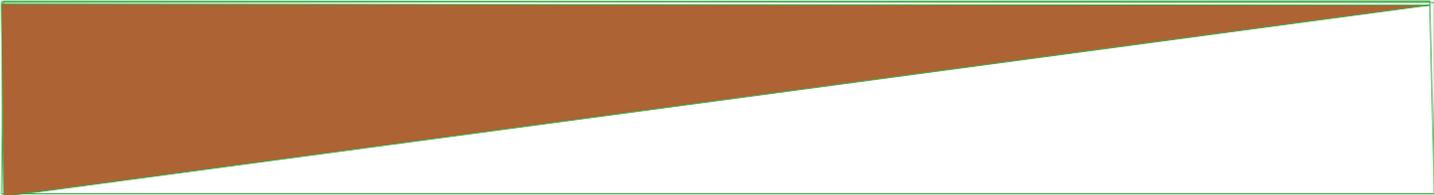


Tomorrow's
CITIES
Urban Risk in Transition

Nairobi Risk Hub Engagement Brief



Executive Summary

The engagement with the diverse stakeholders was designed to get to know who is working among the urban poor and their perception and understanding about risks facing the urban poor.

The hub strategically mapped and analyzed the local community leaders, city policy makers, national policy makers, researchers, academia, opinion leaders, practitioners, civil society organizations and global partners who have interest engaging in DRR in the poor neighbourhoods not only in Nairobi but also other cities.

The Hub runs multilevel policy engagement comprising of local community, internal hub meetings, city, regional and international level. The local community leaders engagement' outputs including identification of priority issues mainly high level of poverty, high cost of living exacerbated by COVID-19, insecurity of land access and affordable housing exacerbated by the implementation of Mukuru' SPA for those living in Mukuru slum.

The local leaders also attributed high poverty to hazards, mainly perennial floods and fires which tend to occur concurrently due to high exposure (e.g. markets located near rivers) and dynamic vulnerabilities to environmental and physical factors like poor basic infrastructure. The document analysis and discussions yielded that risk is hardly integrated into even the emergency response activities at the local community and city level.

They attribute that to limited knowledge and resource capacity. The engagement also unpacked limited interaction between the urban poor and different disciplines (social and physical sciences) and expertise revealing the limited understanding about the context, root causes of the risk and potential remedies among the urban poor.

There is also persistent gap among the various stakeholders engaging the local communities in risk reduction.

The engagement process incorporated elements of co-production of knowledge and evidence. The key elements include, facilitating local community led discussion, listening to the local community and their leaders, creating space for dialogue with them and other stakeholders, to cross-fertilize ideas and knowledge, engaging all sectors at the city level and strengthening relations and incorporating them into research activities.

The engagement has facilitated buy-in from the city policy makers, local communities and stakeholders, which is evident in the ongoing implementation of the impact case. The engagements also enhance an in-depth understanding of the interactions between the social drivers and multiple physical hazards and their impacts that could provide a good framing for DRR plans for the city and spur a framework for collective action through the evidence-based convening of DRR decisions and actions.

This brief provides a summary of the Nairobi Risk Hub engagements from May 2020 to date.

The hub strategically mapped and analyzed the local community leaders, city policy makers, national policy makers, researchers, academia, opinion leaders, practitioners, civil society organisations and global partners who have interest engaging in DRR in the poor neighborhoods not only in Nairobi but also other cities.

City Engagements

Consultative Workshop on Integrating Cityrap Tool into Disaster Response and Planning in Nairobi

The Nairobi Risk Hub participated in a training on the 'City Resilience Action Plan (CityRAP)' tool on 16th of July 2020. The training was facilitated by the UN-Habitat. The training is part of the Nairobi Risk Hub and UN-Habitat collaboration effort meant and aimed at introducing the CityRAP tool to Nairobi Tomorrow's Cities project partners; and identify opportunities to integrate the tool into the overall Hub's work.

Nairobi City County Government (NCCG) sector representatives, Nairobi Hub partners, and the international partners were trained on the CityRAP tool. The training will enable communities understand and plan actions aimed at reducing risk and building resilience.



