



**PEPFAR**

U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

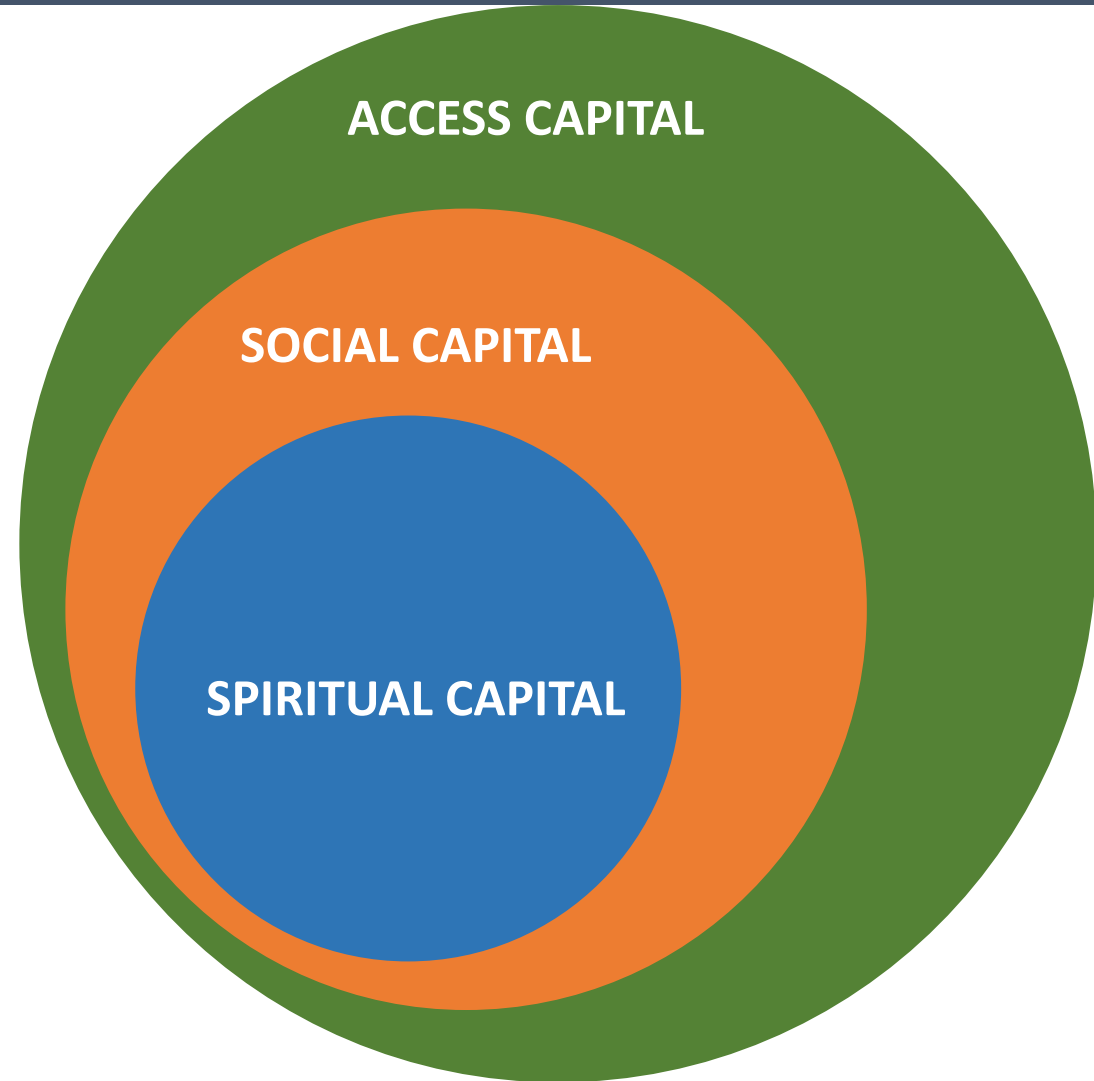
# PEPFAR Faith and Community Engagement: Leveraging Trust, Access, and Care to Sustain Epidemic Control and Advance Prevention

Susan Hillis, PhD, MS  
Senior Technical Advisor, PEPFAR  
Faith and Communities Initiatives

**19 YEARS OF SAVING LIVES THROUGH AMERICAN GENEROSITY AND PARTNERSHIPS**

# The Role of Faith and Community Leaders and Networks



*We know what works, but how can we get it to those who need it?*



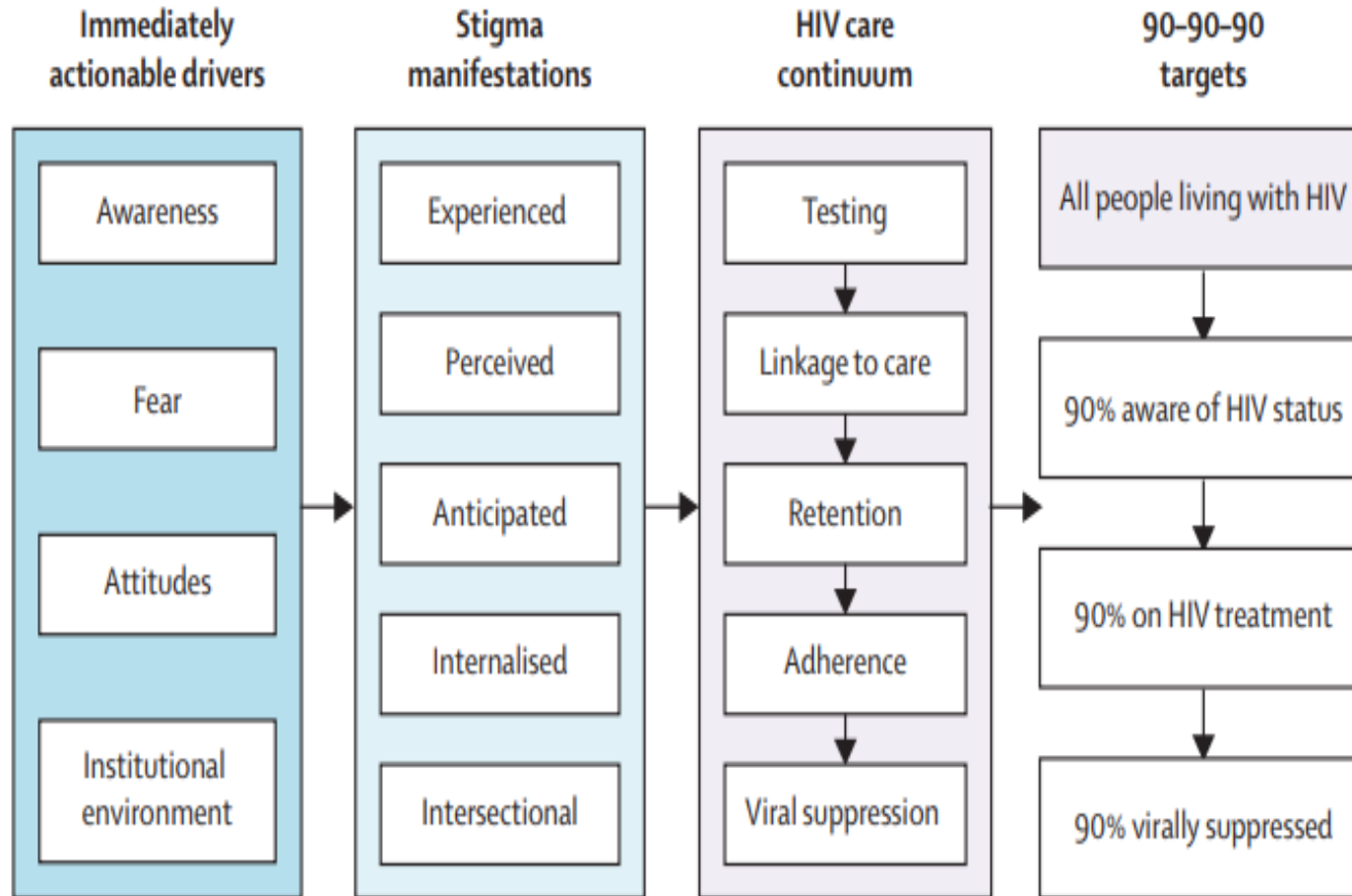
Palm, Selina & Eyber, Carola. (2019). Why Faith: Engaging the Mechanisms of Faith to End Violence against Children. Learning Brief.

