruction and GDP loss for Syria due to the ongoing conflict since early 2011.
- Projected the macroeconomic framework for post-conflict Syrian economy using IMF's financial programming technique and estimated the funding needs and the financing gap for post conflict reconstruction.
- Contributed to The Strategic Policy Alternative Framework (SPAF) by 2 chapters: the socioeconomic implications of the conflict, and the Development priorities and the macroeconomic framework, which includes policy recommendations for Syria's post conflict recovery.

Apr-2014 to Sep-2014 Senior Evaluator, Macroeconomist

ECORYS Consulting

Lebanon

- Conducted evaluation case study to evaluate METAC's technical assistance to Lebanon in its focus areas that are banking supervision, public financial management, macroeconomic statistics, and revenue administration.
- Conducted overall coordination of and arrangements for the fieldwork in the country, prepared the evaluation questions/issues for interviewing METAC's beneficiary organizations (25 Lebanese institutions and departments) in Beirut, and synthesized findings and conclusions (using Paris Declaration on

Aid Effectiveness criteria that are relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability)

- Contributed to drafting the main evaluation report. The study is available on: http://www.imfmetac.org/Upload/file_770_80.pdf

Oct-2011 to Sep-2013 Technical Assistance Advisor

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Yemen

- Drafted a roadmap for establishing a Macro-fiscal Policy Analysis Unit at the Yemeni Ministry of Finance (MoF) and for building the relevant technical and institutional capacity including defining the training, HR and logistic requirements.
- Implemented a capacity building scheme on macroeconomic analysis, forecasting and financial programming to MoF's core macroeconomic team (10 employees).
- Supported the implementation of the IMF recommendations in the treasury area (budget execution and reporting).
- Drafted the organizational structure of the envisaged Treasury Department within MoF.
- Established PFM Coordination Group that included members from both the PFM-related development partners' and government's agencies in Yemen to coordinate PFM reforms.

4 & 11 Feb-2018

Public Policy Expert (Teaching)

8 & 15 Jan-2017

The National Institute for Public Administration (INA)

27 July, 2015

Syria

12 Oct-2014

31 Oct.- 30 Nov-2012 training for the 2nd-year students on preparing Public Policy using the logical framework-based theory of change. The 40 Students were divided into 5 groups and prepared case studies that were presented and discussed with the presence of the INA's dean and Senior staff. **28 July-2011** 12 October 2014 & July 2015

- 4 & 11 February 2018 and 8 & 15 January, 2017: Delivered a Two-day training for the 2nd-year students on preparing Public Policy using the logical framework-based theory of change. The 40 Students were divided into 5 groups and prepared case studies that were presented and discussed with the presence of the INA's dean and Senior staff.
- 27 July, 2015 and 12 October, 2014: Delivered a full-day training for the first-year students on preparing Public Policy using the logical framework-based theory of change.
- 31 October- 30 November, 2012 and 26-28 July, 2011: Delivered four lectures each year for the first-year students on the monitoring and evaluation for development results methodologies and their utilization in planning, monitoring, and evaluating public policies.

Aug-2008 to Sep-2011 Local Development Planning and Project Officer

United Nation Development Programme (UNDP)

Syria

- Led the preparation of the MDGs aligned local development plans for the Syrian governorates in cooperation with the local administrations. This work included providing policy choices to improve budget stance by diversifying the Syrian economy by boosting non-oil GDP to enhance non-oil public revenue
- Drafted the methodology for local development plans and delivered training to the relevant local administrations' staff.
- Drafted a concept note on the result-based monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for PICC in Syria.
- Coordinated the activities of the project's working teams on preparing the Syrian Development Vision for 2020.

Mar-2008 to Jul-2008 Economist

**The Syrian Consulting Bureau for Development and Investment (SCBDI)
Syria**

- Monitored, analyzed and projected the macroeconomic developments of the Syrian economy and the development of the business environment and legal framework in Syria in the process of conducting feasibility studies for large-scale private sectors investments in the country. As such, I contributed to the feasibility studies of three commercial banks, two insurance companies, and one large-scale touristic project.

**Jul-2006 to Dec-2007 Economist, Member in the Economic Technical Team
Office of the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs
Syria**

- Provided policy advice on monetary and financial issues and coordinated several reform activities in the monetary & financial sector. This included contributing to the work on rationalizing subsidies on oil derivative optimize public expenditure
- coordinated the process of launching the establishment of payment and settlement system in Syria; settling the foreign exchange holdings issue between the Central Bank of Syria and the Commercial Bank of Syria, and on defining the different roles of MoF and CBS in supervising public banks.
- I was a member in committee for financing large development projects: I contributed to providing financial plans for constructing new wheat silos and for importing public transport vehicles.

**Jan-2005 to Jun-2006 Economist, Head of the Research Division
Central Bank of Syria
Syria**

- provided periodical situational analysis reports to the Money and Credit Council of the Central Bank on the monetary, financial and real economic sectors of the Syrian economy and the regional and international financial markets
- Authored a paper on the Monetary Sector's Indicators in Syria and had it published in the "Syrian Economic Trends Bulletin" (the Institutional and Sector Modernization Facility (ISMF) by the European Union)
- Supervised the establishment of the Central Bank's website and, later, I became the editor of the website
- Served as the counterpart of the international financial organization, especially the International Monetary Fund during their annual consultation missions.

**May-2001 to Sep2003 Banking Supervisor
Central Bank of Syria
Syria**

- Conducted on-site inspection and off-site monitoring on the newly licensed private banks in Syria and the already existing public commercial and specialized banks in terms of capital adequacy, asset quality, management, earning, liquidity and system and control, etc.
- Coordinated many training programmes on banking supervision with the IMF, Central Bank of France, the Arab Academy for Finance and Banking Sciences, etc. the targeted group of those training were the new staff for the Banking Supervision Department at the Central Bank of Syria.

**Nov-1998 to
May2001 Economist
Central Bank of Syria
Syria**

- Regularly reported to the Central Banks's Board of Directors on the monetary and exchange rate developments in Syria and neighboring countries, and in international financial markets.
- Produced periodical reports on the Syrian economy and the region and prepared occasional reports on the economic and financial developments in the neighboring countries.
- Analyzed and reported on the Arab economic integration issues.
- Cooperated with the IMF staff during their annual article IV consultation missions for several years.

EDUCATION

Degrees

<u>Year</u>	<u>Degree, academic institution, and country</u>
20-Jun-2007 to 31-Aug-2007	PhD <u>Preparatory</u> Course in Economics Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education-Economic Institute (CERGE-EI), Prague, Czech Republic
May-2005	Masters of Science (MSc.) in International Economics, Banking and Finance Cardiff University, United Kingdom Thesis: Estimating the Demand for Money Function in Syria
October 1997	Post Graduate Diploma in International Economic Relations Damascus University, Syrian Arab Republic
October 1992	Bachelor Degree in Economics and Planning Damascus University, Syrian Arab Republic

Scholarships

July- August 2007	Preparatory course for PhD: Charles University's Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education-Economic Institute (CERGE-EI), Prague, Czech Republic.
2003-2004	The British Chevening Scholarship for the year 2003-2004 for MSc. Degree.

PUBLICATIONS

- Zouhair Mrabet, Mouyad Alsamara, Karim Mimouni & Ahmad Shikh Ebid (2023) Can government expenditure help reconstruct the Syrian economy in the post-conflict period? evidence from the SVAR and nonlinear ARDL models, Applied Economics, DOI: 10.1080/00036846.2023.2165615. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00036846.2023.2165615>
- United Nations (2022, forthcoming soon); Syria 2021: Socio-Economic Impact Assessment, Damascus, Syria.
- Alsamara, Mouyad; Mrabet, Zouhair; Shikh Ebid, Ahmad (2020), Scenario-Based Forecast for Post Conflict's Growth in Syria, Economic Research Forum. <https://erf.org.eg/publications/scenario-basedforecast-for-post-conflicts-growth-in-syria/?tab=undefined&c=undefined>
- K. Abu-Ismaïl, B. Al-Kiswani, S. Araji, O. Dahi, R. Hinnebusch, O. Imady, M. Nehme, and A. Shikh Ebid, Syria at War: Eight Years On, UN ESCWA (2020), <http://www.unescwa.org/publications/syriawar-eight-years>
- ESCWA (2017), The Strategic Policy Alternatives Framework, <https://www.unescwa.org/node/14714> (Authored ch. 7 and nexus 7 of ch. 6). <https://nafsprogramme.info/ar/technical-dialogue/mlkhs-ataralsyasat-albdylt-alastratyjyt.html>

