

Second Committee of the General Assembly at its 74th session

Side event: *The Double Bind of Income Poverty and Time Poverty: Why it Matters for Sustainable Development and Policies Solutions*

**17 October 2019, 15:00 – 18:00 hours
Conference Room 2**

Background:

The lives of millions of women and girls are shaped and constrained by poverty in ways that are different from the way poverty is experienced by men and boys. Women in low-income settings often face income *and* time poverty simultaneously. The double bind of income and time poverty is particularly pronounced for women in their reproductive years, when they are often caring for young children while having to earn an income.

The provision of unpaid care and domestic work contributes to human well-being and feeds into economic growth through the reproduction of a labour force that is fit, productive and capable of learning and creativity. Yet women's disproportionate responsibility for this work increases their vulnerability to poverty by reducing their access to decent paid work, and their capacity to accumulate savings, assets or retirement income for their later years. Poorer women also have to make up for lack of public services or time-saving technologies they cannot access or afford through multi-tasking and increased unpaid care and domestic work, often under harsh physical and environmental conditions, while also taking on vulnerable and insecure forms of survival work by economic necessity. Time and income poverty are also often accompanied by deprivations in health, education, decent work and other indicators of well-being.

Unsustainable patterns of development and environmental degradation disproportionately affect low-income countries and risk intensifying gender inequalities, because women and girls are often disproportionately affected by economic, social and environmental shocks and stresses. To prevent such a situation, the future of work and livelihoods must be premised on inclusive patterns of development that reduce inequalities, deliver economic security and are environmentally sustainable.

Side Event during the Second Committee/GA73:

UN-Women and the ILO will convene a side event to bring together a group of leading experts to examine the ways in which income poverty and time poverty coincide in the lives of low-income women, how environmental degradation intensifies these gender-based inequalities, and explore some of the key policy instruments—social protection instruments and public services—that countries can adopt to address the double bind of time and income poverty.

The event addresses issues of relevance for several agenda items of the Second Committee in the 74th session of the General Assembly.

Opening remarks:

ILO representative: **Mr. Vinicius Carvalho Pinheiro**, Special Representative to the United Nations and Director ILO Office in NY. (TBC)

Moderator: Shahra Razavi, Chief, Research and Data at UN Women (TBC)

Panelists:

- **Nancy Folbre** (Emeritus Professor, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA)
Income and time poverty: What do time use surveys tell us and how can they be improved?
- **Farzana Afridi** (Indian Statistics Institute, Kolkata, India)
Determinants of women's labor supply: snapshot and trends. The case of India.
- **Fatou Diop Sall** (GESTES, Université Gaston Berger, Saint Louis) Impact of marriage and motherhood on employment outcomes for women and gender wage gaps. The case of Sub-Saharan Africa.
- **Laura Pautassi** (Professor of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina) Extending childcare provision through community programmes in low-income settings and its impact on women's employment opportunities.