

WEBVTT

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And feel free to introduce yourselves, your title your organization where you're calling from.

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Hi Sarah from the Ministry of Health, I suppose from Toronto.

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Hello. Hello. welcome.

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Yeah.

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Continue to introduce yourselves.

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And well what people are coming in and can probably start with housekeeping.

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Before we record the session, so

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I Liliana from Canada

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and Kelly Mr Speaker. Alright so, as you all continue to introduce yourselves. I'm just going to mention that we are going to be recording this session, and we will host it online on the a political forum via Vimeo.

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We're doing this so that the participants and a political members can review the content and demand to further their learning. So this also enables us to share the content with any expense who are unable to make it to this session.

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Please be aware that the viewers of the recording will be able to see your zoom username. And if you have your camera on, they will be able to see your face in addition to any information containing your background.

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Please let me or my colleague know if you wish to object to being recorded.

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Or if you object to a political making the recording available in the manner described.

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We have any further questions at all, you can find the contact details of our data protection officer at the foot of our apolitical homepage.

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We also have live transcription available it's called, you'll see down your screens. If you'd like to turn this off, you can locate the settings at the bottom screen by clicking on live transcription and selecting.

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So that's all for housekeeping and technical stuff.

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Yeah, more people coming in. Welcome Welcome everyone.

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Yeah, feel free to introduce yourselves. Your, your name, your role, your organization where you're calling from today.

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Streaming

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is from Greece. Thanks for joining us.

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And we can probably start soon contain to introduce yourselves, get to know one another.

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Hello.

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Okay, while we continue to introduce yourself. I think I can probably just start with a political introduction and then kick us off. So, hi everyone welcome to today's workshop on how to build a great coven recovery policy.

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My name is Willie I'm the partnerships Engagement Manager at a political and my, my background is in international development and public policy. And it's really my privilege and pleasure to be facilitating today's session.

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For those of you who may be joining us for the first time, don't know too much about a political. We are a global peer to peer learning platform used by more than hundred and 50,000 public servants worldwide.

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Our mission really is to help upscale and professionalize

governments and public servants like yourself, like yourselves. And, you know, in turn, we hope to improve service provision policy implementation.

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Basically improving every stage of the policy making cycle for for people's benefit.

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So that's us.

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And, Yeah, it'd be great to know bit about us well it's good to see so many of you have to call.

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Let us know in the chat, where you're joining us from what you do, where role is in government.

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America from Canada.

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And, yeah, before we jump into it. It would be great to see who else is in the room. If you're comfortable doing so, please feel free to turn your camera on and give everyone a nice big wave.

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We want to see all your faces and bonus points you know if you have a Christmas tree in your background,

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going to give a wave, you can leave your screens on after that as well. Or you can turn them off your cameras and.

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Hi everyone.

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I see Sarah with a really cool.

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Visual Effects thing going on there. I don't think that's a glitch. It's a special effects.

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Hello.

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All right.

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We can get into it now.

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Today we are talking about covert recovery.

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This is a topic that has certainly cropped up a lot.

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And you know all of our zoom, they're all these conversations about building better and better emerging stronger together to all these catchphrases right.

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And then you might have gotten to a point where people are getting really tired of talking about the code that you know they they avoid the subject, they roll their eyes and I think that's understandable if you consider the mental toll that Corbett has,

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you know, had had on people.

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But the reality is that, you know, it's still very much around us and for for many of you who are in policy.

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You know, it has to be the thing you talk about, there's no, there's no way to avoid it, because you're dealing with so many lives and livelihoods and, and I think the fact that you're all here suggests that you still see value in discussing this topic

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and, and there is so many aspects to to a covert recovery as you will see shortly from the diversity of us speakers topics.

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And here I should also raise the caveat that not all regions and countries are in recovery mode right some, some countries have not reached peak infections.

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And there's also the whole vaccine inequality issue between the global north and south. So, you know, I hope throughout the conversation today as we dive into recovery policies, you also have the issue of equities inequity at the back of your mind.

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I see more people are introducing themselves. I received from Georgia.

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We will start with a couple of quote poll questions. Meantime, as more of you come in.

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We just want to get a sense of how everyone is approaching the workshop. So, If you've joined zoom using your web browser, you may not be able to see the poll questions.

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So I will read them out and you can respond using the chat window.

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So

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poll question number one.

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Does your government already have a covert recovered policy in place.

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Choices aren't yes no I'm not sure something else and you know feel free to type in the chat as well. We're keeping this quite interactive,

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wait a few seconds and then we'll, We'll call it and share the results.

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And yet, Daisy, feel free to share them with you think we have enough people answer.

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Okay, so, 67% of you say yes your government already has a covert public policy in place, whether you think that's a good policy that's that's the thing.

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Some people say I'm not sure.

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And some people say something else as well so you want to add something in the chat, feel free to do so.

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All right. On to the next poll question.

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Two questions together, this time.

