

# AFRICAN **STIGMA & DISCRIMINATION** FORUM 2020

**VIRTUAL** | 11 NOVEMBER 2020



# PROGRAM



## WELCOME

As shown by the significant and increasing reports of cities and countries achieving the 90-90-90 targets and beyond for the majority, HIV is now a treatable infection. In the past few years, there have been advances not only in the efficacy of medication but as importantly, improvements in their toxicity profile and ease of administration, leading to greater adherence overall resulting in positive long term results.

However, large groups of individuals either still remain undiagnosed, or are diagnosed but do not seek care. Indeed, undiagnosed individuals form the greatest gap in our 90-90-90 targets. For there to be further improvements in our cascades of care, it is essential that these groups are targeted.

### **But why does this happen?**

Undoubtedly, this issue has much to do with fear. Particularly the fear of testing, receiving a positive diagnosis and attending an HIV center and the subsequent discrimination which either does or is perceived to occur.

Such fears result in unnecessary morbidity and mortality, particularly due to late diagnosis, along with an increased risk of transmission within the population.

### **Change is coming!**

We are, however, striving to make a change and there are success stories!

Come and hear how you can challenge and be part of the solution to stigma and discrimination. Listen to stories of both success and failure from our experienced faculty.

The triumph of HIV treatment can only truly begin when we can succeed in improving testing and linkage to care. We are all beholden to take part in this challenge.

We look forward to welcoming you at the forum to discuss these issues!

Salen Kambinda, Regional Chair 2020, Mark Nelson, Program Director



## WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER

*Times are in South African Standard Time (SAST/CAT)*

### Opening Session

*Chair: Mark Nelson*

- 14:00 **Opening Words**  
**Mark Nelson**  
Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, United Kingdom  
**Salen Kambinda**  
Positive Vibes Trust, Namibia
- 14:05 **What Works to Reduce HIV-Related Stigma and Discrimination and How This Can Apply to COVID-19**  
**Amanda Castel**  
George Washington University, United States
- 14:20 **How Stigma is Impacting the 90-90-90 Goals**  
**Linda-Gail Bekker**  
Desmond Tutu HIV Centre, South Africa
- 14:35 **Overview of the National HIV/AIDS Response Program**  
**Anne-Marie Nitschke**  
Ministry of Health and Social Services,  
Namibia
- 14:40 **Q&A**

**15:00 Break**

### Session 1 **Barriers for Key populations to access Comprehensive SRHR Services**

*Chair: Salen Kambinda*

- 15:15 **Introduction: Barriers for Key populations to access Comprehensive SRHR Services**  
**Ricardo Walters**  
Positive Vibes Trust, South Africa



# Program

- 15:30 **Panel Discussion**  
**Finn Reygan**  
Human Sciences Research Council, South Africa  
**Samuel Matsikure**  
GALZ, Zimbabwe  
**Victoria Kamule**  
TONATA, Namibia  
**Kossy Umeh**  
Y+ Global, Nigeria  
**Doreen Moraa Moracha**  
I Am A Beautiful Story, Kenya  
**Ricardo Walters**  
Positive Vibes Trust, South Africa

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**16:00 Tea Break**

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**Session 2 What does SRHR mean in Real Life - Community Perspective**  
*Chair: Mark Nelson*

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- 16:15 **Reduction of Stigma and Discrimination in Health Systems and Service Delivery**  
**Morenike Oluwatoyin Folayan**  
Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria
- 16:30 **Panel Discussion**  
**Abigail Solomons**  
Positive Vibes Trust, Namibia  
**Sean Reggee**  
TransBantu Association, Zambia  
**Felicita Hikuam**  
Aids Rights Alliance of Southern Africa (ARASA), South Africa  
**Tinah P'Ochan**  
Resilience, Uganda  
**Morenike Oluwatoyin Folayan**  
Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria

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**Closing Remarks**

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- 17:00 **Closing Remarks**  
**Mark Nelson**  
Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, United Kingdom  
**Salen Kambinda**  
Positive Vibes Trust, Namibia
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# Acknowledgements

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