

 Early Warning System

IFC-604388

Lebanon Women Economic Participation



### Quick Facts

<b>Countries</b>	Lebanon
<b>Financial Institutions</b>	International Finance Corporation (IFC)
<b>Status</b>	Approved
<b>Bank Risk Rating</b>	U
<b>Voting Date</b>	2020-02-17
<b>Borrower</b>	*Borrower information not provided at the time of disclosure*
<b>Sectors</b>	Climate and Environment, Law and Government, Technical Cooperation
<b>Investment Type(s)</b>	Advisory Services
<b>Project Cost (USD)</b>	\$ 0.17 million



## Project Description

According to bank provided information, the project is delivered in two phases.

The expected development impact of phase 2 (July 2021 - December 2022) is 1) an increased share of women in pay-roll employment and improved quality of women's pay-roll jobs in the private sector in Jordan. The project will also 2) continue to support women-led SMEs in Lebanon, including those who received the crisis management training under the first phase. The project will ask women-led SMEs to join "Access2Markets Booster for Women SMEs", a platform that the IFC will design, establish and manage. The platform will deliver several activities to those women SMEs (i.e. export readiness training, procurement readiness training, peer-to-peer support networking events, buyer matchmaking event). The objective of this platform is twofold: (1) to build the capacity and ability of these women-led SMEs to position their products and services for exporting to regional and global markets, (2) as well as aimed to improve their access local markets via local expansion and scale up. For Activity 1: The project will achieve its impact through a combination of evidence-based research, setting up a country-wide private sector peer learning platform and providing in-depth advisory to two IFC investment clients or potential investment clients. By completion, the work on women in pay-roll employment, will have delivered capacity building activities (i.e. introductory webinars, Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) tool design workshops; L4E expo; leadership training for aspiring female leaders from the company cohort;) and recommendations (i.e. bespoke company-specific designed D&I tool/ initiative/deliverable such as i.e. gender diversity strategy or action plan, gender diversity HR policy, etc.) will have been delivered to firms under the L4E PLP. Of the companies reached, they are expected to have increased their knowledge and skills, and are expected to have designed 1 D&I bespoke tool/ initiative/deliverable and present it in the L4E Expo. For Activity 2: By completion, women-led SMEs will have been trained in business export and procurement strategies and participated in peer-to-peer networking events as well as a matchmaking event with buyers.

The expected development impact of phase 1 (June 2020 - June 2021) is an increased share of women in pay-roll employment and improved quality of women's pay-roll jobs in the private sector in Lebanon. By completion, knowledge activities (i.e. case studies, webinars) and recommendations will have been delivered. Additionally, the creation and or growth of more women-led early stage start-ups in the digital economy. This will be achieved through increased knowledge and market access of early-stage women-led start-ups as a result of increased capacity of incubators and or accelerators to support them. The expected impact is also an increased resilience of non-tech women-led SMEs in the country's time of current economic crisis due their their enhanced knowledge about how to resiliently navigate economic crises.



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## Investment Description

- International Finance Corporation (IFC)



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## Contact Information

*\*Contact information not provided at the time of disclosure\**

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