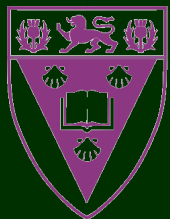

AIDS stigma as epidemiological problem and municipal governance priority

CONFERENCE ON LAUNCHING OF COALITION
OF AFRICAN CITIES AGAINST RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION
(Nairobi, Africities, September 18-24, 2006)

Kevin Kelly - CADRE, Rhodes University



RHODES UNIVERSITY
Where leaders learn



Outline

- Urbanisation trends in Africa
 - Urbanisation and HIV
 - Stigma as epidemiological problem
 - The necessity of combating stigma
 - Overcoming stigma through municipal practice
 - Milestones of good practice
-

Rural and urban population: Africa



Data source: Cohen, 2006

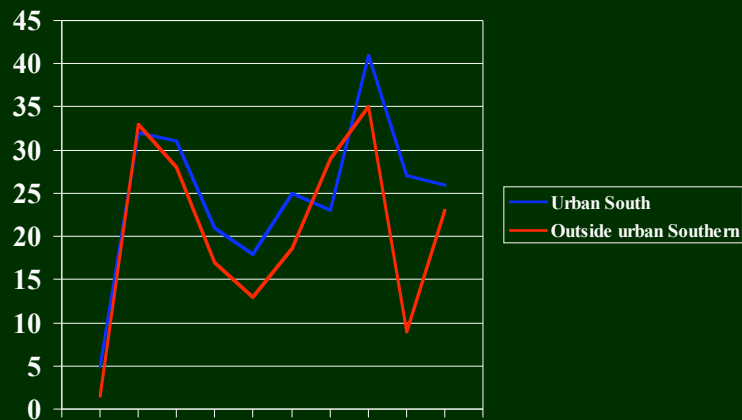
Key facts

- Rapid urbanisation without economic growth = increase in slums
 - 72% of the urban population of Africa was living in slums in 2003
 - The bulk of the increase in urban population over the next 15 years will be in towns and cities with fewer than half a million inhabitants
 - Rapid urban growth is seriously outpacing the attempts of most cities to provide adequate basic services for their citizens
 - One of every 2-3 African city dwellers lives on less than one dollar a day
-

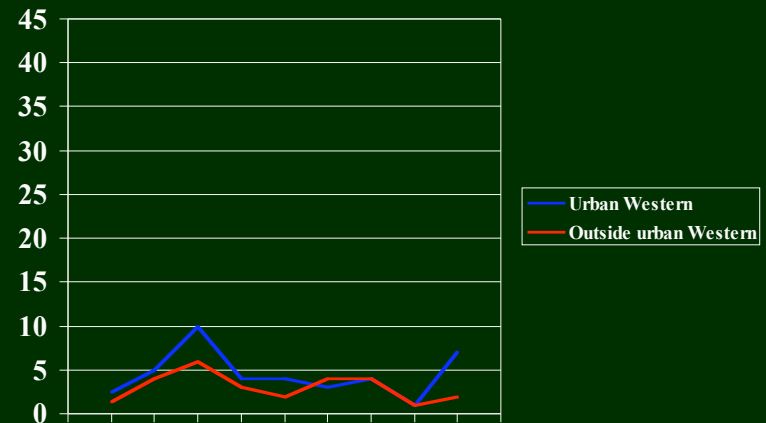
HIV and urbanisation

- 1.7 times greater HIV prevalence in urban areas
 - Greater differences in countries with larger geographic area
 - Greater differences in countries with large groups of vulnerable people (e.g., sex workers, unemployed youth, drug users)
 - Some evidence that urban prevalence is greatly higher in urban informal settlements
-

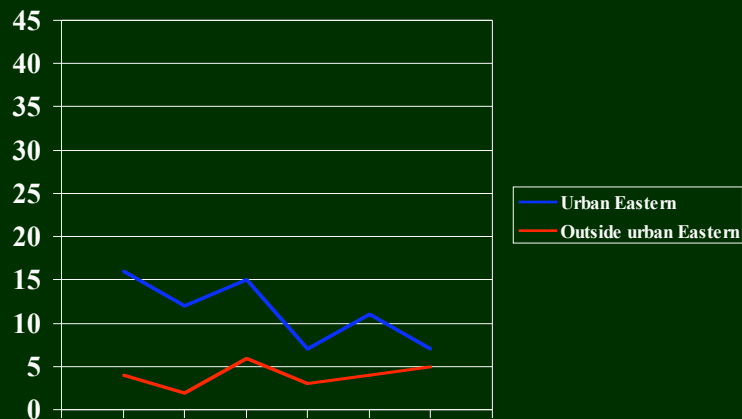
Rural vs. Urban HIV prevalence antenatal clinic clinics (last year before 2004)



