

HIV/AIDS, Asylum & the Commonwealth

Thursday 20th January 2005

HIV/AIDS in the Commonwealth

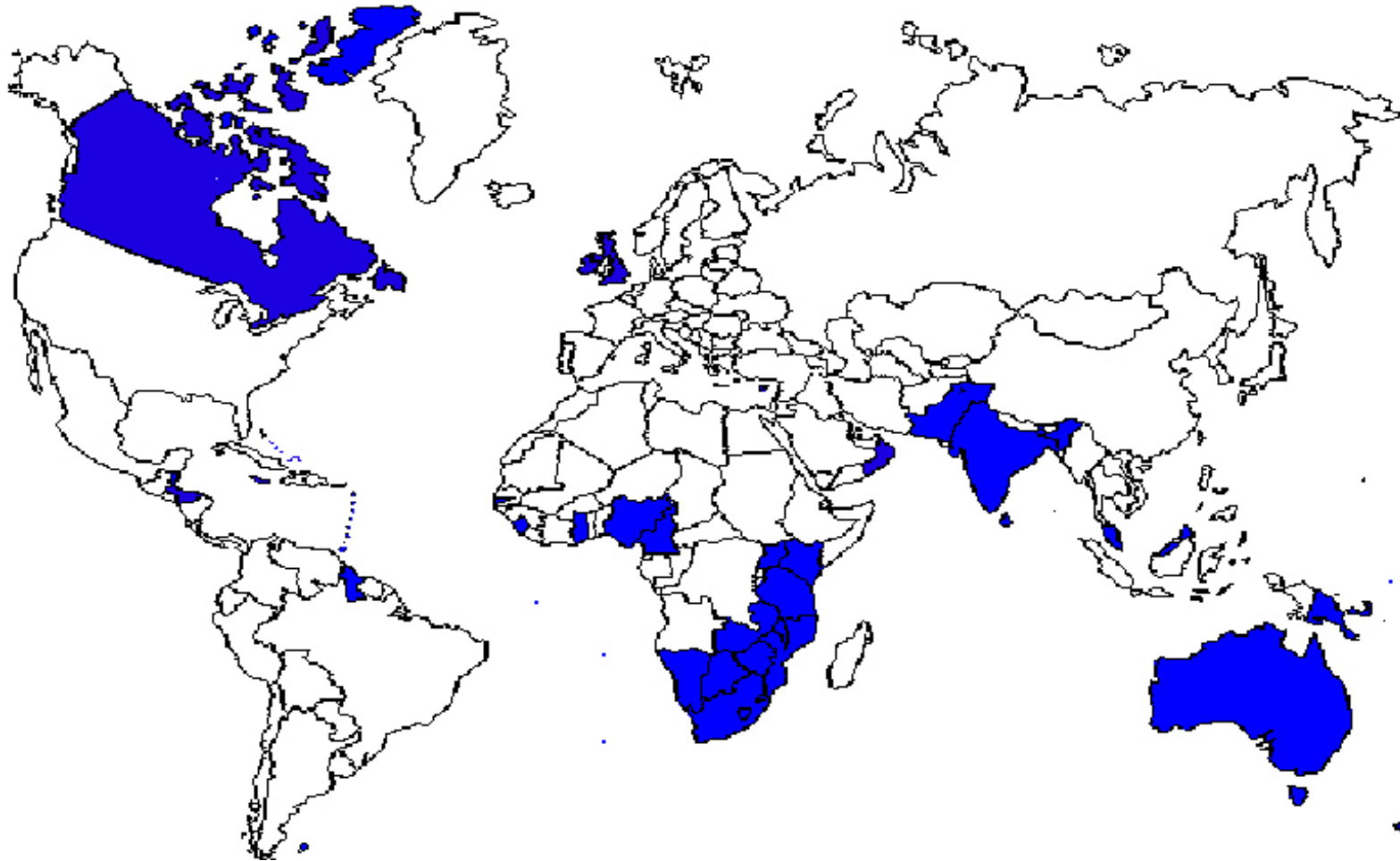
Prof. Alan Whiteside

Director of HEARD

University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban



Map of Commonwealth Countries



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What is the Commonwealth?

- An association of 53 developed and developing countries, mostly former British colonies.
- Each country subscribes to a formal code of ethics, including a commitment to improving human rights and seeking racial and economic justice.

