



# PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS: THE UGANDA CASE

Presented by

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# INTRODUCTION

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- Covid-19 has affected 15m learners and 538,000 teachers in Uganda
- All learners and teachers are at home since 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020
- Learners and teachers are both anxious to go back to school
- Both parents and teachers are anxious but uncertain and skeptical
- Amidst uncertainty, opening of schools for candidate classes is planned for July 2020

# **Effect of Covid-19 on Teachers**

- Teachers are tired of being at home without work
- Teachers are anxious to get back to work but also scared
- They are worried about the safety of schools and learners
- Teachers are worried of syllabus coverage given the lost time
- They are worried about the work-load ahead of them

## **Effect of Covid-19 on Teachers (Cont.)**

- Some are worried of job loss, especially those in private schools
- Some have no salaries already and are frustrated
- Teachers are challenged by new teaching methods required
- They are worried about their competence in ICT and new technologies
- They are worried of their own children as parents

# **The Need for Psycho-Social Support**

- Need for recognition of their challenges
- Need for assurance and support
- Need for clarity of the future of Covid-19 and its effects
- Need for certainty of work and safety
- Need to prepare them to support learners

# **Strategies to support Teachers**

- Training in skills and knowledge for teaching in crisis situations
- Provide a safe and supportive environment for their work
- Involve teachers in planning for re-opening of schools
- Involve teachers in planning workload ahead
- Train teachers in basic ICT and remote teaching and learning skills

# **Strategies to support Teachers (Cont.)**

- Scheming and planning together for professional support
- Promote co-teaching and team-teaching
- Promote peer social support among teachers
- Create whatsapp platforms, group activities, and social interaction Opportunities
- Designate peer support focal points

# **CONCLUSION**

Teachers are a critical force in preparation for resumption of normal schooling. They have been challenged under this crisis of Covid-19, and they need support to enable effective recovery of schooling system.

**THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE**