

PROFILES FOR SPEAKERS- GENDER WEBINAR

1. Opening Remarks- Dr. Sifa

Dr. Chiyoge B. Sifa holds a Ph.D. Strategic Management and has had over 25 years of work experience cutting across communication, aviation, humanitarian services, academia, agriculture, and cooperatives development across Africa. She has also served as a Senior Lecturer and Examiner in several universities in Africa. She is widely travelled in promotion of higher education, agriculture and cooperatives development and marketing. She has also consulted for various local and international organisations, both profit and non-profit, and government on policy advocacy and reform, organizational development, business transformation, resource mobilization, and alternative financial instruments in human and sustainable development.

Dr. Sifa is the immediate former EU-Africa Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) Representative on the European Commission Policy Forum on Development (PFD) and former Co-operatives representative to the European Economic and Social Committee – Africa Caribbean and Pacific-European Commission (EESC- ACP-EU) follow up committee of the (European Commission) EC, and the current Regional Director and CEO of International Co-operative Alliance-Africa. Currently leading the development and operationalization of the Alliance Africa Agricultural Co-operative Organisation, a vehicle for smallholder producers to secure their livelihoods and play a greater role in meeting the growing demand for food on local, national and international markets, and to contribute to poverty alleviation, food security and the eradication of hunger.

2. General outlook of the Pandemic in the African Continent

Presentation by Prof. Esther

Prof. Gicheru is Director, Institute of Co-operative Development as well as an Associate Professor at The Co-operative University of Kenya. She is the Chairperson for Alliance Africa Gender and Research Committee. She is a winner of Rockdale Pioneers Award (RPA) awarded by the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) Geneva, Switzerland for outstanding contribution to the co-operative movement worldwide. She is an Associate Member, Kenya Institute of Management (AM-KIM), Member, Association of Professional Co-operators (M-APC), Member of Kenya Counseling and Psychological Association and a board member of Kenya Network Trade Agency. She is the Chairperson of Shirika Sacco and a consultant on co-operative management. She Holds PhD in Organization Development and Transformation, from Cebu Doctors' University, Cebu, The Philippines. She obtained Master in Co-operative Management and Organization Development, from Leicester University, Leicester, United Kingdom. She holds Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Agriculture from The University of Nairobi, Kenya.

Presentation by Jonathan Kioko

Jonathan holds a Basic degree in public health from Moi Uni, Masters in Public Health from KU, a PHD candidate in development studies at JKUAT. He has been a community development practitioner for the past about 16 years, 10 of which have been within the cooperative movement and among member based organizations in the Eastern Africa region. He has worked as a gender

expert for We Effect regional office of Eastern Africa for about 8 years and now serves as the programmes Director for We Effect Regional Office of Eastern Africa.

3. The COVID 19 Response: Getting Gender Equality Right for a better future for women.

Presentation by Monica Emiru

Monica Emiru Enyou is a social scientist passionate about institutional development and growth. She has a strong background in gender analysis and mainstreaming, policy and legislative development and reforms backed by grounding in understanding human rights. She has a leaning on the rights of women and children, with a focus on their protection and development. Monica has led initiatives directed to equipping women and youth for financial independence

Monica has worked in various capacities including as a Sociologist at the Uganda Law Reform Commission, Programme Officer Action Aid Uganda, Social Policy Specialist, UNICEF Uganda, Skills for Programme Manager Skills for South Sudan and is currently the Executive Director of the National Association of Women's Organisations in Uganda.

Presentation by Dr. Nandini Azad

Dr. Nandini Azad is a senior women leader in the cooperative movement at the International, Regional and National levels. Dr. Azad has the distinction in half a century to be worldwide the only Woman Co-operator to be elected to senior leadership of both the oldest and largest International Cooperative Unions/Alliances. She is currently elected Chairperson of the International Cooperative Alliance - Asia Pacific (ICA-AP) Women's Committee; regional board member of ICA- AP regional board; executive board member of ICAP Global Gender Equality Committee (GEC) and First Woman Board member in 50 years elected, to the International Raiffeison Union board (IRU) (the oldest cooperative union in the world). An elected President of the Indian Cooperative Network for Women and Working Women's Forum (India) with a membership of over 600,000 poor women in the informal sector (H.Q, Chennai). 1 million loans have been provided in 14 Indian locations.

Recently, Dr Dietmar Rothermund, the foremost German Indologist in his new book, "My Encounters in India" writes about eminent Indians and lists Dr. Nandini Azad amongst the (130 eminent persons including Former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, Morarji Desai, Satyajit ray, Jayaprakash Narayan, Yehudi Menuhin and so fall).

Dr. Azad hold a Ph.D, Syracuse University / Maxwell School of Citizenship of public policy USA) on women's credit group in 'Creating bases of women power' in cooperatives. She has worked extensively at senior levels at and in the Indian Government (Planning Commission, Women, Youth, Finance Ministries), multi-lateral agencies (IFAD, ADB, UNDP, ILO, FAO etc.), on international, regional assignments. In 2005 her pioneering report 'Outlays and Outcomes of 65 Ministries in Government of India' was commended during her stint as head of the Outcome Monitoring Division in the Planning Commission.

