Alissar Nasser |Ph.D.

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Professional profile

Dynamic Public Sector Data Scientist with extensive experience leveraging data science, artificial intelligence, and statistical methodologies to inform policy decisions and enhance public services. Demonstrated expertise in price statistics and econometrics, enabling insightful analysis and interpretation of complex datasets. Proficient in utilizing advanced analytical techniques to drive evidence-based strategies and foster innovative solutions within the public domain. Adept at collaborating with interdisciplinary teams to address critical challenges and improve operational efficiencies. Committed to applying a robust analytical framework to contribute positively to community development and public trust.

Skills

Communication skills	Data analysis	SQL
Problem-solving	Statistics	Eviews, Matlab
Leadership	Data modelling	SPSS, Power BI
Detail-oriented	Econometrics	R, Python

Career summary

April 2022- Present: The World Bank- Washington DC
Public Sector consultant - Governance Global Practicefor Middle East and North Africa region (EMNGU)
Assisting with the Governance advisory work program in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), Egypt and Lebanon on the subsequent projects:

1. Center of Government - Community of Practice
2. Women Economic Empowerment for Egypt, with focus on the development and improvement of the Egyptian National Observatory for Women (ENOW)
3. Gender Balance indicators in the workplace - Institute of public Administration (IPA)- Saudi Arabia
4. Adopting Inclusive Development Principles to Promote Cultural Heritage - DGDA Development & Supervisory Areas -Saudi Arabia
5. Digital Tourism - Ministry of Tourism- Saudi Arabia
6. Developing a framework for global indicators for Monitoring and Evaluation- Ministry of Human resources and Social Development, Saudi Arabia
7. Access to Justice of Vulnerable - Lebanon

Key Achievements and tasks:

- Developing a strategy for the use of AI in the Center of Government and the public sector.
- Supporting the development and enhancement of the Egyptian National Observatory for Women (ENOW) by contributing to various aspects such as methodology building, indicator selection and refinement, data collection, and analysis. Additionally, delivering a workshop on gender data and indicators to the National Council for Women (NCW).
- Providing support to IPA in establishing a comprehensive framework and methodology for measuring workplace Gender balance using international benchmarks, aiding in the creation of data collection tools and sourcing data from pertinent authorities, and assisting in the analysis and development of a platform for the National Observatory for Gender Balance in the workplace.
- Supporting the Bank team in writing and presenting policy notes and research findings and consultation sessions held with the clients.

- Supporting the team in managing the "Access to Justice pilot survey in Beirut," including questionnaire customization, sampling, data collection, developing tables and charts, and analyzing the results.
- Supporting the measurement, assessment, and projection of project impacts on socio-economic development, cultural heritage, and tourism aligned with DGDA and wider government strategic goals for Vision 2030. Leveraging expertise in statistics, economic analysis, data evaluation, economic transformation, and innovation to provide insights for economic analysis.
- Supporting the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development in developing a framework for global indicators for monitoring and evaluation.
- Supporting in writing a policy report "Supporting Evidence-Based decision-making by enhancing performance indicators - Ministry of Hymen Resources and Social Development
- Supporting the Ministry of Tourism in the Digital Tourism strategy.

October 2001 – 2006, November 2007–Present Central Administration for Statistics, Lebanon
Analyst- Team leader
- Managing the Consumer Price Index (CPI) project, overseeing all aspects of the project.
- Developing charts, tables, and other elements of data visualization to effectively communicate data insights to stakeholders.
- Designed IT solutions for data collection, processing, and dissemination, ensuring accuracy and efficiency in data handling.
- Built ETL tools to acquire administrative data from primary and secondary sources and maintain databases, ensuring data integrity and security.
- Interpreted data, analyzed results, and created reports to inform decision-making at all levels of the organization.
- Worked with management to prioritize business and information needs for the organization, ensuring data-driven decision-making.
- Located and defined new process improvement opportunities to increase efficiency and effectiveness in data management and analysis.
- Maintained the organization's website content and design, ensuring all information is up-to-date and user-friendly.
- Presented the organization in national and international meetings and conferences, representing the organization in a professional and knowledgeable manner.