Harare Commonwealth Declaration

“Promotion of democracy and good governance, human rights and the rule of law, gender equality and sustainable economic and social development”.

Commonwealth Mission Statement

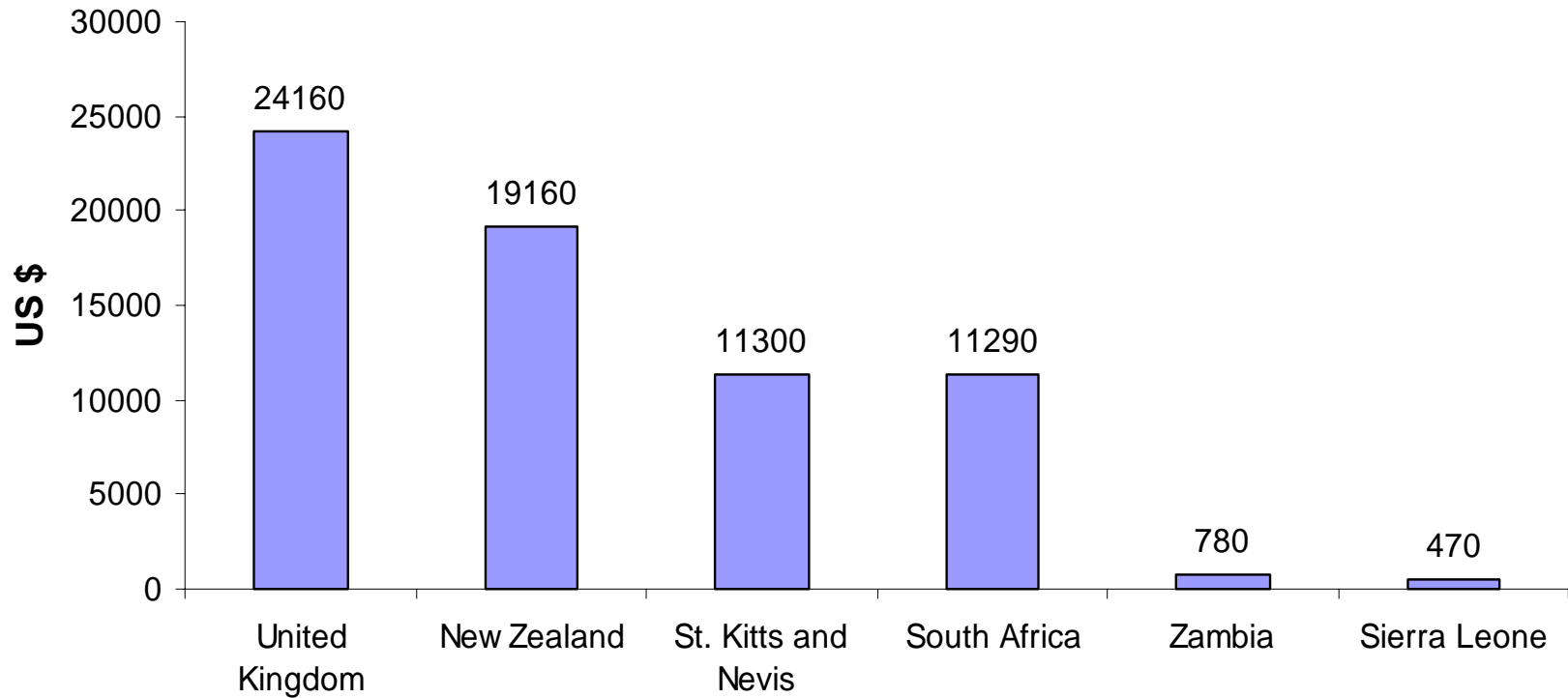
We work as a trusted partner for all Commonwealth people as:

- a force for peace, democracy, equality and good governance;
- a catalyst for global consensus building; and
- a source of assistance for sustainable development and poverty eradication.