# Stigma reduction: an essential ingredient to ending AIDS by 2030

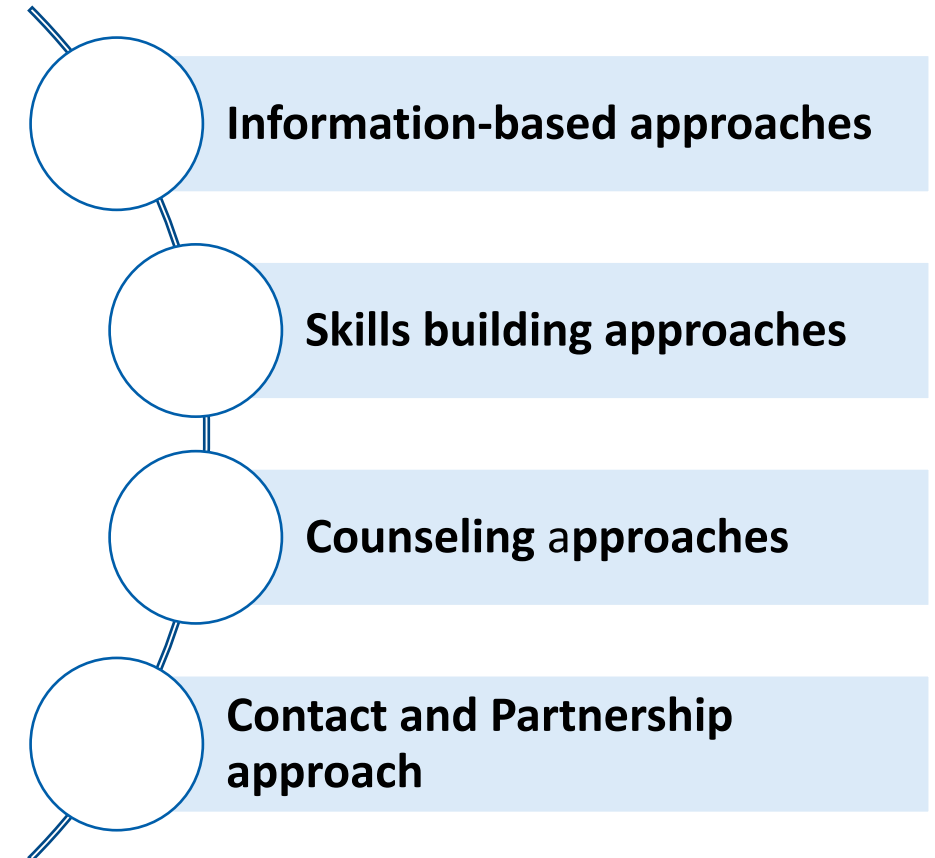
THE LANCET  
HIV

Laura Nyblade, PhD   • Pia Mingkwan, BA • Melissa A Stockton, PhD

## Links between Drivers, Stigma, HIV Care Continuum, and Targets



## PEPFAR FBO Partners Support Evidence-based Approaches to Reduce Stigma:-

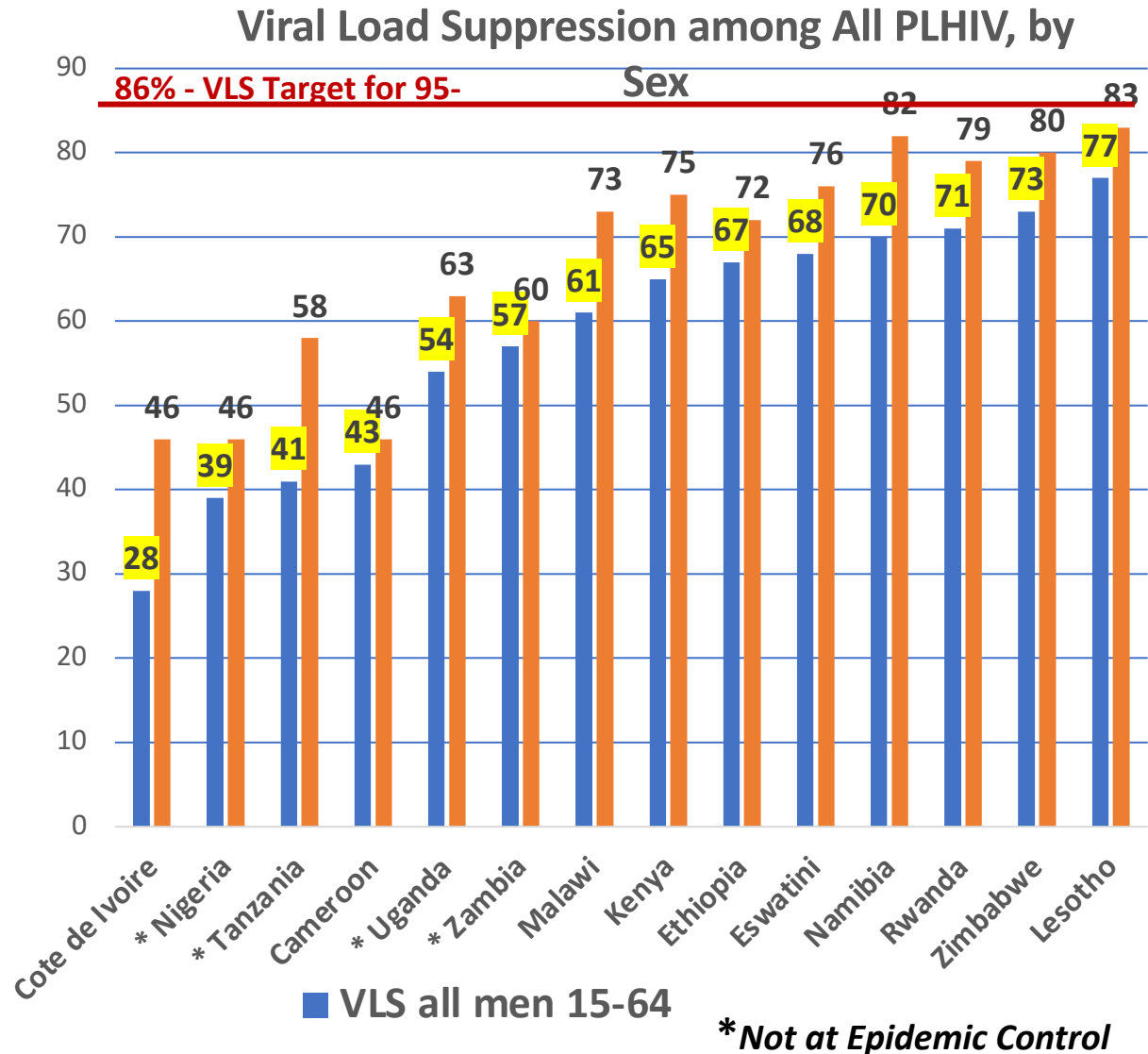
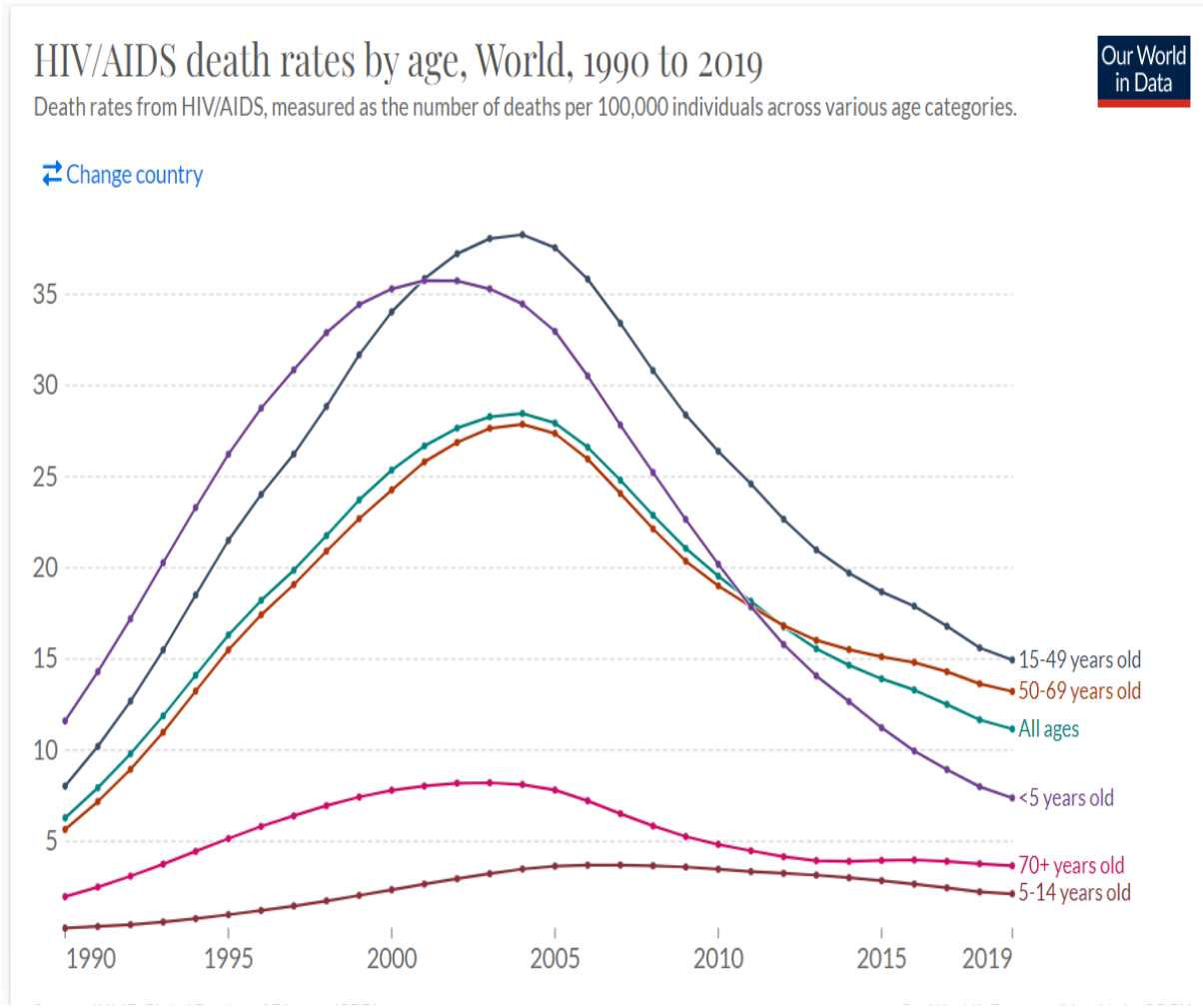


Nyblade et al. Lancet HIV 2021; 8: e106–113, Stigma reduction: an essential ingredient to ending AIDS by 2030



*PEOPLE:*  
*What do data  
indicate about the  
core challenges?*

# Gaps for People - Mortality Gaps in Adults and VLS Gaps in Men



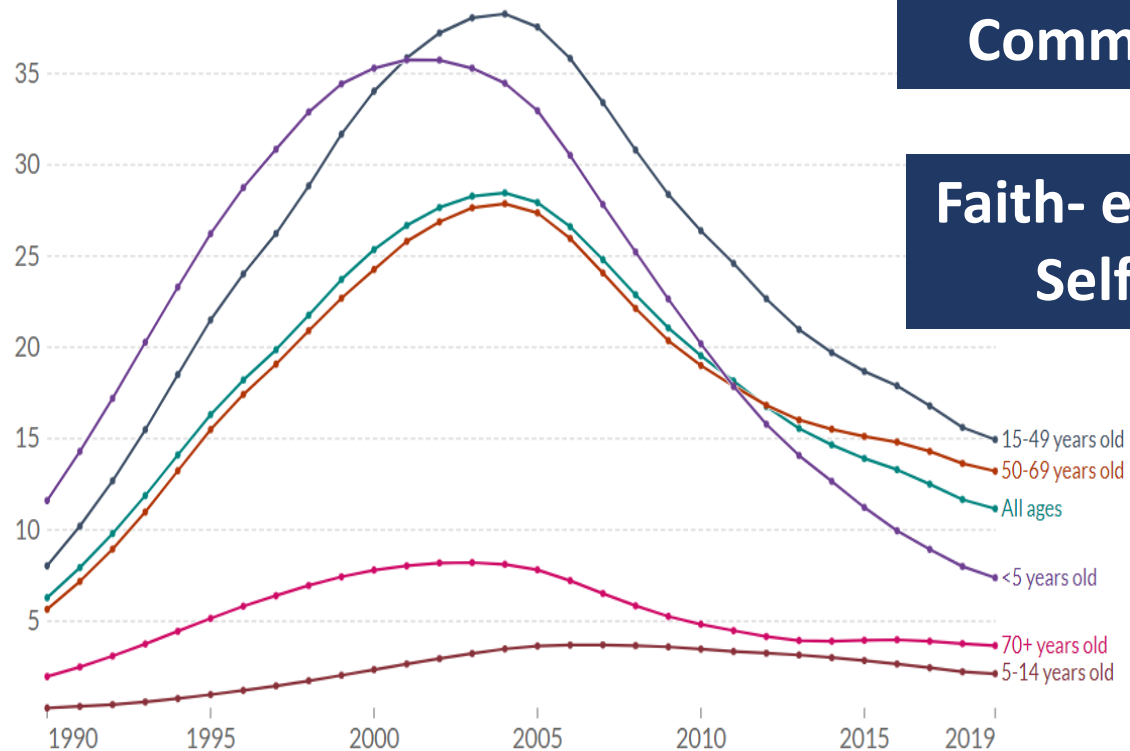
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# Solutions for People -- Programs and Partnerships Led by Trusted Community Leaders Close These Gaps (COP22)

HIV/AIDS death rates by age, World, 1990 to 2019  
 Death rates from HIV/AIDS, measured as the number of deaths per 100,000 individuals across various age categories.

