SIDE EVENT: GENDERED IMPACTS OF COVID-19

The event will be held on 18th of November, 2020 from 11:30 to 13:00 EAT

This side event is organized by:

1. Africa Research Impact & Network (ARIN)

2. Tomorrow' Cities, Nairobi Risk Hub

CONTEXTUAL SETTING

In the context that we live in, risks abound and are systemic in nature. Proliferating risks are emerging in ways never anticipated before. We now live in a world where one hazard cascades to multi-hazards and a never-ending chain starts. Perhaps it is time that institutions, policymakers, and financiers did focus more on preventing the risks and losses that arise from risks than preparing and responding to risks as and when they occur.

With COVID19, the systemic nature of risks has been exposed and the potential cascading impacts laid bare. It is also correct to note, gender equality gains might have been eroded. Consequently, vulnerability has intensified, where the poor, the marginalized, the aged, the disabled, men, women, boys, girls, communities, and countries bear these brunts. The Sendai Framework monitor records unpleasant statistics regarding disasters and vulnerability. It shows that the least developed countries approximately record 40% of deaths, and 48% of livelihoods disrupted whenever disasters occur. The framework recognizes the need for reducing risks and building resilience and livelihoods. Notably, the framework acknowledges the all critical role that gender play in disaster risk reductions. Women, for instance, are considered key stakeholders in DRR efforts, especially at grassroots levels. However, their roles in DRR decision-making are limited. This event aims at highlighting the impacts of COVID-19 and responsive measures in the spirit of not leaving anyone behind, and social inclusion.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SIDE EVENT

The objective of this side event is to:

- 1. To discuss the relationship between gender and disaster risk reduction
- 2. To highlight the gendered impacts of COVID-19 from various points of view (National, Diaspora and Global-WHO)
- 3. Explore priority measures and responses to the gendered impact of COVID-19 towards "Build Back Better" (resilience and livelihood).

TIME	AGENDA	FACILITATOR
11.30- 11.35	Welcome and Introductions	Syprose A./Asenath
11.35-11.45	Policy outlook	Charles Tonui
11.45- 11.55	Gender Lens in Disaser Risk Reduction	Dr. Asenath Maobe
11.55-12.15	Gendered Impacts of COVID-19 (National Perspectives)	Hon. Esther Passaris
12.15-12.30	Gendered impacts of COVID-19 (WHO Perspectives)	Ms Tasiana Mzozo
12.30-12.45	Gendered impacts of COVID-19 (Diaspora Perspectives)	Dr. Matthew Gmalifo
12.45-12.55	Q&A	Asenath/ Syprose
12.55-1.00	Closing Remarks	Dr. Joanes Atela
	ARIN/Nairobi Risk Hub Lead	

PROGRAM

PANEL DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Hon. Esther Passaris (National Perspectives)

As a women representative in Parliament, one of your roles is to represent the women, whom the Constitution recognizes as a marginalized group (Article 100). In light of these and as a social entrepreneur would you highlight-

- 1. The different impacts of COVID19 on women and men in Nairobi city county, with a focus on economic vulnerabilities (lost jobs/ lost incomes/poverty) that has affected women more disproportionately
- 2. The gender inequalities that have increased during this pandemic and the government measures that are/should have/have been laid to address the suffering in this pandemic?

Ms Tasiana Mzozo (WHO Perspectives)

The work of WHO is aligned to the advancement of sustainable development goals two of which SDG 3: *Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages and* SDG 5: *Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*. In the context of WHO:

- 1. How does Covid-19 reveal gender disparities and inequalities in the healthcare workforce?
- 2. How have these SDG goals been hindered during this pandemic and how WHO has intervened to address the evident loss of gender equality gains made so far?

Dr. Matthew Gmalifo (Diaspora Perspectives)- University of Melbourne, Australia

1. Kindly, give us the **diaspora perspective** on gender vulnerabilities caused by COVID-19 and what have been the unique measures that have been used to address the gendered impacts of COVID across, health, economic, gender based violence and unpaid care?