

SEMINARS

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Place
Ministry of Commerce and Industry
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Speakers	Title & Abstract
<p>Ahmad Shammakhi PhD Student Department of Natural Resource Economics & WTO Chair Programme</p>	<p>Analyzing the effect of intra-regional and inter-regional trade integration schemes of the GCC countries</p> <p>Abstract</p> <p><i>The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries are part of numerous free or preferential trade areas and are in the process of completing or negotiating others outside the Middle East and North Africa Region (MENA). In this proposed study we evaluate empirically whether fostering trade partnership within the region is a better incentive for the GCC than engaging into preferential trade arrangements with well-established trade blocs outside the region. A Computable General Equilibrium Model (CGE) will be used to analyze four scenarios representing various GCC trade integration paths, taking into consideration the issue of Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) and trade facilitation measures</i></p>
<p>Abdallah Akintola MSc Student Department of Natural Resource Economics & WTO Chair Programme</p>	<p>The Trade Determinants and Potentials of OMAN-IORA Economic Partnership</p> <p>Abstract</p> <p><i>Dialogue on economic cooperation to ensure growth of Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) using trade liberalization and investment as mechanism is waxing stronger and receiving much attention. Of recent, Oman exports is inclining towards the IORA as opposed to it traditional market of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Great Arab Free Trade Agreement (GAFTA).As a result of this, this study aims at analyzing the effect of trade determinants and trade</i></p>

	<p><i>potential between Oman and IORA. This study should also be able to show if a deeper association between Oman and IORA would lead to trade creation or diversion. Panel data between the years 2006- 2015 would be analyzed using an augmented gravity. It is expected from the result to see a more positive trade potential because of Oman strategic location in the Indian Ocean and as of which leads to trade creation or diversion</i></p>
<p>Fatma Saadi MSc Student Department of Natural Resource Economics &WTO Chair Programme</p>	<p>WTO Trade Facilitation and Oman’s Economy</p> <p>Abstract</p> <p>The WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement recently went into force following its ratification by two third of WTO members on 22 February 2017. The world trade report 2015 estimates showed that the full implementation of the TFA could reduce trade costs by an average of 14.3% and boost global trade by up to \$1 trillion per year, with the biggest gains in the poorest countries. Oman is aiming to diversify its economy away from oil while boosting the trade and logistics sector. The objective of this paper is to study the possible effects of WTO trade facilitation agreement on Oman’s economy. Results indicate that the welfare gains among all the GCC countries varied from 2 to 4.9%. Overall allthe sectors showed significant positive increase in exports, mostespecially the food commodities. However, the same food commodities showed a significant decrease in imports while gas products showed dramatic increase in importation</p>