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The first one is, does your government have a designated covert recovery lead.

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And if so, what is their position.

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Do you have someone or, you know, really like spearheading these recovery policies that you can reliably to refer to

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can wait a couple of seconds and then we'll share the results.

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This, this data, these polls are so helpful for our speakers just for them to get a sense of the audience and frame the conversation.

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Yeah, I think we can probably share the results now.

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All right, let's see here.

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Almost half of you also say yes to government having a coven recovery lead.

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And it tends to be a minister.

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Not sure.

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Okay, that's that's that's very interesting this is this is useful for us to know who's who's in the audience as well.

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Great. So that's just a bit of interaction, getting to know one another. And now I think we can move on to having our speakers, jump in. So, I'm going to introduce our first speaker and today we have a whole range of coffee recovery policy ankles as well,

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Our first speaker is Calum, and forth. He is the advisor on digital health and smart cities, at the UN dp global center for technology innovation and sustainable development.

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Tell him has also led digital innovation projects around the world, and previously worked in local and national UK Government.

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So I'm very happy to hand over to you.

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Well, thanks Williams. Great to meet you all.

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From the side world.

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So I'm just going to talk for a few minutes just to kind of frame some my thinking on our side of and the connectivity recovery context, but very much echo Willie's at a point that we admit the countries that we're working in recovery is very far away.

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Recovery is by no means guaranteed. And so we need to be very cautious about how we start framing discussions around any kind of recovery as well, but recognizing that and on a slightly more positive note.

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And we also recognize obviously recovery is very much a journey, and it's not something that is done overnight or in a short period of time. So where possible we can start building, foundations, a lot of my work focuses around digital edition ization

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and digital health. And we also recognize that digital and other elements of industrialization are also very much a journey to. It takes many many years of capacity building infrastructure building, and so on to stop building success and start demonstrating

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the impact of these kind of tools and approaches and skills. So again, where we can align that with Kevin 19 recovery is very valuable. And we also saw the outset of the pandemic that those countries that did have strong digital foundations were also

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ones that have responded quite well or more effectively than those that did not have those different foundations. So again, tying in building those digital elements into the recovery policy is really, really important.

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and I decided to highlight three big point so I think towards give a lot of our work in the context of digital digital health and also in the context of boredom recovery.

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The first is very much that echo will again, the importance of leaving no one behind. So recovery must very much be a completely inclusive concept and ensure that we are ensuring that we're meeting the needs and meeting and engaging all the most marginalized

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populations in our society, and in their country. And we're seeing a lot of challenges right now in the context of vaccine equity and accessibility, but then for many many decades as well we've seen real challenges around the digital divide as well so

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tackling those barriers and those divisions are really fundamental to ensuring that we have a really inclusive and sustainable recovery in any country.

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And the second which I think very much aligned with the, the topic and the reason we're all here today is very much building on best practice. So we've done a lot of work in the past two years or so around open source technologies and I'll post a few

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articles in the charts by Rich a political before, but where we can build on established lessons or technologies or solutions that have been proven in other crises, or other settings can be very very valuable.

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We can't transplant things wholesale but perhaps we get 60-80% of the way down that path. And then that means that any kind of recovery can be accelerated or hopefully achievement in a much more successful or sustainable way.

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And then the third element from my side is I do a lot of work around virtualization, and most of my work is actually trying to explain to people why digital is not a useful tool, and we get an email I think every day saying, Can we do something around

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5g or big data or AI. And our first question is always well why what's what's the impact or what's the value of these tools. And I think when we talk about recovery as well as a very real risk that digital is seen as a panacea.

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But digital is not a replacement for fundamental social policies. It's not a replacement for the foundations and society and in politics and policy is very much one tool in our recovery toolkit.

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And so I think we're more engaged with digital we need to be very called conscious and cognizant that it may not be the most appropriate tool in all circumstances of recovery.

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It can very much add value, it can amplify our efforts, they can augment them, but it's not a panacea, and itself.

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I'll stop there, but very much looking forward to the discussion today and also pick up any points in the q&a as well. Thanks for the great, amazing. Thank you.

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First framing and digital lenses while also emphasizing that you know digital is not the solution for everything, and we need to think about context.

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Thank you, Karen, for that very helpful.

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Yeah. And if you have questions right now, feel free to write your questions in the chat and then also, we're going to have q&a at the end of all the speakers parts and we can we can dive into that later as well.

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Next up, we have.

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Amy you Scott, she is the Director of Communications and advocacy with the way that you see a Metro Vancouver, and she's also the co chair of the Elizabeth backfire society.

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Amy is a strategic communications leader, with more than a decade of experience advocating for social change across the charitable and non governmental sectors.

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Amy, over to you so much really and thanks everybody nice to see so many Canadians in this Zoom Room as well.

