Women in the 21st century are potentially the biggest drivers of development and global prosperity. But as a group they are also – still – subjected to tremendous inequalities, health threats and poverty.

Two epidemics largely make up the burden on women and girls in Botswana: all forms of violence against women (VAW) and HIV/AIDS. Fueling the two epidemics, harmful use of alcohol adds up to the enormous harm for health of individuals, public health, economy and security of the country.

The purpose of the Side Event is to explore evidence-based solutions to advance Women’s Rights – from grassroots activism to policy measures addressing all three structural and underlying causes of violence against women and girls.

**SPEAKERS**

- **H.E. Charles Thembani Ntwaagae**
  Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Botswana to the UN

- **Prof. Monica Swahn**
  Georgia State University / Makarere University

- **Natalia Linou**
  UNDP, Policy Specialist Gender, Health and HIV

- **Ms. Kelebogile Motlhanka**
  Ministry of Health and Wellness

- **Mr. Leonard Mutheto**
  Ministry of Basic Education

- **Ms. Bonny K. Segano**
  Botswana Family Welfare Association (BOFWA)

- **Kristina Sperkova**
  President, IOGT International

**PROGRAM**

- **Opening**
- **HIV/AIDS, GBV, alcohol - synergies for change**
- **Multisectorial and coordinated approach**
- **Case study of Botswana - Integrated approach**
- **Panel discussion and conclusions**