



Salamander Trust
TRANSFORMING THE WAY WE THINK ABOUT HIV

Annual Report 2014–2015





Welcome back!

We are delighted to present our annual report for April 2014 to March 2015.

We have had another fully packed year.

Last year we said:

In 2014, we plan to:

- ▶ continue the development of all our training materials to completion
- ▶ develop our global research on the sexual and reproductive health and human rights of women living with HIV for the WHO Reproductive Health and Research Department
- ▶ continue our global advocacy work, linking local experiences to global policies and vice-versa.

This report will show you how much we have achieved these plans – and more.

We describe in the table on page 2 how much training, research and advocacy are involved in everything we do.

Yet it is always hard to know how to cut the cake when it comes to describing what we have done during the year. Whilst in the past we have focused on our three key areas of work – Advocacy – Research – Training – in turn, we have also realised that these three activities weave through all our work and we see all three areas of huge importance, as we try to connect local realities to global policies ('glocalization') and vice-versa, through research.

So this year we decided also to guide you through our different areas of work in turn, so that you can learn more about our on-going projects, our short-term training projects, our one-off events and also our global advocacy work through our articles in openDemocracy. We always welcome our readers' feedback and hope you enjoy the read.

The year's activities

ACTIVITY	TRAINING	RESEARCH	ADVOCACY	SOURCE OF FUNDS
On-going projects				
Stepping Stones with Children	30%	60%	10%	Comic Relief
Stepping Stones Community of Practice	50%		50%	Comic Relief and Salamander Trust general funds
Stepping Stones for Peace and Prosperity	50%	50%		Salamander Trust general funds
WHO, sexual and reproductive health and human rights global survey of women living with HIV		90%	10%	WHO
UN Women, global HIV treatment access review for women living with HIV		100%		UN Women
UNAIDS, gender-based violence/HIV linked intervention project		100%		UNAIDS
Short-term training projects				
Mama's Club Uganda film training project	100%			UNAIDS
Positively UK 'Rights, Camera, Action' film training project	90%		10%	Salamander Trust general funds
Positively UK London advocacy workshop	100%			Positively UK
Presentations				
Melbourne International AIDS Conference			100%	IAS (media scholarship for Nell) openDemocracy (media registration waiver for Alice) Small grant (to Alice) from ICW Global
AIDSFocus Switzerland presentation and article			100%	AIDSFocus Switzerland and Salamander Trust general funds
STOPAIDS meeting		60%	40%	Salamander Trust general funds
MenEngage International Symposium, Delhi		60%	40%	Salamander Trust general funds
UNFPA meeting NYC		90%	10%	International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)
Global advocacy through articles				
openDemocracy articles	20%		80%	openDemocracy

On-going projects

STEPPING STONES WITH CHILDREN

The biggest project of the year has been the on-going *Stepping Stones with Children* programme.

A major task this year was to find and negotiate a contract with a new publisher, following the retirement of our friends, Glen and Alison Williams at Strategies for Hope. We were very pleased to sign a contract with Practical Action Publishing, one of the foremost publishers of development related materials. More on this below.

Our Principle Researcher Gill Gordon and Project Manager Sue Holden made a lot of progress with the *Stepping Stones with Children* materials, including getting the illustrations drawn, responding to Practical Action Publishing's external reviewer's comments, editing the text, and copy editing. We also finished the Counselling Guide, which gives advice to HIV counsellors about working with children and their caregivers. In Tanzania our colleagues at PASADA were busy translating all the materials into Kiswahili.

We also further developed the monitoring and evaluation tools to use in *Stepping Stones with Children* workshops. We adapted some exercises to gather data from them. We revised the baseline and midline processes too, and developed a way of gathering quantitative data from participants, who include young children, without the need for reading or writing. Each question is read out loud and all participants respond by showing a number of fingers, or using raised hands or crossed arms. For privacy the participants either wear blindfolds or sit in a large circle facing outwards.

Key Salamander Associates for this project

Gill Gordon
Principal Researcher
Sue Holden
Project Manager
Florence Kilonzo
Project Advisor
Dr Kato Nkimba
M&E Consultant
Nell Osborne
Communications Coordinator

Publishers old and new

After 21 years of close collaboration over the *Stepping Stones* manual and *Stepping Stones Plus* manuals and other materials, Strategies for Hope has decided to wind down and Salamander Trust has had to seek pastures new for the publication of *Stepping Stones with Children* and for republication of the two original *Stepping Stones* manuals.

Strategies for Hope¹ is a remarkable organisation. Created by Glen and Alison Williams, it began in 1989, with the aim of promoting positive thinking and practical action in the field of HIV and AIDS care, support and prevention, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, it has distributed well over 1 million copies of its materials to a mailing list of over 16,000 addresses, mainly free of charge and mostly in sub-Saharan Africa. We have had huge and exceptionally generous care and support from Glen and Alison over the years and it will be a great wrench no longer to be working closely with them. We wish them all the very best as they near retirement.

Meanwhile we are very glad to have entered into a new publishing agreement with Practical Action Publishing² who have built up a huge reputation as one of the leading international development publishers across a diverse range of subject areas.

1. <http://www.stratshope.org/what>


2. <http://practicalaction.org/books>

July 2014 A poster highlighting some of the early outcomes of the pilot workshops, plus the context behind the development of the programme, was accepted for display at the International AIDS Conference 2014.

Can orphans and their caregivers be supported to build shared resilience in the context of AIDS-related deaths?

A Welbourn¹; N Chiziza²; G Gordon³; F Kilongo⁴; P Kiwila⁵; W Manyama⁶; N Osborne⁷

¹Salamander Trust, London, United Kingdom; ²PHSADA, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, United Republic of; ³Salamander Trust Associate, London, United Kingdom; ⁴Salamander Trust Associate, Nairobi, Kenya; ⁵Kimura Peer Educators, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, United Republic of



Children aged 8 – 9 years during a workshop

Introduction


Background
Many communities are unsafe places for orphaned children. Their guardians are mainly women, often widowed, poor, with HIV and limited educational opportunities. They may often be living in isolation and fear due to HIV-related stigma and experiencing gender-based violence. In this context few children or guardians feel safe to express grief or emotions. Children and caregivers also lack comprehensive sexuality and life-skills education.

Our programme builds upon experiences of the original 'Stepping Stones' community programme on gendered and inter-generational relationship skills¹, to support caregivers and their children, to communicate on these sensitive issues and build individual and collective psycho-social resilience.

Caregivers, gender and AIDS-related deaths
Many caregivers 'fall between the cracks' of the ten 2011 UNAIDS targets, since they tend to be grandmothers who have lost their own children through AIDS-related deaths & they are not normally of reproductive age. They form the invisible backbone of the community AIDS response worldwide yet they do not normally get recognised as a part of any key population. Caregivers rarely have support to disclose to, or communicate about HIV, sexuality and death, with the orphans in their care, who also have or are affected by HIV. The role of caregivers is chronically under-addressed from a gendered perspective by donors investing in HIV worldwide.

Challenges Facing Orphans Affected by HIV
Meanwhile, adults often underestimate children's ability to understand HIV and to take action in their own lives. Since parents fear to disclose to children with HIV, children often receive false information, which can make them further vulnerable. Sexual matters are taboo and are not talked about. Disclosure problems begin at around seven years, for age 12 many children have realised by themselves. Legally, in Tanzania, disclosure before age 14 must be conducted with the guardian present. This produces another major barrier to disclosure for orphans living with HIV. Children experience unexpressed grief, sorrow and anger about the effect of HIV on their lives. This affects their psychosocial wellbeing as well as their ARV adherence. Moreover, health providers feel they lack the skills and training to disclose HIV status to children.

"My father died but my mother didn't tell me. She just said that he had gone on a journey. Then I went to an uncle's house and my aunt told me that he had died.... I am very angry with my mother that she did not tell me the truth."
Story told by a 10 year old girl




8 – 9 years children do a drawing exercise during a workshop in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Results

Lessons Learnt

- There was 100% voluntary attendance throughout.
- Children reported widespread sexual abuse and physical violence.
- Children expressed strong desires for honesty around HIV disclosure and deaths, demonstrating deep maturity and clear future visions.
- Caregivers expressed initial terror of disclosure to children, fear of the enormity of their responsibilities and concerns regarding children's ARV adherence, but displayed shared courage and resolve.
- Several caregivers chose to disclose to the children during each pilot workshop and more caregivers have disclosed to the children in their care since.
- Old and young together expressed joy at new learning, relief at sharing and joint determination to build mutual trust and support.

"I work as a counsellor in a health centre in my neighbourhood but we have never been taught things like this. I am going to take all I have learnt here back to my workplace and share it with my colleagues so that they can all benefit from this programme as we have here."
A female, adult participant



Our Power of Love: 8-14 year old children in a pilot workshop in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

"In all my life I have never felt somewhere so safe and cared for as I do here."
An adult workshop participant

Conclusions

Preliminary findings are highly positive. After further evaluation and refinement, we will join other African partners for roll-out in six other African countries. We eventually envisage further roll-out to address this issue globally.

