

INTEREST 2023

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HIV
TREATMENT, PATHOGENESIS, AND PREVENTION
RESEARCH IN RESOURCE-LIMITED SETTINGS



**MAPUTO,
MOZAMBIQUE**
9-12 MAY 2023

Programme Book



Sunrise in Long-Acting ART Era – a New Chapter in our Lives

We are pleased to invite you to our upcoming symposium at the conference, which will feature a dynamic session on the LA ART and its impact on HIV treatment outcomes. Our distinguished speakers will utilize evidence-based research and real-world case studies as a springboard for interactive discussions with attendees. The session will culminate in an interdisciplinary panel discussion with multiple presenters and the audience. By the conclusion of the session, attendees will have gained a greater understanding for the current state of LA ART and the potential to enhance patient access and promote a patient-centric approach.

INTEREST 2023 Conference

Friday, 12 May 2023 at 11:45 - 13:45

AFECC Gloria Hotel, Maputo

Agenda

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKERS / FACILITATORS
11:45 – 11:55	Introduction to the session	Dr Natella Rakhmanina
11:55 – 12:10	Current Status of LA ART – from Evidence to the Guidelines to the Future Development	Dr Ndwapi Ndwapi
12:10 – 12:25	Challenges and Opportunities for Transitioning to the Clinical Use of LA ART	Dr Simiso Sokhela
12:25 – 12:40	Experience in Implementing LA ART in Adolescent HIV Program – Providers and Youth Perspectives	Dr Natella Rakhmanina
12:40 – 13:00	The Importance of Involving Communities: Lessons from a Patient Perspective	Community advocates
13:00 – 13:40	Panel discussion	Moderated by Dr Natella Rakhmanina
13:40 – 13:45	Closing remarks	Dr Natella Rakhmanina



Moderator

Dr Natella Rakhmanina

Director of the HIV Program at Children's National Hospital in Washington, DC, USA. Pediatric HIV medicine specialist.



Panelist

Dr Simiso Sokhela

Head of clinical research at Ezintsha, University of the Witwatersrand. Her research focus is in HIV treatment, Public Health and Infectious Diseases.



Panelist

Dr Ndwapi Ndwapi

MD, CEO of the Botswana-University of Maryland School of Medicine Health Initiative (BUMMHI).



Dear colleagues, participants, and members of the INTEREST family,

We wish to welcome you to the 17th **INTEREST Conference** in Maputo, Mozambique. A year ago, in Kampala, Uganda, we gathered in person to celebrate the 16th year of INTEREST in the land of its origin. We are extremely excited and look forward to the meeting from 9-12 May 2023. Mozambique first hosted INTEREST in 2010. During the conference, we experienced the hospitality of the Mozambican people and the ambience of the conference location. Though participation in the INTEREST conference has increased threefold, the warmth of the people of Mozambique remains unchanged. Following the removal of restrictions in international travel as a result of declining COVID-19 infections and availability of vaccines, we will build on our mandate to support our early-career investigators in their career trajectories through personal interactions and networking.

The INTEREST Conference has remained an important activity in the scientific calendar in the African region, and has provided opportunities for the exchange of research and implementation science, ideas, and findings. It has also served as an opportunity for capacity building for our early-career investigators. These investigators remain critical in developing a core of research scientists for the next generation. INTEREST is a movement that seeks to advance and share knowledge on HIV/AIDS whilst building capacity and cultivating a community of early-career investigators.

This year, we received nearly 900 abstract submissions from 41 countries with 8 accepted as oral, 31 mini-orals, and 235 posters. Given the number of high quality abstracts, the International Conference Committee accepted additional 481 abstracts which will be published in the abstract book. This will help give visibility to early-career investigators and showcase their work.

The recent outbreaks of Mpox, Lassa fever, yellow fever, and Marburg virus disease are a stark reminder of the need to strengthen our surveillance systems to rapidly identify and manage emerging and re-emerging diseases whilst creating a robust and resilient health system that is prepared to address epidemics and pandemics. INTEREST 2023 will specifically dedicate a session to emerging and re-emerging diseases, not only to create awareness, but also to call for sustained action in strengthening the surveillance systems in Africa.

INTEREST 2023 is a platform to share new information, state-of-the-art implementation strategies and technological advances in prevention, treatment, and research in HIV and other infectious diseases to improve not only programming but health outcomes. The conference will cover infectious diseases of public health concern, HIV prevention technologies, advances in HIV cure science, HIV vaccines, elimination of vertical transmission, and HIV in children and adolescents. In the area of care and treatment, weight gain after initiation of therapy, drug resistance, and rational sequencing of treatment will be discussed. Comorbidities including tuberculosis, hepatitis B, cervical cancer, mental illness, and non-communicable diseases will feature in different sessions. The importance of programming for key populations and creating a resilient health system will also be highlighted.

On behalf of the Local Organising and International Conference Committees, we welcome you to Maputo, Mozambique.

We look forward to having you participate in INTEREST 2023. Muito Obrigada,

Kwasi Torpey - *Scientific Chair*

Nyaradzo Mavis Mgodzi - *Conference Co-Chair*

Esperança Sevene - *Local Co-Chair*

Edna Viegas - *Local Co-Chair*

Ilesh Jani - *Local Co-Chair*



Nyaradzo Mavis Mgodzi,
MBChB, MMed

University of Zimbabwe
Clinical Trials Research
Centre,
Zimbabwe



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Esperança Sevene,
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Eduardo Mondlane
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Edna Viegas,
PhD

National Institute
of Health,
Mozambique



Ilesh Jani,
MD, PhD

Deputy - Minister
of Health,
Mozambique

Abstracts

Accepted abstracts are published in the **INTEREST 2023 Abstract Book**.

Badge Policy

All registered delegates are provided with a conference badge. Admission to all events is restricted to registered delegates and official guests wearing their name badges. Please wear your badge at all times to ensure admission to the conference sessions. 25 USD will be charged for replacing a lost badge.

Certificate of Attendance

Certificates of attendance will be sent by e-mail in the week following the conference after completion of the post-conference survey.

Code of Conduct

INTEREST is dedicated to providing a harassment-free conference experience for everyone, regardless of gender, gender identity and expression, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, ethnicity, religion (or lack thereof), or technology choices. We do not tolerate harassment of conference participants in any form. Sexual language and imagery is not appropriate for any conference venue, including talks, workshops, parties, Twitter and other online media. Conference participants violating these rules may be sanctioned or expelled from the conference without a refund at the discretion of the conference organisers. Please find our full statement including where to report harassment to here: http://interestworkshop.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/INTEREST-2023_Code-of-Conduct.pdf. Anyone connected to the conference is expected to respect this Code of Conduct and we expect cooperation from everyone to help ensure a safe environment for all.

Conference Secretariat

The conference secretariat is located at the registration desk in the pre-function area of the conference room. It is open throughout the conference to address all your questions concerning logistics.

Currency

The Mozambican Metical (MZN) is the currency of Mozambique. United States dollars are widely accepted. 1 USD = 63.75 Mozambican Metical (April 2023).

Early-Career Investigator Meet-The-Expert

On Tuesday and Wednesday, INTEREST invites early-career investigators and other interested delegates to join the meet-the-expert lunches. This will be your chance to ask all your questions to our renowned faculty. The experts will be announced just prior to the lunch on Wednesday and Thursday.

Early Morning Sessions

On Wednesday May 10, Thursday May 11, and Friday May 12 from 07.00 to 07.50, four parallel early morning sessions will be taking place:

1. The Joep Lange Career Guidance Sessions are hosted by well-published, world-class scientists who explain how they started their research career; give advice on successful grant writing, mentorship, and publication; and answer questions from aspiring junior researchers. Each session is limited to 40 delegates, so please sign up at the registration desk to secure your spot.
2. Grantspersonship sessions will see research funders such as Fogarty International Center, U.S. NIH (National Institutes of Health) and European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP). Each session is limited to 40 delegates so please sign up at the registration desk to secure your spot.
3. Themed poster discussion sessions will be led by members of the International Conference Committee. The authors of 5 or 6 selected abstracts have been chosen to present their posters. Space is not limited as these will take place in the poster display area. Come and join the poster discussions in the poster area.
4. Abstract writing sessions will take participants through the abstract writing process. In this session, you will gain insights, guidance, and tips on how to write an abstract for a conference. This will be offered in French, English, and Portuguese. Each session is limited to 40 delegates so please sign up at the registration desk to secure your spot.

Exhibition

Visiting the exhibition stands in the pre-function area will give you the opportunity to meet and network with key suppliers and industry leaders. This will help keep you up-to-date with the latest industry developments.

Disclaimer: This conference aims to offer delegates the opportunity to share information. The organisers of this conference, AIGHD and Virology Education, cannot accept any liability for the scientific content of the sessions or for any claims that may result from the use of information or publications from this conference.



Feedback

Your feedback is very valuable to us as it allows us to continue to improve future INTEREST Conferences. Please complete the feedback forms that are distributed via email at the end of each conference day. We will use it to improve the programme in 2024 and will send you your conference certificate after you have completed the post conference survey. Your feedback is much appreciated.

Group Picture

On Tuesday May 10, prior to the refreshment break at 15:50, we will take a group picture. Instructions will be provided in the session before the photo shoot. Please follow directions from the conference organisers to make this run as smoothly as possible. You will receive a printed copy of the group photo on Friday, May 13.

Lunch

Lunch will be offered to all attendees on every conference day. INTEREST will have 3 different lunch rooms:

Name	Location
Occidental Restaurant	1 st Floor
The Chinese Restaurant	1 st Floor
The Buffet Restaurant	Ground Floor

Posters

Posters are displayed in pre-function area. Please seek out the posters during refreshment breaks and during the early morning poster discussion sessions. All poster presenters are asked to be at their posters at a specific time so that you can discuss their important work with the presenters. You will be able to find them on page 6 and 7 of this programme book.

Presentations and Webcasts

The webcast and PDF presentations are available OnAIR for three weeks after the conference. After this time, they will be made accessible on demand via the conference website (www.interestconference.org).

Social Media

 Follow us on Instagram @INTERESTConference and Twitter @INTERESTconf to stay up-to-date on the conference! We encourage you to post news about INTEREST on your social media accounts and tweet about INTEREST as often as you please during the conference. You can either post your own tweet to your followers using the hashtag #INTEREST2023 or retweet a message through the official @INTERESTconf account.

Speakers

Presenters are requested to submit their presentation on a USB stick as early as possible, latest in the break prior to their session or in the morning before the first session. Our technician(s) will be available for you at the technician table.

Time Zones

Times are in Central Africa Time (CAT).



Poster Viewing Sessions

Tuesday Morning Coffee

Antiretroviral Treatment and HIV Care	Even Poster Numbers
Women and HIV	Even Poster Numbers

Tuesday Afternoon Coffee

Antiretroviral Treatment and HIV Care	Odd Poster Numbers
Socio-Behavioural Research	Odd Poster Numbers
Structural Determinants and Interventions Including Stigma & Discrimination	Odd Poster Numbers
Women and HIV	Odd Poster Numbers

Wednesday Morning Coffee

Basic Science and HIV Cure	Even Poster Numbers
Community / Civil Society Engagement	Even Poster Numbers
COVID-19 in Africa	Even Poster Numbers
Epidemiology	Even Poster Numbers
Health System Strengthening	Even Poster Numbers
HIV Co-Morbidities - Including Hepatitis, Tuberculosis, Sexually Transmitted Infections, (Re-) Emerging Pathogens, Non-Communicable Diseases and Mental Health Conditions	Even Poster Numbers

Wednesday Afternoon Coffee

Basic Science and HIV Cure	Odd Poster Numbers
Community / Civil Society Engagement	Odd Poster Numbers
COVID-19 in Africa	Odd Poster Numbers
Epidemiology	Odd Poster Numbers
Health System Strengthening	Odd Poster Numbers
HIV Co-Morbidities - Including Hepatitis, Tuberculosis, Sexually Transmitted Infections, (Re-) Emerging Pathogens, Non-Communicable Diseases and Mental Health Conditions	Odd Poster Numbers
Economics, Innovative Financing, Development Goals	Odd Poster Numbers



Thursday Morning Coffee

HIV Prevention and New Technologies (PrEP, Vaccines, Antibodies)	Even Poster Numbers
Implementation Science, Cost-Effectiveness, and Modelling	Even Poster Numbers
Information Technology Innovations for HIV (mHealth, Electronic Records, Social Media, etc.)	Even Poster Numbers
Key Populations: Prevention and Treatment Challenges	Even Poster Numbers
Knowledge Translation to Policy and Programming	Even Poster Numbers
Laboratory Monitoring / Diagnostics	Even Poster Numbers
Paediatrics and Prevention of Vertical Transmission	Even Poster Numbers

Thursday Afternoon Coffee

HIV Prevention and New Technologies (PrEP, Vaccines, Antibodies)	Odd Poster Numbers
Implementation Science, Cost-Effectiveness, and Modelling	Odd Poster Numbers
Information Technology Innovations for HIV (mHealth, Electronic Records, Social Media, etc.)	Odd Poster Numbers
Key Populations: Prevention and Treatment Challenges	Odd Poster Numbers
Knowledge Translation to Policy and Programming	Odd Poster Numbers
Laboratory Monitoring/Diagnostics	Odd Poster Numbers
Paediatrics and Prevention of Vertical Transmission	Odd Poster Numbers

Friday Morning Coffee

Socio-Behavioural Research	Even Poster Numbers
Structural Determinants and Interventions Including Stigma & Discrimination	Even Poster Numbers



Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development

The Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development (AIGHD) is an international research and education institute that works to develop sustainable solutions to major health problems. By taking a problem-oriented approach, AIGHD transcends the boundaries of traditional academic disciplines and integrates three fundamental activities into one institute: research, education, and policy. Founded by the late Professor Joep Lange in 2009, AIGHD brings together experts from multiple disciplines including biomedicine, economics, and social and behavioral sciences to address the most critical medical, social, economic, and political challenges in global health and development.