Output: Newsbrief CityRAP training

The Visioning of a Future Resilient Nairobi

The Nairobi Risk Hub hosted 30 stakeholders on Friday 7th August, 2020 in a webinar- 'The Nairobi Visioning Workshop'. The workshop brought together key policy actors drawn from the national and county governments, civil society, UN agencies, professional societies, private sector and academia. Majority of the actors desire a city with high resilience

driven largely by both the private sector and state agencies.

There is the need to find balance of inputs from the several actors to create inclusive resilient development in Nairobi. This workshop facilitated stakeholders to identify a shared vision for a future resilient Nairobi. The participants first identified potential challenges and opportunities towards building resilience for the urban poor. Secondly, they established the role of science in integrating disaster risk management in urban planning and development processes as a key contributor towards a more resilient Nairobi.

By creating a shared vision (government and private sector driven) of a future resilient Nairobi, this workshop was the first step in establishing a Community of Practice (COP) around Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). Going forward, this COP will guarantee continuous contribution to the City's resilience building by either helping guide the research or as participants in the research itself.

The workshop was officially opened by the Nairobi City Lead, Dr. Joanes Atela, and Prof. Mark Pelling. It was agreed that a continuous stakeholder contribution to the city's resilience building is necessary for an effective CoP in DRR not only in Nairobi but also in Africa.

Output: News brief (here), workshop report (here)

By creating a shared vision (government and private sector driven) of a future resilient Nairobi, this workshop was the first step in establishing a Community of Practice (COP) around Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

Safeguarding and Research Ethics Workshop

The Nairobi Risk Hub together with the Tomorrow's Cities Hub held a "Safeguarding and Research Ethics workshop" webinar on 3rd December 2020. The purpose of the workshop was to identify the key safeguarding vulnerabilities, risks, and mitigation actions pertinent to the Nairobi Risk Hub contexts. The webinar which brought together teams from the Nairobi Risk Hub and international partners highlighted the culture, systems, and practices put in place to anticipate, mitigate and address harm to any person, relating to Hub's Research activity. It intimately focused on the ethics of the Hub's work and commitment to equitable partnerships and the mission to contribute to positive development impact.

Outputs: Report

Tomorrow's
CITIES
Urban Risk in Transition

**Safeguarding
workshop briefing**

Identifying safeguarding
vulnerabilities, risks and mitigation
actions

tomorrowscities.org @UrbanRiskHub



UK Research
and Innovation
GCRF

Nairobi City Council Government Sector Policy Dialogues

The Nairobi City Risk Hub jointly with the Nairobi City County Government (NCCG) co-convened multi-sector and multi-stakeholder DRR policy dialogues and consultations with the aim of creating awareness of the multi-hazard project and understanding the level at which each sector has/or is planning to integrate risk into the sector policies and overall contribution to disaster risk reduction and management. Overall, these series of policy dialogues were designed to generate relevant policy insights to inform hazard management in Nairobi

City from a crisis/emergency response to an integrated disaster management and urban planning system, and resultant reduction of risks towards achieving sustainable and resilient development in Nairobi. The dialogues and consultations were designed to bring on board all sectors in line with the Sendai Framework principle '*Leaving-no-one behind*' and embracing an all-society approach toward disaster risk governance by developing local DRR and DRM strategies (policies, legislations, plans and regulations).

The series of the policy dialogues and consultations brought together the city sector officials at technical and policy levels especially the directors and deputy directors because they play technical and policy role and are permanent staff. The dialogues were facilitated by NRH researchers (Dr Joanes Atela, Hub Coordinator; Charles Tonui; Dr Keziah Mwang'a, (Disaster Policy Analysts, NRB) with participation of Dr Anshu Ogre, Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Department of Geography, King's College London.

More than 20 city officials representing sectors at NCCG & NMS participated in the 3 Bi-weekly sector-DRR policy dialogue and consultations held on 13th June, 15th July & 28th July 2020 respectively were drawn from the following sectors: environment and natural resources, urban renewal, housing and project management, Sub- county administration, agriculture land-use and forestry fire and rescue services, trade development, tourism, industrialization and cooperative development, finance and economic planning, disaster and emergency management department, & County Attorney's Office. The future policy dialogue and consultations will target to bring on board the remaining sectors.

