Push Toward Multi-Sectoral Solutions to Closing Key Gender Gaps
The UFGE recently announced funding for three activities that bring together teams from multiple Global Practices to address cross-cutting global challenges. These activities promise to advance women’s economic empowerment by:

1. **Boosting women’s employment in the ICT sector.** The team will test and rigorously evaluate coding boot camps for low-skilled young women in Lahore (Pakistan), Medellin (Colombia), and Nairobi (Kenya).

2. **Expanding female farmers' access to finance using mobile technologies and digitized data.** The initiative brings together Finance and Markets and Agriculture Global Practices to help close the global gender gap in financial access.

3. **Equipping policymakers with evidence-based tools for designing quality, integrated and affordable long-term care services that focus on female caregivers** and identify lessons for multi-sectoral interventions that support better health and livelihoods for women 45 and older.

More Ways to Stay Up-To-Date
**Sign up** to receive the newly launched newsletter of the World Bank’s [Africa Gender Innovation Lab](#). It’s a great way to stay current on the Lab’s latest impact evaluation findings through policy briefs, research working papers, synthesis papers, blogs, and much more!
GRANTEE INTERVIEW

Making Energy Subsidy Reforms Work for Women and Men

Sophia Georgieva, Social Development Specialist in the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) region, was the lead author of a qualitative study in eight ECA countries examining women's and men's coping strategies and challenges in interacting with public institutions in the face of rising energy costs in the region. A companion toolkit allows teams to better diagnose social issues in energy tariff and subsidy reforms.

Describing the findings, Sophia said "...women could be powerful agents of change toward greater energy efficiency if the appropriate information reaches them... As women use a majority of the household energy and resort to a variety of coping strategies to curb the rising costs, they should be targeted to receive information on how to reduce energy consumption without compromising basic needs..." Read the full interview here.

EVENTS

UPCOMING:
Women's Voices from ECA on Jobs and Shared Prosperity
Washington DC: February 28, 2017. Room MC6-860, 12:30-2:00PM (EST)

Join a discussion on traditional and non-traditional barriers to economic mobility and jobs, including the role of social norms. Which of these barriers disproportionately affect women? How do we expand our diagnostic and policy tools to better assess and improve economic opportunities for women? At the center of the discussion will be the recently published report Voices of Europe and Central Asia: New Insights on Shared Prosperity and Jobs (see Publications section, below).

Interested in participating online through WebEX? Contact Shirley Bekoe for details.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:
16Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Campaign

The World Bank Group took part in the annual global campaign to showcase innovative ways of tackling this epidemic that affects 1 in 3 women worldwide. The UFGE was proud to see highlighted two of its initiatives that mobilize creative industries, civil society organizations, and communities to prevent and respond to GBV:

- **Transforming the conversation about acid attacks**: As part of the World Bank's WEvolv Global Initiative, the captivating comic book Priya's Mirror uses storytelling and augmented reality to address GBV. The comic brings attention to the problem of victim-blaming and stigma that acid attack and rape survivors face.

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**PUBLICATIONS**

**Voices of Europe and Central Asia: New Insights on Shared Prosperity and Jobs**

**Empowering Girls Triggers Their Brothers to Compete**
Findings from a new [Africa Gil Policy Brief](https://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2023/09/01/2487178114645105987/empowering-girls-triggers-their-brothers-compete) show that empowering adolescent girls triggers a surge in their brothers' competitiveness, as found in an experiment in Uganda to examine gender differences in preference for competition. Results suggest that the benefits of adolescent girls' empowerment programs may go beyond the participating girls themselves to their brothers. See the related [working paper](https://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2023/09/01/2487178114645105987/empowering-girls-triggers-their-brothers-compete), and earlier findings from the same experiment on girls' empowerment ([policy brief](https://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2023/09/01/2487178114645105987/empowering-girls-triggers-their-brothers-compete) & [working paper](https://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2023/09/01/2487178114645105987/empowering-girls-triggers-their-brothers-compete)).

**Building an Ex Ante Simulation Model for Estimating the Capacity Impact, Benefit Incidence, and Cost Effectiveness of Child Care Subsidies: An Application Using Provider-Level Data from Turkey**
Public financing of child care can allow for more equitable access to these services in places where public provision and capacity are low. However, who benefits and the overall cost effectiveness will depend on the mechanisms of subsidy delivery. This paper proposes a simulation model to estimate these benefits. The model can be applied in other country contexts, with the only data requirements being micro data on the costs and pricing structure of child care providers, as well as household data with variables on household welfare and child care utilization.

Visit our website to see all publications.

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**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.