Find out more about PASADA - Salamander Trust: www.pasada.or.tz; www.salamandertrust.net; www.stepstoneswithchildren.org or email Nell Osborne at: nell@stepstoneswithchildren.org

The Stepping Stones with Children project has been generously funded by Comic Relief and UNICEF.

Programme Outcomes

- To build on experiences of the original 'Stepping Stones' community programme on gendered and inter-generational relationship skills¹.
- To create a safe and supportive learning environment to enhance sharing, communication and support for carers and young children alike.
- To support caregivers and their children to communicate on these sensitive issues.
- To provide caregivers with the psycho-social skills to respond effectively to emotional and psychological needs of the girls and boys in their care.
- To build small networks of shared mutual support in their communities.
- To reduce the sense of isolation faced by both children and caregivers and to increase their collective resilience to the chronic challenges they face.
- To eventually envisage this programme being adapted for use by organisations worldwide, following in the footsteps of the original 'Stepping Stones' programme².

Methods

Pilot Implementation
3 pilots were conducted in urban and coastal regions of Tanzania. Each pilot workshop included 24 adults, 12-5 year olds and 12 9-14 year olds. Most of the children involved and many of the adults are living with HIV. The two children's peer groups included male and female participants. The adult groups were largely female. There were five facilitators to lead the three separate peer groups in each site. The workshops consisted of 10 sessions, which were 5-4 hours each. Workshops were conducted intensively over 15 days. The sessions contained diverse participatory activities, appropriate for informal learning in low-literacy settings. The sessions covered psychological, physical, sexual, material and spiritual dimensions of well-being.

"I realized when I was shouting 'no' loudly in that role play just now that this is how I normally treat my young brother when he is being naughty. He must fear and hate me so much when this is how I treat him, even though all I am trying to do is to make him behave. I've just realized now that how I behave towards him is going to affect how he behaves."
Young adult male caregiver

December 2014 In December 2014, Salamander Trust caught up with some of the children and their carers who attended the *Stepping Stones with Children* workshop 12 months earlier, to provide them with further training, in participatory filmmaking. The film training was led by film-maker and trainer Dominique Chadwick and supported by Salamander Associate Nell Osborne.

After a week-long training workshop, each group had created, filmed and edited short films, on a topic of their own choosing. Even the 5 – 8 year old participants! These films give great insight into the issues that are important in the participants' lives and to the impact that the *Stepping Stones with Children* training has helped to bring about in these areas.

The adults and children elected to create films about a wide range of issues such as:

- The importance of being honest in relations between child and caregiver.
- How to best manage feelings of anger.
- Children's rights, especially in relation to girls going to school.
- The longer term impact that the *Stepping Stones with Children* programme has had on their community.
- Child safety, especially from sexual abuse.

The youngest children's group jointly elected to make a film about sex parties which take place in their neighbourhoods, which they can attend if they want. They have concerns about this and wanted to highlight these in this powerful film.

Dominique Chadwick was also commissioned to make a documentary about the participants and the *Stepping Stones with Children* training programme.



Making the *Stepping Stones with Children* documentary film³ © Salamander Trust, PASADA and Dominique Chadwick.

3. <https://vimeo.com/album/3419245/video/125781314>

THE STEPPING STONES COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE (CoP)

The Stepping Stones Feedback project disseminates information, resources and research about *Stepping Stones* and related issues with our International Community of Practice (CoP). The COP enables an atmosphere of sharing and learning between community-based organisations. In this capacity we liaise directly with many community-based organisations for improved knowledge and capacity building. It also includes advising organisations about implementing *Stepping Stones* in their communities.

Salamander Associate Nell Osborne was awarded a scholarship to attend the International AIDs Conference 2014 in Melbourne to ensure that the knowledge and research that was presented at the IAC 2014 could be shared with members of the COP who would not otherwise have access to that information.

There are four key strands within the COP:

- ▶ to create and disseminate regular newsletters
- ▶ to maintain a dedicated *Stepping Stones* website that provides a wide range of free resources in English, French and Spanish⁴
- ▶ to maintain email communications
- ▶ to manage social networking sites including Facebook and Twitter.

Between April 2014 – 2015 our COP member database has grown to 1,193 members, which represents an 11% increase on last year.

CoP communications review by Nell Osborne

Newsletters

Our Stepping Stones Feedback project has produced several major newsletters in this time, including the in-depth analysis of The International AIDs Conference 2014. We also have active online listserv of 760 members. We had consistently high newsletter open rates, such as 33.3% and 36% for the *International Women's Day newsletter* and between 23.2 and 32.7 for *International AIDs Conference 2014: A review*. This compares to an industry standard open rate for not-for-profit organisations of 21.6%.

Not surprisingly the best newsletter open rates come from the member list that feeds directly in from the sign up application on the *Stepping Stones* website, as this list represents people who have made a recent and active effort to engage with *Stepping Stones* resources.

Between April 2014 and April 2015 our newsletters reached 3,260 people.

Newsletters sent:

- ▶ *International Women's Day* sent to 592 recipients.
- ▶ *Stepping Stones for Peace and Prosperity* sent to 622 recipients.
- ▶ *International AIDS Conference 2014: A review* sent to 573 recipients.
- ▶ *Conflicted Communities: How can Stepping Stones promote peace and co-operation?* sent to 584 recipients.
- ▶ *Women living with HIV: Help inform WHO SRH & HR Guidelines* This newsletter was also sent out in French and in Spanish. Sent to 473 recipients.⁵
- ▶ *Men Engage Global Symposium 2014, New Delhi* Sent to 391 recipients.

Social forums

A *Stepping Stones* Facebook page was established in 2014 to replace the NING platform. This was because we noticed that many of our members already had either personal or organisational profiles. We have also noted that Facebook

“Thank you for the updates. Continue to do the great job. Someone out there is seeing.”

CHEMUNA CHOMBENG, SYDEF,
CAMEROON

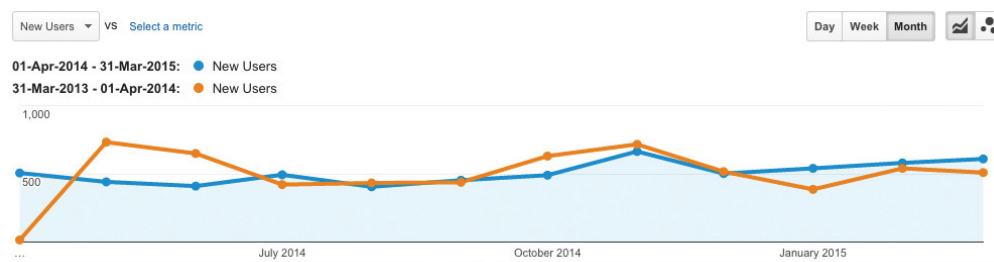
“Your very informative newsletter on the Melbourne IAC was shared with me. I would like your permission to also share this on the CABSAs website.”

LYN VAN ROOYEN, DIRECTOR,
CABSAs, SOUTH AFRICA

4. <http://www.steppingstonesfeedback.org>

5. The response to this newsletter contributed to the overall response from women living with HIV, the outcome of which can be seen in this document: <http://salamandertrust.net/resources/BuildingASafeHouseOnFirmGround-FINALreport190115.pdf>

appears to be one of the websites that is widely engaged using smart phones, which makes it particularly accessible for countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. We currently have 47 members on our Stepping Stones members group.



The Salamander Trust twitter account has 786 followers. Between these two platforms we can communicate with a large and diverse demographic.

www.steppingstonesfeedback.org website traffic

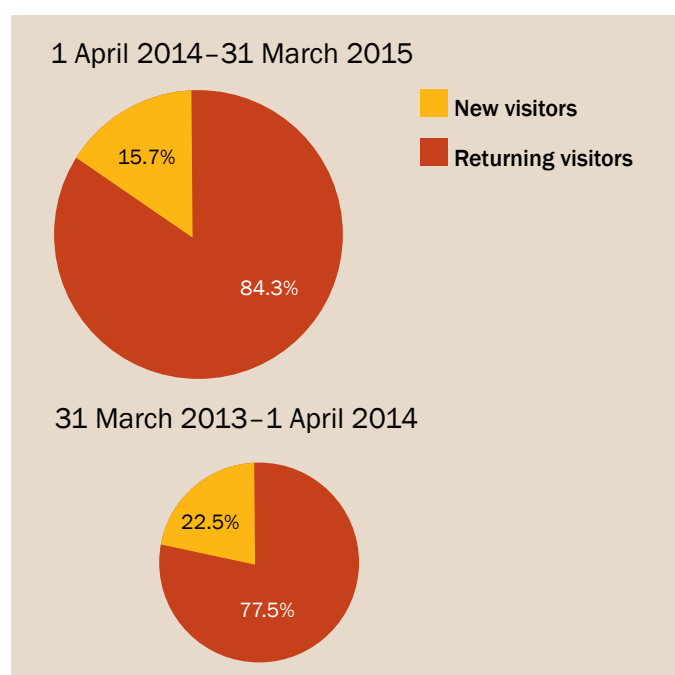
Website visitor traffic has sustained high and fairly consistent audience visitor figures throughout the year. The lowest number of visitors per month was 485 in August 2015 and the highest was 756 in March 2015.