Our World in Data

Change country

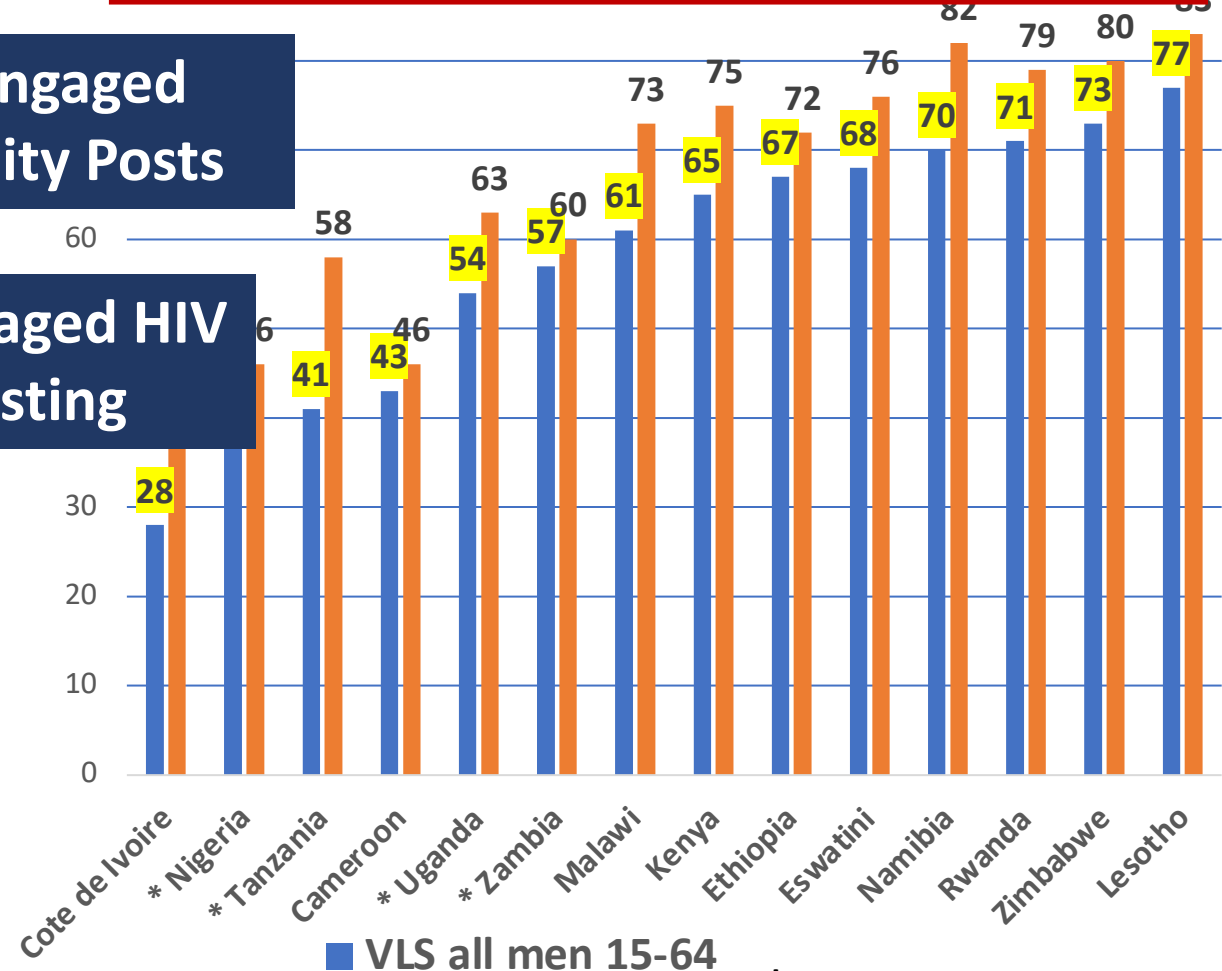


**Faith- engaged Community Posts**

**Faith- engaged HIV Self-testing**

Viral Load Suppression among All PLHIV, by Sex

86% - VLS Target for 95-



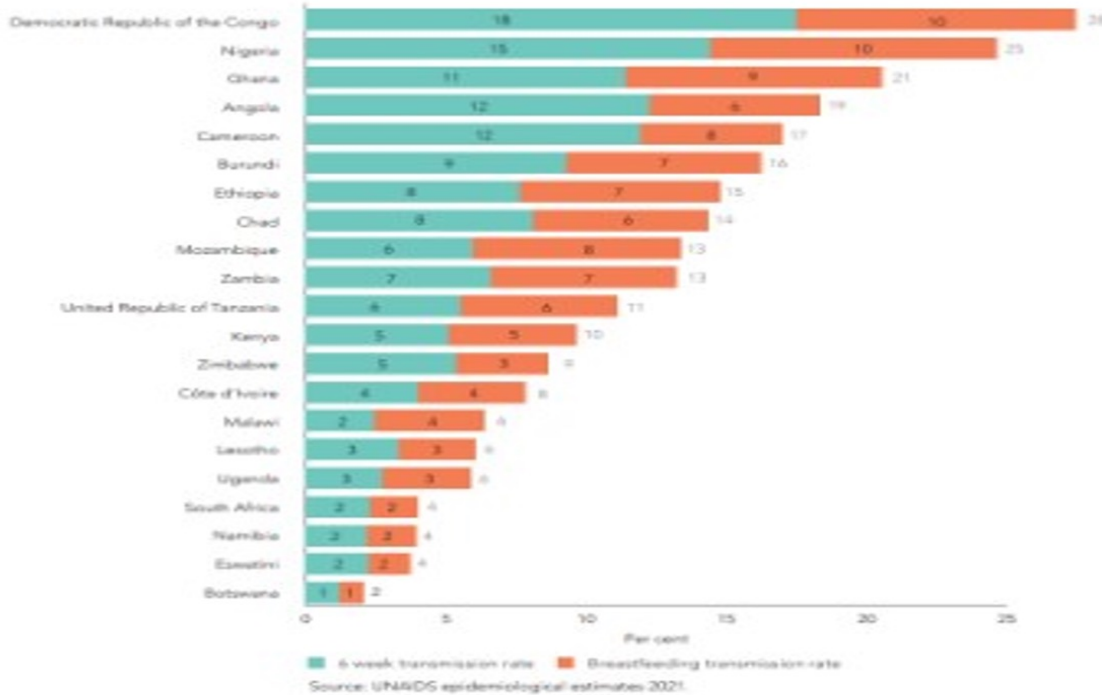
\* Not at Epidemic Control



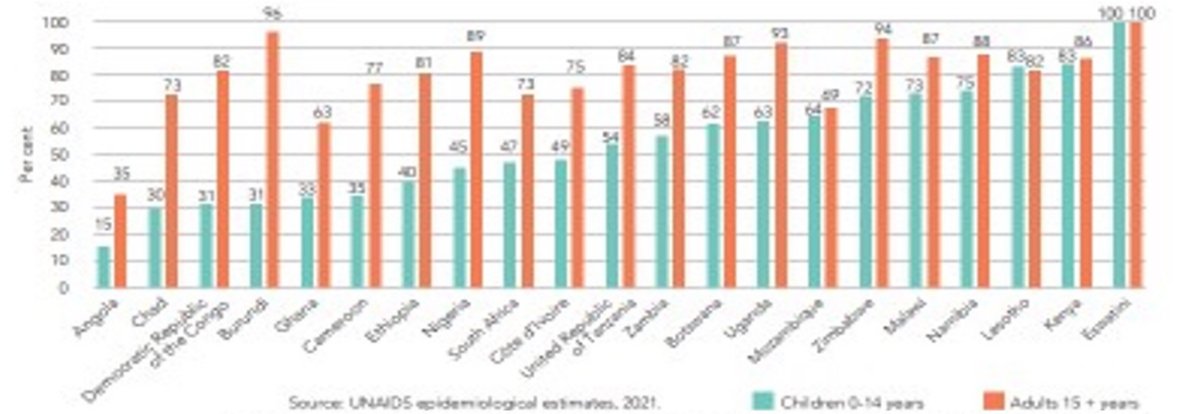
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# Gaps for Children: MTCT to Babies, and Children Lag behind Adults for Linkage in Most and VLS in Every Focus Country

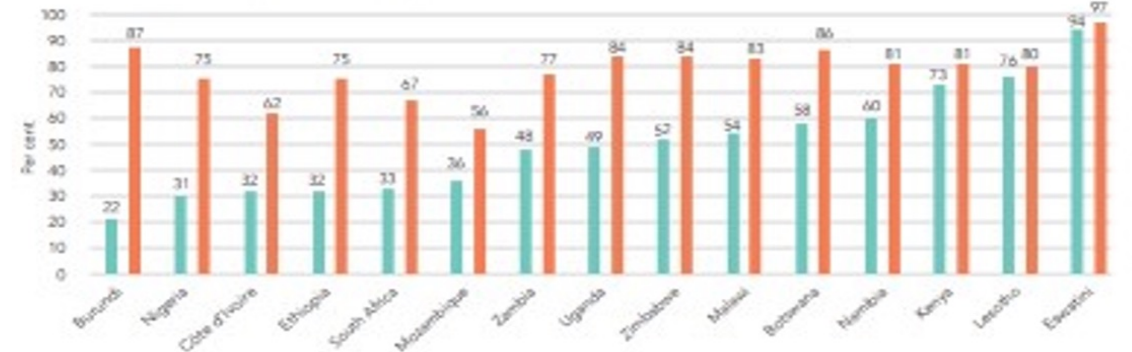
**Figure 3.** Mother-to-child transmission of HIV, by timing of transmission, focus countries, 2020