Economically Divergent

GDP per capita (PPP \$) 2001

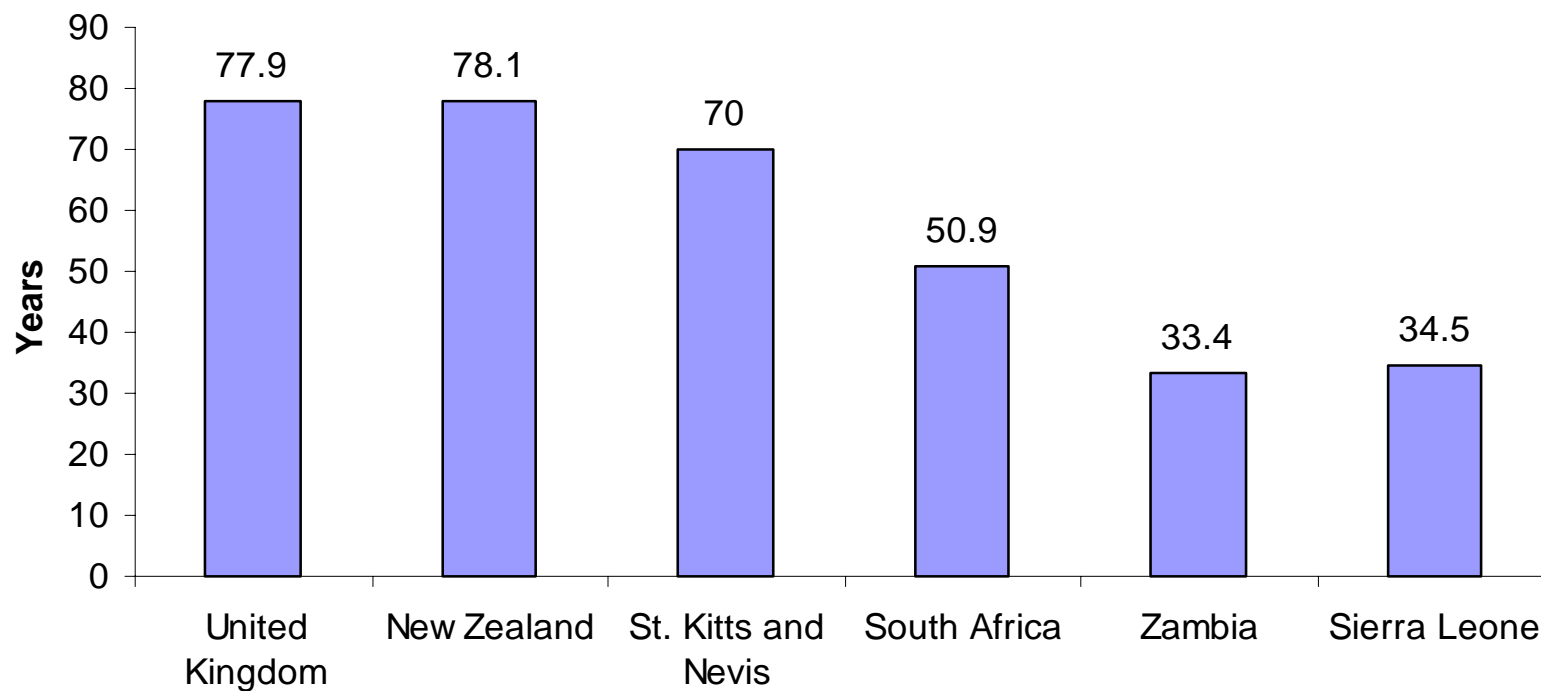


Source: UNDP Human Development Report, 2003



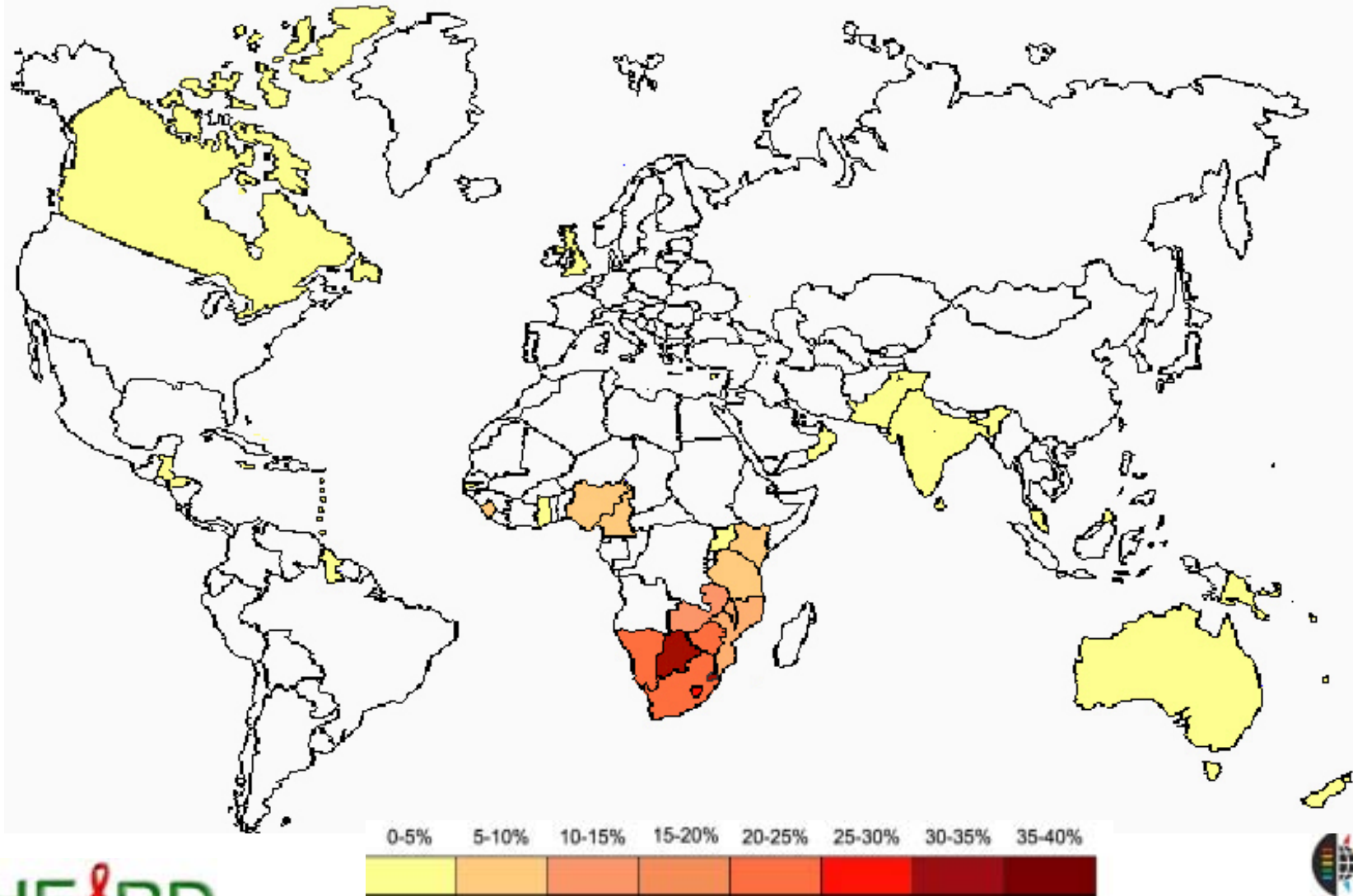
Developmentally Divergent

Life Expectancy