Virology Education & Academic Medical Education

Under the guidance of the late esteemed virologist Prof. Dr. Charles Boucher, Virology Education and Academic Medical Education is a driving force in the global medical community with the primary aim to further research and enable knowledge sharing. We specialize in medical programs in the fields of HIV, hepatitis, COVID-19, emerging viruses, NASH, liver disease, pharmacology, and oncology in a variety of learning formats that maintain a balance between educational content and networking. Virology Education and Academic Medical Education are proud to be leading medical educators that supply healthcare professionals with the tools needed to work effectively.



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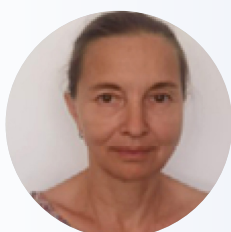
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Sinata Koulla-Shiro, MD	Ministry of Health, Cameroon
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Mauro Schechter, MD, PhD	Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Robert Schooley, MD	University of California, United States
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Programme



Tuesday, 9 May

Times are in Central African Time (CAT)

06:30 Registration Desk Open

07:30 Coffee & Tea

Session 1 Official Opening Ceremony - Part I

Chairs: Ilesh Jani, Esperança Sevens, and Edna Viegas

08:30 **Arrival of the Government Authorities**
Master of Ceremonies

08:40 **Singing the National Anthem**
All Attendees

08:45 **Presentation of the Program**
Master of Ceremonies

08:50 **Speech by the Representative of Maputo City**
Representative of Maputo City

08:55 **Speech by the Scientific Chair of the International Conference Committee**
Prof. Kwasi Torpey

09:00 **Speech by H.E. Ambassador of PEPFAR**
H.E. John Nkengasong

09:10 **INTEREST Song**
Banda Kakana

09:15 **Speech by His Excellency the Minister of Health**
H.E. Dr. Armindo Tiago

09:20 **Opening Speech**

Official Opening Ceremony - Part II

Chair: Nyaradzo Mavis Mgodli

09:45 **The Road to 95-95-95: Progress in HIV Prevention and Treatment Scale-up in Sub-Saharan Africa**
Gloria Bille, BSc, MA
UNAIDS, South Africa

10:05 **Current Status of HIV in Mozambique**
Francisco Mbofana, MD, MPH
National AIDS Council, Mozambique

10:20 **Community Perspective on HIV Progress in Mozambique**
Community Representative - Isilda Indiano

10:25 Refreshment Break and Poster Viewing



Session 2 Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases I: James Hakim Memorial Lectures

Chairs: Catherine Hankins and Guido Ferrari

- 11:05 **Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases: Role of Surveillance**
Lucille Blumberg, MBBCh, MMed, ID, FFTM, DTM&H DOH, DCH, DSc
Stellenbosch University / University of Pretoria / Right to Care / National Institute for Communicable Diseases (Hon), South Africa
- 11:25 **The Strategic Role of the Africa CDC in Emerging and Re-Emerging Diseases in Africa**
Nafiisah Chotun, PhD, FRSPH, MRSTMH
Africa CDC, Ethiopia
- 11:45 **Long Covid: Pathophysiology, Presentation, and Management**
François Venter, MD, FCP, PhD
Ezintsha, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- 12:05 **Q&A**

12:20 Lunch

Oral Abstract Presentations I

Chairs: Peter Young and Nomathemba Chandiwana

- | | | | |
|-------|--|---|----|
| 13:45 | High Prevalence of HIV Drug Resistance Below the WHO Threshold of 1000 Copies/ML Among Adolescents Receiving Antiretroviral Treatment in Cameroon | Armando Blondel
Djiyou Djeuda,
Cameroon | #1 |
| 14:00 | HIV Sero-Conversions Among Adolescent Girl and Young Female Dapivirine Vaginal Ring (DPV-R) Users: Early Learnings From a Demonstration Project in Zimbabwe | Jabulani
Mavudze,
Zimbabwe | #2 |
| 14:15 | Cervical Cancer Screening Uptake Among Female Sex Workers Living With HIV - A Cross-sectional Survey in Nairobi, Kenya | Maureen Akolo,
Kenya | #3 |
| 14:30 | Community Index Testing Among Children of Female Sex Workers and of Other Vulnerable Groups Is an Effective Approach for Reaching Children Under 5: Results From Routine Service Data Analysis in Tanzania | Elizabeth
Herman,
Tanzania | #4 |
| 14:45 | Q&A | | |

Session 3 Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases II

Chairs: Stephen Watiti and Silvia Mikusova

- 14:55 **COVID-19 Variants and Implication for Vaccination**
Sikhulile Moyo, MSc, MPH, PhD
Botswana Harvard AIDS Institute Partnership / Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Botswana
- 15:15 **COVID-19 and Pregnancy and Neonatal Outcomes**
Jean B. Nachega, MD, PhD, MPH, FRCP, FAAS
University of Pittsburgh / Johns Hopkins University, United States
Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- 15:35 **Q&A**

15:50 Conference Photo

16:10 Refreshment Break and Poster Viewing

Session 4 Opening Day Formal Debate: The UNAIDS Fast Track “95-95-95” HIV Treatment Goal by 2030 is Unrealistic for Children Living with HIV

Chair: Peter Kilmarx

- 16:50 **Opening Words & Voting**
Peter Kilmarx, MD, FACP, FIDSA
John E. Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health, United States
- 17:00 **First Speaker For the Proposition**
Nadia Sam-Agudu, MD, CTropMed
University of Maryland School of Medicine, United States
Institute of Human Virology Nigeria, Nigeria
- 17:07 **First Speaker Against the Proposition**
Dorothy Mbori-Ngacha, MBChB, MMed, MPH
Independent Consultant, Kenya
- 17:14 **Debate from the Floor**
- 17:34 **Second Speaker For the Proposition**
Saadick Ssentongo
The AIDS Support Organization, Uganda
- 17:38 **Second Speaker Against the Proposition**
Kenly Sikwese
AfroCAB, Zambia
- 17:42 **Rebuttal**
Nadia Sam-Agudu & Dorothy Mbori-Ngacha
- 17:48 **Final Voting and Closing**
Peter Kilmarx, MD, FACP, FIDSA
John E. Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health, United States

18:00 Opening Reception at Radisson Blu



Wednesday, 10 May

Parallel Early Morning Sessions - Sign Up Required

07:00	Grantspersonship - National Institute of Health/Fogarty International Geetha Bansal, Guido Ferrari, and Peter Kilmarx	Mentoring Tiwadayo Braimoh and Barbara Castelnovo	Guided Poster Discussions Kwasi Torpey Celso Khosa, Lucia Chambal, and Ireneo Gaspar	Abstract Writing French Jean B. Nachega and Catherine Hankins
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Session 5 HIV Prevention and Cure

Chairs: Timothy Mastro and Edna Viegas

- 08:00 **New HIV Prevention Technologies**
Nyaradzo Mavis Mgodli, MBChB, MMed
University of Zimbabwe Clinical Trials Research Centre, Zimbabwe
- 08:20 **Advances in HIV Cure Science**
Melissa-Rose Abrahams, PhD
University of Cape Town, South Africa
- 08:40 **HIV Vaccines, Where Are We Now?**
Nono Mkhize, PhD
National Institute of Communicable Diseases, South Africa
- 09:00 **Q&A**

Oral Abstract Presentations II

Chairs: Andrew Kambugu and Eunice Jethá

- | | | | |
|-------|--|-------------------------------------|----|
| 09:15 | Cytokine Profile and Association With Disease Severity in Maputo, Mozambique | Vânia Maphossa, Mozambique | #5 |
| 09:30 | Improving Tuberculosis Case Identification Through Intensive Community Door-To-Door TB Screening in Teso Region, North Eastern Uganda | Saadick Ssentongo, Uganda | #6 |
| 09:45 | Acceptability, Feasibility, and Effectiveness of Transitioning to 6 Monthly Multi-Month Dispensing of Antiretroviral Therapy to People Living With HIV in the COVID-19 Era in Malawi | Rachel Chamanga Kanyenda, Malawi | #7 |
| 10:00 | Statistical Modelling of the Impact of Poverty Elimination and Access to Social Protection on Global HIV Incidence | Boladé Hamed Banounin, South Africa | #8 |

10:15 **Q&A**

10:25 Refreshment Break and Poster Viewing

Industry Symposium I | ViiV
I Am Not A Statistic, Hear Me: Voices of Young People Living With HIV
 Chair: Sibongile Kubheka

- 11:05 **Opening and Welcome**
Sibongile Kubheka, MBChB, MPharmMed, MBA, Dip HIV Man
 ViiV Healthcare, South Africa
- 11:10 **Young People Should be Partners in their Healthcare**
Nneka Nwokolo, FRCP
 ViiV Healthcare / Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, United Kingdom
Sibulele Sibaca Nomnganga, BA, GIBS
 Impact Drivers, South Africa
Sunflower Nyemba
 Young People's Network on Sexual and Reproductive Health, HIV and AIDS (YPNSRHHA), Zimbabwe
Lauren Jennings, MBChB, MSc
 Gugulethu Research Office / Desmond Tutu Health Foundation, South Africa
- 11:40 **Q&A**
- 12:00 **Close**
Sibongile Kubheka, MBChB, MPharmMed, MBA, Dip HIV Man
 ViiV Healthcare, South Africa

Mini-Oral Abstract Presentations I
 Chairs: Sozinho Ndimba and Anna Laura Ross

- | | | | |
|-------|---|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 12:05 | Non-reporting of Intimate Partner Violence Among Index Case Testing Clients: Experience From Malawi | Maria Sanena, Malawi | #9 |
| 12:08 | Predictors of Sustained Viral Suppression Among Children Living With HIV in Kenya: Secondary Analysis of Data From a Randomized Controlled Trial | Patrick Owiti, Kenya | #10 |
| 12:11 | Prevalence and Predictors of Persistent Low-Level HIV Viraemia Among People Receiving Dolutegravir-Based Antiretroviral Therapy in Southern Nigeria | Oghenezuazo Onwah, Nigeria | #11 |
| 12:14 | Prevalence of Advanced HIV Disease at Enrollment in Care and Associated Factors Among Adult Individuals During the Treat All Era at Selected Public Health Centres in Kampala, Uganda | Bridget Ainembabazi, Uganda | #12 |
| 12:17 | Retaining Clients in ART Care Through an Innovative Community-Based DSD Models in Southern Rural Zimbabwe: The Out-Of-Facility Community Distribution Model | Kudakwashe Takarinda, Zimbabwe | #13 |
| 12:20 | Devenir a 24 Mois Des Patients Infectés Par le VIH-1 Initiant le Dolutégravir à Abidjan | Wardatou Dine Mourtada, Ivory Coast | #14 |
| 12:23 | Q&A | | |

12:40 Lunch and Early-Career Investigator Meet-The-Expert Session



Session 6 HIV and Adolescents

Chairs: Nadia Sam-Agudu and Francisco Mbofana

- 14:05 **HIV-Associated Neurocognitive Disease Among Adolescents**
Rashida Ferrand, MBBS, FRCP, MSc, PhD
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom
Biomedical Research and Training Institute, Zimbabwe
- 14:25 **Reaching Adolescent Girls and Young Women: What Interventions Work?**
Linda-Gail Bekker, MBChB, DTMH, DCH, FCP(SA), PhD
Desmond Tutu Health Foundation / University of Cape Town (UCT), South Africa
- 14:45 **Q&A**

14:55 Refreshment Break and Poster Viewing

Session 7 Elimination of Vertical Transmission and HIV in Children

Chairs: Kwasi Torpey and Everline Ashiono

- 15:35 **Eliminating Vertical HIV Transmission - Are We There Yet?**
Lynda Stranix-Chibanda, MBChB, MMed
University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe
- 15:55 **Where Are the Missing Children: Closing the Paediatric HIV Gap**
Yogan Pillay, PhD
Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- 16:15 **Aiming for Gold - The Botswana Quest for Elimination of Vertical Transmission of HIV**
Mogomotsi Matshaba MD, MBBCh BAO, BMedSci (Hons)
Botswana-Baylor Children's Clinical Centre of Excellence, Botswana
Baylor College of Medicine, United States
- 16:35 **Q&A**

