

Title of the Side Event: Workplace Resilience:” Prioritizing Mental Health, Combating Violence, and Reducing Substance Misuse for Transformed, Safer, Sustainable Communities”

Organizers & Partners:

- Voice Life Health Organization (Lead Organizer)
- Uganda Parliamentary Forum on Mental Health (UPFMH)
- Uganda Alcohol Policy Alliance (UAPA)
- Ministry of Health (MoH) MHPSSP
- Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development (MGLSD)

Speakers & Panelists:

- Ms Joanita Kiwanuka Nakiwala - Executive Director, Voice Life Health Organization
- Mrs Patience Tusiime Namanya- (MGLSD)
- Ms Daphine Namwero - (UAPA)
- Mr Yunusu Ssengooba- (WISE)
- Mr Ivan Musenero - Occupational Therapist and Mr Benard Ngooboka -Testimonial from a Community Advocate/Survivor

Thematic Focus & Contribution to the Regional Forum : This side event explores how workplace mental health interventions, violence prevention, and substance misuse reduction contribute to safer, sustainable communities. It aligns with SDGs 3, 5, 8, and 16, emphasizing the link between workplace resilience, economic productivity, and public health.

Objectives:

1. Raise awareness of workplace mental health challenges and their impact.
2. Promote policy engagement for mental health-friendly workplaces.
3. Showcase best practices in trauma-informed approaches and prevention.
4. Foster collaboration between government, civil society, and industry.

Expected Outcomes:

- Policy recommendations for mental health in workplaces, Increased awareness and advocacy for mental health and safety in professional environments and Strengthened advocacy partnerships.
- Increased stakeholder commitment to workplace well-being and Practical solutions for integrating mental health into work environments.

Why This Event?

This session will contribute to the forum’s deliberations by offering practical solutions to workforce well-being, ultimately accelerating SDG implementation. It will provide concrete, scalable recommendations for integrating workplace mental health and violence prevention into national, economic and social policies.

