

What in entrepreneurship development helps women entrepreneurs to succeed?

- What the evidence is telling us -

ILO – Geneva, Switzerland

September 18, 2015. 9:30-12:30, Library – R2

Recent research and rigorous evidence from entrepreneurship development initiatives around the world, many in Sub-Saharan Africa, seem to suggest that entrepreneurship programmes are often failing to effectively support women entrepreneurs to consolidate and/or grow their businesses. Is it because women simply can't, are at a disadvantage, or that programmes are not sufficiently tailored to their needs?

Over the past two years, the ILO's Women's Entrepreneurship Development (WED) programme has been delving into these kinds of questions, trying to gather as much empirical evidence as possible on ILO efforts and analyzing what it means for future WED programming. Other agencies such as the World Bank Group, the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) etc. have also been conducting impact studies and research coming up with interesting findings.

This event is an opportunity for staff in multilateral and bilateral agencies supporting women's entrepreneurship, to learn about the latest research on the impact of women entrepreneurship interventions and to discuss the implications for the design of future interventions.

Agenda

Time	Item	Speaker
09:30-09:45	Introduction	Opening remarks by Ms Pamela Hamamoto (Permanent Representative of the US to the United Nations)
09:45 -10:45	What's the overall research telling us? An overview of recent global studies - 2014 Effectiveness of entrepreneurship development intervention for women entrepreneurs – an ILO issue brief - Overview of recent Randomized Control Trials involving women's entrepreneurship development Two 15 minute presentations followed by 30 minutes Q&A	Ms Payal Patel (international consultant) Mr David McKenzie (World Bank)
10:45-11:15	Coffee Break	
11:15-12:15	Do we need to go beyond microfinance and training? Recent results from Kenya and Vietnam - Impact assessment in Kenya Looking into gender sensitive business management training and access to additional services – combining training with mentoring/support services - The impact of business training services of Tao Yeu May (TYM) fund in Vietnam – combining training with microfinance and mentoring Two 15 minute presentations and 30 minutes of Q&A	Mr David McKenzie (World Bank) and Ms Katherine Fritz (ICRW) Mr Robert Lensink (university of Groningen and Wageningen)
12:15-12:30	Final conclusions and wrap up	Ms Susana Puerto (ILO – Senior Technical Specialist – Impact Evaluation and Youth Employment Programme)

Expected Results:

By the end of the event, participants:

- Have an overview of the latest research concerning what works and what doesn't for supporting women entrepreneurs.
- Have a list of suggestions for concrete adjustments to entrepreneurship interventions in order to make them more relevant for women.
- Learn about products/training tools for women entrepreneurs from different organizations/agencies.
- Identify knowledge gaps and new partnerships for future research.

Biographies of the panellists

DAVID MCKENZIE is a Lead Economist in the Development Research Group, Finance and Private Sector Development Unit of the World Bank. He received his B.Com.(Hons)/B.A. from the University of Auckland, New Zealand and his Ph.D. in Economics from Yale University. Prior to joining the World Bank, he spent four years as an assistant professor of Economics at Stanford University. His main research is on migration, enterprise development, and methodology for use with developing country data. He has published more than 100 articles in journals such as the Quarterly Journal of Economics, Science, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Economic Journal, and American Economic Journal: Applied Micro, Journal of Econometrics, and all leading development journals. He is currently on the editorial boards of the Journal of Development Economics, the World Bank Economic Review, and Migration Studies. He is also a co-founder and regular contributor to the Development Impact blog.

PAYAL PATEL is an international development professional with more than nine years of experience in research, programme design and monitoring and evaluation focused on gender and livelihoods. She currently works as a grant maker at American Jewish World Service (AJWS), where she manages a portfolio of grants to support gender-responsive livelihoods and land rights in East Africa. Previously, Ms Patel worked as an independent consultant conducting research and evaluation related to entrepreneurial and agricultural development programming for women's economic empowerment. She also worked for more than five years at the International Center for Research on Women as a Gender and Development Specialist, where among other things she helped to lead research related to technology, enterprise development and women's economic empowerment. Ms Patel has a M.A. in International Development from The George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs, and a B.A. in Economics and International Relations from Wellesley College.

KATHERINE FRITZ, PhD, MPH is Director of the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) programme of research in Global Health and Development and Interim Director of ICRW's Gender, Economic Empowerment, and Livelihoods portfolio. She has 20 years of experience as a social science researcher, strategic gender advisor and programme developer. She designs and evaluates programmes that address the overlapping needs of women and girls in areas of economic strengthening, sexual and reproductive health, safety and security and leadership. She recently oversaw the qualitative evaluation of the ILO GET Ahead training programme in Kenya as part of collaboration with the World Bank and Innovations for Poverty Action. Dr. Fritz also leads ICRW's collaborations with the private sector on promoting women's economic empowerment and improving their inclusion in market supply chains. She has worked closely with the Oak Foundation to evaluate the strengths and gaps in corporate-funded women's economic empowerment initiatives and led an assessment of Australian Aid's women's economic empowerment programmes across several countries in Asia and the Pacific.

ROBERT LENSINK is Professor of Finance at the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Groningen and a Professor of Finance and Development at Wageningen University. He is also an associate researcher of the Center for European Research in Microfinance, Belgium. Robert Lensink's research has a strong focus on microfinance, including the effects of business trainings on microfinance borrowers. He is an expert on impact evaluations, and has a broad field experience in African, Asian and Latin American countries. He has published in many high-ranking international journals, such as The American Economic Review, The Economic Journal, the Journal of Management Studies and World Development.

Registration: mbuyi-lusamba@ilo.org