Special Session I World Health Organization Hands-on Session: How to Effectively Use WHO Resources to Boost R&D Efforts Programme

Chairs: Sarah Charnaud and Anna Laura Ross

- 16:50 **Introduction to R&D Support at WHO and Perspective on Why It Matters**
Sarah Charnaud, PhD
World Health Organization, Switzerland
Anna Laura Ross, PhD
World Health Organization, Switzerland
- 17:05 **Hands on Session with International Clinical Trials Registry Platform: What Trials are Being Performed Where and By Who**
Sarah Charnaud and Anna Laura Ross
- 17:25 **Hands on Session with Global Observatory on Health R&D: Finding Resources and Collaborators**
Sarah Charnaud and Anna Laura Ross
- 17:45 **End Remarks**

Thursday, 11 May

Parallel Early Morning Sessions - Sign Up Required

07:00	Mentoring Geetha Bansal, François Venter, and Anna Laura Ross	Guided Poster Discussions Catherine Hankins and Peter Kilmarx	Abstract Writing Portuguese Peter Young, Ana Olga Mocumbi, Nilsa de Deus, and Ana Muterwa
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Session 8 HIV Care and Treatment

Chairs: Andrew Kambugu and Aleny Couto

08:00 **Weight Gain After HIV Therapy Initiation: Pathophysiology and Implications**
Nomathemba Chandiwana, BSc, MBBCh, MPH, DCH

Ezintsha, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

08:20 **HIV Drug Resistance and Treatment Sequencing**

Nicholas Paton, MD, FRCP

National University of Singapore, Singapore

08:40 **Q&A**

Mini-Oral Abstract Presentations II

Chairs: Esperança Sevene and Stephen Watiti

08:50	Sustainable Business Process Model for Achieving Excellence in HIV Service Delivery through Government to Government (G2G) Funding and Direct Capacity Building of Provincial Health Offices in Zambia	Thomas Mupashi, Zambia	#15
08:53	Adverse Events Management in Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision, at What Cost? Developing a Costing Model on the Adverse Events in Zimbabwe's Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision Programme	Sinokuthemba Xaba, Zimbabwe	#16
08:56	Sustainable Financing of the HIV Response in Namibia: Lessons From an End-Term Review of a National HIV Response	Daniel Ogbuabor, Nigeria	#17
08:59	Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Impact Analysis of the Implementation of Differentiated Service Delivery Models for HIV Treatment in Mozambique – A Modelling Study	Dorlim Moiana Uetela, Mozambique	#18
09:02	Adverse Childhood Experiences Are Associated With High HIV Acquisition Risk and Low PrEP Uptake Among Pregnant and Postpartum Women in Kenya	Mary Marwa, Kenya	#19
09:05	Q&A		



Industry Symposium II | MSD

Shifting Paradigms in HIV

Chair: Francisco Mbofana

- 09:20 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Francisco Mbofana, MD, MPH
National AIDS Council Maputo, Mozambique
- 09:25 **Shifting HIV Landscape in Africa**
Simiso Sokhela, MBChB, Dip HIV Man (SA)
University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- 09:40 **Shifting Paradigms in HIV Treatment**
Linda-Gail Bekker, MBChB, DTMH, DCH, FCP (SA), PhD
Desmond Tutu Health Foundation / University of Cape Town, South Africa
- 09:55 **Shifting Paradigms in Implementation**
Tendani Gaolathe, MD
Botswana Harvard AIDS Institute Partnership (MOH), Botswana
- 10:10 **Panel Discussion and Q&A**
Moderated by Francisco Mbofana
National AIDS Council Maputo, Mozambique
- 10:18 **Closing Remarks**
Francisco Mbofana, MD, MPH
National AIDS Council Maputo, Mozambique

10:20 Refreshment Break and Poster Viewing

Symposium III | ANRS-MIE

Science and Partnerships to Fight Epidemics

Chair: Catherine Hankins

- 11:05 **Science and Partnerships to Fight Epidemics**
Eric D'Ortenzio
ANRS-MIE, France

Symposium IV | CIDRZ

Africans Leading the HIV Response: Pipe Dream or Reality

Chair: Izukanji Sikazwe

- 11:35 **Africans Leading the HIV Response: Pipe Dream or Reality**
Izukanji Sikazwe, MBChB, MPH
Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ), Zambia
- Yvette Raphael**
Advocates for the Prevention of HIV in Africa, South Africa
- Aleny Couto, MD**
Ministry of Health, Mozambique

Mini-Oral Abstract Presentations III

Chairs: Geetha Bansal and Joseph Baluku

12:00	Cofactors of HIVST and PrEP Acceptance Among Pregnant Women at High Risk of HIV in Kenya	Nancy Ngumbau, Kenya	#20
12:03	HIV Prevalence, Associated Risk Factors and HIV Incidence in a Cohort of High-Risk Adults in Maputo, Mozambique	Isabel Remane Abdul, Mozambique	#21
12:06	Low-Level Viremia as a Risk Factor for Virologic Failure in Children and Adolescents Living With HIV	Obed Paul, Tanzania	#22
12:09	Improving Pediatric HIV Case Finding and Preventing New Child Infections: Findings from Infant HIV Exposure Screening in Nigeria	Oluwakemi Sowale, Nigeria	#23
12:12	Early Effect of Transitioning Children to Dolutegravir-Based Regimens on Viral Load Suppression in Malawi	Lucky Makonokaya, Malawi	#24
12:15	Q&A		

12:30 Lunch and Early-Career Investigator Meet-the-Expert Session

Session 9 HIV and Comorbidities I: TB and Hepatitis

Chairs: François Venter and Benedita José

13:55	What's New in the Treatment of Rifampin Resistant TB Francesca Conradie, MBBCh University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
14:15	Use of TAF in TB and Hepatitis Co-infected Patients: Lessons to Date Lloyd Mulenga, BScHb, MBChB, MSc, MMed, PhD Ministry of Health, Zambia
14:35	Q&A

Session 10 HIV and Comorbidities II: HIV and HPV

Chair: Sabrina Bakeera-Kitaka

14:45	Progress of HPV Vaccination Introduction in Africa Sabrina Bakeera-Kitaka, MBChB, MMed, PhD Makerere University College of Health Sciences, Uganda
15:00	Rationale of HPV Vaccination in People Living with HIV Doreen Ramogola-Masire, BMed Sci, BMBS, FCOG, MSc University of Botswana, Botswana
15:15	Integration of HPV Prevention in HIV Care Lloyd Mulenga, BScHb, MBChB, MSc, MMed, PhD Ministry of Health, Zambia
15:30	Q&A

15:45 Refreshment Break and Poster Viewing



Mini-Oral Abstract Presentations IV

Chairs: Tiwadayo Braimoh and Nyaradzo Mavis Mgodzi

16:25	Sex Workers and the Pap Test: Abnormal Cervical Cytology Patterns in a Cohort of Unvaccinated Sex Workers Attending an HIV-Dedicated Health Centre in Johannesburg, South Africa	Avania Bangalee, South Africa	#25
16:28	Ultrasound Findings in African Kaposi Sarcoma Patients – Are They a Sonographic Confounder for Disseminated TB Diagnosis?	Ethel Rambiki, Malawi	#26
16:31	Association Between High-Risk Human Papillomavirus Infections and Cervical Cytology Results Among Women Living With HIV in Kenya	James Kangethe, Kenya	#27
16:34	Avaliação Do Tratamento Preventivo Da TB Com 3HP Em Unidades Sanitárias de Grande Volume NA Cidade de Maputo E Distrito de Chokwe, Moçambique	Savaiva Munguambe, Mozambique	#28
16:37	Recent Infection Surveillance Within Routine HIV Testing Services in Tanzania, 2021-2022	Jennifer Imaa, Tanzania	#29
16:40	Q&A		

Session 11 HIV and Comorbidities III: Aging, NCDs, and Mental Health

Chairs: Jean B. Nachega and Linda-Gail Bekker

16:55	HIV and Aging in Sub-Saharan Africa Barbara Castelnuovo, MD, PhD Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI), Makerere University, Uganda
17:15	HIV and Mental Health: Innovations from Zimbabwe Primrose Nyamayaro, BSc (Hons), MRes, PhD University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe
17:35	Q&A

17:45 Short Refreshment Break

Special Session II UNITAID - Clinical Trials in Africa: Lessons & Recommendations from the TRIO and D2EFT Trials

Chairs: Meg Doherty & Carmen Perez Casas

18:00	Introduction and Welcome Meg Doherty, MD, PhD World Health Organization, Switzerland Carmen Perez Casas, MSc, FRCP Unitaid, Switzerland
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II.I Generating Evidence and Policy Shaping

18:10	Setting the Stage: The Antiretroviral Treatment Optimisation Portfolio of Grants - Background Pamela Nawaggi, BPharm, MSc Unitaid, Switzerland
18:15	Why Clinical Trials Matter in LMICs Loice Achieng Ombajo, MBChB, MMed, MSc University of Nairobi, Kenya
18:20	Clinical Trials in the LMIC Context: Set Up, Facilitating, Optimising Resources, Challenges (Including COVID-19) and Opportunities Nkuli Mashabane, BPharm, MBL Ezintsha, South Africa

II.II Results, Policy Implications

- 18:25 **DoIPHIN2**
Thokozile Malaba, PhD
University of Cape Town, South Africa
- 18:30 **NAMSAL ANRS12313**
Serra Asangbeh, BSc, MPH
Unitaid, Cameroon
- 18:35 **ADVANCE**
Bronwyn Bosch, MBChB
Ezintsha, South Africa
- 18:40 **D2EFT**
Margaret Borok, MBChB, FRCP
University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe
- 18:45 **TRIO & Impact – Pooled Analysis**
Andy Hill, PhD
University of Liverpool, United Kingdom
- 18:50 **Q&A**

II.III Partnering with Communities

- 19:00 **Community Participation – The Role of Communities in Clinical Trials (NAMSAL, DoIPHIN2 and D2EFT)**
Kenly Sikwese
AfroCAB, Zambia
- 19:05 **Treatment Literacy in ADVANCE**
Luckyboy Mkhondwane
Independent Consultant, South Africa
- 19:10 **Q&A**

II.IV Building on Evidence

- 19:20 **Perspectives**
François Venter, MD, FCP, PhD
Ezintsha, South Africa
- 19:25 **Next Phase of ART Optimisation**
Carmen Perez Casas, MSc, FRCP
Unitaid, Switzerland
- 19:30 **Session Close**
Meg Doherty, MD, PhD
World Health Organization, Switzerland
Carmen Perez Casas, MSc, FRCP
Unitaid, Switzerland



Friday, 12 May

Parallel Early Morning Sessions - Sign Up Required

07:00	Grantspersonship European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) Michelle Nderu	Mentoring Nyaradzo Mgodzi, Andrew Kambugu, and Guido Ferrari	Guided Poster Discussions Nomathemba Chandiwana and Kwasi Torpey	Abstract Writing English Nadia Sam-Agudu and Peter Kilmarx
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Mini-Oral Abstract Presentations V

Chairs: Lloyd Mulenga and Nadia Sam Agudu

08:00	Empowered by Faith to Leave No One Behind: Collaborating with Faith-Based Organizations to Deliver HIV Services to Men in Zambia	James Sikanyika, Zambia	#30
08:03	La Peur Persistante de la Stigmatisation : Principal Obstacle à la Décentralisation de la Prise en Charge du VIH Pédiatrique AU Sénégal	Aminata Niang, Senegal	#31
08:06	High Prevalence of Anal Oncogenic Human Papillomavirus Infection in Young Men Who Have Sex with Men Living in Bamako, Mali	Almahdi Ag Alitini, Mali	#32
08:09	Challenges With Oral PrEP Uptake, Condom and ART Use Among Female Sex Workers in Three Districts in Malawi - Results From Recent HIV Infection Surveillance Hotspot Investigations	Alinune Kabaghe, Malawi	#33
08:12	Access to Cervical Cancer Screening Among Women Living With HIV in Malawi - Analysis of Malawi Population-Based HIV Impact Assessment (MPHIA) 2020-21 and MPHIA 2015-16 Surveys	Laurence Gunde, Malawi	#34
08:15	Q&A		

Session 12 Addressing Structural Barriers & Key Populations

Chairs: LaRon Nelson and Samiratou Ouédraogo

08:30	Gender and HIV in Africa Fatoumata Hane, PhD Assane Seck University of Ziguinchor, Senegal
08:50	Addressing HIV Stigma Alone Is Not Enough: Institutional and Structural Support for Healthcare Workers Sanny Mulubale, PhD University of Zambia, Zambia
09:10	Sustaining the Efforts Towards Achieving HIV Epidemic Control Among Key Populations in Africa Christopher Akolo, MD, MSc, FWACP FHI 360, United States
09:30	Q&A

