



Supporting Local Partners in times of Covid-19

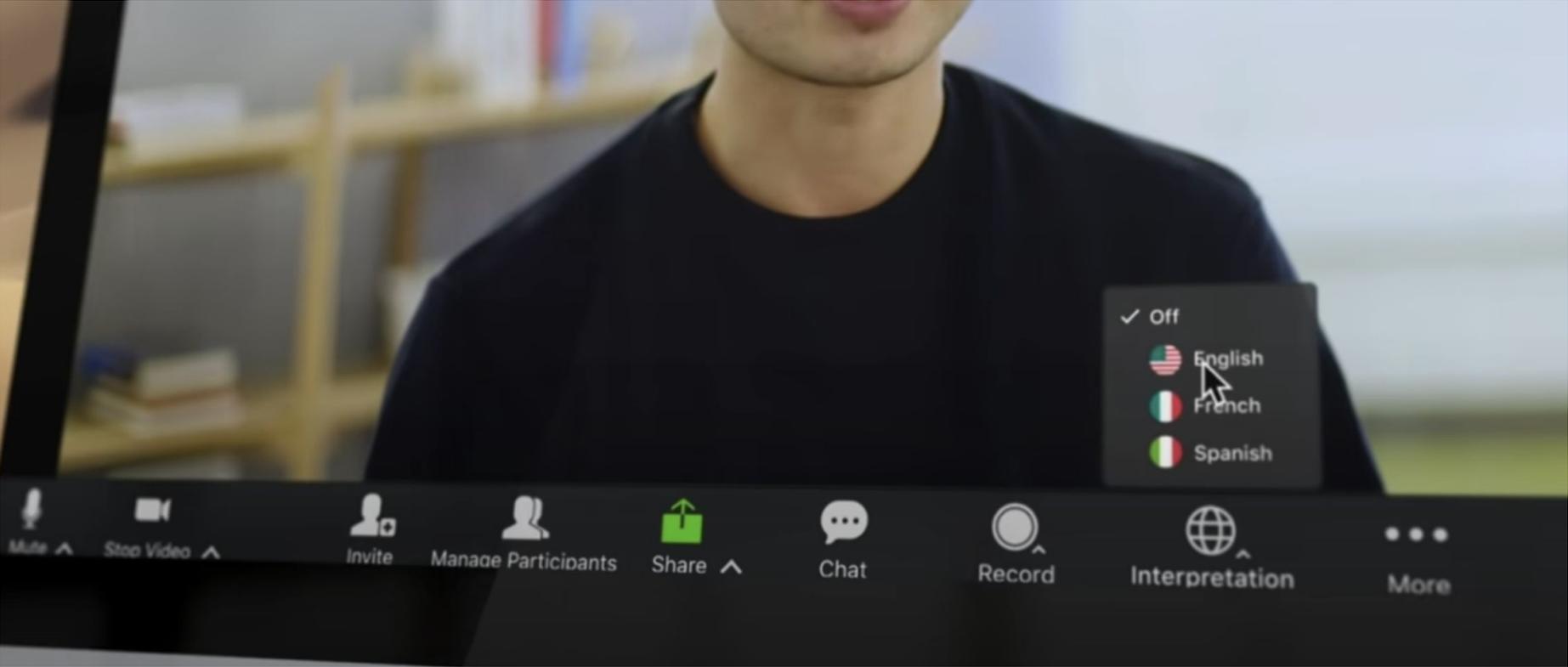
SMOs Interactive Conversation
May 14, 2020

Canada 

 inter-council
network Provincial & Regional Councils
for International Cooperation



Please choose your preferred language: **English or French**



Spur Change Program



What is the Spur Change Program?

The Spur Change Program is a 5 year initiative, funded by Global Affairs Canada, aiming to increase the effectiveness of Canadian small and medium organizations (SMOs) to deliver sustainable results in support of the Feminist International Assistance Policy and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Our current Covid-19 role:

- Provide tailored learning opportunities where SMOs can exchange knowledge and experiences
- Provide tailored training in Risk Analysis and Fundraising during a pandemic crisis situation.