*The dialogues and consultations were designed to bring on board all the sectors as per Sendai Framework principle '*Leaving-no-one behind*' and embracing an all-society approach toward disaster risk governance by developing local DRR and DRM strategies*

The outputs of these policy dialogues and consultations will inform next actions including comprehensive field work, which will include household interviews in preselected settlements and institutional survey interviews targeting local, national, regional and international organizations, departments and ministries in Nairobi County and neighbouring counties

As a delivery and impact pathway as well as a strategy to create a direct linkage between research and policy, the Hub facilitates multi sector consultations and policy dialogues to (1) facilitate participation of all the sectors to understand Tomorrow's Cities research and to facilitate them to share their understanding, data and information on disaster risks and DRR/ DRM (2) provide an understanding of existing DRR/ DRM policies, legislation, strategies and plans at the city county and national level; (3) identify how NCCG sectors are integrating risk and DRR/DRM; (4) identify capacity building needs within the county disaster management team and sectors at the city.

The outputs of these policy dialogues and consultations will inform next actions including comprehensive field work, which will include household interviews in pre-selected settlements and institutional survey interviews targeting local, national, regional and international organizations, departments and ministries in Nairobi County and neighboring counties.

The outputs include (1) strengthening relations; (2) strengthening an inventory and database of DRR sector policies, plans, legislations, regulations, programmes and strategies; (3) synthesis of level of risk and DRR integration into the sectoral policies and plans in the city and its informal settlements (4) development of framework to guide policy review and development of city focused DRR policies.

In addition, the dialogues and consultations were

designed to facilitate sector representatives to engage in risk research towards developing evidenced based integrated disaster management policy framework for Nairobi City, which include review of the Nairobi City Emergency and Disaster Management Act (2015), finalization of the Nairobi City County Emergency Operation Plan (2021), draft County Fire Fighting and Fire Rescue Service Bill (2015), draft disaster management plan (2019) and draft disaster management policy (2019) as requested by NCCG (through Mr Brian Kisali, the Deputy Director, Fire Fighting and Disaster Management).

The series of dialogues and consultations were informed by mapping and literature/document review of global (SFDRR, Paris Agreement, SDGs: 11&13), regional, national and city led DRR policies process, and ongoing research by the Nairobi Risk Hub.

Next steps :City Urban Forum, 2021/2022

a) NCCG Sector-DRR consultations and policy dialogues, 2021/2022

The series of dialogues and consultations were informed by mapping and literature/document review of global (SFDRR, Paris Agreement, SDGs: 11&13), regional, national and city led DRR policies process, and ongoing research by the Nairobi Risk Hub.

The next series of city based dialogues will focus on topical issues to allow the city sector officials to digest and provide more insights at the sector and city level towards generate concrete evidence for policy process at city and sector level and academic related work. This will be important during discussions on the implementation for Mukuru SPA, development of Kibera SPA, DRR policy discussion at city, sector and informal settlement level especially towards integrating multi-hazard risk into SPAs and IDPs.

b) Multi-stakeholder DRR Fora, 2021/2022

These dialogues and consultations will also generate relevant evidence for local, city based, national and regional multi-stakeholder DRR policy discussions and negotiations. The multi-stakeholder fora will widen reach in terms of individual experts, institutions, categories, networks and geographical scope. It will also focus on topical issues relevant to the above parameters.

c) Community of Practice (COP), 2021/2022

COP will be held strategically to dwell further on the key outputs from the NCCG Sector-DRR consultations and policy dialogues and multi-stakeholder DRR for a. The COP will take the regional format and focus on scientific and policy translation to inform policy discussion relevant to or of interest to Nairobi and interested cities.

The COP will also focus on case studies to help synthesis to generate key lessons and new research areas, which can be pursued in the future. The membership entails specialized experts drawn from research organizations, think-tanks and governments. As the research take shape, inclusivity will be enhanced to bring on board other key expertise.

