LESONS FROM COVID-19: WOMEN’S LIVELIHOODS HAVE TAKEN A MAJOR HIT

COVID-19 is exacerbating inequalities

Women have lost their jobs and earnings at alarming rates

Gaping holes in social protection systems have left women with little to fall back on

In 2020, the combined earnings of workers around the world fell by US$3.7 trillion while global billionaire wealth increased by US$3.9 trillion.

By September 2020, the world had spent a total of US$790 billion on social protection, but these resources were not equally distributed.

219 countries and territories have taken 1,700 social protection and labour market measures.

95 have taken measures to strengthen women’s economic security.

81 have taken measures to address unpaid care.

Informal workers experienced a sharp drop in earnings, with women losing a greater share of their pre-pandemic earnings and recovering them more slowly than men.

Informal worker earnings as percentage of pre-COVID earnings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>April 2020</th>
<th>June 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>women</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>men</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Globally, in 2019 and 2020, women lost more than 54 million jobs.

4.2% decline in women’s employment

3.0% decline in men’s employment

Across 45 countries, one in five women reported losing their job during the pandemic.

Globally, before the pandemic only 26.5% of women and 34.3% of men enjoyed comprehensive social protection by law.

In 2021, globally, men’s employment will recover to 2019 levels, but there will still be 13 million fewer women in employment.

In 2020, the combined earnings of workers around the world fell by US$3.7 trillion while global billionaire wealth increased by US$3.9 trillion.

By September 2020, the world had spent a total of US$790 billion on social protection, but these resources were not equally distributed.

219 countries and territories have taken 1,700 social protection and labour market measures.

95 have taken measures to strengthen women’s economic security.

81 have taken measures to address unpaid care.

Informal workers experienced a sharp drop in earnings, with women losing a greater share of their pre-pandemic earnings and recovering them more slowly than men.

Informal worker earnings as percentage of pre-COVID earnings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>April 2020</th>
<th>June 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>women</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>men</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Globally, in 2019 and 2020, women lost more than 54 million jobs.

4.2% decline in women’s employment

3.0% decline in men’s employment

Across 45 countries, one in five women reported losing their job during the pandemic.

Globally, before the pandemic only 26.5% of women and 34.3% of men enjoyed comprehensive social protection by law.

In 2021, globally, men’s employment will recover to 2019 levels, but there will still be 13 million fewer women in employment.