

Marital Status: Married
Nationality: Lebanese
Tel: +961 3 15 80 80
E-mail: mymikbael@hotmail.com

MARWAN MIKHAEL

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Feb. 20- Present **Advisor to the Minister of Economy and Trade**

Member of the committee preparing a macroeconomic framework for the Lebanese government, and a medium term economic and fiscal plan.

Member of the committee responsible for restructuring the public debt.

Coordinator of a brainstorming committee formed with stakeholders of the private sector responsible for suggesting measures to ease the crisis impact on the short term and suggest a medium term set of ideas to restart economic growth.

Jul. 08- Dec. 19 **Blominvest Bank**

Lebanon

Chief Economist and Head of Research Department

Leading a team of economists and equity analysts responsible for several economic and equity research publications related to Lebanon and the MENA region destined internally for corporate banking and private banking departments, and externally for clients and business partners. The research department also prepares studies, working papers, and presentations for management on demand.

Created an equity research unit that is covering the Lebanese, Egyptian, Jordanian, and Saudi markets. Companies covered included Solidere, Holcim, Ezz Steel, Talaat Mustafa, Orascom Construction, Arab bank, Yansab, etc.

Participating in the strategic planning for the development of Blominvest Bank activities. Member of several committees inside the bank including the investment committee, I present to management my views on the economic and financial outlooks on both international and regional levels. Member of the Research Studies Committee of the Banking Association.

As an expert in financial and capital markets, and banking, I advise international institutions, funds, and domestic political stakeholders on developing capital markets and improving banking regulations and the links between the two and other sectors of the economy.

As an interim head of the corporate finance department (for 2 years), I led investment banking deals in the MENA region including IPOs and M&A. I also orchestrate the Eurobonds issuances of the Lebanese government that are being managed by Blominvest Bank, including one of the largest Eurobonds issue by the Lebanese government in Feb-March 2015 of USD 2.2 billion.

Feb.06- Jun. 08 **Ministry of Economy and Trade**

Lebanon

Advisor to the Minister and Head of Economic Policy Division

Advising the Minister on economic and social related issues. Participated in the production of a Government program to boost private sector recovery after the war of July 2006. Participated actively in the elaboration of the government economic and fiscal reform program and the preparation of the donors' conference that was held in Paris on January 25th 2007. I supervised the elaboration of a social action plan to improve educational and health indicators, and reinforce the social safety nets system in Lebanon.

As head of the Economic Policy Division, I led a team of economists preparing strategy papers for discussion and following up on the implementation of different actions. The unit also prepares several analyses on economic and sectoral related issues for the minister.

Participated in negotiations regarding different issues with several actors on the economic scene including mills and bakeries, pharmaceutical companies, energy intensive industries, etc.

Jun.02-Feb.06 **International Monetary Fund**

USA

Economist

Fiscal economist, responsible of Djibouti from June 2004 till Feb 2006: Helped establishing an IMF Staff Monitored Program on Djibouti, monitored the fiscal developments and formulated the staff's policy recommendation. Put in place a fiscal framework, a debt and fiscal sustainability analysis, and advised the authorities on the implementation of structural and fiscal reforms.

Responsible for coordinating the team works on Djibouti, also responsible for harmonizing the IMF, the World Bank and other donors' involvement in order to ensure an optimum outcome.

Diversified experience in many countries and many sectors of the economy between June 2002 and June 2004.

Responsible for: (i) monetary and banking sector in Libya where I assessed the impact of the Iraqi war on the Libyan economy, (ii) external sector in Mauritius where I assessed the external position of the country and its debt position and sustainability, (iii) external and monetary sectors in Comoros where I focused on enhancing the role of micro credit agencies and addressing the shortcomings on banking and central bank laws, (iv) fiscal and external sectors in Tunisia and Syria, and (v) real sector and structural reforms in Morocco and Burundi.

Jan.99-May 02 **Ministry of Finance**

Lebanon

Economist (United Nations Development Programme)

Responsible for public revenue and expenditure projections and the underlying macroeconomic framework.

Projected fiscal measures impact on the economy and on government revenues and participated in the implementation of fiscal reforms, and in improving public finance management. Also responsible for elaborating the budget report. Actively involved in work preparation and discussions with IMF article IV and technical assistance missions, rating agencies and investment banks. Participated in the implementation of the VAT beginning 2002, by assessing its impact on several sectors of the economy. Worked on expenditures management issues with the objective of enhancing the efficiency of public expenditures in its two-fold: current and capital.

- Responsible for preparing the Eurobonds issuing strategy and debt management issues, in addition to the follow up and analysis of Eurobonds performance on the secondary market.

Jun.96-Dec.98 **AM&F Consulting**

Lebanon

Consultant

- Contributing to a project on the modernization and development of the Treasury bills market (primary and secondary) in Lebanon for the benefit of the Central Bank of Lebanon. Aug. 97 to Nov. 98
- Participating to a project on developing the public debt management in Lebanon for the benefit of the Central Bank of Lebanon. Nov. 98 to Jul. 99

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sept.2013-Present **Université Saint Joseph**

Lebanon

Lecturer

Teaching macro-financial programming at the Graduate School of Economics.

Teaching economic geography at the Graduate School of Geography (Oct.00-May02)

Jul.99-Aug.99

Institute of Finance

Lebanon

Lecturer

Lecturing the employees of the Ministry of Finance on public finance and macroeconomics.

RESEARCH AND SEMINARS

Participated as a speaker in several conferences and seminars, in the MENA region, organized by the OECD, IFC, IIF, EBRD, Al Iktissad Wal Aamal, Middle East Investor Relations Society, Union of Arab Chambers, etc. Presented a seminar for high officials in Libya on the development of monetary policy.

Wrote several papers: The misalignment of the exchange rate in Algeria; The determinants of money supply and inflation in Libya; Financial sector developments in Comoros; Impact of the elimination of trade preferences on exports, growth, and employment in Mauritius; The fiscal cost of price subsidies in Syria; Fiscal policy and competitiveness in Djibouti; Estimating real GDP growth for Lebanon, Impact of an increase in gasoline tax on the Lebanese economy; developing the capital markets in Lebanon; the relation between capital markets development and the real economy.

Wrote several articles, and accorded several interviews to magazines such as the Financial Times, Euromoney, The Executive, Meed, Arab Business Women, Real Magazine, Lebanon Opportunities, Annahar, AlMustaqbal, AlJoumhouriah, and TV channels including CNBC Arabia, Al Jazeera, Al-Arabia, Future Tv, New TV, etc.

EDUCATION

1993-1998 **Université Saint Joseph** Lebanon
Master in economics (graduated top of the class and received scholarship for high performance for three consecutive years); emphasis: Macroeconomics and monetary policy. Thesis: Impact of financial innovations on monetary policy.

BA in economics (graduated top of the class) with an emphasis on macroeconomics and public finance.

2009 **Chartered Institute For Securities & Investment** United Kingdom
Completed the CISI level 3 Certificate in Investments (Securities).

LANGUAGES

Fluent in Arabic, French, and English.