



Gender-Specific Vocational Training Programmes for Female Youth in Senegal: Employment Readiness and Labour Market Outcomes Over Three Years

Mariama Ndiaye^{1,2}, Sadio Sagne^{3,4}, Amadou Diallo⁵

¹ Department of Advanced Studies, Université Gaston Berger (UGB), Saint-Louis

² Cheikh Anta Diop University (UCAD), Dakar

³ Department of Research, Université Alioune Diop de Bambey (UADB)

⁴ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Cheikh Anta Diop University (UCAD), Dakar

⁵ Université Gaston Berger (UGB), Saint-Louis

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Correspondence: mndiaye@outlook.com

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Author notes

Mariama Ndiaye is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, Université Gaston Berger (UGB), Saint-Louis and focuses on Education research in Africa.

Sadio Sagne is affiliated with Department of Research, Université Alioune Diop de Bambey (UADB) and focuses on Education research in Africa.

Amadou Diallo is affiliated with Université Gaston Berger (UGB), Saint-Louis and focuses on Education research in Africa.

Abstract

In Senegal, there is a significant gender gap in vocational training participation among female youth, which hinders their employment readiness and labour market outcomes. A mixed-methods approach was employed, combining quantitative data from surveys with qualitative insights through interviews and focus groups. The analysis revealed that female participants who attended gender-specific training programmes were more likely to secure formal sector jobs compared to those in traditional training programmes (75% vs. 60%, $p < .05$). Gender-specific vocational training appears to improve the employment prospects of female youth, though further research is needed to understand long-term impacts and optimal programme design. Policy makers should prioritise funding for gender-sensitive vocational training programmes that include career counseling and mentorship opportunities. vocational training, female youth, employment readiness, labour market outcomes

Keywords: *African Geography, Gender Studies, Vocational Training, Youth Employment, Labour Market Analysis, Feminist Theory, Qualitative Research*

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