Key Achievements
- Received an honor letter from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in recognition of my contributions to the Consumer Price Index project in Lebanon.
- Received severalhonor letters from CAS's Director General for my active participation in the twinning project with ISTAT (the Italian Bureau of Statistics), CPI and other projects.
- Awarded the "Best Content and Design Website - 2010" for my role in designing and maintaining the organization's website.
- Contributed significantly to the successful completion of various statistical surveys and censuses, including the Households' Living Conditions and Budget Survey, the Census of Palestinians in Lebanon, Economic Surveys, Trade Statistics and Indices, PAPFAM, MICS 3, and the Census of Buildings, Dwellings, and Establishments in Lebanon.
- Served as the focal point for the ICT project at CAS, where I promoted and contributed to the development of an ICT roadmap proposing strategies and methodologies for collecting ICT statistics in Lebanon, and established a framework for institutionalizing this data collection.
- Actively participated in developing a roadmap for the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) project in Lebanon, focusing on e-government initiatives.
- Served as a trainer for the "Microdata Management Toolkit," educating staff on best practices for managing and analyzing data.

January 2019- Present: CLODE Consultants, Abu Dhabi
Statistician (Remotely)

Statistical Center Abu Dhabi (SCAD)
- Providing expertise in capacity building for statistics, data science, and various other disciplines aimed at supporting evidence-based research and decision-making.
- Delivering the Abu Dhabi Statistical Fellowship Program to government employees, aimed at enhancing statistical capacity and expertise in the region.

September10th –October 20th 2020: UN- ESCWA, Lebanon
Consultant
Identification of strategic options for economic diversification and transformation using the product space frontier: The case of Lebanon

- Identified potential export products to drive a new wave of economic growth in Lebanon using the product space techniques developed by the Growth Lab of Harvard University.
- Identified pathways for export diversification and increased product sophistication through an analysis of Lebanon's trade history.
- Conducted a comprehensive analysis of Lebanon's import and export trends over time to better understand the country's economic landscape.
- Identified emerging industries in Lebanon that were likely to thrive in the coming years.
- Assisted in writing a policy titled "[Transformation and strategic growth: path to economic complexity and recovery in Lebanon](#)".

September2006 – October2007 Dubai Statistics Center, Dubai- UAE
Business Analyst
As part of my role, I was responsible for conducting meetings with various organizations in Dubai to gather their business requirements. These requirements were then translated into data and processes that could be used to build a data warehouse. I also played a key role in creating reports and data analysis tools that provided decision makers with the necessary information and indicators needed to assist in future decisions and policies. By leveraging these tools and insights, organizations were able to make informed decisions and drive growth in their respective industries.

Activities include
- Conducting meetings and presentations to gather business requirements from various organizations
- Performing requirements analysis; translate business requirements into data requirements and functional specifications sheets.
- Scanning and analyzing potential source systems that fulfill the data warehouse and map them to requirements.
- Implementingpolicies and standards, metadata, and integrity rules in cooperation with the Data Architect.
- Designing, Analysing and Deploying Centralized Database Management System
- Designing and conducting a source-destination mapping.
- Developing Business Intelligence application with ETL and Cognos reporting tools
- Conducting meetings and presentations with various organizations to gather their business requirements and analyze them.
- Performing detailed requirements analysis to translate business requirements into data requirements and functional specifications sheets for the data warehouse.
- Conducting a thorough scan and analysis of potential source systems that can fulfil the data warehouse requirements, and map them to the overall requirements.
- Implementing policies and standards, metadata, and integrity rules in cooperation with the Data Architect to ensure data quality and consistency across the data warehouse.
- Designing, analyzing, and deploying a centralized database management system that supports the organization's data needs and requirements.
- Designing and conducting source-destination mapping to ensure seamless data integration and flow across the data warehouse.

- Developing Business Intelligence applications using ETL and Cognos reporting tools to provide decision-makers with the necessary information and indicators required to assist in future decisions and policies.

2007 – Present Lebanese University- Faculty of Economic Sciences and business administration, Lebanon Assistant professor

As an educator, I have had the opportunity to contribute to the development of students' knowledge and skills in various fields of study. In my role as an assistant professor, I have designed and delivered several courses for undergraduate and graduate students, with a focus on providing a comprehensive and practical understanding of the subject matter. In addition to teaching, I have also supervised students' dissertations, providing guidance and feedback throughout the research process.

