

# Creating an evidence-based mindset: A perspective from the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab

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### Good policy requires rigorous

evidence.

### The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2019



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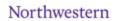




























## Global knowledge: 1,028 randomized evaluations in 88 countries, including 34 on Covid-19 response



Yet despite the availability and appetite for rigorous research, an 'evidence-policy agp' persists.

#### Why does the 'evidence-policy gap' persist?

- Low prioritization of, and limited capacity for, evidence-informed policymaking
- Financial constraints
- Political uncertainty
- Difficulty finding the right evidence and applying it to a new context
- Behavioral biases in decision-making (<u>Banuri et al. 2019</u>)
- Lack of bureaucratic incentives to leverage and apply evidence

# An "evidence-based mindset" is necessary to bridge the gap.

### Three strategies to develop an evidence-based mindset



**#1: Generating tailored evidence** to solve specific problems identified by policymakers



**#2: Leveraging existing evidence** from around the world to inform local decision-making



#3: Institutionalizing a holistic culture of evidence use

The Morocco Employment Lab is a special initiative to bridge the evidence-policy gap.

### Our goals

- A hub for labor-market evidence innovation
- Culture of evidence-based policymaking
- Large panel of labor market stakeholders







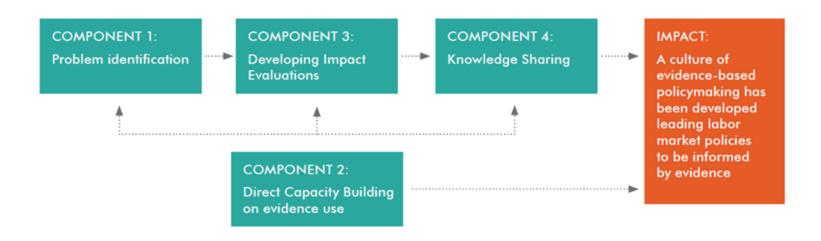






# Our approach to evidence based culture.

The Lab includes several components designed to support the development of an evidence-based culture



## As a complement to evaluation efforts, the Lab is building the capacity of a variety of stakeholders

### Decision-makers training

- · Participants: Senior officials from key labor market organizations
- Content: Evidence-based policy to improve labor market outcomes

### Project incubation workshop

- Participants: Teams of key policymakers working on program design and implementation
- Content Iteration in policy innovation and co-designing of policy solutions in teams

### Evaluation training

- · Participants: Policymakers working on labor programs evaluation
- Content: Sharing evaluation methods and their practicalities with implementing partners

### BCURE trainer's training

- · Participants: Civil service training academies
- Content Building the capacity of program leaders to incorporate evidence in their decision-making

### Research seminars

- · Participants: Researchers and academics
- Content Sharing latest economic research methods and approaches



## We plan to roll out research projects with the main players in the Moroccan labor market

#### The Lab works with:

- Public labor markets institutions
  - MTIP
  - ANAPEC
  - Ministry of Finance
  - ...
- NGOs
- Researchers

The Lab has recently launched a series of impact evaluations in partnership with the implementing partners.

Partner	Research topic/project
EFE	Training program for adapting the skills of jobseekers to the needs of companies in the recruitment phase.
ONMT / MTIP	IDMAJ and TAHFIZ programs to promote professional integration through employment subsidies and training to match supply and demand.
ANAPEC	AMAL program for the integration of jobseekers whose employment has been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.
INDH	Evaluation of the pre-school support program.

#### J-PAL Governance team

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Thank you!

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