The 4th annual progress report for the Umbrella Facility for Gender Equality is now available. Learn about the results of the program which now supports 85 activities in nearly 60 countries across all regions. With over 30 reports and briefs published, and much more to come, the UFGE is offering new data, research, and evidence on what works to improve women's economic opportunities, including provision of care services, tackling social norms and behaviors, enabling non-traditional employment in areas such as transport, and preventing intimate partner violence through community-based interventions. Read the report and visit the website to learn more.

Sincerely,

The UFGE Secretariat

WHAT'S NEW

An Important Step to Building the Evidence Base in East Asia & the Pacific

The Gender Innovation Lab in East Asia and the Pacific (EAPGIL) sets out to better integrate an evidence-based gender perspective into programs and policies related to agricultural productivity, entrepreneurship, skills development, and balancing domestic and market roles. The Lab recently issued a call for expressions of interest for technical and financial support to conduct impact evaluations of
World Bank and non-World Bank projects. Mr. Sudhir Shetty, Chief Economist for the EAP Region noted: "EAPGIL will work with the project teams to design and implement impact evaluations that address crucial policy questions to help policy makers make decisions based on evidence of what works." Read the full blog and visit the new website to learn more.

**GRANTEE INTERVIEW**

**From a UFGGE Pilot to a Helpline for Survivors of Gender-Based Violence in Nepal**

Ms. Luiza Nora, Social Development Specialist in the South Asia region, leads the World Bank's Integrated Platform for Gender Based Violence Prevention and Response in Nepal. The project is scaling up the award-winning Fight Violence against Women (FightVAW) pilot, initially developed and tested with UFGGE funding. The project is creating a comprehensive GBV response system with a 24-hour helpline and integrated service referral for better coordination among existing support providers.

Describing the program, Nora said: "*Working closely with our local partners on addressing widespread violence against women in Nepal, we found that there were substantial gaps in information and services being provided to GBV survivors at the local level... The UFGGE funding helped us to test the ideas, brainstorm what's needed and what might work, and ultimately to turn this into a standalone project.*" Read the full interview.

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Gender-dimensions of Collective Forest Tenure Reform in China**

A study on China's forest sector reform - the largest land-reform undertaken in modern times - finds that women are disadvantaged in the reform process and stresses the need to improve women's access to and participation in decision-making on forest lands. The study identifies income generating options for women in the forestry and related sectors, and recommends policy actions to improve property rights, income security, and status of women in these rural areas.

Read the story or download the policy note or full report.

**Sisters of Success: Measuring the Impact of Mentoring and Girls Groups in Liberia**

Findings from the Africa Gender Innovation Lab's baseline report for the Sisters of Success (SOS) program in Monrovia, Liberia challenge conventional wisdom on girls' education in Sub-Saharan Africa. With 95% of the girls enrolled in school, no gender gap was found in school enrollment or household spending on education. Yet, girls remain behind in their schooling. Read the report (above) or the related blog.
• Working Paper: Women's Empowerment, Sibling Rivalry and Competitiveness - Evidence from a Lab Experiment and a Randomized Control Trial in Uganda
• Findings from a Nationally Representative Health Center and Health Center Worker Survey in Lao PDR

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