



WHAT'S NEW

Interested in an Impact Evaluation for Your Project in Africa?

The [Africa Gender Innovation Lab](#) is seeking NGOs, governments, donors, and private sector firms with programs, policies, or products designed to close gender gaps in Sub-Saharan Africa in youth employment; entrepreneurship; property rights; or agriculture to work with the Lab to generate evidence on how to close gender gaps. For more information, see the open [Call for Expression of Interest](#) that closes on May 17, 2017.



GRANTEE INTERVIEW

How to Make Employability Programs Work for Vulnerable Women?

In our most recent interview we ask Pablo Ariel Acosta, Senior Economist in the Social Protection and Labor Global Practice, to reflect on lessons for enhancing outcomes for women through income support and employability programs. The UFGE supported a qualitative evaluation of the Temporary Income Support and Employability Program for El Salvador, where 70 percent of participants were women.



The program increased job readiness and willingness to start a business, as well as participation in the labor market. However, Mr. Acosta notes, *"while men were better able to translate their participation in PATI into higher earnings...no impact was reported for women's earnings after their graduation. This is reflective of labor market constraints that limit women's access to better paid jobs."* Lack of childcare is one the constraints, which is now addressed in the Government's new youth employment and employability program. Read the full interview [here](#).

RECENT EVENTS

National and Community Based Prevention Programs Addressing Intimate Partner Violence

On March 13, 2017 in New York City, the WBG joined partners such as the WHO and the Global Women's Institute to highlight examples of national and community-based interventions to prevent Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) during the **61st session** of the UN Commission on the Status of Women. The WBG presented the UFGE-funded study **Community-Based Approaches to Intimate Partner Violence** which gives examples of effective interventions and guidance on how to adapt these in various contexts.



Using Codes of Conduct to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence

On March 6, over 60 WBG staff from more than 9 Global Practices and the IFC joined a UFGE learning event on how to use of codes of conduct to proactively prevent violence against women and girls in projects. These codes outline unacceptable behavior and consequences for harassment and any other type of gendered violence, and commonly include mechanisms for the community to report cases of abuse. Lead Transport Specialist, Christopher Bennett, offered practical advice from the Vanuatu Aviation Investment Project where the UFGE supports a codes of conduct as part of the project's procurement, together with Carmine Soprano, Trade and Gender Specialist with the **Great Lakes Trade Facilitation Project** using a customs and border charter for small-scale cross-border traders.



Women's Voices from ECA on Jobs and Shared Prosperity

On February 28, authors of the recent UFGE-supported report **Voices of Europe and Central Asia: New Insights on Shared Prosperity and Jobs** led a discussion on traditional and non-traditional barriers to economic mobility and jobs, including the role of social norms. Questions centered on which barriers disproportionately affect women, and how to expand our diagnostic and policy tools to better assess and improve economic opportunities for women.



Boosting Agribusiness through Inclusive Employment and Stronger Value Chains

On February 8, the IFC, Agriculture, and Trade & Competitiveness Global Practices hosted over 60 colleagues to discuss the role of public and private sectors in helping agribusiness companies invest in women. At the center of the discussion were two recent IFC reports: The UFGE-supported **Business Case for Women's Employment in Agribusiness** (see Publications section) and **Investing in Women along Agribusiness Value Chains**. These offer concrete examples and guidance on how companies can increase their profits and productivity by investing in women as part of their direct workforce and as smallholder farmers/agents along agribusiness value chains.





The Business Case for Women's Employment in Agribusiness

Agribusiness remains central to food security, job creation and inclusive economic growth in many low-income economies. Mounting evidence confirms that investing in women as employees in agribusiness can increase the sector's productivity and profitability. **The IFC report** shows how five leading companies achieved this by for example promoting women in management and non-traditional occupations, supporting working parents, enforcing sexual harassment rules, and collecting better data on their workforce.



Could Childcare Services Improve Women's Labor Market Outcomes in Indonesia?

economy and work-life policies.

The East Asia and Pacific Gender Innovation Lab's first policy brief finds Indonesia's low female labor force participation is linked to unsatisfied childcare needs. Urban women without access to childcare from an elderly household member forego about US\$1,300 in earnings due to prolonged absence from the labor market. For some, earnings losses are not temporary as women without elderly support are more likely to move out of manufacturing and into lower-paying occupations in agriculture or sales. See the **UFGE-website** for more publications on care



The Gender Pension Gap in the Aging Societies of East Asia

Because women's life courses are different from men's, pension systems often have different outcomes for women and men. With populations aging, more women will have to join the labor force. Ensuring they receive adequate pension benefits is critical to protect welfare and economic growth. This could mean accounting for women's shorter working careers and breaks in formal employment due chiefly to family responsibilities, or considering universal social pensions to shrink the gender pension gap and protect against old age poverty.



Gender Dimensions of Small-Scale Cross-Border Trade in Cambodia and the Lao People's Democratic Republic

A study found that Women in Cambodia and Lao PDR, with otherwise limited economic opportunities, stand to gain from burgeoning small-scale cross-border trade. Women traders, however, report having less time to trade, and having to pay more in transaction and transportation costs than men. Interventions such as streamlining taxation, formulating a charter of rights, and investing in transport infrastructure could help to address these disparities. See the related **feature story**, **slideshow**, and **the policy note**.

Research Working Papers:

- [A Firm of One's Own: Experimental Evidence on Credit Constraints and Occupational Choice](#)
- [Evaluation of an Adolescent Development Program for Girls in Tanzania](#)

Visit our website to see [all publications](#).

ABOUT US

The Umbrella Facility for Gender Equality (UFGE) is a World Bank Group multi-donor trust fund expanding evidence, knowledge and data needed to identify and address key gaps between men and women to deliver better development solutions that boost prosperity and increase opportunity for all. The UFGE has received generous contributions from Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United States. For more information, visit [our website](#).



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World Bank Group, 1818 H St. NW, Washington, DC 20433