

SUMMARY

Head of Research at Thirty Five Investment Holding (Qatar), working with the investment team on due diligence, feasibility analysis, and opportunity screening across critical minerals, energy, infrastructure, food security, and real estate in Africa, Central Asia, the Middle East, and Europe. Applied economist specializing in causal inference and Bayesian methods, with 8+ years of turning quantitative evidence into decisions for senior executives, government ministers, and development partners including the World Bank and USAID.

EDUCATION

Bachelors of Economics (Honors), Minor in Statistics | Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University | 2017

EXPERIENCE

Head of Research | Thirty Five Investment Holding, Qatar April 2026 – Present

- Conducting investment research and due diligence with the investment team across emerging markets.
- Building the research infrastructure behind investment decisions, from feasibility models to AI-assisted verification.

Head of Decision Science | ProfitOPS.ai, USA, Remote Sept 2024 – March 2026

- Diagnosed the root causes of costly sheet breaks on WestRock’s paperboard lines to reduce downtime and waste.
- Led causal-AI work for Fortune 100 clients including UPS and WestRock, using “what-if” simulations to test decisions upfront.
- Created ProRCA, an open-source tool that traces a drop in a business KPI back to its root causes.

Principal Economist - The Egyptian Center for Economic Studies (ECES), Cairo Egypt Jan 2021 – March 2026

- Led a multidisciplinary team of 10 economists and AI engineers, bringing Gen-AI and causal ML into policy work.
- Directed donor-funded policy research for USAID and the National Bank of Egypt, with findings briefed to ministers.
- Built the center’s analytics capability: Egypt’s first real-time labor-demand platform and trade reforms that cut release time by 30%.

Economist - The Egyptian Center for Economic Studies (ECES), Cairo Egypt Sep 2017 – Dec 2020

- Authored 100+ economic reports and 10 research papers on trade, taxation, industry, and labor markets.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Causal Inference & Bayesian Methods

- Unlocking Faster Trade: A Bayesian Impact Assessment of Egypt’s Trade Reforms. Dawoud, A., et al. (2026). *ECES Policy Brief*.
- Reading Between the Lines: Deconfounding Causal Estimates using Text Embeddings. Dawoud, A., & El Shamy, O. (2026). *arXiv*.
- ProRCA: A Causal Python Package for Actionable Root Cause Analysis. Dawoud, A., & Talupula, S. (2025). *arXiv*.

AI, Labor Markets & Large Language Models

- Graph-Based Analysis of AI-Driven Labor Market Transitions: Evidence from 10,000 Egyptian Jobs. Dawoud, A., et al. (2026). *arXiv*.
- Redefinition of Work in Egypt: How AI is Reshaping Skill Demands. Dawoud, A., et al. (2026). *ECES Working Paper*.
- The Emerging ‘Hybrid Professional’: GenAI and Skill Demand in the UAE. Dawoud, A., & Habashy, A. (2026). *ORF Special Report*.
- Signal in the Noise: Decoding Airline Service Quality with Large Language Models. Dawoud, A., et al. (2026). *arXiv*.
- A Framework for Real-Time Labor Market Intelligence. Dawoud, A., et al. (2025). *ECES Working Paper*.
- Unveiling the Secrets of Freelancing Success: Comparative Study of Egypt and India. Dawoud, A. (2024). *ECES Working Paper*.

Trade, Gulf Economies & Public Policy

- The Egypt–GCC Economic Relationship in an Era of Strategic Transformation. Dawoud, A., & Vij, S. (2026). *ORF Occasional Paper*.
- Properly Addressing Informality in the Arab World. Abdel-Latif, A., & Dawoud, A. (2020). *T20 Policy Brief*.
- Business Process Analysis of Exporting and Importing (four-product series). Said, R., Dawoud, A., et al. (2023). *ECES Working Papers*.
- Quantitative Estimation of the Corona Pandemic’s Impact on Population Growth. Dawoud, A. (2020). *ECES*.

SKILLS & TOOLS

- Investment Research:** Due diligence research, feasibility analysis, market sizing, country and sector risk research
- Analytical Methods:** Causal inference, Bayesian modeling, econometrics, machine learning
- Technical:** Python, R, SQL; data pipelines and LLM-based document analysis
- Languages:** Arabic (native), English (fluent, IELTS 7.5)