Female Entrepreneurship in MENA

on Female Population Aged 18 - 64

GEM 2016-2017 Women's Report

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World Map Showing Levels of Female Entrepreneurship Activity across 74 Economies



The highest levels of participation of women in entrepreneurship across the 74 economies featured in the GEM report are seen in Latin America, Southeast Asia, sub-Saharan Africa and Canada

Regional Averages for Female Total Entrepreneurial Activity



8% of the Females aged between 18 and 64 are engaged in Entrepreneurial Activity

Entrepreneurship Characteristics

Growth Expectations

The MENA region reports highest average growth expectations among women at 37%.

Innovation

Women entrepreneurs in MENA report high innovation levels and are 60% more likely than men to state their offerings are innovative. Seven of the 10 countries in this region report higher innovation levels among female entrepreneurs than among male entrepreneurs.

Internationalization

In MENA, 29% of women entrepreneurs are considered international, and at a higher rate than men.

Changes in Total Entrepreneurship Activity

TEA in the MENA region decreased of 8% due to a large decrease in male TEA rates that narrowed the gender gap.

MENA show low rates and low parity \rightarrow On average, women start businesses at less than 60% the rate of men.

Whatever the source of these declines, the results show how some changes affect both sexes while others appear gender-specific.

Necessity and Opportunity Driven TEA Around the World



Female necessity motives in East and South Asia and Pacific, as well as in MENA, are just below those of Europe and Central Asia. However, both regions exhibit no substantial gender gap, indicating that necessity motives prevail for both genders. \rightarrow 24% of Females engaged in Entrepreneurial activity in the MENA region are doing it out of necessity

Female TEA Levels by Region, Showing Proportions with Post-Secondary Degrees and Higher, vs Lower Education Levels



Total entrepreneurial activity is equally split between Females with higher education and those without

Regional Averages for Female Established Business Ownership Rates



Established business ownership among women is lowest in MENA (3%) where this region reports the widest gender gap

→ 1 woman for every 3 men runs established businesses where the highest female established business ownership rate is 14% in Lebanon, slightly more than half the level of men. In the UAE and Qatar, less than 1% of women are established business owners, and this is less than 20% of the male rate.

TEA Levels Indicating Innovation Proportion by Region



7/10 countries in MENA report higher innovation levels among female entrepreneurs than those among male entrepreneurs (Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Qatar and Saudi Arabia).

The MENA region also demonstrates the highest regional levels and gender parity in growth orientation \rightarrow Impact of women entrepreneurs in this region.

31% of Females' entrepreneurial activity in the MENA region, contains an innovative aspect

Percent of Female Entrepreneurs in Each Industry by Region



Half of the Female Entrepreneurial activity in the MENA region constitutes retail activity, followed by development

Qatar and the UAE (innovation-driven) exhibit high levels of wholesale/retail starts among women, accounting for more than 2/3 of female entrepreneurship in these countries

Median Level of Funds Invested by Female Entrepreneurs to Start a Business by Region (in US Dollars)



Female Entrepreneurs in the MENA region invest a median of \$6K to start a business

% of Female Investors Showing Relationship to Entrepreneurs They Fund



Most of the Female Entrepreneurial activity in the MENA region (60%) is funded by a relative

AUB - Initiatives

- Citi-Women Entrepreneurship Program
- Stanford Women in Data Science
- Woman in Governance
- Knowledge is Power

Thank you for your attention