



*African Policy Dialogues encourage the use of research evidence in policy making and implementation.*

## Increasing women entrepreneurship in Mali

Although the government of Mali has initiated policies and ratified international treaties and conventions relevant to women empowerment, barriers to women entrepreneurship are yet to be adequately addressed. Further, due to limited evidence of the specific barriers and isolated implementation of interventions to address these barriers, it is difficult to evaluate challenges with current policies and learn from them. This APD will generate evidence and insights on barriers and solutions to women entrepreneurship and economic participation and develop ideas and tools for enhancing the environment for women entrepreneurship in Mali.

### Objectives

- Establish a network of stakeholders on women entrepreneurship Mali.
- Identify, map and evaluate policies and programmes on women entrepreneurship.
- Enhance the understanding of obstacles that different women face in entrepreneurship.
- Provide reliable research evidence on women entrepreneurship in Mali.
- Accelerate the reach and uptake of best practices including national-level policy making.
- Use rigorous evidence inform the formulation and implementation of new policies.
- Encourage realignment of existing policies and programmes on women entrepreneurship.

### Lead organisation

Netherlands-African Business Council (NABC)

### Country

Mali

### Partners

Mali Investment Promotion Agency (API Mali)  
IHEM Institute for Advanced Studies in Management (Institut des Hautes Etudes de Management)

### Planned activities

- Stakeholder mapping
- Organise a kick-off workshop
- Generate research evidence on women entrepreneurship in Mali
- Develop two-pagers with main results from the APD meetings
- Develop short videos with insights and interviews of the APD meetings
- Hold a breakfast meeting with policy makers and organise three APD meetings
- Hold a conference on "A New Dawn for Women Entrepreneurship in Mali".
- Develop a final APD video ("after-movie").
- Publicise APD activities through media coverage including newspaper articles, LinkedIn, social media discussions and posts, blogs, and television and radio debates.
- Develop a policy brief on 'Increasing women entrepreneurship in Mali'.