13/02/2025
Morocco

PhD Program Application - NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp

HAJAR JEDDI PHD STUDENT

- **Name:** Hajar JEDDI
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- **Address:** 164 Bd Bourgogne, 4th Floor, Apt. 12, Bourgogne, Casablanca, Morocco
- **University:** Hassan II University - FSJES Casablanca

- **Area of Interest:** The Well-being of Rural Women Entrepreneurs in Morocco
- **Year of Entry into PhD:** 2024/2025
- **Expected Year of Completion:** 2028

- **Faculty Member Providing Recommendation:** Prof. Fatima BoutalebWomen Entrepreneurs in Morocco
- **Year of Entry into PhD:** 2024/2025
- **Expected Year of Completion:** 2028
- **Faculty Member Providing Recommendation:** Prof. Fatima Boutaleb



HAJAR JEDDI

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LINKEDIN Hajar Jeddi

PROFILE

"Ambitious and highly motivated, I am always passionate about seeking new challenges and overcoming obstacles."

SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

Technical Skills:

- Business Strategy & Planning
- Entrepreneurship & Innovation
- Training & Coaching
- Marketing & Digital Communication
- Business Development & Negotiation

Soft Skills:

- Teamwork & Leadership
- Creativity & Adaptability
- Analytical Thinking
- Problem-Solving & Decision-Making

LANGUAGE

- Arabic
- French
- English

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

Master's Degree in Entrepreneurial Support (2021 - 2023) FSJES Ain Chok - Research Laboratory on Entrepreneurship and GEM Studies in partnership with TPE Solidaires Foundation Mohamed V

Certification in Digital Marketing & Social Media (February - June 2023)

GOMYCODE

Business Incubation Program - Blue Space (2021 - 2022) BMCE Bank of Africa

Bachelor's Degree in Business Management (2021) FSJES Ain Chok, Casablanca

High School Diploma in Economics & Management (2018) Lycée L'Union, Casablanca - Honors

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Project Manager – Fondation Amane (2024 - Present)

Develops strategic intervention frameworks to promote rural entrepreneurship (Made in Douar Project).

Oversees support programs for rural cooperatives. Coordinates with institutional partners and stakeholders

Freelance Business Consultant & Trainer (November 2023 - Present)

Designs and delivers comprehensive training programs in entrepreneurship and soft skills. Facilitates innovation and brainstorming workshops.

Develops business plans incorporating marketing and commercialization strategies. Provides customized coaching in business development, sales, and marketing.

Trainer in Entrepreneurship & Soft Skills (October 2019 - August 2023)

Training & Support Center for the Associative and Cooperative Sector – Casablanca-Settat.

Delivered consulting, training, and coaching services for aspiring entrepreneurs.

Led communication and leadership training sessions for youth. Supported cooperative members in structuring their business strategies.

Business Development Manager – ITQANE LUXURY & Furniture (January - June 2019)

Identified and exploited national and international market opportunities. Conducted market research across Africa, the Middle East, the USA, and Australia. Developed and maintained a high-potential client portfolio.

Prepared technical-commercial proposals and led negotiations.

Project Coordinator – Union des Cultures (2018)

OIECEC – International Organization for Community-Based Entrepreneurial Skills.

Collaborated with embassies in Morocco to build strategic partnerships. Drafted project proposals and funding applications.

Managed event planning for cultural entrepreneurship projects. Led commercialization efforts for handcrafted cultural products

Letter of Intent

Dear Selection Committee,

I am writing to express my strong interest in attending the **18th annual Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp** organized by the **NBER** in July 2025. As a **PhD candidate in Economics at Hassan II University - FSJES Ain Chok**, my research focuses on the **well-being of rural women entrepreneurs in Morocco: determinants and actionable levers for sustainable business growth**. My ultimate goal is to contribute to the understanding of **how institutional frameworks, financial accessibility, and social capital impact entrepreneurial success**, particularly in developing economies.

Entrepreneurship plays a crucial role in economic development, yet rural entrepreneurs, especially women, face significant structural and financial barriers. My research aims to **identify these key constraints** and propose **evidence-based policy solutions** to enhance financial inclusion and business sustainability. Using **quantitative data analysis and extensive field research**, I seek to develop an integrated model to assess the long-term effects of financial mechanisms and capacity-building programs on rural entrepreneurship.

The NBER Boot Camp presents a unique opportunity for me to:

- Engage with leading scholars in **entrepreneurial finance, firm dynamics, and policy interventions**.
- Refine my **methodological and analytical approaches** by learning from top-tier researchers.
- Exchange insights with peers from **diverse academic and professional backgrounds**, enriching my perspective on entrepreneurship ecosystems globally.

I am particularly eager to connect with **Prof. Yael Hochberg (Rice University) and Prof. Josh Lerner (Harvard Business School)**, whose work on **venture capital, entrepreneurial ecosystems, and innovation finance** aligns closely with my research. Additionally, as my study focuses on **entrepreneurship in emerging economies**, I believe I can offer **a valuable perspective on the challenges and opportunities faced by women entrepreneurs in the Global South**.

Beyond my PhD, I aspire to bridge the gap between **academic research and actionable policy frameworks** that foster sustainable business development in underserved communities. The insights and networks gained from the Boot Camp will significantly shape my dissertation and enhance my ability to drive meaningful economic impact.

I am genuinely excited about the prospect of participating in this intensive program and contributing to the dynamic discussions led by esteemed faculty members. I appreciate your time and consideration, and I look forward to the possibility of joining this distinguished academic community.

Sincerely,
Hajar JEDDI

Letter of Recommendation
for NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp

February 14th, 2025

To the NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp Selection Committee,

It is my great pleasure to recommend **Hajar Jeddi** for the NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp 2025. As her PhD co-advisor in the Economics Department at University Hassan II of Casablanca, I've worked with Hajar since she began her doctoral studies in 2024, and previously as her Master's degree professor.

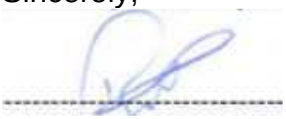
Hajar's research focuses on the well-being of rural women entrepreneurs in Morocco, a topic of significant importance and complexity. Her project is ambitious, requiring a strong foundation in both quantitative and qualitative research methods. Although early in her PhD, she has already made considerable progress. Her dedication is evident in her proactive approach to her studies and her willingness to seek out new learning opportunities.

Hajar's background is very strong. Her Master's degree in Entrepreneurial Support, coupled with her practical experience provides her with a unique perspective that combines academic rigor with real-world application. This blend of theoretical knowledge and practical skills is rare at this stage in a PhD program, and will be a significant asset to the Boot Camp.

The NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp would be transformative for Hajar. The intensive program would significantly accelerate her research progress, exposing her to leading scholars, providing invaluable mentorship, and enhancing her methodological and analytical skills. The opportunity to engage with other top researchers will broaden her perspective and help her refine her research questions and approach. Given her strong foundation and demonstrated commitment, I am confident she will contribute significantly to the Boot Camp's vibrant intellectual environment.

I wholeheartedly recommend Hajar Jeddi for this prestigious program. She possesses the intellectual curiosity, work ethic, and practical experience to thrive in this challenging and rewarding opportunity.

Sincerely,



Fatima BOUTALEB
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University Hassan II of Casablanca
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