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Yes, my name is Amy, and I just want to first acknowledge that I am coming to you today from the MC did an ancestral lands of the coast village people, including the masculine Squamish language nations I'm based in Vancouver, British Columbia, and wonderful

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to see you all. I'm going to speak today specifically kind of my lens is the gendered and intersection of lens and talk a little bit about YWCA Canada's work to develop a feminist economic recovery plan for Canada, and it was just, you know, really interesting

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work that we did because YWC, of course has a federated model so we have a national YWCA that's located in Toronto, but we also have member associations, all across the country and so when we worked on this feminist economic recovery plan, which I'll

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talk more about during the q amp a what we were able to bring to it was really this kind of pan Canadian perspective, where we have kind of a national organization, advocating at the federal level, but

then we're able to bring all of the wisdom, knowledge

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and experience of member associations, on the ground, across the country, to help inform that plan, and what it resulted with, of course, is you know really peeper People Powered systemic change.

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We worked with the University of Toronto's School of gender in the economy, which are fabulous group of researchers and policymakers, at one of our best universities to really talk about how is this pandemic impacting women, very diverse women differently

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across the country, and what needs to happen in response and really our plan had kind of three key messages. The first is that a gender responsive recovery is really necessary that this recession that we've seen as a result of the pandemic is different

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from once in the past we saw that women were impacted most acutely women were leaving the labor market. And so we really need to send her women in recovery.

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Also, we need to make sure that Canada is leading a feminist economic recovery there's no reason for our country not to. We have the tools we have the knowledge and so that was really what we wanted to try to get across to decision makers at all levels,

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and our plan kind of had eight key pillars of course intersectionality recognizing that different people are impacted differently by the pandemic really looking at addressing the root causes of systemic racism that we cannot build back as an economy

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and as a country without recognizing this and addressing it that care work is essential work. I'm not sure what's happened in where you are in the world right now but I'm Canada, you know, we saw the importance of care work so the people who are caring

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for our children for our elders, the people who are working in healthcare working in grocery stores as being so important to a functioning society and economy.

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Of course, that we need to fight gender based violence. So we really need to address that in any kind of recovery, as well.

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bolstering small businesses, really focusing on good jobs and so when we look at how we're building back as a country, not just, you

know, putting people back into work that they were in but rescaling and retooling where necessary, and of course really

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really importantly, diverse voices in decision making it so making sure that people are diverse people are being, you know, welcome to decision making tables at all levels.

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So, this plan we released in the summer of 2020 and it had a huge impact across the country. We had hundreds of media hits we had interest from all orders of government, civil society, different sectors.

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And what we did was as much as possible we presented this plan to anybody who asked, and what it resulted in was really kind of phenomenal.

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We had in January 2021, a federal budget come out that was for the first time, really feminist focused. We had a commitment to Universal childcare, a 10 year action plan on gender based violence, and the formation of a task force on women in the economy,

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and a commitment to disaggregate a data collection which we can talk about a little bit more later, as well as gender responsive housing initiatives and gender based analysis plus which of course is a federal framework that we use in Canada to help make

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sure that we have a gender lens on all policies funding and programming, so I can talk a little bit more in detail later in the conversation but but certainly this has had a big impact on the country and where we're going in our own recovery.

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Amazing. Thank you. Thanks, Amy for that into sexual and gender lens to cover recovery and, of course, GBV gender based violence is this. So the thing that has been on the rise and what some people are calling the the silent pandemic as well so definitely

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very pertinent.

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Yes. In the meantime, feel free to submit your questions in the chat people. And last but not least, we have caught me.

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She is currently project manager for the openness for coordinating response and recovery project, and she is the former Africa regional manager for open contracting at the humanistic Institute for

cooperation with developing countries.

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That's very cool name.

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Miss movie has 16 years of experience in providing technical expertise to governments in advancing inclusive oversight of governance institutions by citizens of accuracy, and the application of human rights approaches to development programs, all of which,

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you know, with the aim of strength, strengthening both the demand and supply side of governance. So hope, would you like to go next. and if we didn't share select as well.

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Thank you. Really, I think I'll share the slides at.

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As we circulate the resources so that you don't interrupt the flow.

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Thank you so much and thank you everyone for joining in into this conversation on our heels focus on covering 19, in terms of how we respond and support response and recovery has been centered on how coffee 19 is impacting transparency, accountability

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and participation of citizens, as well as citizens organizations, and the media in relation to information, and how the government's also handling covert 19.

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Our approach has been to support in front runners and change makers to freely access information are related, and generated by governments. Father, it has been to support organizations that are citizen led to demand access for information and to advance

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open contracting in government. So, our support also has also been to governments in terms of helping them to build systems that are based on open constructing an open contracting standards principles and practices, our broader agenda has always been

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in terms of advancing civic right to also ensure that across the board, these are, these movement towards open governance by our government globally.

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When I look at this conversation and when I was having the conversation with our colleagues around what would be useful in terms of building a great cover 19 policy.

