

Building strategic research with MSM (LSL) communities in Indonesia

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Background

- Increasing HIV infection rate among gay men and MSM/LSL
- Poor access to sexual health services, low testing rates, poor treatment uptake for STIs and HIV
- Low condom use, poor access to lube, highly negative attitudes to HIV+ LSL in gay community, almost no disclosure of HIV
- Prevention has failed to reach most of the population, particularly middle and upper income gay men and LSL
- Programming of prevention has been inconsistent, largely following the generic programs of international donors
- Recent increase in attention to gay/LSL communities in Indonesia- National strategy, increased funding, increased political will
- Evidence base has been piecemeal and not linked to strategic priorities

Gap Analysis

Rapid Gap Analysis conducted in 2010

Identified current situation and immediate needs for Gay/LSL communities in:

- Prevention
- Sexual Health Services
- HIV Care

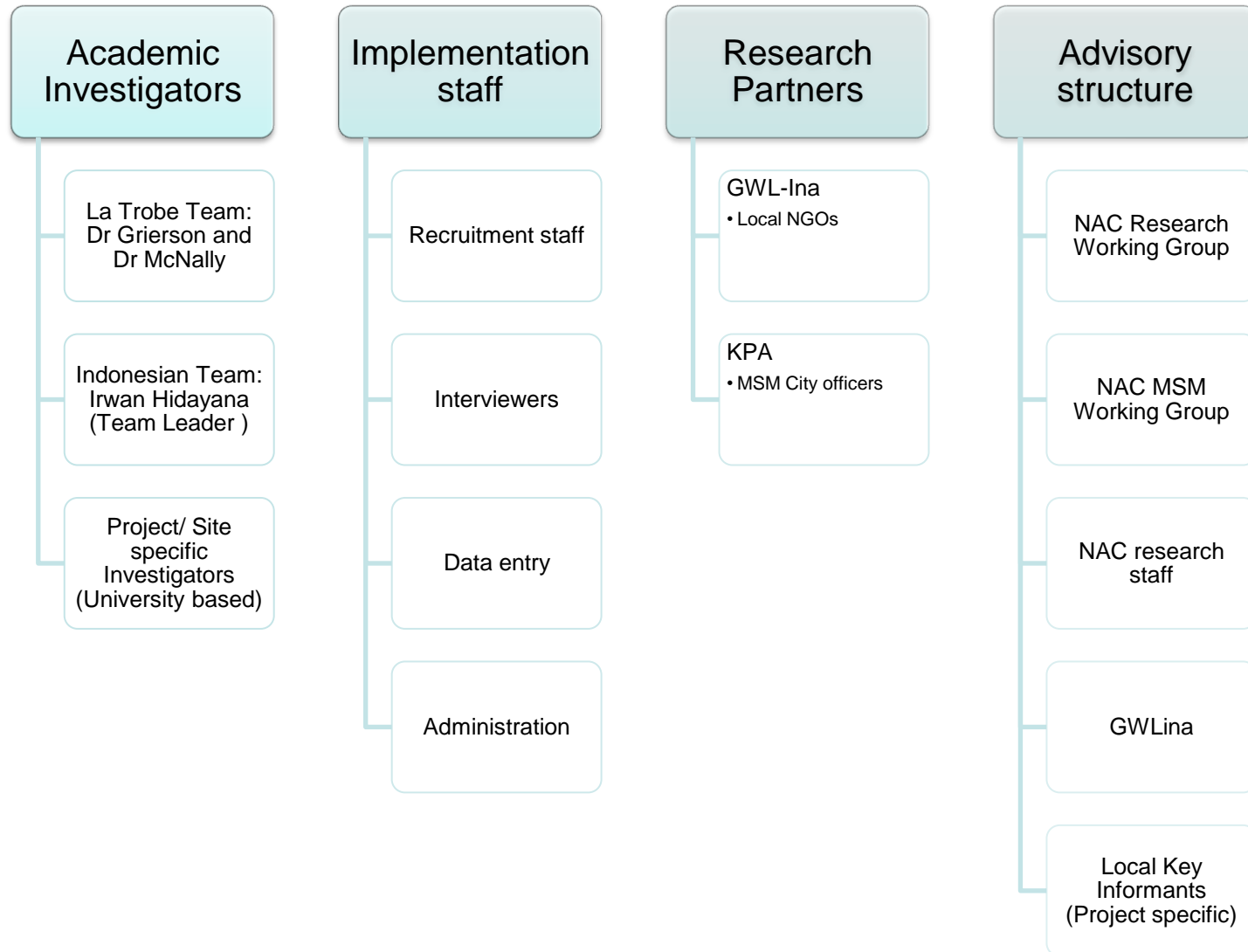
For each area we identified:

- Key issues
- Current situation
- Immediate and mid term priorities
- Research/evidence base priorities

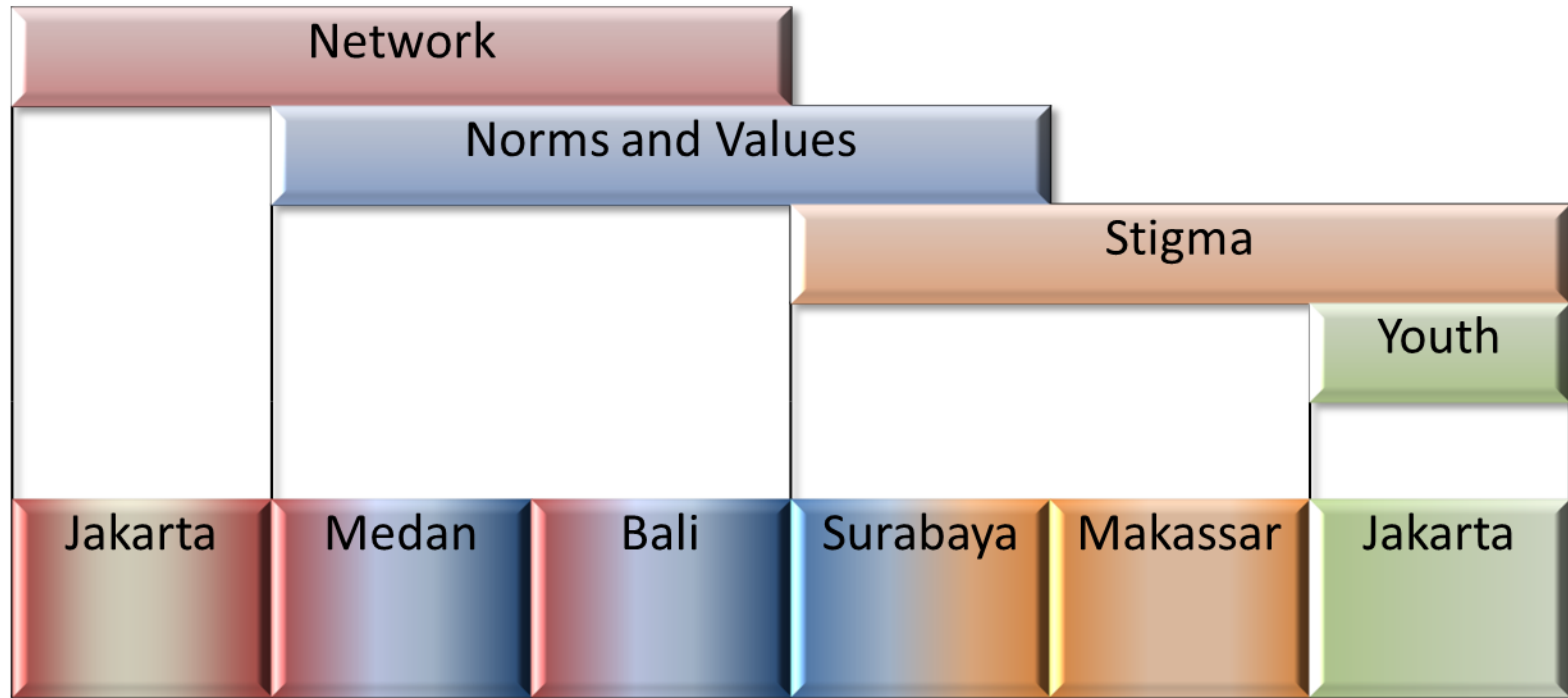
The Research Program

- Funded by AusAID in 2011 to support programmatic Gay/LSL funding
- 4 major research projects addressing the priorities identified
- Partnership between ARCSHS researchers, Indonesian academics, NGOs and the NAC
- Research is professional, sophisticated, theoretically informed and credible- this is NOT operational research, action research, situational assessment or evaluation

The Research Partnership



Research Locations



The Research Projects

Network study of men and sites

- 2-mode network study of MSM and sites of engagement
- The methodology examines the ways in which men connect to sites, and therefore to each other. Sites in this context will include organisations, social groups, social venues, public sex environments, internet chat rooms and networking sites, and regular events.

Study of Norms and practices

- Qualitative study of norms, value structures, modes of engagement (social and sexual) among MSM.
- This study will use structured qualitative interviewing to document and explore the normative environment in which MSM live their lives.

Stigma from multiple perspectives

- Multi-method study of stigma experienced by MSM using case studies in three sites.
- Interviews with: health workers; NGOs; Educators; religious leaders; and cultural leaders. FGD with MSM. A brief rapid survey with a general population sample. A systematic document analysis of media coverage and policy documents.

Youth and learning about sexuality

- FGDs with young LSL, lesbian, TG and heterosexual young people to explore how young people learn about sex, sexuality and gender