

The Africa Gender Innovation Lab:

A GUIDE FOR WORLD BANK TTLS

The World Bank's Africa Region Gender Innovation Lab (GIL) conducts impact evaluations of development interventions and policy research to generate evidence on how to close gender gaps in earnings, productivity, assets, and agency. With these findings, GIL enables project teams and policymakers to design innovative and scalable interventions that address gender inequality.



The GIL portfolio includes over 70 impact evaluations across Africa in 5 thematic areas:



Agriculture



Private Sector Development/
Entrepreneurship



Property Rights



Social Norms and Dynamics



Youth Employment/
Social Safety Nets

GIL has Advised Over **100 Projects** in More Than **35 Countries**

We are a team of staff economists and research analysts equipped with deep knowledge of econometrics, impact evaluations, and sectoral experience in our 5 thematic areas.

The Type of Services we Provide:

- **Evidence Briefs:** Briefing note and/or PPT summarizing the relevant literature and recommendations on a particular intervention
- **Design Support (light):** Meeting with GIL to discuss project design and provision of inputs to the PCN/ PAD
- **Design Support (extensive):** Cross-support during project preparation to help design intervention
- **Implementation and Impact Evaluation Partnership:** A GIL team member joins core team during preparation and implementation, and leads an impact evaluation
- **Country Level Support:** support in drafting strategic country diagnostics and advice on country program planning

In Focus

A FEW EXAMPLES OF GIL'S WORK WITH PARTNERS

Entrepreneurship

GIL partnered with the World Bank Togo Private Sector Development Support Project (P122326) on a business training program, and put forward a new, psychology-based training aimed at developing the growth mindsets of entrepreneurs. The GIL impact evaluation of the project showed that this “personal initiative” training resulted in a 40% increase in profits for female entrepreneurs in Togo, compared to no significant growth in profits for those who followed the traditional business training. GIL has subsequently helped teams introduce this training in their projects in over 10 countries on two continents, including variations for women farmers.

Youth Employment

The GIL team worked with the Sahel Women Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Regional Project -SWEDD- (P150080) and the India Tejaswini Socioeconomic Empowerment of Adolescent Girls & Young Women project (P150576) to include ‘safe space’ clubs for adolescent girls. This was based on previous GIL findings from Uganda which showed that the clubs raised the likelihood of girls engaging in income generating activities by 72% and decreased teen pregnancy by 26%, at a cost of under \$100 US per girl per year.

Agriculture

The policy conclusions from GIL’s Leveling the field report were integrated into the Decision Draft of the Systematic Country Diagnostic (SCD) of

Chad and informed the discussions on women’s access to assets and women’s productivity during the Mali SCD workshop. GIL is now working with agriculture project teams across sub-Saharan Africa to inform project designs and test innovative interventions to support women farmers.

Property Rights

In Rwanda, GIL provided advice for the design of a pilot that became one of the first initiatives in Africa to address tenure security on a national level. One of the factors contributing to women’s lower productivity as farmers is their weaker access to and ownership of land, which reduces their incentives to make productive investments. Responding to this constraint, GIL partnered with the Government of Rwanda to evaluate the pilot of Rwanda’s Land Tenure Regularization program. GIL evidence uncovered a 19-percentage point increase in the likelihood of women making soil conservation investments – twice the increase seen for men. With this evidence in hand, the pilot was scaled up nationally.

Social Norms and Dynamics

In Western DRC, GIL evidence uncovered that female plot managers spend 1 hour and 52 minutes more on domestic work per day than male plot managers, and that more than 60 percent of individuals reported being likely to leave their children in childcare if it was available. As a result, GIL is designing, implementing, and evaluating a system of community-based childcare center in partnership with a local NGO, the Ministry of Education, and an international NGO.

GET IN TOUCH

Visit our website:
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