



BUILDING OUR WORLD TOGETHER

Launch of the Emergency Appeal for COVID-19 Response in South Africa

**EMERGENCY APPEAL
FOR THE IMPACT OF
COVID-19
SOUTH AFRICA**

MAY -
NOVEMBER
2020



On 30 April 2020, the United Nations launched an Emergency Appeal to mobilize one hundred and thirty six million dollars (USD \$136,000,000) to address critical short-term humanitarian needs and priority interventions targeting the most vulnerable populations affected by COVID-19 in South Africa. With over 170 participants from several countries, the virtual launch included representatives from the Government of South Africa, civil society, the business community, international development partners, the diplomatic corps and UN agencies, who provided statements of support and reaffirmed commitment to saving lives and protecting livelihoods. Of the estimated 33.3 million people in need, the Emergency Appeal targets just under 10 million people, with emphasis on the most vulnerable, including women and girls, pregnant and lactating mothers, persons with disabilities, the elderly, homeless, migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, detainees and persons living with HIV across the nine provinces in South Africa.

Ms. Nardos Bekele-Thomas, the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in South Africa commended the Government's commitment to a whole-of-society and a whole-of-government approach to the COVID-19 response. Echoing the words of the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Antonio Guterres, the Resident Coordinator noted that 'this moment demands coordinated, decisive, and innovative policy action from the world's leading economies, recognizing that the poorest countries and most vulnerable, especially women, will be the hardest hit.' Since the virus is undermining the social fabric of the country and the economy, affecting supply chains, businesses and jobs, there needs to be an emphasis on the delivery of essential services to build on pre-COVID-19 development gains, and support to the country in completing the unfinished business of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Resident Coordinator noted that she was encouraged by President Cyril Ramaphosa's consistent message that post COVID-19 will usher in a different model of development, focussing more on inclusiveness, guided by the motto of leaving no one behind. This is one of the key guiding principles of the work of the United Nations, which places emphasis on the most vulnerable, including women and girls, pregnant and lactating mothers, persons with disabilities, the elderly, homeless, migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, detainees and persons living with HIV, among others.

In order to better support the national response efforts and the needs of the most vulnerable, the UN has already re-purposed ten million dollars (US\$10 million) towards COVID-19 response and recovery efforts.



Summary of the priority objectives in each sector, the populations being targeted and the funding requirements, as per the table below

Sector	Objectives	People in Need	People Targeted	Requirements (USD)
1 Health	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rapid containment 2. Reduce excess mortality 3. Reduce excess morbidity 	18.9 million	5.2 million	54.5 million
2 Food Security and Nutrition	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Immediate support to at-risk communities 2. Enhance community-based protection 3. Advocate for social cohesion through monitoring, coordination and direct implementation 	13.8 million	1.3 million	28.2 million
3 Protection, Gender and Gender-Based Violence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1.Immediate support to at-risk communities 2. Enhance community-based protection 3. Advocate for social cohesion through monitoring, coordination and direct implementation 	10.7 million	5 million	15.3 million
4 Education	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support learners through apps, radio and online programme platforms 2. School health and sanitation support 3. Capacity support and system strengthening of the Department Basic Education 	13.0 million	10.0 million	15.0 million
5 WASH	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved water and sanitation 2. Enhanced risk communication in vulnerable communities 3. Enhanced community engagement particularly in informal settlements 	27.0 million	2.5 million	9.3 million
6 Governance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhance the National Disaster Management Centre 2. Coordinate with and involve Civil Society 3. Support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) 	3 million	1 million	8.8 million
7 Coordination and Common Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Common UN ICT for COVID-19 2. Common Procurement pipeline for PPEs and other essential services 3. Common financial reporting and accountability tool 	-	-	5 million
TOTAL				136 million

Statements of support from partners



Ambassador Nozipho January-Bardill, Global Compact Network in South Africa, on behalf of the Global Compact Network in South Africa, noted that business has responded rapidly to the call to work with Government and civil society, clearly acknowledging their critical role in sustaining livelihoods in the country. Citing the roles being played by Business Unit South Africa (BUSA) and the Solidarity Fund, Ambassador January-Bardill emphasized the need to pay special attention to workers in the informal sector, particularly women (who constitute a large part of the informal sector), and the importance of recognizing the centrality of human rights to the existence of any business. It was noted that each Sustainable Development Goal offers a lens through which to work, and therefore, it is important to have collaboration and coherent approaches among stakeholders in order to support the development aspirations of the country.



Ms. Mmapaseka Steve Letsike - Chairperson South Africa National AIDS Council (SANAC) and National Civil Society Forum, emphasized the importance of recognising the needs of communities, their unique strengths and also their resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic. Noting that communities have been severely impacted by limited access to health care and income, as well as environmental factors, she emphasised the role of community constituencies in mitigating the impacts of the virus, including through contributing to public health measures which the Government has put in place. Ms. Letsike also noted that it is essential for communities and organisations to have resources in order to translate plans into action, taking into account, the important role of civil society in supporting the COVID-19 response.



Ms. Gloria Serobe, Chairperson - Solidarity Fund, noted that the Solidarity Fund was looking forward to a fruitful and productive relationship with the United Nations including sharing and learning from the UN system's global network, as well as experiences in other countries in addressing humanitarian crises.

Mr. Mark Weinburg - C-19 People's Coalition, acknowledged that the pandemic is amplifying the ongoing structural crisis that the country has been experiencing, with worsening unemployment rates, access to health and access to education, and within this context, the approach cannot be one of 'business as usual.' The organization is looking forward to successful mobilization of funds through the Flash Appeal, to enable them to work more effectively with communities, particularly with food distribution programmes.



Messages of support from the Government of South Africa



Dr. Zwele Mkhize - Minister of Health, provided an overview of the impact of COVID-19 on the health of the population, including vulnerable persons, such as the 7.5 million people in South Africa living with HIV. The Minister commended the United Nations system for re-purposing ten million dollars (USD\$ 10 million) to support COVID-19 efforts in the country. It was noted that under the leadership of the President, the country has a clear COVID-19 response strategy, and the United Nations system response is based on sound research and analysis, taking into account the existing triple threat of poverty, unemployment and inequality. The Minister appreciated the Emergency Appeal's focus on refugees and migrants which complements the Government's three-pronged strategy, and emphasized that among the key challenges that still exist is the limited availability of personal protective equipment (PPE). The health sector recognizes the issue of gender-based violence and sexual exploitation, and sees the need to collaborate extensively with all partners, including trade unions, business, and civil society to address these and other challenges. The Minister noted that it is critical to ensure that the country does not lose sight of the commitment to achieving universal health coverage for all South Africans by 2030, as agreed in the Political Declaration of the High Level Meeting on Universal Coverage convened in September 2019.



Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma - Minister for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), noted that COVID-19 has exposed historical legacies of the system of separate development, including the absence of water and sanitation, decent human settlements for all, and weaknesses in education among other areas. COVID-19 therefore is a humanity challenge with far reaching impacts beyond the health sector. The Minister noted that it is important to examine what opportunities can be derived from this crisis. It is also key for the country to adopt a risk adjustment strategy so that the lockdown measures take into account, the balance between fighting the virus, and slowly re-opening the economy. It was noted that the country is already in a difficult position with gaps in the supply of personal protective equipment, medical supplies required, and sanitizers. This crisis could present an opportunity for South Africa to begin to produce these items in large quantities. On a positive note, the Minister acknowledged that the crisis has allowed Government to work in a more coordinated manner, with an increased level of responsiveness, including taking decisions quickly. It was also noted that the crisis has to an extent, catapulted the country into a new era- technologically, and has made it clear that people must be able to access technology. The Minister thanked the United Nations for donations of sanitizers that will be sent to provinces that have the highest level of infections.



Ms. Lindiwe Zulu - Minister of Social Development, highlighted the recent meeting convened under the leadership of President Ramaphosa, to hand over the work on the *Emergency Response Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide in South Africa* to the Gender-Based Violence and Femicide Council. The plan is focused on broadening access to justice for survivors; changing social norms and behaviours; strengthening existing architecture and promoting accountability; and creating more economic opportunities for women, priorities which have become increasingly important within the context of COVID-19. The Minister appreciated the support of the United Nations and emphasized the importance of ensuring that the needs of women are effectively addressed in the Emergency Appeal given the fact that women bear the disproportionate burden of the pandemic; women constitute the majority of employees in the informal sector, are poorer, and are often most severely impacted. The need for strengthened coordination across sectors, emphasis on food security, economic empowerment of women and giving dignity back to women were emphasized by the Minister.



Messages of support from the International Development Partners



Ambassador Riina Kionka – Head of the European Union (EU) Delegation to the Republic of South Africa, noted that the launch of the Flash Appeal was in sync with the European Union priorities for its own humanitarian response plan, launched by the European Commission three weeks ago in the amount of twenty billion euros. The Ambassador acknowledged that the United Nations Emergency Appeal is aligned to the national response, with a prominent role for civil society, a single plan approach and priorities given to the most vulnerable groups. In this regard, the European Union is currently reviewing options on how to support the Appeal in a more effective way.



H.E. Astrid Emilie Helle - Ambassador of Norway to the Republic of South Africa, commended the leadership of the World Health Organization (WHO) on the COVID-19 response, and noted the important coordinating role of the United Nations. The Ambassador also acknowledged the strong measures taken by the Government of South Africa and indicated that the Appeal will be reviewed in order to identify areas that could potentially be supported. The importance of addressing issues of inequality and poverty were underscored.



H.E. Mr. Norio Maruyama - Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of South Africa, commended the outstanding work by the Government of South, and appreciated the effort by the United Nations family to complement the national COVID-19 response. Japan recognizes the importance of support to fragile countries, and the importance of bolstering infection prevention, and developing and distributing medicines - an important lesson learned from the COVID-19 experience. The approach taken in the Flash Appeal was appreciated by the Ambassador, and the Embassy will coordinate with Headquarters to see what actions may be taken.



H.E. David Hamadziripi - Ambassador of Zimbabwe to the Republic of South Africa The Ambassador appreciated that the Flash Appeal addresses the issues of migrants who have relocated to the country to work in businesses and may now be faced with unemployment. The focus on marginalized groups is particularly welcomed, and is a key element of ensuring that no one is left behind.



H.E. Fionnuala Gilsean - Ambassador of Ireland to the Republic of South Africa The Ambassador appreciated the United Nations system's leadership and coordination of external partners to ensure greater impact. Ireland pledged four hundred thousand euros (400,000 euros) to support the United Nations in tackling gender-based violence, and indicated that it would be important to explore the role that the Southern African Development Community (SADC) could play, if these countries come together.

Mr. Paul Clements-Hunt – Founder of the Blended Capital Group, delivered greetings on behalf of Mr. Gordon Brown, United Nations Special Envoy for Global Education, who is keen on mobilizing resources for African health care systems. The team is currently exploring an initiative that is expected to contribute to improving the health of the people of South Africa, and it is hoped that this initiative will be scaled up to countries across the region.

**UN Special
Envoy for Global
Education**



UN Global Message of Support



Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka - United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director UN Women, commended the South African government for its leadership, guided by science and a balanced focus between saving lives and protecting livelihoods. The importance of tackling the emergency head-on, including ensuring that health systems are being addressed, and ensuring that the socio-economic response is focused on the needs of the poor was highlighted. In this regard, it is important that this Emergency Appeal focuses on migrants and refugees who are among the most vulnerable populations. Ms. Ngcuka further noted that every pandemic had a way of exposing gender inequalities, and in this case, technology inequality was an important issue. The importance of flattening the curve of

gender-based violence and addressing the challenge of food insecurity were underscored as key issues that must be addressed. The UN Women Executive Director commended the leadership of the President and Ministers of South Africa, and appreciated the work of colleagues in the United Nations family for repurposing funds from different portfolios to ensure that the COVID-19 response can be effective.

South Africa's response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been a robust example of solidarity, hope and political will. The Emergency Appeal launched by the United Nations represents efforts to further complement and support the national response to save lives, protect livelihoods and save businesses, while supporting early actions to ensure a green, sustainable and resilient recovery. The collective, multi-sectoral efforts, partnerships and other ongoing programmes of support, must be coherent and sustained, in order to ensure that pre-COVID-19 vulnerabilities of poverty and multidimensional inequalities are addressed, and the country gets back on track to achieving the ambitions of the National Development Plan, Vision 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals.



From the Wellness Desk: 2020 a year we never imagined **Sindiswa Mathiso - Wellness Coordinator**

When the year started, we were all optimistic about how the year will be. We set up plans, we had dates in place to execute those plans both in the workplace and in our personal lives.

