Youth unemployment is a critical issue across the MENA region, with high unemployment rates among new labor market entrants and for women in particular. An analysis of the effects of Idmaj internship program is extremely relevant to the context of active labor market policies in Morocco and constitutes a top priority for MTIP. The latter have expressed their keen interest in understanding whether Idmaj program is successful in helping young jobseekers integrate into the labor market and acquire their first work experience. This data study analyzes Morocco’s Idmaj program, which offers financial incentives for firms to hire registered jobseekers into 24-month internship positions. In the exploratory phase of the project, the researchers will work closely with ANAPEC and the Ministry of Labor (MTIP) to obtain their administrative data, match it with the broad set of social security (CNSS) data, and identify potential quasi experimental research designs.

The analysis will be done in close communication with program officers to identify potential identification strategies for evaluating the program effects and to determine the need for any additional data collection. Results will also suggest potential avenues for modifications or expansions of the Idmaj internship program that may be appropriate for experimental evaluation.