- K. Abu-Ismaïl et al. (with important contributions from A. Shikh Ebid). "Syria at War: Five Years On", <http://www.unescwa.org/publications/syria-war-five-years> ESCWA (2016),
- Certan, Corina; August, Chris; Shikh Ebid; Ahmad (2014). Independent External Evaluation of IMF Middle East Technical Assistance Center (METAC) in Beirut. <https://www.imfmetac.org/content/dam/METAC/METAC%20MTE%202014%20final%20report%20submitted.pdf>
- 2006 with the EU's Institutional and Sector Modernization Facility: Shikh Ebid, Ahmad (2006), A Review of Syrian Economy, The Monetary Sector, ISMF Programme, European Union, Syria.

WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

Major Professional workshops attended

Date	Theme and institution	Country
Jun 19–July 18, 2006	"Development Planning Strategies and Administration Reform" Innovation Associates,	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Feb. 2 –March 3, 2001	"Financing Sector" Tokyo- Japan Japanese International Cooperation Agency,	
April 18, - May 12, 1999	"Economic Management" The World Bank & the Arab Planning Institute,	Kuwait.
1-3 July 2002	"Syrian Banking: The Way Forward" The World Bank & the Foreign and the Commonwealth Affairs Office	London, UK

Detailed list of the relevant training opportunities Training

Courses Attended Abroad:

Date	Theme and institution	Country
23-28 February 2003	<i>"Banking Supervision"</i> , Arab Monetary Fund	Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
16-18 December 2002	<i>"The Protection from Money Laundering"</i> Center of Arab Countries for Studies and Researches	Beirut- Lebanon
8-12 July 2002	<i>International Supervisory Developments and Practices</i> Financial Stability Institute & the Banking Control Commission of Lebanon	Beirut-Lebanon
10-13 September 2001	<i>A Visit to the Banking Supervision Department at the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency</i> Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Training Courses Attended in Syria

Date	Theme and institution	Country
7-11 January 2006	Advanced Macroeconomics London School of Economics (LSC)	Central Bank of Syria, Damascus, Syria
6-9/2/2006	Basics of Macroeconomics London School of Economics (LSC)	Central Bank of Syria, Damascus, Syria
20-22/2/2006	Exchange Rates and Foreign Trade Issues London School of Economics (LSC)	Central Bank of Syria, Damascus, Syria
6-8/3/2006	Public Finance and Monetary Policy London School of Economics (LSC)	Central Bank of Syria, Damascus, Syria
26-28/3/2006	Public Debt Management London School of Economics (LSC)	Central Bank of Syria, Damascus, Syria
5-9 August 2001	Everything You Need to Know about Supervision Bahrain Institute of Banking & Finance	Central Bank of Syria, Damascus, Syria
July 1999	Institutional building for formulating the Economic Policy The World Bank Development Institute	Ministry of Finance, Damascus, Syria

Conferences attended:

Date	Theme and institution	Country
November 2014	“Syria War Economy” Swiss Peace, Basel, Switzerland. I Contributed with a presentation on “The Conflict in Syria, Implications on the Macro-economy and MDGs”	Basel, Switzerland
11-12 October 2006	“Promoting Inclusive Financial Services” Financial Stability Institute (FSI) and World Bank	Basel, Switzerland
22-25 November 1999	“The New Technologies in Banking and Payment Systems and Settlement” Arab Banks Union	Damascus, Syria

TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

- Very good in MS. Office (Word, Excel & PowerPoint). Basics of MS Access.
- Very good at E-views and fair knowledge with Microfit (Statistical Software)

LANGUAGES

- **Arabic** (Mother Tongue)
- **English:** Fluent

Ahmad SHIKH EBID C.V.

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- **German:** Basic

REFERENCES

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- **Khalid Abu Ismail**, Chief of Section, Economic Affairs, UN ESCWA, Co-authored papers and publication-ESCWA | 0096176 601 450 | abu-ismail@un.org
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