**Figure 10.** Percentage of people living with HIV receiving treatment among children and adults, focus countries, 2020

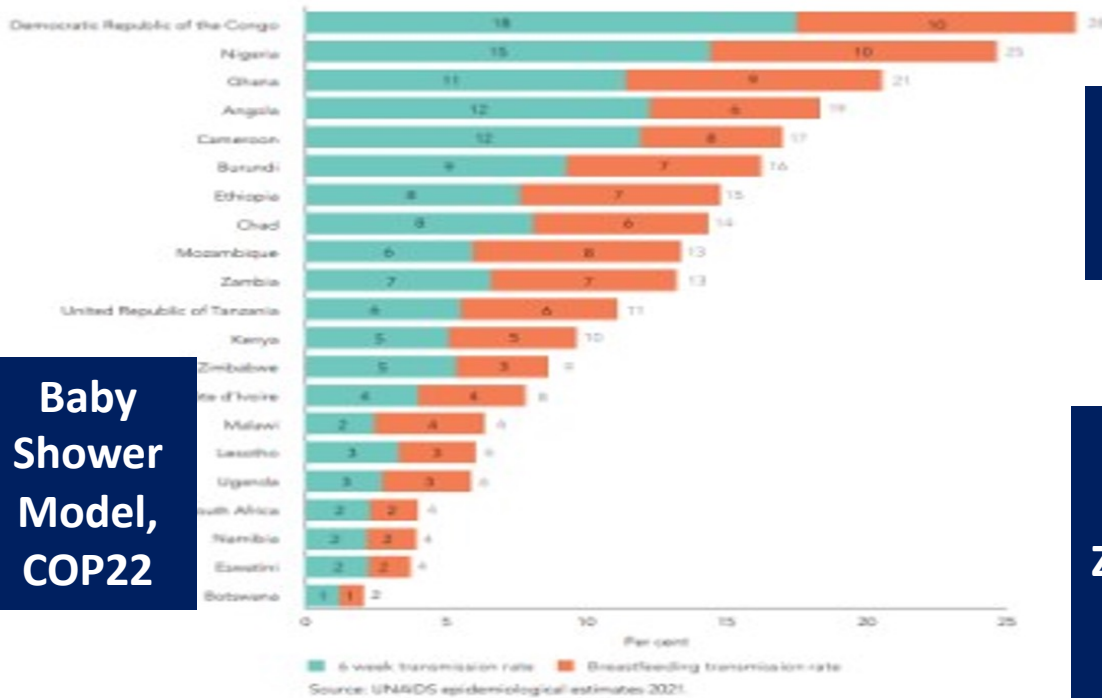


**Figure 15.** Percentage of children and adults living with HIV with suppressed viral loads, focus countries, 2020



# Solutions for Children: Programs and Partnerships Led by Trusted Community Leaders Close These Gaps (COP22)

**Figure 3.** Mother-to-child transmission of HIV, by timing of transmission, focus countries, 2020

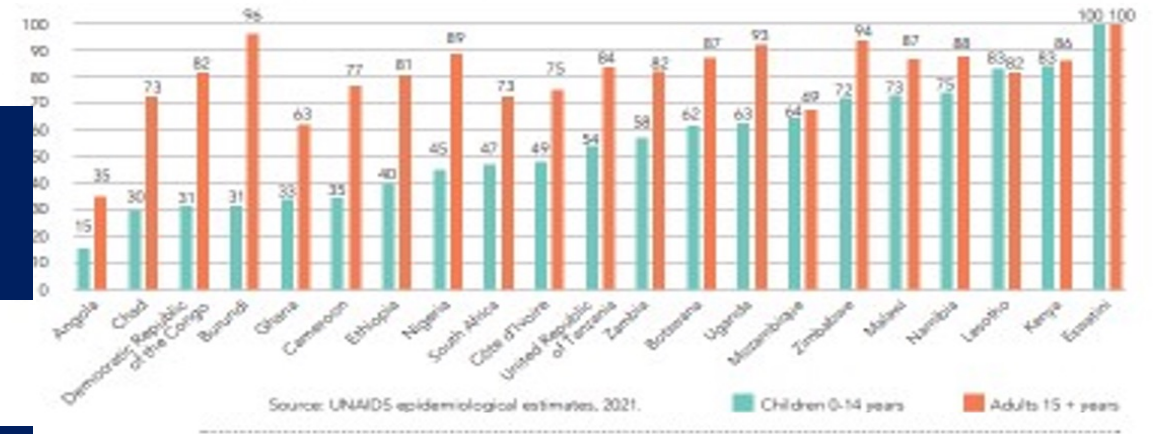


**Baby Shower Model, COP22**

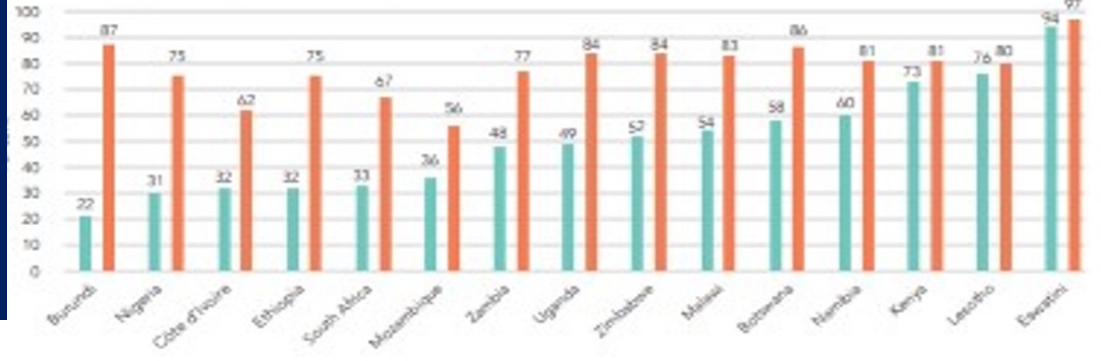
**The Vatican Initiative**

**Operation Triple Zero, CATS, Co-location Models COP22**

**Figure 10.** Percentage of people living with HIV receiving treatment among children and adults, focus countries, 2020



**Figure 15.** Percentage of children and adults living with HIV with suppressed viral loads, focus countries, 2020

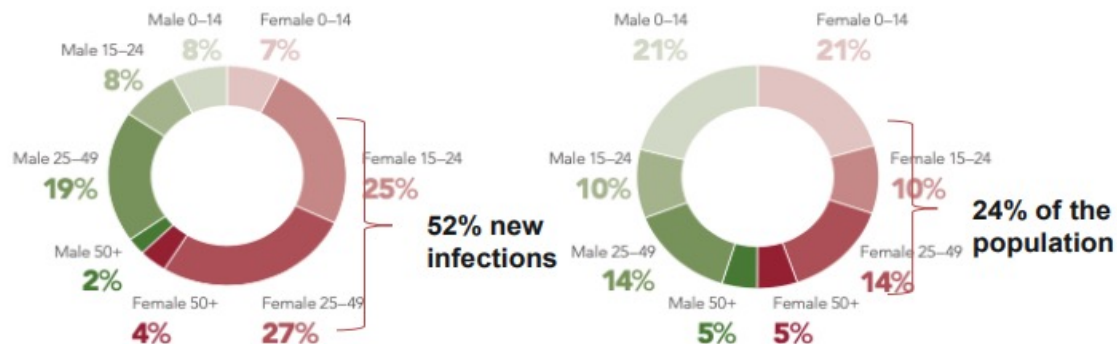




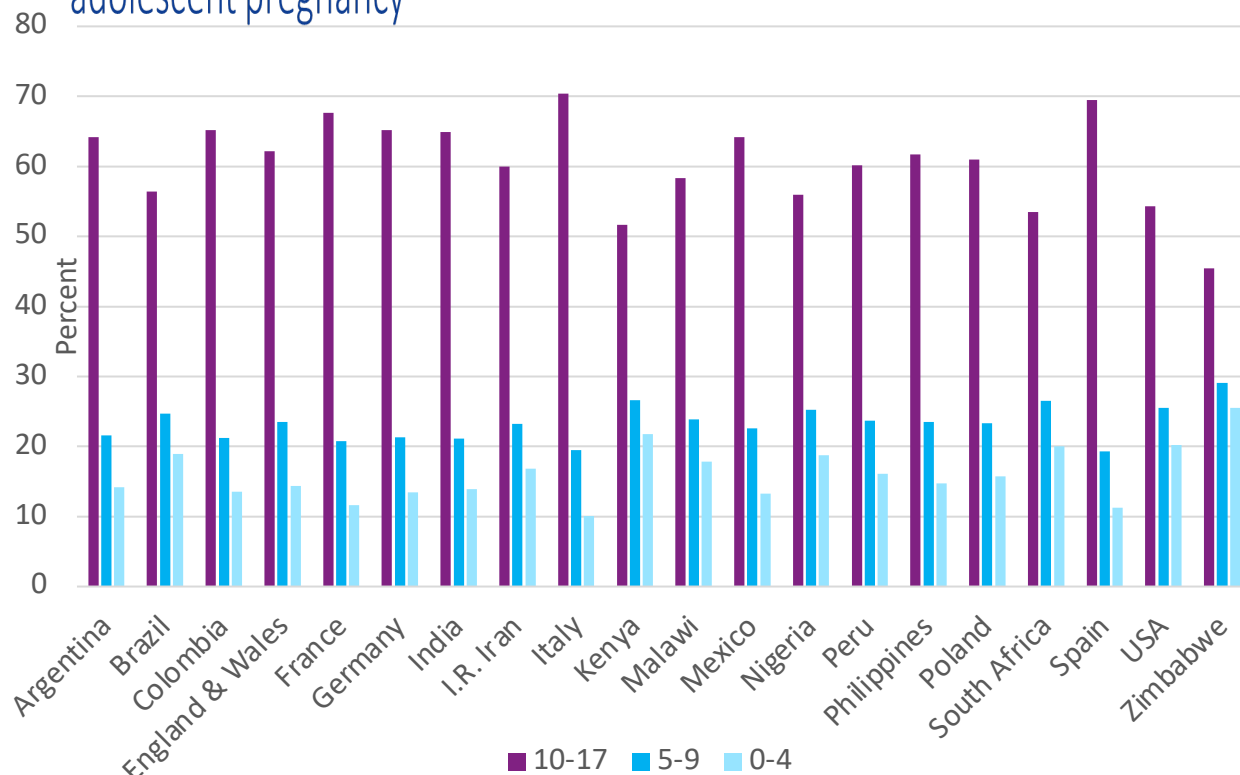
# Prevention Gaps in Epidemic Control and Global Health Security: AGYW and Children Newly Orphaned by COVID-19

New HIV infections, sub-Saharan Africa

Population distribution, sub-Saharan Africa



2 of every 3 COVID-19 orphans worldwide are adolescents, and therefore at increased risk of sexual violence, incident HIV, mental health problems, adolescent pregnancy



Imperial College London COVID-19 Orphanhood

Country: African Date: 2022-06-26

**African Orphanhood estimates: 2,105,000**  
(death of one or both parents)

**Estimates of loss of primary caregiver: 2,217,800**  
(death of one or both parents or death of custodial grandparents)

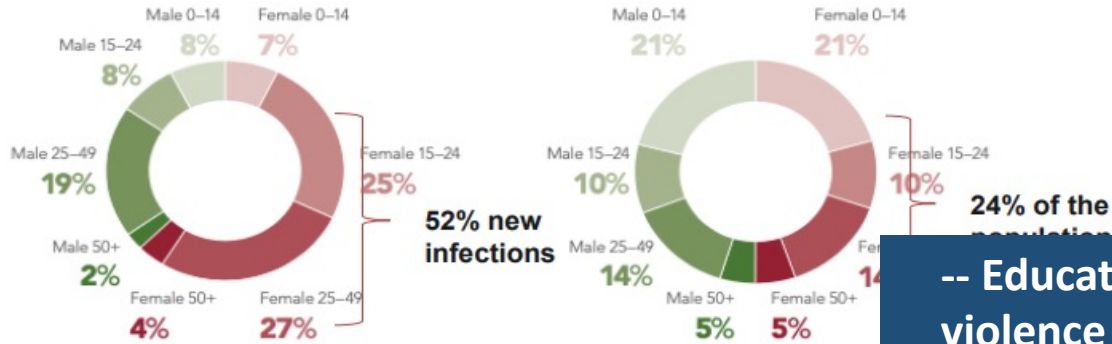
**Estimates of children losing primary or secondary caregivers: 2,500,700**  
(death of one or both parents, death of custodial grandparents, and/or death of other co-residing grandparents)

# Solutions for Prevention: Engaging Faith and Community Leaders as Influencers and Agents of Change

2 of every 3 COVID-19 orphans worldwide are adolescents, and therefore at increased risk of sexual violence, incident HIV, mental health problems, adolescent pregnancy

New HIV infections, sub-Saharan Africa

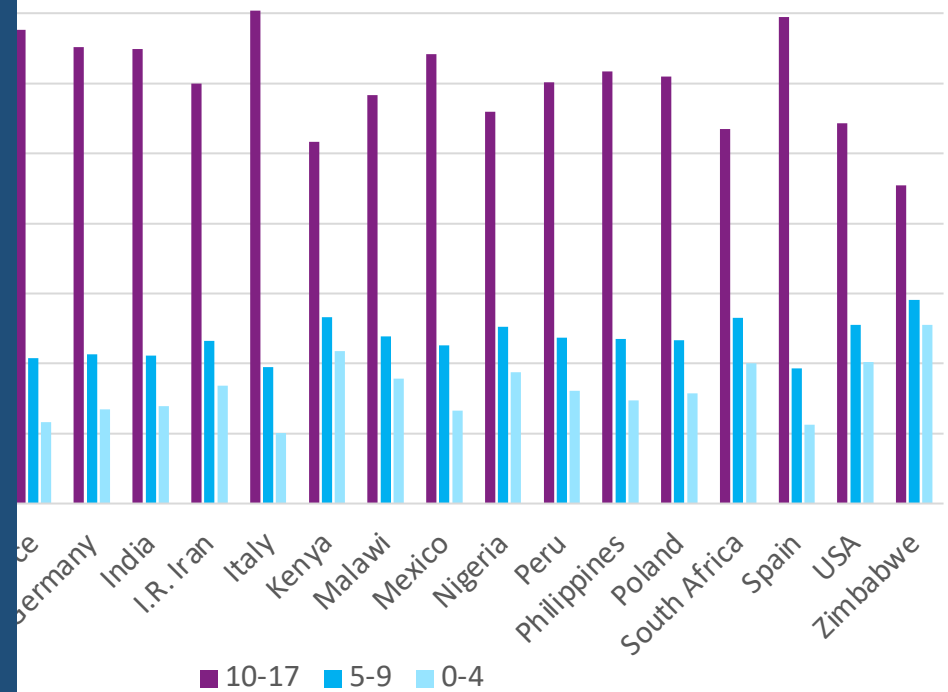
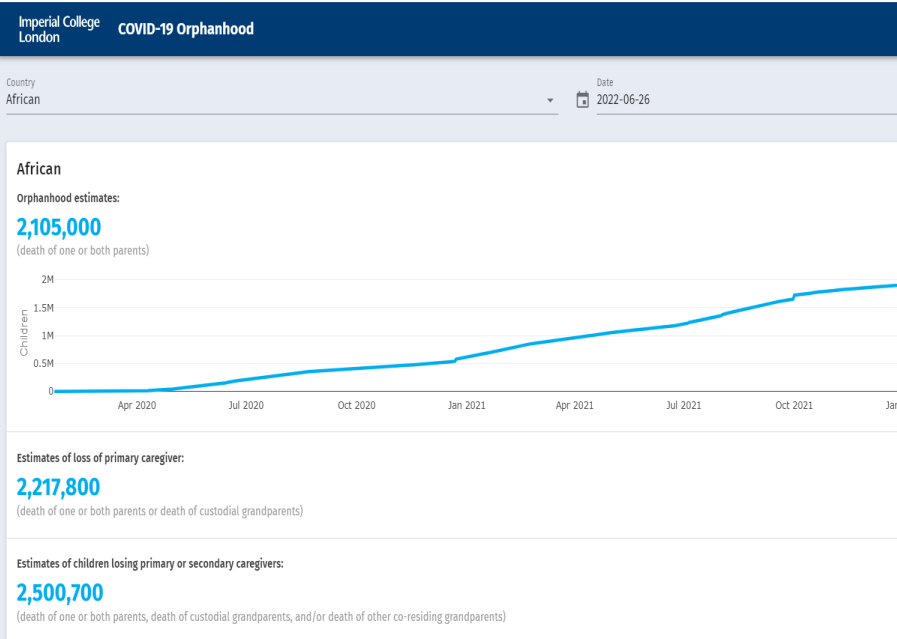
Population distribution, sub-Saharan Africa



-- Education about sexual violence against children for community leaders

-- Evidence-based interventions through faith and traditional structures to complement DREAMS and OVC activities

-- Child safeguarding policies for all partners



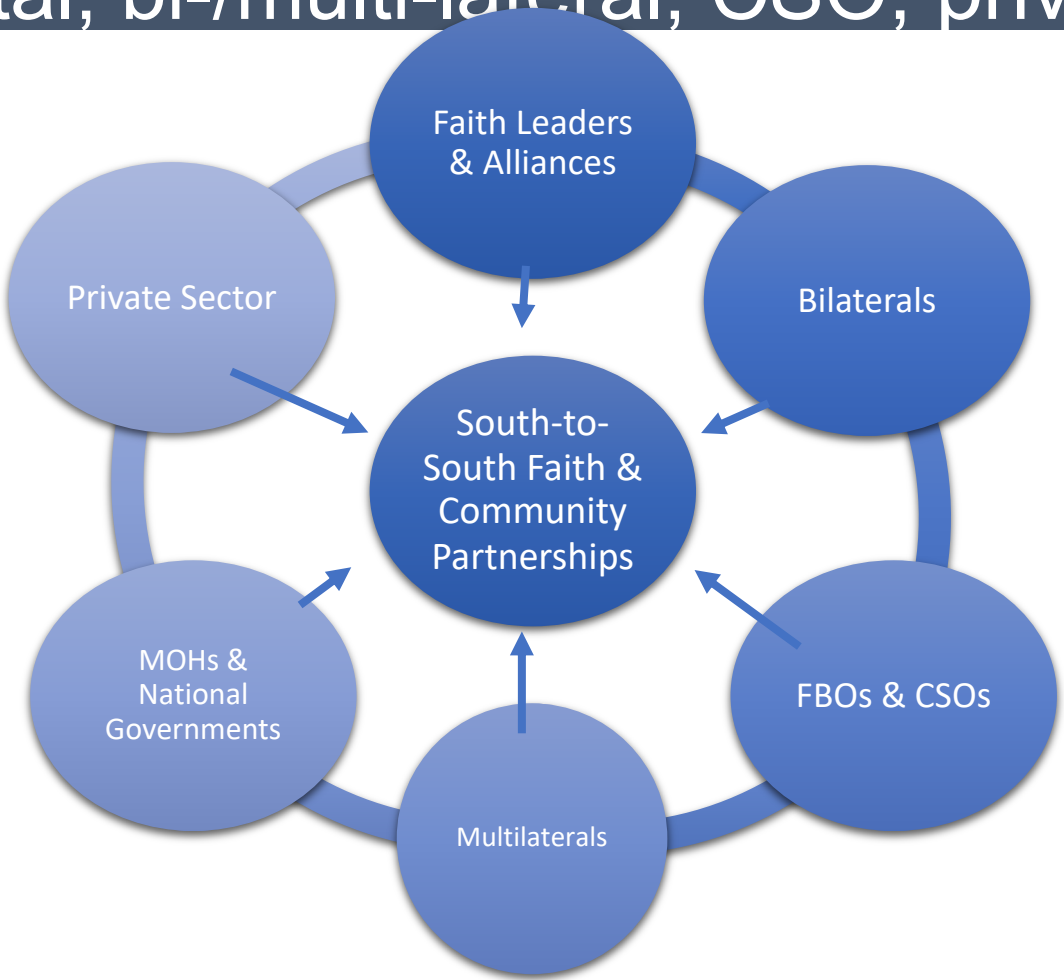


**PARTNERS:**  
*How do we work with  
multilaterals, donors,  
faith and community leaders,  
private sector, and  
beneficiaries?*

# South-to-South Learning Platform: Partnership of faith community leaders, governmental, bi-/multi-lateral, CSO, private partners



Dr. Esther Mombo  
Co-Chair



Dr. Peter Okaalet  
Co-Chair (the late)



# The Academic Consortium of UNAIDS-PEPFAR Partnership to Advance Paediatric HIV & TB, 2016 - 2022



## ROME PAEDIATRIC HIV & TB ACTION PLAN

# The Academic Consortium of UNAIDS - PEPFAR Partnership to Advance Paediatric HIV & TB: Rome Action Plan Stakeholders

Many of the action points of the Action Plan promote a **multi-sector approach, with greater coordination among partners.**