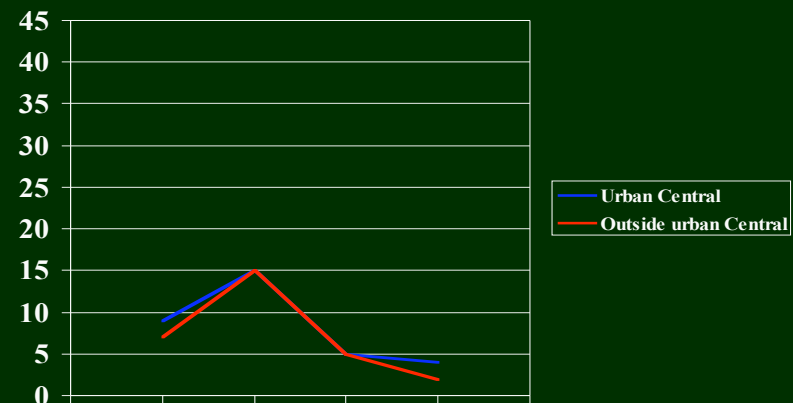
Southern Africa



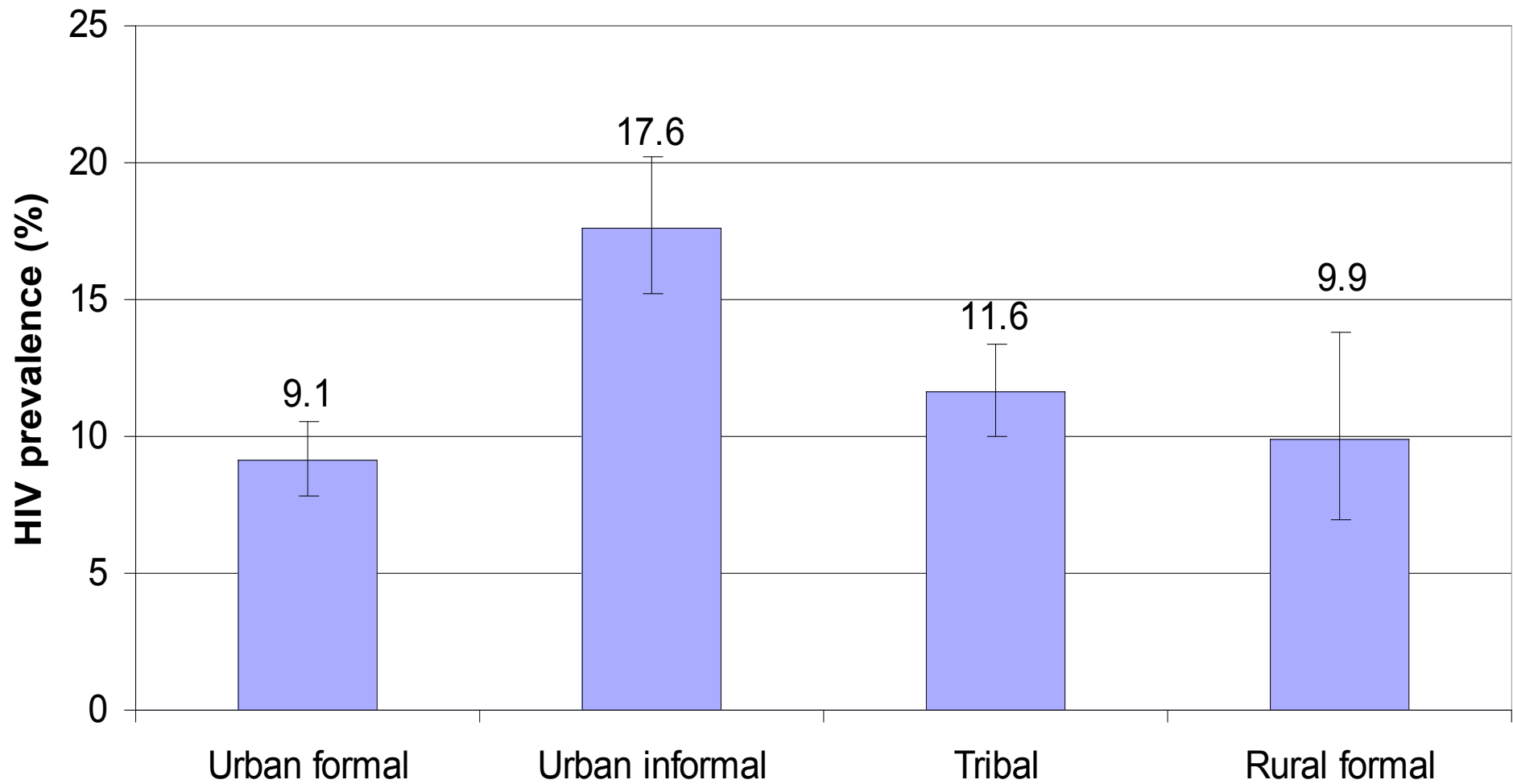
Western Africa



Eastern Africa



Central Africa



HIV prevalence by geotype: South Africans older than 2 years: 2005

Why more rapid spread of HIV in urban informal areas?

- Higher levels of sexual age-mixing
 - Break down of social regulatory processes relating to sexual behaviour and partnering
 - Less peer monitoring and minding (rural communities tend to safeguard partnering norms)
 - Economic necessity leading to transactional sex