Agenda



1. Welcome and opening remarks
2. Housekeeping items
3. Introduction to the event
4. Speaker Presentations
5. Q&A
6. Break out rooms with speakers
7. Concluding remarks



Housekeeping



-  This webinar will be recorded
-  Please ensure you are “**muted**” at all times
-  Use ‘**raise hand**’ function to signal your wish to speak
-  Use **chat function** to share your questions/comments



Supporting Local Partners in times of Covid-19

What does collaboration look like in times of Covid-19?

How Canadian organizations are currently working with local partners to maintain their program activities?

How are they providing support?



Speakers



Bella Lam

Director Programs

Jane Goodall Institute

(ON)



Catherine Bourgault

Global WaSH Advisor

CAWST

(AB)



Catherine Pappas

Coordinator of International

Program Committee

Alternatives

(QC)



Wendy MacDonald

President

Farmers Helping Farmers

(PEI)

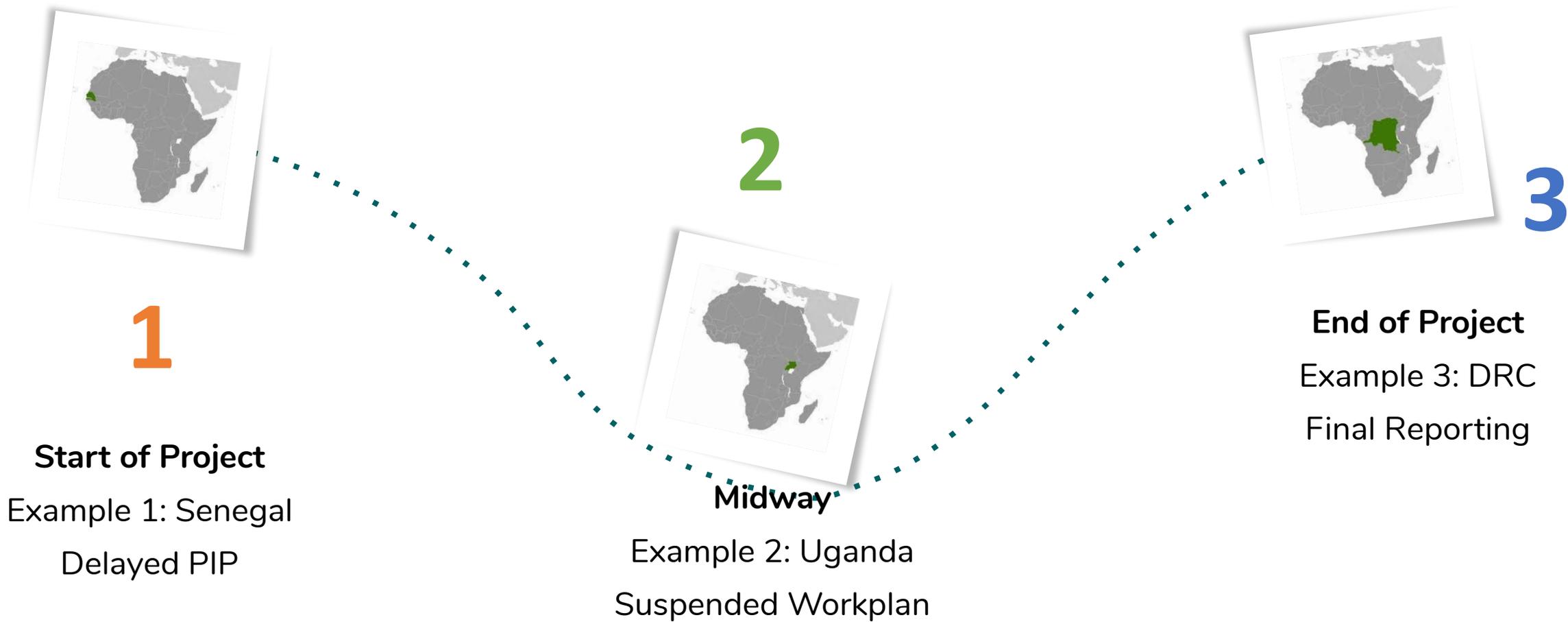
Bella Lam: Jane Goodall Institute



- JGI Canada is part of a global community conservation organization.
- Our work helps to create a better world for people, animals and our shared environment.

