



Export Credit & Trade: Is There a Role for the ECAs in the Arab Region?

ائتمان الصادرات والتجارة: هل من دور لوكالات ائتمان الصادرات في المنطقة العربية؟

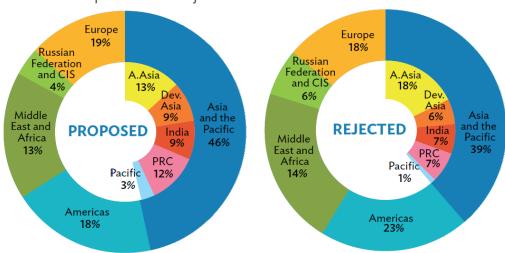
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Trade Finance Gaps & Export Credit Trade finance gaps persist for emerging economies and small and

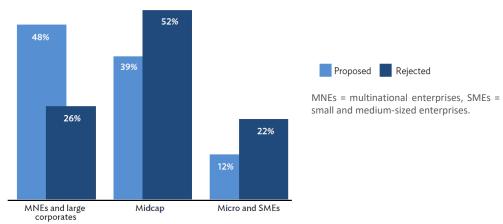
medium-sized enterprises

Proposed and Rejected Trade Finance Transactions

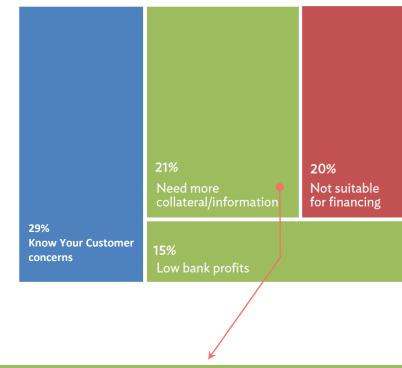


A.Asia= Advanced Asia (Hong Kong, China; Japan; the Republic of Korea; and Singapore); CIS= Commonwealth of Independent States; Dev. Asia= Developing Asia excluding the PRC and India; PRC= People's Republic of China.

Source: ADB. 2017 Trade Finance Gaps, Growth, and Jobs Survey.



Reasons Banks Reject Trade Finance Applications (% of rejections)



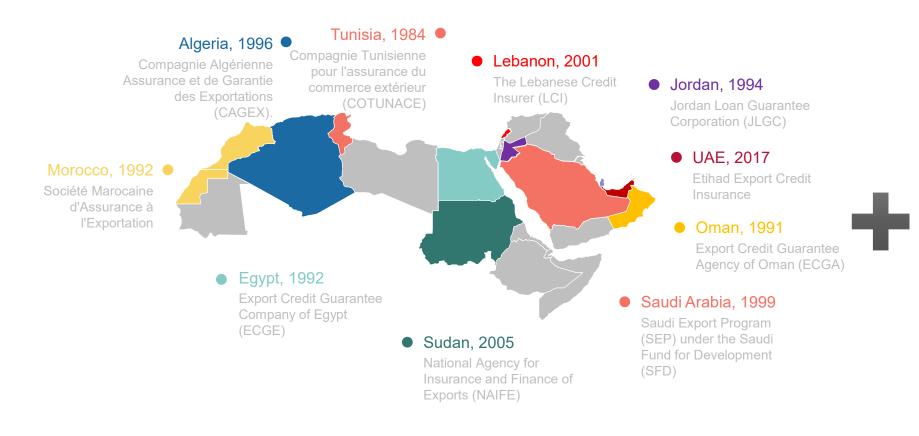
Role of Export Credit Agencies

- Offers insurance protection to exporters against payment risks
- ✓ Provides guidance in export-related activities
- √ Makes available information on different countries with its own credit ratings
- √ Makes it easy to obtain export finance from banks/financial institutions
- Assists exporters in recovering bad debt
- Provides information on credit-worthiness of overseas buyers



ECAs in the Arab World

Arab Countries with ECA Facilities



National



The Arab Investment & Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (Dhaman), 1974