Session 13 Health Systems Strengthening

Chairs: Anna Laura Ross and Timothy Mastro

09:45 **MATRIX: Building Affordable, Acceptable, and Sustainable HIV Prevention Products for LMICs**
Shannon Allen, PhD
 USAID, United States

10:05 **Access to Medicine**
Tiwadayo Braimoh, MSc, MBA
 Medicines Patent Pool, Switzerland

10:25 **Q&A**

10:35 Refreshment Break and Poster Viewing

Mini-Oral Abstract Presentations VI

Chairs: Kwasi Torpey and Catherine Hankins

11:15	Preliminary Results of Safety in Health Care Workers After the BBIBP-CorV Vaccine in Mozambique	Patricia Ramgi, Mozambique	#35
11:18	Hybrid Immunity in Mozambican Healthcare Workers Vaccinated With an Inactivated COVID-19 Vaccine	Raquel Matavele Chissumba, Mozambique	#36
11:21	Positive and Healthy Living Program for Young People Living With HIV in Nairobi, Kenya: Findings From a Pilot Study	Otsetswe Musindo, Botswana	#37
11:24	Risk Compensation Among Virally Suppressed Persons on Anti-Retroviral Therapy	Ikenna Nwakamma, Nigeria	#38
11:27	Complexities of Managing Survivors of Gender-Based Violence; Experiences From Beitbridge, Zimbabwe	Mercy Majachani, Zimbabwe	#39
11:30	Q&A		



Industry Symposium V | Johnson and Johnson
Sunrise in Long-Acting ART Era – A New Chapter in Our Lives
Chair: *Natella Rakhmanina*

- 11:45 **Introduction to the Session**
Natella Rakhmanina, MD, PhD, FAAP, FCP, AAHIVS
Children's National Hospital, United States
- 11:55 **Current Status of LA ART – From Evidence to the Guidelines to the Future Development**
Ndwapi Ndwapi, MD, BSc
Botswana-University of Maryland School of Medicine Health Initiative (BUMMHI), Botswana
- 12:10 **Challenges and Opportunities for Transitioning to the Clinical Use of LA ART**
Simiso Sokhela, MBChB, Dip HIV Man (SA)
Ezintsha, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- 12:25 **Experience in Implementing LA ART in Adolescent HIV Program – Providers and Youth Perspectives**
Natella Rakhmanina, MD, PhD, FAAP, FCP, AAHIVS
Children's National Hospital, United States
- 12:40 **The Importance of Involving Communities: Lessons from a Patient Perspective**
Community Advocates
- 13:00 **Panel Discussion**
Moderated by Natella Rakhmanina
- 13:40 **Closing Remarks**
Natella Rakhmanina, MD, PhD, FAAP, FCP, AAHIVS
Children's National Hospital, United States

Closing Session

- 13:45 **Presentation of the Charles Boucher & Joep Lange Awards to the Highest Scoring Abstracts by Early-Career African Scientists**
- 13:55 **Reflections by the Chairs of the 17th INTEREST Conference**
Kwasi Torpey, MD, PhD, MPH, FGCP, FWACP
University of Ghana, Ghana
Scientific Chair
Nyaradzo Mavis Mgodzi, MBChB, MMed
University of Zimbabwe Clinical Trials Research Centre, Zimbabwe
Scientific Co-Chair
Esperança Sevene, PhD
Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique
Local Co-Chair
Edna Viegas, PhD
National Institute of Health, Mozambique
Local Co-Chair
Ilesh Jani, MD, PhD
Deputy - Minister of Health, Mozambique
Local Co-Chair

14:05 End of the Conference

14:15 Lunch





Faculty





Invited Speaker

**Melissa-Rose
Abrahams,
PhD**

University of Cape Town,
South Africa

Melissa-Rose is a Senior Lecturer in the Division of Medical Virology at the University of Cape Town (UCT), South Africa. Her postgraduate studies in Virology, also at UCT, began in the characterization of poxviruses and later transitioned to investigating the HIV transmission bottleneck. She obtained her PhD in 2014, investigating the evolution of transmitted HIV-1 in women from KwaZulu-Natal with differing disease progression profiles.

She currently oversees an HIV Cure research program at UCT, which includes studies characterizing the size and timing of establishment of the latent HIV reservoir and identifying viral factors that drive viral persistence, with a particular focus on African women.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Invited Speaker

**Christopher Akolo,
MD, MSc, FWACP**

FHI 360,
United States

Christopher Akolo, is an infectious disease physician, currently with FHI 360 as a Technical Director with the PEPFAR/USAID-funded Meeting Target and Achieving Epidemic Control (EpiC) project currently being implemented across over 35 countries globally.

He has over 27 years of clinical experience, including over 20 years' experience with implementation of HIV prevention, care, and treatment programs in resource limited settings and provision of HIV services to key populations (KP), especially men who have sex with men and female sex workers.

Within the past 16 years, he has supported the U.K. Medical Research Council's HIV research program in The Gambia, worked as a clinician with the HIV Unit/Jefferiss Wing of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, London, served as the Technical Advisor clinical mentoring and medical education with the Institute of Human Virology (IHV) at the University of Maryland Baltimore, and has been part of several global teams, including those that revised the current WHO STI Guidelines, WHO KP Guidelines, and the current WHO guidelines on isoniazid preventive therapy.

His areas of interest include KP programming, antiretroviral therapy, HIV treatment failure, PrEP, TB, STI services, operations research, and stigma reduction within health facilities.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Invited Speaker
Shannon Allen,
PhD
USAID,
United States

Shannon Allen is a Health Science Specialist within the Research Division of the Office of HIV and AIDS at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Shannon is the technical lead for one of the largest Microbicide programs, MATRIX (Microbicide R&D to Advance HIV Prevention Technologies through Responsive Innovation and eXcellence), ever awarded which is designed to accelerate research and development of innovative biomedical HIV prevention technologies that women can use to protect themselves.

Prior to this role, she was a Senior Technical Lead for development of long-acting HIV products at USAID. Before that, she served as an HIV/AIDS Public Health Prevention Advisor at the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator and Health Diplomacy where she assumed an intermediary role building bridges between biomedical HIV prevention research and HIV prevention public health programs.

Shannon is also a trained Virologist and obtained her PhD in Cell and Molecular Biology from Northwestern University and holds other degrees including a Masters in Applied Molecular Physiology and a Bachelors in Pre-Med/Biology.

No potential conflict of interest to report



International
Conference Committee
**Joseph Baruch
Baluku,**
MBChB, MMed, MSc, PGDip
Makerere University /
Kiruddu National Referral
Hospital, Uganda

Joseph Baruch Baluku is a research scientist with the Makerere University Lung Institute and the head of the Division of Pulmonology at Kiruddu National Referral Hospital in Kampala, Uganda.

He is also the general secretary of the Association of Physicians of Uganda. He previously chaired the Mildmay Uganda Scientific and Research Advisory Committee, a non-governmental organisation that supports HIV programming for almost 90,000 people with HIV in rural Uganda.

His research interests are in HIV, TB/HIV co-infection, other respiratory infections, and the overlap of non-communicable and infectious diseases. As such he has authored more than 60 peer-reviewed publications on HIV, tuberculosis, COVID – 19, aspergillosis, cryptococcosis, histoplasmosis, helminthiasis, malaria, HIV-related lung cancer and cardiovascular risk factors. He was the of the Joep Lange Award at the INTEREST 2020 conference.

No potential conflict of interest to report



International
Conference Committee

Linda-Gail Bekker,
MBChB, DTMH, DCH,
FCP(SA), PhD

Desmond Tutu Health
Foundation / University
of Cape Town,
South Africa

Linda-Gail Bekker is the Director of the Desmond Tutu HIV Centre at the Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine, University of Cape Town, and Chief Executive Officer for Desmond Tutu Health Foundation. She is a physician scientist and infectious disease specialist. Her research interests include programmatic and action research around antiretroviral roll out and TB integration, prevention of HIV in women, youth and MSM.

Bekker has also recently been involved in a number of COVID19 vaccine trials and co-leads the Sisonke Phase 3B study which has seen the vaccination of 500 000 health care workers in South Africa. She has led numerous investigator-driven studies in HIV treatment, prevention and tuberculosis.

She is a past president of the International AIDS Society and served as the International Co-Chair of the 9th IAS Conference and 22nd International AIDS Conference and Co-Chaired the Research 4 Prevention Conference that was held in January 2021.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Invited Speaker

Gloria Bille,
BSc, MA

UNAIDS,
South Africa

Gloria Bille is the Eastern and Southern Regional Support Team Senior Advisor, Science, Systems and Services supporting HIV Prevention agenda in the region. Gloria has extensive experience in international public health, HIV programming, strategic planning and is a versed strategist, team builder and leader with strong history of achieving results with 20 years' experience and proven record of achievement.

She has worked in multicultural and international settings with extensive technical knowledge in programme analysis demonstrated through delivering national, regional and global strategies.

Before joining the ESA regional team, Gloria served as UNAIDS HIV Technical Adviser in Kenya, Eswatini, Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Namibia. She also has a wealth of experience working with governments, private sector, civil societies, Global Fund, PEPFAR and communities in all their diversity. She has excellent skills in networking, policy, and programme implementation and is passionate about prevention and communities.

Gloria holds a BA in Social Work from the University of Namibia, MA in International Development from Deakin University in Australia, MA in Public Health from Deakin University in Australia, and BSc in Global Health Policy from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in London.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Invited Speaker

Lucille Blumberg,
MBBCh, MMed, ID, FFTM,
DTM&H DOH, DCH, DSc

Stellenbosch University /
University of Pretoria / Right
to Care / National Institute
for Communicable Diseases
(Hon), South Africa

Lucille Blumberg is currently a Consultant in Infectious Diseases at 'Right to Care' South Africa where she focus on creating a One Health programme within RTC and responding to health emergencies in South Africa and the region. She has specialist qualifications in clinical microbiology and infectious diseases.

Until 30 September 2021, she was the Deputy Director at the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD), and founding head of the Division of Public Health Surveillance and Response. During her 20 years in the division she has responded to many communicable diseases outbreaks including cholera, influenza A H1N1 (p2009), rabies, Ebola, malaria, typhoid, listeria, diphtheria, Covid 19, measles and polio (Namibia). She currently holds an honorary position at the NICD supporting the division and also acts as the medical consultant to the Centre for Emerging, Zoonotic and Parasitic Diseases where her major focus is on malaria, rabies, viral during the haemorrhagic fevers, zoonotic diseases and travel – related infections. She holds honorary positions in Department of Medical Microbiology at the University of Stellenbosch and the Faculty of Veterinary Science at University of Pretoria.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Invited Speaker

Tiwadayo Braimoh,
MSc, MBA

Medicines Patent Pool,
Switzerland

Tiwadayo Braimoh joined the Medicines Patent Pool in February 2021 as Policy and Advocacy Manager. After 9 years of working in sales, marketing, and business development in the pharmaceutical industry, Tiwadayo joined Clinton Health Access Initiative in 2013 where he held several positions in Nigeria and Rwanda, mainly focusing on access and health policy.

His last position was as Senior Technical Advisor for Health Financing at the Ministry of Health, Rwanda. At MPP, he works on the policy aspects of COVID-19 with a focus on Africa. Tiwadayo holds a MSc in Health Policy, Planning, and Financing from the London School of Economics and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicines and an MBA from the University of Lagos. He is also a Pharmacist and Fellow of the West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Invited Speaker

Barbara Castelnuovo, MD, PhD

Infectious Diseases Institute, Makerere University, Uganda

Barbara Castelnuovo is a researcher who has been working at the Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI), Uganda, for 18 years.

She is the currently the Head of the Research Department, which hosts over 150 projects, and she has worked in several roles at IDI as a senior medical officer, study coordinators and thereafter assuming leadership roles. She obtained her Medical Degree and Master in Infectious Diseases at the University of Milan, and a PhD degree from the University of Antwerp (Belgium) while working at IDI. She has a long track record in implementing clinical research and models of delivering HIV care, both for observational studies and clinical trials in HIV medicine including co-morbidities.

In the last five years has also been the Head of the Research Capacity Building Units, which hosts and support Ugandan scholars from 5 different capacity building grants, and foreign students from international collaborating Institution. She has personally mentored master and PhD students, with currently 4 PhDs and 4 master students under her direct supervision. She is the recipient of a senior fellowship from EDCTP on HIV and aging, aiming to build capacity for geriatric medicine in Uganda and characterize geriatric syndrome in people aging with HIV.

No potential conflict of interest to report



International Conference Committee

Nomathemba Chandiwana,

BSc, MBBCh, MPH, DCH

Ezintsha, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

Nomathemba Chandiwana is a clinician-scientist with experience in conducting large-scale HIV clinical trials in Africa. Her research is focused on investigating better, safer, and cost-effective antiretroviral treatment options for people with HIV, particularly among women who represent the majority of people with HIV in Africa.

Through the experience gained from HIV, she is one of a team of South African colleagues who are investigating effective and accessible therapeutics for COVID-19 patients, as well as the evolving problem of long-COVID. Other recent work has been on research and advocacy into health concerns beyond HIV such as obesity and obstructive sleep apnoea and with HIV.

