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Fighting the Inequality Pandemic: COVID-19 and Its Economic Impacts on Marginalised Worker Groups

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OVERVIEW

As the COVID-19 pandemic rages on, it continues to exacerbate pre-existing structural inequalities in the economy and society. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the pandemic's impact on jobs. All around the world, the COVID-19 crisis has disproportionately devastated vulnerable worker groups like women, youth, lesser-educated workers, and self-employed/contract workers. The situation is no different in Malaysia, with the pandemic and the ensuing movement restrictions creating the largest and most unequal jobs crisis the country has seen in decades.

This webinar seeks to explore the COVID-19 pandemic's starkly unequal economic impacts in Malaysia and investigate the deep-seated multifaceted inequalities that have been worsened by the pandemic. What can the latest jobs data tell us about how different worker groups are faring amid the unemployment crisis? How can policymakers alleviate these inequalities while building Malaysia's resilience to future crises? What are some policy measures that can propel the nation's workforce towards a more equal future of work?

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