

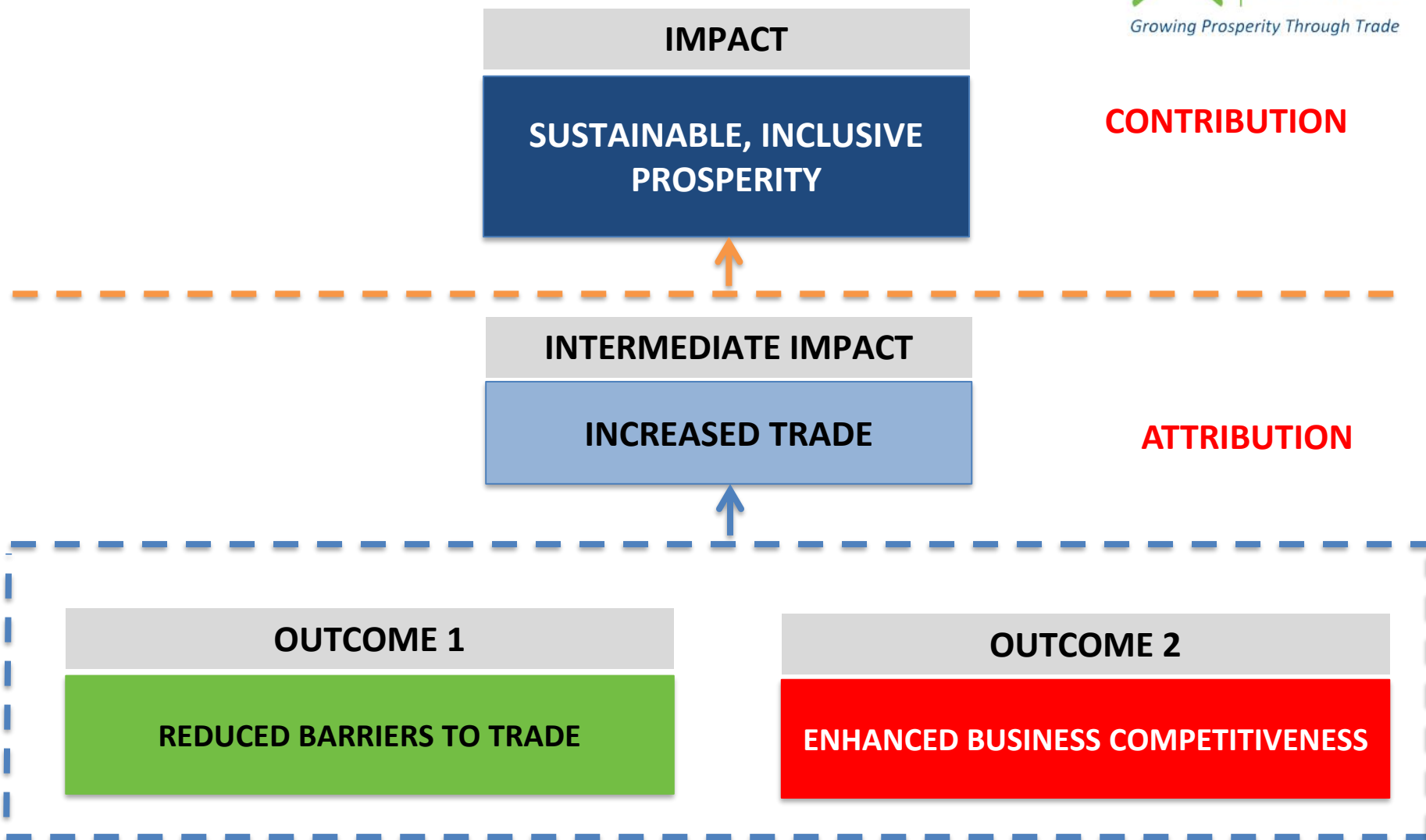


Effect of COVID-19 on Women in Trade in East Africa

Gloria Atuheirwe

**IEA Webinar Series
10 September 2020**

About TMEA



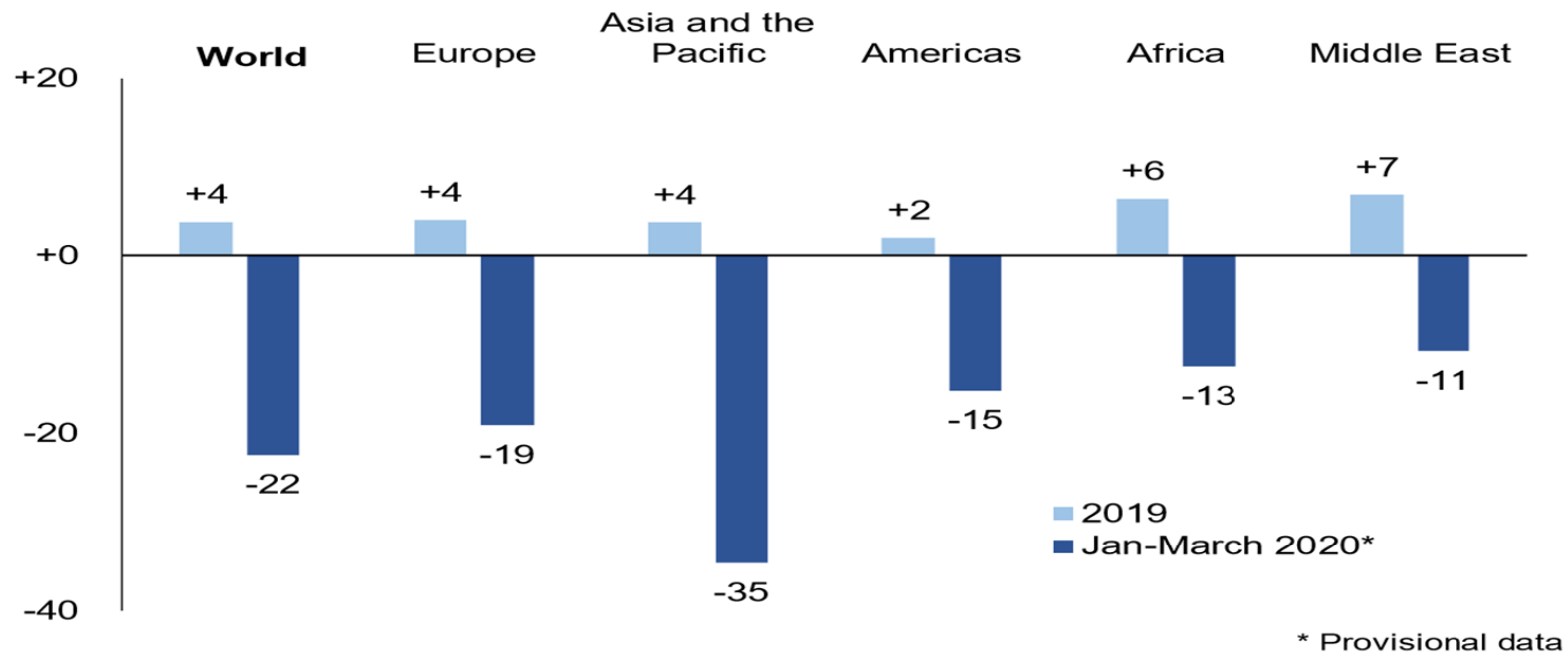
Overall Trade Impact



- 20% drop in imports at Mombasa port bound for East African countries (mainly from China) in January-February
- Overall decreases in imports for most countries, while exports held steady or increased slightly in most countries.
- **Imports across countries**
 - Imports bound for Kenya, Uganda and DRC experienced sharp declines
 - Imports to Rwanda were slightly less affected yet
 - Tanzania is an outlier with imports actually increasing significantly
- **Exports varied widely across countries**
 - Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda all experienced moderate export increases until March '20
 - Tanzania's exports fluctuated across the period, resulting in an overall 10% decrease
 - DRC decreased slightly

