



DESMOND TUTU  
HIV FOUNDATION

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Engaging African Men in  
Rectal Microbicides

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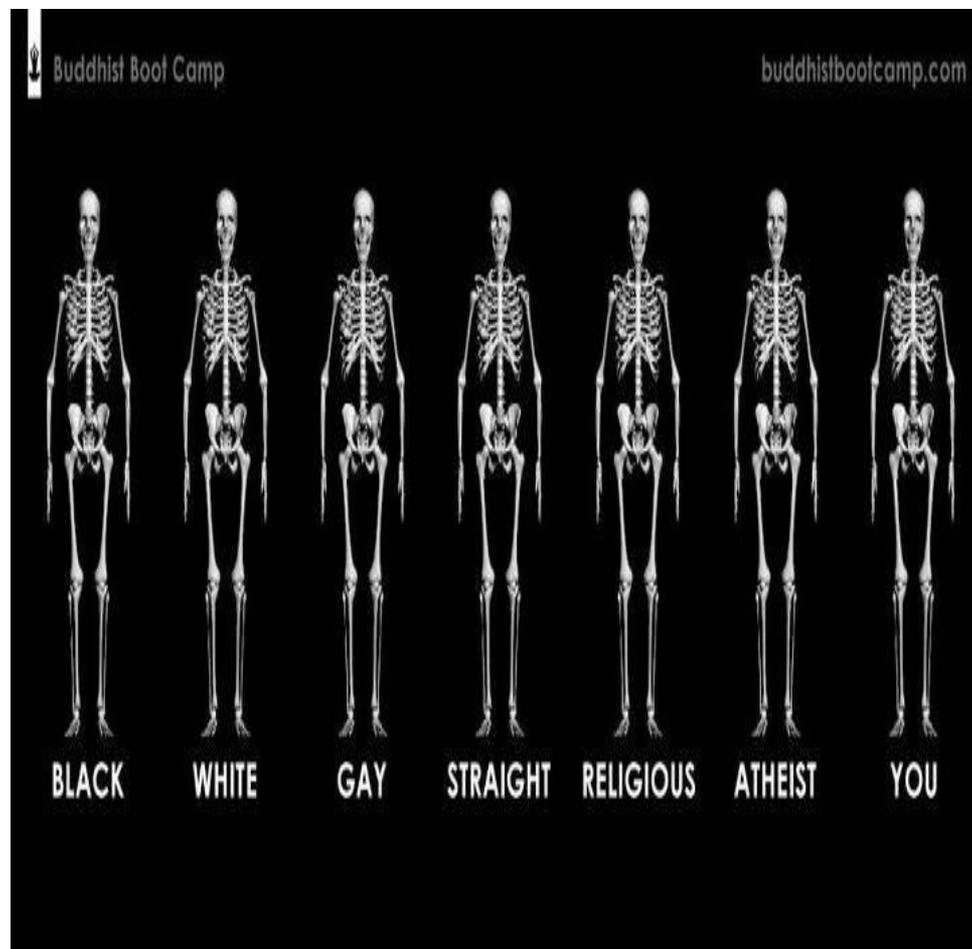
# Overview

