

## Amine ZARROUG

Nationality: Tunisian

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*A seasoned economist and statistician with over 15 years of experience in international development, banking, and finance, working with regional development banks and UN agencies. Demonstrated expertise in managing complex portfolios, supporting project implementation, and using data analysis to guide strategic planning and performance improvement. Adept at setting priorities, ensuring quality control, and providing actionable insights at project, country, and regional levels. Key achievements include leading reforms in performance-based resource allocation systems and strengthening data-driven approaches to monitoring and decision-making in development contexts.*

### Area of Expertise

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- *Data Management*
- *Poverty and fragility analysis*
- *Resources allocation and financial analysis*
- *Econometric modelling and analysis*
- *Project management: implementation, efficiency, quality control (KPIs)*

### Professional Experience

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January 2025 – Present / **Climate Vision Consulting – Cairo, Egypt**

#### **Economist / Statistician**

Contribution to the economic analysis and forecasting to support sustainability strategies, assess climate policy impacts, and evaluate the financial implications of environmental initiatives. Provided data-driven insights to inform strategic decision-making within a climate consulting context.

November 2021 – June 2024 / **the International Fund for Agricultural Development, (IFAD) – United Nations**

#### **Regional Specialist – Near East, North Africa and Europe Division (NEN) – Programme Management Department**

As part of the regional team, my current role covers:

- Pipeline Management: (i) providing a quality at entry and backstopping the regional pipeline of projects and country strategies. This support included a quality enhancement of projects, COSOPs and CSNs as required, by contributing on a selective basis to reviews, (ii) the tracking of grants status at country and regional level, (iii) Contributed to the development of the NEN Divisional Dashboard
- Enhance the Divisional Scorecards System for monitoring key portfolio performance indicators.
- Regional coordinator assuring an efficient follow-up on the progress of implementation of the projects and the performance of the portfolio.
- Supporting the Divisional liquidity management process and disbursement monitoring, in close collaboration with the Programme Officer assigned to the role.
- Participating in cross-departmental working group on different topics: Liquidity, KM, SSTC...
- Preparation of diverse range documentation such as including country profiles and economic outlooks.

February 2021 – to September 2021 / **the African Development Bank Group, (AfDB)**

#### **Data Management and Analytics expert – The Transition States Coordination Office (RDTS)**

- Designed and implemented a centralized and secure database where collected TSF data are consolidated and integrated in a comprehensive manner.
- Maintained the database through regular updates of the actual utilization of the TSF available resources, as well as a forward-looking indicative lending program helping to foresee the resource consumptions.
- Implemented handy and user-friendly dashboard helping to ensure accurate, comprehensive and real-time generation of the TSF financial status, including resources available, approvals, and cancellations.
- Provided an appropriate quantitative inputs feeding into the TSF portfolio performance indicators—in compliance with the Bank Group's Results Measurement Framework (RMF)—and participate in the preparation of the regular TSF monitoring reports including the monthly flash report and the 2020 RDTS annual report.
- Coordinated the process readiness review within RDTS.

August 2015 – to December 2020 / **the International Fund for Agricultural Development, (IFAD) – United Nations**

**(i) September 2019 – December 2020: Data management consultant -External Relations and Governance Department**

As part of the External Relations and Governance Department (ERG), the Global engagement, Partnership and Resource mobilization (GPR) Division addresses three main functions: (i) Global engagement and multilateral relations; (ii) replenishment, resource mobilization and advocacy; and (iii) South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC).