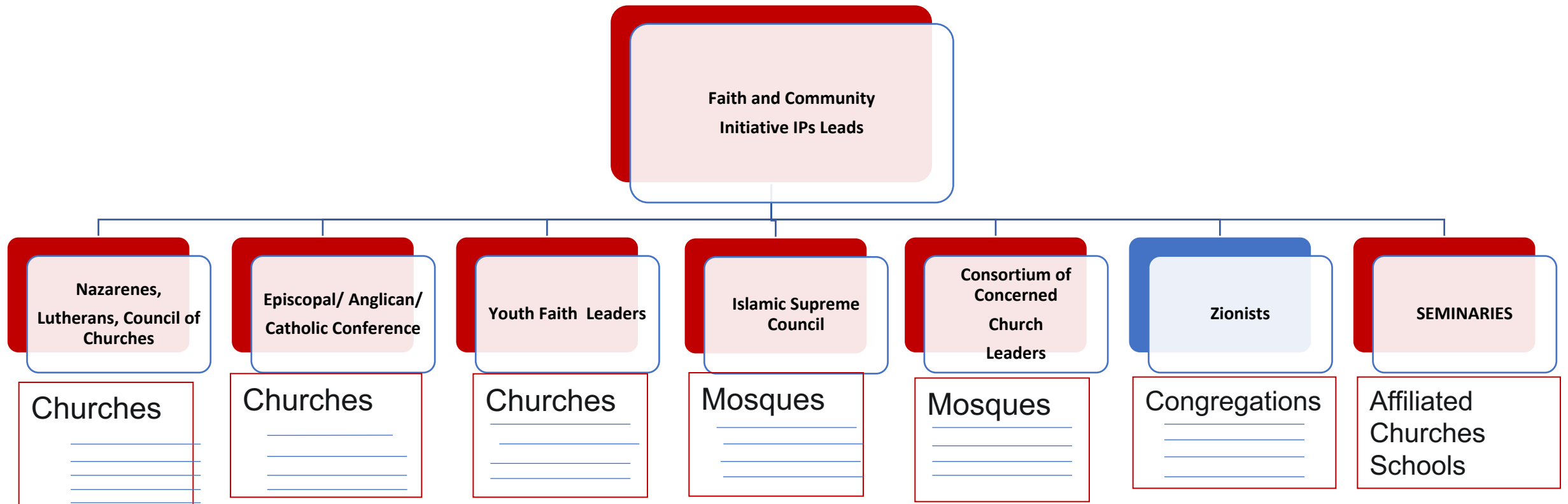
The partnership has set a new standard of what is achievable when stakeholders with shared values work **collaboratively**

## STAKEHOLDERS' COMMITMENTS

<u>Donors:</u>	Elma The Global Fund PEPFAR UNITAID
<u>Research Networks:</u>	EVA ICAP at Columbia University IMPAACT PENTA
<u>Regulatory:</u>	EMA SAHPRA USFDA WHO PQ
<u>UN &amp; International Orgs:</u>	AMF CHAI DNDi FIND KNCV MPP STBP / GDF The Union UNAIDS UNICEF WHO
<u>Pharmaceutical:</u>	Cipla Gilead Hetero Johnson&Johnson Lupin Macleods Microlabs MSD Otsuka Sanofi Viatrix ViiV
<u>Diagnostic:</u>	Abbott Cepheid Diagnostics for RW FujiFilm Hain Hologic Molbio OraSure Roche
<u>Implementing Partners:</u>	EGPAF GNP+
<u>FBOs:</u>	ACHAP CHA USA Caritas Congo Caritas Côte d'Ivoire CI Caritas Nigeria Caritas Zimbabwe CMMB CRS EDARP Mengo Hospital Mildmay Uganda MMI Nyumbani Sant'Egidio WCC-EAA ZACH
<u>Governments:</u>	DRC Kenya Mozambique South Africa Zimbabwe
<u>Catholic Church:</u>	Catholic Church
<u>Partnerships:</u>	GAP-f TPMAT <a href="https://www.paediatricivactionplan.org">https://www.paediatricivactionplan.org</a>
<u>All Stakeholders:</u>	All 2020 All 2018 All 2017

# Inter-Faith Community Coordination Platforms Link Programs and Partnerships to Sustain HIV Gains and Advance Global Health Security

**Disseminate *New Messages of Hope* in each Parent [Mother] Body**



# Leveraging Faith and Community Initiative Coordination Structure in COVID-19 to Advance Mitigation and Vaccination



## FAITH AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVE COMMUNICATION PROTOTYPES

On November 28, 2018, the United States government announced the investment of \$100 million, through PEPFAR, to address key gaps toward achieving HIV epidemic control and ensuring justice for children, including by leveraging the unique capacities and compassion of faith-based organizations and communities.

The Faith and Community Initiative seeks to:

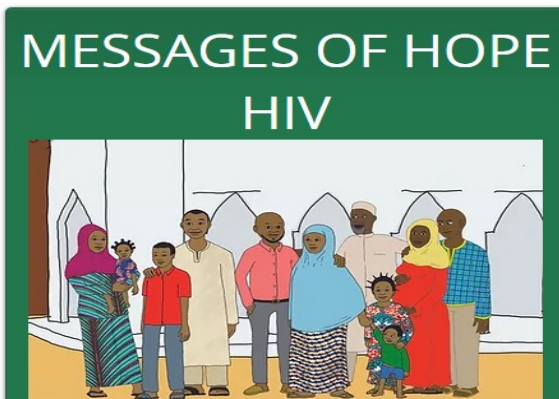
**1. Engage communities of faith to reach men and children with testing and services, understand the epidemic, and raise community awareness through:**

- Faith community structures; and
- Existing and additional FBO partners.

**2. Strengthen justice for children through:**

- Community leaders (e.g., faith, traditional, school, civic);
- Faith & traditional organizations/structures; and
- Justice sector, and those who work with the justice sector.

New Foundations of  
Hope Webinars





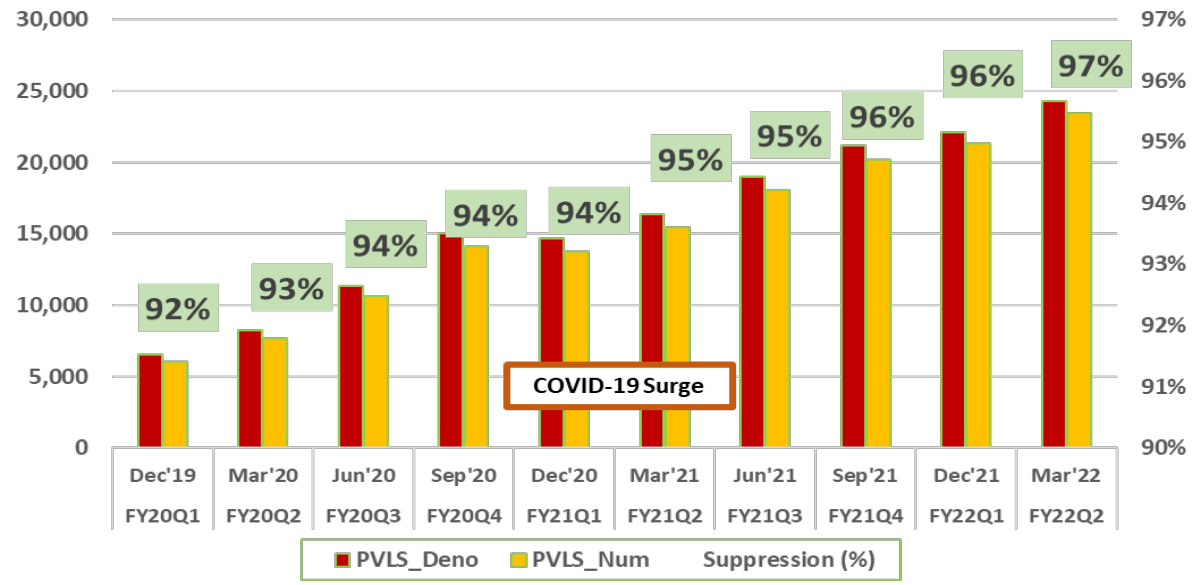
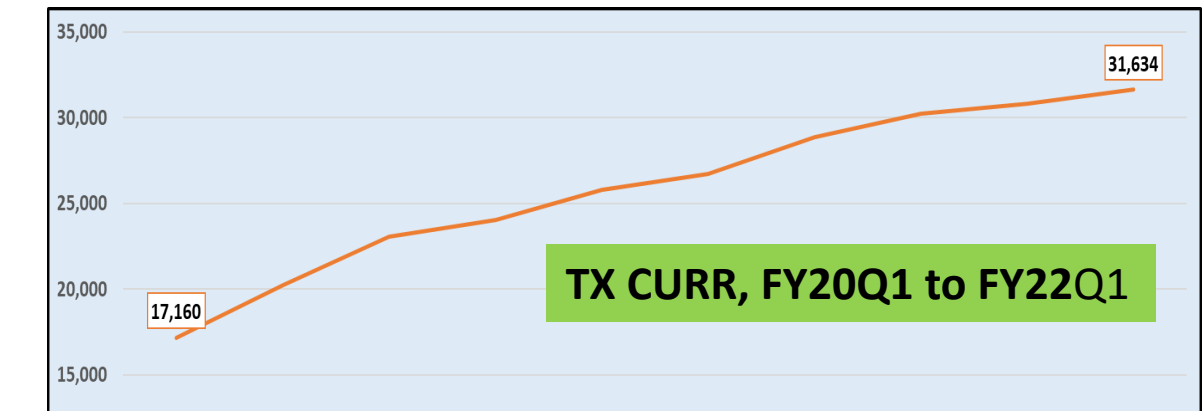
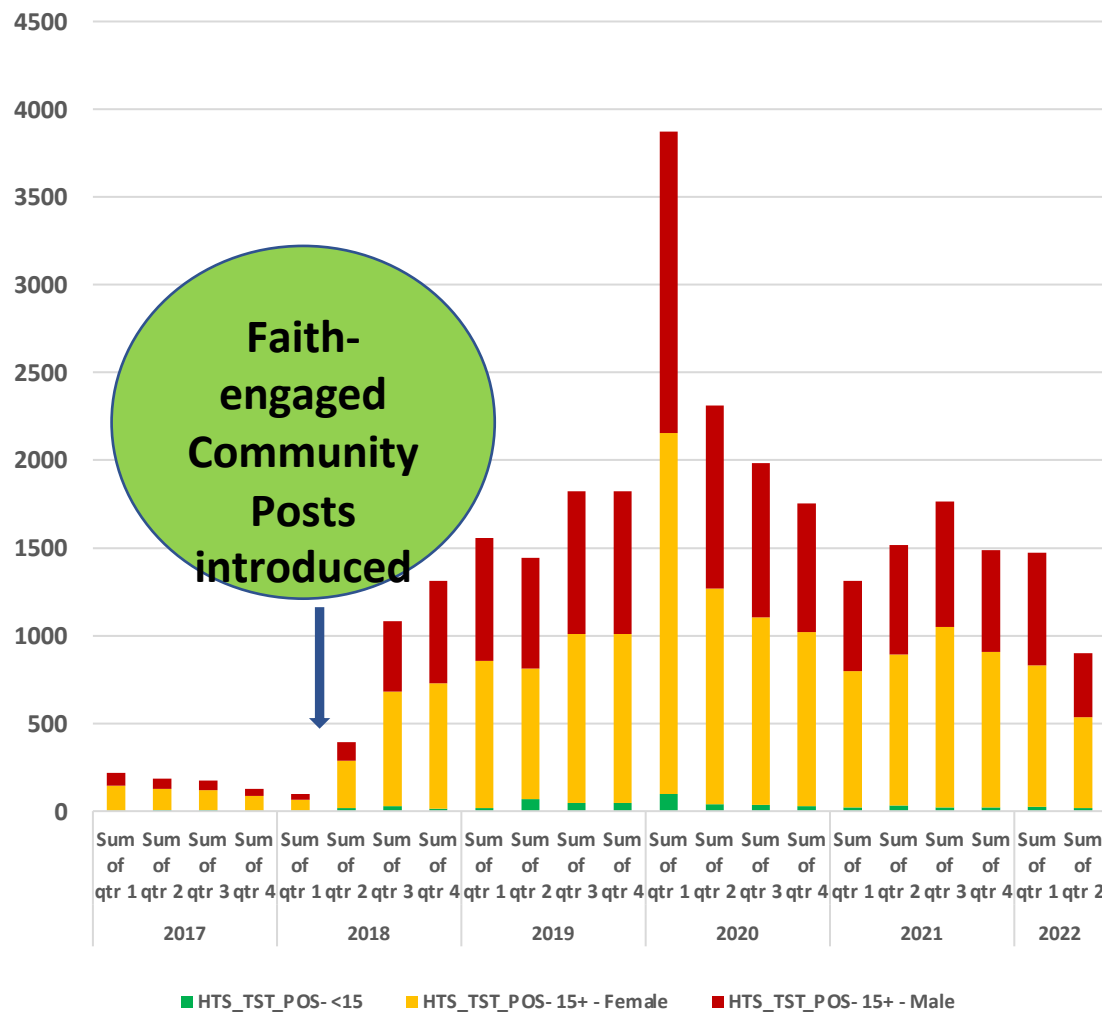