Global Tourism

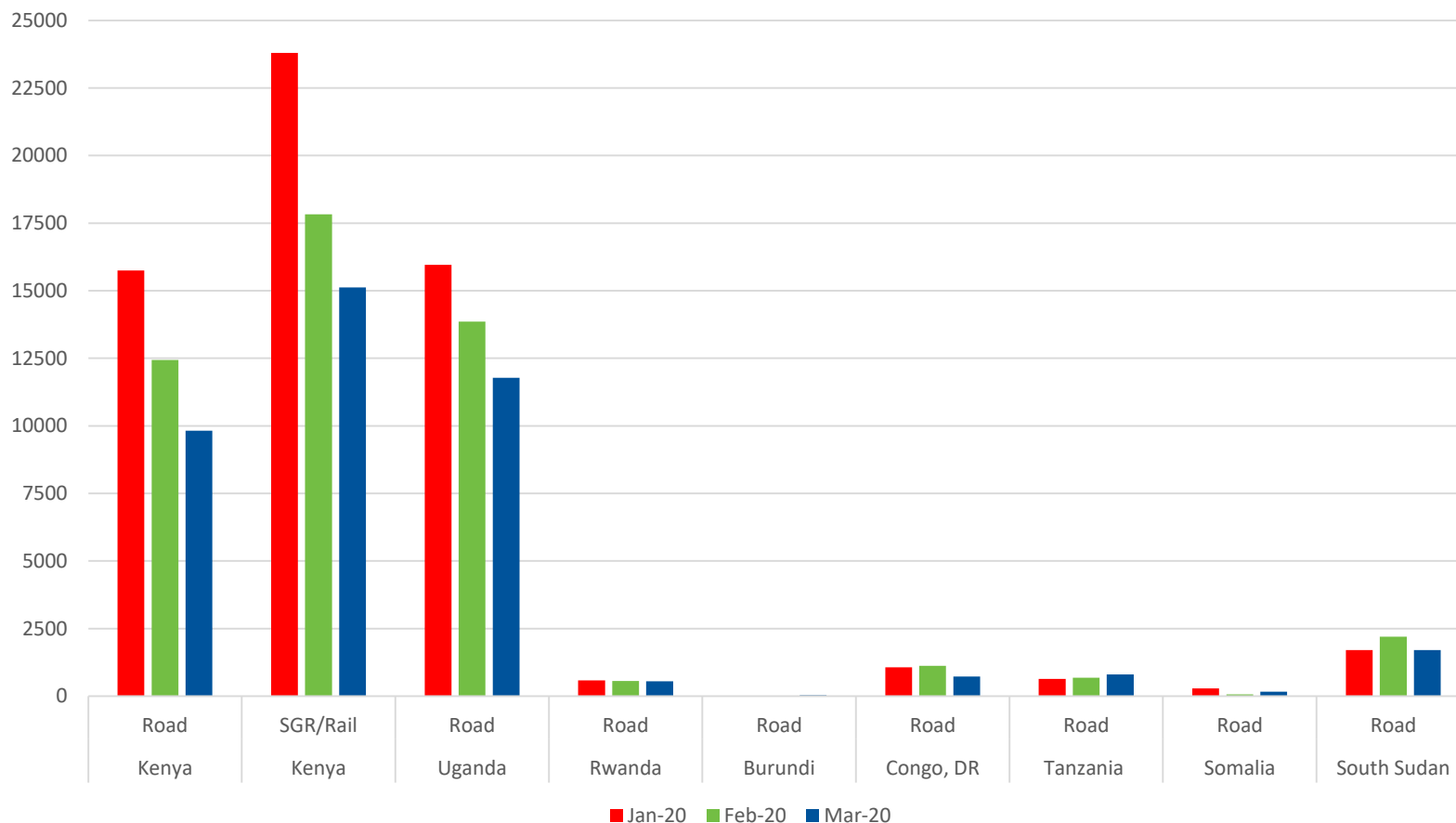
International tourist arrivals, 2019 and Q1 2020 (% change)



