

# Economics & Society

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## Soft Weapons!

by HANY ABDEL-LATIF



Fifty years ago, Egypt used to be the main destination for ambitious and top-class students from the Arab World. Egyptian teachers were invited to work in almost all Arabic countries. You could hardly meet any Arabic citizen that has not been studying in Egypt or taught by an Egyptian teacher. Unfortunately, things have changed and this is no longer the case. What has happened to our education system? What has happened to our most powerful weapon? An open-ended question that a tiny space like this can not accommodate adequately.

## 3-Year Program



Thousands of years back in time, Egyptians taught humanity art and science. Now, more than two hundred volunteers based in seventeen countries believe that it is time to make a difference, and share one dream; restoring the leading role of Egypt. Across *Egypt Scholars*, we believe that education is the key. For this reason, the *Economic Society* has placed education among its top priorities. We have kicked off our teaching portfolio with a course titled "Making Sense of Econometrics", which covers the basics of Econometrics. With more than one hundred and twenty

applications received from five Arabic countries, we have selected only fifty students to be enrolled in the course in order to ensure a high level of quality. In February 2015, the *Economic Society* will start another course on "Time Series Analysis", and this is just the beginning. For now, I am proud to share some news about our coming project in the Education Section. A 3-Year programme that focuses on *Applied Economics*, for which we aim to invite applications in October 2015, and to start the programme in the beginning of 2016.

## Producing Researchers

# RESEARCH

As *Applied Economics* is the main theme of this program, enrolled stu-

dents will be taught and trained on how to apply their knowledge in Economics. Therefore, the main goal of the programme is to produce researchers who can undertake a high quality research. It includes three routes that students can choose from; Macroeconomics, Development Economics and Financial Economics. Unlike traditional universities, our students will be exposed to different experiences when they are taught by lecturers from different universities in Europe and the USA. Yet, the programme does not replace conventional education. Each year will be divided into three teaching blocks; four months each. Within every term, students need to pass two modules to qualify to the next level. In order to graduate, every student will write her own dissertation, which must be published in a highly ranked journal. More information about this programme will be released soon.