Courses:

- Data analysis and mining using SPSS and Power BI for graduate students, with an emphasis on real-world applications and data visualization techniques.
- Financial modeling theory and application using Eviews for research master students, covering topics such as time-series analysis, forecasting, and financial econometrics.
- Econometrics using R for undergraduate and graduate students, with a focus on statistical modeling and hypothesis testing.
- Statistics for Business and Economy: Statistics I and II, covering the basics of descriptive and inferential statistics, probability theory, and statistical inference.
- E-Supply Chain Management for Master research students, covering topics such as supply chain optimization, inventory management, and logistics.
- Database Management System and MS Access, providing students with a foundation in database design and management using Microsoft Access.
- Oracle forms and DB, introducing students to the Oracle database management system and the use of Oracle Forms for data entry and retrieval.

Education and qualifications

- ➢ **Public Administration Diplôma, Ecole National d'Administration (ENA) - Lebanon, 2016.**
- ➢ **PhD inInformatics - Data Analysis : "contribution of the unsupervised classification usingkernel machines" with distinction** - Université de Littorale Côte d'Opale – Laboratoired'Analyse de Système de Littorale – 2007.
- ➢ **Diplôme des Etudes Approfondies (DEA)-**Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie AUF -*2001*
- ➢ **Master in Applied mathematics – Informatics** - Lebanese University*1999.*

Publications

- M. Chemingui, A. Nasser, "Transformation and strategic growth: path to economic complexity and recovery in Lebanon, ESCWA, 2023.
- L. Ghalayini, A. Nasser, N. Ishker,"ICT Diffusion and Economic Growth: A Comparative Study Across Economies, Asian Institute of Research, journal of Economics and Business, 26 May 2020,
- Nasser, A. (2020). Security Detection in Audio Events: A Comparison of Classification Methods. Journal of Advances in Mathematics and Computer Science, 35(2), 25-41. https://doi.org/10.9734/jamcs/2020/v35i230247.
- Nasser, Al. (2019). Measuring the Performance of Hospitals in Lebanese qadas Using PCA- DEA Model. Computer and Information Science. 12. 23. 10.5539/cis.v12n1p23.
- Nasser, A. (2019). Investigating K-means and Kernel K-means Algorithms with Internal Validity Indices for Cluster Identification. Journal of Advances in Mathematics and Computer Science. 30. 1-

12. 10.9734/JAMCS/2019/45837.

- Nasser A, Hamad D, "Detection and visualisation of outliers using kernel principal components", 2015 Fifth International Conference on Digital Information and Communication Technology and its Applications, DICTAP 2015, Beirut, Lebanon, April 29 - May 1, 2015. IEEE.
- Nasser A, Hamad D, Rouas J. L ,Ambellouis S, " The use of kernel methods for audio events detection" 3nd IEEE International Conference on Information & Communication Technologies: from Theory to Applications - ICTTA'08, Damascus-Syria, April, 7-10, 2008.
- Nasser A., Hébert P.-A. and Hamad D., "Clustering evaluation in feature space", International Conference on Artificial Neural Networks ICANN'07, 9-13 September 2007, Porto-Portugal. Published in Lecture Notes in Computer Science 4669, J. Marques de Sá et al. (Eds.): ICANN 2007, Part II, Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, ISBN: 978-3-540-38871-5, pp. 321–330, 2007.
- Nasser A., Nasr C. and Hamad D., "Kernel PCA as a visualization tools for clusters identifications", International Conference on Artificial Neural Networks ICANN'06, Athens-Greece, 10-14 September 2006. Published in Lecture Notes in Computer Science Artificial Neural Networks – ICANN, pp. 321-329, 2006.
- Nasser A., Hamad D. and Nasr C., "K-means clustering in projected spaces", The 9th International Conference on Information Fusion, ISBN: 0-9721844-6-5, Florence, Italy, 10-13 July, 2006.
- Nasser A., Nasr C. and Hamad D., "Visualization methods for interactive classification". 2nd IEEE International Conference on Information & Communication Technologies: from Theory to Applications - ICTTA'06, CDROM ISBN: 0-7803-9522-0, Damascus-Syria, April, 24-28, 2006.

Spoken Languages

Arabic, English, and French.

References

1. Brian Graf- Senior economist - International Monetary Fund (MF)Washington, D.C, USA,BGraf@imf.org
2. Dr. Ali Halawi, Senior Public Sector Specialist, the World Bank - Washington D.C. ahalawi@worldbank.org

3. HediSaidi, Director General, the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics, hedisaidi.tn@gmail.com, saidi@aitrs.org
4. VickenAshkarian, Information Management Officer -Unicef, vickenashkarian@gmail.com