Source: UNWTO

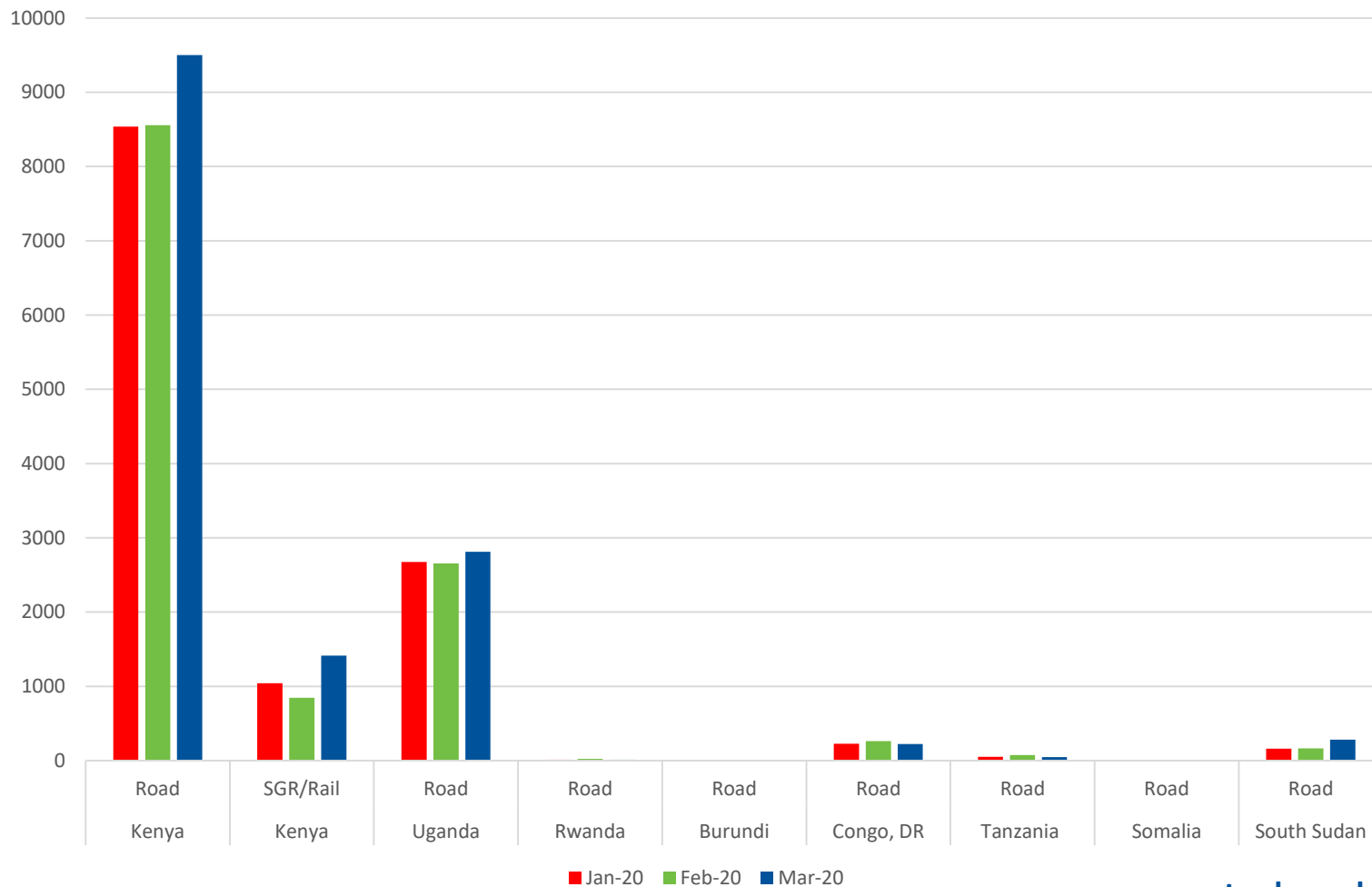
EAC Imports Jan-March

Imported TEUs



EAC Exports Jan-March

Exported TEUs



Cross Border Trade: Cargo in Trucks

Cross Border Trade: Traffic flow



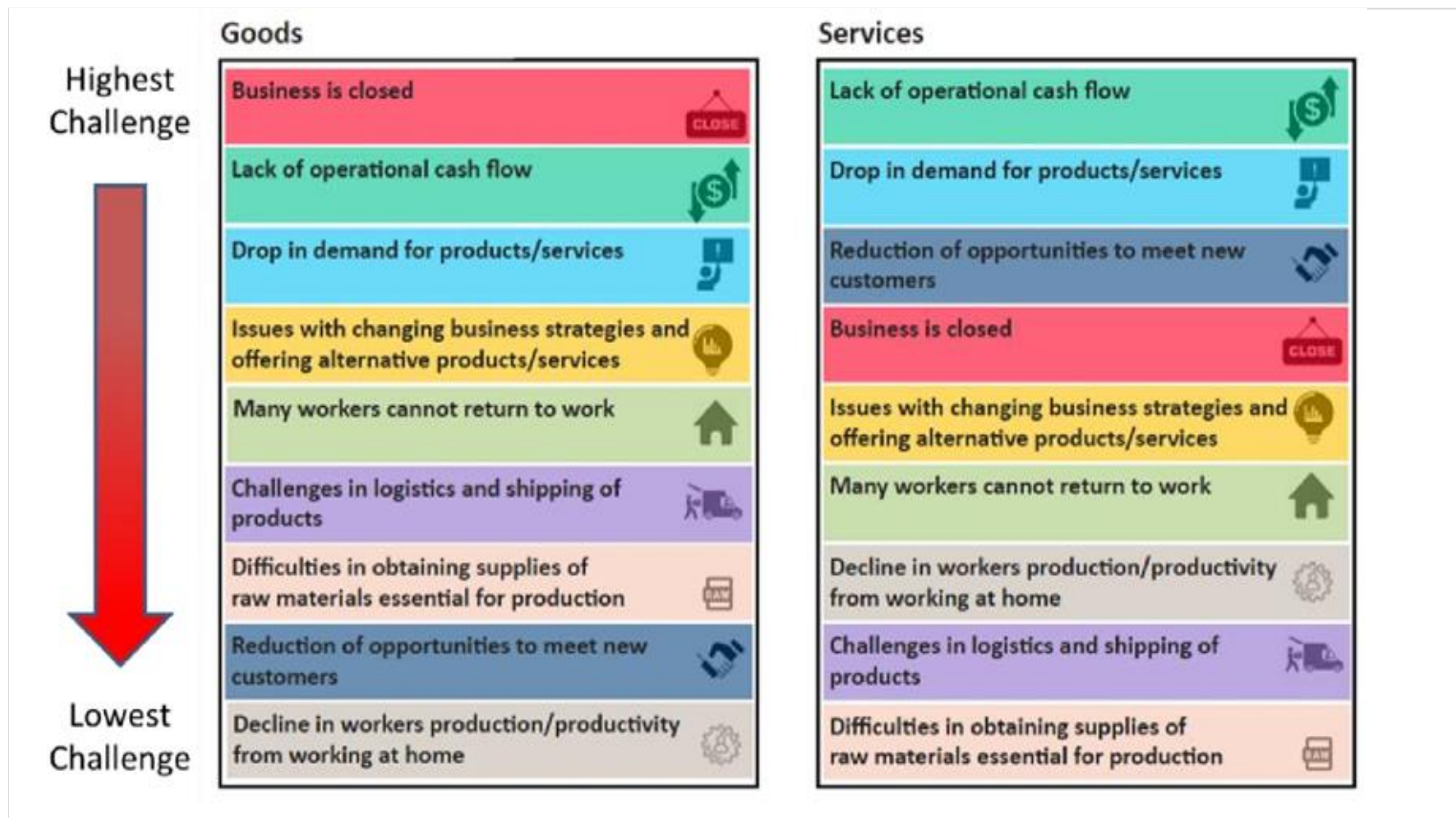
Source: Kenya Revenue Authority

Transport Corridor Issues













- Long tailbacks at borders due to mandatory driver testing and confusion, disputes, deportations