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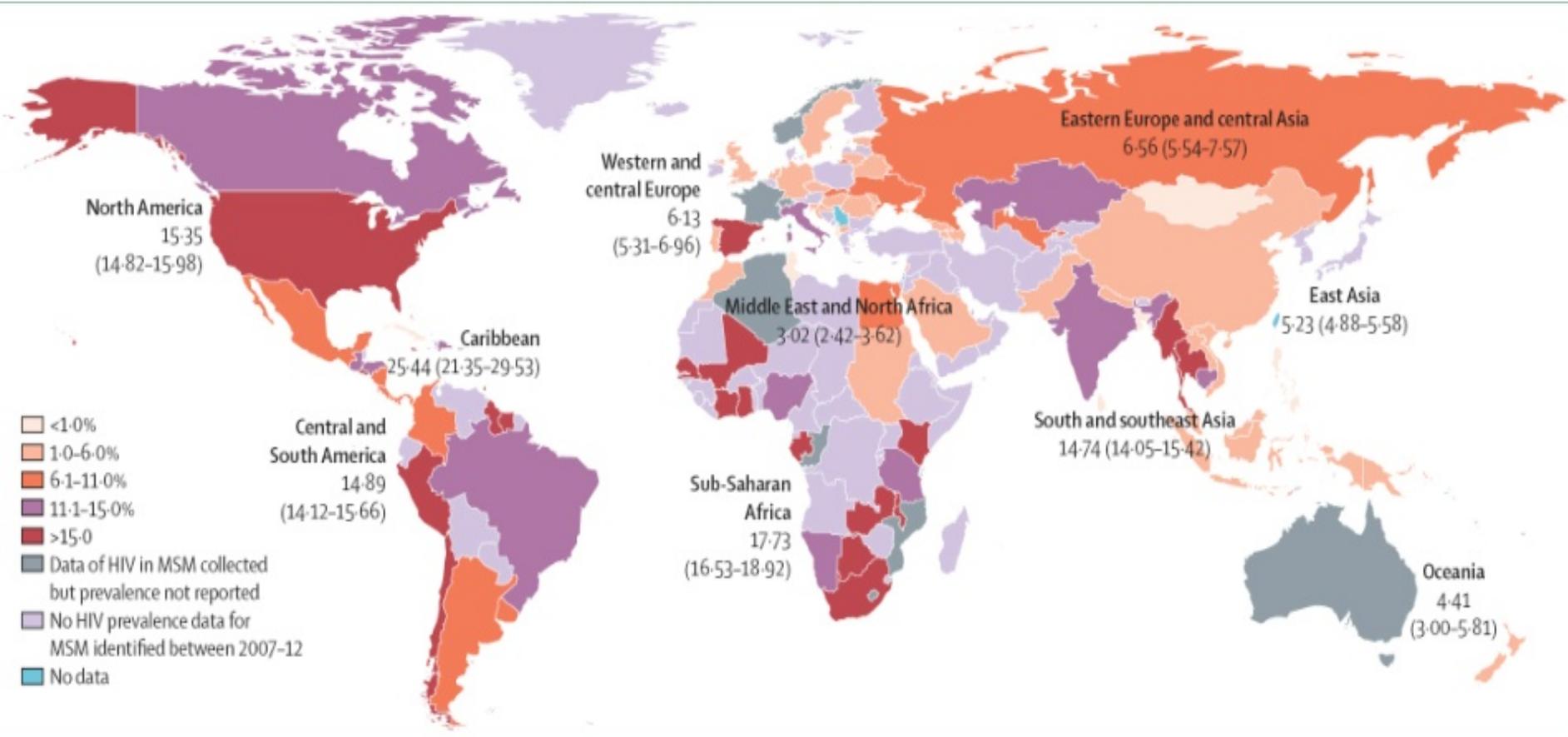
- Community Mobilisation – ProjectARM & GLAM
- Survialiance studies in Africa and recruitment process.
- Engaging African Men in Rectal Microbicides
- Men's division recruitment experience
- Our Community engagement philosophy
- Plans for 017