For the first time we have been able to access data about how people are viewing the Stepping Stones Feedback website. This shows that compared to the same time last year an extra 5% of people are accessing the website via their mobile phones. This increasing trend should be taken into account to ensure the website is fully accessible to people viewing from mobile phones and tablets.

The most popular content on the website, after the landing page, are the sections that explain what the *Stepping Stones* training package is and how it works. This suggests that most visitors may be people who are not already familiar with how the *Stepping Stones* package training package works. This theory is supported by statistics that show that overall numbers of new visitors to the site have increased, whilst returning visitors have slightly decreased.

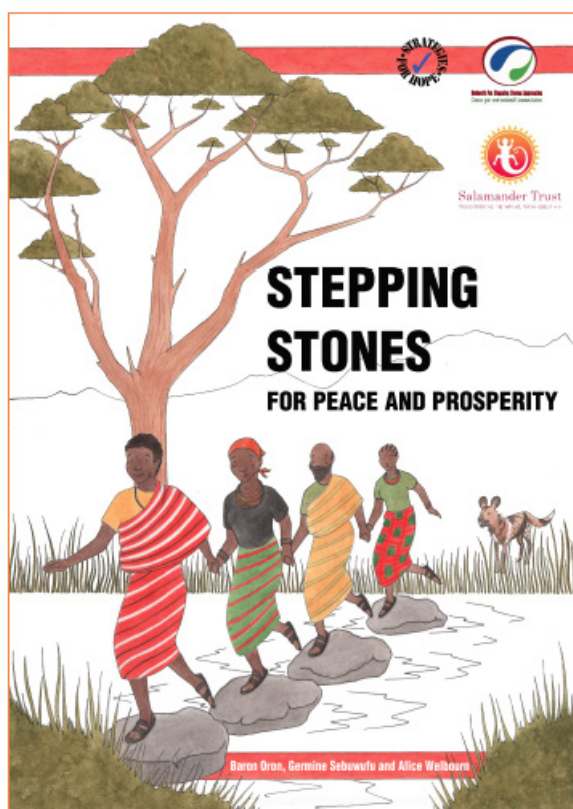
This graph below also shows how there also more new visitors to the website relative to returning visitors.

However, Spanish is the second most spoken language by visitors to the site, other than English, which suggests we may need to invest in the Spanish infrastructure of the website, especially the 'news' and resources' section.



Highest number of website visitors

- 1st UK
- 2nd US
- 3rd India
- 4th Brazil
- 5th Mexico
- 6th South Africa
- 7th Australia
- 8th Canada
- 9th Spain
- 10th Colombia



STEPPING STONES FOR PEACE AND PROSPERITY – KARAMOJA

This year saw the publication of *Stepping Stones for Peace and Prosperity*, the manual adapted for use in Karamoja in Uganda by Strategies for Hope and Salamander Trust. This adaptation was commissioned by the World Bank LOGICA Project and piloted by Baron Oron of NESSA Uganda and his team. The evaluation of the pilot was conducted by the Feinstein Center at Tufts University, led by Dr Elizabeth Stites.

The qualitative evaluation was resoundingly positive. By contrast, as is often the case, the quantitative evaluation was more equivocal. Nonetheless overall the programme was deemed successful in reducing intimate partner violence.

The following results were identified by the TUFTS evaluation:

Security

Overall, respondents (in all locations) felt more secure over the course of the study. More respondents felt safe at night (48 percent in baseline, up to 68 percent in endline) and experienced a security-related increase in mobility, which in turn led to better access to natural resources and markets.

“[The programme] changed attitudes completely, [things are] totally different since the coming of Stepping Stones. It has brought cooperation within family members like mothers and fathers. The man used to be lying under the tree, today they share ideas together. If it's cultivating—they all go together; if it's looking for survival, they share together.”

INTERVIEW WITH GROUP OF WOMEN, STEPPING STONES [P1], NARIAMEREGAE PARISH, LOTOME SUB-COUNTY, AUGUST 30, 2013. FROM STITIES ET AL 2014.

Intimate partner relations

The Tufts evaluation report states “Respondents of both genders reported a decrease in domestic violence as well as improved relations at the household level. They attributed this change directly to the *Stepping Stones* program. The quantitative results support this finding: 43 percent of respondents at the baseline felt it was acceptable to hit a woman, compared to 23 percent at the endline in intervention locations.”

Behaviour management

The Tufts report states: “Men and women credited the *Stepping Stones* intervention with better behaviour management. These improvements applied to both men and women, and, importantly, included after the consumption of alcohol, and were cited as contributing to the reduction of disputes at both the household and community levels.”

‘Female’ task-sharing

The Tufts report also states: “The qualitative data also show some cases of increased sharing of domestic chores following the *Stepping Stones* intervention, with men actively participating in activities normally falling exclusively within the female domain, including childcare and food preparation.”

Traditional authority

Greater respect for the authority of the elders was also reported in the qualitative findings.

Attendance levels

Participants responded extremely positively to these new approaches to learning, which were “wildly popular”.⁶ There were high levels of attendance throughout the workshop sessions at all the sites, from males and females, old and young alike. And there was overwhelming demand for extension and

6. Stites E, Akabwai D, Marshak A, Nohner E, Richards S. Engaging Male Youth in Karamoja, Uganda [Internet]. Somerville: Feinstein International Center, Tufts University; 2014. Available at: http://fic.tufts.edu/assets/LOGICA_StudySeriesNo3_UGA.pdf

expansion of the programme. The fact that all four peer groups of participants (older men, older women, younger men, younger women) have separately been doing the same exercises throughout the sessions, linking them to their own lived experiences along the way, equips all the participants with a new shared understanding of how they themselves feel, think, act, exist and relate to others in the world – and how others around them do also. This feels exciting and inspiring for all concerned and creates new bonds of shared understanding, empathy, compassion and hope as they move forward together with ideas for future individual and shared action.

Evaluation methodologies examined

Obtaining different results from qualitative and quantitative evaluation processes is often a problem for practitioners, researchers and donors alike, since quantitative results are often considered more reliable. Yet in a meeting at UNFPA in New York (see later in this report), Dr Kristin Mmari, who presented from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health in Baltimore, described their 6-city international ‘Wave’ study on adolescent sexual health. She explained how once they had conducted their qualitative research “we had to tear up our quantitative questionnaire and rewrite it – we had realised that we needed to ask different questions.” We were very interested, therefore, to see a recent report by Raab and Stuppert, commissioned by DFID about the pros and cons of qualitative and quantitative evaluation processes – and the power of participatory processes – in relation to Violence Against Women interventions.ⁱ We are delighted to see this because the importance of involving community members themselves in participatory monitoring and evaluation processes is an issue that we have long promoted. Rather than being a question of “biasing” the data, we see it as a core and key opportunity to build understanding, insights and community ownership of development processes. See also our April 2012 Stepping Stones newsletter on M&E by Nell Osborne here.ⁱⁱⁱ

i. <http://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/center-for-adolescent-health/az/>

ii. http://r4d.dfid.gov.uk/pdf/outputs/misc_gov/61259-Raab_Stuppert_Report_VAWG_Evaluations_Review_DFID_20140626.pdf

iii. <http://us2.campaign-archive1.com/?u=24d198c33ed45c3d1513bf5ff&id=f624da86a1>

We now look forward to finding funds from elsewhere, in order to try to pilot the programme further across NE Uganda, Northern Kenya, Ethiopia and South Sudan.

LOGICA
LEARNING ON GENDER & CONFLICT IN AFRICA

Feinstein International Center

Engaging Male Youth in Karamoja, Uganda

An examination of the factors driving the perpetration of violence and crime by young men in Karamoja and the applicability of a communications and relationships program to address related behavior

JUNE 2014

LOGICA Study Series No. 3

CONCERN worldwide

Ministry of Internal Affairs

Salamander Trust

Core team for this project

Luisa Orza

Professor Susan Bewley

Tyler Crone

Marijo Vazquez

Alice Welbourn

Global Reference Group members

Nukshinarao Ao (India)

Cecilia Chung (USA)

Sophie Dilmitis (Zimbabwe)

Calorine Kenkem (Cameroon)

Svetlana Moroz (Ukraine)

Suzette Moses-Burton
(St. Maarten/Netherlands)

Hajjarah Nagadya (Uganda)

Angelina Namiba (UK)

L'Orangelis Thomas Negrón
(Puerto Rico)

Gracia Violeta Ross (Bolivia)

Sophie Strachan (UK)

Martha Tholanah (Zimbabwe)

Patricia Ukoli (Nigeria)

Rita Wahab (Mena-Rosa)

Key WHO contact

Dr Manjulaa Narasimhan

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) GLOBAL STUDY ON THE SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN LIVING WITH HIV