- Mandatory driver relay systems that have raised trade costs heavily, reducing supplies of essential goods to landlocked countries
- Delays in clearance of goods and customs paperwork due to diminished workforce/working from home



Continental Scenario: Goods Vs Services



Challenges faced versus Business Scale

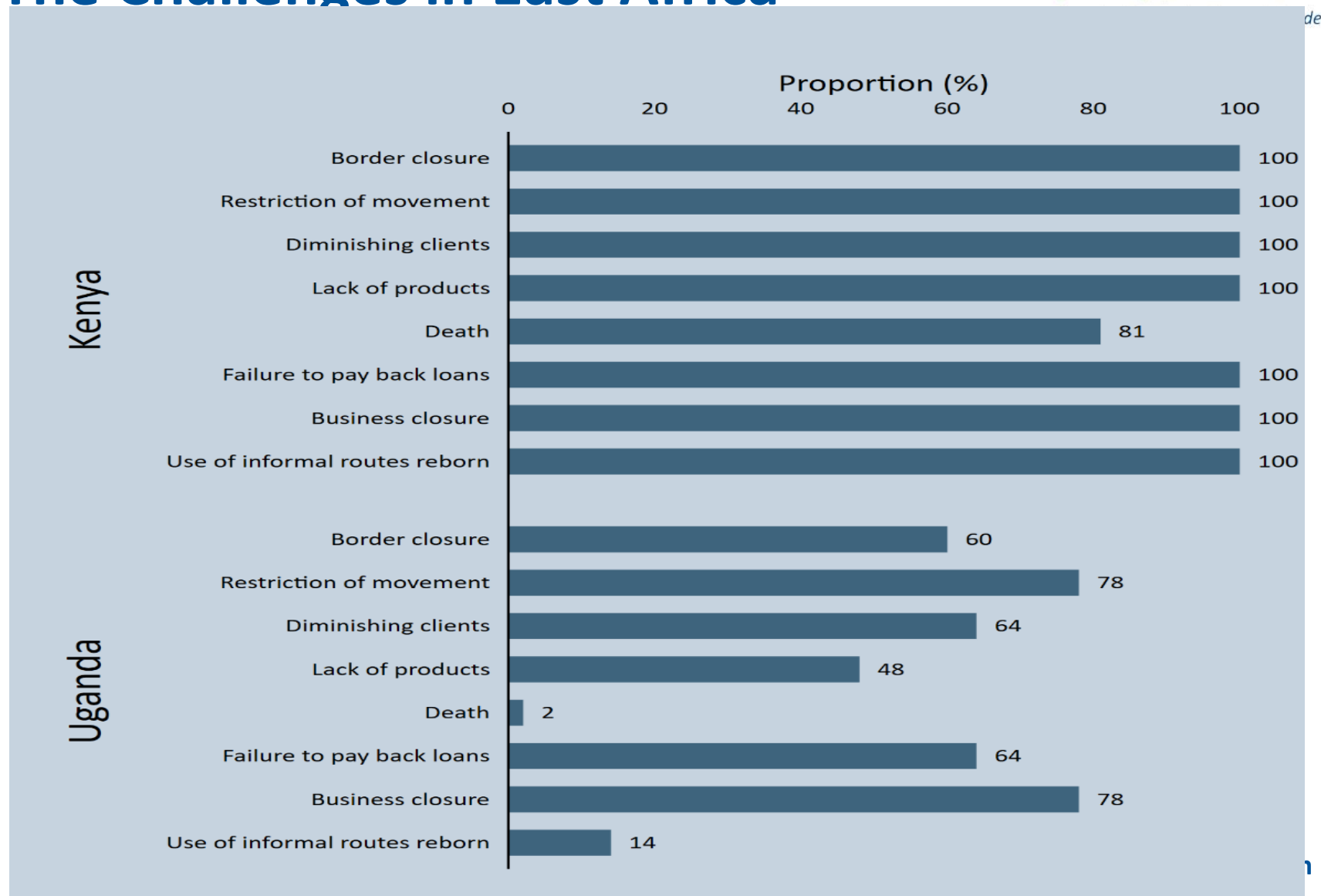
	Micro	Small	Medium	Large
1	 <p>Lack of operational cash flow</p>	 <p>Lack of operational cash flow</p>	 <p>Business is closed</p>	 <p>Reduction of opportunities to meet new customers</p>
2	 <p>Business is closed</p>	 <p>Drop in demand for products/services</p>	 <p>Drop in demand for products/services</p>	 <p>Issues with changing business strategies and offering alternative products/services</p>
3	 <p>Reduction of opportunities to meet new customers</p>	 <p>Reduction of opportunities to meet new customers</p>	 <p>Reduction of opportunities to meet new customers</p>	 <p>Drop in demand for products/services</p>