Source: UNDP Human Development Report, 2003

HIV Prevalence in the Commonwealth, 2003



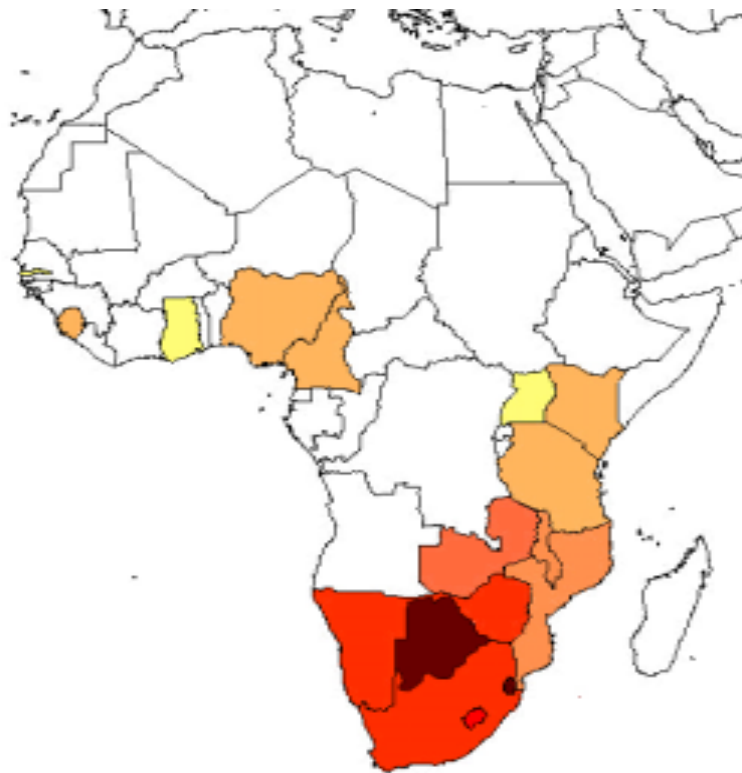
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Source: UNAIDS (2004)



But being a Commonwealth country may mean high HIV prevalence!