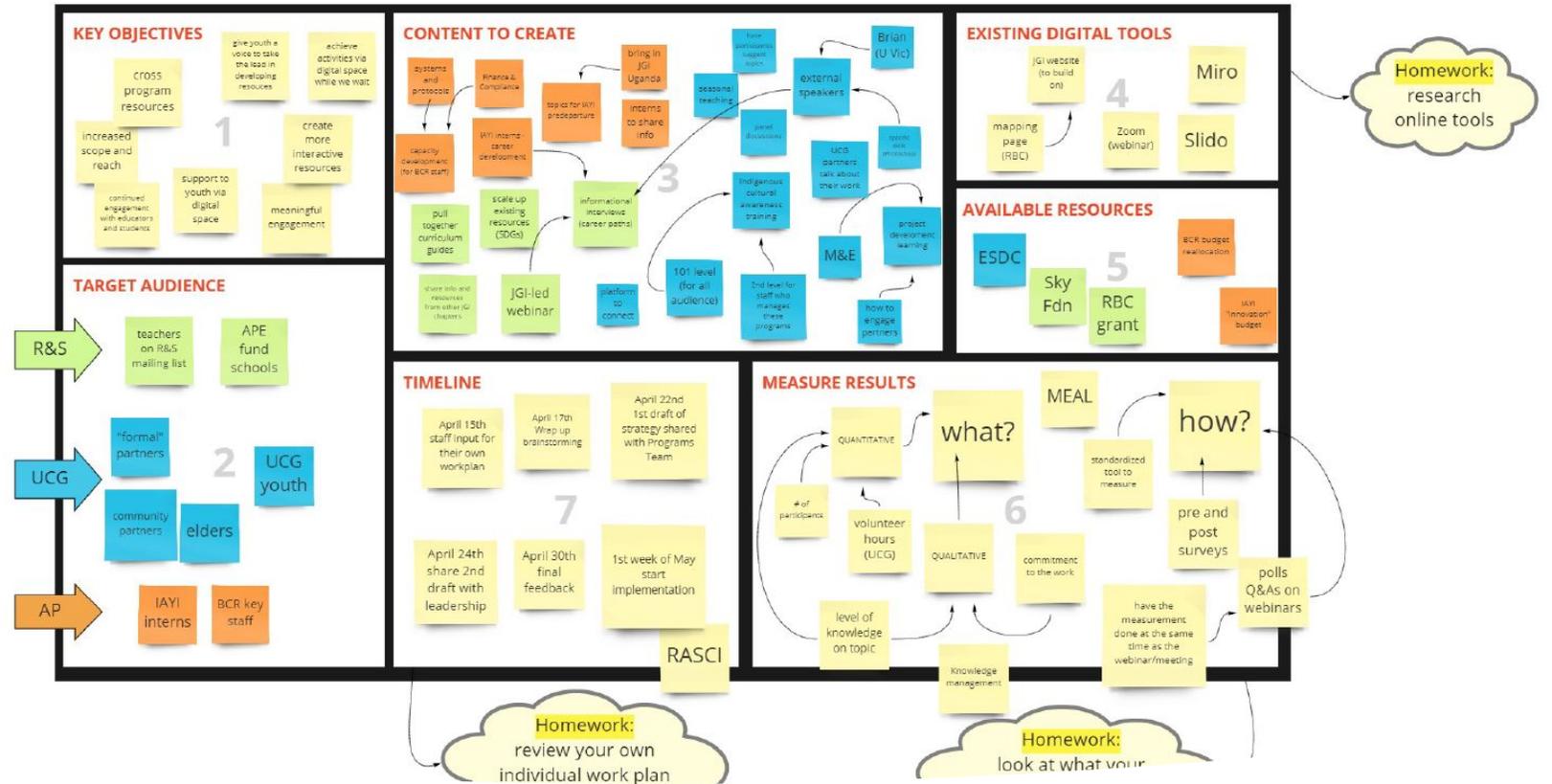


Supporting Partners at different stages of a Project Cycle



Take time out to strategize

- Look at opportunities
- Lean into your mission
- Listen to partners



Navigating in a pandemic

What does it mean for....