Potential conflict of interest

Unitaid, USAID, Shin Poong Pharm. Co, Merck, ViiV Healthcare, Gilead Sciences, Johnson & Johnson, Cipla, Novo Nordisk, and Frontiers Biotech



Invited Speaker
Nafiisah Chotun,
PhD, FRSPH, MRSTMH

Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), Ethiopia

Nafiisah Chotun is a public health professional currently working at the African Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), a specialised technical agency of the African Union. Dr Chotun currently heads the Unit of Endemic and Neglected Tropical Diseases in the newly established Division of Disease Control and Prevention, where she is overseeing the implementation of a 4-year funded programme for the prevention and control of viral hepatitis on the African continent.

She holds a PhD in Medical Virology from the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa and has over 10 years of experience in African public health issues, particularly in the areas of viral hepatitis and liver cancer. Dr Chotun is also an experienced science communicator, having worked as a scientific editor and reviewer for the past 5 years, and more recently as a Section Editor for Africa CDC's Journal of Public Health in Africa.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Invited Speaker
Francesca Conradie,
MBBCh

University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

Francesca Conradie leads a clinical unit dedicated to improving the diagnosis and treatment outcomes for both drug sensitive Tuberculosis (TB) and drug resistant TB through clinical research and translation of research findings in national and international policy. In line with the ambitious WHO goal of eradicating TB by 2030, Dr Francesca Conradie has also made this part of her mission.

Dr Francesca Conradie was the Principal Investigator for the TB Alliance trial NiX, which led to the registration by the FDA of BPAL. She is also the holder of the USAID Grant BEAT Tuberculosis investigation, a short all oral regimen for Rifampicin Resistant tuberculosis (RR-TB). She heads the operational research introducing BPAL into the South African NTP. She has been the co-chair of the National Clinical Advisory Committee since 2012 of the South African NTP. This body was formed originally to provide clinical governance to TB clinicians and to provide expert clinical advice to the National Drug-Resistant TB directorate. This committee has provided input into the National RR-TB guidelines and has advised on the addition of new drugs into the treatment guidelines.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Local
Organising Committee

**Aleny Couto,
MD**

Ministry of Health,
Mozambique

Aleny Couto is a General Practice Physician with a Master's degree in Public Health.

Dr. Couto is currently the Director of the STI, HIV and AIDS Control Program at the Ministry of Health. She has extensive experience in public health programming including the implementation of interventions in HIV prevention, care, and treatment as well as quality improvement.

Over the last 10 years, Dr Couto has led the development of policies and guidelines for the national program to control the HIV epidemic in Mozambique. She is a member technical working groups at the international level.

[No potential conflict of interest to report](#)



Invited Speaker

**Rashida Ferrand,
MBBS, FRCP, MSc, PhD**

London School of Hygiene
& Tropical Medicine, United
Kingdom / Biomedical
Research and Training
Institute, Zimbabwe

Rashida Ferrand is a clinical epidemiologist and Wellcome Trust Senior Fellow in Clinical Science at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). After obtaining her medical degree from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK, she completed postgraduate training in internal medicine and clinical specialist training in HIV Medicine and Sexual Health in London. Her PhD in epidemiology is from LSHTM.

Based in Zimbabwe for the past 19 years, Prof. Ferrand directs a research programme on adolescent health, with a focus on HIV and sexual and reproductive health (SRH), including interventions to improve outcomes across the HIV care cascade and integrate delivery of HIV and SRH services. She studies the clinical epidemiology of HIV-associated comorbidities in children and adolescents with perinatally-acquired HIV, leads observational studies to investigate clinical manifestations and pathogenesis of comorbidities (lung, cardiac, and musculoskeletal disease), and conducts clinical trials of interventions to address these morbidities.

She trains young people as researchers and in delivery of health interventions. In Harare, she is hosted by the Biomedical Research and Training Institute (BRTI). Professor Ferrand is also a visiting professor at the Department of Paediatrics at the Aga Khan University, Pakistan.

[No potential conflict of interest to report](#)



International
Conference Committee

**Guido Ferrari,
MD**

Duke University Medical
Center,
United States

Guido Ferrari is Professor at Duke University in the Department of Surgery and Molecular Genetics and Microbiology. He is also affiliated faculty at the Duke Global Health Institute, Duke Human Vaccine Institute, and Honorary Professor at the University of Cape Town Department of Immunology.

Dr. Ferrari has worked on testing samples from vaccine recipients for cytotoxic T lymphocyte (CTL) and antibody dependent cellular cytotoxic (ADCC) responses for the HIV Vaccine Trial Network (HVTN, the Comprehensive Antibody-Vaccine Immune Monitoring Consortium (CA-VIMC) and for the Primate AIDS Vaccine Evaluation Group (PAVEG). He is currently the Director of the Center for AIDS Research Immunology Core and Mentoring Committee. He was the first to characterize vaccine-induced cross-clade clade CD8 CTL responses and the difference in class I-restricted epitope recognition between HIV-1 infected individuals and vaccine recipients.

He followed this initial epitope mapping of cellular responses with the epitope mapping of ADCC responses to identify the anti-C1C2 epitope as the most recognized epitope by ADCC Ab responses in infected individuals. Dr. Ferrari has also been the organizer of 10 Symposia and numerous workshops to strength collaborations amongst more than 300 young African scientists in collaboration with Prof. Clive Gray at the University of Cape Town.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Local Organising
Committee

**Rufino Gujamo,
PhD**

National Institute of Health,
Mozambique

Rufino Carlos Gujamo holds a degree in International Relations and Diplomacy (2004) from the Higher Institute of International Relations (ISRI) in Maputo, a Master in Governance and Conflict Studies (2009) from Africa University in Zimbabwe and a PhD in History (2016) in the specialty of Dynamics of the Contemporary World, by the University of Lisbon. He is currently National Director of Training and Communication in Health at the National Institute of Health (INS). He has many years of experience in the areas of communication and teaching, having assumed different responsibilities in these areas.

He has published in magazines such as e-Journal of Portuguese History and Journal of Cultural and Religious Studies, in addition to book chapters. He is a member of the Editorial Board of the Mozambican Journal of International Studies. He is a member of the International Association of Portuguese Language Social and Human Sciences (AILPsch) and Professor Joaquim Veríssimo Serrão Research Center in Portugal. Currently, his areas of interest are communication and health, history of health in Mozambique and scientific cooperation in the area of health.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Invited Speaker

Fatoumata Hane, **PhD**

Assane Seck University of
Ziguinchor,
Senegal

Fatoumata Hane is a socio-anthropologist, research teacher in the sociology department of Assane Seck University Ziguinchor. She is currently the coordinator of the Institute of Education, Family Health and Gender and the Master of Sociology «Publics Policies, Culture and Development» of this university.

Her researches are mainly focuses on health policy and AIDS health governance. She has done various project on health systems and policies in Africa through chronic diseases examples such as tuberculosis and HIV. Fatoumata HANE has also carried out various research on community health, on nursing functions etc. and on the place of children in pediatric care services. As researcher in the International Research Laboratory 3189 of CNRS “Environment, Health and Societies”, she is a member of an interdisciplinary research group on aging in Africa. In this context, she has conducted various research on aging in Senegal and in the context of migration. She is currently responsible for the Health and Transitions team in West Africa.

Fatoumata HANE is also a member of the Operational Research Group of the WHO COVID Platform for West and Central Africa as a representative of the transdisciplinary scientific committee COVID-IRD of the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD).

Member of the research team and responsible of the community staff component “Mobilisations communautaires et enjeux socio-sanitaires face au COVID-19 (Burkina Faso, Senegal) ANRS COV26” project, she is author and co-author author of several publications, the most recent of which focus on Covid-19.

Fatoumata HANE is also a member of various social science research expertise committees such as ANRS and an associate editor of Revue Française de Santé Publique.

No potential conflict of interest to report



International Conference Committee

Catherine Hankins, **MD, PhD, FRCPC, CM**

McGill University, Canada
Amsterdam Institute for Glob-
al Health and Development
(AIGHD), The Netherlands

Catherine Hankins is Professor of Public and Population Health, Faculty of Medicine, McGill University; Deputy Director, Science at the Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development, Department of Global Health, University of Amsterdam; and Honorary Professor, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

She has authored over 250 peer-reviewed publications and reviewed for scientific journals and funding agencies in Canada, USA, Africa, and Europe. As UNAIDS’s first Chief Scientific Adviser, she led the scientific knowledge translation team, developing ethical and participatory HIV prevention trial conduct guidelines and convening mathematical modelling teams to support country implementation of proven biomedical HIV prevention modalities.

She was the editor of UNAIDS’ popular science blog HIV This Week. Professor Hankins was Scientific Chair of the annual INTEREST conference in Africa from 2014 to 2020. She chairs the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership’s Scientific Advisory Committee and the Scientific Advisory Group of the USA National Institutes of Health HIV Prevention Trials Network.

She is a trustee of the HIV Research Trust, member of the International AIDS Society Industry Liaison Forum, and board member of AVAC. She is co-Chair of Canada’s COVID-19 Immunity Task Force. She was named to the Order of Canada in 2013.

Potential conflict of interest

Gilead and Merck Canada



Local Co-Chair

Ilesh Jani,
MD, PhD

Deputy - Minister of Health,
Mozambique

Ilesh Jani qualified as a medical doctor in Mozambique and received a Ph.D. in immunology/medicine in the United Kingdom. Dr. Jani was the Director General of Mozambique's National Institute of Health (INS) from 2009 to 2023 where he also acted as researcher since 1998. At INS he also served as the Head of the Department of Immunology from 2004 to 2009. During his career Dr. Jani has led efforts in the areas of research, public health, diagnostics, and education with the objective of strengthening the health system in Mozambique.

He has also contributed to several global initiatives and projects, including as a member of the Board of Directors of the African Society of Laboratory Medicine (ASLM; 2011-2016), of the Executive Board of the International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI; 2011-2018), of the Program Committee of the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI; 2014-2020), and of WHO's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE; 2015-2022).

Dr. Jani has authored over 100 scientific publications in the field of biomedicine and public health.

Dr. Ilesh Jani is the Deputy Minister of Health in Mozambique since January 2023.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Local Organising Committee

Eunice Jethá,
MD, PhD (c)

Eduardo Mondlane
University,
Mozambique

Eunice Jethá, graduated in Medicine at Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM) in 2004, and completed a master's degree in public health at the same university. She is currently enrolled in a doctoral program at the University of Ghent. She is the Director of the UEM Health Center, where she has served as Manager since 2016. She is a member of the postgraduate and scientific committees of the Faculty of Medicine, as well as of the UEM Rectory Council.

As a lecturer at the Community Health Department, Faculty of Medicine- UEM, she also conducts training and research activities in public health. In addition, Dr Eunice coordinates the activities of the injury and violence unit of the Faculty of Medicine and a postgraduate program in injury and violence at UEM, funded by the Kingdom of Sweden.

Dr Eunice has authored scientific publications in public health.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Local Organising Committee

**Benedita José,
MD, MSc**

Ministry of Health,
Mozambique

Benedita José is a medical doctor with a master's degree in Field and Laboratory Epidemiology. She graduated from the Faculty of Medicine of Eduardo Mondlane University. She currently National Tuberculosis Program Manager since 2020.

She was a District Medical Chief in Mocimboa da Praia District and Director of the Rural Hospital in same district between 2009 and 2011. Since 2011, she has been working in the area of tuberculosis leading clinical and programmatic management of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis, collaborative activities on TB/HIV, pediatric TB and community engagement. Her area of interest is Drug Resistance Tuberculosis. She is the principal investigator of the 3rd National Drug Resistance Survey that is currently taking place.

No potential conflict of interest to report



International Conference Committee

**Andrew Kambugu,
MBChB, MMed, FRCP**

Infectious Diseases Institute,
Makerere University, Uganda

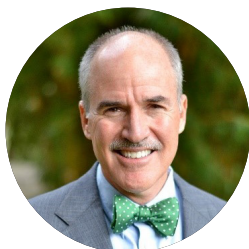
Andrew Kambugu is the Sande-McKinnell Executive Director at the Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI), College of Health Sciences, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. He is an adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Minnesota, USA, and honorary Senior Lecturer in the Department of Medicine at Makerere University.

He received his basic medical training as well as his Masters in Internal Medicine at Makerere University in Uganda and undertook specialist training in infectious diseases at the University of Utah, USA, and the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of the United Kingdom. Dr. Kambugu previously served as the Head of the Research Program Prevention Care and Treatment Programmes at the IDI.

He has over 14 years of HIV clinical and programming experience and is a member of two national HIV subcommittees of the Ugandan Ministry of Health. He has made significant research contributions in the areas of antiretroviral therapy and opportunistic infections and has over 130 publications in peer-reviewed journals.

