Globally, women are less likely to access skills development and to find a job. Women face ‘gender biases in occupational choices; barriers to education and training, especially in rural and informal economies; sociocultural and economic constraints; and low representation of women in STEM subjects’. This inequity has been further exacerbated by COVID 19, as women and girls shoulder the main responsibility for caring for out-of-school children and due to a gender digital divide.

To overcome the barriers and biases, we need innovative solutions. COL is bringing together three women to briefly present global, institutional, and individual perspectives. Please join us to listen to their views and participate in a live discussion.

**Date & Time:**
**Tuesday, 3 November 2020**
8:00 am (West Africa Time, Central European Time)

**Time Zone conversion link:**

**Moderator:** Ms Terry Neal
*Education Specialist, Technical and Vocational Skills Development, Commonwealth of Learning*

**Panelists:**

**Ms Nazrene Mannie,** the Executive Director of GAN Global, headquartered in Switzerland (gan-global.org) is a specialist in the field of social policy focusing on youth employment, future of work strategies and skills development. Nazrene works closely with organisations such as the Global Alliance for Youth, private sector companies and international development entities to drive forward the agenda for agile workforce development within the context of the future of work.

Dr Oluseun Elizabeth Popoola is a scientist and academic. She currently serves as Head of Department/Chief Lecturer, Department of Science Laboratory Technology, Yaba College of Technology, Nigeria, where she is also the Coordinator of the institution’s Women in Technical Education and Employment, (WITED), chapter. Oluseun is passionate about greater participation of women in STEM courses, governance and leadership.

**Ms Jumoke Olatunji** was one of five females out of 50 students studying Industrial Maintenance Engineering at Yaba College of Technology, Nigeria. Following that, she was one of two females selected for the apprenticeship program in Nestle Factory, Agbara. Following graduation, she was given a job as an engineer at Nestlé, where she has been working for a couple of years.