She was invited to the UN High Level Political Dialogue panel on SDGs to the World Cooperative Day at UN Plaza, New York (2017). A founder member of the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD), Bangkok and GROOTS International U.S.A (Grassroots Organization Operating in Sisterhood), the Cambodian Foreign Minister commended (1993) her for developing the Beijing Country Report on women after the war; she has worked extensively and written on South Asia (Nepal, Maldives, India, Sri Lanka etc.), on gender and financial inclusion, poverty, gendered cooperatives and gender equity.

She undertook and presented the pioneering study of 26-country gender disaggregated data in cooperatives in the Asia Pacific region presented at the Asia Pacific Cooperative Ministers' Conference in Hanoi (APCMC) (2018). Entitled 'Gender in more than Statistic'. She was the only Indian to attend and address the World Farmers Organization General Assembly on Gender Equality in Family Farming, May 2019 in Luxembourg.

As Chairperson of the Independent Commission for People's Rights Trust, she innovated the path-breaking new program of engaging young men and boys to form male youth forums for women's empowerment.

Presentation by Dr. Simel Etim

Dr. Simel Etim is a Programme Manager (Senior Technical Specialist) at the Enterprises Department of the International Labour Office. In that capacity, she leads the ILO's work on cooperatives and the social and solidarity economy. Earlier, she was Senior Gender Specialist at the Regional Office for Arab States, where she led the work on gender equality, transition from the informal to the formal economy, and decent work for domestic workers.

Before joining the ILO, Ms. Esim worked as an economist at the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI), and the World Bank. She has written extensively on gender equality, decent work, migration, economic organizing, and the informal economy. Her recent works include a co-edited book, *Cooperatives and the World of Work* (2019 Routledge).

She holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the American University, Washington, D.C, an M.A. in International Economics and Middle East Studies from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), and a B.A. in Political Science from Boğaziçi University. Simel speaks Turkish and English, and has working knowledge of Italian and Arabic. She is a beginner in Spanish and French.

4. To understand the importance of use data to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on women and girls- Mercy Njeru

Mercy M. Njeru, HSC, MKM is a PHD in Leadership and Governance student and a holder of a degree in Master in Business Administration (MBA- Strategic Management, a Bachelor Degree in Business

administration - Accounting and Finance and a holder of a Diploma in Co-operative Management among other certificates. She has a wealth of knowledge in Co-operative leadership and management spanning over 20 years in various senior capacities and has wide knowledge in co-operative Policy and Legislation; and Advocacy matters. She was conferred with a Head of State Commendation(HSC) for her achievement and contributions in the Co-operative movement. She is a member of the Kenya institute of Management(MKIM)

**5. To expound on how self-branding/imaging using online platforms i.e. Facebook, twitter in the context of gender, can help respond and mitigate the impact of crises such as Covid-19-
Neema Grace Mutemi, MCIPR**

Neema is the Managing Director for Africa for Perspectif Ltd., a boutique International Communications Consultancy firm based in London, United Kingdom. She co-authored and published “An African Minister’s Lessons for Cooperatives” and has previously spoken at the International Summit on how Millennials can drive the African Cooperative Movement to a more vibrant and dynamic future. Between March and June, she consulted for the Government of Kenya’s Food Security War Room (FSWR) under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, where she designed Strategies for COVID-19 Risk Communication, drove the establishment of a work-stream on Agriculture, Food and Nutrition at the national Business Compact on Coronavirus (NBCC) to engage the private sector, and designed the One Million Kitchen Gardens Campaign to respond to the Nutrition-Immunity nexus of the pandemic. Neema has also consulted for the Government as a Chief Strategist for Youth Livelihoods in the Agricultural sector under the Agriculture Sector Development Support Programme. Ms. Mutemi has worked for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN as Kenya’s Country Communications Officer and a Policy Analyst working under the Food and Nutrition Security Impact, Resilience, Sustainability and Transformation (FIRST) Facility on devolved governance systems and their impact on agricultural development. With 14 years of experience in Communications, Public Relations and Public Affairs, she has directed and produced numerous documentaries and multimedia communication products for different audiences and specialises in integrating artificial intelligence and data science to create evidence based communication strategies and more effectively evaluate the impact of communication activities.

6. Case Studies

Presentation by Fiona Nshemerirwe

Ms. Fiona Nshemerirwe Kabwama is the General Manager of the Uganda Housing Cooperative Union; a position she has held since 2016. She holds a Bachelors Degree in Urban Planning from Makerere University and a Masters Degree in Urban Ecological Planning from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology. For 10 years, Ms. Fiona has worked with communities,

exploring innovative and effective spatial plans and management practices to address the complex housing and urban development issues in Uganda.

Presentation by Mrs. Hajiya Dije Jibrin Bala, Endwell Coop Union