Global trends for Women in Trade

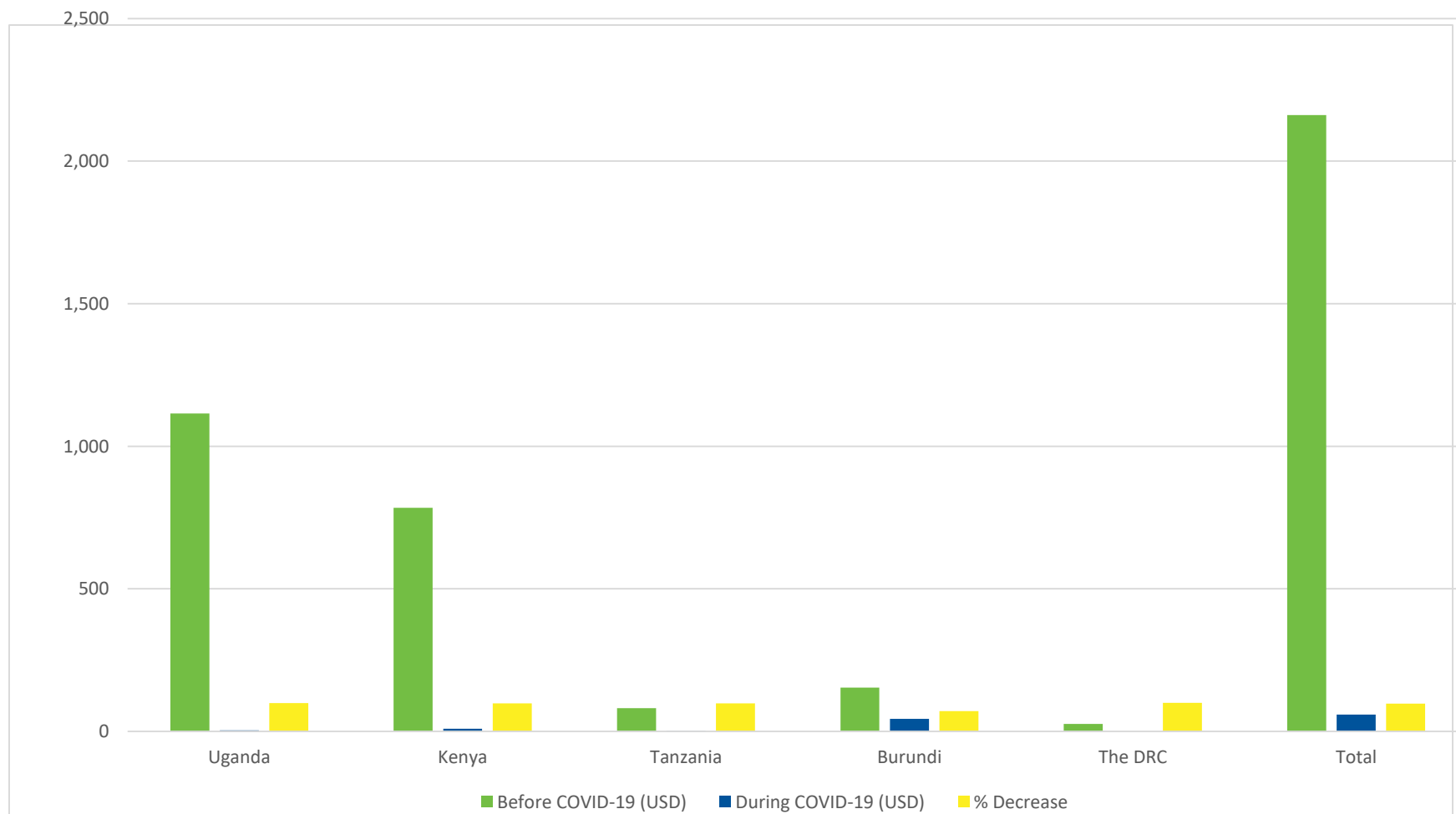


- COVID-19 is **deepening pre-existing inequalities**- women's lives will be affected disproportionately and differently from men.
- Globally, female-owned businesses **were 5.9 percentage** points more likely to close their business than male-owned business
- Women are predominantly in **industries faced with a high number of closures**; hotels, cafes and, education and child-care services, wellness, grooming,
- Higher gender gap, with women **spending more than 6 hours** per day in such activities, significantly more than men.