# PROGRAMS:

*What are examples of evidence-based models supported in COP22?*

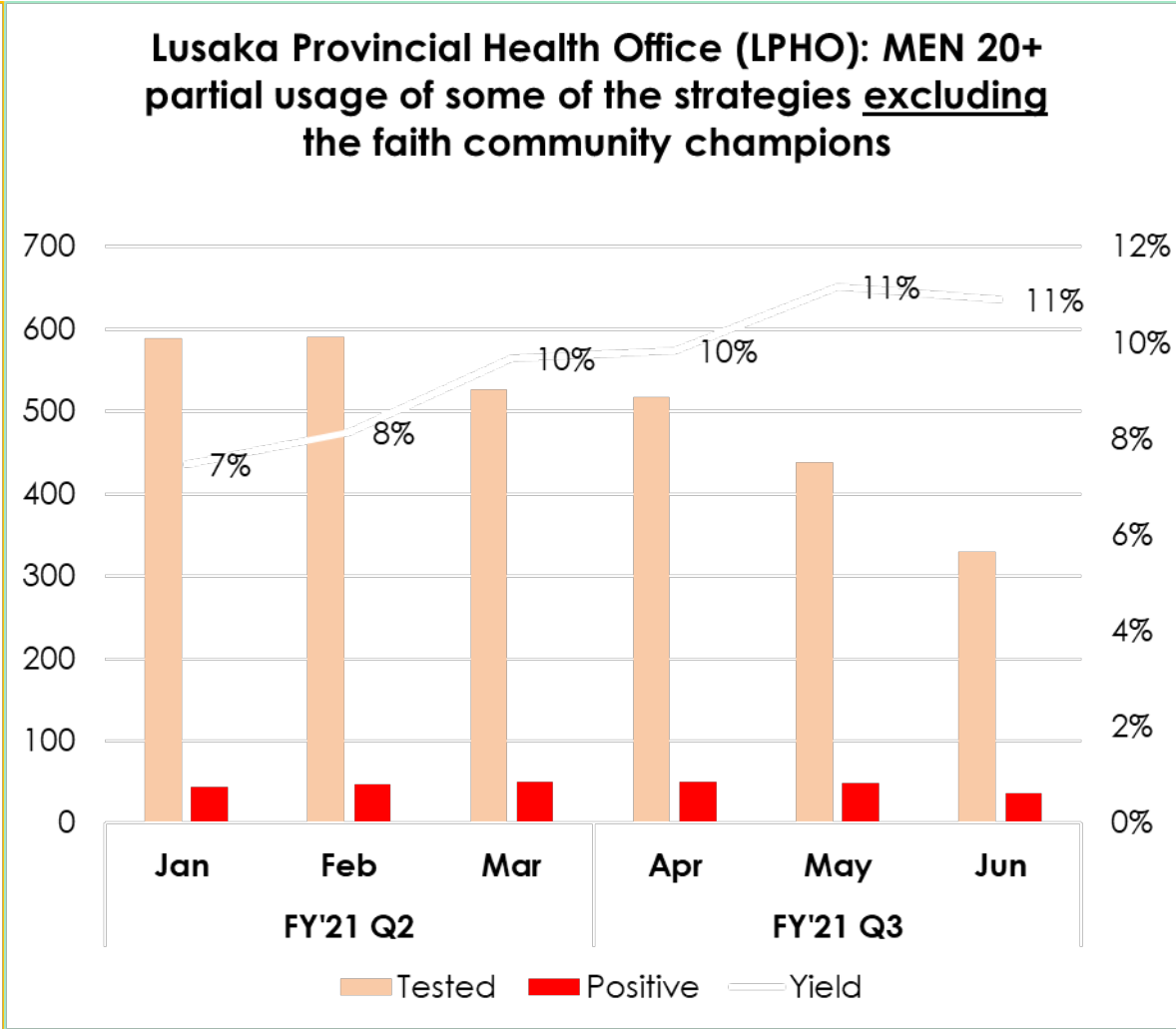
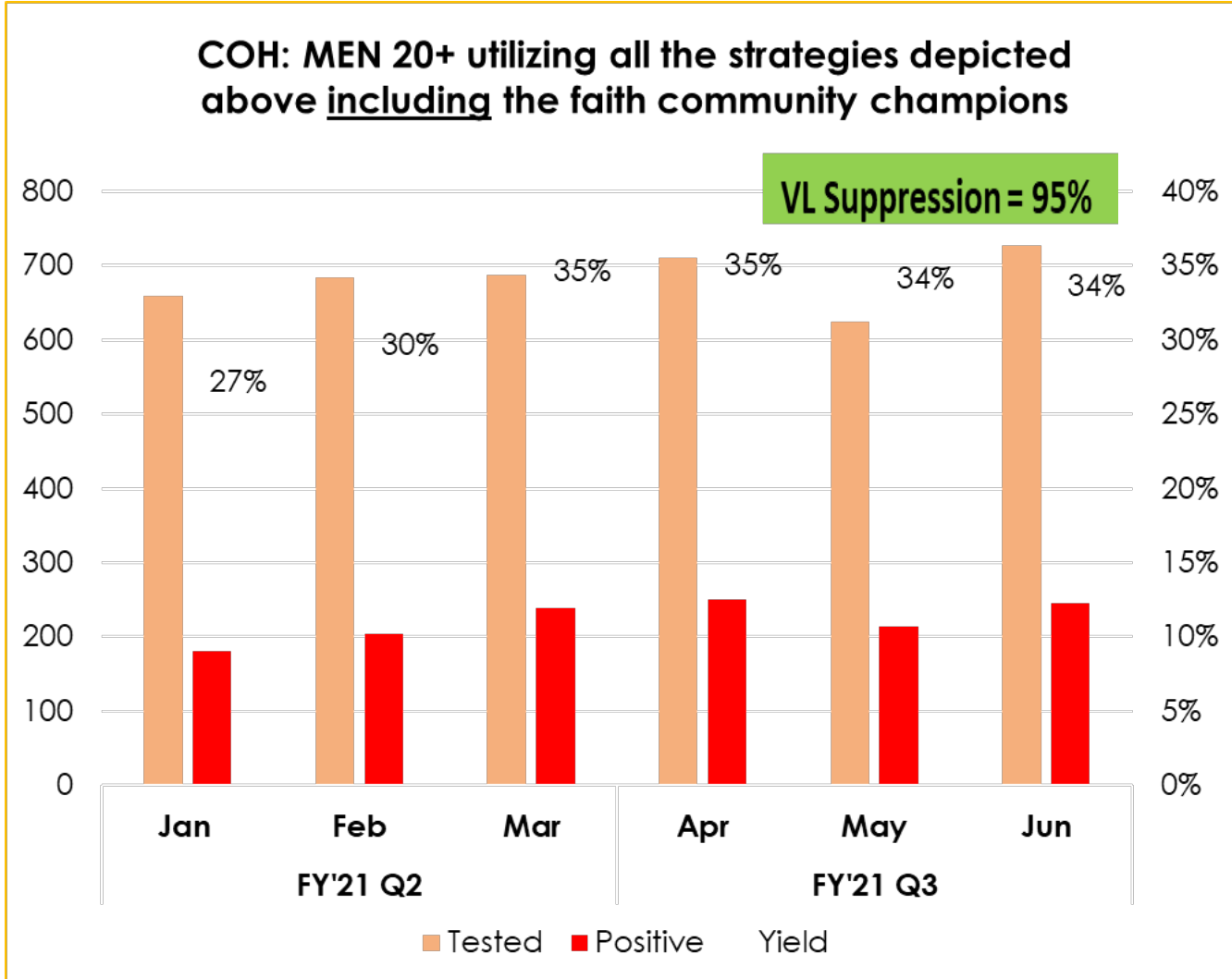
# ZAMBIA Circle of Hope: Faith-engaged Community Posts Build Skills in Core Values to Sustain Performance for 95-95-95 for well men and women

## Daily Values Coaching in the R.E.C.I.P.E.: Respect, Empathy, Compassion, Integrity, Passion, Ethics



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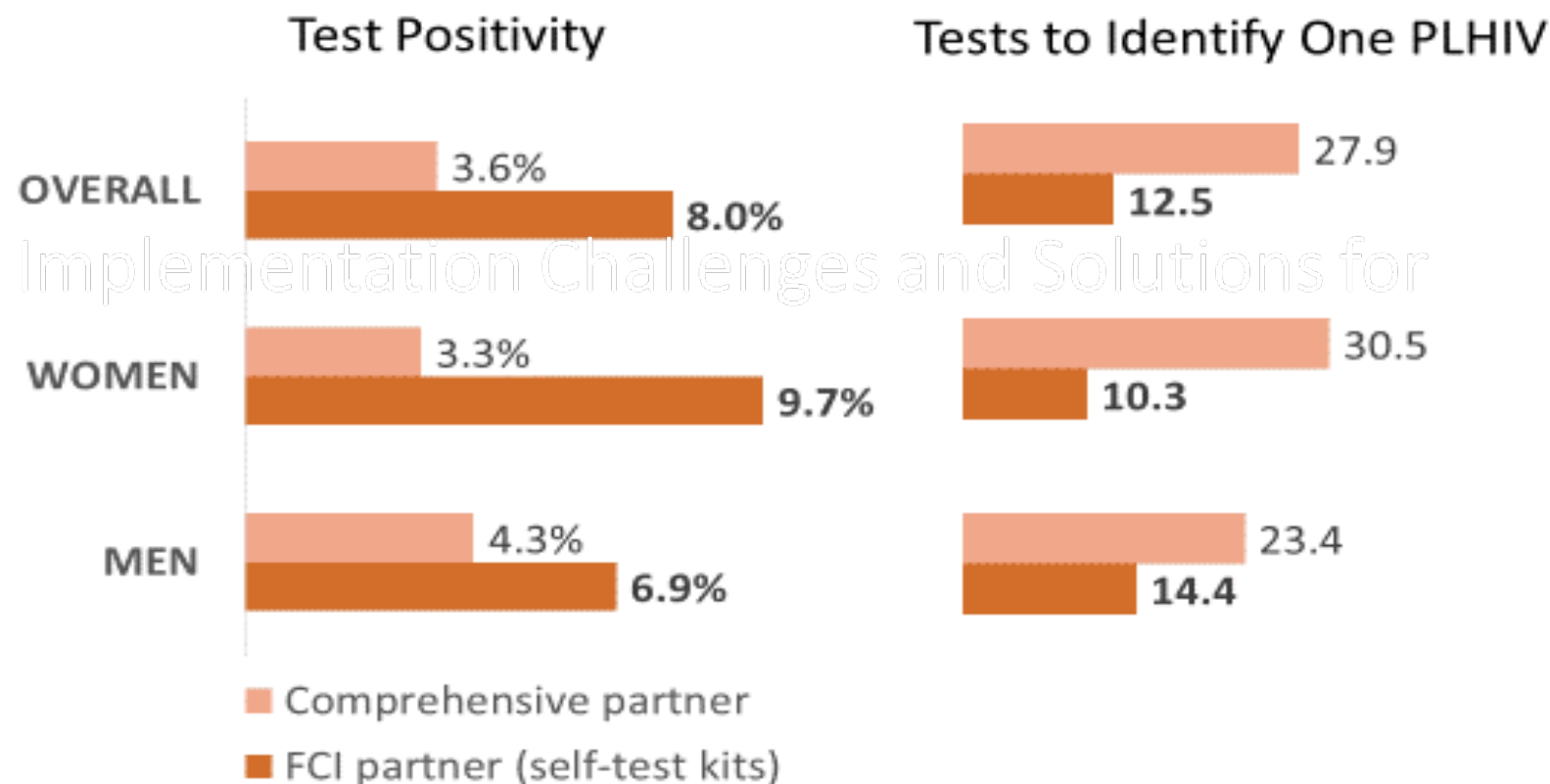
# ZAMBIA Faith-Engaged Community Posts Close Gaps: Higher performance in Reaching Men, than Lusaka Provincial Health Office Community Posts



# UGANDA: Faith Community Partners Leverage Social Capital to Close Gaps - Higher HIV Self-test Yield at Lower Cost for All

## Uganda FCI: HIV Case-finding in Mubende

Compared with FY21 results of regional partners



Implementation Challenges and Solutions for

# Uganda – Broad Partnerships to Close Gaps for Young Adults

The collage features several documents and logos. At the top left is the 'FAITH LEADERS HANDBOOK' in a green box. Below it is a red ribbon graphic. To the right is the 'COMMUNITY LEADERS HANDBOOK' in a red box. The central focus is the cover of 'TRAINING GUIDELINES FOR IMAMS MESSAGES OF HOPE ON HIV/AIDS' by the Uganda Muslim Medical Bureau (UMMB) 2021. To the left of this is a 'HIV PREVENTION SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN' document with the PEPFAR logo. The UMB logo is also visible at the bottom of the training guidelines cover.

