TRAVEL GRANT: IMPACT EVALUATION OF THE RIYADH METRO PROJECT

Abstract
The Riyadh Metro project is scheduled to launch in 2019 and will dramatically alter Riyadh’s urban mobility landscape. We aim to undertake a rigorous impact evaluation of the Riyadh Metro project to understand the project’s economic and social impact. This will require focusing on a) overall productivity gains through improved worker-firm matching and b) the distributional impact on marginalized groups including women, the elderly and disabled, and low-income individuals. The project aims to develop a thorough understanding of the links between transport and the labor market by mapping the spatial patterns of commuting, land-use regulations and labor market outcomes.

Expected Impact
Document the effects of better access to public transport on the labor market participation of disadvantaged groups and the matching of workers and firms. This can lead to a better understanding of the relationship between urban mobility and economic growth in the Kingdom.

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