



The role of the political economy in determining HIV and AIDS policies

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Background

- Economic evaluations are necessary to
 1. Make decisions about affordability
 2. Assist in the efficient allocation of resources**but** not sufficient for intervention implementation.
- Political economy can dominate the policy sphere.

Modelling political economy

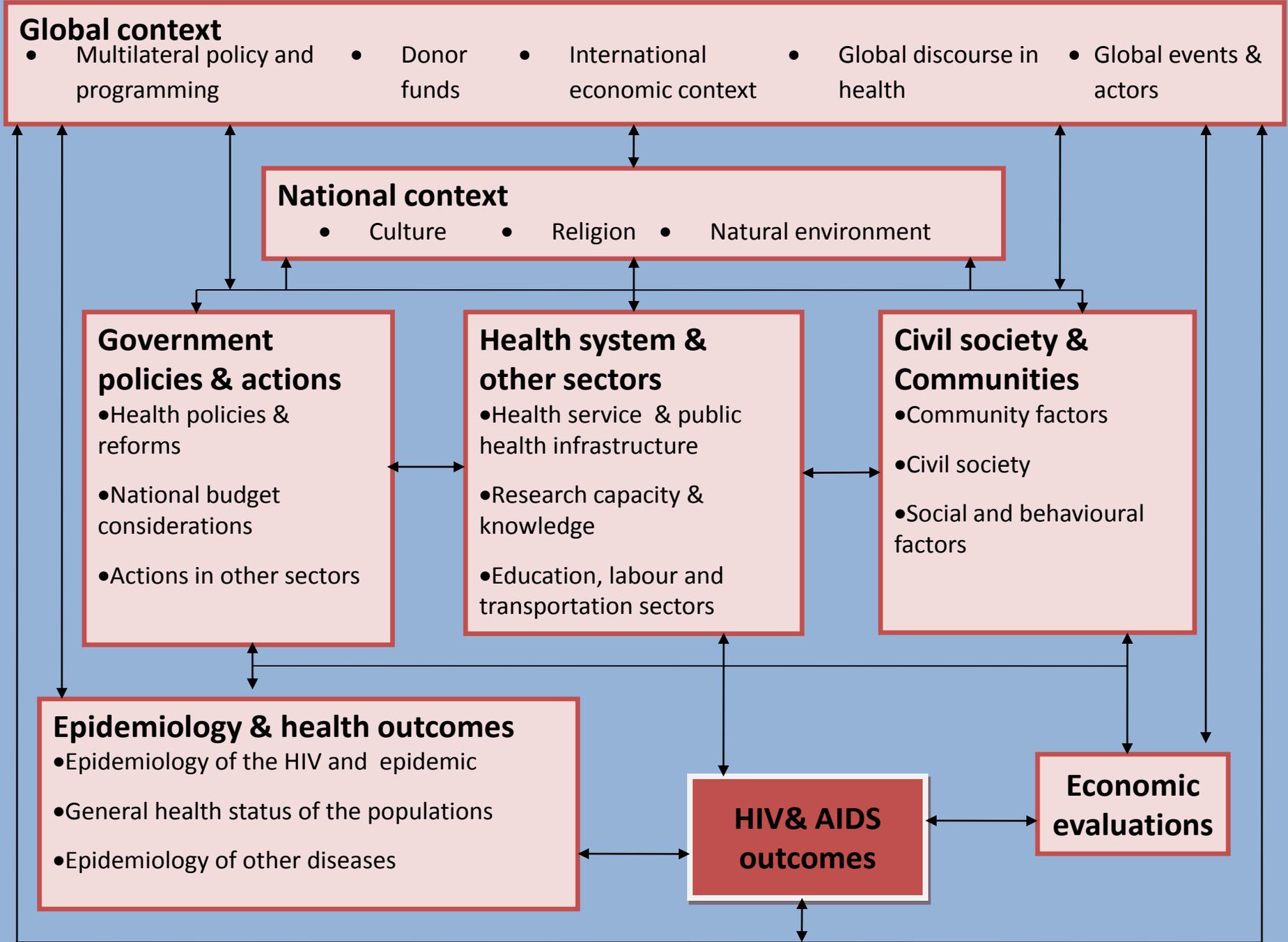
- Modelling PE
 - Traditional statistical and econometric techniques
 - Extensions to the standard ‘economic’ tool-kit
 - Structural equation modelling and factor analysis
 - MDG-costing type models
 - Data envelope analysis
- Data issues
 - Availability and quality

Objective

- To investigate the role of the political economy in the facilitation or hindrance of HIV and AIDS national policy development.

