

SIDE EVENT: GENDER LENS IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19

Date: 18th November 2020

Time: 11:30 – 13:00pm EAT

The [African Research & Impact Network \(ARIN\)](#) is convening the ‘Africa in the Post Covid-19 World: Lessons for Research and Policy’ international conference to be held on **18–20 November 2020**. The ‘Gender lens in Disaster Risk Reduction in the context of COVID-19’ side event is organized as part of this conference and led by the [Nairobi Risk hub](#).

Please find attached Conference Booklet with more details. **To Register for the Conference, [click here](#).**

To Register for this side event, [click here](#).

CONTEXTUAL SETTING

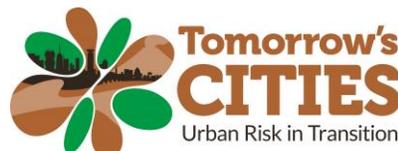
In the context that we live in, risks abound and are systemic. Proliferating risks are emerging in ways never anticipated before. We now live in a world where one hazard cascades to multi-hazards and a never-ending chain starts. Perhaps it is time that institutions, policymakers, and financiers did focus 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, the vulnerability has intensified, where the poor, the marginalized, the aged, the disabled, men, women, boys, girls, communities, and countries bear this brunt. 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 plays 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).



Tomorrow's Cities is the UKRI GCRF Urban Disaster Risk Hub

PROGRAM

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 Disaster Risk Reduction	Dr. Asenath Maobe
11.55- 12.10	Gendered Impacts of COVID-19 (National Perspectives)	Hon. Esther Passaris
12.10-12.25	Gendered Impacts of COVID-19 (Commission's Perspectives)	Hon. Priscilla Nyokabi
12.25- 12.40	Gendered impacts of COVID-19 (WHO Perspectives)	Ms. Tasiana Mzozo
12.40- 12.55	Gendered impacts of COVID-19 (Diaspora Perspectives)	Mr. Matthew Gmalifo
12.55- 13.05	Q&A	Asenath/ Syprose
13.05- 13.10	Closing Remarks ARIN/Nairobi Risk Hub Lead	Dr. Joanes Atela

PANEL DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Hon. Esther Passaris (National Perspectives), Nairobi County Women Representative

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 of 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?

Hon. Priscilla Nyokabi (Commission's Perspectives)- Commissioner at National Gender Equality Commission

1. During this pandemic period, several studies have shown that women's socio-economic vulnerabilities have been heightened as compared to their counterparts. As a commission that emphasizes Special Interest Groups (women, youth, persons with disabilities (PWDs), children, the older members of society, minorities and marginalized groups), what is your perspective on this?
2. What has the commission done or intends to do to support women especially in the informal economy who have been highly affected?