

Context for Oct 6 Webinar: Navigating Covid-19 in Kenya's Rift Valley

	Nakuru County (Rift Valley)	Kenya	King county (Seattle metro)	USA
Population	2.162 million	53.7 million	2.291 million	331 million
Total covid cases	835	38,115	89,822	6.99 million
Fatality rate	2.1%	1.8%	2.45%	2.9%
Healthcare	rural healthcare disrupted	Some healthcare workers on strike	most services have resumed	varies by state and region
School status	phased reopening in October	phased reopening in October	Closed until January 2021	varies within country
Academic year	Traditionally Jan-Oct, starting in Oct this yr. (in phases)	same	September- June	same
Mask Mandate	sntil January 2021	until January 2021	until further notice	varies within country
Nightly curfew	until end of Sept 7nkç2_k	until end of Sept. 7nk ç2_k	not currently	only during some protests
Remote learning	gñ cites but not rural villages	in cities but not rural villages	yes, but some groups lack access	mostly yes but not everywhere

Other Covid-19 effects in Kenya (as reported by various online sources)

Wendo Aszed, Dandelion Africa in Population Matters, reposted by Pangea Giving, April 29, 2020

- Worldwide, more than one billion people lack access to healthcare due to distance to health centers, but with the current COVID-19 pandemic, life-saving sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services have been severely disrupted due to shortages that were already experienced in countries like Kenya.
- This will also hamper authorities' ability to respond to gender-based violence (GBV), at a time when women and girls need these services most, *Read full article: <https://pangeagiving.org/coronavirus-and-contraception-in-rural-kenya-a-view-from-one-of-our-partners/>*

From Center of Strategic and International Studies, June 16, 2020

- When Covid-19 reached East Africa in March, the Kenyan government swiftly imposed quarantines and restricted movement into and throughout the country. These measures contributed to the slow of the virus's spread—but it did not prevent the near collapse of Kenya's once-robust economy.
- GDP growth for 2020 is estimated to fall to -5 percent if the outbreak is not effectively contained, representing a loss of \$10 billion in GDP. Whole sectors of the economy have shut down. Agriculture exports are down more than 50 percent. The horticultural sector has lost half its exports, half its value, and laid off most of its workforce of 75,000. Tourism and the hospitality sector—comprising some 1.4 million jobs and 8.8 percent of Kenya's GDP—has collapsed. An estimated 50 percent of the Kenyan workforce is either laid off or locked out from their jobs. *Read full article here: <https://www.csis.org/analysis/kenyas-case-covid-19>*

From World Bank, April 29,2020

- Informal workers and youth make up 70 percent of the population who suffer from the adverse economic effects posed by COVID-19 in Kenya.
- The hardship from the crisis would disproportionately befall the poorest and the most vulnerable households in Kenya. Many of these depend on farming (for the rural), self-employment and informal wage (for the urban). *Read full article: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2020/04/29/covid-19-dampens-kenyas-economic-outlook-as-government-scales-up-safety-net-measures>*

From Human Rights Watch, 8/26/2020

- Girls face unique barriers to continue to follow formal education from a distance. Taisha S., 16, in Kenya, said her school offered no materials or guidance during school closures, so she got in touch with her science teacher. “He said he would not be able to go to anyone’s home, but they could come to his house. As girls we feared going to his house, but I hear the boys have been going.” A primary school teacher in Nairobi, Kenya, said “With the lockdown, all family members are staying in the house morning to evening. I have had some of the girls call to inform me that they are harassed by their fathers or uncles.”
- Girls are often expected to take on childcare responsibilities and household chores. Taisha also said, “My chores have increased of course because schools have closed.” She said that she sometimes missed distance learning classes on television because of her chores at home. Zawadi N., 16, in Nairobi, said she spends almost five hours a day looking after her younger siblings: “There’s much more to do with siblings because I am also acting as a teacher to the younger ones *Read full article here:* <https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/08/26/impact-covid-19-childrens-education-africa>

AGENDA

Navigating The Challenges of Covid+19 in Kenya’s Rift Valley Zoom Webinar, Tuesday, Oct 6, 8-9pm PDT

- 8:00-8:05 Welcome *Janet Pearson, Pangea Giving President*
Introductions of Partners by Liaisons
Cheryl Houser & Allan Paulson
- 8:05-8:30 Perspectives from Partners *Wendo Aszed of Dandelion Africa*
& *Michael Kumanya of Playmakers Theatre, facilitated by Bob Ness*
- 8:30-8:55 Q & A + Comments
- 8:55-9:00 Wrap up + Closing, *Bob Ness*

Instructions for Zoom

Your microphone is muted upon entering the room. Please keep the microphone muted until the Q+A portion of the evening. Feel free to use the chat to introduce yourself or say hello! We’d love it if you could keep your video on which will give us a greater sense of community but of course that is optional.

We are recording this webinar. Only the speakers will be recorded.

If your connection is slow, try turning off your video.

If you have a question, you can use the “Raise Hand” feature or add a question in the chat.

If you have any technical problems during the webinar, you can send a private chat to Nick Dreher or call him at 360.218-4910. Nick and Cheryl will be monitoring the chat as well as Bob Ness.

PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO BE ON TIME We will start promptly at 8pm PDT.