Potential conflict of interest

Merck



International Conference Committee

Peter Kilmarx, MD, FACP, FIDSA

John E. Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health, United States

Peter Kilmarx, an expert in global health and infectious disease research, policy, and programs, is the Deputy Director of the John E. Fogarty International Center of the National Institutes of Health, a preeminent center for global health research and capacity building.

He previously served as the Country Director in Zimbabwe and in Botswana for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and as Chief of CDC's Sexual Transmission Research Section in Thailand.

Other CDC leadership positions included Senior Advisor to the Director for Health Reform and Chief of Epidemiology Branch, Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention. Dr. Kilmarx served for more than 20 years in the U.S. Public Health Service rising to the rank of Assistant Surgeon General (Rear Admiral). He played leadership roles in CDC's Ebola response efforts in Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and has published more than 150 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters.

His international career began as a Peace Corps volunteer in the DRC (then Zaire), where he helped develop fisheries that are still productive today.

No potential conflict of interest to report



International Conference Committee

Timothy Mastro, MD, FACP, DTM&H

FHI 360 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, United States

Timothy Mastro is Chief Science Officer at FHI 360, Durham, North Carolina and Adjunct Professor of Epidemiology in the Gillings School of Global Public Health, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Mastro oversees FHI 360's research and science-based programs conducted in the United States and through FHI 360's offices in 60 countries around the world.

Dr. Mastro joined FHI 360 in 2008 following 20 years in scientific leadership positions at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta. During 1993-2000, he served in Bangkok as Director of the CDC HIV/AIDS collaboration with the Thai Ministry of Public Health.

Dr. Mastro is author or co-author of more than 180 published articles and book chapters and has served on committees for the World Health Organization, UNAIDS, PEPFAR and the USA National Institutes of Health. Dr. Mastro trained in internal medicine at the Metropolitan Hospital and Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York City. He studied at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and received a DTM&H from the Royal College of Physicians of London.

Board-certified in internal medicine, he is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and member of the American Epidemiological Society.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Invited Speaker

Mogomotsi Matshaba,
MD, MBBCh BAO, BMedSci
(Hons)

Botswana-Baylor Children's
Clinical Centre of Excellence,
Botswana / Baylor College of
Medicine, United States

Mogomotsi Matshaba is a Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Retrovirology, Baylor College of Medicine, and Executive Director- Botswana-Baylor Clinic, is a graduate of University College of Dublin, Ireland. He then completed his residency training in pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine (2008 to 2011). He is interested in paediatric HIV infection research, ethics and implementation science.

He is the principal investigator of the NIH funded Collaborative African Genomics Network (CAfGEN) leading a team of researcher from 6 institutions and 4 countries and The Individual Findings in Genetics Research in Africa (IFGeneRA) H3Africa ELSI Collaborative Centre. The 2 grants are currently training 3 MSc and 12 PhDs in Genomics, Bioinformatic and Bioethics in Botswana, Eswatini and Uganda.

He is the Chairman of Botswana's National HIV/Syphilis Elimination Validation Committee and the National Coordinator for the Botswana Presidential COVID 19 Task Force. He sits in several Ministry of Health and Wellness Committees as the paediatric HIV expert. On the international stage he serves in the Inter-Agency Task Team on the Prevention and Treatment of HIV Infection in Pregnant Women, Mothers and Children (IATT), Geneva and is past Chair of Human Health and Heredity in Africa (H3Africa).

He was awarded the International Lifetime Achievement Award by the Society of Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology Transplant and Nutrition in Jaipur, India in 2016.

Potential conflict of interest

ViiV Healthcare, Pediatric Advisory Board Meeting



Local Organising
Committee

Francisco Mbofana,
MD, MPH

National AIDS Council,
Mozambique

Francisco Mbofana has been the Executive Secretary of Mozambique's National AIDS Council since June 2017 and has been the Chair of the Mozambique Country Coordination Mechanism of Global Fund to fight HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria since December 2019. Most recently he served as National Director of Public Health between October 2013 and May 2017. From October 2009 to October 2013, he served as Scientific Director of Mozambique's National Institute of Health (INS). From 2006-2009, he was the Head of the Department of Health Systems Research at INS.

He joined Ministry of Health at INS in 1995 and was involved in the establishment of the Manhiça Health Research Center. He is a lecturer in the Department of Community Health, School of Medicine, Eduardo Mondlane University teaching both under and post-graduate levels. He received his Medical Degree from the Eduardo Mondlane University in Mozambique in 1995 and his Master's degree in International Health from the University of Copenhagen in Denmark in 2005. In 2011, he qualified as a public health specialist (epidemiology). Mbofana has authored over 30 scientific publications in the field of health systems and public health.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Scientific Co-Chair
**Nyaradzo Mavis
Mgodhi,**
MBChB, MMed

University of Zimbabwe
Clinical Trials Research
Centre, Zimbabwe

Nyaradzo Mavis Mgodhi, - JIAS Deputy Editor, Associate Editor at Frontiers in Global Reproductive Health - HIV and STIs - is a clinical pathologist with over 10 years of experience conducting clinical trials for HIV prevention in women of reproductive age in Sub-Saharan Africa, including Zimbabwe, home to the University of Zimbabwe-Clinical Trials Research Centre.

As lead investigator in Harare, she has overseen the implementation of several trials assessing acceptability, safety and effectiveness of oral PrEP, vaginal microbicides, the Dapivirine vaginal ring, long-acting injectable PrEP and broadly neutralizing antibodies for HIV prevention in African women at risk for HIV.

She is protocol co-chairperson for HVTN 703/HPTN 081 study, also known as Antibody Mediated Prevention (AMP) and of MTN 025/HOPE study. Nyaradzo, who serves as the International Principal Investigator on the HPTN Executive Committee, is also a scientific reviewer for the Medical Research Council of Zimbabwe, and has served as a technical advisor for the Zimbabwe Population-based HIV Impact Assessment (ZIMPHIA) survey. She is a member of the Policy and Implementation Steering Committee for the Global Evaluation of Microbicide Sensitivity (GEMS) project, HIVR4P Program Organizing Committee and served as Conference Advisory Committee member for International AIDS Society (IAS) 2017.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Invited Speaker
**Dorothy
Mgori-Ngacha,**
MBChB, MMed, MPH

Independent Consultant,
Kenya

Dorothy Mbori-Ngacha is medical doctor with specialist training in paediatrics, infectious disease, and public health. She has extensive experience as a public health professional working in academia, the public sector, the NGO community, and international organizations. Most recently she was the Senior HIV Specialist on EMTCT and Paediatric HIV for UNICEF's global HIV/AIDS programmes working with teams to improve outcomes for children and their families.

A national of Kenya, Dr Mbori-Ngacha holds a degree in medicine and a master's in paediatrics from the University of Nairobi School of Medicine; and a master's in public health (epidemiology) from the University of Washington, Seattle. Dr Mbori-Ngacha's research area is in the field of PMTCT and Paediatric HIV. She has served on several DSMBs of ground-breaking studies and sits on several national and international advisory committees related to her expertise.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Local Organising
Committee
**Silvia Matitimmel
Mikusova,
MD**
USAID,
Mozambique

Silvia Mikusova has over 20 years of experience in clinical and public health practice in Africa, including HIV/AIDS prevention & care and treatment and maternal and child health (MCH). Her experience also encompasses program management, assessment, design, implementation, capacity building, guideline development, M&E and advocacy.

Silvia is certified in Pediatrics by Slovak Postgraduate Academy of Medicine and obtained her Doctor of Medicine degree from Charles University in Prague.

Currently, she is the Senior Infectious Diseases Advisor at USAID Mozambique. Prior to working with USAID, she worked as a Technical Director at EGPAF Mozambique and in the several MSF Projects.

[No potential conflict of interest to report](#)



Invited Speaker
**Nono Mkhize,
PhD**
National Institute of
Communicable Diseases,
South Africa

Nono Mkhize is a Senior Medical Scientist overseeing the HIV vaccine trial endpoints within the HIV Virology laboratory at the Centre for HIV & STI's, NICD. She has a PhD in Medical Virology from the University of Cape Town (obtained in 2011) and has been based at the NICD for 11 years. She has extensive experience in multi-color flow cytometry which she used in her PhD to investigate the phenotype and poly-functionality of mucosal T cells during HIV infection.

During her PhD, she was awarded a Columbia-Fogarty AITRP traineeship to visit the HIV Vaccine Trials Network (HVTN) laboratory in Seattle, where she learned advanced flow cytometry techniques and panel design. Further flow cytometry training was undertaken at the NIH Vaccine Research Center in 2015 as part of a second Columbia-Fogarty traineeship. She has been involved in the isolation of antigen-specific B cells from HIV and SARS-CoV-2 infected individuals and contributed to a number of antibody-isolation based projects and publications.

She is a recipient of the L'Oreal UNESCO sub-Saharan fellowship. She is also the laboratory lead of a paediatric HIV vaccine clinical trial (HVTN 135) enrolling infants in South Africa to test whether an HIV immunogen can give rise to bNAb precursors.

[No potential conflict of interest to report](#)



International
Conference Committee

**Penny Moore,
PhD**

University of the
Witwatersrand and
National Institute for
Communicable Diseases,
South Africa

Penny Moore is the South African Research Chair of Virus-Host Dynamics and Research Professor at the University of the Witwatersrand and the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD). She holds a joint appointment as CAPRISA Honorary Senior Scientist in Virus-Host Dynamics at the Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research (CAPRISA), University of Kwazulu-Natal and is Adjunct Member of the Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine (IDM) at the University of Cape Town. She co-directs a team of more than 15 scientists and 10 postgraduate students who work in the field of HIV vaccine discovery, combining Virology and Immunology.

Her research is currently funded by the NIH, the SA Medical Research Council, the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative and the SA National Research Foundation. In the past 18 years that she has worked in the HIV field she has contributed towards more than 120 papers, focusing predominantly on HIV neutralizing antibodies and their interplay with the evolving virus, a result of extensive collaborations within South Africa and internationally. She has extensive experience with sequencing and analysis of HIV glycoproteins, measuring neutralizing antibodies antibody responses and the isolation and characterization of monoclonal antibodies to HIV antigens.

More recently, with the emergence of SARS-CoV-2, her team has redeployed many of these platforms and technologies, developing tools to measure humoral immune responses to SARS-CoV-2 infection and vaccination and also to isolate South African SARS-CoV-2-directed mAbs.

[No potential conflict of interest to report](#)



Invited Speaker

**Sikhulile Moyo,
MSc, MPH, PhD**

Botswana Harvard AIDS
Institute Partnership,
Botswana / Harvard T.H. Chan
School of Public Health,
United States

Medical Virologist based at the Botswana Harvard AIDS Institute Partnership (BHP). He is the laboratory director for the Botswana Harvard HIV Reference Laboratory and a Research Associate with the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. He is currently part of the presidential task team for COVID-19 as a co-chief scientist.

He has made several significant contributions in laboratory systems strengthening, the prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission studies and studies that have informed birth outcomes, the health of HIV-exposed infants, surveillance of HIV incidence, and monitoring of HIV mutations associated with drug resistance. His research interests are focused on the characterization of acute and primary HIV-1 subtype C infection, HIV cure, molecular epidemiology of HIV-1C infection, viral evolution, design and evaluation of cross-sectional methods for estimating HIV incidence, including improved accuracy and incorporating analysis of HIV diversity and estimation of transmission time into multi-assay algorithms.

He is involved in various pathogen genomics studies including HIV, SARS-COV-2, Hepatitis, Human Papillomavirus, TB, and Norovirus. He is currently mentoring several students. Recently Dr Moyo and his team contributed to the identification of the Omicron variant in Southern Africa. He has over 150 publications in peer-reviewed journals.

[No Potential conflict of interest](#)



Invited Speaker
Sanny Mulubale,
PhD
University of Zambia,
Zambia

Medical Virologist based at the Botswana Harvard AIDS Institute Partnership (BHIP). He is the laboratory director for the Botswana Harvard HIV Reference Laboratory and a Research Associate with the Harvard T.H Chan School of Public Health. He is currently part of the presidential task team for COVID-19 as a co-chief scientist.

He has made several significant contributions in laboratory systems strengthening, the prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission studies and studies that have informed birth outcomes, the health of HIV-exposed infants, surveillance of HIV incidence, and monitoring of HIV mutations associated with drug resistance. His research interests are focused on the characterization of acute and primary HIV-1 subtype C infection, HIV cure, molecular epidemiology of HIV-1C infection, viral evolution, design and evaluation of cross-sectional methods for estimating HIV incidence, including improved accuracy and incorporating analysis of HIV diversity and estimation of transmission time into multi-assay algorithms.

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No Potential conflict of interest



Invited Speaker
Lloyd Mulenga,
BScHb, MBChB, MSc,
MMed, PhD
Ministry of Health,
Zambia

Lloyd B. Mulenga is an Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases (ID) Physician currently serving as Director of Infectious Diseases for the Ministry of Health and the ID division of the University of Zambia (UNZA) School of Medicine (SOM) and its accredited teaching hospital, the University Teaching Hospital (UTH). He is the lead physician for the COVID clinical response and currently serves on the 1) United States National Institute of Health (NIH) Data and Safety Monitoring Boards Division of AIDS National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), 2) WHO Guidelines Development Group 3) WHO HIV Drug Resistance Network (HIVResNet) and 4) WHO Tropical Diseases Research (TDR) Joint Coordinating Board.