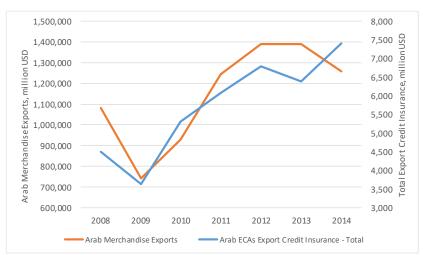
Multilateral



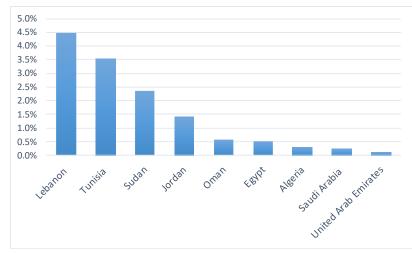
Illustrative Figures

Merchandise exports and trade insurance volumes in the Arab Cs

Merchandise Exports and ECAs Export Credit Insurance



Trade Insurance Volumes as a Share of Merchandise Exports



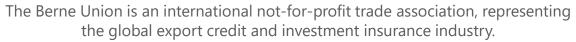
Trade Insurance Volumes as a Share of Merchandise Exports for the Group of Selected Arab ECAs



Sources: Aman Union for credit export insurance series covering 9 Arab ECAs; UnctadStat for merchandise exports series.







Record USD 2.5 trillion of trade and investment supported by Berne Union insurers in 2018

This amounts to the equivalent of 13% of total world cross-border trade





Arab Exports and Credit-Worthiness Evidence for the practicality of specialized export financial institutions to

financing exports and mitigating credit risk.

Conceptualization

The level of export volume is greater in presence of an export credit insurance scheme with a fair premium

Hypothesis

Positive and significant relationship between credit worthiness and exports.

Results

Direct and significant positive relationship between credit worthiness and exports coming from Arab countries: a 10 % increase in the credit score of an importing country is expected to lead to a 8.3 % increase in Arab exports of goods to that



	System GMM
$ln(Export_{it-1})$	0.534***
	(0.051)
$ln(Creditw_{it})$	0.386***
	(0.161)
$ln(FDI_{it-1})$	0.237***
	(0.036)
$ln(Manuf_{it})$	-1.191***
	(0.316)
Dummy variable for years 2008 and 2009 ¹	-0.077***
	(0.254)
Number of observations	2033
Number of partners	107
Wald Chi2	605.48***
Sargan test of overidentifying restrictions p-value	1.00
Arellano-Bond AR(1) p-value	0.00***
Arellano-Bond AR(2) p-value	0.36

¹ Global merchandise trade sharply declined in late 2008 and early 2009. Therefore, a crisis dummy variable is added as an independent variable; it takes the value one for years 2008-2009 and 0 otherwise.

Robust White heteroscedastic consistent standard errors are in parentheses. All variables are in natural logarithms. Specific effects dummies are included but not shown. The response variable is the natural logarithm of real total export of goods per capita of importing country. *** Significant at 1%, ** Significant at 5% and * Significant at 10%.



Data

Balanced panel of 107 Arab partner

countries (importer countries) between

of the total Arab merchandise exports

(898.5 billion US\$ in 2017).

Boosting Arab Exports Clear and compelling justification to the usefulness of ECAs,

but....



For More Details

See Dhaman Working Paper WP/2018/02

http://dhaman.net/en/



Dhaman Working Paper

Has Export Credit Guarantee Any Role in Promoting Exports in Arab Countries?



Dhaman Working Papers describe research in progress by the Research and Country Risk Department and are published to elicit comments and to enourage debate. The views expressed in Dhaman Working Papers are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of Dhaman, its Executive Board, or Dhaman management.

Abstract:

Limitations on the availability of timely and affordable trade financing, including export credit guarantee, are contributing to modest trade growth during the last five years, therefore it must be a matter of priority to improve our understanding of the linkages between financing/risk mitigation and trade activity, ensuring adequate levels of the former, to help fuel growth of the latter.

The existing research works on the effects of export credit insurance on export promotion mostly are concentrated around several European countries. Yet nothing is known about the influence of export credit guarantees on exports in the Arab region, where the structure of export industries and key trading partners significantly differ from other regions. The purpose of this paper is to bridge this gap by investigating empirically the significance of the relationship between exports and credit-worthiness of importing countries, using Arab merchandise export values. Corroborating evidence for such relationship gives support to the usefulness of specialized export financial institutions to finance exports, mitigate credit risk and keep trade finance markets in Arab countries from drying up. A dynamic panel approach is adopted to estimate an adjusted gravity model. The empirical results, based on a balanced panel of 107 Arab partner countries (importer countries) observed between 1997 and 2017, provide a strong and robust justification to the role of export credit insurance and guarantees in promoting merchandise exports in the Arab region.





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