

* دوخم، الحنيط
 * قبلان المجالي،
 * سعود الطيب
 * حسين العثمان
 * أمجد جرار

)

(11) (660) (203)

:

:

Discriminating Poor from Non poor Households in the Remote Communities of the Southern Part of Jordan

Dukhi Al-Hunaiti
Qablan Al-Majali
Saud Al-Tayeb
Husein Al-Othman
Amjad Jarrar

Abstract

The aim of this study is to discriminate poor households from non poor households in the remote communities of the southern part of Jordan. To achieve this goal, a random sample of (203) households (from 660 households in 11 communities) was selected and three personal interview questionnaires were used to collect the data. Moreover, discriminant analysis was applied to analyze the data. The results of statistical analyses have revealed that the absolute poor households were discriminated by the following variables: unemployment average, household's ownership, expenditure on gifts, sex ratio, agricultural loaned ownership, age, means of mail, video caste ownership. In addition, the statistical analyses have revealed that the absolute poor households were discriminated by the following variables: number of electric machine in house, percentage of unemployed people, video caste ownership, percentage of hand capelin in the household, and sex ratio

Why Economic Growth Has Been Weak in Arab Countries: The Role of Exogenous Shocks, Economic Policy Failure and Institutional Deficiencies

Peter Nunnenkamp*

Abstract

Few Arab countries have succeeded since the early 1990s to narrow the income gap to advanced industrial countries. The growth performance of most Arab countries has been weak by developing country standards, too. We discuss three factors that may help explain the generally poor, though highly diverse growth record in the region: exogenous shocks, policy failure and institutional deficiencies. We find that although country-specific shocks played a role, influences beyond the immediate control of Arab policymakers contribute surprisingly little to the explanation of Arab growth patterns. Economic policy failure in Arab countries appears to be a more important reason for poor growth. The region has partly fallen into line with the Washington Consensus. With few exceptions, however, Arab countries lag behind other developing countries when it comes to trimming the interventionist role of the state and integrating themselves into the global division of labor through trade and FDI. Overall, reforms did not go far enough and remained fragmentary even in Arab countries with a relatively favorable growth performance since the early 1990s. It has to be taken into account; however, that policy-related variables and economic growth depend on more deeply rooted institutional factors shaping the incentive structure of economic agents. Institutional development varies greatly between Arab countries, but, generally, is less advanced than the level of per-capita income would suggest. While the discovery of oil may result in higher growth for some time, the experience of several oil exporters in the region supports the proposition that the abundance of oil encourages rent-seeking and exerts a negative impact on economic growth via its deleterious impact on institutional development. The experience of countries like Mexico, having managed the transformation from an oil-dependent to a highly diversified economy with more advanced institutions, may show the way for Arab countries.

:

بيتر نيوننكامب

* Research Director, Kiel Institute for World Economics, Germany, E-mail: nuunnenkamp@ifw.uni-kiel.de

Financial Reforms and Financial Development in Arab Countries

Jean-Claude Berthélemy
Nawel Bentahar

Abstract

This paper examines the development of financial sectors in Arab countries initiated in the 1980s after more than a decade of reforms. Overall, in spite of reforms, progresses have been limited in the countries surveyed. One theoretical explanation of this observation is that there are multiple equilibriums in financial development. After many years of financial repression, Arab countries which have started liberalizing their financial sectors, were initially trapped in a low-level equilibrium, and this may explain why progress so far obtained, have been minimal. A critical mass of change was needed to escape the financial underdevelopment equilibrium. This critical mass of change implies deep structural changes in the financial sector, including in particular, the de-controlling and privatization of the banking activity. However, such financial liberalization could not be successfully implemented without improvement in the institutional setting, through improved financial infrastructure and legal framework. In addition, for lack of deep or fast enough strengthening of the prudential requirements and supervision, authorities have been confronted with a trade-off between financial liberalization and financial stability, and therefore, as a consequence, delayed and mitigated liberalization measures.

جون كلود بيرثلمي
نوال بن طاهر

Modeling the Egyptian Stock Market Volatility Pre- and Post Circuit Breaker

Eskandar A. Tooma*
Maged S. Sourial*

Abstract

Circuit breakers (price limits and trading halts) are regulatory instruments aiming to reduce severe price volatility and provide markets with a cooling-off period. This paper investigates the impact of price limits on volatility dynamics in the Egyptian Stock Exchange. A variety of mean and variance specifications in GARCH type models (GARCH, GJR, and APARCH) and four different error distributions (Normal, Student- t , GED, and Skewed- t) are utilized. Results from examining a split sample suggest significant changes in the time varying volatility process. Results prior to the imposition of price limits exhibit leptokurtosis; yet show no sign of the widely cited leverage effect. Results after the imposition of price limits display both leptokurtosis and the leverage effect.

اسكندر توما
ماجد سوريال

student GJR normal GARCH APARCH .skewed-t GED leptokurtosis leverage effect

* Tooma is Assistant Professor of Finance and Finance Unit Head, Department of Management, The American University in Cairo, P.O. Box 2511, Cairo 11511, Egypt. Tel: 202 797 6831. email: etooma@aucegypt.edu. Sourial is the Vice Chairman of the Cairo and Alexandria Stock Exchanges, 4A, Sherifein St., Down Town, Cairo, Egypt. Tel: 202 395 5477; 395 5266; Fax: 202 395 5799. email: mshawky@egyptse.com. N.B. The views expressed in this article are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the institutions they represent. The authors would like to thank Professor Blake LeBaron for his support and valuable comments; Math Works for their support in sharing the upgrades of the MATLAB GARCH ToolBox; Professor Sebastian Laurent for his immense help and valuable comments with operating the GARCH 2.3 package; Mr Karim Alaa and Ms Aliaa Bassiouny for research assistance.