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We did agree and we did see that it would be very important that governments embrace and ensure that any policy that is being developed is inclusive of citizens citizens participate and participate, not just for the sake of participating and ticking the

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box, but for the meaningful public participation in the whole process and at each stage of the policy formulation stage stages, the policies that countries come up with in terms of their recovery, but also to embrace access to information principles and

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practices and embed them in the policies.

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They need to promote transparency participation and accountability, the policies need to also advance provocative disclosure and mechanisms that citizens can use to engage with their governments as we saw with the lockdowns.

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A lot of citizens citizens organizations media and different actors general Alec had difficulty accessing government information because then there was restriction to move meant restriction to assembly restrictions, all sorts of rights, the citizens,

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normally would enjoy. So for any emergency policies, it would be useful, that as we go forward.

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The policies also expand and ensure that citizens are reclaiming and expanding their civic spaces, to be able to participate with the online, offline.

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Father, that as we build recovery policies we have to be mindful, to ensure that they are boosting local ownership of the emergency procurement processes.

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Policies resource mobilization, and programs that governments would deliver to their citizens of our all the priority for heroes and for civil society actors and citizens that we work with, is a message that simply says of our all the priority of a good

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policy and law for covering 19 recovery should be people centered has to have public interest fast, it has to have the people, openness and transparency, at its center.

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And also, it has to embrace a legal framework and drive a legal framework that is driving, open ownership, open governance open data and open contracting data standards and principles.

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But do you really hope that was short and precise.

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Thank you, there was there was very short, sharp and sweet.

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Thank you to all the speakers.

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Yeah, so now you know we have had, we've heard you know this this suite of different strategies you know from this feminist economic recovery approach to digital transformation.

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and then also from hope.

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Open contracting transparency and accountability.

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So, without, we have this really a comprehensive sort of view to to get corporate recovery and obviously there are many different angles as well but to help this this, you know, raise some important questions and then inspired some view as well.

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And we can go straight to the q amp a where our speakers can maybe elaborate more on some of the specific policies they raised earlier and answer some of the questions in the chat.

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We also have received submitted respond to some of the questions in ahead of this this event so I can be synthesizing some of those and asking them to the speaker as well.

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But let's start with this first question we haven't checked from a less and less it's also been very helpfully providing us some resources.

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So this question is, what are the two or three most important challenges that if you address with desired effect would have to create this impact in the short term medium term.

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And it has if you want to do that as well. Feel free to unmute yourself.

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If not, I will direct this question to our, our three speakers and let's start with Kevin.

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Thanks. I think we covered a lot listen and talk as well and very much the foundation of building meaningful and participatory citizen engagement is I think a really important foundation that has enormous multipliers both short, medium and long term.

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And it's also, I think to me a fundamental element of recovery peace policy. And the second, I think is technology and my kind of inclusion point that if you build the, the parameters the structures the inclusion elements, first and foremost, and they

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have phenomenal and important multiplies as well so for me that level two big ones. And I think, where you can start building great understanding of the kind of local context local challenges, the local reality is and also aspirations in the context of

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recovery. And that's also going to serve you very very well as you go down this still very Uncharted recovery pathway to

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me over to any response. Yeah, I mean I would absolutely no echo what Callum and hope to have said, I do think, you know, one really powerful tool for us is just aggregated data and that's what we've seen through responses to the pandemic has been this

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call for desegregated data to understand how our policies, how is the pandemic impacting different groups of people, so that we can, as government respond.

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And as you know, civil society respond to specific needs. It's just such a powerful tool to be able to address the needs of different groups of people, and especially those who are most marginalized and so as a result of the pandemic and a lot of advocacy

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on behalf of our organization but a lot of other voices as well as different levels of government have committed to collecting this, and then hopefully that you're able to of course apply that in your decision making in your policy making in your funding.

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And then of course you know really having a strong framework when it comes to how do you take all of that information and then apply it to policymaking or programs or initiatives and for us in Canada we use gender based analysis plus which is a tool to

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actually see every decision through a gender and international lens. But I do think that you know having some sort of framework as well as a government can be really a powerful way to then take all of that information and make sure you're applying it

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consistently and using the best practices.

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To further that a little bit me. How would you begin to collect some of this desert here that data and you know what sort of infrastructures or or policies need to be in place for that.

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I think, you know, in the case of Canada, of course we do. We have our census and so we know that we're collecting information at a national scale, but we also saw in response to the pandemic.

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A lot of other information and data gathering happening at the provincial and municipal level as well and so I do think that there's a lot of opportunities for different levels of government to be talking to each other, to be organizing how data is being

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collected and to create some best practices, you know across the board. When it comes to what are we committed to and we collect data, how are we using it, and how are we then using it to inform decision making,

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that you want to jump in as well about the challenges.