Faith-based medical bureaux

Faith-based radio, newspaper, and other media

Civil society, including Key Population-led CSOs

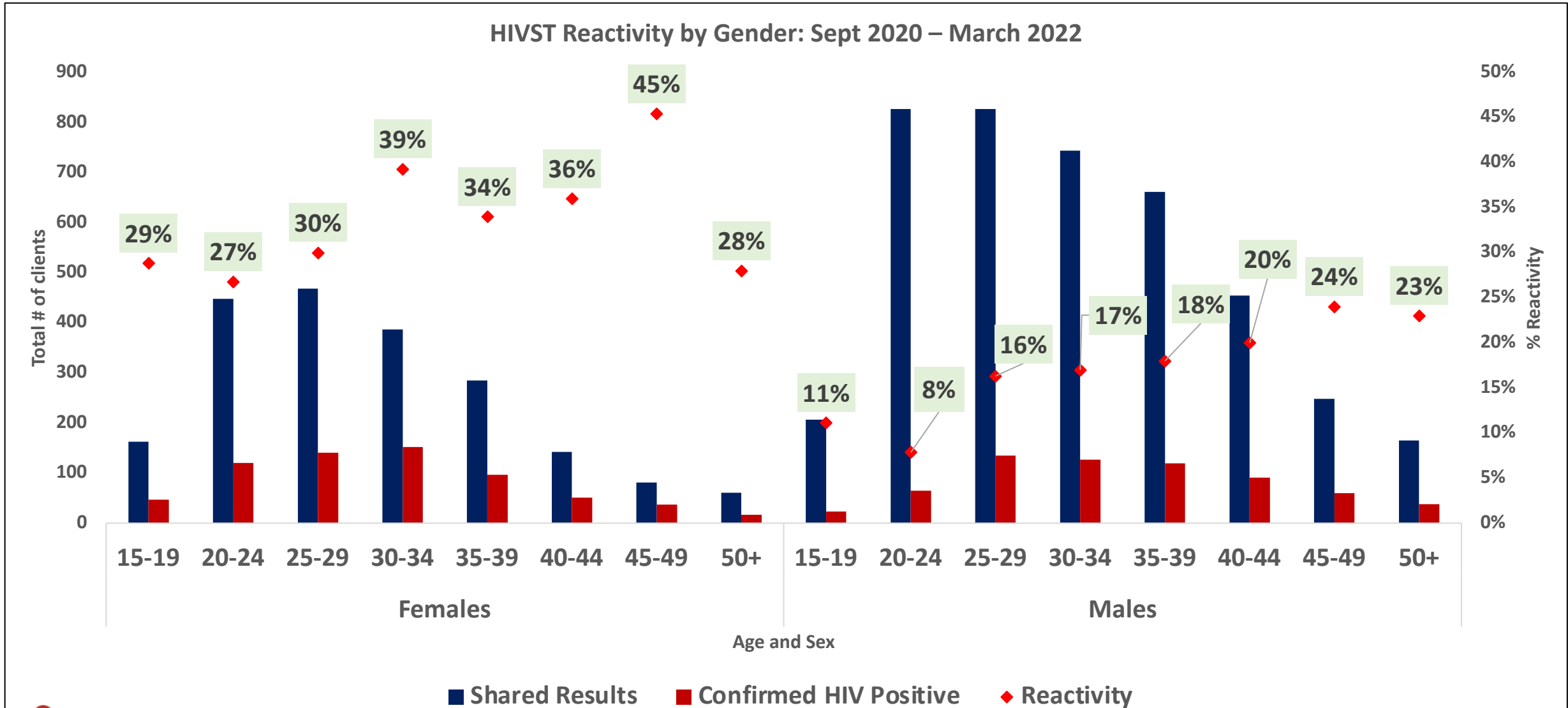
Catholic Centre for Legal Aid Services

Regional implementing partners

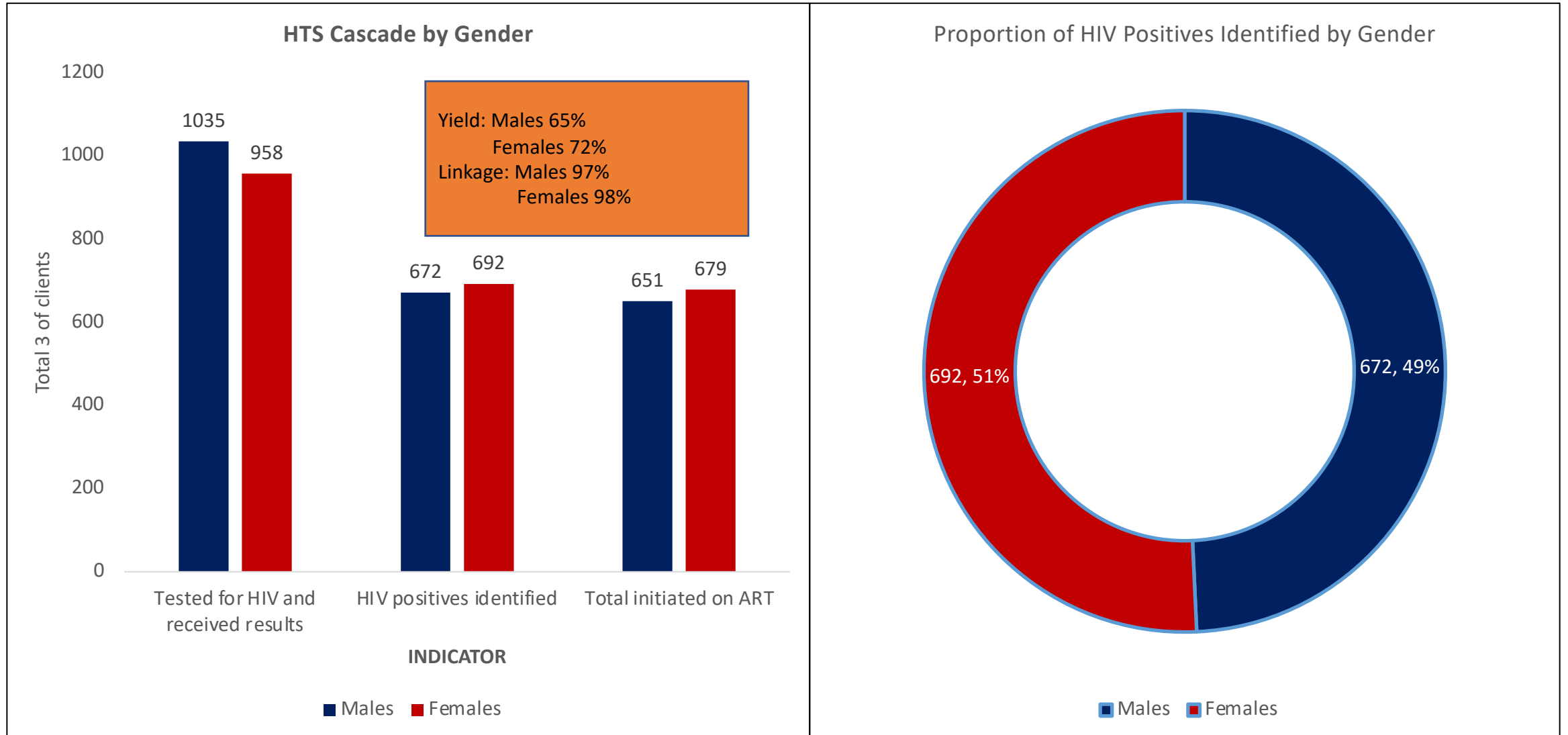
Catholic Relief Services FASTER for pediatric case-finding

Ministry of Health

# ZIMBABWE ZACH, Faith-engaged Community Posts Close Gaps: Remarkable HIV Self-Test yield among both young men and AGYW



# HTS Cascade by gender, high yield and linkage, and male proportion of those newly positive increases (Sept 2020 – March 2022)



# Kenya EDARP Program - Nairobi

To increase HIV case-finding and linkage to life-saving care for persons living with HIV, the faith-based Eastern Deanery AIDS Relief Program (EDARP) engaged inter-faith leaders in the community and clinical settings to introduce HIV self-testing (HIVST) in our service delivery model in the eastern slums of Nairobi



Retrospective - cohort survey in routine HIV testing services at 14 Eastern Deanery AIDS Relief Program (EDARP) facilities



Training of staff and community health workers (CHW) on use of HIVST



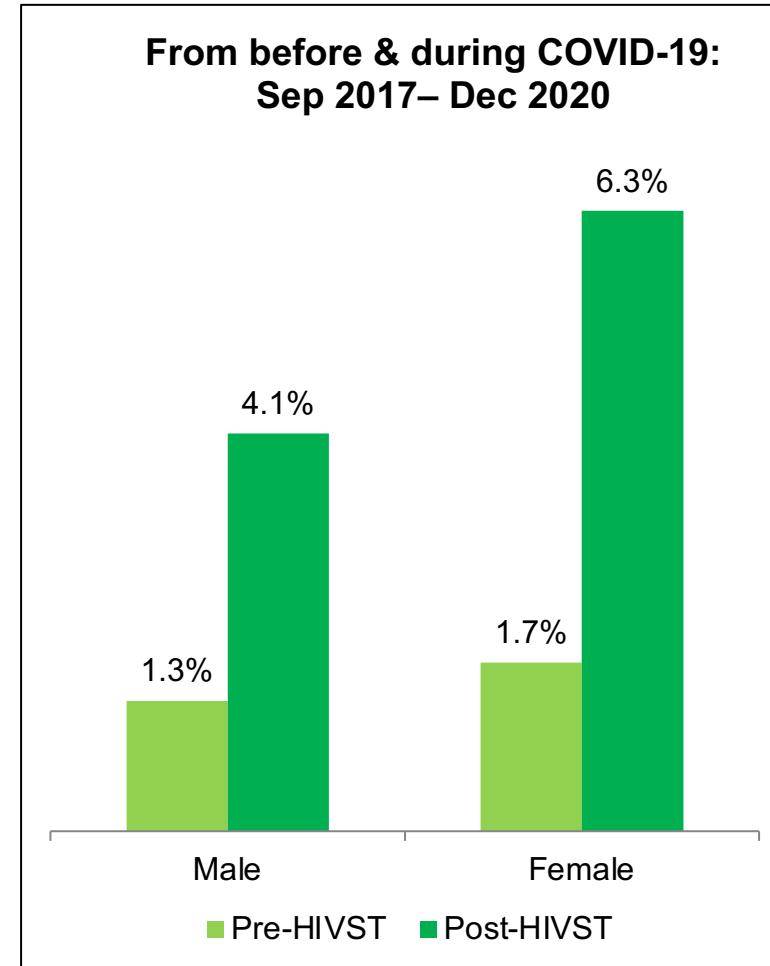
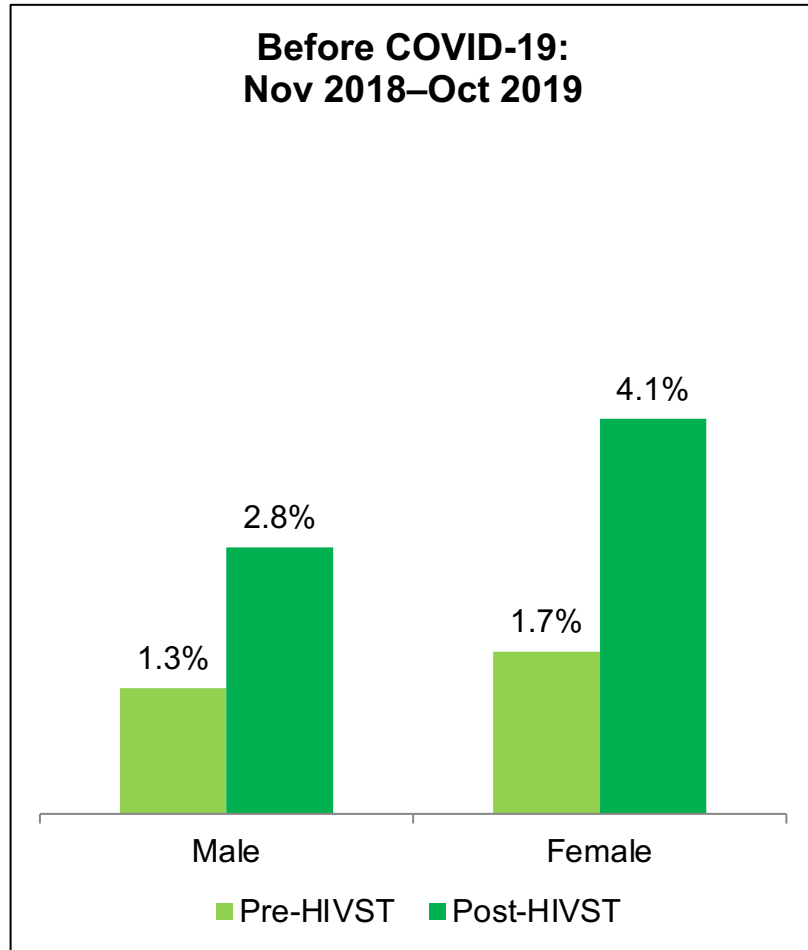
Eligible individuals tested for HIV through assisted and unassisted HIV self testing using Oraquick<sup>®</sup> HIV self-test kit



Demographic, training and HIV self testing data abstracted from training logs and HIV testing records in EDARP electronic medical records

