

CURRICULUM VITAE

Full name: FAUSTINO SIMÃO LESSITALA

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Place and date of birth: Tete – Mozambique / 23 March 1981

Actual residence: Beira, Mozambique

WORK EXPERIENCE

POSITION 1: Field Research Associate under a contract with the University of Michigan

- Impact Evaluation of an Orphans and Vulnerable Children Project, Beira
From June 2016 to present
- The economics of Health Decision Making in Mozambique Project, Beira
From November 2021 to present

Main responsibility:

- Coordinating the field implementation of an impact evaluation of the Orphans and Vulnerable children project in 3 target provinces: Manica, Sofala and Zambézia (2016-to present)
- Coordinating the field implementation of COVID-19 Response Survey for Mozambique, in charge of recruitment, training and supervision of data collection staff (2020-to present)
- Liaising with several stakeholders of the project, such as: Local project implementing partners, beneficiary community members, Government authorities.
- Liaising with the Mozambican IRB for study protocol approvals.
- Leading enumerators training and data collection.

POSITION 2: Research coordinator

International Centre for Reproductive Health (ICRH), Tete-Mozambique
From August 2015 to May 2016.

Main responsibilities:

- Coordinating the implementation of several components of an impact evaluation of Reproductive Health Services for Female Sex Workers in Tete, Mozambique. I addressed to the Mozambique Ethical Committee objections until the approval of the study protocol and I took the lead in the data collection, supervising the research team members and making sure the timeline was respected. My Terms of References include participating in data collection, data analysis, report/publication writing and in the dissemination of the findings.

POSITION 3: Research officer

International Centre for Reproductive Health (ICRH), Tete, Mozambique
From December 2012 to August 2014.

Main responsibilities:

- Implementing a Study protocol on “the determinants of use and access to maternity waiting homes” using mixed methods approach. I took the lead of all the phases of the study, namely: Data collection; Data analysis and Report writing.

- Taking a lead as a local coordinator in the implementation a “situational analysis study protocol on use, access and satisfaction of sex workers with existing sexual and reproductive health services”. This was a multi-country study involving partners from India, Kenya, South Africa and Mozambique and it is part of DIFFER (Diagonal Interventions to Fast-Forward Enhanced Reproductive Health) Project. I played a key role in two big study components, namely: an Integrated Biological and Behavioural Survey (IBBS) and Focus Group Discussions. I gave inputs in the report writing and I am a co-author in a submitted article for publication of the findings.

POSITION 4: Research assistant

Médecins Sans Frontières, Tete-Mozambique
From May 2011 to December 2012.

I was involved in two studies:

1. A qualitative study to evaluate the relevance, dynamic and impact of a new HIV care model called Community ART Groups (CAG model) on patients, their communities and the healthcare system in Tete Province, Central region of Mozambique. As research assistant I performed several tasks:

Main responsibilities:

- Translating of the training contents from English into Portuguese and doing presentations during the training sessions with the research team members;
- Monitoring the participants recruitments;
- Supervising moderators, notetakers, interviewers and transcribers in conducting Focus Group Discussions and In-depth interviews;
- Qualitative data analysis using NVIVO software;
- Leading the research team in the absence of the senior researcher.
- Co-authoring 3 scientific publications of the research findings

2. Explorative study on utilization of and barriers to HIV and MCH Services among Community ART Group members and their families.

Main responsibilities:

- Moderating focus group discussions
- Participating in data analysis and dissemination of the results in collaboration with senior researchers;
- Co-authoring a publication on the research findings.

POSITION 5: Intern

Hospital Geral José Macamo, Maputo
From July to December 2010.

As a student in the last year of the Psychology course, I did my internship in the Hospital Geral José Macamo which consisted in a psychological counselling to people infected and affected by HIV.