Methods

- A comparative analysis of current and past HIV and AIDS policies by countries experiencing concentrated, but dissimilar, epidemics was conducted.



Timeline

 Thailand: 1984
1st AIDS case

 Thailand: 1987
Creation of National AIDS program

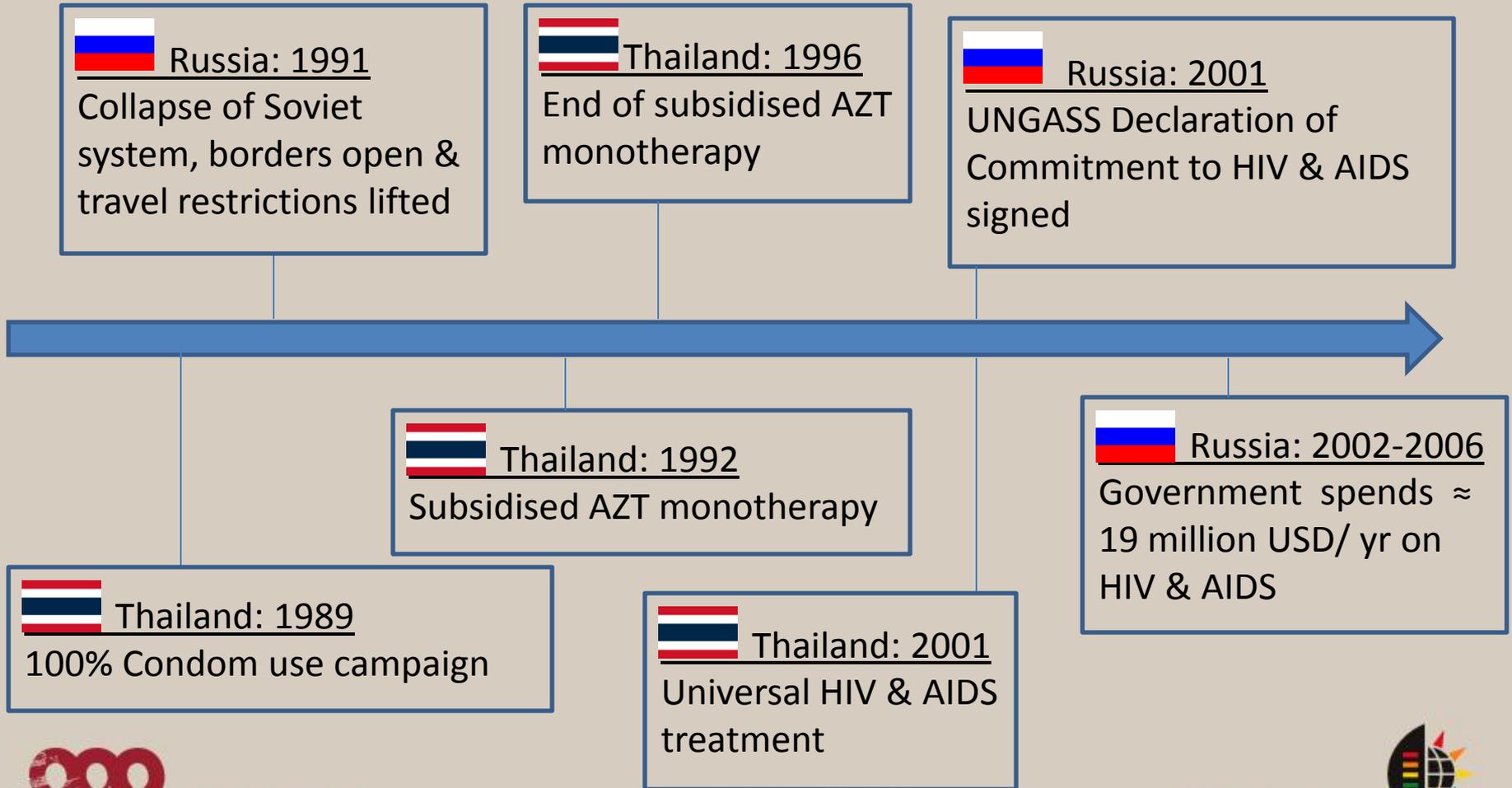
 Thailand: 1988
WHO provides technical and financial assistance