Our organization:

Interconnectedness – holistic ecosystem

Our community:

actions – global impact

Local

Our world:

Ubuntu – “I am because we are”



Reasons for Hope



Catherine Bourgault: CAWST

- **Our Vision**
is a world where people have the opportunity to succeed because their basic water and sanitation needs are being met
- **Our Mission**
is to provide technical training and consulting, and to act as a centre of expertise in affordable water and sanitation in developing countries
- **Our Organization**
 - Licensed professional engineering consultancy & registered Canadian charity
 - 50 professionals; engineers, educators, researchers



Service Delivery: 3 Platforms

- CAWST:
In-person training & support
- WET Centres:
Local training organizations
- Virtual Services:
Online & offline learning



Supporting partners during Covid-19

- Direct support
- Online exchange:
 - Zoom meetings (LEX)
 - Webinars
- Online resources:
 - Facebook group
 - [Hygiene Hub info](#)
 - [Hygiene Hub – Map](#)
- Content creation
 - [COVID-19 resources](#)



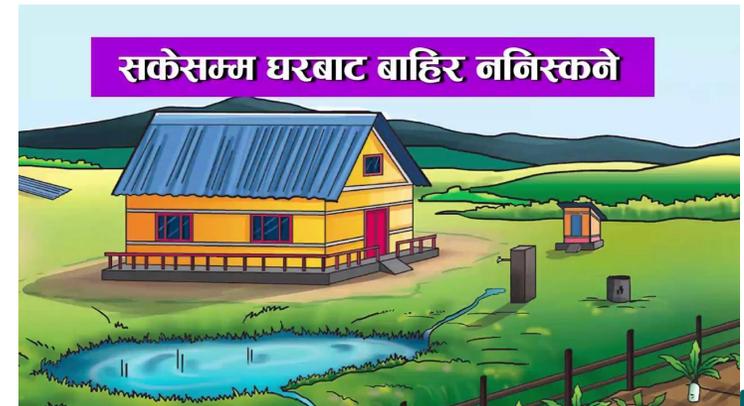
Handwashing stations and hygiene promotion



@AFMAC



@PWW Haiti



Physical distancing



@CAWST



@WASH'Em



@WASH'Em

Safety protocols for community engagement

- Travel
- Training or group meetings
- Participant arrival
- During the training
- Removing PPE
- Returning Home

COVID-19

Safety Protocols for Community Work During COVID-1

General Protocols

- If you are feeling sick, do not go to work.
 - Stay home and call your supervisor.
 - Inform your local health authority, and follow their directions.
- If you learn you've been in contact with anyone who has tested positive:
 - Inform your local health authority, and follow their directions.

Handwashing: Clean your hands often with soap and water or hand sanitizer.

Avoid touching face: Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Social Distancing: Avoid close contact with other people - maintain 2m distance.

Coughing into elbow: Cover coughs and sneezes - use a tissue or cough into your elbow.

Disinfecting surfaces: Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.

Face Covering: Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when near other people.

Reporting for Work

- If a non-contact thermometer is available, take the temperature of every team member when they report to work.
 - If someone has a mild cough or low-grade fever (i.e. a temperature of 37.3 C or more) they should stay at home and self-isolate.
- Screen each team member for symptoms (see COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire).
 - If someone feels unwell or has the symptoms listed on the screening sheet, they must go home.
- If a team member has fever or symptoms, inform the local health authority and follow their directions.



Conclusion

- Information must be clear, evidence-based and easily understandable
- Local actors best know how to address the problem in their community, including identification of their most at risk populations
- Already think about the long-term message



Catherine Pappas: Alternatives



- Present in 35 countries
- Regional approach:
 - South-south cooperation and networking
 - Partners lead on the conceptualizing and implementing the projects
- Engaged in international network-building and the World Social Forum (WSF) Process
- Themes:
 - Defence and protection of basic human rights, in particular women's rights
 - Strengthening of workers' organizations
 - Working with partners in conflict and post-conflict zones (i.e., peacebuilding initiatives)
 - Development of new urban development models

Impacts of Covid-19

- Assess situation in Canada and adapt to new methods of work and communication.
- Interviewed partner organizations to assess their situation.
- Communicating with donors for feedback
 - Open to the current situation and acceptance of pace of work.

