



Side Event Organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Government of Kenya and the Government of Uganda, at the 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women

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SIDE EVENT IN PERSON

9 MARCH 2023 FROM 1:15 PM TO 2:30 PM (NEW YORK TIME)

CONFERENCE ROOM A - CONFERENCE BUILDING

DIGITALIZATION FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND RURAL WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT: THE NEXUS BETWEEN DIGITAL SOLUTIONS, ICT POLICIES AND GENDER EQUALITY IN RURAL AREAS

Digital transformation of agri-food systems is critical to combat poverty, food insecurity and hunger. However, research has shown that digitalization processes are not gender neutral, and can even be exclusionary if not designed and implemented in an equitable way. Therefore, there is an urgent need to prioritize inclusive access to digital public goods, as a tool for accelerating women's empowerment and strengthening gender equality.

inclusive interventions involving multiple stakeholders can work to tackle the barriers to rural women's digital inclusion. The event will highlight and give examples of how gender-responsive digital solutions and ICT sectoral policies can reduce the gender digital divide in rural areas. It will also showcase some good practices in using inclusive and gender-responsive digital solutions, including the innovative "Talking Books" methodology.

This side event will discuss the nexus between digital solutions, Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), policies, and gender equality in rural settings and improving rural-urban linkages. Its purpose will be to provide a forum to discuss the ways in which

The event will also present key insights from the upcoming FAO report on the Status of Women in Agrifood Systems and from the recent GSMA report on the Mobile Gender Gap and the State of Mobile Internet Connectivity.

TIME	AGENDA
13:15 - 13:20	Welcome and opening Ms. Lauren Phillips Deputy Director, Inclusive Rural Transformation and Gender Equality Division, FAO
13:20 - 13:30	Keynote Hon. Zacharia Mwangi Njeru Cabinet Secretary – Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development, Kenya
13:30 - 13:40	Presentation " <i>Insights from the upcoming Status of Women in Agrifood Systems</i> " Ms. Huda Alsahi , Social Policy Officer FAO
13.40 - 14.10	Interactive discussion with: Ms. Pippa McDougall , Senior Advocacy Manger, Connected Women Digital Inclusion, GSMA Mr. Cliff Schmidt , Founder and Executive Director of Amplio Network Hon. Mutuuzo Peace Regi (MP) , Minister of State for Gender and Culture Affairs & Woman Member of Parliament for Bunyangabu District in Uganda
14:10 - 14:25	Questions and answers
14:25 - 14:30	Concluding remarks

