



WEBINAR

COVID-19 Pandemic: Challenges for religious/ faith actors and communities? Responses from the field and global partners

APRIL 29TH, 2020 4:00 p.m. TO 5:45 p.m. CEST

Background

The COVID-19 pandemic is ravaging across the globe, causing serious illnesses, strains in health care systems, death and economic downturn. Religious actors and faith-based organisations are at the forefront of responding to the pandemic. With access to broad and socially diverse communities, their responses range from sharing evidence based, credible information by trusted actors; safe regulation of faith life in adherence to the international guidelines by WHO of keeping caution and taking responsibility for the community by social distancing and staying at home to counselling of distressed. Furthermore, religious actors and faith-based organisations are promoting more than ever unity, solidarity, hope and humanity; practising inclusivity and reducing tensions towards the marginalised. Apart from sharing current information on precautions to be taken, they are also providing emergency services like medical care and food distributions to people at risk.

How to participate

When: April 29th, 2020 4:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. (CET). Please, check [time zones](#). Interested stakeholders should [register online](#) by April 28th, 2020, COB CEST. This webinar is open to all. Dial-in:

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Objectives of the webinar

In this webinar convened by PaRD, development practitioners and religious and faith actors working on initiatives responding to the COVID-19 pandemic will:

- Showcase best practices, innovative approaches and elaborate their views on the importance of religious actors in responding to the ongoing pandemic.
- Share experiences and challenges from the field.
- Discuss way forward and possibilities for collaboration to leverage on the existing resources and networks.

Draft Agenda

16:00 - 16:05	<p><u>Opening Remarks by PaRD Co-Chair and Moderator</u></p> <p>Prof. Mohammed Abu-Nimer <i>Senior Advisor KAICIID Dialogue Centre/PaRD Co-Chair</i></p>
16:05 - 16:15	<p><u>Overview on Responses by Religious and Faith Actor's</u></p> <p>Dr. Katherine Marshall <i>Executive Director, World Faiths Development Dialogue/ Berkley Centre, Georgetown University</i></p> <p>Role of religious/faith communities in countering the pandemic</p>
16:15 - 16:25	<p>Dr. Olivia Wilkinson <i>Director of Research, Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities</i></p> <p>Efforts to track religious response to the pandemic – COVID-19 Platform</p>
16:25 - 17:15	<p><u>Ideas and conceptual articulation:</u> <i>moderated by Mohammed Abu-Nimer</i></p> <p>Mr. Jørgen Thomsen <i>Senior Advisor DCA/ACT Alliance & PaRD Co-Chair</i></p> <p>A faith, gender and human rights response to COVID-19 in eastern and southern African countries</p> <p>Rev. Kyoichi Sugino <i>Deputy Secretary General, Religions for Peace</i></p> <p><u>Input from the field</u></p> <p>Ms. Mercy Niwe <i>World Bank Global Faith Engagement Lead</i></p>
17:15 - 17:35	<p><u>Summary, Questions and Discussion on Way forward:</u></p> <p>Dr. Olivia Wilkinson</p> <p>What should be done in the context of PaRD?</p>
17:35 - 17:45	<p><u>Closing Remarks</u></p> <p>Prof. Mohammed Abu-Nimer</p>

*You don't need a Teams account to join a Teams meeting. On your Windows 10 or macOS device you can participate in a meeting if you have a modern browser. If not – kindly download the App on your Desktop or on your mobile device. On mobile devices (Android and iOS) you have to install the Teams mobile app to join a meeting.

Kindly note that the session will be audio recorded. No quotes of the discussion will be shared without approval of the participant.