

## **The gendered impact of COVID-19**

The COVID-19 pandemic has made evident society's reliance on women both on the front lines and at home, while simultaneously exposing existing structural inequalities across every sphere, from health to the economy, security to social protection.

In times of crisis, when resources are strained and institutional capacity is limited, vulnerable groups such as women face disproportionate impacts with far reaching consequences threatening their hard-fought gains for rights.

The COVID-19 response and recovery provide us with an opportunity to reset our economy and fix some of the inequities and unfairness built into the current structure of our economies and societies, but the measures being considered and implemented as part of the recovery efforts must not exacerbate the existing gender inequalities but instead should aim to ensure a more equal outcome for women.

Responding to the pandemic is not just about rectifying long-standing inequalities, but also about building a resilient world in the interest of everyone with women at the center of recovery.

For this reason, the UNI World Women's Committee calls on all governments to ensure that the gendered impact of COVID-19 is reflected in all recovery measures and policies, with particular emphasis on the following priorities:

- Making sure that gender-based violence, including domestic violence is mitigated and reduced
- Social protection and economic stimulus packages serve women and other vulnerable groups
- People support and practice equal sharing of care work
- Promotion of safe and healthy working environments for all
- Women are part of the COVID-19 response planning and decision making
- Data and coordination mechanisms include gender perspectives