



## 2017-2019 Participant Abstract

## **Abstract**

While acknowledging that the engagement in risk finance on the funding side is male dominated and it is harder for women investors to acquire legitimacy, and while the bulk of the literature shows that on the demand side, women entrepreneurs are more risk averse and seek less risk capital, and even when they do seek it, they are less likely to receive it due to signaling, unconscious biases and stereotypes, this study aims to examine the decision making process by a league of women angel investors from a gender perspective. What happens when a league of women investors takes the initiative to invest in women only led ventures, what happens if there is a gender accord on both the demand and the supply side? Would women investors show partiality or would a Queen Bee syndrome emerge? Would women entrepreneurs be more encouraged to approach risk capital as a source of finance? A qualitative survey comprised of in-depth interviews with active Lebanese women angel investors allows us to compare their decision making process, performance expectations and investment drivers when funding women led ventures.