 - Higher STI levels because of poor access to health services
 - Higher levels of sexual concurrency often with partners living apart
 - Poor social capital and coherence: affecting ability of communities to organise around their circumstances
-

The consequences for towns and cities

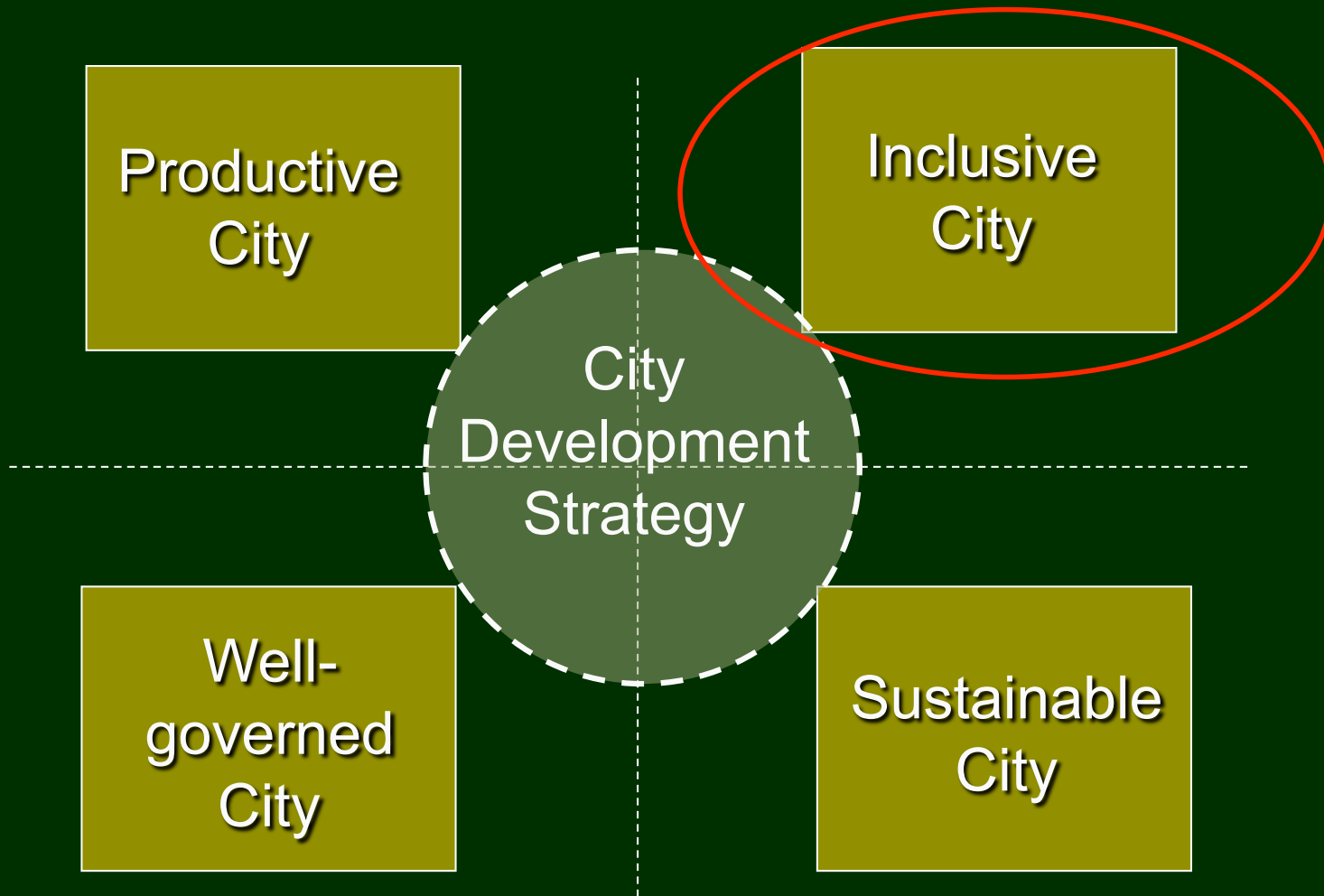
- From high transmission areas to generalised epidemics
 - Threat to the sustainability of cities
 - Major drain on existing services
 - Crisis management rather than developmental planning
-