Outputs: Reports, transcripts, recordings

d) City led open DRR database workshop for Nairobi City, 2021

The city led workshop on open DRR database for Nairobi City was held on 10th December 2022. It was co-organized by the Hub consortium led by African Research and Impact Network (ARIN). Approximately 35 participants attended. The primary targets were city officials, and DRR data stakeholders: relevant national and city stakeholder, UN agencies (UNDRR), World Bank and the other relevant stakeholders supporting or providing services on data access relevant to DRR in Nairobi city.

Some of the key outputs include: several data bases/centers were identified and participants agreed to leverage them to Nairobi city for easy access by the city officials to enable them update city policies and develop DRR activities based on evidence. (Link to the report) https://twitter.com/NairobiRisk_hub/status/1469261822255669252

e) Facilitating Nairobi City to Join Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030), 2022

On 31st January 2021, representatives from Nairobi City Council Government, Nairobi Risk Hub, African Research and Impact Network (ARIN), UNDRR African Regional Office and UN Coordination Office, Nairobi held strategic discussion on strengthening partnerships between Nairobi City Council Government and UNDRR Africa to facilitate Nairobi City to join Making Cities Resilient 2030 and leverage the technical support its receiving from Nairobi Risk Hub and African Research and Impact Network (ARIN) https://twitter.com/arin_africa/status/1488157322677567493



DRR database workshop participants, 10th December 2021

Community-Based Organization Engagements

The Nairobi Risk Hub through the gender PRDA, Dr. Asenath Maobe, and Linet Mwirigi have been leading a series of community engagements in Mukuru SPA in collaboration with WP2 partners. The engagements which are held virtually and physically commenced in August 2020 and are still on-going.

The aim of the community dialogues is to assess the community understanding of multiple hazard & disaster risk reduction (DRR) in CBOs and informal settlement; identify capacity building gaps in Multi-hazard & DRR among CBOs; explore the role of gender mainstreaming and intersectionality on DRR in communities; facilitate horizontal knowledge sharing between the CBOs, NGOs, and the county government on DRR; and to build a network of Community Based Multi-hazard & Disaster Risk Reduction Champions in Nairobi City.

Outputs; Reports, DRR diaries, gender analysis toolkit for community-based multihazard and DRR organizations in informal settlements, inventory, and database of CBOs in Nairobi informal settlements.

Mukuru community and the Nairobi Risk Hub begins the process of disaster risk vulnerability assessment

The Nairobi Risk Hub on 12th August 2021 conducted the first series of disaster risk vulnerability assessment in Mukuru. The community in the Mukuru SPA has been for a long time been impacted by the daily and seasonal hazards affecting their social and economic activity. After the declaration of the Mukuru to Special Planning Areas, it led to re-development in the informal settlement where new roads, drainage networks and sewer lines have been constructed.

The new development has impacted them both positively and negatively, with some of the community, had to be displaced to pave the way for the road, and in some areas, this has opened space for business. The purpose of the engagement was to allow the community to review and contribute their perception of the RVA tool for data collection. The engagement entailed explaining to the community conceptual framework (dependent and independent variables), approach for data collection, and the target area of interest.

The Community in the Mukuru SPA has been for a long time been impacted by the daily and seasonal hazards affecting their social and economic activity



Engaging Mukuru residents in RVA planning

Hub Internal Meetings

Nairobi Monthly Research Meetings

The Nairobi Risk Hub has been hosting a series of monthly research meetings since August 2020 to date. These meetings aim to get work package updates and a review of the Nairobi Risk Hub work. The participants also explore the possible Risk and Vulnerability Scenarios that are becoming apparent in the research work. The latest meeting was held on 4th March 2020.

Outputs: Minutes

Nairobi Risk Hub Review and Learning Workshop

The Nairobi Risk Hub Hosted a 'Review and Learning workshop' on 13th July 2020 the workshop aimed to assess research progress that has been made by all work streams in the implementation of the Hub's goal of shifting from crisis response to integrate disaster risk preparedness.



It was recommended that there is a need to have frequent and consistent Nairobi Hub research meetings at least monthly.

