

Abdelrahman Nagy

Academic Curriculum Vitae

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Development economist and applied microeconomist working on labor markets, household decision-making, gender, social protection, childcare, and evidence-informed policy. More than 20 years of research, policy, and institutional leadership experience have combined academic research with the design and execution of large-scale field studies, long-term partnerships, research funding, and policy engagement across MENA.

Research fields

Development economics; labor economics; experimental economics.

Education

- PhD, Development Economics, UNU-MERIT and Maastricht University, Netherlands. Defense scheduled 21 September 2026.
- MA, International and Comparative Education, The American University in Cairo, 2020. Concentration: International Education Development and Policy.
- BA, French Language, Minia University, 2005.

Peer-reviewed publications

Feld, Brian, Abdel Rahman Nagy, and Adam Osman. 2022. [“What Do Jobseekers Want? Comparing Methods to Estimate Reservation Wages and the Value of Job Attributes.”](#) *Journal of Development Economics* 159: 102978. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2022.102978>.

Registered reports

Feld, Brian, Marieke Kleemans, and Abdel Rahman Nagy. 2025. [“What's in the Name? Volunteer and Employment Opportunities in Egypt.”](#) Accepted registered report, *Journal of Development Economics*. Stage 1 acceptance, 2025.

Revise and resubmit

Caria, Stefano, Bruno Crépon, Caroline Krafft, and Abdelrahman Nagy. [“The Barriers to Female Employment: Experimental Evidence from Egypt.”](#) Revise and resubmit, *Review of Economics and Statistics*. Working Paper No. 92, G²LM|LIC.

Selected working papers and policy publications

- Nagy, Abdelrahman. “When Parents Are in the Room: Experimental Evidence on Job Information and Youth Job Search.” Job-market paper and working paper.
- Caria, Stefano, Bruno Crépon, Hala ElBehairy, Noha Fadlalmawla, Caroline Krafft, Abdelrahman Nagy, Lili Mottaghi, Nahla Zeitoun, and Souraya El Assiouty. [“Child Care Subsidies, Employment Services and Women's Labor Market Outcomes in Egypt: First Midline Results.”](#) G²LM|LIC Working Paper No. 73; World Bank policy research publication, May 2021.

- Fadl, Noha, Caroline Krafft, Bruno Crépon, Stefano Caria, Abdelrahman Nagy, and Hala ElBehairy. “[Assessing the Labor Market Impact of COVID-19 on Women with Young Children in Egypt](#).” G²LM|LIC Working Paper No. 61.

Selected ongoing research projects

- Measuring the Impact of Graduating the Ultra-Poor in Egypt (Bab Amal) on a National Scale, covering approximately 100,000 households, with Ragui Assaad, William Pariente, and Christine Valente.
- The Impact of Providing Holistic Support to Egyptian Households on Female Labor Force Participation, with Bruno Crépon, Caroline Krafft, and Mohamed Karamnany.
- Childcare and employment services in Egypt; research from this project was discussed in VoxDev’s review of childcare interventions in low- and middle-income countries.
- Estimating the Social Costs of Debtor Prisons: Experimental Evidence from Egypt. With Adam Osman, Kareem Hagag and Ahmed Ahmed.
- Impact of Micro-job Fairs and Edutainment on Female Labor in Jordan, with Matilde João Mota, Bruno Crépon and Eleonora Nillesen.
- Impact of Islamic Microfinance on Female Labor Force Participation in Jordan, with Bruno Crépon, Eleonora Nillesen and Amira Al Shal.

Research appointments and leadership

Appointment	Contribution
Director, MENA Program, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) 2026–present	Lead impact evaluations, scientific work, research grants, evidence programs, partnerships, fundraising, and capacity building across MENA.
Lead Evaluation Specialist and MENA Lead, 3ie 2024–2026	Provided technical leadership for impact evaluations, systematic reviews, evidence gap maps, methods, and technical guidance.
Director of Learning and Strategy, Sawiris Foundation for Social Development 2021–2024	Directed a US\$3–4 million annual research budget, helped realign US\$30 million toward evidence-based programs, and built an evidence-generation department.
Co-founder; Director, Egypt Initiative; Senior Advisor; Senior Manager, J-PAL MENA, American University in Cairo 2015–2021	Helped build the regional office and Egypt Initiative; led a 60-person research organization and secured US\$11 million in grants.
Impact Evaluation Consultant, World Bank 2016–2020	Supported evaluations including quantitative leadership for the Finance for Jobs evaluation in Palestine.

Research funding and scale

- Secured US\$3.5 million across current studies, with additional commitments expected to bring the portfolio to approximately US\$6 million.
- Across leadership roles, contributed to efforts raising more than US\$20 million for research and oversaw allocation of more than US\$50 million toward evidence-based programs.
- Led research from question formulation and design through measurement, field implementation, analysis, publication, and policy use.

- Led three impact evaluations for government partners in the United Arab Emirates using an RCT, time-series analysis, and difference-in-differences.

Teaching, training, and mentoring

- Delivered more than 100 courses and training sessions on impact evaluation, systematic reviews, research design, large-scale data collection, and evidence use.
- Taught Evaluating Social Programs, developed by J-PAL in collaboration with J-PAL MENA; delivered guest classes at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, UNU-MERIT, Harvard, and other universities.
- Mentor researchers and multidisciplinary teams from question formulation and identification strategy through implementation, analysis, writing, and policy communication.

Policy engagement and regional experience

- Led development of Egypt's national social-protection strategy and advised the Ministry of Social Solidarity.
- Led research-design and large-scale data-collection training for Saudi Arabia's General Authority for Statistics with BCG.
- Led evaluations for UAE government partners and supported World Bank evaluation work in Palestine.
- Research and policy experience in Egypt, Jordan, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Palestine; developing further Qatar-based partnerships is a priority for the next stage of the agenda.

Languages and service

Arabic, English, and French. Co-founder and Board Member, Olfa Foundation for Mental Health. Co-founder, Arab Foundation for Monitoring, Evaluation and Quality.