EDUCATION

MASTERS IN PUBLIC HEALTH (option: Health Systems management and policies) at **Institute of Tropical Medicine (ITM) – Antwerp – BELGIUM.**

From September 2014 to July 2015

BACHELOR IN SOCIAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY at **Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Maputo – MOZAMBIQUE**

From February 2007 to December 2010

BACHELOR IN PHILOSOPHY AND SCIENCES OF EDUCATION at *Institut Saint Jean-Bosco – Lubumbashi – DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO*

From September 2000 to July 2003

OTHER SKILLS

LANGUAGES:

PORTUGUESE: BILINGUAL

ENGLISH: Full professional proficiency

FRENCH: Full professional proficiency

CHINYANJA/CHICHEWA: Native

PUBLICATIONS

1. Geelhoed, D., Decroo, T., Dezembro, S., Matias, H., **Lessitala, F.**, Muzila, F., ... Capobianco, E. (2013). Utilization of and Barriers to HIV and MCH Services among Community ART Group Members and Their Families in Tete, Mozambique. *AIDS Research and Treatment*, 2013, 937456. <http://doi.org/10.1155/2013/937456>
2. Lafort, Y., Greener, R., Roy, A., Greener, L., Ombidi, W., **Lessitala, F.**, ... Delva, W. (2016a). HIV prevention and care-seeking behaviour among female sex workers in four cities in India, Kenya, Mozambique and South Africa. *Tropical Medicine & International Health*, 21(10), 1293–1303. <http://doi.org/10.1111/tmi.12761>
3. Lafort, Y., Greener, R., Roy, A., Greener, L., Ombidi, W., **Lessitala, F.**, ... Delva, W. (2016b). Where Do Female Sex Workers Seek HIV and Reproductive Health Care and What Motivates These Choices? A Survey in 4 Cities in India, Kenya, Mozambique and South Africa. *PloS One*, 11(8), e0160730. <http://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0160730>
4. Lafort, Y., Greener, R., Roy, A., Greener, L., Ombidi, W., **Lessitala, F.**, ... Delva, W. (2017). Sexual and reproductive health services utilization by female sex workers is context-specific: results from a cross-sectional survey in India, Kenya, Mozambique and South Africa. *Reproductive Health*, 14(1), 13. <http://doi.org/10.1186/s12978-017-0277-6>
5. Lafort, Y., **Lessitala, F.**, Candrinho, B., Greener, L., Greener, R., Beksinska, M., ... Delva, W. (2016). Barriers to HIV and sexual and reproductive health care for female sex workers in Tete, Mozambique: results from a cross-sectional survey and focus group discussions. *BMC Public Health*, 16, 608. <http://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-016-3305-5>
6. Rasschaert, F., Decroo, T., Remartinez, D., Telfer, B., **Lessitala, F.**, Biot, M., ... Van Damme, W. (2014a). Adapting a community-based ART delivery model to the patients' needs: a mixed methods research in Tete, Mozambique. *BMC Public Health*, 14, 364. <http://doi.org/10.1186/1471-2458-14-364>
7. Rasschaert, F., Decroo, T., Remartinez, D., Telfer, B., **Lessitala, F.**, Biot, M., ... Van Damme, W. (2014b). Sustainability of a community-based anti-retroviral care delivery model - a qualitative research study in Tete, Mozambique. *Journal of the International AIDS Society*, 17, 18910.
8. Rasschaert, F., Telfer, B., **Lessitala, F.**, Decroo, T., Remartinez, D., Biot, M., ... Van Damme, W. (2014). A qualitative assessment of a community antiretroviral therapy group model in Tete, Mozambique. *PloS One*, 9(3), e91544. <http://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0091544>

9. Lafort, Y., Ismael De Melo, M. S., Lessitala, F., Griffin, S., Chersich, M., & Delva, W. (2018). Feasibility, acceptability and potential sustainability of a “diagonal” approach to health services for female sex workers in Mozambique 11 Medical and Health Sciences 1117 Public Health and Health Services. *BMC Health Services Research*, 18(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-018-3555-2>
10. Lafort, Y., Lessitala, F., Ismael de Melo, M. S., Griffin, S., Chersich, M., & Delva, W. (2018). Impact of a “Diagonal” Intervention on Uptake of Sexual and Reproductive Health Services by Female Sex Workers in Mozambique: A Mixed-Methods Implementation Study. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 6, 109. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2018.00109>