# Who Are These Men

- Gay identified
- Bisexual
- Trans-women
- Straight Identified men



# Men who have Sex with Men Exist



EVERYWHERE

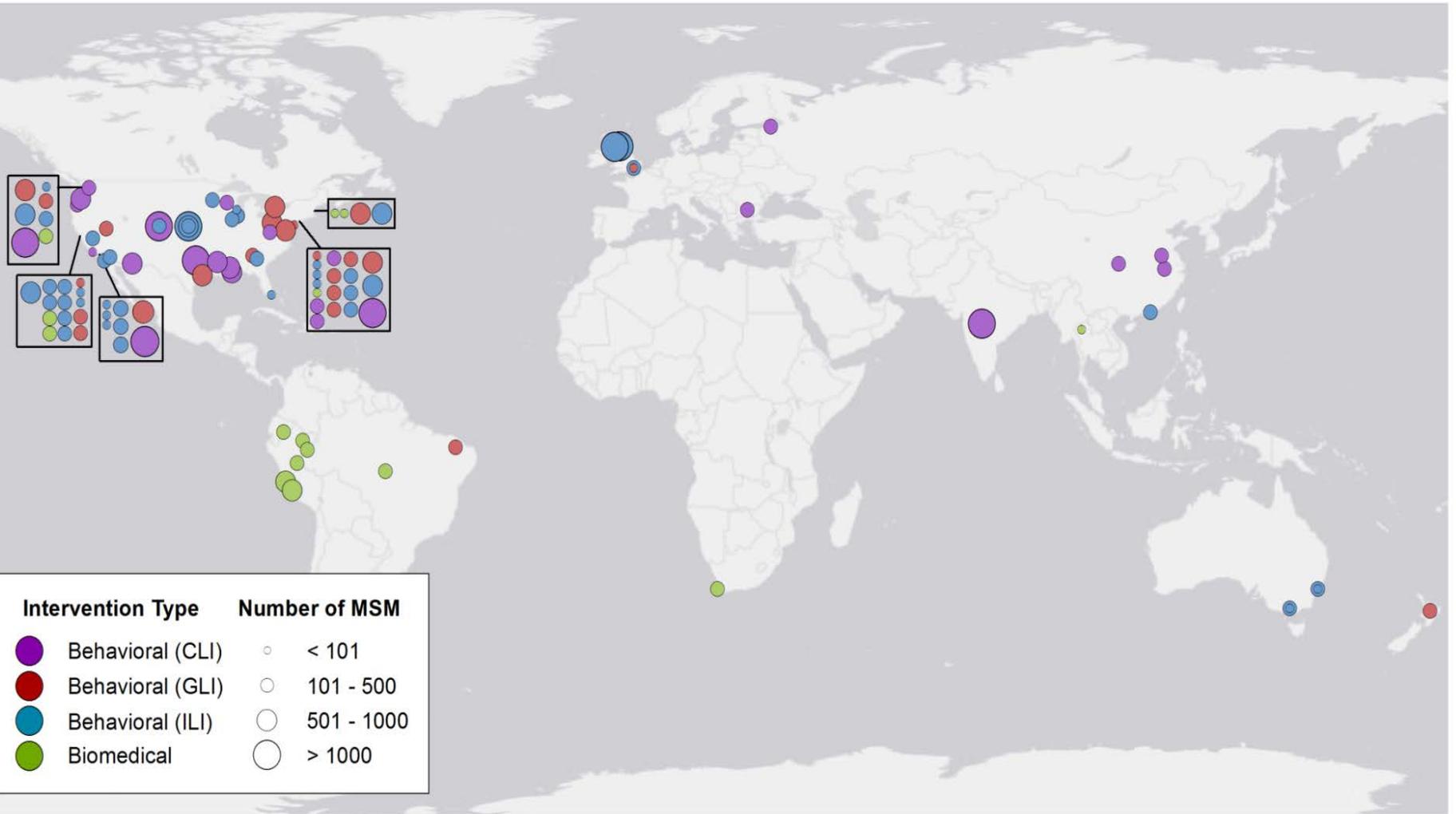
Source: Beyrer, Baral, van Griensven, Goodreau, Chariyalertsak, Wirtz, Brookmeyer, *The Lancet*, 2012