Vicious circles

- The most important areas to target are the most difficult areas to incorporate
 - The hopeless plight of the AIDS sufferer (in terms of treatment and support) makes stigma and denial more likely
 - This prevents people from testing, receiving care and protecting others from being infected
 - STIGMA IS NOT ONLY A RIGHTS ISSUE, BUT A MAJOR MANAGEMENT ISSUE
 - IT IS THE BIGGEST STUMBLING BLOCK IN FIGHTING AIDS
 - IT IS AN EPIDEMIOLOGICAL PROBLEM AND MUST BE MANAGED AS SUCH
-

SACN City Strategic Framework

Building blocks for integrated development



HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMMES

- HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION
- CLUB FORMATION
- DISTRIBUTION OF IEC MATERIALS
- ADVOCACY
- HUMAN RIGHTS / DEMOCRACY PUBLIC AWARENESS
- CRIME PREVENTION CAMPAINS
- CONSTITUTION AWARENESS
- CONDUCT ADVOCACY PROGRAMMES IN ORDER TO INFLUENCE POLICY MAKERS TO UNDERSTAND THE NEEDS OF GRASSROOTS LEVELS.
- HUMAN RIGHTS TRAININGS
- PROVISION OF LEGAL ADVICE SERVICES FOR VULNERABLE YOUNG PEOPLE.
- CHILD RIGHTS
- GENDER AWARENESSES AND TRAININGS
- CAREER GUIDE
- GIRLS EMPOWERMENT

What has worked

- Local government leadership – no progress without a vocal and visible AIDS champion
- Municipal workplace policies supportive of HIV positive people
- Municipality leading through example
- Incorporation of marginalised areas into municipal service planning
- Promoting (not necessarily conducting) local coordination and networking
- Ensuring involvement of organisations representing people with HIV/AIDS
- Promoting integration of services – linkages
- Creating a forum for partnerships – leveraging funding for civil society through support of local government
- Local, national & international resource mobilization

What has worked

- Promoting sustainable mainstreaming in local government departments (% of budget and within KPA of managers), and avoidance of once-off mobilisation campaigns
- Involvement of civil society and business in local government initiatives. Recognition of the huge role of civil society.
- A specific action plan to which the municipality can be held accountable
- Inclusion of AIDS funding in poverty reduction strategies
- Tireless promotion of prevention oriented VCT
- Adoption of a human rights framework to justify
 - a framework for accountability and action
 - access to procedural, institutional and other monitoring mechanisms for enforcing rights

Resources

- www.worldbank.org/urban.hivaids/index.htm
(urban development)
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