Women and Ageing – A Global Conversation

Presenters:

Ms. Irene Hoskins, Consultant, International Affairs and Aging, United States

Ms. Ruth Marks, Director of Older People's Services, Reach/Seren Housing Group, United Kingdom

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Workshop:

The face of women globally is a multifaceted, multidimensional canvas that is symbolic through the ages, cultures, rituals and roles.

In the last two decade years initiatives around the world have responded to and in some small way, raised awareness of the issues relating specifically to women, their health and socio-economic status, their powerful role in family and society, their vulnerability and frailty and their fearless voice.

Now more than ever, as the world continues to experience the impact of population ageing, the focus on women – particularly older women – is at the forefront of policy dialogue.

Without doubt the status of women has vastly improved in recent times however the challenges experienced by women decades ago are still very prominent, particularly in developing countries where the roles of women and gender inequalities are pronounced.

It is increasingly important to apply the life course theory lens to the development of policies and programs moving forward to eradicate gender inequality in all generations. This workshop seeks to review and acknowledge the achievements of women to date,

the inequalities and gaps that still exist on a policy and program level, and better understand as to why the mainstreaming of ageing and gender must be interlinked to effectively and sufficiently recognize the critical role of older women.

At the end of the workshop, participants should be able to take away:

- Perspectives from the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, and Mauritius
- Knowledge of policy and program gaps
- How to advance the discussion on gender and ageing – with a focus on older women