Within the replenishment team, I was asked to:

- Maintain and enhance the system designed to capture the replenishment pledge projections, This will include: (a) Data quality/ integrity control: liaise with Partnerships Officers to easily input and update pledge projections by country (b) Calculate projections considering different scenarios that takes into account changes in key variables such as increase/decrease of contribution by list, currency effect, re-engagement of countries...etc. (c) Provide and update a brief on the outcome of the different scenarios
- Maintain and enhance an Excel-based system for monitoring the process from securing pledges to receiving payments. This process includes the following elements, which need to be tracked: (i) Pledge received from Member State; (ii) Thank you letter and payment request sent by IFAD (GPR); (iii) Instrument of Contribution (IOC). The system should allow easy identification of countries with pending pledges, pending thank you letters, and pending IOCs/payments for all replenishments, and allow follow-up by region, and by Partnership Officer, including space to capture status updates. It should be easy to generate reports by Partnership Officer/by region to use for monthly internal divisional meetings, for meetings with regional divisions and Accounting, and for sharing with the president's office.
- Develop and maintain a tool tracking the upcoming event and advocacy missions of IFAD's senior management: the tool allows a better planning of events and participations during the replenishment period.
- Develop and maintain tools for tracking of donor intelligence, including country statements in replenishment meetings and other engagements, Member State positions on key issues for IFAD12.
- Support analysis of replenishment data and development of the IFAD12 resource mobilization strategy, building on initial studies undertaken by GPR.
- Participate in other corporate level analysis aiming to tackle member states concerns related to the engagement in fragile countries such as Yemen and Libya: Resource mobilization for fragile countries, resources allocation mechanism and implementation challenges.

#### ***(ii) April 2019 – July 2019: Portfolio planning, financial modelling and reporting – Treasury***

- Simulate a wide range of scenarios reflecting IFAD's current and future resources and financial positions, in line with twelfth replenishment consultation, and market borrowing strategy;
- Analyze simulated results and identify key inputs to specify resource mobilization priorities/opportunities;
- Analyze trends in the financial data and model's outputs to assess relevance of existing assumptions;
- Recommend changes to the model's underlying assumptions in line with the current and future operating realities;
- Maintain linkages between the financial model development, the projections of the balance sheet and the income statements to assure a proper feed of data to the risk assessments;
- Contribute to the development of financial policy through the enhanced financial model;
- Support the team in revamping IFAD's financial model;
- Run a variance analysis on the model's outputs with specific focus on areas related to accounting and operations (e.g. PoLG, allocation to countries by income classification and lending terms, assessment of demand by borrowers)

#### ***(iii) August 2018 – March 2019: Programme Officer – West and Central Africa Division***

Based in IFAD's sub-regional hub in **Accra, Ghana**, I am working as key member of the country team:

- Supporting the development of the 2019 -2022 Ghana's country strategy. This will define IFAD's strategic priorities and interventions in the country.
- Contributed in several implementation support and supervision missions of IFAD's portfolio in Ghana, with a special focus on the M&E aspect.
- Contributed in the design of the ProMIFA project in Togo - Projet d'appui au mécanisme incitatif de financement agricole fondé sur le partage de risques.
- Contributed in several strategic discussions, in Ghana and Togo, in order to enhance IFAD's relationships and collaborations with in-country counterparts through the identification of synergies and proposing coordinated strategies with multilateral/bilateral donors and civil society organizations involved in agricultural development and rural poverty reduction.

#### ***(iv) August 2015 – July 2018: Resources Allocation Expert – Operational Policy and Results***

Undertake quantitative and statistical analysis based on corporate priorities of IFAD, including:

- Provided expert technical advice and undertake qualitative and quantitative analysis leading to the revision of the formula for the Performance-Based Allocation System (PBAS) This includes the computation of an IFAD vulnerability index (IVI) and the portfolio and disbursement (PAD) indicators that are embedded in the new PBAS formula
- Provided options on how to address poverty and fragility through IFAD's resources allocation mechanism: this includes an analysis of the best poverty and fragility measures that could be embedded in IFAD's PBAS formula.
- As a member of the IFAD PBAS working group, contributed with sophisticated technical analysis of the various elements of the formula and its applicability using historic trends, poverty analyses at country level and by income categories.
- Participated as an expert in deliberations of the IFAD's Executive Board PBAS Working Group meetings and as a resource person in associated governing body meetings and in bilateral donor meetings and multilateral development bank working groups (including the World Bank, the African and Asian Development Banks).
- Led the resource allocation process for IFAD10 and IFAD11 replenishment cycles
- Established a coherent and transparent process for the computation of the new IFAD vulnerability index (IVI) and the portfolio and disbursement (PAD) indicators that will be embedded in the new proposed PBAS formula.
- Co-led the development and implementation of a PBAS ICT ERP system to incorporate both initial allocations and reallocations during the replenishment cycle in line with the PBAS principles'.
- Contributed in developing an online tool for IFAD's Rural Sector Performance assessment (RSP), which is a component of the PBAS.
- Contributed to producing a PBAS manual, with particular focus on the highly technical aspects of the system.
- Managed IFAD's corporate and bilateral donor-level reporting on results for the Report on IFAD's Development Effectiveness
- Responsible for the quality-at-entry of core indicators (outputs)
- Contributed with expert economic and statistical advice and analysis in the context of the ongoing Corporate Level Evaluation on IFAD's financial architecture and reforms proposed in IFAD's new business model, tailored approaches and country selectivity for IFAD11.
- Contributed to the ongoing analysis and studies relating to the future demand for IFAD resources

#### February 2012 - July 2015/ **Fidelity Worldwide Investment**

##### **Senior Performance Analyst – Investment Statistics Department**

Worked as a key member of the investment statistics team in the United Kingdom and Tunisia.

- Calculated and validated performance and benchmark returns using both internal and external systems, including WM Spectrum, IPS, CAPS IMS32, DataStream, Workbench as well as the ex-post risk statistics
- Key liaison between the corporate office in the United Kingdom and the country office in Tunisia to provide training and mentoring to staff in the country office.
- Produced an attribution analysis using internal and external systems
- Responded to ad-hoc queries and requests, including hypothetical scenarios analysis and forecasting
- Singlehandedly managed the performance of: Institutional Pension, SICAVS, and OEICs funds
- Updated and maintained internal and external databases for the funds.
- Conducted in-depth research on a multitude of indices provided by several data sources such as Bloomberg, DataStream (Reuters), workbench and Rimes, for benchmarking purposes.
- Key member of the team (made of experts from India, Tunisia, UK and US) responsible of upgrading the calculation engine system. This includes testing and data migration.

#### April 2009 - April 2011/ **African Development Bank (AfDB)**

##### **Statistician – Result Reporting Division**

Key contributor to the portfolio review team for tracking portfolio performance using data analysis:

- Organized, prepared and analyzed the data on the Bank's public and private sector portfolio
- Contributed to the preparation of the Annual Portfolio Performance Report (APPR)
- Managed the database for the AfDB's project completion reporting (PCR) process including ensuring alignment with PCR guidelines and presentation and preparation of briefs for corporate purposes
- Conducted in depth statistical analysis on appraisal and completion reports to capture the key development outcomes.
- Prepared data on the Bank's progress in achieving outputs and outcomes for its results measurement framework (RMF) leading to the development of the Annual Development Effectiveness Report (ADER).

#### **Education**

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2011 / **Master's Degree in Econometrics and Mathematical Economy**

University of Tunis El MANAR: Faculty of Economic Science and Management

*Dissertation: Exportation Risk Insurance: A Decision-Making Model: Case of a Tunisian Credit Insurance Company*

2006 / **Bachelor's Degree in Quantitative Economics and Management**, Focus: **Econometrics**

University of Tunis El MANAR: Faculty of Economic Science and Management

Dissertation subject: Tunisian Financial Market: reality and perspective

2002 – 2003 / **Baccalaureate Degree in Mathematics**

Tataouine High School, Tunisia

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#### Language Skills

Arabic: Native speaker

English: Fluent

French: Fluent

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#### Computer/Software Skills

Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)

Data analysis software: SPSS, STATA

Programming VBA

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#### Professional Training

- Operation Academy - IFAD: Project management
- Advanced Excel Certificate: Advancia -Tunis
- Thomson Reuters web based training on information security, anti-money laundering and corruption
- Economic and Financial Analysis – IFAD – Rome.
- Change Management Practitioner - PROSCI