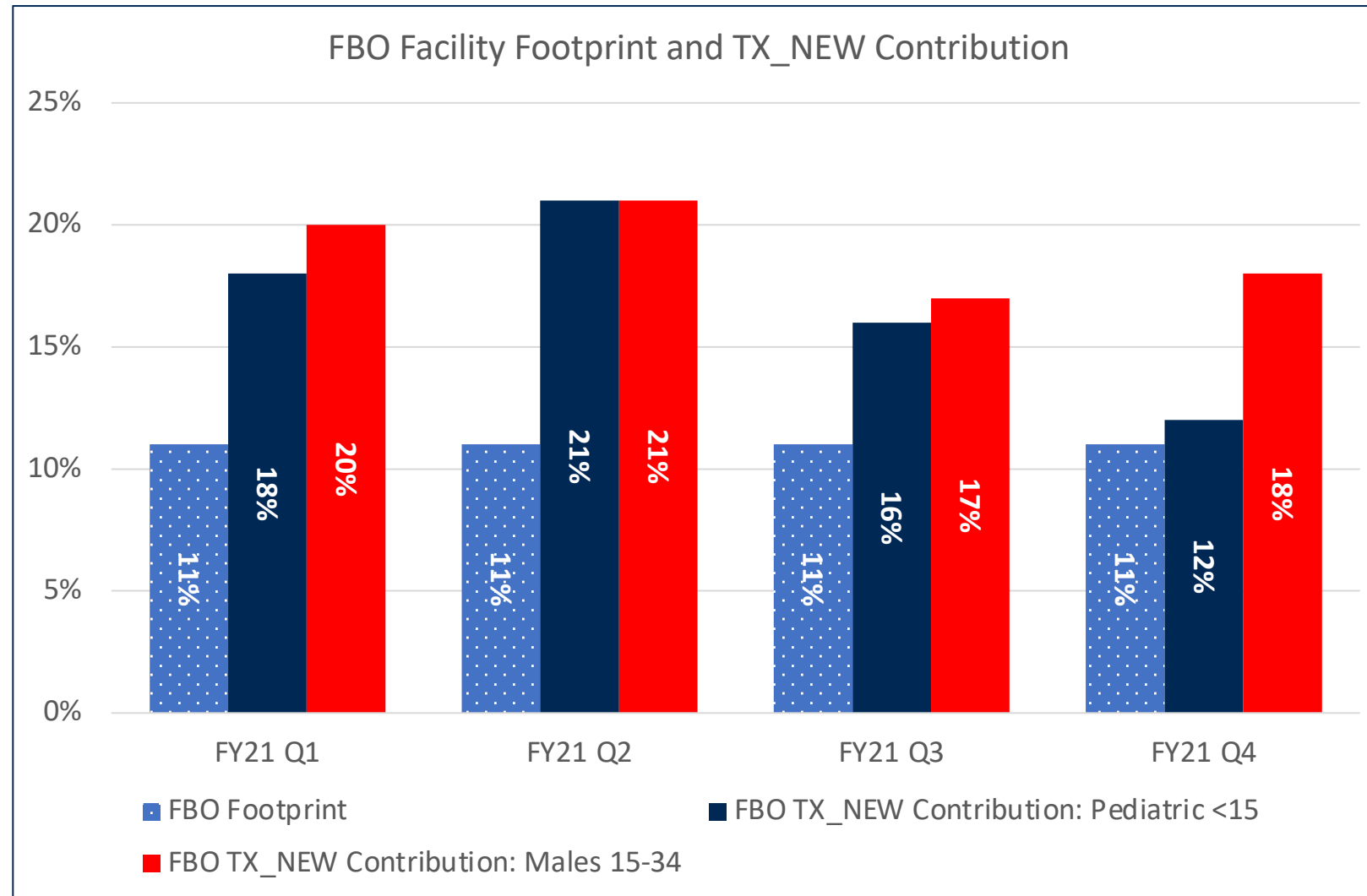


# HIV Positivity Rates during pre COVID-19 and continuing during COVID-19



# ZAMBIA JSI DISCOVER, FBOs Close Gaps for Men and Children: Facilities co-located at faith venue exceed expectation in contributions to TX\_NEW

- **FBO footprint FY21: 29 FBO** health posts represent **11%** of JSI/USAID DISCOVER-Health's service footprint.
- **Average contribution to pediatric (<15) TX\_NEW:** Above expectation at **17%**
- **Average contribution to males 15-34 years old TX\_NEW:** Above expectation at **19%**
- **FBO and non-FBO, linkage >100%, VLS > 95%, treatment interruptions <1.0%**



# Finding and Engaging Men 15-24: Who will be their Brother's Keeper?

Health system fixes open up access and increase male HIV service utilization:

- Provided choice of male providers; differentiated service delivery; integrated health services to de-stigmatize HIV care;

*The FCI partners' ability to provide **spiritual and health mentorship** to young men, a natural fit for them, is the difference maker in the FBO sites' superior performance in finding young well men, with high linkage and continuity..*

Spiritual and health mentorship by FCI partners addresses young men's fears and stress, while providing reliable health and HIV information:

## *FBO Facilities Standout*

*Faith platforms/networks continued to be open (with MOH permission) even during COVID-19 restrictions. FBO partner community health workers scaled-up use of these platforms for continued targeted case-finding outreach.*

*FBO partners find children living with HIV both through indexing with HIV positive moms and targeted testing among OVC living with caregivers, through FBO community such as women's ministry.*

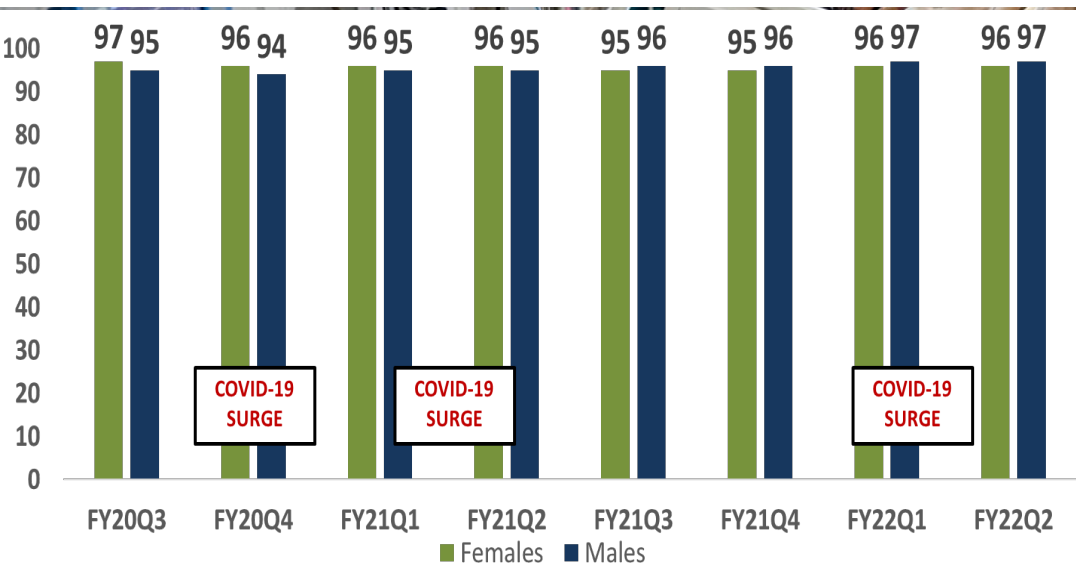
Dr. M Chikuba

# Eswatini The Luke Commission: 17 years of FBO outreach for HIV to every region laid trust for COVID Response - cared for 90% of severe COVID-19 cases in nation

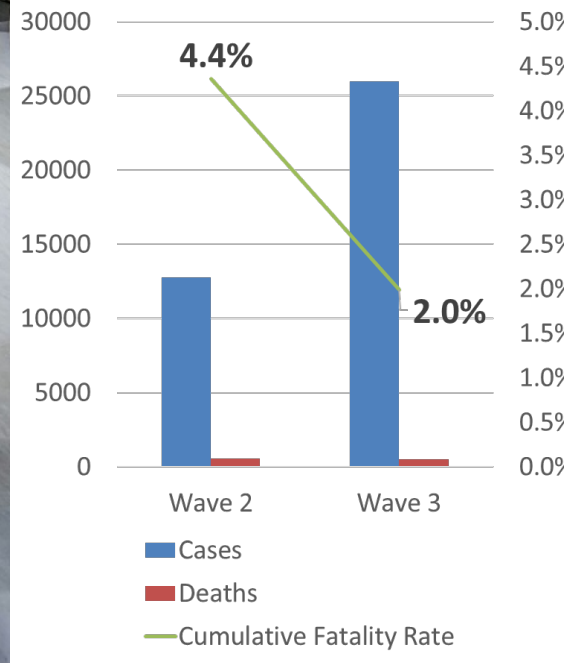


*Oxygen, respirators, and breathing coaches cut the mortality rate in wave 2, 4.4%, by half – down to 2% -- in wave 3.*

**Maintaining VLS FY20Q3-FY22Q2, in COVID-19 Surges**



**Eswatini National COVID Fatality Rate**





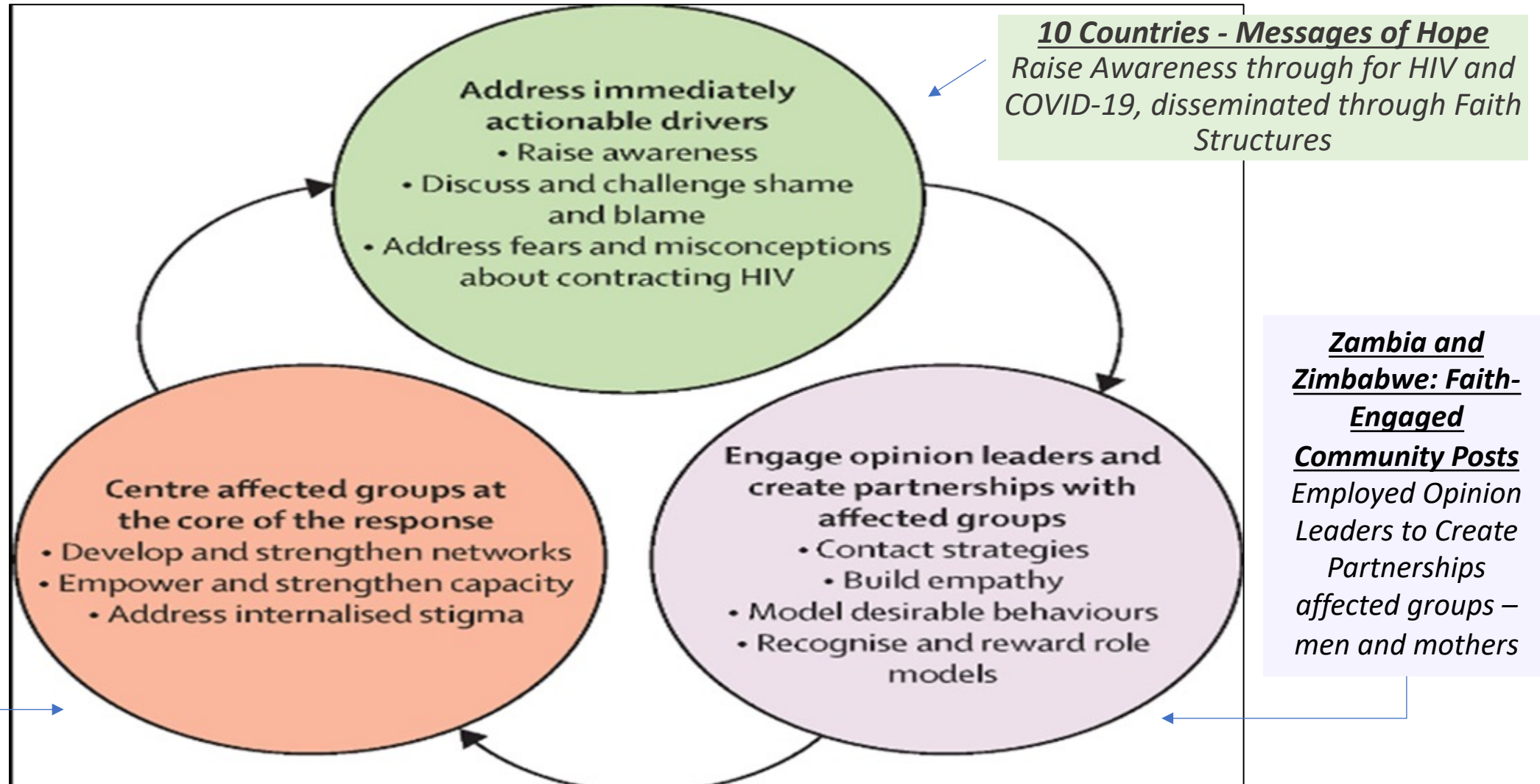
# PEPFAR

U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

# THANK YOU

**19 YEARS OF SAVING LIVES THROUGH AMERICAN GENEROSITY AND PARTNERSHIPS**

# The Most Effective PEPFAR Faith and Community Engagement Models Use Three Key Principles for Reducing Stigma



Nyblade et al. Lancet HIV 2021; 8: e106–113, Stigma reduction: an essential ingredient to ending AIDS by 2030