His research focuses on 1) HIV and clinical outcomes 2) HIV drug resistance and 3) HIV and non-communicable diseases (kidney, cardiovascular diseases and diabetes) and 4) Infectious diseases epidemiology and clinical outcomes including SARS-CoV-2, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis. He has authored a number of publications in peer reviewed journals on the same subjects.

Potential conflict of interest

Gilead and Viatrix



International Conference Committee

Jean B. Nachega,
MD, PhD, MPH, FRCP, FAAS

University of Pittsburgh,
Johns Hopkins University,
United States /
Stellenbosch University,
South Africa

Jean B. Nachega is an Infectious Diseases-Internist and Epidemiologist and a Professor Extraordinary of Medicine at Stellenbosch University Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Cape Town, South Africa.

He is also a tenured Associate Professor of Medicine, Infectious Diseases, Microbiology and Epidemiology, at Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh, PA, USA as well as an Adjunct Associate Professor of Epidemiology and International Health at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD, USA.

He has over 30 year-experience in patient care, teaching, designing, and implementing HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis studies or programs funded by NIH/ NIAID, NIH/FIC, Wellcome Trust, PEPFAR, and EDCTP. He authored more than 200 peer-reviewed publications including in top-tier journals such as The Lancet, The New England Journal of Medicine, JAMA, Clinical Infectious Diseases and Annals of Internal Medicine.

He is an ad hoc consultant at WHO, CDC, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, member-elect of the Academy of Sciences of South Africa (ASSAf) and the African Academy of Sciences (AAS).

No potential conflict of interest to report



Local Organising Committee

Sozinho Ndima,
MSc

Eduardo Mondlane
University,
Mozambique

Sozinho Ndima graduated as an Anthropologist at Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM) in 2008 and completed a Master in Public Health at the University of Johannesburg. He has been an Assistant Lecturer of Community Health at the Community Health Department, UEM, since 2013.

His research interest includes community health workers, sexual health, and HIV. He has expertise in qualitative data analysis. He has authored scientific publications in public health and is a junior reviewer for Human Resources for Health Journal.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Invited Speaker

**John Nkengasong,
PhD**

U.S. President's Emergency
Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR),
United States

John N. Nkengasong is an Ambassador at Large and serves as the U.S. Department of State's U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator and Special Representative for Global Health Diplomacy. In this role, Dr. Nkengasong oversees the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief – PEPFAR; which is the largest commitment by any nation to address a single disease in history, prevent millions of HIV infections, save lives, and make progress toward ending the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Previously, Dr. Nkengasong served as the first director of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. Through his leadership, a framework for transforming Africa CDC into a full autonomous health agency of the Africa Union was established. As Africa CDC director, Dr. Nkengasong also led the COVID-19 response in Africa, coordinating with heads of state and governments across the continent, among other achievements to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, he helped secure 400 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines at the height of vaccine scarcity. During his tenure, he was appointed as one of the World Health Organization's special envoys on COVID-19 preparedness and response. Dr. Nkengasong also served as acting deputy principal director of the Center for Global Health, as well as the Division of Global HIV and TB's chief of the International Laboratory Branch at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

As a world-renowned public health leader, Dr. Nkengasong's contributions to global health have been recognized by numerous prestigious awards and honors including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, 2020 Global Goalkeeper Award; Time Magazine, 2021 Time 100 List of Most Influential People; Fortune magazine, 2021 World's 50 Greatest Leaders; Bloomberg, 2021 Bloomberg 50 Influential People; and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Shepard Award and William Watson Medal of Excellence. In 2022, he was invited to join the National Academy of Medicine and he became the first laureate of the Virchow Prize for Global Health. Dr. Nkengasong also holds the rare honor of being knighted by the governments of Sénégal, Côte d'Ivoire, and Cameroon.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Invited Speaker

**Primrose
Nyamayaro,
BSc (Hons), MRes, PhD**

University of Zimbabwe,
Zimbabwe

Primrose Nyamayaro is a mental health researcher based in Zimbabwe. She has been engaged in mental health and HIV research. This has included feasibility and effectiveness trials on the interface between HIV and mental health, funded by various international organisations.

She has coordinated local research teams to adapt and implement a psychological intervention developed in the United States of America to the local Zimbabwean context, as well as testing the effectiveness of a peer led intervention for adolescents with depression and poor adherence. She is an alumna of African Mental Health Research Initiative (AMARI). Dr Nyamayaro has led a community and public engagement grant on mental health for people living with HIV.

She also has research interests in brain health and is an Atlantic Fellow for Equity in Brain Health. Dr Nyamayaro has validated NeuroScreen, a smartphone app based cognitive screener that can be used by lay counsellors to assess patients in clinics. This app screener is now available in Shona, one of the local Zimbabwean languages.

As a researcher, Dr Nyamayaro is passionate about the use of evidence-based interventions in mental health and ensuring they reach everyone.

Potential conflict of interest

National Institute of Health, Global Brain Health Institute
Alzheimer's



International
Conference Committee

**Samiratou
Ouédraogo,**
DPharm, MPH, PhD

University Joseph Ki-Zerbo,
Burkina Faso

Samira Ouedraogo is a junior lecturer and Co-chair of the O.R. Tambo Africa Research Chair in “Research and Action Against Cancer” at the University Joseph Ki-Zerbo in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso). Her specific research interests include health system improvement, infectious diseases, cancers, sexual and reproductive health, and rights. Throughout her academic and work experiences, she has provided leadership and technical expertise on diverse projects in Sub-Saharan Africa, France, the United-Kingdom and Canada.

Selected as an Emerging voice for Global Health 2020, she belongs to a generation of young African leaders who are achieving cutting-edge work while advocating for health equity and social justice. She has co-founded the Women in Global Health Francophone initiative to advocate for Francophone Women inclusion in population and global health decision making.

Dr Ouedraogo holds a PhD and a Master’s degree in Epidemiology and Public Health from the University of Burgundy – France; and a Doctoral Degree in Pharmacy from the Mohammed V University in Rabat – Morocco. She has benefited from a post-Ph.D. training in transdisciplinary research on public policies promoting health and for health system improvement at McGill University and the “Institut national de santé publique du Québec” as part of the Canadian Institutes of Health research Health System Impact Fellowship (HSIF) program.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Invited Speaker

Nickolas Paton,
MD, FRCP

National University of
Singapore, Singapore

Nicholas Paton trained in Medicine and Infectious Diseases in Cambridge, Sydney and London, and in Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. From 1997 to 2005 he worked as Head of Department at the National HIV Referral Centre in Singapore and, in addition to clinical care responsibilities, developed a Centre for Research in HIV and Communicable Diseases. From 2006 to 2011 he worked at the UK MRC Clinical Trials Unit where he was the Chief Investigator of large HIV treatment trials such as PIVOT (a trial of a PI-monotherapy strategy done at 45 clinical sites in the UK); and EARNEST (testing options for second-line therapy in over 1200 patients in 5 countries in sub-Saharan Africa).

He currently holds a joint appointment as Professor of Infectious Diseases at the National University of Singapore and at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He is the Chief Investigator of the NADIA trial (comparing dolutegravir with darunavir and comparing maintenance of tenofovir versus switching to zidovudine in second-line therapy, done in 7 sites in Uganda, Kenya and Zimbabwe) and the scientific lead of the CARES trial (comparing long acting cabotegravir/rilpivirine with standard combination ART at 8 sites in Uganda, Kenya and South Africa).

In Singapore he leads a programme of TB trials focused on trials of host-directed therapies for TB and exploring novel TB trial outcome measures; and is the Chief Investigator on the TRUNCATE-TB trial (a strategy trial of 2 months of treatment for drug-susceptible TB done across a network of 18 sites in Asia and Africa).

Potential conflict of interest

Janssen



Invited Speaker

Yogan Pillay,
PhD

Clinton Health Access
Initiative,
South Africa

Yogan Pillay is the country director of the Clinton Health Access Initiative in South Africa and senior director for universal health coverage. He is formerly the Deputy Director-General of Health in the Department of Health, South Africa responsible for health programmes.

He obtained a PhD from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and has co-written two textbooks on global health, co-edited a book on mental health and authored and co-authored more than 100 peer reviewed publications. In 2018 he was awarded the Karel Styblo Medallion and presented with a certification of appreciation for leadership in the global fight against tuberculosis by KNCV. In 2020 the Rotary International Board named him a Paul Harris Fellow in recognition of his work on child health.

He is an affiliate of the Center for Innovation in Global Health, Georgetown University. In 2021 he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Cape Town and in the same year appointed extraordinary professor in the Division of Health Systems and Public Health, Department of Global Health, Stellenbosch University.

No potential conflict of interest to report



International
Conference Committee

Anna Laura Ross,
PhD

World Health Organization,
Switzerland

Anna Laura Ross is currently Unit Head for Emerging Technologies, Research Prioritization and Support in the WHO Science Division in Geneva. Originally from Italy, Dr. Ross has over fifteen years of experience in global health. Her areas of interest are in the field of HIV biomedical research, scientific programme coordination, implementation research, and global health policy.

Prior to joining WHO, Anna Laura Ross served as Head of International Affairs and Scientific Relations at the Agence nationale de recherche sur le sida et les hépatites (ANRS) in Paris, France. Previously, Dr Ross carried out biomedical research at the UK Medical Research Council, London, England and at the Institut Pasteur network. In the latter role she worked in France, Cameroon, and Cambodia on prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

Dr. Ross is particularly interested in facilitating and accelerating the translation of evidence-based science into policies for the benefit of global health. She holds a PhD in biomedical research from the University of Cambridge and a post-graduate qualification in Global Health Policy from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

No potential conflict of interest to report



International
Conference Committee

**Nadia Sam-Agudu,
MD, CTropMed**

University of Maryland School
of Medicine, United States /
Institute of Human Virology
Nigeria, Nigeria

Nadia A. Sam-Agudu is a pediatrician working for the Institute of Human Virology at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, USA, where she is also Associate Professor of Pediatrics in Immunology and Infectious Diseases. She is stationed full-time in Nigeria, where she serves as the Senior Technical Advisor for Pediatric and Adolescent HIV at the Institute of Human Virology Nigeria in Abuja.

Dr. Sam-Agudu graduated from the Mayo Clinic Medical School in 2002, and thereafter completed her training in Pediatrics and Pediatric Infectious Diseases at the University of Minnesota, USA. Her career focuses on the control and elimination of infectious diseases of public health importance among African children, specifically HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria.

Dr. Sam-Agudu has research experience in Ghana, Uganda and particularly in Nigeria, where she has provided technical and policy-making support for HIV programs since 2010. Her research interest is in using implementation science methods to generate evidence for sustainable HIV prevention and control among children and adolescents. To this end, she has to date served as Principal Investigator, Project Director or Mentor for projects supported by the World Health Organization, the US National Institutes of Health, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the International AIDS Society.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Local Co-Chair

**Esperança Sevene,
PhD**

Eduardo Mondlane
University,
Mozambique

Esperança Sevene graduated in Medicine and Surgery at the Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM) in 1993. She did a master's in Pharmacoepidemiology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona in 2000 and a PhD in Medicine at the University of Barcelona in 2009. She worked on the safe use of medicines and vaccines and was involved in implementing pharmacovigilance in several countries in collaboration with the World Health Organization. She was involved in creating the National Bioethics Committee for Health in 2002.

Currently, she is an Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacology, serving as Director of the Doctoral Program in Biosciences and Public Health at UEM, Senior Researcher at the Manhiça Health Research Center and President of the National Bioethics Committee for Health. She also has international collaborations as a member of the Africa-Europe Foundation Health Strategic Group, Maternal Immunization Working Group and the WHO Advisory Committee on Safety of Medicinal Products, COVID-19 Therapeutics Sub-Committee.

Dr Sevene authored over 100 scientific publications in Pharmacoepidemiology and Public Health.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Invited Speaker
Kenly Sikwese,

AfroCAB,
Zambia

Kenly Sikwese is the Executive Director of the AfroCAB Treatment Access Partnership. He is leading their global, regional and national level advocacy network for access to better quality optimal medicines and newer innovative diagnostics for HIV and co-infections. AfroCAB operates in 20 sub-Saharan African countries. AfroCAB provides 'patient' education on newer and better medicines and diagnostics including demand generation.

Kenly is a currently board member of AVAC and a member of the IAS HIV Vaccine Industry Partnership. He has also served as a Unitaid board member from 2016 to 2021, as Co-Chair of the UNAIDS 90-90-90 Scientific Advisory Committee (2015-2019), Co-Chair of the UNAIDS Retargeting Technical Committee (2014-2015) and as member of the Communities Delegation to the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (2014-2016).