Little did we know that a pandemic would hit us and change how we live and how we work. We all had to work from home, a 'new normal' we never imagined. Our anxiety levels and stress levels went up. Among other regulations, we were told to regularly wash our hands, to social distance, to wear masks and to avoid public gatherings. There was a time, we all thought that life was so unfair and some of us even lost hope that we would ever see our families again. Within the UN family in South Africa, quite several of us lost family members. The pain became so unbearable because we could not even be there for one another. Our first case of COVID-19 was in March: Our anxieties went up and as usual we all panicked trying to figure out who the person is and whether we were not infected or not. We had few staff members who got hospitalized due to shortage of breath and other serious symptoms. The UN Resident Coordinator, Nardos Bekele-Thomas with World Health Organisation led a process of ensuring that UN in South Africa develops a Business Continuity Plan (BCP). She also chaired the Crisis Operations Group operated under the leadership of Operations Management Team (OMT) Chairperson, Beatrice Mutali. The team met regularly to ensure safety and security of staff members and their families.

COVID-19 Cases within the UN Family - About 21 (reported cases) of our staff members tested positive and through the assistance of our UN Wellness programme, they were able to receive support while isolating at home. Contact tracing was also constantly done to caution those who were in touch with those staff members. PPE was procured and distributed to our staff members. A risk assessment process was conducted for all our UN buildings. This process was done to ensure safety protocols as outlined by the South African government. As part of Mental Health Day activities, a webinar on coping with change was conducted for all staff members. Due to the economic crisis the country is facing, another webinar on "Navigating the financial storms of COVID-19" was also a great success. **Sadly the UN lost five family members during this difficult year, some through car accidents and some with very minor illnesses.**



United Nations in South Africa partners with FUNZI to launch e-learning course to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic

In April 2020, the United Nations South Africa, led by the UN The Resident Coordinator, Nardos Bekele-Thomas and supported by the heads of UN agencies, partnered with **Funzi**, an e-learning mobile service, to launch the course '**COVID-19: Adapt and thrive**', as part of the country's official coronavirus response initiative.

This initiative was created in collaboration with Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator, supported by the Solidarity Fund and was rolled out as part of the national initiative to reach three million young people during the lockdown.

This course aimed to give South Africans clear information on the coronavirus, how it spreads, preventative measures, and national restrictions. The course addresses the physical, mental, social, and financial impact that the coronavirus has on people's lives, their families', community, and society. The course was created with specialists in the field of medicine, digital product design, and



alongside South African experts at Harambee.

The course was created with specialists in the field of medicine, digital product design, and alongside South African experts at Harambee. It is still accessible on <https://funzi.mobi/learn/covid-19-adapt-and-thrive> or on the front page of funzi.mobi with the course title: "**COVID-19: Adapt and thrive**".

COVID-19 in South Africa: Adapt and thrive

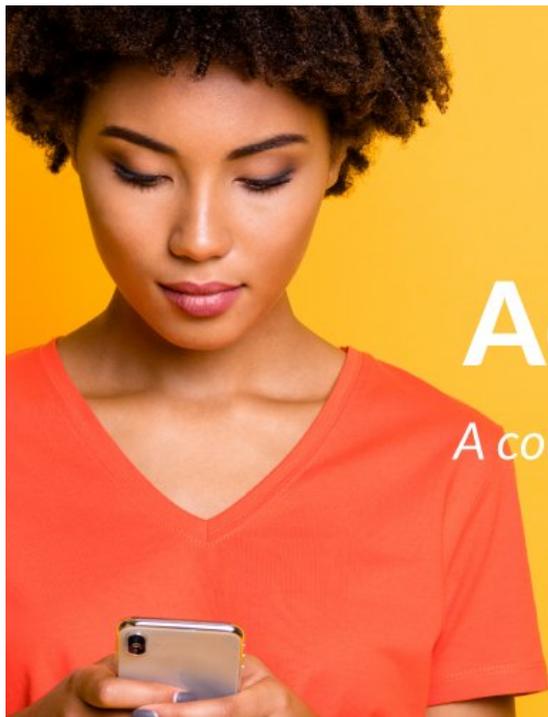


Ms. Nardos Bekele-Thomas

UN Resident Coordinator in South Africa

"We are excited to partner with FUNZI on this innovative education campaign as we navigate the unprecedented journey presented to us by the COVID-19 pandemic. The UN in South Africa is encouraging local entities, civil society groups, community organisations and the private sector to join this campaign and encourage the people of this beautiful country to participate in this education campaign. We will accelerate the translation to local languages in collaboration with FUNZI, Harambee and local authorities."





COVID-19: Adapt and thrive!

A course to help you manage the current coronavirus situation



Since 2015, Funzi has been at the forefront of helping to deliver hope in the form of essential information and learning opportunities, to people in crisis situations. They have the experience, the research, and their activities have shown that mobile information technology is the most effective mechanism to reach the majority of the population and disseminate information. Access to relevant and factual information has a calming effect during times of uncertainty.

User feedback: "I like Funzi because it has been helping me a lot, like I didn't know much about virus, bacterial, Corona. Now I know what I should do and what not to do. Thank You Funzi."

"I Enjoyed My Course Today. I Did A Lot Of Reading While Learning More About The Pandemic Known As COVID-19.I Also Did A Lot Of Activities That Refreshed My Mind Educationally While On Lockdown."

Aape Pohjavirta, Founder FUNZI



"In times of crisis, mobile learning has proven to be incredibly impactful. We were able to launch the course in only 10 days, giving millions access to timely and critical information. The Funzi approach is unique because of our combination of technology and pedagogy. It is designed for mobile with users in emerging markets in mind."

" This initiative raised the awareness of more than 4 million users through social media posts and campaigns
• engaged more than 22 000 users actively with the Funzi COVID-19 'Adapt and thrive' and 'Future Pack' courses on funzi.mobi • attracted over 12 000 active learners to the courses with an average course completion of ~20% and topic completions between 44% and 72% and • attracted more than 3 200 active learners to the 'COVID-19 Adapt and thrive' course with an average course completion of ~ 18% and topic completions between 45% and 72%."





Our Actions are our Future.

A **#ZeroHunger** world
by 2030 **is possible.**

FAO assesses impact of COVID-19

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in collaboration with the national Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) conducted two sets of assessments on the impact of COVID-19 on food security, agriculture and the food system in South Africa.

