

Women Leading The Crisis Series

With the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, effective leadership has never been more important. From navigating economic uncertainty to possible food insecurity to assuring the health and wellbeing of those you lead, strengthening the skills of crisis leadership are imperative to success. The Women Leading the Crisis Series will offer just-in-time interactive webinars aimed at capacitating women leaders around the world to meet the unique demands of leading in the midst of a global crisis, and not only survive, but thrive.

AWARD's Women Leading The Crisis Series is comprised of three webinars, each with the focus of building an online learning community of women leaders and equipping them with the specific skills required to lean into effective crisis leadership.

What?

Leveraging current literature and crisis leadership modules designed for clients like CAADP, the AU, the World Bank, and USAID, SERIES' topics will include:

- **Opening the Series: Welcome, Orientation, and Building a Strong Virtual Learning Community of Women Leaders:** The Series will ensure that a virtual cohort of women leaders establish a vibrant network aimed at supporting one another, growing, and developing together, and taking learning into the future as the crisis continues to unfold.
- **Women Leaders in a Time of Crisis: What Success Looks Like:** Women leaders around the world have already proven to navigate the crisis more effectively with better human and business results than a number of their male counterparts. Looking at the unique talents and strengths of women leaders and how they effectively serve this moment will offer instructive insights and learnings to women leaders everywhere.
- **The Importance of Mindset for Leading in Crisis:** Drawing on the work of Dr. Carol Dweck from Stanford, participants will explore the neuroscience of "mindset" and look at what this moment calls for, both for followers and leaders, in regards to reframing for a growth mindset to lead the crisis as positively and productively as possible.
- **Leading the Crisis Rather Than Managing the Response:** Building on Harvard professor Dr. John Kotter's work on the distinct functions of leading and managing, this module looks at emerging research which suggests the critical importance of avoiding key traps of crisis leadership such as taking the narrow view, overcentralizing the response, being seduced by management and forgetting the human factor.



- **Leadership Styles and the Behaviors that Equip Leaders to Navigate Crises Successfully:** Utilizing the Emotional Intelligence work of Dr. Daniel Goleman and his six styles of leadership, this session aims to identify which styles are best suited for crisis leadership and examines what the current literature highlights the key behaviors of effective crisis leaders, particularly vis-à-vis Goleman's leadership styles.
- **Leading Remote Teams Effectively: Leading Others in a Virtual World:** The COVID-19 crisis has demanded a pivot in teaming and work heretofore unseen; within weeks, teams were stood up on electronic platforms and virtual teaming became the order of the day. While remote teaming is nothing new, remote teaming as the norm and in the midst of a global crisis is. This module will examine what the research suggests is key for leaders to do to ensure strengthened team cohesion, ongoing clarity of work programs, and providing support to enable the health and wellbeing of colleagues and peers in a virtual workspace.
- **Bringing the Learning Together: Closing the Course:** The Series will close with women leaders having a chance to synthesize all they have learned and to engage in peer coaching on a particular crisis leadership topic of their choosing. Likewise, the cohort of women leaders participating will make agreements to ensure this network of support continues after the Series is finished, thereby ensuring ongoing support and learning in the weeks and months ahead.

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Who?

Women currently in leadership roles will be welcome to take the course. This Series may be of particular interest to alumna of AWARD Women's Leadership and Management Course (WLMC) and/or AWARD's Advanced Women's Leadership and Management Course, as there will be minimal content duplication and a focus on current literature regarding women leading the crisis and crisis management overall.

How?

The Series will be hosted on the RingCentral/Zoom platform. Webinar participants will be asked to download the appropriate app and to participate on either a laptop or iPad in order to interactively take part in each session. Smart devices will not be appropriate, as functionality is limited and participants could not fully engage in session activities. Technical support will be made available throughout the duration of the Series.

Anything Else I Should Know?

Yes. By joining the **Women Leading The Crisis Series**, you will be committing to attend all three webinars and completing whatever pre-work or homework is assigned throughout the duration of the course.

We strongly advise that you attend each webinar as you will be part of a learning community that will be relying upon your presence, your input, and your work. Therefore, participants should not miss a module unless it is under extreme circumstances. Webinars will be recorded, and should you miss a session, you will be expected to watch the recording of the missed module and make-up any work necessary to catch-up with your cohort.

When?

September 29 – October 16, 2020

Cost?

This three-week series will cost USD 2500 per person

Learning Style

Seven webinars will be offered over the course of three weeks, with two or three sessions a week.

Webinars will be no longer than three hours and will have varied offerings to maximize time zone differences, building cohorts of women leaders across regions.

Contact

To register contact Pauline Bomett, Senior Manager, Leadership and Training.

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About AWARD

African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) is working toward inclusive, agriculture-driven prosperity for the African continent by strengthening the production and dissemination of more gender-responsive agricultural research and innovation. We invest in African scientists, research institutions, and agribusinesses so that they can deliver agricultural innovations that better respond to the needs and priorities of a diversity of women and men across Africa's agricultural value chains.

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