REDUCING THE GENDER GAP IN FINANCIAL INCLUSION

The number of women in the world with access to a bank account is increasing:

- **47%** in 2011
- **65%** in 2017

However, that growth is not keeping pace with the number of men owning accounts.

These countries have made the most progress in closing the financial inclusion gender gap:

- Albania
- Bahrain
- Brazil
- Colombia
- Guatemala
- Indonesia
- Italy
- Malta

What did they do differently? They saw increases in women’s labor force participation.

Our analysis found that a decrease of 10 percentage points in the labor force participation gap correlates to an increase in financial inclusion equity by as much as 6 percentage points.

Increasing and maintaining a woman’s involvement in the workforce can help her sustain her income and improve her access to financial tools.

Research has shown that financial inclusion and labor force participation are mutually reinforcing.

Center for Inclusive Growth

@CNTR4growth

Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth