Impact of COVID-19 on the Demographic Dividend in Africa

17% Africa percentage of global population

2.5% Africa percentage of global reported COVID-19 cases

2.8% Africa percentage of global reported COVID-19 death cases

COVID-19 is a threat to Africa’s Demographic Dividend

The Demographic Dividend is the economic benefit arising from a significant increase in the ratio of working-age adults relative to dependents, accompanied by strategic investments in human capital development and measures that spur growth of jobs and inclusive development.

Key drivers of the Demographic Dividend under threat by COVID-19

Health
Disruptions to sexual and reproductive health services leading to a rise in teenage & unintended pregnancies

Education
5.3 million in sub saharan Africa at risk of not returning to school (UNECA, 2020)

Inequality
Deepening inequalities further disadvantaging youth, women, rural and poor urban communities

Employment & Livelihoods
Up to 19 million could lose their livelihoods & 29 million pushed into poverty (UNESCO, 2020)