



20th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION (MEEA-2024)

"Technology, Development and Sustainability in MENA Region"

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**20th INTERNATIONAL
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ASSOCIATION (MEEA)**

**“TECHNOLOGY, DEVELOPMENT AND
SUSTAINABILITY IN MENA REGION”**

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| | |
|---|-----------|
| Economic Motivations Of The Renewable Energy Transition: Empirical Evidence From EU Countries | 15 |
| Şaban Nazlıođlu, Sabri Burak Arzova and Bertaç Şakir Şahin | |
| Convergence of Employee Skills in Türkiye | 16 |
| Bilge Eris Dereli and Mehmet Pinar | |
| Investigating Contemporaneous and Lagged R2 Connectedness Among MENAT Stock Market Returns and the Global Energy Uncertainty Index | 17 |
| Birce Tedik Kocakaya, Esra Aydın and Pinar Evrim Mandacı | |
| Trade Liberalization And Gender Inequality In Employment In The Selected Mena Countries | 18 |
| M. Burak Önemli | |
| Quality of government Cohesion Across The EU Regions: Last Stop is Ankara | 19 |
| Burhan Can Karahasan | |
| Achieving Carbon Neutrality in MENA Region: The Role of Innovation and Environmental Policies | 20 |
| Büşra Ađan | |
| Testing the Extended STIRPAT Model for Low-Carbon Economy in MENA Region | 21 |
| Canan Şentürk, Selin Kaya and Onur Sungur | |
| The (Un)intended Consequences of Unconventional Monetary Policy in Türkiye: Inflation, Inequality, and Growth | 22 |
| Caner Özdurak and Bilge Çipe | |
| The Impact of the Middle-Income Trap and the Erosion of the Middle Class on Inflation in Türkiye | 23 |
| Caner Özdurak and Alican Umut | |
| The Survival Of Firm-Destination Export Relation In Turkiye | 24 |
| Cemre Küçük Pekmezci | |
| Impact of foreign aid on environmental quality in MENA non-oil exporting countries: The moderating role of institutional quality | 25 |
| Ebaidalla Mahjoub Ebaidalla | |
| Analysis The Interaction Of Economy And Politics In Terms Of Opportunistic Political Business Cycle Theory | 27 |
| Ebru Z. Boyacıođlu and D. Göktuđ Gücyener | |
| Job Satisfaction and Deviation From Desired Working Hours: A Cross-Country Examination | 28 |
| Elif Göral | |

Testing the Extended STIRPAT Model for Low-Carbon Economy in MENA Region

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Abstract

On global scale, the amount of waste and carbon created is increasing day by day because of the reasons such as increasing population, urbanization, consumption, industrial production and energy demand etc. Moreover, according to the World Economic Forum's global risks map, environmental problems and climate change have been among the most important risks since 2011. The fact that economic growth, one of the basic components of sustainable development, is limited to linear processes (rather than closed-loop/circular systems) threatens another component, environmental quality. Therefore, the importance of growth with a low-carbon economy model emerges both on a global and national scale. In this context, the study aims to provide a more comprehensive framework for investigating the main arguments for a low-carbon economy and environmental degradation in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. Based on the principle of sustainability, the variables of trade openness and renewable energy are added to the main elements of the STIRPAT model (population, affluence and technology). The extended STIRPAT model is tested with the ARDL bounds test approach using data from MENA region for the period 1990-2020. According to the results obtained, while population, affluence and technology variables give statistically significant results in the long term, the effect of the trade openness variable is observed in the short term. 38% of the effect of the shock is eliminated after a period from deviation from long-term equilibrium following short-term shocks. In other words it is concluded that the adaptation process is slowly.

Key Words: Sustainable development, Trade openness, MENA region

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