Outputs: Report

Regional Engagements

The Nature and Role of CBOs in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Management in Nairobi

The Nairobi City Hub partnering with the Africa Research and Impact Network hosted an online webinar on 10th October 2020. The webinar aimed to explore 'The nature and role of community-based organizations (CBOs) in disaster risk reduction (DRR)' amidst the COVID-19 pandemic in Nairobi.

The role CBOs played in being the real and first-hand contact with the communities in the informal settlement amidst COVID-19 was commended by the participants. It was highlighted that CBOs play an essential role in translating COVID-19 measures in a way the communities can understand and implement. It was recommended that since CBOs are the closest entities to the community, there is a need to actively involve them in Disaster and risk management to raise research and impact uptake.

Outputs: Blog, working paper.



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COVID-19 Engagements

Harnessing the Application of Science Technology and Innovation in the Fight against Covid-19 and Future Pandemics: Lessons for Science Policy

The Nairobi Risk Hub in collaboration with the Africa Research and Impact Network held a review webinar on 'Harnessing the Application of Science Technology and innovation in the fight against COVID-19 and future pandemic'. The webinar was held on 8th May 2020. Participants gave their views on the African knowledge systems and how the system interplays with the COVID-19 pandemic.

It was acknowledged that throughout the fight against the COVID-19, the world has relied on Science Technology and Innovation (STI) as a frontline source of ideas and actions. STI in its basic form comprises of three main elements: science which entails undertaking an objective inquiry into the subject matter and generating evidence that can inform decision making and other purposes; technology which implies tools, processes and capabilities; and innovation which is the application of science and technology to support the translation of ideas, new products, and processes-to create value and purpose.

Output: Newsbrief (here), Blog (A, B), Review brief here, videos (A)



One of the key observations highlighted in the session was that emergencies such as COVID-19 have more complex and multi-faceted impacts at the sub-national/ground level necessitating adaptive sub-national policies. Community networks were identified as a part of non-state actors who notably played a critical role in supporting livelihoods and businesses especially the poor in Africa. Since the COVID-19 pandemic hit the world, the non-state actors have been seen engaging in initiatives pertinent to the needs of local communities across the globe, and often working across networks to do so.



It was noted that in response to COVID-19, the networks have emerged a crucial cog in Africa in many ways. For instance, they formed a new model of governance, referred to as the 'last mile governance model, that plays an important role in bridging the gap created by 'insufficient state capacity (i.e. resources, outreach, evidence, etc.) to effectively address the needs of communities, especially the marginalized populations.

Output: Blog (here), Review brief (here), Videos (A)

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The Role of Sub-National Governments in Promoting People-Centered COVID-19 Response-Highlights From Africa

The Nairobi Risk Hub in partnership with the Africa Research and Impact Network held a webinar on 'The role sub-national governments play in responding to COVID-19' on 9th April 2020. Participants of the webinar were drawn from national, regional, and global spheres discussing policy priorities amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

Questioning whether the current policy setting is adequately cushioning the African continent, the participants emphasized the need to rethink the role of people and their circumstances in policy processes as critical facets of policy implementation. These would involve visioning long-term impacts of emergency policy response, which could have long-standing social impacts in societies (social & psychological orientation, damaged social fabrics).

Output: **Review brief (here), blog**

A Transition from Emergency Response to Risk Preparedness in Disaster Management In Africa – Lessons from the COVID-19 Emergency Response.

A review on 'disaster management in the context of COVID-19 and other cascading hazards experienced in the context of Kenya and Africa' was held on 15th May 2020. The webinar was organized and hosted by the Nairobi Risk Hub in collaboration with the Africa Research and Impact Network. The discussions were directed by The Tomorrow's Cities project on urban risk transitions.

It was noted that the COVID-19 has presented a great opportunity for African countries to reconstruct their disaster management approaches, and adopt the multi-hazard system thinking that enables locally grounded and evidence-informed risk preparedness.



It was noted that the COVID-19 has presented a great opportunity for African countries to reconstruct their disaster management approaches and adopt the multi-hazard system thinking that enables locally grounded and evidence-informed risk preparedness.

Participants were keen to note that there has been an overlap of emergency response to hazards. This was observed on how most African governments have concentrated on COVID-19 response, while other risks such as floods, fires, locust invasion, and access to social and economic needs equally continue to affect the society.