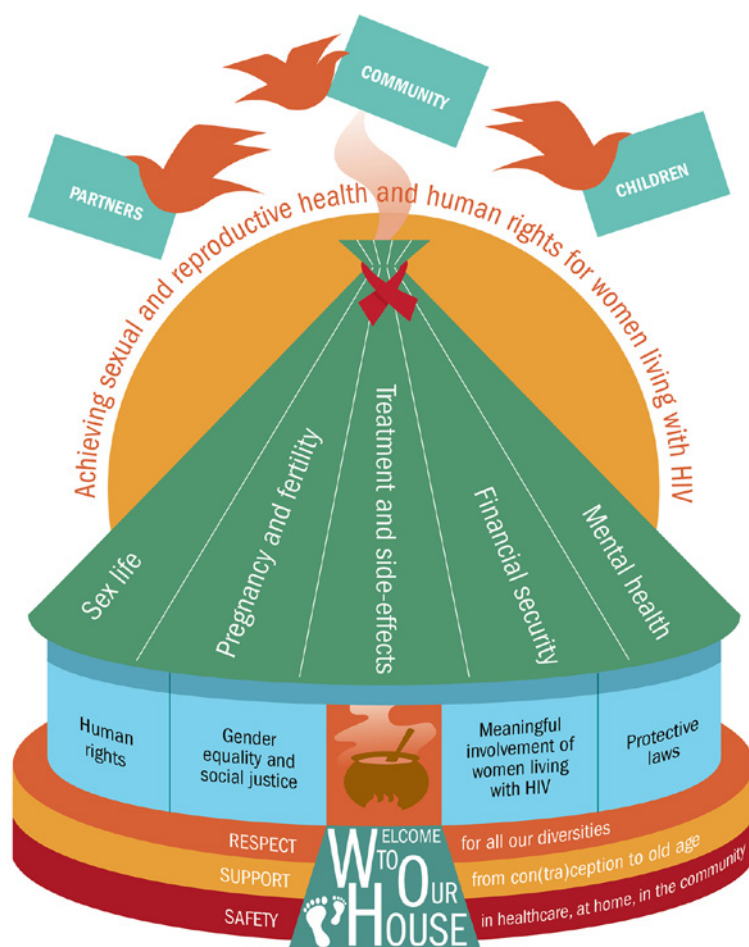
Last year we reported briefly on the beginnings of our global survey on the sexual and reproductive health and human rights of women living with HIV. This was commissioned by Dr Manjulaa Narasimhan of the Department of Reproductive Health and Research of WHO, as a values and preferences study to inform their update of WHO's 2006 Guidelines on this topic.

This survey, led by Salamander Trust, with our close partners Athena Network, ran from March 2014 until January 2015, when we took part in a two-day stakeholders' meeting with UN staff and Guidelines Development Group members in the WHO building in Geneva. We launched the report of the survey findings the following week.

This has been the largest global survey of women living with HIV to date. Led by a 14-strong Global Reference Group of women living with HIV, with a diverse range of geographic spread, ages, backgrounds and routes of transmission, the survey was rolled out in 7 different languages over six weeks.

We received 945 responses altogether from 94 countries, from 832 women in 7 languages through the online survey. A further 113 women living with HIV took part through 11 focus group discussions in several countries.

It was important to us to ensure that the survey report was widely disseminated back to as many of the respondents as possible, as well as to others working on global policies and programmes relating to women living with HIV. We adopted a widely recognisable metaphor of a house to explain our findings.⁷



7. The whole report, designed once more by our long-term excellent design colleague Jane Shepherd, can be accessed here: <http://salamandertrust.net/resources/BuildingASafeHouseOnFirmGroundFINALreport190115.pdf>

Image used in the survey report to reflect the inter-connectedness of findings

At the stakeholders' meeting in January 2015, Professor Sofia Gruskin, Director of the Program on Global Health and Human Rights in the Institute for Global Health at the University of Southern California stated:

"From our global literature review on the human rights in SRH of women living with HIV, there is almost nothing in the peer reviewed literature that captures the lived experience of women living with HIV in relation to services or more generally. It is really important for the information that comes out of this survey on the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women living with HIV to be in the peer reviewed literature."

Since January, the core team members (Luisa Orza – lead researcher and report author, together with Professor Susan Bewley, Tyler Crone, Marijo Vazquez and Alice Welbourn) and several Global Reference Group members, have worked on a voluntary basis to produce four articles for peer-review journals out of the report. This work is ongoing and we will report on our results in next year's annual report.

Creating the evidence base: a catch-22

It has proven impossible to find funding to write the four peer-review articles. This has highlighted for us another catch-22 situation in relation to women's rights and HIV.

When we highlight concerns about the rights of women living with HIV in global policy documents, we are often asked "Where is your evidence for your concerns?" yet so much of the content of our responses don't have an evidence-base because i) we don't have the funds to conduct evidence-based research and ii) even when we do (such as in the WHO research described here), we are still working, on a completely voluntary basis, to get 4 peer-reviewed articles out of that. As we write this annual report in August 2015, we have just received the next comprehensive comments from reviewers on the articles. These comments demand yet more unpaid time from several of us over what is supposed to be August holiday time with our families.....

UN WOMEN – GLOBAL HIV TREATMENT ACCESS REVIEW FOR WOMEN LIVING WITH HIV

In March 2014, UN Women issued a request for proposals for this review. Salamander Trust, together with our partner ATHENA Network and AVAC, submitted our joint proposal for this research in late April 2014. In late June we learnt that our bid for this research had been successful. Salamander Associate Liz Tremlett joined us to coordinate and support a new Global Reference Group (GRG) of diverse women living with HIV for this piece of research. Once again, GRG members undertook a "holistic well-being" pre-consultation exercise with their peers.

A literature review of both peer-review and grey literature about HIV was undertaken, led by Emma Bell of ATHENA Network, to which Salamander Trust and GRG members contributed and which they then reviewed. We also conducted a listserv discussion amongst these and other, self-selected women living with HIV from around the world, convened by Liz. Liz also conducted one to one in-depth interviews with nine women. With Liz's continued guidance, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were conducted in Nepal, Tunisia, Bolivia and Cameroon, facilitated by women living with HIV who were part of the Global Reference Group. These are Pooja Kunwar, Souhaila Bensaid, Violeta Ross and ATHENA partner Calorine Kenkem respectively. The diagram below explains the different parts of the overall process.

Our partners in this project

ATHENA Network

AVAC

Global Reference Group members

Souhaila Bensaid (Tunisia)

Cecilia Chung (USA)

Sophie Dilmitis (Zimbabwe)

Pooja Kumwar (Nepal)

Rebecca Matheson (Australia/
Kenya)

Sveta Moroz (Ukraine)

Suzette Moses-Burton (St.
Maarten/Netherlands)

Hajjarah Nagadya (Uganda)

Daisy Nakato (Uganda)

Silvia Petretti (UK)

Gracia Violeta Ross (Bolivia)

Sophie Strachan (UK)

Martha Tholanah (Zimbabwe)

L'Orangelis Thomas (Puerto
Rico)

Key UN Women contact

Nazneen Damji

“ I was really in favour of early treatment and to have this Option B+. But now my worry is: are we being given this as an option or is this being pushed on us with no option?”

INTERVIEW, ZIMBABWE

“ The little money [we have] will buy the cheapest meal for me and the children without thinking of the fruit. Except when a generous partner invites you to the restaurant.”

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION,
SEX WORKERS, CAMEROON

“ I do not want to have a stable job because I think they will just fire me. I could not have enough leave to pick up the medication, make checks and other things.”

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION,
BOLIVIA

“ I take nine pills, I have a sore throat, for 18 years I am taking tablets – I used to take up to 22 tablets – they are large tablets. ... That’s why sometimes I stopped taking them ... the routine of the drug already has me tired.”

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION,
BOLIVIA



At the end of December Liz went on maternity leave and Sophie Dilmitis took up the reins instead. Sophie populated an excel spreadsheet, created by Liz, to enable a documentation of a “deep read” manual textual analysis of all the rich data from the above sources. This process enabled us to identify key emerging themes from all the different narrative sources.

Luisa Orza of ATHENA Network then wrote a comprehensive preliminary report of all the FGD (‘community dialogues’) findings. Sophie Dilmitis and Alice contributed to this also.

The first draft of the preliminary report was submitted to UN Women in mid-February.

Meanwhile, we also submitted three abstracts to the International AIDS Pathogenesis Conference to be held in Vancouver in July 2014. We subsequently learnt that our methodology abstract, entitled “How can involving women with HIV strengthen the evidence base of our policies and programmes?” was accepted for a poster presentation. We will report more on this next year.

This project continues with AVAC now taking the lead in conducting more in-depth country case studies in Zimbabwe, Uganda and Kenya.

“ It motivates me when I look at my children and my other siblings, who are negative, and my father. I have to push on with life.”

INTERVIEW, UGANDA

UNAIDS – APPLIED RESEARCH SERVICES ON INTER-LINKAGES BETWEEN GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND HIV

In August 2014, UNAIDS issued a Request For Proposals concerning a project to support community-based organisations to implement programmes linking Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and HIV. In late October 2014, Salamander Trust, together with our partner ATHENA Network joined with HEARD at the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal, AIDS Legal Network and Project Empower to submit a proposal to undertake this work. On 19 October 2014, we were delighted to hear from UNAIDS that our proposal had won the bid. And so began our work on this action research project.

