



SGA Africa Pan African Webinar Series - Session 2 Thursday 20 August 2020 - 1.00 West Central Africa

Concept Note and Draft Program

Theme: United and Coordinated Africa for the Inclusion of Older People in COVID-19 Policy Response and Development Agendas

Survey conducted by SGA Africa on the impact of COVID -19 containment and mitigation strategies on the rights of older persons in Africa showed, that 72% of respondents from 18 African Countries, reported inadequate structures for older persons' inclusion and participation in policy responses to COVID-19 and, the non-responsiveness of mitigation and containment strategies to their specific needs. Findings confirmed the fragile infrastructure and mechanisms of governments and private sector, for palliative distributions and provision of health care for pre-existing conditions during the pandemic and in most cases, the lack of social protection for older persons. From Community, State, National and, sub-Regional and Regional levels, there are identified gaps in addressing the inclusion of older persons in COVID-19 responses and national, regional and global development agendas, with actions to uphold their voices and human rights.(SGA Africa Report, 2020)

Without effective mechanisms, partnerships and, coordination among relevant actors; member states, AU, UN agencies, NGOs and, Private sector (bilateral, multilateral cooperation), it would be difficult to fill the gaps and to address COVID-19 and recovery phase. The policy brief published by the [UN Secretary General](#) on the Impact of COVID-19 on older persons provides sufficient guidance on the inclusion of older persons.

The Stakeholder Group on Ageing Africa (SGA-Africa) is organizing the 2ND in the SGA Africa Pan African Webinar series, on COVID-19 and, the Rights of older Persons in Africa on **the theme: United and Coordinated Africa for the Inclusion of Older Persons in COVID-19 Policy Response and Development Agendas**. The webinar session will bring together, relevant stakeholders including high level representatives of some African member states, UN Departments and Agencies, African Union Commission (AUC), UN-ECA (host of the African Regional Forum), sub-Regional Parliament, Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI), and NGOs in Africa, to share experiences, challenges, best practices in identifying partnerships opportunities, mechanisms for linkages, engagement and collaboration among stakeholders on strengthening and fast tracking inclusion of older persons in policy responses to COVID-19 and development agendas

Recommendations would guide actions towards identification of opportunities and, tools for coordination of policy, normative and programmatic actions.

Objectives

- To build a strong partnership among different African stakeholders on ageing, for effective coordinated advocacy and, action for the inclusion of older people in the COVID-19 response and in development agendas SDGs 2030 and AU 2063
- To identify tools for creating opportunities for stakeholder engagements and coordination at regional sub- regional and national level

- To identify mechanisms for effective inclusion and participation of older persons in policy responses and development agenda and enhance understanding of the value and contributions of older persons and the implications of their inclusion and participation in policy responses

PROGRAM

Opening Remarks and Over view of SGA Africa Survey on the Impact of COVID-19 Containment and Mitigation Strategies on Rights of Older Persons in Africa	
– Ms. Amal Abou Rafeh, <i>Chief Programme on Ageing Unit, UN DESA United Nations</i>	6 mins
Partnerships and coordination efforts towards regional and/or national multi-sector and comprehensive policy response to ageing and older persons, during and post COVID	
– <i>Dr. Jane Marie, Ong’olo Head of Division, Social Welfare Vulnerable Groups and Drug Control Social Affairs Dept, African Union Commission</i>	7 mins
– Ms. Thokozile Ruzvidzo, <i>Director, Gender Poverty and Social Policy, UNECA /ARFSD-</i>	7 mins
– <i>H.E. Mrs Christine M. Umutoni, UN Resident Coordinator, Mauritius (TBC)</i>	7 mins
– <i>Dr. Walter Kazadi Mulombo, WHO Representative in Nigeria</i>	7 mins
– <i>Member State (TBC)</i>	7 mins
The value and contributions of older persons and the implications of their inclusion and participation in policy response during and post COVID-19	
– <i>Iyom Josephine Anenih, Former Minister of Women Affairs and Social Development (Older person), Nigeria</i>	5 mins
Why Africa should ratify the Protocol to the African Union Charter on Human and People’s Rights on the Rights of Older Persons: Implications for the inclusion of older persons in development agendas	
– <i>Israel Doron, Prof of Law, Haifa University, Israel</i>	7 mins
Partnerships and collaboration on the ratification of African protocol and UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons- Identifying Opportunities emerging from the COVID-19 crises and strengthening solidarity	
– <i>Elie Mugabowishema, President Nzindagiza, Rwanda</i>	5 mins
Q & A	25 mins
Reflections and Way Forward	
– <i>Alexanders Temitope Ajayi, Senior Adviser to the President of the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly</i>	5 mins

Partners:

AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION (AUC), UN-ECA/ARFSD, UNDESA, OHCHR, WHO Nigeria, NANHRI, NHRC, DOF, INPEA, IFA, HelpAge International, DIS MOI, GERAN, NSINDAGIZA, GAN, MANEPO, HEPIQ-C GAROP

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