

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Background:

Mohamad Taha Al-Ahmad
Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, Salvation Government

Mohamad Taha Al-Ahmad is a highly regarded agricultural expert and a key figure in the Syrian agricultural sector. Currently serving as the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation in the Salvation Government, Al-Ahmad has significant expertise in agricultural economics and development, with a focus on enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainability in Syria.

In his role as minister, Al-Ahmad has been instrumental in shaping policies and strategies aimed at improving the efficiency of agricultural production in the region, particularly focusing on crop cultivation, irrigation systems, and the economic viability of agricultural projects. His work has had a significant impact on the development of agricultural practices in both the private and public sectors in Syria.

Additionally, Al-Ahmad has contributed to several key agricultural research initiatives and has been involved in policy discussions concerning agricultural reform and food security in Syria. His background in agricultural economics has positioned him as a key decision-maker in the governmental efforts to ensure the agricultural sector's resilience amidst the ongoing challenges in the region.

Education

1. 2007 – B.Sc. in Agricultural Economics, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering, Aleppo University, Syria.
2. 2012 – M.Sc. in Financial and Economic Evaluation of Agricultural Projects, Cairo University, Egypt
Thesis: Financial and Economic Evaluation of Land Reclamation Projects in Hama Governorate.
3. 2020 – Ph.D. in Agricultural Economic Development, Idlib University, Syria
Thesis: Determinants of Economic Development in Idlib Governorate.

Area of Interest

1. Humanitarian Work
2. Livelihood Coordination
3. Value Chain Analysis
4. Food Security
5. Marketing Analysis
6. Time Series Analysis
7. Applied Statistics
8. Agricultural Economics
9. Community Development

Skills

1. Agricultural Economics & Policy Development

- Extensive experience in the economic evaluation of agricultural projects, with a focus on land reclamation, crop production, and post-conflict recovery strategies.
- Expertise in agricultural policy design and economic reform to support sustainable agricultural practices in Syria and the broader region.

2. Data Analysis & Statistical Modeling

- Proficient in utilizing advanced data analysis tools such as SPSS, GenStat, MICROFIT, and DEAP for the evaluation of agricultural projects and economic development initiatives.
- Skilled in applying econometric modeling techniques for the estimation of production functions and cost-benefit analysis of agricultural activities.

3. Project Management & Coordination

- Experienced in managing large-scale agricultural and economic development projects aimed at land reclamation, irrigation, and agricultural infrastructure development.
- Proven ability to lead and coordinate multi-disciplinary teams, ensuring timely project delivery, effective resource allocation, and compliance with international standards.

4. Survey Design & Implementation

- Expertise in designing and implementing comprehensive surveys tailored to agricultural economics research and post-conflict recovery assessments.
- Skilled in selecting appropriate sampling techniques (e.g., stratified, cluster) to ensure data accuracy and statistical reliability.

5. Strategic Planning & Economic Forecasting

- Strong background in strategic planning for agricultural development and economic recovery, particularly in post-conflict areas.
- Proficient in the use of time-series analysis for economic forecasting, assessing market trends, and identifying opportunities for growth in the agricultural sector.

6. Financial Analysis & Budgeting

- Adept at conducting financial evaluations of agricultural projects, including cost-effectiveness analysis, return on investment (ROI) assessments, and sustainability planning.
- Experience in budget preparation and resource allocation for government and non-governmental agricultural initiatives.

7. Leadership & Team Development

- Demonstrated leadership skills in managing agricultural and economic development teams.
- Experience in training and mentoring staff and local leaders in agricultural best practices, economic development, and the management of public resources.

8. Stakeholder Engagement & Policy Advocacy

- Proven ability to engage with a variety of stakeholders, including government officials, international organizations, local communities, and private sector partners, to advocate for effective agricultural policies and economic reforms.
- Skilled in representing Syria's agricultural interests at regional and international forums, advocating for policy changes and technical assistance.

9. Languages

- **Arabic** (Native)
- **English** (TOFEL)
- Ability to communicate and collaborate effectively with international stakeholders in both English and Arabic and to engage in multilingual projects.

10. Computer & Software Proficiency

- Advanced proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, Word, PowerPoint), essential for data analysis, report preparation, and project management.
- Familiar with software tools like **SPSS**, **GenStat**, **MICROFIT**, and **DEAP** for statistical analysis and economic modeling.

Formal Training:

1. Management of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).
2. Courses in Strategic Planning.
3. Training in Agricultural Policy and Economic
4. Leadership and Governance Programs

Professional Trajectory:

1. **2017: Appointed Director of the Idlib Administration.**
2. **2017–2019: Served as Director of the Civil Administration for Services.**
3. **2017–2023: Held the position of Minister of Economy and Resources in the Syrian Salvation Government.**
4. **2020–2023: Functioned as Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation during the third to sixth terms of the Salvation Government.**
5. **December 2024–March 2025: Served as Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform in the Syrian Transitional Government.**

Professional Background:

1. **Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation in the Salvation Government**, a role he has held for a number of years, contributing significantly to the development and reform of Syria's agricultural policies.
2. As a **Syrian agricultural expert**, he has an extensive background in agricultural economics, focusing on improving the efficiency of agricultural production systems in Syria.
3. Al-Ahmad is **well-regarded** for his involvement in shaping agricultural policies related to **irrigation systems, crop production, and land reclamation**. His expertise has made him a key figure in promoting sustainable agricultural practices amidst Syria's complex challenges.
4. **Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation in the Syrian Interim Government in 2025**
5. **Founder of the General Administration of Services**
6. **Founder of the Salvation Government**
7. **Minister of Economy and Resources in the Salvation Government**

Affiliations:

Associated with Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) until 2025, a group influential in the formation of the Salvation Government.