The Challenges in East Africa

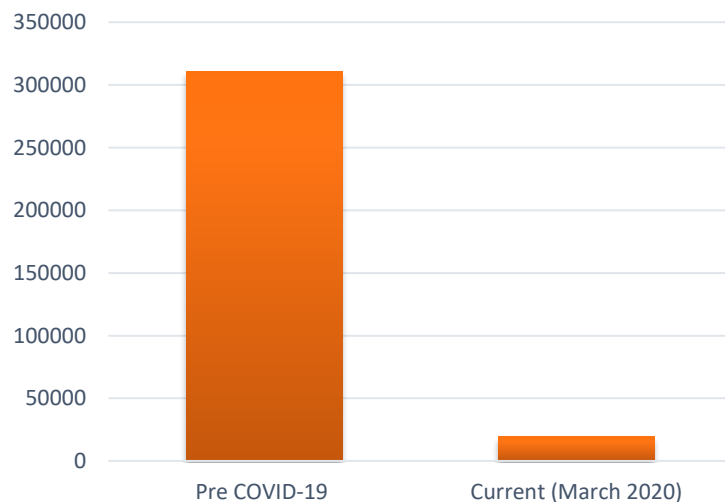


Impact on profit across EAC

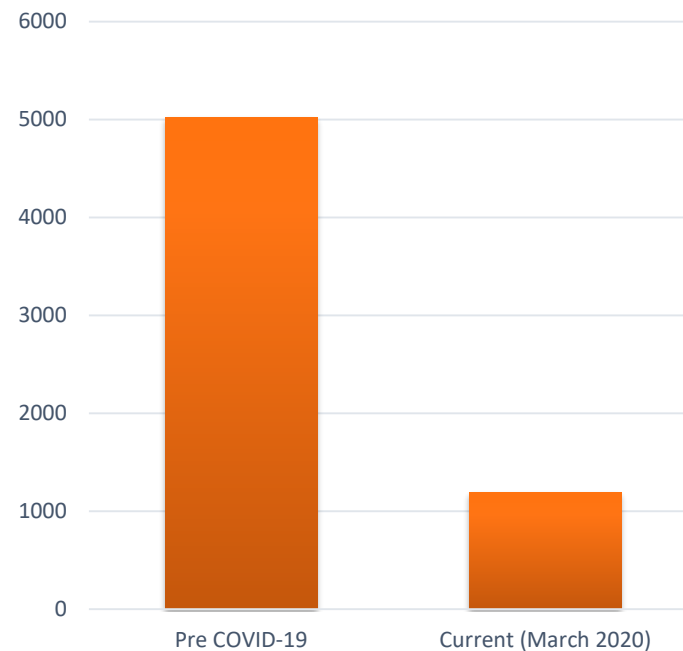


Impact on Profits for women traders at Busia border

UGX



KES

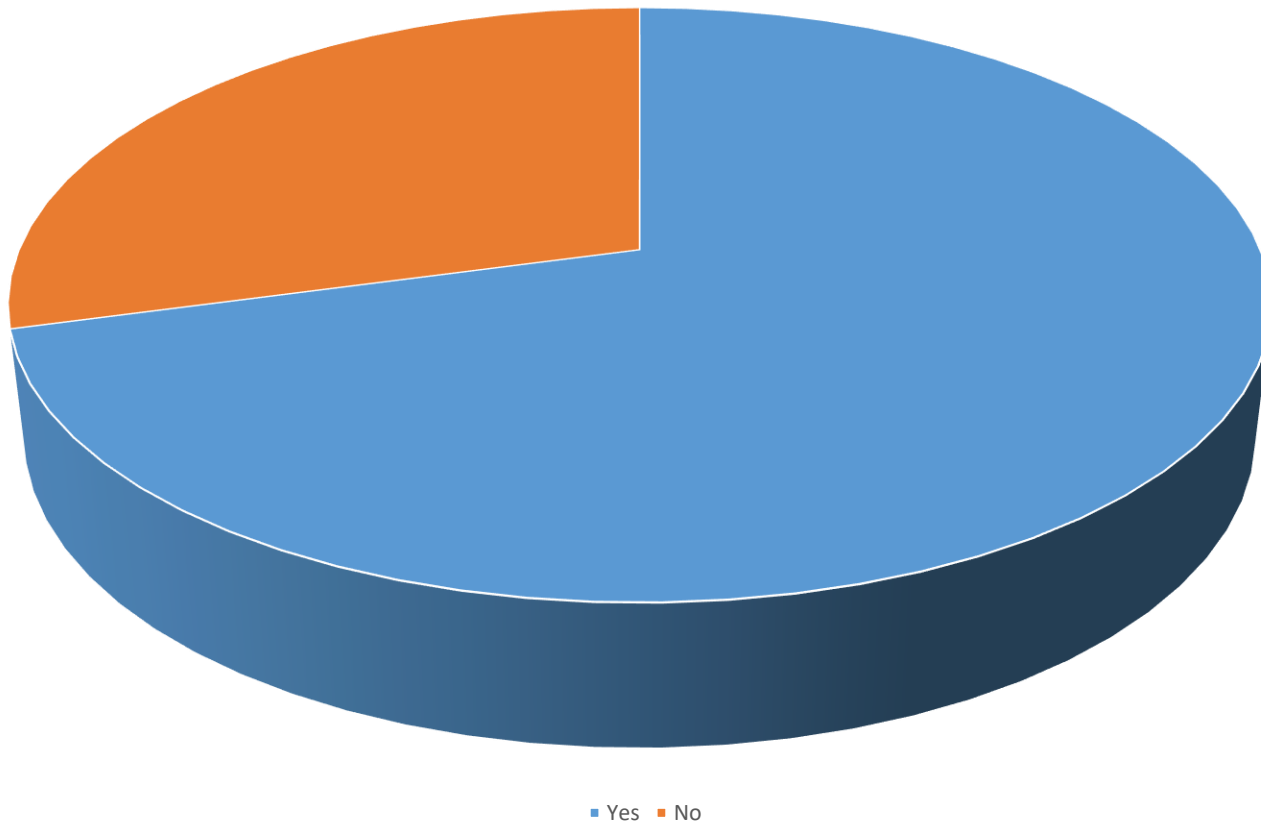


Increased use of informal routes



Women Traders: Financial Status

Women with Business Loan



Impact - border closure/export ban.



Displacement- Kasarani



Over 300 women
traders
displaced



Increase in SGBV

- A Ugandan woman small scale cross border trader from Busia border aged 38 was crossing the border illegally using porous routes with a small consignment of tomatoes worth Ugx 130,000/- at 5am,
- Meets three men who sexually assault, in the process she loses her goods
- She seeks help at the womens resource centre Busia and thereafter at the health centre to test for HIV test and get counselling
- She is too scared to file a case at the police for fear that her husband will get to know and divorce her

Women's voices..

- **“We are no longer saving like we used to do before. We are focusing on food, we are like birds—we don’t store anything away”.**
- **“It becomes frustrating when there is no food and couples fight even over something as basic as salt”.**
- **“Children are not in school and there is an increase in teenage pregnancy. Some are being lured into sex by a chapatti, worth Ush1,000 [\$0.27]”**
