PILOT STUDY: ACCELERATING WOMEN’S INTEGRATION INTO THE LABOR MARKET

Abstract
How can we increase female labor force participation and female employment in a cost-effective way? This pilot study assesses the feasibility of two policy interventions aimed at facilitating and accelerating Saudi women’s integration into the labor market. The first intervention is an information-based policy aimed at reducing the costs women face when considering entering sectors of the economy where their representation has been historically limited. Analysis examines the level of response to providing various types of information on women-friendly working conditions, and whether better information leads to greater female entry into new sectors. The second intervention aims to build on the government’s current plan to introduce a childcare subsidy for employed women. Research aims to test the impact of offering the subsidy to female job-seekers, as well as learn about the causes of differences in the value of the subsidy across female job-seekers.

Expected Impact
Determine whether low-cost changes, like providing information about the number of women employed in a firm, provide a promising avenue for policies and programs to increase women’s employment.

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PROGRAMS & POLICIES EXAMINED
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