Such programmes involve a huge amount of work. As with the UN Women research, we began by producing an inception report, explaining the background and purpose of the programme and our plans for rolling it out, together with detailed timelines. This was submitted to UNAIDS in December, with a slightly revised version submitted and accepted in January. We then appointed a new Global Reference Group (GRG) for this work. This time this group consists of a minimum of 70% women living with HIV, with other members drawn from (other) key populations. Most members come from the regions of the 6 countries involved in the programme. UNAIDS selected South Sudan, Kenya, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Malawi and India. We also drew up a process for UNAIDS' identification and selection of a CBO (or NGO) from each of these countries. The programme continues and we will report more on it in next year's annual report.

Our partners in this project

AIDS Legal Network
ATHENA Network
HEARD, University of KwaZulu-Natal
Project Empower

Global Reference Group members

Betty Kwagala (Uganda)
Clara Banyana (Malawi)
Elizabeth Akinyi (Kenya/South Sudan)
Feli Lalrintluanga (India)
Jeni Gatsi Mallet (Namibia)
Martha Tholanah (Zimbabwe)
Phelister Abdalla (Kenya)
Silvia Petretti (UK)
Steve Letsike (South Africa)
Leigh Anne Van Der Merwe (South Africa)
Inviolata Mmbwavi (Kenya)

UNAIDS Key Contact

Hege Wagan

Summary of applied research services on inter-linkages between gender-based violence and HIV

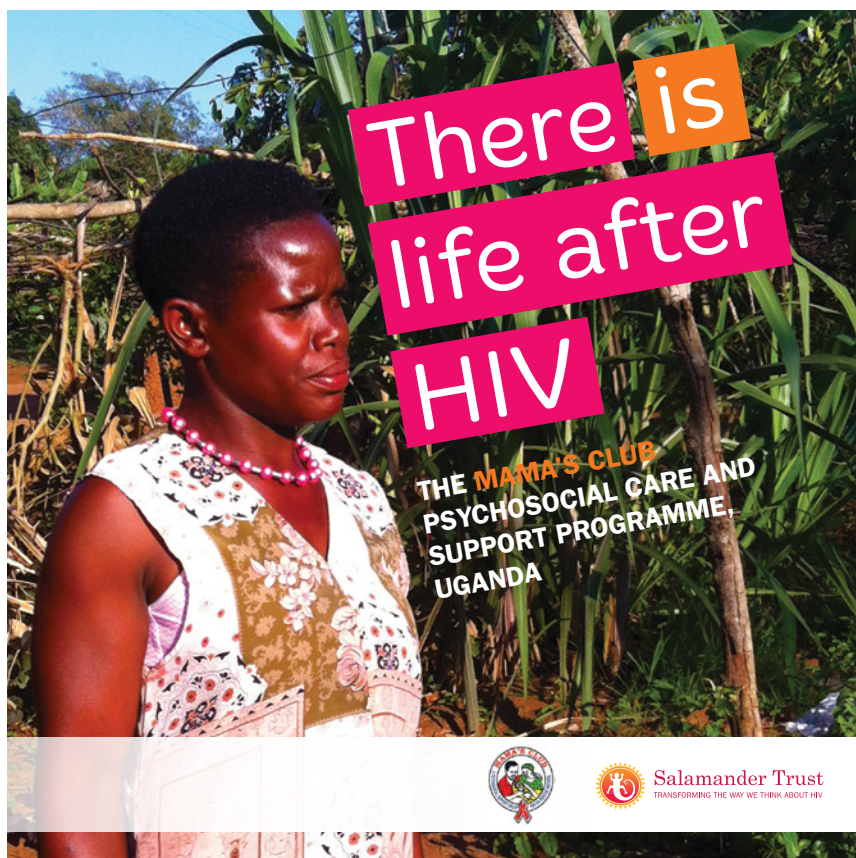
- ▶ Design an implementation framework to be used by CBOs, based on the latest evidence and including promising community practices related to reducing GBV in the context of HIV.
- ▶ Develop selection criteria for implementing CBOs.
- ▶ Create a robust monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework that aligns with the implementation framework baselines to enable strong M&E.
- ▶ Provide technical support to CBOs, in coordination with and guided by UNAIDS Country Offices.
- ▶ Produce a journal article.

Short-term training projects

THERE IS LIFE AFTER HIV, MAMA'S CLUB, UGANDA

During September and October 2014, Salamander Trust and Mama's Club held two participatory film-making workshops with women who are members of peer support networks, including women from Mama's Club, the International Community of Women Living with HIV (ICW) East Africa and National Forum of People Living with HIV/AIDS Networks in Uganda (NAFOPHANU). The training workshops were led by the social researcher and film trainer, Dr Dominique Chadwick of Social Films, supported by Nell Osborne for Salamander Trust.

The four participatory films represent the personal experiences of the participants in relation to HIV, gender-based violence, motherhood, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and livelihoods.



Many thanks to UNAIDS for their generosity in funding this film programme. UNAIDS also funded a similar process in Namibia, about which we will share information in next year's annual report.

held two filming training workshops over a period of two weeks with women who are members of either Mama's Club, ICW East Africa or NAFOPHANU. Each group of eight women took part in a five day participatory film-making workshop. Participants were taught how to use 'Flip' video cameras and were trained in basic filming techniques. Most of the participants had never used a computer or video camera before making these films. The participants shared stories about the impact of HIV in their own lives. Through a collaborative process of discussion, one story was picked from each sub-group of four people. The women were trained to storyboard their film and organise each shoot with the help of other local people as actors. The participants were entirely responsible for the message, content and dialogue of the films they made and were encouraged to look at their own stories as powerful tools for raising awareness and advocating for change. Finally, they were also trained, in these groups, to edit their filmed stories on laptops. Four short films were created as a result of this training process.

Using the films

These films are based upon true, personal testimonies. As such they represent the lived realities of women living with HIV. They highlight the specific and complex challenges that many women face in their lives. Yet, they also showcase the leadership, resilience and innovation happening at the community level and led by women living with HIV, which can help us to move beyond blame, stigma and violence. The insights of these films are for everybody: community leaders, policymakers, healthcare and development professionals, men, women living with HIV and beyond. We hope they can be used as a tool to help open up discussions about HIV, treatment and support, motherhood and gender-based violence, including stigma and discrimination, where they are most needed.

A booklet is also being designed for use alongside the films as an interactive training resource. Also included in this package is a documentary film about the Mama's Club programme made by Dominique Chadwick.

There is life after HIV: The Mama's Club Psychosocial Care and Support Programme, Uganda.

The documentary follows Mama's Club work around Central, Western and Northern Uganda.

It showcases the leadership of the women who belong to Mama's Club support groups. The documentary features interviews with Mama's Club members, doctors and staff about the importance of psychosocial support for women living with HIV.

How did the film training process work?

Salamander Trust and Mama's Club



Left to right: Pat (a woman trained as a 'Mentor Mother'); Professor Lesley Regan, Vice President of the Royal College; Positively UK's 'From Pregnancy to Baby and Beyond' Programme Coordinator Angelina Namiba; Salamander Trust's Alice Welbourn; Dr Alison Wright of the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust; and Janine, another woman trained as a "Mentor Mother".

LAUNCH OF 'RIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION'

The two participatory films and short documentary film made with women living with HIV who are peer mentors in the Positively UK 'From Pregnancy to Baby and Beyond' programme were launched at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in London in September 2014. Sadly, both Dominique and Nell, the film trainers, were away at the time of the launch, running a similar film training workshop in Uganda (see above). Nonetheless, while they were missed, their skills in training the women were warmly praised by the trainees themselves as well as by an enthusiastic audience.

One of the trainee film makers, Janine, wrote a blog about her experiences, published by the Sophia Forum and reproduced here with their kind permission.⁸

Janine Read: Tales and theatrics from Mentor Mothers

It was with a fair degree of intrigue that I and several other mentor mothers accepted the invitation to make a short film about the work we do for the pregnancy project *From Pregnancy to Baby and Beyond*, based at Positively UK. The scale of the challenge became apparent when we were informed that we would be involved and responsible for all parts of the film-making process from scripting, storyboarding, acting, camera work, lighting, sound, and editing the finished product. To make it all the more incredulous, for a novice such as myself we would do all this in the space of four days. Thankfully, we were in the very safe and nurturing hands of Dominique Chadwick of Social Films and Nell Osborne for Salamander Trust. They had a track record of working with communities of people living with HIV globally and producing short films in this time frame. We viewed some of their previous films and prepared to meet our challenge.

The first two days training were intensive learning, focused on different technical aspects of film-making such as how to use the camera, work on set, light, record a scene effectively and become familiar with flip share, a free downloadable filmmaking resource from the internet. The foremost aspect of the training was to work collaboratively. Through trial and error, as well as many re-takes the arts of negotiating, directing, or improvising, they all became tools we utilised at will. The final two days focused on the content, the subject matter. Split into two groups we were able to produce two films, each film consists of six scenes of approximately one minute in length, which is certainly not a lot of time to convey the complexities of peer support. However, in our films *Aruba's Answers* and *Serena's Tears of Joy* the main themes that are encountered in peer mentoring are referenced.