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Oh yes, um, I think I agree with calm and I agree with Amy, and to compliment Eric, amazing contribution and desegregated data. I think critical also are a key component would be, ensuring that the data is open, open means basically that information should

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be accessible. You should be machine readable format, and it should be reusable without pay and without barriers to citizens that they don't need to have to go to our office feel an f4 I especially where these are locked down to just to access information

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to play the role or to suck services, or even just to learn what's happening within government, how do they benefit, how do they help their loved ones.

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It was very critical that this would have happened at the fast

phases. Maybe we did, we wouldn't have lost so many lives that we would never have a moment or we can do is hope that we can do better.

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The other key element is when we look at recovery and response. I think it would be very very important to look at it from the question of having people fast, if we have the people at the center of the recovery at the forefront of the call.

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And we harness citizens talents, without pushing back on them. I think the response would be more effectual and impactful than we saw in a positive way.

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Maybe we would need also to look when we talk about people centered, is to appreciate the citizens have something to offer to their sitting at home they have all these resources they have all this knowledge they have a lot of expertise, but they have

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nowhere to channel them in a very structured way that can help the response that government is trying to do.

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So I think it would be very critical to look at our citizens as a resource, rather than a hindrance.

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Yeah, and I think this goes back to what Amy was talking about earlier as well about having more participatory processes but story governance within the feminist economic recovery plan.

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Yeah, so I hope that answers your question yes thanks for thanks for posting in the chat.

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Let's move on to the next one from Carolyn, which is, how do you balance the different needs and requests of different members of societies that might be competitive or contradictory.

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This is yeah this is tricky one.

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I anyone like to go first.

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Um, I appreciate the trickiness of the balancing and the diverse needs and the issues, and the limited resource base that each country has in terms of time personality, equipment, facilities, and all other facets that come with meeting the needs.

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I think by involving the citizens, while we have short time frames to risk to respond in terms of emergencies. But if the journey, can be built in such a way that we were saying, as we build back better we also see how do we start forecasting and doing

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better in terms of looking at future emergencies. And does that cover the unfolds.

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And lapses because as we go forward we do know this new variances.

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New variants coming up, and we love Spark. So how do we do this in such a way that we are harnessing the citizens voices which then help us to shift the needle citizens needs in a better way than we have done before.

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And I think that we're on that stage we can talk about the power of leverage on technology and crowdsourcing and tools that can help us to package, this needs and help us to prioritize and leverage with citizens, what is most important for them.

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What is most relevant in their specific spaces. And what would be useful for them. as we plan, and do recovery going forward.

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Maybe the others can contribute to that.

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Yeah, and I think the earlier point about this aggregated data could also get to this question as well right like if you have different segments of data you can then more easily analyze and have more policies are catering to specific groups in your code

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you want to jump in.

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Yeah, absolutely. I say me to jump in.

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So I think for me it's back to my time in government is you know trying to where you can unpack what makes these requests or needs competitive or contradictory, you know, going back to first principles looking at what are driving some of these behaviors.

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Oftentimes you know there are going to be some divergences or some elements of competitiveness, or disagreement among stakeholders of

sexuality of a diverse and, you know, exciting society but where we can unpacking the causal relationships on the actual

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kind of drivers of this I think is very very important and you're completely right. We need this is where things like data collection and so on a really important role.

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But I think as part of that is trying to give voice where we can do some of those needs and request to make sure that people are heard. Often they may not be competitive, because they want to be it's more because I just fighting for space or fighting

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for platform on what frightens have levels.

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And sometimes the loudest voices are the most important but often, or sometimes they may not be or they may be drowning out the ones that we really need to hear from.

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And I think that sometimes that another element of competitiveness that we sometimes forget about as well.

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But I think another thing that we do a lot of work in new MTV and the government sector is this whole approach to monitoring learning evaluation, and the feedback loop.

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So recognizing that people's opinions or perspectives or their needs or the requests aren't static like they will evolve and so can we have this kind of dialogue with him to see how this stuff does actually evolve in practice, can we keep checking in,

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can we see how policies are having an impact whether good or bad tweaking things as we need and having that kind of, I think more agile mindset and how we approach, some of these needs as well I think it's very important.

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Amy.

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How do you balance these different conflicting needs, times. Yeah, I mean that's a great question and I really have to say I it's I mean it must just be so challenging for governments just given the amount of need, that's out there I think that, you know,

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coming from our perspective at the YWCA Of course we want to try to

send her to centralize the most you know center the most marginalized, folks, so the people who really have been historically underserved and marginalized need to be brought right to

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the center. And so I think that that's really, really important in any kind of, you know, recovery. Also, you know, coming from looking at it with the gender lens of course in Canada we've seen like this mass exodus of women from the labor market and

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so when we think about what is an economic recovery look like for our for our country, we really have to kind of see what has to be in place to, to make sure that women are able to go back to work, are able to actually kind of thrive and succeed and so

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we see these, you know the social safety net so universal early learning and child care and universal health care. All of these really important kind of social fabric institutions that have to be working in order to support as many people as possible.