# Engaging MSM in studies Worldwide



# Geography of HIV Intervention Studies for MSM



Source: Patrick Sullivan , et al. The Lancet, 2012

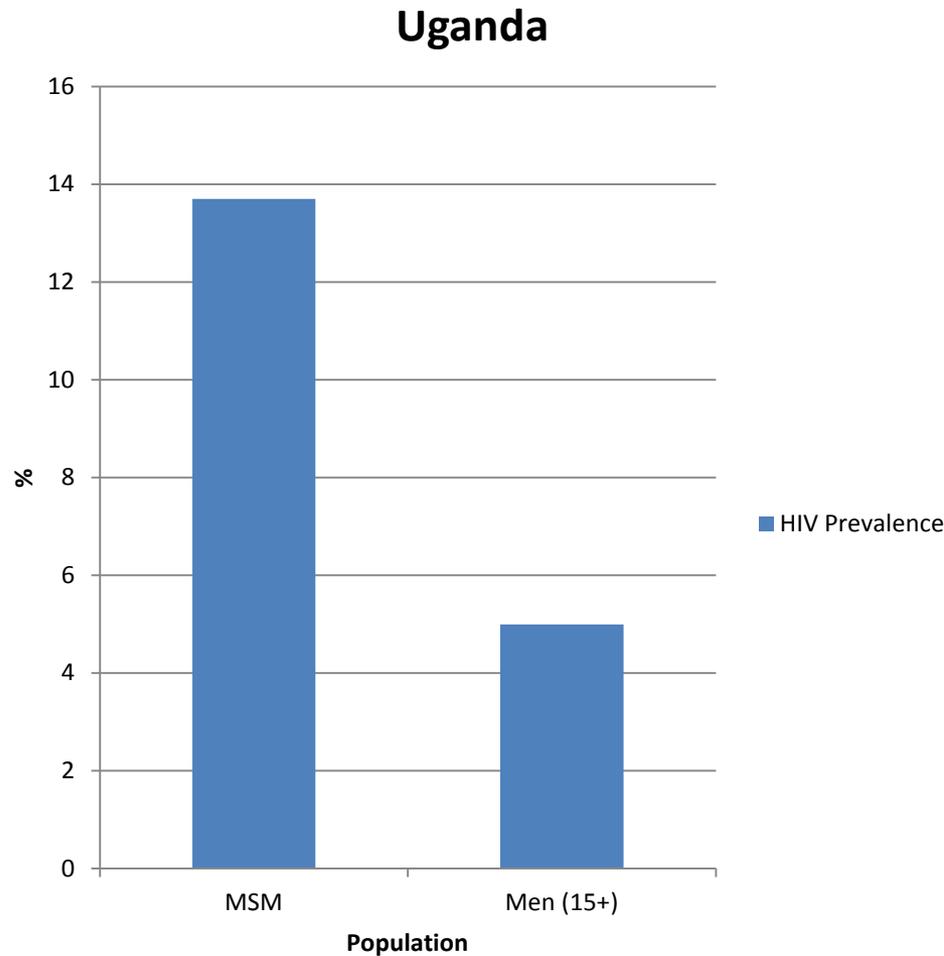


# WHY

- Community, religious, and governments stigma toward MSM inhibited information-gathering
- A few qualitative studies, anecdotal information
- No quantitative assessments of MSM and HIV risk in sub-Saharan Africa prior to 2000



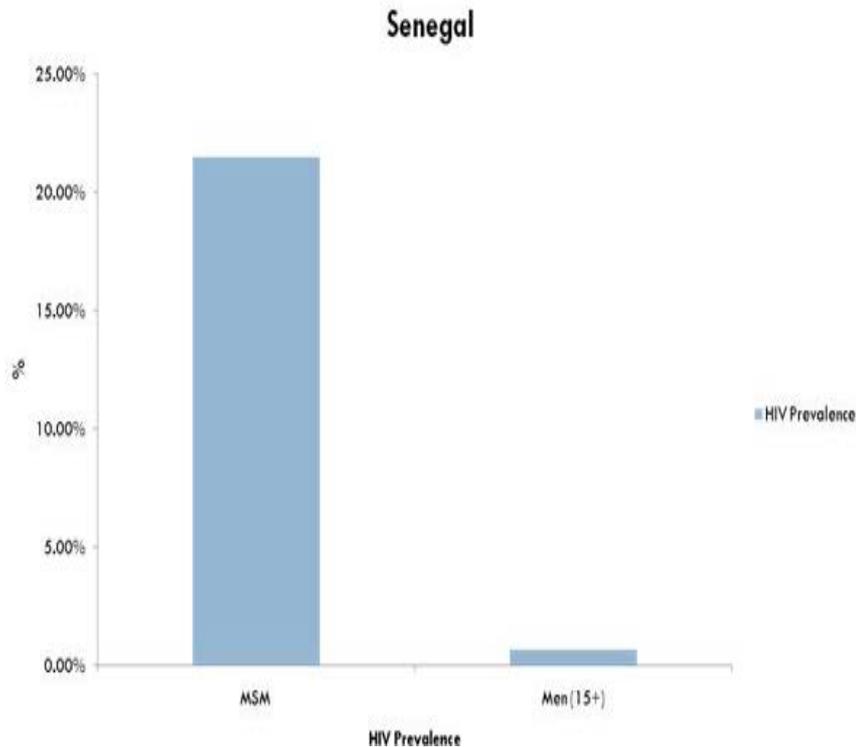
# Case Study - Uganda



- Study in 2008
- DG Statement, Arrests of Activists
- Difficulty in Recruitment of Respondents
  - Background of fear
- Comparative studies in Kenya, TZ, Zanzibar



# Case Study- Senegal

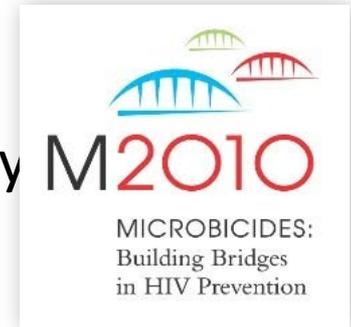


- Concentrated epidemic
- Comprehensive outreach in place for MSM
- ICASA 2008 held in Dakar and MSM mentioned
- 9 outreach worker arrested and prosecuted
  - Released April, 2009



