

## STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT RESEARCH

### World Class Researcher?

- *“You need more than a PhD and a good computer to be a world class researcher”*

Alex Ezeh, African Population and Health Research Center, Kenya

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### Community?????



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### What is Community Engagement Research?

- *‘..... working collaboratively with groups of people affiliated by geographic proximity or special interest to address issues affecting the wellbeing of those people’*
- 
- *is a collaborative process between community-based organizations and academic investigators*

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## Goal of Community Research

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1. Ultimate goal is improved livelihoods
2. Meaningful community engagement
3. Community ownership
4. Sustainable projects /livelihoods

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## Research in Communities

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1. **Studies do not have to be complicated to be rigorous**
2. **Issues and topics for study are not from the moon but in the community**
3. **Language should remain simple to communicate**

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## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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## Stages in Community Research

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## Stages in Community Research

shared leadership

□ collaborate

□ Involve

□ consult

outreach

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## How to Conduct Community Research

- a. How do you enter the community?
- b. Build partnerships based on Trust
- c. Listen to what people's priorities are!
- d. Show that you are 'with them' and not 'apart from them'

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## Benefits of Community Based Research

1. Enhances data quality and quantity,
2. Moves beyond categorical approaches. !
3. Improves research definition and direction. !
4. Enhances translation and sustainability of research findings. !
5. Improves the community's health, education and economics, by sharing knowledge

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## Appropriate Research Models

1. Lone researcher model not useful
2. Team Research models are likely to be more successful
3. Teams create room for collaboration and joint ownership
4. Lead Researcher co-ordinates all activities and oversees & moderates all write ups

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## Models Community Based Participatory Research

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- Model 1: single-theme collaboration between a university-based centre and a community organization
- Model 2: targeted, area-based collaboration between academic researchers and a small group of community organizations
- Model 3: broad-based coalition of grassroots organizations
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## Principles in Community Projects

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- *“If aid does not stop, it will have failed”*

Kaberuka, D., African Development Bank

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## Principles of Strengthening Community Based Research

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1. Network, collaborate, and share experiences
2. Understand the local context
3. Ensure local ownership and active support
4. Build in monitoring, evaluation and learning  
Establish robust research governance
5. Ensure strong support, and mentorship
6. Think sustainability and plan for continuity

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## Where are the opportunities?

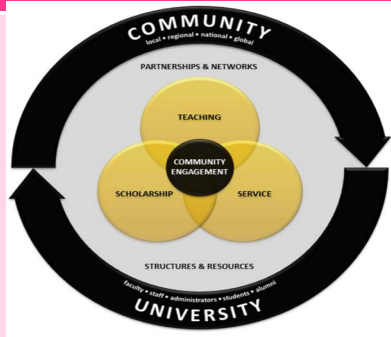
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1. Program Title: USAID Going the Last Mile for HIV
2. Issue Date: April 25, 2018
3. Deadline for Clarifications: May 7, 2018
4. Closing Date: June 4, 2018
5. Closing Time: 7:00 AM (Harare Time)
6. Funding: \$95,000,000
7. Subject: Notice of Funding Opportunity Number: 72061318RFA00002

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# University in 21<sup>st</sup> Century

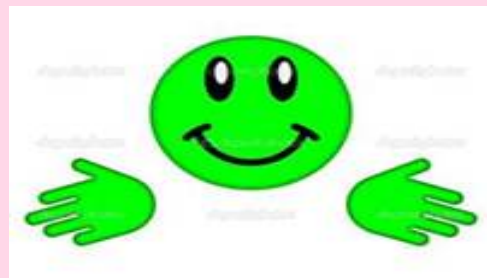
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# Thank you

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