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And then of course you need those targeted individualized support for those who are most on the margins. And we know that people, you know, based on their own experiences will need very specific targeted supports whether its funding or specific initiatives

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or programs. And so again, you really have to kind of bring those people at the furthest edges of the margin into the very center and and goes back to having kind of a values based approach when you're building policy when you're developing policy and

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and creating programs.

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Great Jess and Carolyn if you had specific examples as well like what you think might be contradictory sometimes feel free to post examples and I think this, this idea of competing interests also reminds me of this.

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I think this concept in behavioral management or public policy of organizational hypocrisy which is this idea that, you know, talk and decisions and actions don't always align and because there's so many competing interests partition sometimes or government

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Politicians sometimes or governments sometimes, you know resort to top interested in direction. They make a decision in opposite direction and then action, another direction, just so that they can satisfy these different groups and obviously some groups

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will lose out because action is not catering to them but that goes to one of one of the questions we had from submitted questions as well about building trust in government which Corbett time as well which, you know, especially in the UK right now, there's

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been a bit of a kerfuffle with, you know, public trust and government Christmas parties, but Anyway, I digress um let's go on to the next question in the chat which is.

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Could you share any successful anti combat measures and post copy recovery policy in agricultural sector is yes this is any of your

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expertise, if you wanted to jump in.

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I guess we didn't discuss agriculture so much today but, but, you know,

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me You're shaking your head, no porco.

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I was just gonna say I am so sorry I'm letting you down I have absolutely no, no, no idea and I'm sure that there has been quite a response in Canada and I actually am a bit ignorant when it comes to specifically agricultural sector so my apologies.

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If you can also say agriculture's dominance is a fundamental part of our part of our work and there's also one of the biggest sectors of development in many countries.

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And I think the tricky thing we often hear is that losing more rural communities are often less heard from, and as me as mentioned as well. I'm often excluded from kind of support subsidies and so another reaching other other parts of communities.

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And so I think where we can provide that level of engagement and then that support is really important, but we're also seeing in many of these communities is the importance of kind of intermediaries.

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So, it might be farm extension agents, it might be a private sector. It might be NGOs and others actually very important partners of government and trying to reach into some of these communities where governments may not have presence or legitimacy or

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credibility. And so I think where we are talking about recovery policy, it's not just a kind of government notion it's very much a kind of whole society approach of bringing of actors, particularly in mobile and heart which is I think it's really important,

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but I'll try and get a few things while we're talking from ups work in agriculture and paste from the chat to get and we can also send a follow up email with more of these links and resources, hope you learned something.

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Yes.

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Yeah, I just wanted to add like to add the majority of what I've seen, has been around economic stimulus support packages in relation to agriculture, but I think it's still too early for us to tell if the impact has reached has reached the most.

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Those who are most in need of it. And if it benefited the people, it was meant to benefit, and which Tier or which categories of persons benefited the most, is it the youth persons with disabilities, women, or well established funds and family owners,

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or is it the micro or the subsistence on a farm farm holdings, that have benefited. I think it's too early to tell right now. Although voices and perceptions are that those who are most in need, one are the ones who are restricted to the most by the support.

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So I think it's a perception. As of now, I can tell, I can speak to specific statistics about how well it has performed. But I think as we go forward.

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Maybe it's something to keep in mind as we think about recovery policies, how best to structure and ensure that those who are most in need a central to the policies and other most of beneficiaries to the books.

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Thanks hope.

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Let's move on to the next question. These are all really great questions by everyone and also great great answers from our speakers.

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The next question down the line is from Zi think Susie is asking,

what you believe is the best approach to using communities are plagued by this this trifecta of you know covert and civil unrest and poor access internet and you know these issues tend

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to compound on one another and, yeah. She works in communities like this and wants to know.

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Are there any strategies out there.

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Let's start with Amy.

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Yeah, I mean I think that, you know, thinking about the Canadian context and where we work, we work with a lot of vulnerable communities. And I think, you know, when Kellen you had mentioned earlier, definitely working with organizations that are on the

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ground and so government can partner with organizations who already have the relationships the trust is developed specifically in the Canadian context we know that some of the first people that were hit by the pandemic economically worse survival sex

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who are working in the cash economy so the informal economy. And we had a lot of government supports that were going out but they were not reaching these people, because of course these people are in the informal cash economy.

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And so what we advocated for was for government to filter some of these supports through organizations who are already reaching and working with these women in order to support them through those first, you know, months of the pandemic.

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And so, again, I do think that you have to kind of be creative as a government.

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Absolutely, work where you can with these civil society organizations who have those relationships who understand the needs on the ground, and who have the trust of these folks and can support them, most, most know accurately and and most yeah in the

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best way possible.

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And we'll talk about nothing.

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Okay. Um, but equally like Amy mentioned.