 China: 1985
1st AIDS case

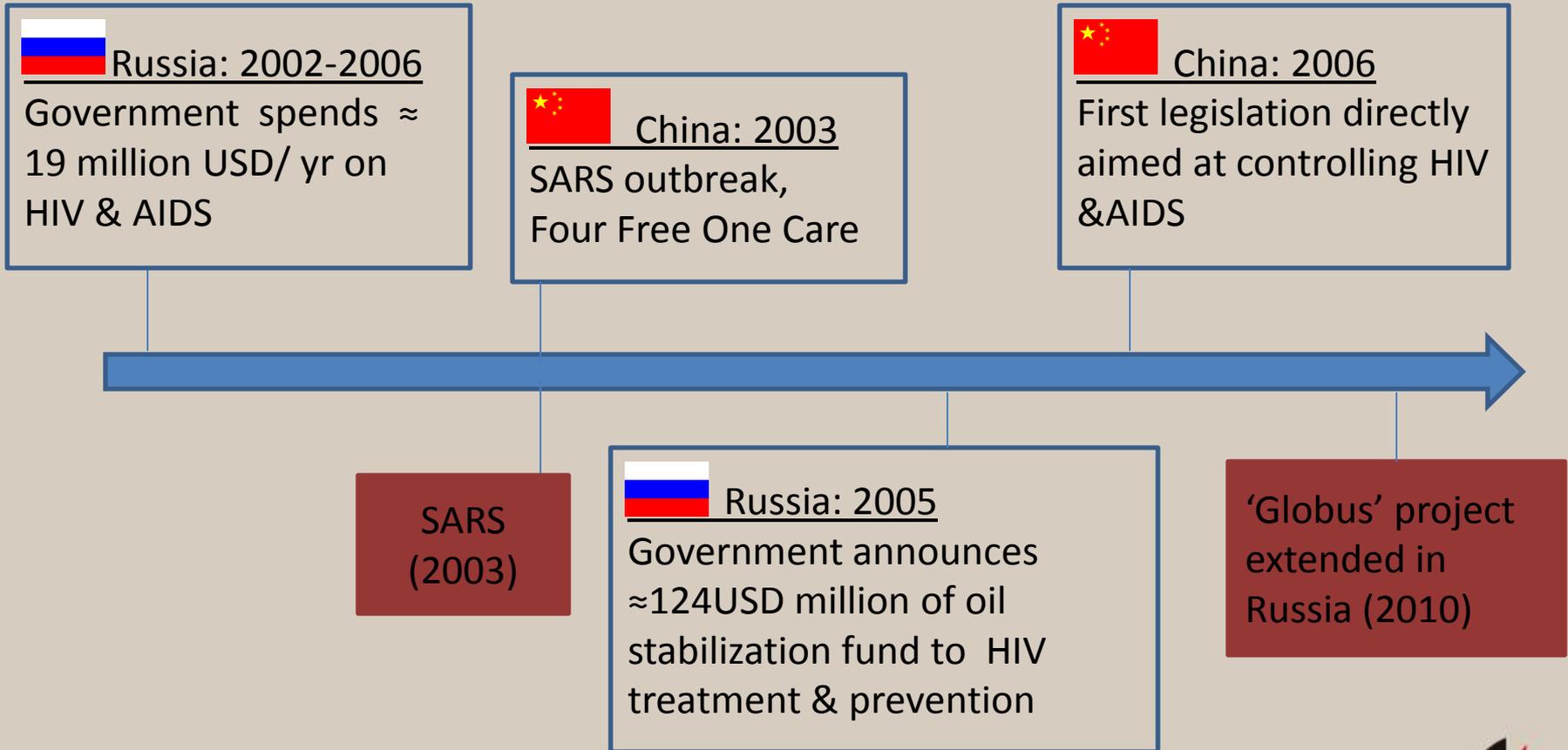
 Russia: 1987
1st AIDS case

 Thailand: 1989
100% Condom use campaign

Timeline



Timeline



Economic considerations

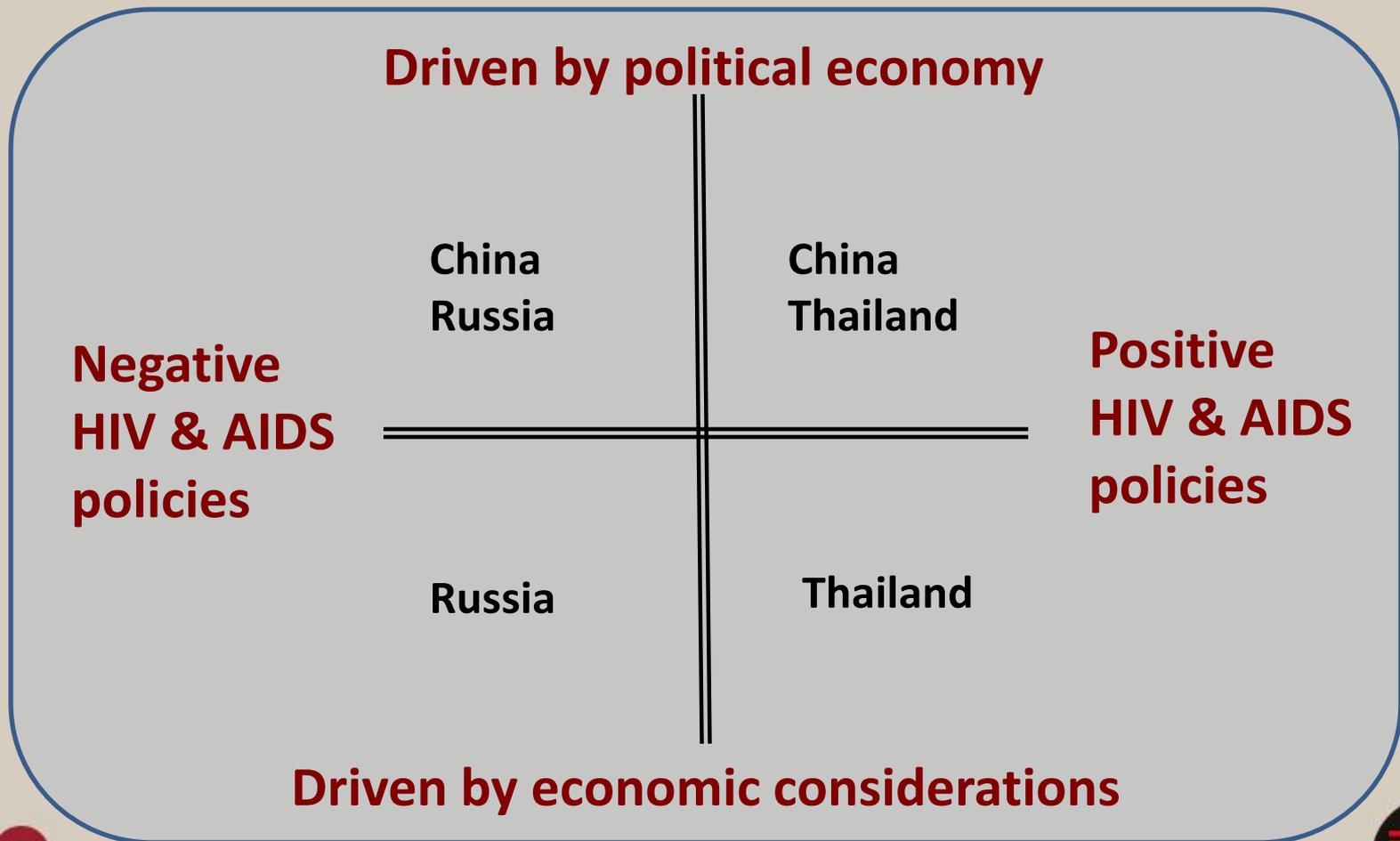
- Economics directly and indirectly affects HIV and AIDS policy development
 - Availability of funding for treatment programmes in Thailand
 - China implemented programming based on the cost-effectiveness of pilot programmes

Non-economic considerations

- Factors unrelated to funding that impact (non)implementation of 'standard' HIV policies:
 - Local research evidence
 - Inter-sectoral government response
 - Public health and health service infrastructure
 - Exogenous factors
 - Ideology



Figure 2: The interplay between political economy, economics and policy



Conclusions

- Interactions between
 - Governance structures,
 - Societal norms, and
 - Religious-cultural beliefscan shape and determine HIV and AIDS policy.
- A political economy lens cognisant of the prevailing social, political and economic context should be used.

Ways forward...

Advancement of

1. Quantitative methodology
2. Conceptual frameworks
3. Knowledge transfer and exchange

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