# PROJECT ARM

- Long-term, sustained project of IRMA to develop community capacity around rectal microbicide advocacy
  - ensure broad participation in guiding research activities
  - ensure well-informed community input into development of African rectal microbicide research and implementation agenda.
- Project ARM born from series of community consultations with African advocates and allies at Microbicides 2010 , AIDS 2010 and through IRMA listserv
- First-year funding provided by National Institutes of Health/Office of AIDS Research, New Venture Fund
- AVAC an organizing partner



# PROJECT ARM Goals



- Project ARM's activities will lead to expanded African rectal microbicide education and advocacy.
- Project ARM's activities will support the planning and implementation of rectal microbicide clinical trials in Africa in an environment that is as safe as possible for participants.
- Project ARM's activities will support the eventual rollout of safe, effective, acceptable and accessible rectal microbicides for African men, women, and transgender individuals.

PROJECT ARM

# Pre-Conference at ICASA in 2011

- Social and Scientific discussion on Rectal Microbicides
- Country specific working groups advocating for RMs and engaging men as well women.
- Future studies



# PROJECT ARM





# PROJECT ARM



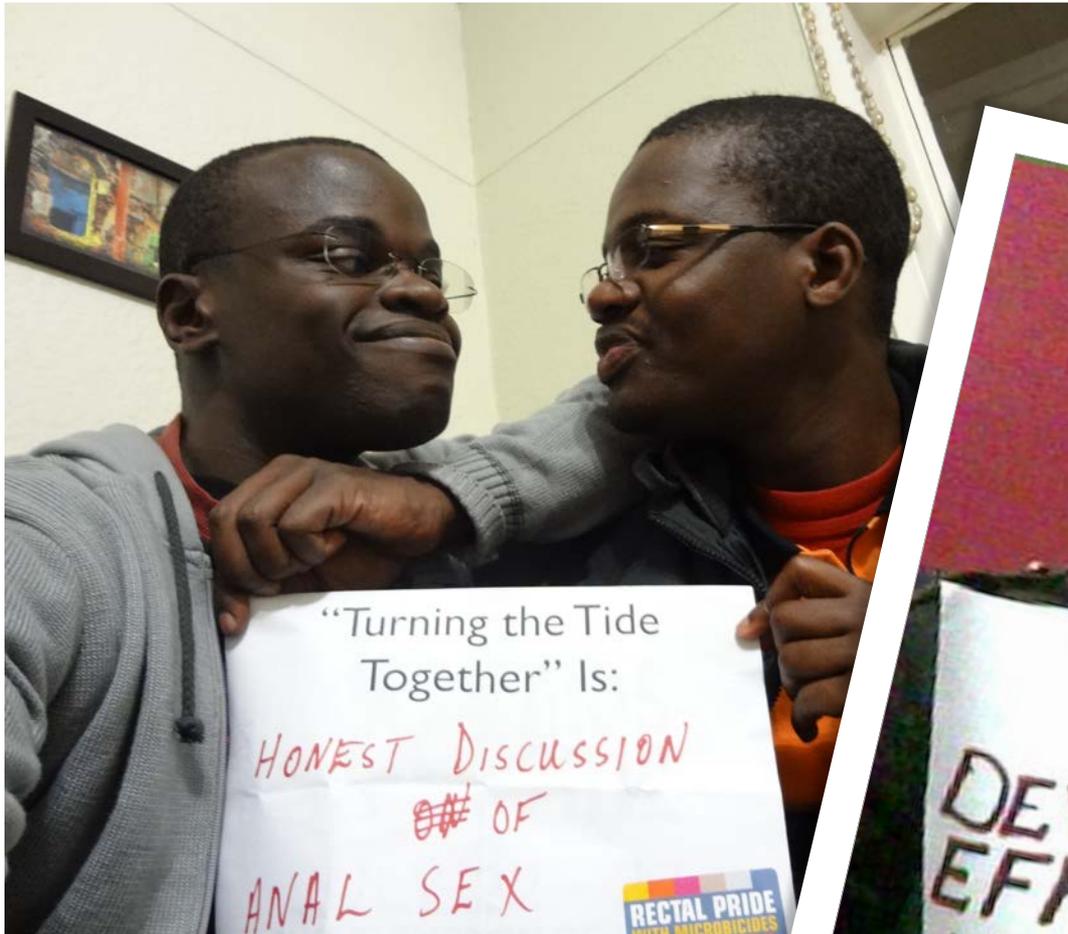
**Our diverse sexualities in Africa shouldn't be defined only by the prevention tools we have available. HIV prevention tools must be adapted to our sexualities.**