It was clear that in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a developing sense of consciousness towards the threats posed by disasters and an urgency to put in place effective systems to prepare better for disasters. Tomorrow's Cities project was commended for its approach and design and scholars in Africa were encourage to take a Pan-African research approach and discuss the inter-linkages of research on COVID-19 pandemic and other multiple hazards experienced in the region.

Output: **Blog (here), Review brief (here), videos (A),**

Lessons for Research in Africa in the face of COVID-19

On 30th April 2020 the Nairobi Risk Hub in collaboration with the Africa Research and Impact network held a webinar on 'Research situation in Africa'. The aim of the webinar which comprised of both global and regional stakeholders look at the gaps associated with research in Africa.

It was clear that amidst the numerous challenges being encountered in research, there are numerous opportunities for research excellence in Africa. It was recommended that to achieve Africa's research excellence, there is a need to put in place effective research systems and having continuous dialogue and peer learning.

Outputs: Review brief (here), videos (here), blog (here)



It was clear that amidst the numerous challenges being encountered in research, there are numerous opportunities for research excellence in Africa.

International Engagements

Nairobi Research Symposium

The Nairobi Risk Hub held a virtual Nairobi Research symposium on 11th September 2020. Nairobi Research Symposium brought the entire Nairobi hub team researchers both national and international to present preliminary insights/findings from their respective research activities.

The symposium focused on joint presentations: Initial research findings of the Nairobi Disaster Risk Reduction situational analysis, gaps and opportunities. Other presentation made were: an overview of the Nairobi hub research - mission and theory of change; urban development transitions & gender; community-led resilience planning; risk/hazard intersections and cascades; planning and DRR systems.

Prof. Alfred Omenya, the founder and Chief executive of Eco-Build Africa who was invited as a discussant in the session, commended the project and welcomed the opportunity to scale up the research work to impact. The symposium was moderated by all the work package leads while Prof. John McCloskey and Prof. Mark Pelling gave general perspectives from the overall Tomorrow's Cities Hub.

It was agreed that the Nairobi Hub team should organize a more comprehensive 3-day research symposium in early, 2021.

Output: Report, Presentations

Tomorrow's Leaders Conference, 2020

The Nairobi Risk Hub actively participated in the Tomorrows Leaders 2020 virtual conference from 22nd-25th June 2020. Tom and Haron, Nairobi PDRAs were members of the organizing committee. The cross-Hub virtual conference designed and organized by the early career community across the 4 cities reflected on the research progress and the visioning of the Hub's future work.

Outputs: Video, Presentations

Cities and Resilience seminar

On 3rd September 2020, the Nairobi Risk Hub and the Africa Research and Impact Network hosted the 'Cities and Resilience' webinar. The purpose of the webinar was to explore ways in which COVID-19 has shifted the thinking of hazards from single hazards to a more integrated/intersecting disaster risk management to have resilient cities.

There is a need to understand how African Economic recovery constitutes an essential component in Post COVID-19. With the bulk of funds being directed to the health sector, financing for other equally important initiatives will be compromised. It was concluded that there is a need to put in place strategies that catalyze financing for resilience-building.



Output: Report, videos (A, B, C, (D, E, F), News brief (imaginaries-of-future-african-cities-post-covid-19)

Science Policy Dialogue: 2020 virtual Forum-Earth Systems Governance

On 16th September 2020, Nairobi Risk Hub policy analyst PDRA, Charles Tonui was a speaker at 'Science-Policy Dialogue'. The dialogue focused on how policy and science interplay can contribute to the Build Back Better Agenda. The science policy dialogue: 2020 virtual forum was organized by the Earth System Governance project. Key interest in the African context was on how the youths can be actively engaged in the global research and policy environment.

Output: Presentation

ARIN International Conference, 2020

The Nairobi Risk Hub and The Africa Research and impact network hosted the ARIN international conference, 2020 from 18th -20th November 2020. The conference titled 'Africa in the Post-COVID-19 World: Lessons for Research and Policy' brought together global stakeholders to reflect on the lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic that could inform practice, policy, and research to help the African continent build resilience towards its Agenda 2063 aspirations and sustainable development.