FAO contracted the Human Science Research Council (HSRC) to conduct a rapid assessment on the impact of COVID-19 on agriculture and the food system in South Africa. The purpose of assessment is to inform government responses to the pandemic and to put in place policies and actions to minimize disruptions on food supply chains, food trade, and demand for food, incomes, and livelihoods, especially of the poor and vulnerable segments of the populations.

The assessment was done through mixed methods of key informant interviews at the national and subnational level including Agribusiness and vendor associations, fresh produce marketers, relevant government departments and entities, the academic and research Institutions, international agencies and an informal food trader survey as well as desktop review and secondary data analysis.

FAO also contracted Geopoll to conduct a survey among households on Food security. Over 7,200 households were surveyed via telephone. Working together with South African Vulnerability Assessment Committee (SAVAC), and other UN

agencies conducted a Food and Nutrition Security Integrated Phase Classifications (IPC) Analysis. A second products from the survey include an assessment of the prevalence of Food Insecurity in South Africa using Food Insecurity Inexperience scale (FIES) which is one of the SDG 2 indicators.

The three reports from the two sets of assessments are finalized and are undergoing validation by the Food and Nutrition Security Task Team on COVID-19 that includes Agriculture Research Council (ARC), government departments and entities such as Statistics South Africa (StatsSA), DPME, National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC), HSRC, DALRRD, SAVAC, and the United Nations agencies such as FAO, IFAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNICEF UN Women, WFP, and the UN Resident Coordinators Office. DALRRD expects to disseminate the results by January 2021.

This synthesis report presents key findings from a study that was aimed at assessing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on agriculture and the food system in South Africa, and exploring solutions to minimise the impacts of the pandemic and similar future shocks.

The research activities undertaken in preparation of the report included reviews of literature and relevant documents, secondary data analysis, key informant interviews at the national and subnational levels, and an informal food trader survey.

**ORANGE THE WORLD:
FUND, RESPOND,
PREVENT, COLLECT!**

#ORANGETHETHEWORLD #GENERATIONEQUALITY #16DAYS

16 Days of Activism



UNHCR and IOM march to end Gender-Based Violence



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Humanitarian agencies in Pretoria, South Africa, marched against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) on 4 December 2020. The march was organized by United Nations High Commission for Refugees and International Organisation for Migration.

The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, including lockdowns, closure of essential services and worsening socio-economic conditions have exacerbated risks of GBV for refugee women as well as for internally displaced and stateless women.

There has been a sharp increase in intimate partner violence as well as risks of sexual violence and sexual exploitation, child marriage and early pregnancy.

“

The solution is in our hands: let us protect our women and girls, let's prevent violence against them. Stop violence against women and girls!

”

**SAY NO
UNITE**
TO END VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN

“Were you really raped, or did you just not get paid?”



Within the framework on the 16 Days of Activism, UN Office on Drugs and Crime Regional Office for Southern Africa organized a webinar to present the findings and recommendations of a study on the needs of Women Who Use Drugs (WWUD), in order to increase awareness on the violations of the rights of WWUD, and explore actions that may be taken to ensure that their access to health, social, legal services is provided without discrimination.

“Were you really raped, or did you just not get paid?” – the title of the study, was a quoted response by a service provider, to a woman who reported rape. The victim was a woman who used drugs. The findings of the study summarily revealed high levels trauma, sexual violence, insufficient access to services and human rights violations incurred by these women.

As a pre-event to the 16 Days of Activism in South Africa, the aim of the webinar was to bring to remembrance that women, everywhere, are entitled to have equal rights and opportunity, and to be able to live free of violence and discrimination. Women who use drugs (WWUD), are often ignored and invisible within the general population. However, they are particularly vulnerable due to underlying health issues, stigma, social marginalization, economic and social vulnerabilities, including a lack of access to basic services.

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Ms Hendrietta Bagopane-Zulu - Deputy Minister Department of Social Development presented the keynote address, enthused that “South Africa’s fourth Drug Master Plan led by the Department of Social Development was progressively aligned to the United Nations International standards, as well as the African Union Drug Master Plan”. She resoundingly supported the opening remarks of UNODC’s Regional Representative Ms Zhuldyz Akisheva that “WWUD are in spaces, not designed for them” and hence, the Department of Social Development is pushing for change in its interventions and rehabilitation facilities to be more gender-responsive to the needs of women. The Deputy Minister indicated that “women are always expected to be holier than thou, and not addicted to drugs because society has decided on the type of image of a woman”.

Ms Angela McBride, the director of the South African Network of People Who Use Drugs, in presenting the findings of the study, quoted a 37- year old participant from Durban, “the trusted men in blue took the little bit of self-esteem I had when he sexually harassed me. I have lost trust in the men of peace”.

Ms Lillian Mashele - Acting Director: Policy Development & Research from the Civilian Secretariat for Police Service, responded in her presentation that “if women who use drugs are not supported to report, they become more vulnerable to repeated victimisation. She further emphasized that poor treatment at the reporting of a case may deter not only deter the victim but also effects current statistics of what is happening in society”.

Col Matlamela - National Office: South African Police Service (SAPS), reinforced the challenges faced by WWUD. She emphasised that the “police can reduce or increase stigma and discrimination by the marginalised groups through the way they treat them; and that the “police are required by the South African constitution and the SAPs Code of Conduct to treat all people fairly. In conclusion. Adv Pierre Smith commented that “the National Prosecuting Authority was committed to a victim-centric approach” but required a “collective response by all service providers”.

UNDP, UN WOMEN AND NCRF partner to raise awareness on the role of the bystander



“By launching this campaign, we aim to demonstrate that everyone can do something. It is possible to engage without putting yourself or the victim in danger” said Dr Ayodele Odusola, Resident Representative of UNDP in South Africa. “For society to realise a generation free of violence, we have to establish a new norm that does not tolerate violence but rather seeks to ensure that everyone recognises it as criminal offence and our collective responsibility to create a society where all women and girls feel safe. As South Africa did to end apartheid, community action at every street, ward and district is what is necessary to build zero tolerance to violence” added Ms. Anne Githuku-Shongwe, Representative of UN Women South Africa Multi-Country Office.

22 November 2020: In the run up to the 16 days of activism against Gender Based Violence (GBV), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in South Africa, in partnership with UN Women and the National Community Radio Forum (NCRF) launched a national awareness campaign, aimed at raising awareness on issues of bystanderism. The campaign will address topics around the role of the bystander in gender-based emotional violence, toxic masculinities, physical violence, femicide, disputed and denied pregnancies and also interrogate the role of the church as a bystander.

This initiative contributes towards the implementation of the National Strategic Plan on GBV and Femicide, specifically, Pillar two on Prevention and Building Social Cohesion and addresses the issue of the normalization of GBV.

In this regard, a bystander is defined as a friend, family, neighbour, co-worker, or a stranger who may notice situations of escalating risk for violence or become aware of the abuse of power in relationships and by their presence have the potential to alter the outcome of the situation. Bystanders may also be first responders who hear victims talk about their experiences and can offer support and referral to resources or provide negative responses that silence victims and compound their distress. They may also be individuals who are carriers of community norms related to GBV.

This campaign aims to explore the small but growing body of evidence demonstrating that bystander intervention strategies can increase participants’ willingness to act, their sense of efficacy in doing so and their actual participation in prosocial bystander behaviour. One such study was carried out by UNDP and UN Women South Africa in 2017/2018 and revealed that there are a number of factors that influence the bystanders to act; chief amongst these are trust that their interventions are welcomed, that they will be helpful and that they will not put the victims at risk of retaliations. As such, the campaign promotes **Active Bystanderism** and will provide tips and strategies on how anyone can be an active bystander and at the same time reinforcing messages on prevention of GBV whilst directing communities to sources of assistance.

“Gender Based Violence and Femicide happen right at our doorsteps; therefore strengthening community interventions will intensify efforts to call out and therefore deal with this plague, which was worsened by the advent of COVID-19” said Mr Xola Nozewu - President of the National Community Radio Forum.

STOP BYSTANDERISM

TAKE ACTION!

GBV
Gender Based Violence

GENDER VIOLENCE

No More Bystanding

#DoSomething #ActiveBystander

What is a Bystander?

Someone who notices situations of abuse but takes no action

UNODC: Trafficking in persons and smuggling Of migrants activities

Drafting Retreat to review legislation on combating the smuggling of migrants

UNODC ROSAF and UNODC HQ Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Section, in collaboration with the Zambia Law Development Commission organized a drafting retreat on to review legislation on combating the smuggling of migrants in Zambia in November 2020. The objective of the retreat are as follows: to enhance provisions of the legislation so that it is responsive to the needs of the stakeholders; to identify lacunae in the legislation in an effort to introduce suitable provisions; to review the legislation in order to harmonize the pertinent laws; to domesticate the applicable international and regional instruments relating to smuggling of migrants; and to adopt regional and international best practice with regards to combatting human trafficking. The outcome of the retreat is a draft immigration and deportation amendment bill and a desk review report. Participants comprised officials from the Zambia Law Development Commission, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, Immigration Department, Zambia Police Service, Ministry of Justice.



Inter-Ministerial Workshop on the Validation of the Trafficking in Persons Implementing Regulations

UNODC ROSAF, in collaboration with the Office of the Prosecutor General in the Republic of Mozambique, convened an Inter-Ministerial two-day Workshop on the Validation of the Trafficking in Persons Implementing Regulations 7-8 December 2020 in Maputo, Mozambique. The workshop was convened under the framework of the Southern Africa Migration Management (SAMM) Project, which is a four-year European Commission Funded project, designed to improve migration management in the Southern Africa and Indian Ocean region.

The objective of the workshop was to validate the trafficking in persons implementing regulations of the Republic of Mozambique. As a result of the workshop Mozambique Trafficking in Persons Implementing regulations were successfully validated by all stakeholders. Participants in the workshop included the Office of the Prosecutor General; Social Welfare; Ministry of Interior; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Transport and Communications; Mozambique Police; National Criminal Investigation Service (SERNIC); International Organization for Migration and Save the Children.



Launch of Training Manuals on Prevention and Combating Trafficking in Persons

UNODC ROSAF, in collaboration with the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, launched the UNODC Generic Trafficking in Persons Manual for Criminal Justice Practitioners on the 11 December 2020, Pretoria, South Africa. The objective of the launch are as follows: to raise awareness amongst South Africa's relevant stakeholders involved in the response to trafficking in persons about the availability and accessibility of the Generic Manual; to motivate for the institutionalization of the Generic Manual into the training institutes of various government departments involved in the response to trafficking in persons and to distribute copies of the training manual to relevant stakeholders and encourage its use during stakeholder's proposed trainings on combating trafficking in persons. Participants will include the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, Department of Social Development, South African Police Services, Department of Home Affairs, Department of Labour, Directorate for Priority Crime Investigations, civil society organizations as well as the International organization for Migration.

Study on the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 in South Africa



New research from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) shows COVID-19 will cause South Africa's overall GDP to decline by 7.9 percent in 2020 and will recover slowly through 2024, leading to major setbacks in addressing poverty, unemployment and inequality.

The launch, chaired by UNDP Resident Representative Dr Ayodele Odusola brought together representatives from government, civil society, private sector and academia. UNDP's Resident Coordinator, Ms Nardos Bekele-Thomas in her [opening remarks](#), defined this as not only a health crisis, but also an economic, security, humanitarian and human rights crisis. With this, she invited the audience to help the United Nations to "think and help unpack how we move forward to build back better to empower women, the elderly and those who have been severely impacted by this pandemic" she said. "Never waste a crisis, it is an opportunity for change" she urged as she concluded her remarks.

The study focuses on how COVID-19 will drive temporary and long-term changes in poverty levels in South Africa and on the classification of households that are at risk. The story of Ms Khumbulile Thabethe, a single parent with three children who gave a personal testimony, was a stark reminder of the reality of how a virus, lock down and being a single parent head of a household has impacted our lives.

The Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Dr. Dlamini-Zuma, [launched the report](#), by highlighting that the effects of this virus are bound to be with us with us for some years and that

our lives have been altered and altered forever. The reality of apartheid South Africa, inequality, poverty and spatial planning has further exposed vulnerability the virus has confirmed that South Africa continues on a path of two economies with "the most vulnerable being a poor township African woman sometimes with a baby on her back, further exacerbated by gender based violence" she said. She called for a skills revolution complemented by the adoption of a technology strategy and the delivery of a district developing model by promoting gender responsive budgeting. With this, she urged that the study should find its way into every district and municipality.

The Minister of Health, Dr Zweli Mkhize, reminded the audience that there is no blue print response to this pandemic, making it difficult to manage. He recognised that COVID-19 has exposed the weakness of development; hence there was a need "to mount a whole of society approach". He also stressed that rebuilding livelihoods will revive the economy. In her [presentation](#), UNDP Senior Economist, Ms. Fatou Leigh indicated that:

- lower bound poverty levels are also set to increase by 46% in 2020 under the optimistic scenario and as much as 66% in the pessimistic scenario, with 34% of middle-class households likely to fall into the vulnerable class, and about a 44% chance for persons with permanent employment changing to contract type are likely to fall back into poverty.
- populations hit especially hard are already-impoverished female-headed households, persons with only primary education, persons without social assistance, black populations, and heads of households who have been pushed from permanent to informal employment.
- About 54% of these households entering informal employment are likely to fall into poverty, as well. Income inequality is likely to increase due to the skewed negative impacts on already-disadvantaged populations.

The study further observes that the economic sectors that are most disadvantaged by the COVID-19 outbreak include textiles, education services, catering and accommodation (including tourism), beverage, tobacco, glass products, and footwear. Small and medium-sized enterprises are most negatively impacted.

A panel discussion by representatives from Human Science Research Council, United Nations Populations Fund and the National Planning Commission pointed out some of the limitations of the study and noted that there is no single, silver bullet policy action to solve the crisis. Instead, combined policy actions – focusing on populations hit hardest by the outbreak and its consequences – are needed, such as social protection mechanisms, re-skilling programmes, liquidity measures, tax deferrals, and job support among options for consideration.

The Solidarity Fund and the UN – Working in Partnership



The speed and scale of the impacts of COVID-19 on South Africa and the world has placed societies everywhere on the back foot. The severity of the health consequences has been matched by the severity of the social and economic consequences of this pandemic.

The response in South Africa has been a whole of society approach, which is embodied in the Solidarity Fund. The Fund was established in March 2020 as a rapid delivery vehicle to address the health and humanitarian aspects of COVID-19, overseen by South Africans from government, civil society and the private sector, it has raised 3.22 billion rands to date and disbursed more than 1.7 billion. It has been a leading force in helping to protect the lives and livelihoods of the most vulnerable. In support of its mission the UN System has worked in partnership with the fund, offering

technical advice to humanitarian programming to address food insecurity and combat the scourge of gender-based violence, while maintaining a liaison function between the work of the fund and the efforts of the 17 UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes in South Africa.

In this regard, the UN Resident Coordinator in South Africa, Ms. Nardos Bekele-Thomas, has sat on the Technical Advisory Committee that has helped guide its humanitarian work. As the COVID-19 emergency continues, the UN System looks forward to a continued partnership with this vital institution.



The fight against corruption needs to overcome vested interests



Professor Mandla Makhanya, Chairperson of the Public Service Commission Advocate Richard Sizani as well as the Representative for UNODC, Ms. Zhuldyz Akisheva, to mark International Anti-Corruption Day.

In her address the Ms. Bekele-Thomas recognized that, ***“the fight against corruption requires determined efforts to overcome vested interests. Therefore, we need to work on employing the efforts of a knowledgeable, involved and active citizenry. Secondly and equally important, is the need to leverage innovative technologies to strengthen public sector performance and productivity, confront corruption and to help foster greater trust and accountability, particularly in more fragile environments. Citizens deserve corruption-free countries. Leaders on the continent and worldwide should act with urgency, commitment and integrity.”***

The International Anti-Corruption Day was commemorated on 9 December in recognition of the United Nations Convention against Corruption which was signed in Mexico in 2003. This day provided an opportunity for stakeholders including government, legal entities, lobby groups and other partners to join forces against corruption.

In South Africa, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) work closely with governments and other partners to eradicate corruption.

The UN Resident Coordinator, Nardos Bekele-Thomas, joined the Minister for Public Service and Administration, Senzo Mchunu, UNISA Vice-Chancellor

In her address the UN Resident Coordinator in South Africa, Ms. Nardos Bekele-Thomas recalled the words of former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan that ***“If corruption is a disease, transparency is essential part of its treatment.”*** Ms. Bekele-Thomas re-emphasised UN South Africa’s continued support to the government and people of South Africa in this journey to root out corruption.

UN System and Department of Social Development Launch the COVID-19 Rapid Needs Assessment



As COVID-19 descended on South Africa the United Nations system began to urgently plan its contribution to the fight against the virus. In those first days the UN consulted broadly with civil society, the private sector and most importantly with Government departments. Even before the pandemic arrived, it was clear that the socio-economic impacts would be severe. A key partner in Government was the Department of Social Development, who helped guide the UN response while making a specific request that the UN system

support the national effort by undertaking a comprehensive Needs Assessment. The Needs Assessment would contribute to guiding the national response as well as act as a baseline assessment, to measure the ongoing impact of the pandemic on the lives and livelihoods of South Africans. This Needs Assessment is a snapshot and assessment of COVID-19's effect on South African society, and it has provided a costed estimate of potential responses to alleviate these impacts. To accompany the assessment, UNDP has constructed an online dashboard that will allow for a real time monitoring of COVID-19 impacts and responses in South Africa. The COVID-19 Rapid Needs Assessment was launched on the 30th of October by the Minister of Social Development, Lindiwe Zulu alongside the UN Resident Coordinator, Nardos Bekele-Thomas.

During the launch Ms. Bekele-Thomas noted "In South Africa we have focused on the solidarity of multilateralism, we have stood shoulder to shoulder with you. Every UN Agency, Fund and Programme has prioritised COVID-19, realigned projects and repurposed more than 190 million rand in existing funding..... a key contribution of the UN system to South Africa's fight is this assessment. We hope and intend that it will inform responses, support policy decisions and act as a baseline for future assessments."



"The future we want, the UN we need" – UN Secretary-General

United Nations (UN) Day marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter. The global community commemorate the founding of this august body annually on 24 October. 2020 also marked the 75th anniversary of the United Nations. As the UN commemorates its 75 years of existence, the theme as announced by UN Secretary-General, Mr. Antonio Guterres: "***The Future We Want, the UN We Need: Reaffirming our Collective Commitment to Multilateralism,***" provided an opportunity for countries to imagine a future world, post COVID-19. It called for us to imagine how this world, with the UN as a global institution of governance, with multilateralism as its tool, can be better equipped to deal with current and future challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. It was against this background that the Department of International Relations and the United Nations Office in South Africa co-hosted a media panel discussion to discuss the importance of multilateralism in dealing with post COVID-19 challenges. The event will be themed: "***The importance of multilateralism in building back better for a post-COVID-19 world***". The discussion centred around how multilateralism and the multilateral system, especially the UN, can better and more effectively deliver and address global challenges to create a better life for all in the global context. The participants were:

- Dr. Naledi Pandor, Minister of International Relations and Cooperation,
- Ms. Nardos Bekele-Thomas, UN Resident Coordinator
- Prof. Tawana Kupe, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, University of Pretoria;
- Ms. Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, Chief Executive of the South African Institute of International Affairs;

The session was moderated by UNICEF Communications Specialist, Mr. Sudeshan Reddy. In attendance were officials of the government of South Africa, members of the diplomatic corps, the United Nations Country Team in South Africa, research and academic institutes and the media.

Results of the Gender-Based Violence Citizens Survey

The United Nations in South Africa, in partnership with the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, hosted a webinar on citizens' experiences of gender-based violence (GBV) during COVID-19. This webinar reflected on the findings of the GBV Citizens Survey and other various rapid assessments of GBV during COVID-19, conducted by the United Nations, the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities (DWYPD), and other government partners, to better understand GBV incidences during the various levels of lockdown.

COVID-19 brought into sharp focus the multiple layers of challenges that women and girls face, which in turn deepen their vulnerability. The data and information on the status of GBV in the country during lockdown has been conflicting. Given this context, this citizen survey aimed to measure the reported increase of GBV during lockdown, as well the extent to which women have access to emergency services when they need them.

The GBV Citizens Survey measured the incidence of gender-based violence (GBV) against women during COVID-19 lockdown in South Africa. Deployed through mobile technology, the citizen's survey measured the extent of violence against women, as well as knowledge, access, and utilization of essential services for survivors of gender-based violence. In this study GBV was measured according to four categories, that is emotional and psychological, physical, sexual, and economic. Some of the findings:

- 28 percent of female respondents have experienced emotional abuse (i.e. humiliation, threat, or insult) by their partners, family members or others during the lockdown. The main reported perpetrators are family members, as well as current and previous partners.
- 19 percent of female respondents experienced physical abuse, (i.e. being hit, slapped, kicked, or physically hurt) by their partner, family member or any other person during the level 4 and 5 lockdown period.
- A further 11 percent of female respondents were forced to have sexual intercourse or perform other sexual acts that they did not want to by their current or previous partner, family member or others during the lockdown. The main perpetrators of sexual abuse were their current or previous partners.
- 70% of respondents seem are aware of critical government services that would help them in their time of crises, primarily the police, clinics, and social workers. 30 percent of female respondents reported they were not aware of the public services related to GBV. Similarly, victims of GBV were more likely to go to these public services. [Download HERE](#)



APPLYING BEHAVIOURAL INSIGHTS TO ENCOURAGE BYSTANDER ACTIONS AGAINST

GENDER-INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

A Study Missioned by UNDP South Africa, UNWomen and Georgia



PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENTS

Multi-Choice Brotherhood and Sisterhood Gender-Based Violence Conference looked at the critical challenge impacting most women in Africa, Gender-Based-Violence and empowering of employees to actively create solutions to prevent GBV in the work place and society as a whole. Remarks [HERE](#) VIDEO: <https://youtu.be/YAgeDkqcYrU>

Visit to the University of Pretoria: Future Africa and Engineering 4.0. A United Nations delegation, visited the University of Pretoria: Future Africa and Engineering 4.0. [Press Release HERE](#)

UN Women and the Unstereotype Alliance speak out against racial discrimination TRE Semmé South Africa marketing campaign demonstrates the need for vigilance to uproot unconscious bias and discrimination in advertising. [See full statement HERE](#)

Solidarity Fund 's Technical Advisory Review committee on Humanitarian Meeting with the Solidarity Fund 's Technical Advisory Review committee on Humanitarian Solidarity Fund Technical Advisory Review committee on Humanitarian

Ilitha Labantu - Online discussion on Redefining and Strengthening Human Rights Activism and Development work in the Context of COVID-19: The status of human rights in the time of crisis

Australian High Commission Launch of the Individual Deprivation Measure Country Study Report for South Africa

Number 43 COVID-19 Journey Book Launch by Masilela Family Foundation - Dedicated to all those who lost their loved ones and were affected by COVID-19, in particular those citizens of South Africa and the world, in the frontline.

Women in the 21st Century Diplomacy meeting by: Belgian Chamber of Commerce for Southern Africa, Spanish Chamber of Commerce in South Africa, Southern Africa -German Chamber of Commerce and Industry, French South African Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Australian Business Chamber of Commerce, Southern Africa and Italian-South African Chamber of Trade industries.

REGIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

Eastern Cape Provincial office in collaboration with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Programme Commonwealth Africa Day Presentation Paper on "Threats posed by COVID-19 on the People's Democracy as a Value Creator in General. [Remarks HERE](#)

Dialogue series titled: **'COVID-19 and Silencing the Guns in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities'**, organized by the office of the Special advisor Africa (OSAA) expresses

African consultation on the 2020 review of UN peacebuilding, organized by ACCORD, the South African Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) and the African Union Commission

African Brand Summit 2020 Attainment of social justice means addressing the intersectionality of inequalities, removal of bias of human development on the basis of gender, age, ethnicity, culture, religion and race. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNkxVH9wboE>

African Child Trauma Conference 2020 - Children at increased risk of abuse and violence, as COVID-19 takes its toll. Children in South Africa face an increased risk of abuse and violence, as a result of the broad ranging impact of COVID-19. Organised by UNICEF and partners, this year's conference culminated in the development and endorsement of an 'Emergency Action Plan' in response to the devastating impact of violence and abuse on children. [Press Release HERE](#)

REGIONAL DIALOGUE - SADC Private Sector Forum, The East African Employer Organisation and the ILO Bureau of Employers.

Discussion to prepare for the **Southern Africa RMR covering, Covid19 response; Gender Based Violence**; Political and economic stability, Impact of climate change on food security and livelihood, Migrations, Democratic space and political polarization, Impact of Cabo Delgado on the Regional, SADC economic opportunities for recovery, Livelihoods and social cohesion. - organized by DCO Regional Director for RCs



GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENTS

Launch of Policy Roundtable Series on Securing Democratic Land, Governance, Recalibrated Local Food Systems and Agrarian Change organized by FAO

Collaboration between Land Networks National Engagement Strategy (LandNNES), Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) and The Food and Agriculture of the United Nations (FAO)

Department of Science and Technology - Discussion on DSI and UN Support to District Support Coordination Service Delivery Model in South Africa.

Department of International Relations and Cooperation and UN Meeting on the United Nations Humanitarian Staging Hub in Johannesburg.

National Men's Dialogue organized by Deputy Minister of the Department of Social Development engaging with Men in various forums, Government, NGO, Business, Parliament and UN

EThekweni Municipality in association with Durban ICC Gender Office - Generational Equality : Building Women of Resiliency and Realizing the Role of the SDGs for Women Emancipation

Department of Women and UN Women – Dialogue on Economic Rights and Justice for Women in the context of COVID-19 and Beyond.

UN Emergency Needs Assessment presentation to the Department of Social Development - Discussion on the findings and recommendations of the Emergency Needs Assessment report. Download HERE https://www.za.undp.org/content/south_africa/en/home/library/rapid-emergency-needs-assessment.html

UN PUBLICATIONS

How COVID-19 is changing childhood in South Africa Download Here <https://www.unicef.org/southafrica/media/4721/file/ZAF-How-COVID-19-is-changing-childhood-in-SA-November-2020.pdf>



South Africa SDG Investor Map 2020 is developed by the United Nations Development [HERE](#)



MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

Head of UN in SA, calling for an all society approach to combat Gender-Based Violence in South Africa. In a conversation with the SABC's Sherwin Bryce-Pease, Nardos Bekele-Thomas welcomed the approach from the government to duplicate its successful blueprint of an all-of-society approach to COVID-19 against Gender-Based Violence in the country. <https://youtu.be/Z8601R6iMVw>

FUNZI Launch - COVID-19 Adapt and Thrive The head of the United Nations in South Africa Nardos Bekele-Thomas speaks to Stephen Grootes about a mobile learning course – Covid 19: Adapt and Thrive – as part of the country's official coronavirus response initiative. LISTEN HERE - <https://iono.fm/e/843522>

United Nations in South Africa meet with diplomats find measures to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic

Countering COVID-19 stigma and misinformation is part of the cure [Op-Ed by Ms. Nardos Bekele-Thomas: Countering Covid-19 stigma and misinformation is part of the cure](#)

Calls for attention to cyber violence and its devastating effect on women and girls in South Africa

UN observes International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers AND commemorates — Two fallen peacekeepers from South Africa to be honoured at UN ceremony <http://www.un.org.za/un-observes-international-day-of-united-nations-peacekeepers-on-29-may/>

Media Roundtable 2020: Pause and Verify – Countering Covid-19 Stigma and Misinformation

United Nations collaborates for COVID-19 Waste Awareness in South Africa <http://www.un.org.za/united-nations-collaborates-for-covid-19-waste-awareness-in-south-africa/>

UN head in SA calls for faster implementation of SDGs <http://www.un.org.za/wp-admin/post.php?post=23764&action=edit>

(News24) UN in SA launches Flash Appeal – 1 May 2020 <https://www.news24.com/news24/southafrica/news/covid-19-r25-billion-un-emergency-appeal-launched-20200501>

(SABCnews online) UN in SA satisfied with government response to COVID-19 – 12 May 2020 <https://www.sabcnews.com/sabcnews/the-un-in-southern-africa-satisfied-with-governments-handling-of-covid-19/>

(IOL) UN Head in SA calls for faster implementation of the SDGs – 13 April 2020 <https://www.iol.co.za/news/politics/un-head-in-sa-calls-for-faster-implementation-of-sdgs-46637502>

Ms. Nardos Bekele-Thomas, UN Resident Coordinator in South Africa, shades light on the significance of the **UN Secretary-General delivering the Nelson Mandela Annual Lecture 2020** <https://youtu.be/v1tmG9Pt1qc>

DIRCO Women's Month - "Generation Equality: Realising Women's Rights for an Equal Future" [DIRCO Women's Month Webinar "Generation Equality: Realising Women's Rights for an Equal Future" – Remarks by Ms. Nardos Bekele-Thomas, UN Resident Coordinator](#)

United Nations in South Africa meet with diplomats find measures to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic <http://www.un.org.za/wp-admin/post.php?post=23512&action=edit>





In Memory

Name: Bongani NTIMBA
Death occurred: 7 July 2020
Agency: UNODC

Years of service: Joined August 2018

He worked well in a team and maintained good relationships with all colleagues. He was polite, respectful and very professional. His memories of who he was and what he stood for, will live on and his commitment to the work of the United Nations will never be forgotten.

Name: Isaac Khoza
Death Occurred: 09 July 2020
Agency: WFP

Isaac was a wonderful colleague and dedicated employee who understood the meaning of the word "team and family." He was always more focused on the good of the organization and the unit than on his own benefit. He made many great contributions to RBJ and helped us move forward in numerous ways. His work here will not be forgotten.

Name: Saul Thamaga Sengange
Death occurred: 28 September 2020
Agency: UNAIDS

Saul joined UNAIDS in 2008 and served with commitment and passion. He was promoted from Driver to Senior Driver in 2018. He was 41 years old. Saul was well loved across the UN system and clearly valued in his community. Many UNAIDS staff who visited South Africa over the years will have met Saul, worked with him and travelled with him. Saul was busy even during the lockdown, supporting WHO staff around the country to support the response to COVID-19. Saul is fondly remembered for his love for his children, his kindness and his willingness to help others.

Name: Dr Patrick Hazangwe
Death Occurred: 25th September 2020 at Pretoria East Hospital, South Africa after a short illness.
Agency: WHO

Dr Hazangwe joined the Organization in May 2011 as NPO-TUB at WHO Harare Country Office and moved to South Africa in 2017 to join the TB Team as Technical Officer-TUB. He was a very humble and committed man.

Name: Shane O'Brien
Death occurred: 16 December
Agency: UNHCR

Shane started as an intern in August 2010 at HQ and since May 2020 working as Data, Identity Management and Analysis Coordinator at the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Southern Africa. Shane will always be remembered for his enthusiasm and commitment to improve the lives of our persons of concern. He was passionate about making a difference through technology and strongly advocated and implemented advances in registration, information and data management for the benefit of UNHCR's persons of concern.