

CSW67: Virtual Side Event
Tuesday 14 March 2023 09:00-10:15 EST (14:00-15:15 CET)

**'Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods and Access to Markets
for Rural Women: Experiences from the Joint Programme
on Rural Women's Economic Empowerment'**



**JOINT PROGRAMME ON:
Accelerating Progress towards
Rural Women's Economic Empowerment**



BIOGRAPHIES



Abdoukarim Hachimou, Secretary General of the Ministry for the Advancement of Women and Protection of Children, Niger

Abdoukarim Hachimou is the Secretary General of the Ministry for the Advancement of Women and the Protection of Children, Niger. Abdoukarim has worked in the government of Niger for many years. Previous positions include Head of Programming Division in the Programming, Studies and Prospective Division in the High Commission of the 3 N initiative and Director of Studies and Programming of the Ministry of Population, Promotion of Women and Protection of Children and Head of the Regional Service for the Territorial Development of Niamey. Abdoukarim's qualifications include a Master's degree in Local Development Planning and a Master's in Geography.



Brenda Behan, Director, Gender Equality, WFP

Brenda Behan is the Director for Gender at WFP and has extensive experience in humanitarian and international development operations having worked with WFP and the US Government in various managerial and technical capacities. Prior to her role as Director of Gender, Brenda served as the WFP Deputy Regional Director for the Eastern Africa Bureau (RBN), supporting a diverse portfolio of operations in 10 country offices. She also worked as the WFP Senior Deputy Country Director in Kenya, supporting operations for the country portfolio of relief, resilience, refugees, and capacity strengthening and in a number of roles with WFP operations prior to that.



Juan Carlos Mendoza, Director of the Environment, Climate, Gender and Social Inclusion Division, IFAD

Mr. Juan Carlos Mendoza is IFAD's Director of the Environment, Climate, Gender and Social Inclusion Division. Mr. Mendoza joined IFAD from KPMG in New York, US, where he worked as Senior Director in the International Development Assistance Services, KPMG's unit serving multilateral development banks and international organisations. Prior to this, Mr. Mendoza worked as Managing Director of the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention on Desertification. Before that, he held different positions at the World Bank and the Green Climate Fund. He was most recently responsible for putting together a strategy for women-owned businesses for a large MDB and for green jobs in Central America in the context of post-COVID recovery. Mr. Mendoza possesses a master's in public policy and a master's in engineering from, respectively, Georgetown University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the United States.



Lauren Phillips, Deputy Director, Inclusive Rural Transformation and Gender Equality, FAO.

Lauren M. Phillips is an international political economist and currently Deputy Director for the Inclusive Rural Transformation and Gender Equality Division of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Prior to joining FAO in 2021 she worked in a variety of policy, strategy and advisory roles at the International Fund for Agricultural Development (2015-2021), as an Assistant Professor in the Department of International Relations at the London School of Economics (2008-2014), as a Research Fellow at the Overseas Development Institute (2005-2008), and in a variety of private finance roles in the City of London and New York.



Rachana Bhattarai, National Coordinator and Programme Analyst, JP RWEE Nepal

Rachana Bhattarai is working as the JP RWEE National Coordinator and Programme Analyst at UN Women in Nepal. Rachana has worked as a Programme Analyst at UN Women for over a decade on gender-responsive inclusive governance and women's economic empowerment issues. Previously, Rachana worked as Executive Director of a Women's Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC Nepal), an NGO working on women's human rights issues. Rachana has more than 15 years of working experience on the issues of gender equality and social inclusion in Nepal.



Scovia Kampiire, Project Manager, Action Pour le développement du Peuple (ADEPE), Rwanda

Scovia Kampiire is a project manager at Action pour le Développement du Peuple (ADEPE), an NGO in Rwanda that works with vulnerable people, with a particular emphasis on women, to improve their living conditions through the promotion of human rights-based and capacity building. Scovia has led the implementation of the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) for the JP RWEE in Rwanda. Prior to working at ADEPE, she worked as a Communications Coordinator at Heaven Holdings Limited, an American-owned company registered in Rwanda that operates luxury hotels and tours in East Africa.



Jill Engen, Senior Advisor, Section for Gender Equality, Norad

Jill Engen is a senior adviser working on gender equality in the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad). Jill Engen is an inter-disciplinary specialist with more than twenty years of policy and field experience in Asia and the Pacific focusing on inter-governmental relations, fiscal decentralisation, and local government financing. She joined the United Nations in 2000 where she held various country and regional-level positions with UN Peacekeeping missions, UN Development Program (UNDP), and UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF). After leaving the UN system in 2015, Jill continued to work on public finance management with the Asian Development Bank and Oxford Policy Management in the Asia region, and with several large local governance and service delivery programmes in Indonesia funded by the Australian government, before taking up her current position in Norad in 2020.