

June 2020

#BLM - In Solidarity with BLACK LIVES MATTER



Gender Concerns International stands in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement, Minister Kraag, and all organizations and individuals who support and take part in the fight against systemic discrimination globally. The organization recognizes the importance of defending ideals and working towards a peaceful equal-opportunity world, while denouncing all forms of discrimination and inequality.

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Covid-19 and Gender Equality: Respond, Don't React: Gender Responsive Programming in Times of Crisis

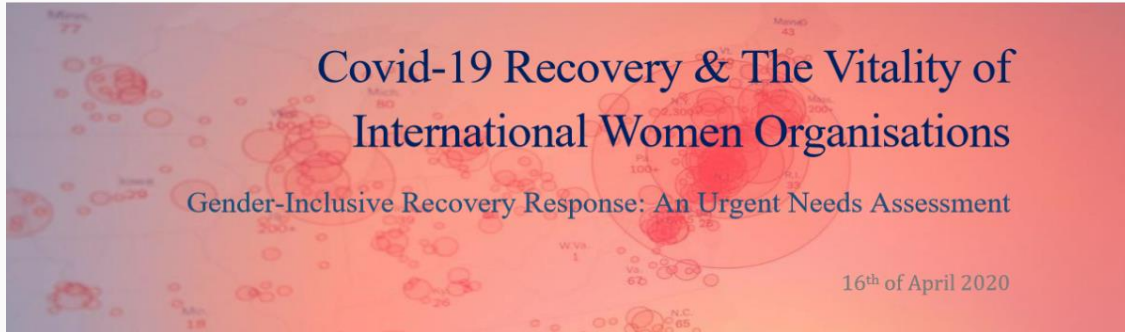
Webinar Series by International Gender Champions



During the first panel of the Webinar Series "Respond, Don't React: Gender Inclusive Programming in Times of Crisis"; organised by International Gender Champions, Panellist Sabra Bano eloquently raised the issue of:

Does the Pandemic Provide an Opportunity for Women Organisations to Take the Lead in Inclusive Covid-19 Recovery and Response (ICRR) Programming?

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The report issued by Gender Concerns International, serves as a tool to highlight the vital roles that Women Organisations all over the world are playing in the mitigation and recovery response to Covid-19 despite not being involved in the early crisis assessment or resource allocation efforts conducted so far.

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Recent Activities



Under the Quarantined Partnership, a joint letter by Dutch Women and Development Organisations was sent to the Dutch Minister of Foreign Trade and Development, highlighting the importance of Covid-19 and the urgency of supporting women's initiatives in this regard. We are very pleased to inform that the letter has reached Minister Kaag, and as a follow up a meeting is being planned. The group is invited to meet with Ms. Hinke Nauta, Head Gender Task Force and H.E. Mette Gonggrijp, Ambassador of Women's Human Rights, at The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in early July.



Director General of the WHO, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, has stressed the need for a gender-sensitive Covid-19 response. He urges for women to be more included in the policy-making processes, highlighting that women are often not involved in the shaping of policies that concern them.

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Engaging Youth and Civil Society in Pakistan for an Inclusive Covid-19 Recovery Response

Gender Concerns expanded the #SheCaresCovid19 campaign to tackle the impact of Covid-19 in Pakistan with the creation of a powerful consortium of change-makers based across Pakistan focusing on climate change, women's rights, psycho-social support, youth engagement, and the empowerment of young girls to prepare diverse communities for an inclusive Covid-19 response.



"Liberia rises, Africa is calling!", - Ms. Bano.

Liberian youth is engaged through the leadership of Jannet Ricks, moderator of the webinar "Potential Leaders for a Sustainable future". Ms. Ricks engaged grassroots organisations by hosting a webinar that highlighted the importance of youth engagement and the future leadership of the youth.

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#SheCaresCovid19: Women's Testimonies Around the World

The [#SheCaresCovid19](#) campaign is an emergency gender response to the spread of Covid-19. The campaign highlights the impact of the virus through a gender lens both in terms of challenges it poses and opportunities it offers to female leadership and to the global international development community by collecting women's stories. A sample of the stories collected can be found below.



Afghan women and children face increasing challenges during the Covid-19 pandemic. Their physical and health security is endangered. While food prices rose dramatically, more than 7 million are at risk of hunger and food shortages.



Women leadership has never been more vital. Without it, any decision making in relation to the measures of the Covid-19 pandemic will not adequately address women's needs and the hurdles they face on daily basis.



There are growing concerns that the global crisis triggered by the outbreak of Covid-19 will turn into a 'pink-collar recession' due to the disproportionate burden taken on by women around the world. It is clear that gender-inclusive responses to the pandemic are vital for guaranteeing women a prosperous future!



In Gambia, young leader Jama Jack created informative videos and posters in different Gambian languages to tackle the myths about Covid-19. In her own words, "Solidarity will provide an opportunity for the sharing of correct information, and this can help to minimize the potential for panic."

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Covid-19, Climate Change, and Sustainable Development Goals



Upcoming Elections and Women's Free and Fair Electoral Participation

The Covid-19 pandemic causes challenges to international election observation missions, as opportunities for electoral participation become restricted.

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Afghan Women with Disabilities Suffer the Most under Covid-19 Conditions

Afghanistan has an extremely high number of people with disabilities as a result of conflict, leaving the government with few resources to provide effective government services to all of its communities.

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Covid-19 and Climate Change: A Recipe for Disaster for Women in Low-Income Communities

Women in the global South are more likely to face the grave consequences of the effects of climate change to their full extent in the aftermath of this health crisis.

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Refugee Rohingya Women in a Global Pandemic

Lockdown measures implemented in Bangladesh as of March 2020 have left many Rohingya women in Bangladeshi refugee camps in a vulnerable position.

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The Impact of Women World Leadership on Covid-19 Recovery Responses

A gender-balanced government seems to be better equipped to take the different impacts of the virus on men and women into account for the recovery response.

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