Prof. Mark Pelling and Dr. Joanes Atela were the key moderators of the conference.

Outputs: Conference technical report, Blog, Booklet

Cities and COVID: Imagining future African cities in the post-COVID-19 world

On the 2nd day of the ARIN conference, 19th November 2020, the cities and COVID-19 theme took centre stage. The Nairobi Risk hub and the Tomorrow's Cities partners led the session which focused on how research can be used to influence resilience.

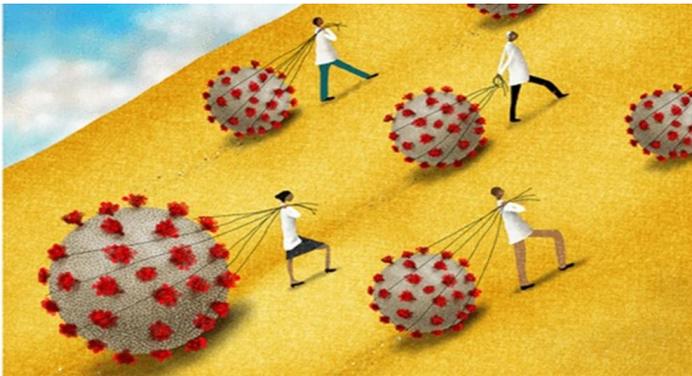
Outputs: Report, Videos, newspaper publication (standard media), (here)

Gender Lens in Disaster Risk Reduction in the context of COVID-19

The Nairobi Risk hub hosted a side event on Day 1, (18th November), of the ARIN conference on 'Gender Lens in Disaster Risk Reduction in the context of COVID-19'. Dr. Asenath Maobe presented at the session. The event was graced by Nairobi County women representative, Hon. Esther Passaris. The purpose of the event was to discuss the relationship between gender and disaster risk reduction; highlight the gendered impacts of COVID-19 from various points of view (National, Diaspora, and Global- WHO); and explore priority measures and responses to the gendered implications of COVID-19 towards "Build Back Better" (resilience and livelihood). It was observed that the COVID-19 pandemic will have a disproportionately negative effect on women and their livelihood. The governments

therefore, need to invest in programs that are focused on providing safety resources for women and vulnerable groups especially Women who are key stakeholders in disaster risk reduction efforts.

Output: Video (here), Report



The Commonwealth Science Conference, 2021
Nairobi Risk Hub co-lead Dr. Joanes Atela represented the hub as a panelist on the sessions ‘Developing and strengthening networks of early career researchers (ECRs) to address global development challenges’. He also chaired a session on ‘Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction at the conference which ran from 22nd -23rd February, 2021.

Output: Newsbrief (here)

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Gobeshona Global Conference on Research into Action

At the Nairobi Risk Hub and the Africa Research and Impact Network, we co-host a session on ‘Cities and urban resilience’ alongside The University of kwazulu-Natal. The conference themed ‘Locally Led Adaptation Action’ was held from 18-24 January 2021. The Nairobi Risk Hub specifically focused on the Cities & Urban Resilience Theme titled; ‘Building Resilience in Future

African Cities through Action Research’. The session covered discussions on the role of African academic-local government-community partnerships and how they have assisted in supporting local-led adaptation during the pandemic. Participants were enlightened on how the Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities (EPIC) model has strengthened informal response to disaster management planning and produced sanitizers for communities, and Nairobi City Risk Hub’s multihazard approach. Charles Tonui was a speaker, Dr. Asenath Maobe and Tom Randa were panelists while Dr. Joanes Atela, gave the expert remarks on the session.



Nairobi City Lead Appointed to the GCRF Strategic Advisory Group

The Nairobi City Hub has received strategic appointments through the city Lead Dr. Joanes Atela who was appointed as a member of the Strategic Advisory Group of the Global Challenge Research Fund (GCRF). His appointment will likely enhance the positioning of the Nairobi Risk Hub in the wider policy agenda. In his remarks, Dr. Atela said “I’m delighted to share with you some thrilling news: After days of grilling and competitive interviews.” The appointment happened in February 2021.