The films represent typical scenarios from casework and a complexity of issues that mentor mothers routinely face. Discussing the films individually we can better address some of these issues. For example, *Aruba's Answers* begins with the emotional shock and trauma that a new diagnosis can precipitate. The mentor mother aims to comfort her by placing this news in context that there is help available and a plan of action for herself and her unborn child that can almost guarantee (99% success rate) that mother-to-child transmission of HIV will not occur. That involves the woman (Aruba) starting treatment and being inducted into a network of advice and support. The doctor and midwife emphasise treatment plans and encourage Aruba to seek the support from Positively UK's mentor mothers. Crucially, they represent the voice of experience: all mentor mothers have delivered children post-diagnosis

8. See also <http://sophiaforum.net/resources/Article%20%20Janine.pdf>

and navigated the system of healthcare and participated in the necessary decision-making and commitment to a course of action. In Aruba's case, her pastor and faith seem to present a potential barrier to her complying with the treatment protocol. The mentor mothers can provide the social support, the testimony of their own personal experience and encouragement to work with the clinicians and emphasise that it is not a choice of faith or science: one can find a way to accommodate both. The weight of evidence for treatment as a means of preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV during pregnancy is unequivocal. There may be some simplification of the issues involved here but it has been well publicised that, especially in African communities, women have been subject to such dilemmas and misinformation. To inform and support a woman in such a position to find the safest choice for herself is no easy task. Such dilemmas naturally occur in an atmosphere permeated with stigma in which fear and ignorance make for natural bed fellows.



Serena's Tears of Joy focuses on the issue of disclosure. Serena has to find the courage to disclose her HIV status to her partner and be prepared to deal with his reaction, whatever that might be. The mentor mother emphasises that we can help with that preparation in terms of offering women correct information about HIV and ways to manage it, as well as reassuring them that they are not alone. At each step Serena takes there are healthcare professionals and organisations like Positively UK and the mentor mothers. The film depicts Serena in the throes of everyday life whilst wrestling with her preoccupied mind. There are no easy, straight-forward answers to questions such as 'What to do?' or 'How and whom to tell?'. Trying to find an answer to these questions requires some soul-searching and risk-taking but these risks can be calculated. With the correct information and much-needed support from professionals such as clinicians, midwives, and mentor

mothers you are then better prepared before deciding when and whom to share your diagnosis with. The film closes with Serena, husband and baby in loving embrace, expressing the hopes and joys of new beginnings. Again, this is another simplified story but the outcome is entirely achievable in all aspects. It very much depends on mind-set, preparation, support and taking the required action.

The third film is *The Pregnancy Journey*, a documentary by Dominique, emphasising the need for client engagement with a full range of treatment, advice and support services. The documentary provides a practical view of how this can be achieved in clinics. Doctors, midwives, psychologists, social care support and peer mentors all work in tandem to maximise positive outcomes for the client.

To read the rest of this article, please follow this link: [http://sophiaforum.net/resources/Article 2 Janine.pdf](http://sophiaforum.net/resources/Article%20Janine.pdf)


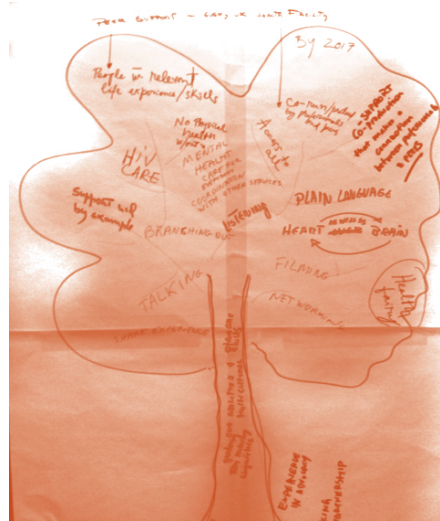
ADVOCACY WORKSHOP, POSITIVELY UK, LONDON

In October, our partner Positively UK invited Alice to run an evening advocacy workshop in London, as part of its 'Taking Part' series for people with HIV who want to become involved in activism. The audience were full of enthusiasm, thoughtful questions and huge energy. Below is an image from the powerpoint which accompanied the presentation; and a photo of one of the 'vision trees' produced by the participants during the workshop.

8. HOW: CHOOSE your ACTIVITIES.....

- CONTEXT –**
 - Legal / policy context
 - Public / media opinion
 - Advocacy efforts to date – by you; by others; successes / failures
 - Implications for YOU
- OPTIONS –**
 - Open door
 - Half-open door
 - Closed door
- REVIEW –**
 - Tactics and possibilities, in relation to your audience spectrum
- DECIDE –**
 - Which activities and with whom will work best for you?
- \$\$\$\$\$ –**
 - Work out how much this will cost – is it doable within your budget?

Do your **CORDS** bind your advocacy strategy broom together well?

Presentations

AIDS2014 MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

In July 2014, Melbourne, Australia hosted the 20th International AIDS Conference. It was a highly successful year for Salamander Trust. We had multiple abstract submissions accepted for both the Conference and the Global Village, despite extremely high competition.

Stepping Stones

AIDS2014 was a great year for *Stepping Stones*. We heard one delegate comment that, "Everyone is talking about *Stepping Stones*!"

Malawi: *Stepping Stones* featured in a presentation by Annie Banda, Director of COWLHA, Malawi at a session at the Melbourne AIDS Conference.

The IAS accepted Salamander Trust's application to screen the participatory films taken from *Seeking Safety: Stepping Stones in Malawi* in collaboration with COWLHA. This was presented by Nell Osborne and drew large crowds into the cinema space. The films prompted much interest and a lively discussion from the audience.

South Africa: Andrew Gibbs of the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal Heard presented in a session, *Addressing Gender Concerns: Violence and HIV*. His presentation, shared findings of the recent *Stepping Stones and Creating Futures* livelihoods programme formative evaluation, by HEARD, MRC S. Africa and Project Empower in S. Africa.

Tanzania: Salamander had a Poster Presentation accepted about the *Stepping Stones with Children* programme adaptation. Entitled "Can orphans and their caregivers be supported to build shared resilience in the context of AIDS-related deaths?", it was presented at the conference by Nell Osborne, Salamander Trust Associate. (See more about this in the *Stepping Stones with Children* project section above)

And beyond... Salamander Trust successfully applied to host a photography exhibition at the International AIDS Conference 2014 to showcase the diversity of *Stepping Stones* practitioners around the world. Entitled *Stepping Stones Around the World*, it enabled us to showcase some of the best photos from the *Stepping Stones* photo competition into an exhibition with accompanying information about how and where *Stepping Stones* was being used by each organisation.

Salamander Trust additional involvement

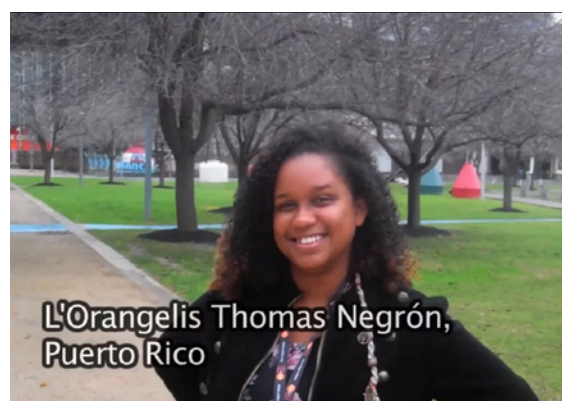
Salamander Trust secured an unprecedented amount of workshop spaces within the 2014 IAC conference itself, despite extremely high demand and tough competition. We were involved in co-hosting two workshops. These were entitled:

1. Upholding the Rights of Women and Girls Living with HIV in the Healthcare Context
2. HIV, Gender-Based Violence and Sexual Health - Men, Women and Transgender: How to Bring these Intersecting and Interlinked Issues into the Post-2015 Agenda

Next, Salamander Trust presented *Rights, Camera, Action: The Pregnancy Journey when you are living with HIV* as part of the Women's Networking Zone space in the Global Village.