Emerging needs from local partners

- Awareness concerns:
 - Spread awareness of the pandemic to the citizens
 - Dangers and threats to democratic rights by the governments under the pretext of social distancing.
- Confinement measures have been difficult for vulnerable groups (i.e., informal workers)

Actions taken to support partners

- Supporting partner's work:
 - Partners not limited to groups that are currently engaged in formal projects.
 - Youth interns back in Canada: working with partners through online methods and providing support through distance internships.
- Contingency plans for ongoing projects.
- Education and mobilization with partners at home and abroad to prepare for recovery and ensure respect for human rights in the context of the pandemic.

Learnings so far

- Difficult to make preliminary learnings. So far:
 - Telework in Montréal
 - Online training and meetings
 - Adaptation of all of our programs

Wendy MacDonald: Farmers Helping Farmers

- Working with Kenyan and PEI partners to improve the food security and dietary diversity of Kenyan farmers and their children
 - Projects with farm women's groups and dairy co-ops
 - Work with schools to develop relationships with Island schools and build/operate gardens and cookhouses.
- Raised over ten million dollars for Kenyan projects and improved the wellbeing of over 100k Kenyan people.
- Engaged 300 volunteers and students to work and learn in Kenya
- GAC-funded project “**More Food, Better Food: Empowering Kenyan Women Farmers**”.



Impacts of COVID-19 on our relationships



- Relationships were:
 - GAC project confirmed in November 2019
- Kenyan partners have been more resilient during COVID-19.
- Strong and positive relationships

Emerging needs of partners

- Following the evolution of COVID-19:
 - Monthly reports on Covid-19 from staff
 - Regular advice on women's groups, dairy co-ops and schools
 - Board members and volunteers are following government communications and Kenyan news reports.
- Strong public health measures in Kenya: border controls, schools closed, no public gatherings or meetings.
- Public compliance with measures is declining, and cases are beginning to grow more rapidly.
- COVID-19 spreading outside of Nairobi
 - Growing threat in FHF's project area of Meru County.
- Public health measures put pressures on food security, income security, and children's education.

FHF's actions to support partners

- Rapid start to GAC project has supported families
- Steady one-on-one work on farms under strict protocols, focusing on:
 - boosting food security, and
 - modelling health-protecting behaviours
- Schools are maintaining gardens, making vegetables available to families, community.



FHF Adaptations to Approaches, to Date

- March 15: National government issued directives
- Protocols and direction to Kenyan Staff
 - Cease group training activities (nutrition, dairy, horticulture)
 - Ensure all water tanks installed and operational ASAP
 - Priority on measures of food security to individual families
 - Gather information and develop materials for longer term project work
 - E.g. nutritionist has researched KAP around infant and young child nutrition for 2121 work
- Protocol to communicate with farm families, seek permission, ensure social distancing, hand washing, etc. during farm visits.
- Public transit restrictions and travelling to farms

Relationships with Governments

- Meru County
 - Little interaction with national government. Positive relations
- Governor and officials visit in June 2018: **re potato production.**
- MOU signed with County in Nov/19, and met with Governor and Ministers in Jan/20.
- County government has assigned agricultural extension personnel to work with FHF on GAC project.
- Partnership to include working with county Community Health Volunteers.



Learnings So Far

- Focus on core goals
- Be open to changing how you get there
- GAC requirements re-planning have helped us do this:
 - Set priorities, make trade-offs
 - Accelerate some project activities that can be done now while distancing
 - Delay other activities to later in project



Q&A

Breakout Rooms



Bella Lam

Breakout room 1

EN



Catherine Bourgault

Breakout room 2

FR



Catherine Pappas

Breakout room 3

EN



Wendy MacDonald

Breakout room 4

EN

FREE Online Training Series for SMOs

COVID-19 MANAGEMENT: RISK ANALYSIS & CONTINGENCY PLANS



- Security issues related to the Covid-19 pandemic
- Impact on international programming
- Risks associated with Covid-19
- Appropriate mitigation strategies

8h+ of asynchronous and live sessions

Starts the week of May 25
Every week for 3 weeks

Limited spots available >> Apply by May 14

Thanks everyone !

- Recording will be available
- Outcome document to follow to registered attendees of the webinar- if you would like to have your contact details shared, please add your e-mail to the document