Organizers: Caritas Africa, Caritas Internationalis, Caritas Burundi, Caritas Burkina Faso and Caritas Mali.

Date: 18 April 2024   Duration: 9:00 - 10:30 EAT   Language: English, French and Portuguese

Theme: The role of faith communities in promoting effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions. Case studies on: Goals 1 (No Poverty); SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and 13 (Climate Action)

1.0 Introduction

In Africa, disasters are intensifying at an alarming rate ranging from drought in the horn and east of Africa, heavy rains, cyclones and flooding as well as conflicts across the continent. In light of this, Caritas Africa member organisations have been promoting rapid and coordinated disaster response, prevention and preparedness amongst its member organizations. Caritas Africa’s humanitarian and developmental efforts have helped to protect people, their environment, their property, and their cultural heritage during major disasters. This assistance include shelter, WASH, food security, climate change interventions, integrated Disaster Risk Reduction among others which effectively contribute to Sustainable Development Goals: 1 (No Poverty); SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and 13 (Climate Action)

2.0 Objectives and Overall contribution to ARFSD in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063

Caritas Africa is a network of 46 National Catholic charity organisations spread out in 46 African countries. These local Caritas organisations implement food security, climate change, emergency relief and development projects across the entire region through its member organisations. This proposed side event during the tenth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development will be Co-organized with 5 Caritas Africa member organisations representing and sharing best practices drawn from its 46 member organisations.

The objectives of the session are to: (1) Facilitate experience sharing by Caritas Africa member organisations, government, academia and civil society on ending hunger and tackling negative effects of climate change: increasing food security amongst vulnerable communities. (2) demonstrate innovative strategies to mitigate climate change amongst local communities in Africa. (3) highlight the role of faith communities in the sustainable development agenda

3.0 Event format speakers and panelists

- Introduction and event overview- event moderator- Marisol Martinez -Caritas Internationalis (7 mins)
- Key note speech Caritas Australia- How can we effectively track progress and accelerate collaborative actions towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? Lana Hanley Asia & Pacific Associate Director at Caritas Australia (10 mins)

Panel discussion (30 minutes):

- What is the impact of loss and damage on food security and what are its effects on women and girls in Africa (findings from research by Caritas Africa & SCIAF in Zambia, DRC and Malawi)- Clemence Tauya Nhliziyo- IPAZIM
- What adjustment has to be made to achieve climate change resilience amongst local communities, through use of local knowledge? - Mr. Gaston Goro: Caritas Mali
- In what ways can multilateral cooperation and accelerate progress towards a sustainable future? Representative of Government of Malawi.

Experience sharing (30 minutes)

- Experience sharing (Casterere NDUWAYO Caritas Burundi -5 mins / Mr. Nama Bassekoa Innocent- Caritas Burkina Faso 5 mins)
- Question and answer
- Conclusion and wrap up (10 mins)