Alice Welbourn of Salamander Trust was also asked to co-chair an oral abstract session: 'Living Better, Living Longer, Living Stronger: Women Living with HIV' and a Global Village Community Dialogue session: 'Public health and human rights – How to support both in the context of HIV, women and motherhood'.⁹

Furthermore Salamander Associate, Nell Osborne, won a scholarship to attend the conference, which covered the costs of her flight and registration fee. This enabled her to attend the conference in order to feed back information and research to the large number of members of the *Stepping Stones* Community of Practice who were unable to attend in person. This resulted in two key digital outputs from Nell. These were as follows:



1. A Newsletter disseminating key themes, talks and research findings from the conference. *A review: International AIDS Conference 2014*.¹⁰ This newsletter received much positive feedback from the CoP. The Christian AIDS Bureau for Southern Africa contacted Salamander Trust to ask if they could publish it as a blog.¹¹ It was further translated into Spanish and shared on L'Orangelis Negrón's popular blog, Roja Vida.¹²

2. A series of interviews with young women living with HIV, filmed with activists who attended the conference. This project was created in response to our belief that global efforts to prevent HIV transmission, as well as to provide care,

support and treatment for those living with HIV, continue to fail young women and adolescents. These interviews were shared publicly on March 9th 2015, to mark International Women's Day. Entitled *Learning to Listen: Young Women and HIV*, they can be viewed in the link below.¹³

AIDS FOCUS SWITZERLAND CONFERENCE, BERN

In April, Alice was invited to Bern to make a presentation at a conference on sexual violence and HIV organised by AIDS Focus Switzerland in April 2014. Sexual violence is used widely as a weapon of war in conflict situations. It also takes the form of marital rape in otherwise apparently peaceful contexts. So it is widespread and, of course, also closely connected to HIV. The notes for this presentation were written up into a proper article by Nell Osborne and published on the AIDS Focus

9. http://salamandertrust.net/index.php/Projects/Salamander_at_AIDS_2014/

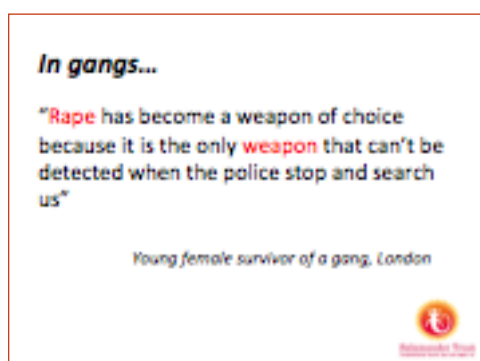
10. <http://us2.campaign-archive1.com/?u=24d198c33ed45c3d1513bf5ff&id=1c094fa165>

11. <http://www.cabsa.org.za>

12. <https://rojavid.wordpress.com>

13. <http://us2.campaign-archive1.com/?u=24d198c33ed45c3d1513bf5ff&id=f608b62251>

website in October 2014. This full article can be read here.¹⁴ Below are two slides from the powerpoint presentation.



STOPAIDS MEETING, LONDON

On October 30, activists, practitioners and academics, alongside over fifty members of STOPAIDS, met to explore and discuss current research and programming on Psychosocial Support Services in relation to HIV. Salamander Associate, Gill Gordon, presented Stepping Stones: Psychosocial support in the Community to this audience. A PDF of Gill's presentation can be viewed through the link below.¹⁵

MEN ENGAGE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM, DELHI

Salamander Trust and NESSA Uganda submitted an abstract to this symposium about our work in Karamoja, led by Baron and described above. We were very pleased to hear that the abstract was selected by the symposium committee for an oral abstract session. Baron Oron, Director of NESSA Uganda travelled to Delhi to present this.

UNFPA MEETING, NEW YORK CITY

UNFPA New York City – Stepping Stones with Children presentation

In January, Salamander Trust was invited by Doortje Braeken of IPPF to take part in a two-day technical expert meeting at UNFPA HQ in New York on SRH strategies to Reach Vulnerable Urban Adolescents, including Very Young Adolescents (ie from 10 years upwards). Owing to Gill Gordon's on-going health issues, Alice travelled to this meeting, and made a presentation about our preliminary findings from our *Stepping Stones with Children* pilot workshops in Dar es Salaam. This presentation included the point that if we want to support young people to be more resilient, we need to start much earlier than 10. The programme, designed by Gill, works on purpose with children aged 5-14, to give them this opportunity from much earlier on in their lives. The presentation was well received by UNFPA staff and other meeting participants alike.

Global advocacy through articles

BRINGING MARGINALISED VOICES TO GLOBAL AUDIENCES

As well as training women – and children – in participatory film training, and filming young women with HIV sharing their vision of the world, we have also sought to find other ways to bring marginalised views and voices to global audiences.

One way in which we have done this is through supporting women to have their articles published in the online global current affairs website, openDemocracy, with a monthly reach of 500,000 unique readers. The 5050 site of this journal,

14. <http://www.medicusmundi.ch/de/bulletin/mms-bulletin/addressing-sexual-violence-and-hiv/kapitel-1/overcoming-sexual-violence-in-the-context-of-hiv>

15. <http://stopaids.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Gill-presentation.pdf>

with the support of general editor Jane Gabriel, has a special section entitled “AIDS, Gender and Human Rights”, for which Alice has been commissioning editor since 2010.

This last year we have managed to support several more women to have their articles – for some, their first ever - published here. We have also been privileged to support the publication of articles in this series by other women who are already well established and widely respected writers and academics.

We are delighted that all these authors, who have important things to say which need to be heard, have the opportunity of this openDemocracy platform, to bring their viewpoints to a new wide-ranging global audience of interested readers.

This is also a great help to us since, through Alice’s role as openDemocracy’s commissioning editor, she is able to gain a free media pass to the conferences, thereby avoiding high registration costs.

Here is the list of articles commissioned by Alice and published during this past year by openDemocracy in the AIDS, Gender and Human Rights section¹⁶

Women living with HIV: a matter of safety and respect

Bev Wilson, 16 February 2015

Last month the results of a global survey on women living with HIV were published. The survey was designed and conducted by women, and commissioned by the World Health Organisation. Will the findings be acted upon?

HIV: witnessing the realisation of raw human rights

Alice Welbourn, 9 December 2014

Fear of HIV disclosure and subsequent violent reactions are experienced globally. We know that rights-based approaches can create resilience and hope. So where is the political courage and will to make them happen?

Preventing HIV: the decriminalisation of sex work

Aziza Ahmed and J.M. Kirby, 11 August 2014

A new bill, together with moves by some police departments in American cities to end the use of condoms as evidence of prostitution, has given hope to activists fighting to reduce the spread of HIV, secure human rights for sex workers, and to decriminalise sex work.

AIDS and adolescents: denying access to health

Alice Welbourn, 29 July 2014

With a 50% increase in AIDS-related deaths among young people, AIDS is now the second leading cause of their deaths. At the conclusion of the AIDS 2014 Conference, Alice Welbourn is left wondering whether anything is going to change in the HIV world for young women and their children.

Women who use drugs: resistance and resilience in the face of HIV

Silvia Petretti, 24 July 2014

In 2011 the UN General Assembly resolved to halve the number of people who inject drugs being diagnosed with HIV. Silvia Petretti writes from her own experience, and asks why the needs and rights of women who use drugs are being overlooked at this year’s International AIDS Conference

HIV, homophobia and historical regression: where next for Uganda?

Anonymous, 23 July 2014

President Yoweri Museveni was once globally admired for mobilising an HIV

16. <https://www.opendemocracy.net/5050/5050-aids-gender-and-human-rights>

response in Uganda founded upon compassion and shared responsibility. So what happened? We need to look back in time in order to comprehend the devastating scale of Uganda's backslide in HIV prevention, care and support

Uganda: the social impact of HIV criminal law

Hajjarah Nagadya, 23 July 2014

Criminalisation of HIV is unjust, unwise, undermines existing government efforts and is especially damaging to women's rights, argues Hajjarah Nagadya

HIV disclosure: changing ourselves, changing others

Martha Tholanah, 22 July 2014

When will policy makers, politicians and academics start to think upstream, in order to change their own and their employees' attitudes towards HIV before seeking to change the attitudes of others?

Bio-insecurity and HIV/AIDS

Ida Susser and Zena Stein, 20 July 2014

Science and global funding of HIV prevention is seen as an investment in biosecurity, but unless prevention and treatment take place within the context of the local bio-insecurity of the poor woman and her family the HIV epidemic can not be fully stemmed, argue Ida Susser and Zena Stein

HIV: a call for solidarity with the transgender community

Cecilia Chung, 19 July 2014

With the prevalence of HIV 50 times higher than that of the general population, societal acceptance and family support are crucial to the emotional wellbeing and health outcomes of LGBT people. Cecilia Chung tells her own story and calls for transgender sisterhood at the AIDS 2014 Conference

AIDS2014 Conference: stepping up the pace and still on the wrong path

Alice Welbourn, 18 July 2014

As the 20th International AIDS Conference opens in Melbourne, Alice Welbourn reflects on how global policies still fail to acknowledge the gender dimensions of this pandemic, or take into account the new broader medico-ethical debates that echo many of the concerns of women living with HIV.

AIDS2014: Where are the women we need to step up the pace?

Susan Paxton, 18 July 2014

With scientific advances in controlling HIV we need a strong community-based response now more than ever to ensure that the stigma still surrounding HIV does not stop people from coming forward for testing, treatment and care. So where are the community delegates at the International AIDS conference ?

Indonesia: facing life with HIV

Sindi Putri, 18 July 2014

Strategies, no matter how well intentioned, are not enough without the knowledge, insights and experiences of people with HIV to translate them into effective and rights-based practice. Sindi Putri shares her own experience in Indonesia.

HIV: Violations or investments in women's rights?

Alice Welbourn, 22 April 2014

In the context of widespread sexual violence and its reciprocal links to HIV, Alice Welbourn reports on how the formal scientific evidence base alone is beginning to be recognised as not fit-for-purpose to safeguard women's rights.

