

**Female entrepreneurship: Obstacles, innovative interventions, and impacts**

**April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013  
Washington DC**

**Room: IFC F 8P-100  
Program**

***9-30-10.15: Setting the stage: Where do we stand in the female entrepreneurship agenda?***

The session will provide the overall picture and present the key trends at the macro level with respect to female entrepreneurship.

Moderator: **Augusto Lopez-Claros**, Director, Global Indicators and Analysis, Financial and Private Sector Development, World Bank

Panelists:

**Asli Demirguc-Kunt**, Director, Development Research Group, World Bank

**Jeni Klugman**, Director, PREM Gender and Development, World Bank

***10.15-11.15: Which factors contribute to the growth of female run businesses?***

The session will highlight recent research that identifies key factors for promoting the growth of female run businesses. It will focus on the business environment and policy related aspects, and provide an overview of promising approaches to foster female entrepreneurship.

- What factors affect female entrepreneurship?
- Which areas appears the most promising to support growth of female run enterprises?

Moderator: **Matthew Gamsler**, Chief Operations Officer, IFC

Panelists:

**Syed Ejaz Ghani**, Lead Economist, PREM, World Bank –What explains gender differences in India? What can be done to promote shared prosperity?

**Sarah Iqbal**, Program Officer, World Bank- Women's Entrepreneurship and the Legal Environment

**Leora Klapper**, Lead Economist, Development Research Group, World Bank - Gender and the Business Environment for New Firm Creation

*11.15-11.30 Coffee break*

***11.30-12.40: Innovative interventions that can help female-run enterprises to grow: Recent examples from Africa***

The session provides an overview of innovative pilot interventions that are ongoing and are subject to rigorous evaluation. Specifically, it will highlight:

- the type of entrepreneurs, the outcomes of interest, and the type of constraint they wished to tackle with the interventions
- The reason for choosing a specific type of intervention, and the main results (if available)
- Whether the intervention could be easily replicated and what are the additional steps for ensuring successful replication

Moderator: **Caren Grown**, Senior Gender Advisor, USAID Bureau of Policy, Planning and Learning

Panelists:

**Elena Bardasi**, Senior Economist, Independent Evaluation Group, World Bank- Business Development Services for Women Entrepreneurs: The Virtual Business Incubator in Tanzania

**Niklas Buehren**, ET Consultant, Africa Region, Providing Entrepreneurship Skills to Adolescent Girls in Uganda

**Francisco Campos**, Economist, Africa Region, Financial and Private Sector Development, World Bank- Improving the productivity of women-owned enterprises: a mixed-methods study in Uganda

**Leonardo Iacovone**, Senior Economist, Financial and Private Sector Development, World Bank -Entrepreneurial training versus managerial training

***12.40-2.00: Formal launch of the entrepreneurship resource point: how to integrate gender in entrepreneurship related projects?***

This will be an interactive Q&A session to share recent World Bank experiences and present a new resource point for integrating gender in entrepreneurship related projects.

Moderator: **Jeni Klugman**, Director, PREM Gender and Development, World Bank

Panelists:

**Melissa Johns**, Adviser, Financial and Private Sector Development, World Bank

**Yasmin Tayyab**, Senior Social Development Specialist, World Bank

**Frederic Wandey**, Financial Officer, IFC

**Manar Ahmed Zaki Korayem**, Operations Officer, IFC

*Light lunch will be served*

***2.00- 3.00: Learning from failure: Discussing interventions that did not affect female-run businesses as intended***

This session discusses about interventions that did not work as prospected and the reasons behind these failures. Key topics for discussions are:

- The reason for choosing a specific type of intervention
- The key reason for failures
- The lesson learned and potential relevance to World Bank operations

Moderator: **Arianna Legovini**, Head, Development Impact Evaluation Initiative, World Bank

Panelists:

**Ghazala Mansuri**, Lead Economist, PREM, World Bank- Money or Ideas? A Field Experiment on Constraints to Entrepreneurship in Rural Pakistan

**David McKenzie**, Lead Economist, Development Research Group, World Bank- The Challenge of Growing Female-Owned Microenterprises in Sri Lanka

**Pierella Paci**, Lead Economist, PREM, World Bank- Lessons from the Result Based Initiative

**Mehnaz S. Safavian**, Senior Economist, Financial and Private Sector Development- Is Pakistan's microfinance sector serving women entrepreneurs?