



Middle East &  
North Africa

# Gender Innovation Lab

NEWSLETTER

The [MNA Gender Innovation Lab \(MNAGIL\)](#) invests in high-quality experimental research to find the most effective interventions and facilitate the use of research evidence in policy and practice to close the many gender gaps in the MNA region.

## MNAGIL's Top Five Experimental Research Projects 2019

We are pleased to announce the top winners for our [first call for Expressions of Interest!](#) The winning projects listed below were selected from 17 submissions after two rounds of review by the Steering Committee. These impact evaluations are aimed at finding the best evidence-based interventions to increase women's economic participation in the MNA region.



### JORDAN: Reduce the Performance Achievement Gap in STEM for Girls and Women through Self-Affirmation Methods

The evaluation uses randomized controlled trials to test the effectiveness of values affirmation intervention on girls' learning outcomes and reduce the gender achievement gap in mathematics for 7th-grade female students in 120 Jordanian public schools with a high percentage of Syrian refugees.



### TUNISIA: Enhancing Female Entrepreneurship through Public Works Program and Capital Injections Intervention

The evaluation tests the impact of a capital injection intervention targeting women entrepreneurs graduating from Labor Intensive Public Works aimed at alleviating capital and credit constraints in Jendouba, one of the most under-served regions of rural Tunisia.



### EGYPT: Using Digital Technology to Expand Markets for Female Entrepreneurs

A randomized controlled trial tests the demand side interventions for firm growth using a pay-for-results treatment arm to encourage technology adoption for 2550 small, informal, and formal firms in clothing, prepared food, and electronics industries, with a significant share of women-led businesses, to overcome market frictions in Egypt.





**EGYPT: Assessing the Impact of Providing Access to Nurseries on Female Labor Force Participation**

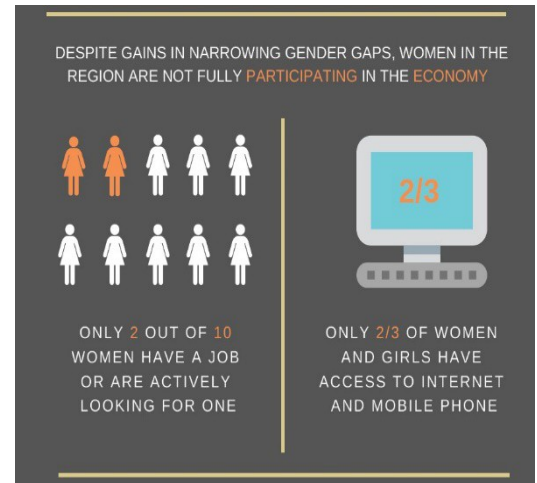
The randomized controlled trials evaluate the impact of interventions of improved access to and affordability of nurseries on female labor force participation (FLFP) and cross-randomize connecting mothers with work opportunities to assess the labor demand on FLFP among the most vulnerable women in Egypt.



**YEMEN: Evaluating the Impact of SMEPS Training and Livestock Interventions on Women's Entrepreneurship**

The cluster-randomized control trials with two treatment arms measure the impact of interventions on income and livestock productivity of 1,100 women livestock breeders across 70 villages in Yemen whose businesses have been negatively affected by the ongoing conflict.

**MNA Gender Gaps Infographic**



**Experimental Research Publications**

- [The Cash for Nutrition Intervention in Yemen](#)
- [The Effects of Misperceptions of Social Norms on Female Labor Force Participation in Saudi Arabia](#)



## Coming in February 2020

### Call for Papers

# MNA Innovative Gender Intervention Fund

We are seeking the best new policy-relevant research to apply lessons of effective interventions in policies and programs supported by the World Bank and development partners to increase women's economic participation in MNA

**MNAGIL Team**

The Middle East and North Africa Gender Innovation Lab (MNAGIL) was established in March 2019 within the MNA Chief Economist Office at the World Bank. The Lab generates smart evidence to promote the adoption of evidence-based policies in World Bank programs and dialogues with regional policymakers and practitioners to address the long-standing gender gaps in MNA countries. The Lab's activity is guided by a Technical Steering Committee of economists and development practitioners. Our team looks forward to hearing new ideas and finding ways to collaborate with your team. Reach out to us.

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