BIRTHDAY CALENDAR



Salamander Trust
TRANSFORMING THE WAY WE THINK ABOUT HIV

In support of the Salamander Trust 'Bridging the Digital Divide' Appeal.
All proceeds from the sale of this Birthday Calendar help us to send DVDs
and accompanying handbooks about the inspiring work of women living
with HIV around the world to organisations that want to see them but can't
because they don't have internet.
Thank you for your support. <http://tinyurl.com/placceu>

OUR BEAUTIFUL BIRTHDAY CALENDAR

Highly talented artist and long-term supporter Petra Röhr-Rouendaal has kindly produced a magnificent birthday calendar for us, in order to raise funds for our 'Bridging the Digital Divide' project. The aim of this project is to raise funds to enable us to send materials to organisations in the Global South who have limited or no access to the internet, in order that they may benefit from the materials we produce. To read more about this project, please click on the link below.¹⁷

The calendar consists of 12 beautiful pictures, one per month, each painted or drawn by Petra. There is space to add in names to remember birthday dates throughout the year. The preparation of the calendar took place during financial year 2014-5. (To order your own copy of this calendar, please contact us. They cost £10 plus postage and packing each.)

OUR NEW TRUSTEE

We are delighted to announce that in December 2014 we welcomed on board our new trustee, Jenifer Gatsi Mallett.

Jenifer Gatsi Mallett is a Zimbabwean campaigner, programme director, researcher and trainer, living in Namibia. She is the Founding member & Director of the Namibia Women's Health Network. She has also founded 2 Community Based Orphans and Vulnerable Children Organisations (2003); introduced the concept of psychosocial support groups to Namibia Civil Society Organisations in 2003; and successfully led the "Stop Forced Sterilisation Campaign" to a great victory in the Namibian Supreme court. To read more about Jeni and other trustees, please click on the link below.¹⁸

17. <http://tinyurl.com/pfacceu>

18. <http://salamandertrust.net/index.php/page/About/>

Thanks!

TO OUR SALAMANDER ASSOCIATES

Salamander Trust has no paid staff. We have the privilege to have the following Associates working with us on various projects:

Gill Gordon: *Stepping Stones with Children*, Author and Lead Researcher

Sue Holden: *Stepping Stones with Children*, Project Coordinator

Florence Kilonzo: *Stepping Stones with Children*, Programme Adviser

Dr Kato Nkimba: *Stepping Stones with Children*, M&E Adviser

Nell Osborne: *Stepping Stones* Community of Practice, Coordinator and Film Projects Co-Team leader

TO OUR ON-GOING SUPPORT

Richard Dodds: Accountant, Working Finance*

Daniel Fletcher: Website and IT support

Jane Shepherd: Graphic design

TO ALL OUR PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS

A huge thanks to all our partners and collaborators, some of whom are listed below.

ATHENA Network

Tyler Crone: Co-Founder and Coordinating Director

Luisa Orza: Programme Director

Jacqui Stevenson: Project Coordinator

Emma Bell: Athena Consultant, Social Development Direct

Calorine Kenkem: ATHENA Consultant

AVAC

Emily Bass: Programme Director

Nasra Aidarus: AVAC consultant

Kevin Fisher: Policy Director

AIDS Legal Network

Dr Johanna Kehler: Director

Health Economics and HIV and AIDS Research Division (HEARD), University of KwaZulu-Natal

Samantha Willan: Director, Gender and Equality Research Programme

Dr Andy Gibbs: Researcher, Gender and Equality Research Programme

Dr Jill Hanass Hancock: Disability Senior Researcher

Siphumelele Nene: Disability Researcher

Kimara Peer Counselling

Pfiriaeli Kiwia: Director

Willbrord Manyama: Senior Trainer

Mama's Club Uganda – film-training project

Dr Dominique Chadwick: Social Films

Dr Lydia Mungherera: Mama's Club

NESSA Uganda

Baron Oron: Director

PASADA

Simon Yohana: Director

Nelson Chiziza: Head, Community Mobilisation Department

Jovin Tesha: Head of Counselling

Revocatus Kitteka: Head of Finance

Positively UK

As well as several pieces of work together, Positively UK provides us with our registered address, a desk and space for small meetings in London

Allan Anderson: Director

Silvia Petretti: Deputy Director

Positively UK – film-training project

Dr Dominique Chadwick: Social Films

Angelina Namiba: Positively UK

Project Empower

Laura Washington: Director

Nolwazi Ntini: Researcher

Stepping Stones with Children – film-training project

Dr Dominique Chadwick: Social Films

Nelson Chiziza: PASADA

* As we go to press (December 2015) we are extremely saddened to have learnt about the untimely death from cancer in late October of our accountant, Richard Dodds. Richard had many and varied talents, not least being able to juggle efficiently with multi-currency budgets and receipts. He has supported us with Salamander Trust throughout our existence and also in our work with two other HIV charities. He will be sorely missed by us all.

Strategies for Hope

Glen and Alison Williams

UNAIDS Research Programme

Sophie Dilmitis

UNAIDS Research Global Reference Group members

Please see the relevant section of the report above for individual names

UN Women Research

Sophie Dilmitis

Liz Tremlett

UN Women Research Global Reference Group members

Please see the relevant section of the report above for individual names

WHO Research

Professor Susan Bewley

Marijo Vazquez

WHO Research Global Reference Group members

Please see the relevant section of the report above for individual names

Our funders

We are very grateful to all our funders, large and small. You all make a difference. Thank you.

AIDSFocus Switzerland

Annalisa McNamara

Comic Relief

ICW Global

International AIDS Society

International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

Positively UK

UNAIDS

UN Women

World Health Organization (WHO)

Salamander Trustees

Professor Jill Lewis

Jenifer Gatsi Mallett

Dr Nigel Padfield

Jane Tewson, CBE

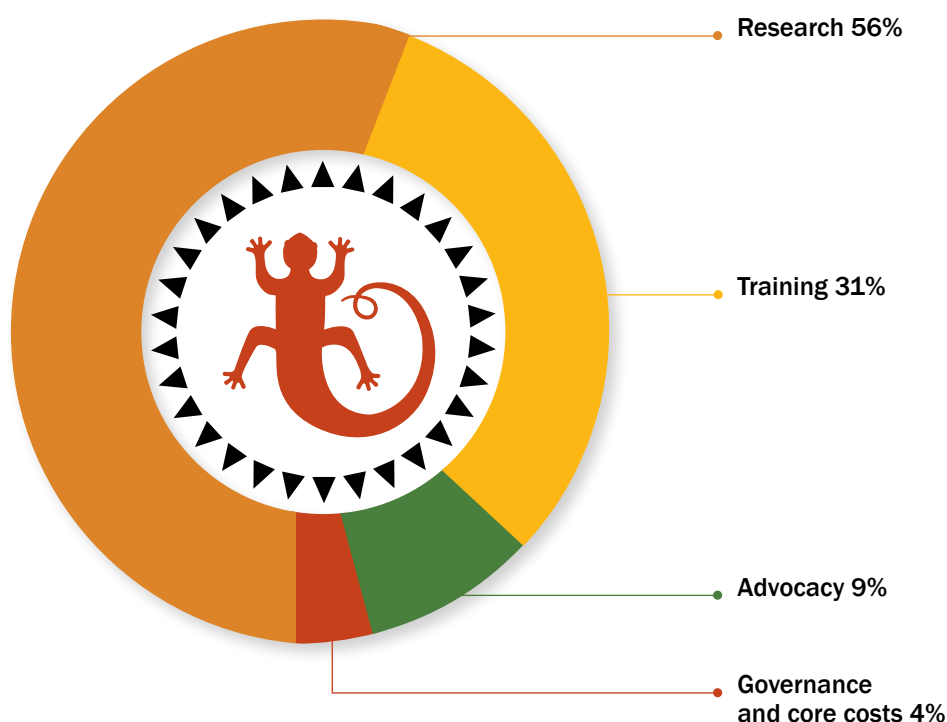
Dr Alice Welbourn

Our accounts 2014–2015

This summary shows approximate breakdowns for our advocacy, research and training work. For full details of our accounts please refer to the UK Charity Commission website. We keep our overheads low, largely through our consultants working from home. We rent a desk space at Positively UK (the offices where Salamander Trust is registered) and through this we also have access to a meeting space, photocopier, phones and internet when we need them, plus very friendly welcoming faces whenever we visit London for other meetings! The Director, as Chair of the Trustees, works for the Trust on an unpaid basis, with only her Trust-related expenses covered. The Trust's bookkeeping is undertaken on a voluntary basis by Dr Nigel Padfield, another Trustee.

1 April 2014–31 March 2015	£
Funds at beginning of year	170,054
Unrestricted	6,669
Restricted	163,385
Total income during the year	
Grant Income	
Comic Relief	215,645
UNAIDS	43,834
UN WOMEN	13,794
WHO	21,816
Donations	13,949
Bank interest	2,886
Activities for generating funds	2,566
Total	314,490
Expenditure during the year	
Research	101,928
Training	56,047
Advocacy	16,328
Governance and core running costs	6,435
Total	180,738
Funds at end of year	303,806
Unrestricted	12,283
Restricted	291,523

Salamander Trust Expenses 2014–2015





Salamander Trust

TRANSFORMING THE WAY WE THINK ABOUT HIV

Salamander Trust

Address c/o
Positively UK
345 City Road
London, EC1V 1LR
UK

Charity No. 1143381
Company No. 06734362

www.salamandertrust.net
www.steppingstonesfeedback.org
twitter: @salamandertrust @StStFeedback