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He has been focusing on the vulnerable, the marginalized communities by supporting frontrunners and champions in those communities, and the civil society organizations in those communities to build resilience to empower each other, to be able to really

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articulate that their choices, and their voices in this space, even though there's been seriously and rapidly shrinking civic space. So it has been to figure out other ways and other channels and other platforms are with these communities, and marginalized

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persons, to be able to bring their voices to the center of decision making and for them to also shape and influence policy resource allocation service delivery in their communities.

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And most of the other sub national level, because some of them are so far flung, and the National get into the National Space sometimes we require physical movement, and in times of lockdowns that was not possible.

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So then, it was a question of finding ways to aggregate voice online, and to be able to articulate issues, online in virtual spaces that governments sometimes would open up and also I think some of the platforms, while in some instances are not very useful

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in some of the instances have been very useful like we've, we've had a lot of young people, advocating very strongly and speaking to government policy constructively on different platforms such as Twitter we have Kenyans on Twitter for example in Kenya.

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We have many other platforms that young people advocating and speaking to. And we've seen artists also bought online and these digital digital platforms, to be able to articulate what their communities are actually facing and what is speaking to.

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And I think the issue has been. What about communities that have zero net or zero internet connectivity or low internet connectivity and have barriers the you thinking, would you buy food, or we buy pay for medical services, or would we pay for internet

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connectivity to voice our grievances to government. So part of the journey for he was has been then to be the interface and be the

intermediary and support intermediary organizations to actually gather the needs of those who are affected by poor internet

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or the choices in their family life and the day to day mean that they don't have time resource abilities capacities to engage government.

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So then we been able to walk with civil society and and unfamiliar is as well as capacity builders media and journalists, to be able to voice on behalf of the voiceless.

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I don't know, I hope that answers the question of how you deal with doing it in other spaces we've been able to work with civil society, and civic tech civic tech organizations who basically have been able to change or find mediums where they interface

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on smart devices with low tech devices so that citizens can use low tech devices to communicate their needs as well.

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Just to stop that I think I'm a question you know very clearly highlights that you're going to need a portfolio of tools responses policies interventions and paid to do things in a covert.

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If it's a worst code out impact than other communities, obviously that slightly driven by underlying socio demographic other factors that have roots in in equality and equity and that's a huge range of interventions alone as hoaxes talked about you know

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tackling points and accesses everything from digital skills to device access to underlying connectivity, whether it's 3g 4g or, or Wi Fi and so on.

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And then the whole kind of systems please you know how these all kind of fit together how they have over a virtuous impact all that kind of vicious cycle as well.

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And I think what we've seen elsewhere in terms of approaches that don't work but have some positive direction behind them are at least being open to kind of testing and learning and adapting as things progress cyber for good or for bad, so you know taking

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a very humble approach and listening and engaging with the community and trying to build this stuff and collaboration is really important and then being very clear and recognizing that this is a longer term

challenge and it's going to fail in many angles

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but you know just learning and trying to improve where you can suddenly forms is showing what isn't isn't learning I think is really important for other communities are facing all of this, and one point to some of the the kind of internet access and to

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kind of echo the discussion we had earlier on disaggregate the data, and we do a lot of work around Can I proxy data often there wasn't data in many countries that we work in so we have to rely on proxy data sources, but we're also getting a real risk

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with some of the governments that we see around the world who are relying on data that is not representative or actually could be undermining web sensitivity.

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And one example is is mobile phone data. Many countries are using this to drive policy decisions or decision making, or things like lockdown policies and boss in many many countries around the world, mobile phones are not owned by all the population and

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in fact are often owned by a more privileged strata the population. So actually seeing some struggles we actually will using will see in the state of being used, and it's going to create policies that obviously will often benefit the richest often the

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male population and societies. So I think wherever we are trying to work in such difficult and challenging communities or context, just always thinking about this kind of border impacts questioning our kind of assumptions.

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and I think is a really important point as well.

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So, I think a very long way of saying I do not have a panacea or silver bullet for you I'm afraid but very happy to pick up discussions offline to you and we can maybe share some really big connections as well.

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Thanks. Thanks.

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Okay, I'm going to, in the interest of time combined in SS and Lillian's question because I think it revolves around decentralization and devolution so the first part of the question would be, you know, what do you think of different levels of

government,

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local and national global in terms of the potential to to to make change and then the second part of that question would be how we go about measuring impact, and how you think that when when we start to see the fruits of a lot of these measures and speakers,

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feel free to pick one or the other or both questions, we can start with Amy.

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It's really great questions, I think, you know, it all depends what your context is where you are and so in the Canadian example, we have cities that absolutely do know the community's best but they are.

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They don't have a lot of resources. They're very resource strapped and so I think that that's where the challenge can sometimes be there has been a lot of success, of course when we have partnerships between provincial government and federal government

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so our national and provincial governments, working together. A great example of that is childcare, as part of the response to cope in 19, we've had the federal government commit to a National Child Care and basically rolling out childcare across the

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country and so they are working specifically with provinces on these back bilateral bilateral agreements which will allow them provincial governments to be able to shape that childcare sector, you know, in terms of their needs and what the local context,

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the local population needs. I do think that there could be a lot more power in empowering cities across Canada to be able to actually work with communities on the ground and get some of these supports out.