**Alliance Nikuze, Rwanda**

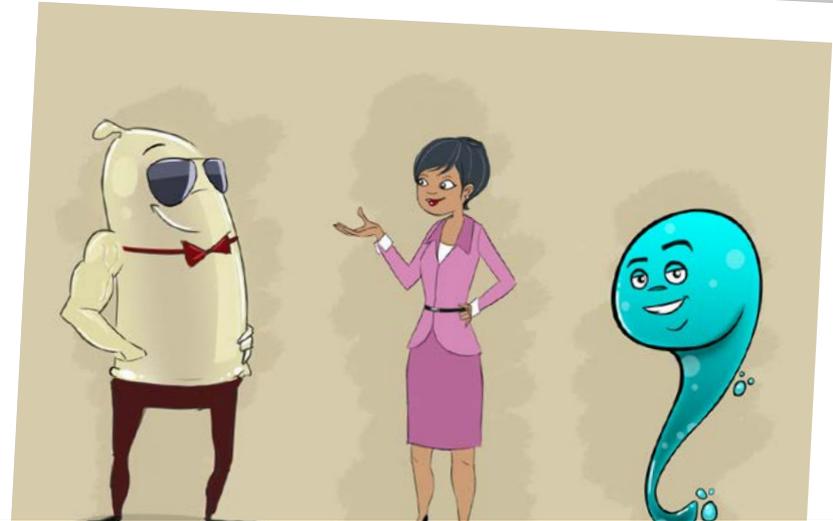


**Having founded what is now IRMA Nigeria, I am really excited to see so much new energy around rectal microbicides across Africa.**

**Kadiri Audu, Nigeria**



# Rectal Microbicides Video



# Global Lube Access Mobilization (GLAM) For all



During Anal sex or vaginal sex;

- Sex workers need lube
- Women who have dry sex need lube.
- MSM need lube.



Engaging Men and Woman  
too

# AND LUBE

GLOBAL LUBE ACCESS MOBILISATION

GLAM

**Safe, Condom-Compatible Lube 4 All**

Visit <http://tinyurl.com/AndLube>

# GLAM

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- Survey: AmFar, AVAC, IRMA
- 42 National Strategic Plan were consulted.
- Only 7 mentioned lube  
(Does not mean they have access to lube on vice versa).

# GLAM: Engaging the community

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- A review of Lube Access in Africa to be posted on IRMA blog soonest
- A creation of the toolkit is in the pipeline.
- Creating materials advocates on the ground on Lube access.
- Marc Andre, meeting with OGAC enhance lube access in the MSM African community.

# DTHF Community Engagement philosophy

- create programmes that are:
- Community Driven
- Sustainable
- Focus on education empowerment



# DTHF Community Engagement

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- Worked with MSM since 2005.
- Extensive experience in implementing of Bio-Medical research in this community.
- Significant community engagement work since 2008.
- Work hand in glove with study staff to further engage MSM into the study.

# DTHF Community Engagement

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- DTHF has enrolled MSM from over 42 different communities into previous research projects.
- Currently runs community based bi-weekly programmes and outreach activities in five communities

# Community Engagement





# 2011 MTN MEETING

- South African Civil Society consultation and MTN 017 protocol evaluation.
  - AVAC, MTN, DTHF
- Set the stage of having a broader discussion on Rectal Microbicides.
- An ongoing discussion on RMs by different MSM stakeholders.



# MTN 017 Consult – Cape Town



# Plans for MTN 017 : Recruitment Process

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Our long standing relationship will enhance:

- Recruitment process, by seeking MSM with excellent understanding of study and its objectives.

# Plans for MTN 017 : Retention

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Our Peer Leaders selected from the community and extensively trained in regards to outreach, education and community building skills will;

- Serve as our liason with the MSM community.
- Through their social networks and geographical communities.

# Plans For MTN 017: Community Networking

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- Online social Networking.
- Community based networking
- Venue based networking

# Engaging MSM in Research

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- There is a thriving community of advocates and communities moving the Rectal Microbicide agenda forward in Africa
- Engagement should be taken into consideration high HIV prevalence, stigma, discrimination and criminalization of MSM
- NB communities are key stakeholders and critical to successful implementation of research

# Acknowledgements

- Vibrant MSM community
- DTHF Staff- Men Division
- Elizabeth Batist
- Ben Brown
- Paul Semugoma
- Jim Pickett
- Linda-Gail Bekker
- Ian McGowan and Sharon Hiller
- MTN
- Project Arm, IRMA





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