Contributions and Initiatives:

1. **Agricultural Development:** Pivotal in formulating policies to enhance agricultural productivity and sustainability in Syria.
2. **Land Reclamation Projects:** Led evaluations and implementations aimed at restoring and optimizing agricultural lands, notably in Hama Governorate.
3. **Farmer Support:** Instrumental in introducing loan grants to farmers in Idlib to bolster agricultural production.

Recent Developments:

In March 2025, the Second Syrian Transitional Government was formed, with ministers, including Al-Ahmad, taking oaths and outlining their agendas.

Political Influence and Leadership:

1. **Key Role in the Salvation Government:** As a founding member of the Salvation Government, Al-Ahmad has been at the forefront of governmental efforts to manage Syria's agricultural sector during ongoing conflict. His position as the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation gave him significant influence in shaping policies designed to rebuild the agricultural economy in war-torn regions.

2. Syrian Transitional Government: In 2024, he played an important role in the formation of the Syrian Transitional Government. His leadership in agricultural policy remains a focal point as Syria works towards its post-conflict recovery phase.
3. Economic Resilience: Al-Ahmad's work has been focused on economic resilience, emphasizing agricultural self-sufficiency and minimizing dependency on foreign imports, especially for staple crops like wheat, barley, and olives.

Agricultural and Economic Initiatives:

- Promotion of Hydroponic Agriculture: Recognizing the challenges of water scarcity in Syria, Al-Ahmad has supported the expansion of hydroponic farming, particularly for barley production. These systems allow farmers to grow crops with minimal water, a crucial strategy given Syria's water shortages.
- Land Reclamation and Irrigation: A significant part of Al-Ahmad's policy agenda has been to restore Syria's agricultural lands through land reclamation projects. These efforts have been particularly important in regions such as Hama and Idlib, where much of the agricultural land has been rendered unusable due to war.
- Economic Development of Idlib: In his role as Minister, he spearheaded multiple economic development projects in Idlib Governorate, aiming to support local farmers with better technologies and techniques while simultaneously focusing on improving food security and market access.

Publications and Research:

Al-Ahmad has also contributed to the field of agricultural economics through his research and publications. His work typically covers the financial and economic evaluations of various agricultural practices and projects, such as:

- Production and Cost Functions: He has worked on the statistical estimation of production and cost functions for major crops, such as wheat, potatoes, and olives, in Idlib Governorate.
- Economic Efficiency of Agricultural Systems: His work often assesses the economic efficiency of agricultural production systems, helping to identify the most cost-effective farming practices in Syria.

International Relations and Advocacy:

- Syria's Role in International Agricultural Discussions: As a key figure in the Salvation Government, Al-Ahmad has represented Syria in international agricultural forums and discussions about Syria's post-conflict agricultural rehabilitation.
- Advocacy for Syrian Farmers: Al-Ahmad has also been an advocate for Syrian farmers, regularly pushing for international aid and resources to support agriculture in the region. His initiatives often seek to improve living conditions for rural communities and ensure that farmers have the tools they need to succeed.

Contributions to Agricultural Policy:

Agricultural Economics: Al-Ahmad's work has been instrumental in developing policies that aim to increase agricultural output, improve food security, and create more sustainable livelihoods for agricultural communities in Syria.

Land Reclamation Projects: As part of his efforts to improve agricultural infrastructure, Al-Ahmad has been involved in several land reclamation projects to restore and optimize agricultural land, particularly in Hama Governorate, where he has been part of key evaluations and assessments.

Role in the Syrian Agricultural Sector:

Al-Ahmad's leadership in the Salvation Government's Ministry of Agriculture has been focused on the revitalization of Syria's agricultural sector, which has faced significant disruptions due to the ongoing conflict in the country.

His work continues to emphasize economic resilience in the agricultural sector by improving market access for farmers, enhancing production techniques, and ensuring sustainability in the face of resource constraints.

Conference & Symposium:

1. International Agricultural Development Forum.
2. Middle East Agricultural Policy Summit
3. Regional Development and Economic Recovery Symposium

Miscellaneous

1. Member of the Syrian Agricultural Engineers Association.
2. Member of the Syrian Economic Society
3. Volunteer Work in Post-Conflict Reconstruction
4. Award for Excellence in Agricultural Policy
5. Publications and Contributions to Agricultural Journals

Scientific Publications

1. Financial and Economic Evaluation of Hydroponic Barley Production Projects in Idlib Governorate, African Journal of Biological Sciences.
2. Technical and Economic Efficiency of Major Crops in Idlib Governorate.
3. Production Functions for Major Crops in Idlib Governorate.
4. Determinants of Economic Development in Idlib Governorate.
5. Statistical Estimation of Production and Cost Functions for Wheat, Autumn Potatoes, and Olive Crops in Idlib Governorate for the 2018-2019 Season.
6. Financial and Economic Evaluation of Land Reclamation Projects in Hama Governorate