

# Envisaging the Future

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# About the presentation

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- The situation regarding law enforcement and public health collaborations and partnerships in Africa
- Who drives/leads LEPH collaborations?
- Do they work together well, or are there problems?
- Problems and challenges
- Examples of programs that are working to build better collaboration

# The EtF Researchers

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# Situation of collaborations

- Responding to epidemic and pandemics (HIV & AIDS, STIs, COVID19)
- Responding to Gender-Based Violence (GBV), agenda setting & policy reviews
- Responding to socio-economic problems/challenges
- Counter-insurgency or responses to terrorism when it happens within civilian spaces (rape, disease, death etc).

# Situation - LEPH collaborations and partnerships

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## **Working well**

- Especially those with long history/experience of working together
- Common goal towards local, national and global health outcomes

## **Antagonistic**

- Civil society organisations (CSOs) puts blame on LE
- LE perceive CSOs as enemy of the State
- ‘We are there to arrest criminals’
- Sometimes there are no results – things remain the same

# Who drives/leads collaborations?

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- Government/law enforcement - various departments collaborating (Botswana Men sector – security sector on HIV and AIDS, Multi-sectoral HIV, AIDS & STIs response, SARPCCO health HIV and AIDS training programme)
- CSOs – Human rights, Key populations, Abortion – girls & women's rights
- Regional bodies – SADC on HIV, terrorism in Mozambique, ECOWAS/COMESA/ECCAS - insurgencies of the LRA (Uganda); RUF (Sierra Leone), Boko Haram (Nigeria) and Al-Shabaab (Somalia)

# Problems/Challenges

- Laws criminalising same sex relationships, sex work and drug use
- CSOs and CBOs perceived by LE as enemies of the state (promoting immoral behaviours or the Western agenda)
- Back clashes (Global North/donors)
- LE being rigid, bureaucratic, protocol-driven, lengthy processes
- Lack of financial and human resources to maintain collaborations
- Incremental use of force as a complement to peaceful negotiations (LE accountability to themselves and security sector).



# Working to build better collaboration

ID	Country	Name of programme	Theme	Programme description
1	South Africa, Durban	Advocating for inclusive services for drug users	Harm reduction	Police as advocates for harm reduction during COVID-19 Lockdown in Durban: Shifting the dominant narrative.
2	Mozambique, 11 provinces	Hands Off! programme Turning Mozambique police into an ally	Violence, GBV	In Mozambique, law enforcement officers were one of the major perpetrators of violence against sex workers. After years of lobby, Pathfinder, an international NGO, and sex worker-led network Tiyaane Vavasate got sex workers and police officers to directly work together. As a result, sex workers in Mozambique have gained a voice in dealing with the police, police have turned from perpetrator to allies and violence is being tackled effectively.
3	Kenya	Journal article with overview of how police discrimination & stigma leads to delayed seeking healthcare by sex workers	Stigma & discrimination	Research project that estimate levels of discrimination, violence, and stigma against women sex workers by police in Kenya. Further estimates the association between manifestations of police discrimination and stigma, and sex workers general health care utilization and consistent condom use as a result.
4	Kenya, Kisumu	Keeping Alive Societies Hope (KASH) - From Abuse to Protection: Building Understanding Between Police Officers and Sex Workers	Gender, violence, Sexual orientation and gender identity & expression	Police sensitisation on human rights of marginalised groups (SW & MSM)
5	Liberia & Sierra Leone	LEGAL & SoSNoL - Mapping and educating police officers on human rights for all, and the COVID-19 Emergence response	Gender/violence, SOGIE, COVID-19	Educating police officers on human rights and raising awareness on COVID-19 among police officers as an emergence response
6	Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda & Zambia	Ipas - Police as partners in improving abortion access	Gender/Abortion	Training police to be allies in advocating and helping rather than hinder women's access to abortion care. Training of police officers on the abortion law and the right of women to access services.
7	South Africa	South African Police Service (SAPS) Dignity, Diversity and Policing programme	Violence, SOGIE, Gender	Training South African police to in cooperate human rights principles relating to drug use, violence, gender identity, expression and sexual orientation. Implementation of guidelines on arrest, police custody and pre-trial detention – 'Luanda Guidelines'

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