He has served on the World Health Organization (WHO) HIV treatment and other guideline development and technical groups since 2010 and was member of the Robert Carr Fund inaugural steering committee. Kenly has participated in WHO 2-4 CADOS and was a member of the Optimal ARVs Programme Advisory Committee of WHO, Unitaid, PEPFAR and the Global Fund. He was technical advisor for the implementation of the PLHIV Stigma Index in 12 African countries and Moldova and serves on other national, regional and global treatment access technical or advisory groups, as well as research advisory groups and was part of the WHO led group that developed the early concepts of the differentiated service delivery model.

[No potential conflict of interest to report](#)



Invited Speaker
Saadick Ssentongo,
MBCHB

The AIDS Support Organization Soroti Regional Project (TASO SORP),
Uganda

Ssentongo. M. Saadick is a Ugandan-based Medical Doctor (MBCHB) with a Postgraduate Diploma in Project Planning and Management and a Postgraduate Diploma in Global Health Research. He has 3 years of experience working in TB, HIV/AIDS, adolescent health, reproductive health, epidemiology of infectious and non-infectious diseases and research.

He is currently working with The AIDS Support Organization Soroti Regional Project (TASO SORP) on Meeting Targets and Accelerating Epidemic Control in Soroti Region Uganda under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). With Support from CDC, TASO SORP is implementing activities with a focus on HIV/AIDS prevention services, elimination of mother-to-child transmission services, Pediatric/adolescent, and adult HIV care and treatment cascade services, Tuberculosis Treatment services, and accelerating current key and priority population programs for female sex workers (FSW), men who have sex with men, persons who inject drugs in 14 districts of North Eastern Uganda. His research interest includes HIV cure, epidemiology of infectious disease including TB and HIV.

He is keen to contribute to designing and implementation of healthcare models with fidelity to address the bottlenecks to effective implementation of projects in infectious and non-infectious diseases.

[No potential conflict of interest to report](#)



Invited Speaker

Lynda Stranix-Chibanda,
MBChB, MMed
University of Zimbabwe,
Zimbabwe

Lynda Stranix-Chibanda is a Zimbabwean researcher with over 20 years of clinical trial experience and advocacy for HIV prevention.

A Paediatrician by training, Lynda lectures at the University of Zimbabwe and mentors postgraduate students. She is the Site Leader for Seke North Clinical Research Site in Chitungwiza, Zimbabwe directing NIH-funded clinical trials related to the prevention and treatment of HIV in women, adolescents and children. Of relevance to this workshop, Lynda participated in early trials that developed the local approach for testing and counselling women for HIV in pregnancy and the dosing regimen for infant Nevirapine postnatal prophylaxis. Since then, she has led multiple studies evaluating biomedical interventions in perinatal populations to optimise maternal health and eliminate vertical HIV transmission.

She has worked at primary care level to deliver HIV services to women and children, providing technical assistance to the national EMTCT programme and contributing to policy development for pre-exposure prophylaxis use.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Scientific Chair

Kwasi Torpey,
MD, PhD, MPH, FGCP,
FWACP
University of Ghana,
Ghana

Kwasi Torpey is a Professor of Family Health and Dean of the University of Ghana School of Public Health. He is a Public Health Physician, Program Manager and Researcher with extensive experience in implementation of public health programs in Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and several other countries.

Prior to joining the University of Ghana, he had a distinguished career with Family Health International, a US based international NGO serving in a variety of roles including Deputy Chief of Party, Technical for Nigeria, Director of Technical Services for Zambia, and Regional Senior Technical Advisor for the Africa Region. He also worked as the Senior Clinical Officer in the Family Health International/ START program that introduced HIV treatment in Ghana two decades ago. He is a Senior Visiting Fellow of the Amsterdam Institute of Global Health and Development, Academic Medical Centre in University of Amsterdam and Honorary Associate Professor of London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in London. He is also the Scientific Chair of International Conference on HIV Treatment, Pathogenesis, and Prevention Research in Resource-limited Settings (INTEREST). Professor Torpey has authored over 100 scientific publications and a member several technical working groups at the international level. He is the principal investigator of several research studies on HIV, other infectious and non-communicable diseases.

He received his education at the University of Ghana Medical School and Netherland School of Public Health. He has a PhD from the Institute of Tropical Medicine and the University of Antwerp in Belgium. He is a fellow of the Ghana College of Physicians and West Africa College of Physicians.

No potential conflict of interest to report



International
Conference Committee

François Venter,
MD, FCP, PhD

Ezintsha, University of the
Witwatersrand,
South Africa

WD François Venter, is the Head of Ezintsha at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, where he received most of his training. His work involves health systems research that directly translates into national programmes, most recently involving the antiretrovirals dolutegravir and TAF.

He leads multiple antiretroviral treatment optimisation studies, and is currently working on new first and second line options, as well as patient linkage-to-care interventions and self-testing projects. He has led large PEPFAR-funded HIV programmes in South Africa, focusing on men, women, children, young people, truckers, sex workers, and LGBTI communities. For over 20 years he has been an advisor to bodies such as the South African government, UNAIDS, and WHO, contributing to international, regional, and national HIV guidelines.

He is currently a member of the Department of Science and Technology's Research and Innovation Committee, advising on COVID-19 research and innovation needs. He has an active interest in medical ethics, and has been involved in several HIV-related human rights cases within the Southern African region.

He supervises a large number of Masters and PhD projects. Recent work has included publications in Lancet HIV, New England Journal of Medicine, Nature, AIDS, and PLOS Medicine.

Potential conflict of interest:

Gilead, ViiV, Mylan, Merck, Adcock-Ingram, Aspen, Abbott, Roche, J&J, Sanofi, NIH, BMGF, Unitaid, SAMRC, and CIFF



Local Co-Chair

Edna Viegas,
PhD

National Institute of Health,
Mozambique

Edna Viegas has a degree in Human Medicine from the Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique (2008) and a PhD in Medical Science from the Karolinska Institute, Sweden (2017). Dr Viegas joined the National Institute of Health (Instituto Nacional de Saúde-INS), Ministry of Health, in 2009, where she served as the Scientific Director (2013-2018) and the General Director (2018-2020) of the Polana Caniço Health Research and Training Center (CISPOC). Since 2020, she has been the head of the INS branch office in Maputo City.

Dr Viegas has been involved in HIV research over the past 12 years. She directly participated in the establishment of CISPOC, a center of excellence for clinical trials in the national health system in Mozambique. She has been one of the lead investigators for several clinical trials on HIV vaccines and other infectious diseases in the country, including trials from the HIV Vaccine Trials Network (HVTN). Dr Viegas has also been involved in post-graduate training initiatives in the field of HIV, by co-directing the NIH-funded Pitt-Moz HIV training program.

No potential conflict of interest to report



International
Conference Committee

**Stephen Watiti,
MD**

Mildmay,
Uganda

After studying Medicine at Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda, Dr. Watiti, was a medical officer, Rubaga Hospital, Kampala from 1985-1988. He practiced medicine privately from 1988-2004 at Entebbe Road clinic and JOY Medical Centre Ndeeba, Kampala. From 2004, he has been working at Mildmay Uganda, a leading HIV and AIDS service organisation. An HIV activist and ardent advocate for improved and sustainable health for all, Dr. Watiti believes with hindsight that he acquired HIV between 1985 and 1986 while working as a junior medical officer. In 2000, he began ARVs after contracting tuberculosis, cancer (Kaposi’s sarcoma), and meningitis. In 2006, he started his weekly column on HIV in New Vision, Uganda’s leading daily newspaper. His column appears Mondays under the heading: “Towards zero: with Doctor Watiti”. He has published two books on HIV: “HIV and AIDS: 100 Commonly Asked Questions” and “Conquering HIV and AIDS: My personal experience of living with HIV”.

The Tearfund UK has recognised him as an HIV Champion and he has won awards from Uganda’s Parliament, Action Aid International, and International Christian Medical and Dental Association for his outstanding contribution towards the fight against HIV in Uganda and beyond. His current advocacy work focuses on HIV and aging.

No potential conflict of interest to report



Local Organising
Committee

**Peter Young,
PhD**

U.S. Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention,
Mozambique

Peter Young holds a BA in computer science and Spanish language studies from Hampshire College, an MPH from Columbia University and a PhD in Public Health from Utrecht University, Netherlands. Peter is an epidemiologist with over 15 years of experience working to improve public health programs in Africa. Peter served with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC-Mozambique) as a Surveillance Epidemiologist from 2006 to 2014, where he worked closely with the Mozambican Ministry of Health to strengthen the HIV surveillance systems and build research capacity. Peter also worked at CDC-Kenya as a senior epidemiologist from 2014-2020 where he led CDC efforts to build HIV surveillance systems and capacity and oversaw a team of statisticians and epidemiologists providing technical assistance to the National AIDS & STI Control Programme and National AIDS Control Council of Kenya.

Currently, Peter is the Associate Director for Science at CDC-Mozambique, where he has served since August 2020 supporting the development of science activities within the CDC and its local partners. His professional interests include: epidemic modeling, mortality surveillance, sampling methods for hard-to-reach populations, statistical programming, and teaching scientific research skills to others.

No potential conflict of interest to report

SUPPORT

PLATINUM+ LEVEL



GOLD LEVEL



Getting ahead of HIV together



National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health

BRONZE LEVEL



PRIME SUPPORTER



SYMPOSIUM SUPPORTER





LOCAL PARTNERS



ENDORSERS



MEDIA PARTNER



SYMPOSIUM INVITATION

Date: Wednesday, 10 May 2023

Time: 11h05 GMT +1

Topic: I am not a statistic, hear me:
Voices of young people living
with HIV



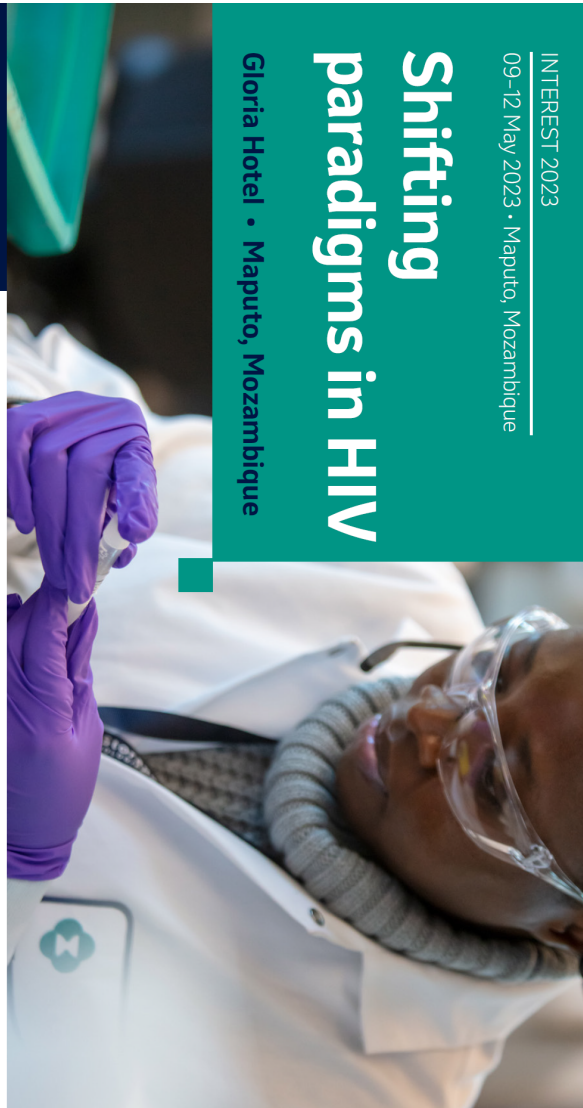
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Date of preparation: March 2023 - NX-ZA-HVU-AGND-230001

INTEREST 2023
09-12 May 2023 • Maputo, Mozambique

Shifting paradigms in HIV

Gloria Hotel • Maputo, Mozambique



Congress symposium sponsored by MSD

Thursday, 11 May 2023

09:20 - 10:20 (CAT)

Chair: Francisco Mbofana (Mozambique)

Agenda

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 09:20 - 09:25 | Welcome and opening remarks
Francisco Mbofana |
| 09:25 - 09:40 | Shifting HIV landscape in Africa
Simiso Sokhela |
| 09:40 - 09:55 | Shifting paradigms in HIV treatment
Linda-Gail Bekker |
| 09:55 - 10:10 | Shifting paradigms in implementation
Tendani Gaolathe |
| 10:10 - 10:20 | Panel discussion and Q&A
Moderated by Francisco Mbofana |
| 10:20 | Closing remarks
Francisco Mbofana |

Agenda may be subject to change pending speaker confirmation

Chair
Francisco Mbofana
National AIDS Council
Maputo, Mozambique

Faculty
Linda-Gail Bekker
Desmond Tutu Health
Foundation
Cape Town, South Africa

Tendani Gaolathe
Botswana Harvard AIDS
Institute Partnership
(MOH)
Gaborone, Botswana

Simiso Sokhela
University of the
Witwatersrand
Johannesburg, South Africa



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education

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