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You know, I would say again in terms of how do you measure success, really, again, it's the importance of data collection and making sure that you have those feedback loops in place because what you'll see that as you can use that data to help inform

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your policy cycle, of course, you know the other thing I would say that I haven't mentioned yet which is there tends to be this.

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You know our governments here in Canada tend to try to have

different groups of people that they consult with but there tends to be a lack of kind of integration into the decision making tables and so for example, you'll have a government consult with

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like a women's committee or a women's Task Force, or an intersection Task Force. And what we want to see less of is, that kind of thing. It's a great first step of what you need to see is the integration of these diverse voices into the groups that are

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actually making the decisions. And again, that helps to build your feedback groups and because you have people that are representative of the, of the population.

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But I do think it's you know what we need to see is, of course, all orders of government, working together, and we need to see there to be a recognition between all orders of government that you know some local governments will be well positioned to support

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in some ways, whereas you need to have more national policy of big picture, and you know policies rolling out federally, I would say that what I hear a lot happening from government is you know nobody's talking to each other even within the provincial

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and federal government across ministries and so again it's, you know, how do you build those bridges and work together to serve the population, specifically in times of crisis like now.

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Let's go to hope and then Academy comes up first, then the hope just quick fire quick for answers and then I want to jump to the very last question which I personally invested in just a little bit of amateur echo Amy's point if you are devolving they

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have to have, you know, business development evolution needs to be accompanied by resources funding support and so on. I think where we do see struggles are where walls and responsibilities are unclear between local, national government and also the partners

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both sector, NGOs, and others.

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And having worked quite a bit local government as well, and local governments often So focusing on delivery, it's very hard for us to kind of communicate success or to manage up with as well so where possible, and having champions in your local government

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have a chief exec level or at least senior shouting about what you're doing, advocating and national government and with other partners, I think it's really, really important, because often the best work that local government does is the day to day, that

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is not heard from because it's not as diverse but it's hugely, hugely, hugely important particularly in the crisis, I think,

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I think I would start by sending us back to a philosophy. Almost of a philosophical approach. And the question of ownership of the measurement of impact.

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And the questions that I think would be critical when we're determining how we measure of success in the response of poverty 19 is first of all, who defines the measure of coffee.

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Who determines what data sets, actually, demonstrating success, what is success for a person living with disabilities in the response, what is success to a woman living in a rural area.

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What would success look like for a woman, possibly, who is disabled, possibly is from has different intersection ality is in the sense that she is part of the LGBT community, she is living in a rural area, she is less educated, what, What does success

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look like who defines it.

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Who says What does I set it up as measuring datasets. What indicators, and who ships the indicators, because I think when we critically question, then we would likely come up with measuring measure measurements that indicators and the measuring process

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that is inclusive, and that speaks to the people, rather than speaks to efficiency how much money was used the locations, how fast things went well in the CD Baby in the citizenship they're taking no nothing went fast enough.

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So I think it's asking the critical questions and involving the people, especially the most vulnerable in the process of even determining our and designing our monitoring evaluation and impact assessments.

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Thanks hope for the very philosophical frame and I think that's actually quite a good note to end on.

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So, yeah, I just wanted to thank everyone for joining us today. And, you know, big thank you to the speakers as well for a few, taking all these questions, and for your very thoughtful responses.

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While we're wrapping up though. I would love if everyone in the group could share your one word takeaway into chat and.

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And while you're doing that, I actually want to ask the speakers the last question but your answers could also be in one word takeaway. So, this is last question this is a really interesting one which talks about how a lot of policies not tend to fall

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back to business as usual concepts and ideas and, you know, you might not agree that as well.

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So if you sort of put on a utopian kind of hat, to some extent, what would be one word or one phrase response to this, this some thought.

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I can go first I would just say, you know, in the Canadian context it's like resist austerity, that there has already been this conversation moving back to balance budgets and we know this is the time for massive public investment, if a country has the

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resources we need to start building that system so that we're able to actually withstand the impacts of this type of crisis.

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This austerity that's that's a good one.

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Hope Your One Word takeaway or one phrase.

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Um, I think, for us it would be inclusive, it would be the one word, and basically because we see a lot of going back to the business as usual model of big business, determining what everything.

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Hopefully should be shaped the most loud being heard and the list pod being negated again. So I think inclusive it is in the middle of all one word, or one phrase or whatever put should be taken, going forward in terms of recovery.

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contacts needs and so on, on both sides so I think listening is fundamental to.

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Yeah, shaping a really strong recovery possible.

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All right, thank you Thanks everyone.

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Yeah, I just wanted to add that everyone who registered for the event will receive an email soon, the recording and resources from today's conversation.

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And we are at four o'clock on the dot.