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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 165-191) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Foreword; Acknowledgments; Glossary of Terms; Acronyms and Abbreviations; Overview; The Gender Paradox; The Costs of Low Participation of Women in the Economy and the Political Sphere Are High ...; ... But the Benefits of Enhanced Participation of Women Are Positive; Factors That Have Empowered Women in Other Parts of the World Have Been Less Effective in MENA; Achievements in Women's Education and Health ...; ... Are Not Matched by Gains in Women's Participation in the Labor Force; What Has Slowed Women's Entry into the Labor Force?; Even If Demand Factors Play a Role ... ... Standard Labor Market Discrimination Does Not Explain Low Participation ..... But the Combination of Social and Economic Factors Does; A New Agenda about Gender; What Needs to Be Done ...; ... And Who Needs to Do It; 1. Why Does Gender Inequality Matter in MENA?; A Historical Perspective on Gender Equality in MENA; Outline of the Report; Notes; 2. Closing the Gender Gap in Education and Health; Increasing the Achievements in Women's Education; Dramatic Increase

in Years of Schooling and Literacy; Progress in Reducing Gender Gaps in School Enrollment

Completion Rates That Reflect Continued Discouragement for Girls; Educating Women for Empowerment; Greater Emphasis Needed to Create Demand for Schooling; Enrollment of Girls from Remote and Poor Families; Making Progress in Health and Fertility; Life Expectancy That Has Increased; Infant and Maternal Mortality Rates That Have Fallen; Fertility That Has Fallen Dramatically; Challenging the Health Sector: Social Health and Second-Generation Issues; Reduction in Early Pregnancies; Increase in Reproductive Health Knowledge; Improvement in Women's Access to Health Services; Notes

3. Women in the Economy; Women's Participation in Economic Activity Has Increased at an Accelerating Rate ...; ... But Participation of Women in the Labor Force Remains Low; Economic Impact of Low Participation by Women in the Labor Force; The Burden of High Economic Dependency; Forgone Return on Investments in Girls' Education; High Costs for Households Headed by Women; The Costs of Low Female Participation Compared with Family and National Income; Unemployment and Female Participation in the Labor Force; Women Face Higher Unemployment than Men Do ...

... But Higher Female Labor Force Participation Is Not Associated with Higher Unemployment; Mixed Effect on Female Employment from Old Patterns of Growth; Women Have Tended to Work More in the Public Sector; Women and Men Are in Informal and Unregulated Categories of Work; Women Remain in Agriculture Longer than Men Do; The Challenge of Inclusion in the Private Sector; Appendix: Labor Force Participation Rates That Very with the Data Source; Notes; 4. Constraints on Women's Work; The Traditional Gender Paradigm in MENA; Key Elements of the Traditional Gender Paradigm; Traditional Norms That Affect Labor Market Behavior

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#### Sommario/riassunto

Gender inequality - the differential access to opportunity and security for women and girls - has become an important and visible issue for the economies of the Middle East and North Africa. This title seeks to advance the gender equality discussion in the region by framing the issues in terms of economic necessity. It analyzes the potential of women's greater economic contribution to the region's new development model, further discussed in three parallel reports on trade, employment, and governance. The report also identifies key economic and sociopolitical impediments to women's increased labor force participation and empowerment, and suggests a way forward in developing an agenda for change.

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