Delivering as One: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals with and for rural women and girls

CSW62 - High-level Side Event
Tuesday, 13 March, 10-11:15 AM
Conference Room 1, UN Headquarters, New York

Background and Context
Rural women’s and girls’ empowerment and realization of their human rights and gender equality are essential for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls (SDG 5) in rural areas around the globe is clearly linked to meeting all the SDGs and targets, *inter alia*, ending poverty (SDG 1), eradicating hunger, achieving food security, improving nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture (SDG 2), achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all (SDG 8), and taking action to combat climate change (SDG 13). These goals and targets encompass universal rights that are essential for rural women’s and girls’ livelihoods, wellbeing, and resilience in both developing and developed countries.

Achieving the SDGs and the human rights of rural women and girls requires renewed commitments, increased investments, significantly greater and more innovative financing and strong collaborations among all stakeholders. In the spirit of SDG 17, inclusive multi-sector partnerships should catalyze governments, the private sector and civil society to advance efforts that account for the specific challenges faced by rural women and girls and engage them in the effort to achieve the SDGs. The UN’s Rome-based Agencies (RBA’s) and UN Women aim to show leadership in this area and are seeking to further their complementary expertise and experience, as well as leverage their respective comparative advantages, to accelerate progress on the attainment of a successful sustainable development agenda that works for and with rural women and girls. But, 'delivering as one' cannot mean the UN System alone. The scale and ambition of the 2030 Agenda requires all stakeholders to work together towards this shared vision. Upholding our collective commitment to leave no one behind and to reach the furthest behind first starts with rural women and girls.

Objective of the Side Event
This Side Event brings together the Rome-based Agencies (FAO, IFAD, WFP) and UN Women and high-level government officials to engage with a diverse audience to assess the opportunities for strengthening collaboration and strategize on how to reinforce sustainable development with and for rural women and girls. A key guiding question will be how each organization or sector can build on their experiences and comparative advantage to enhance efficient and effective partnership and collaboration for gender-responsive rural transformation in the context of the SDGs.

Contact Information: for more information regarding this high-level side event, please, contact venge.nyirongo@unwomen.org