

IUSSP Webinar on  
**The COVID-19 Pandemic and Sexual & Reproductive Health in Africa**

*Day 1 – 31 August 2020*

## **Q&As**

1. Caroline Karibu, is there no policy for the management of pregnant learners in schools in Sierra Leone?  
Mzi Nduna ([Mzikazi.Nduna@wits.ac.za](mailto:Mzikazi.Nduna@wits.ac.za))
  - Sierra Leone lifted the ban on pregnant girls attending school just this year.
2. Sharing a resource from the Population Council of relevance to this webinar.  
Saumya RamaRao ([sramarao@popcouncil.org](mailto:sramarao@popcouncil.org))
  - <https://www.popcouncil.org/research/sexual-and-gender-minority-adolescents-must-be-prioritised-during-the-globa>
- 5 For Zambia, Any studies conducted by UNZA to assess the effect of lockdown on school going girls and boys in terms of RH needs and services or increased sexual activities?  
Tima Zgambo ([tzgambo@uwc.ac.za](mailto:tzgambo@uwc.ac.za))
- 6 Can you share the questionnaire for data collection on the impact of COVID-19 on sexual health in Zambia? Thanks  
Samba Idrissa SOW ([isow\\_samba@yahoo.fr](mailto:isow_samba@yahoo.fr))
- 7 I read newspaper reports of would be mothers skipping ANC and post NC services and delivering at home fearing the risk of contracting COVID-19 at facilities. To the panelists, do you know of studies done in this area?  
Mugo E. Waweru ([wmugoh@gmail.com](mailto:wmugoh@gmail.com))
- 8 Are there indicators to go with the reports of the increase in teen pregnancy cases for Zambia?  
Tima Zgambo ([tzgambo@uwc.ac.za](mailto:tzgambo@uwc.ac.za))
- 9 Any idea about whether access to abortion has been affected?  
Shireen Jejeebhoy ([sjejeebhoy@gmail.com](mailto:sjejeebhoy@gmail.com))
- 10 @Vesper: I believe GBV affects both sexes. Covid-19 has in fact led to increase in violence on men. DO we have evidence on this from your study  
Caleb Ongong'a ([oumacaleb@gmail.com](mailto:oumacaleb@gmail.com))
- 11 @Talent: You have mentioned increase in the cost of sanitary towels. How really? I think this cost is fixed by govt and the tax regime. Kindly expound on this. Thanks.  
Caleb Ongong'a ([oumacaleb@gmail.com](mailto:oumacaleb@gmail.com))
  - Despite the Government of Zimbabwe, having scrapped duty and Value Added Tax (VAT) on sanitary wear to make it available and to promote hygiene for women, pads still remain beyond the reach of many. The cost has not been fixed considering the high inflation rate and economic instability in the country.
- 12 All of the case studies are from English-speaking SSA. How might the situation and especially the public responses to the pandemic differ in French-speaking SSA and also in North Africa, due perhaps to different institutions, laws and cultures?  
Tom LeGrand ([tk.legrand@umontreal.ca](mailto:tk.legrand@umontreal.ca))

- 13 Akiode and Vesper: The various country presenters focused mostly on the effects or impacts of covid-19 on female adolescents, what about the impacts on male adolescents?  
Bonaventure Nwokeoma ([bonaventure.nwokeoma@unn.edu.ng](mailto:bonaventure.nwokeoma@unn.edu.ng))
- 14 All country presentations have alluded to the fact that lock down due to COVID 19 has brought in challenges of unintended teenage pregnancies. What is our role in trying to recommend for lasting solutions to avoid such future occurrences in SRH as is the case especially concerning teenage pregnancies.  
Pamela Chirwa-Banda ([pcbnamwinga@yahoo.com](mailto:pcbnamwinga@yahoo.com))
- 15 It will be interest and educative for the presenters to highlight existing policies or protocols that could help de-escalate the impact of COVID-19 on SRHR rather than proposing new policies that may take time to implement.  
Kola Oyediran ([kboyediran@gmail.com](mailto:kboyediran@gmail.com))
- About contraceptives, were they easily accessible before covid19 because I think the struggle/issue was there before? how did covid exactly add to the issue? just a bit of clarity.
- 16 Could you share references about your studies to we know more. Brazil there are deaths by adolescent pregnancy, the most was poor and afrodescendant. i d like to know in comparative to african countries.  
Jackeline Romio ([jackeline.romio@gmail.com](mailto:jackeline.romio@gmail.com))
- 17 Thanks Akiode for acknowledging that we need to study both sexes in our studies. When we focus SRH on female/ adolescent female does limit our understanding.  
Caleb Ongong'a ([oumacaleb@gmail.com](mailto:oumacaleb@gmail.com))
- 18 It has been observed that scholars have not given considerable attention to the impact of COVID 19 on some of the most extreme excluded population such as inmates (prisoners) and commercial sex workers. Why this usual exclusion?  
chukwunwike nwangwu ([chukscnn@gmail.com](mailto:chukscnn@gmail.com))
- 19 This is not a question but a comment: On this page and you'll see new survey results about impact of COVID-19 on SRHR in a subset of PMA countries.  
Megan Christofield ([Megan.christofield@jhpiego.org](mailto:Megan.christofield@jhpiego.org))
- <https://www.pmadata.org/technical-areas/covid-19>