- **“Many women have reverted back to commercial sex. What can they do? There are many truck drivers who can stay for up to 3weeks. Women are lured in exchange for rent payment and other supplies, and this is risky because they can be infected with this coronavirus.”**

The Opportunity

- Rebuilding Trader Capacity/Economic Resilience
- Advocacy and Dialogue
- Data and Analysis
- Facilitate Safe Trade
- Leverage Technology- Digital Trade
- Strengthening domestic and regional networks/Cooperatives



Nicholas Nesbitt
Chairperson, EABC
@nnesbitt

Betty Maina
CS, Trade & Industry
Kenya
@maina_betty

Adan Mohamed
CS, EAC Affairs Kenya
@AdanMohamedCS

Charles Obbo
Founder, Africapedia
@cobbo3

Special Guest: Mukhisa Kituyi
DG, UNCTAD
@UNCTADKituyi

Moderator: Frank Matsaert
CEO, TMEA
@FrankMatsaert

Soraya Hakuziyaremye
Minister Trade & Industry
Rwanda
@SorayaMHLive

Hon. Sheila Kawamara
Executive Dir, EASSI
@SheilaKawamara

06 APR

TWITTER CHAT
**Impacts of COVID-19 and
Proposed Interventions in Eastern
African Trade**

Join the discussion and contribute to this important
topic!

@TradeMarkEastA #EATradePostCOVID19

www.trademarkkea.com

Thank you Merci Gracias
Gracias Murakoze
Thank you
Merci Murakoze
Murakoze
Thank you Gracias



ASANTE
SANA