

LET'S CHAT

Addressing Gender Inequality through Post-Secondary Education: Lessons learned in sub-Saharan Africa

FEBRUARY 21, 2023 3pm ET | 12 noon PT

beautiful world **Ray Njihia Veary** Beautiful World Canada (she/her)

Ray is an international development expert specializing in community development. She has worked in various community development areas including social housing, food (in)security, and education, through projects which seek to empower and partner with local communities. One of the highlights of her career is working with marginalized girls and young women in sub-Saharan Africa to obtain post-secondary education. To quote Ray, "to witness young women's transition from high levels of vulnerability to becoming self-reliant through education is a humbling experience." Community-based approach to local issues as well as adaptation of indigenous knowledge are strategies that Ray strongly believes in. Ray is currently working as the director of international programs at **Beautiful World Canada**.

Ray's case study will discuss how improving access to post-secondary education for marginalised girls and women in sub-Saharan Africa is improving gender equality outcomes. *What does access look like?* Access can come in a variety of ways, but Ray will speak on access through the provision of scholarships and on how Beautiful World Canada, with their partners in sub-Saharan Africa, are using RBM to address these issues. They believe that post secondary education is key to empowering marginalized girls and women to have greater access and control over financial resources, decision making, and policy influence needed to secure ongoing economic equality and ultimately overcome poverty for themselves and their families.

"I will provide examples of how education is changing the poverty narrative for girls and young women in the countries where we work, as well as demonstrate how we are using RBM strategies to stay on track for GE outcomes, learn, and improve our programming."

- Ray

Watch the Recording