HIV Prevalence in African Commonwealth Countries, 2003



HIV Prevalence in African former French/Belgian Colonies, 2003



0-5% 5-10% 10-15% 15-20% 20-25% 25-30% 30-35% 35-40%

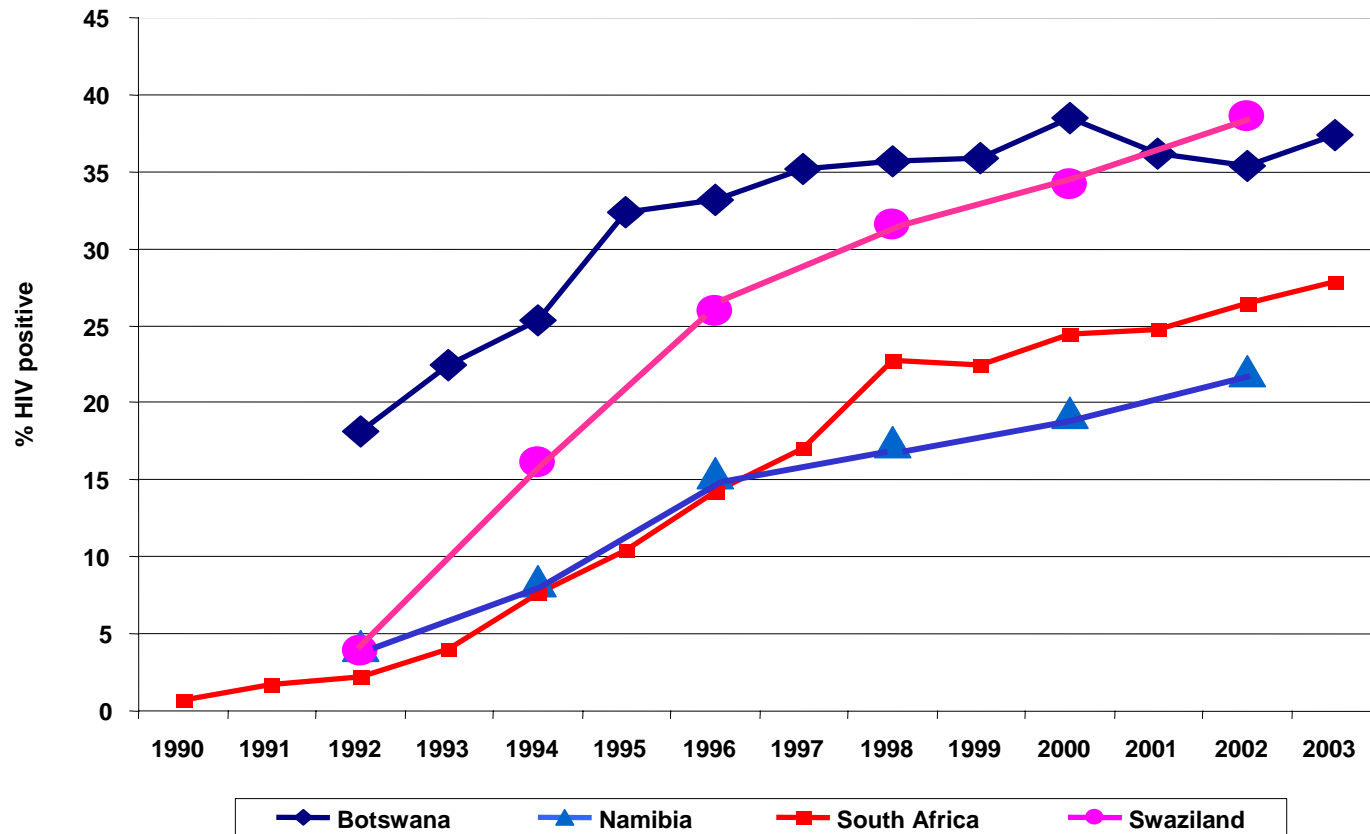


Source: UNAIDS, 2004

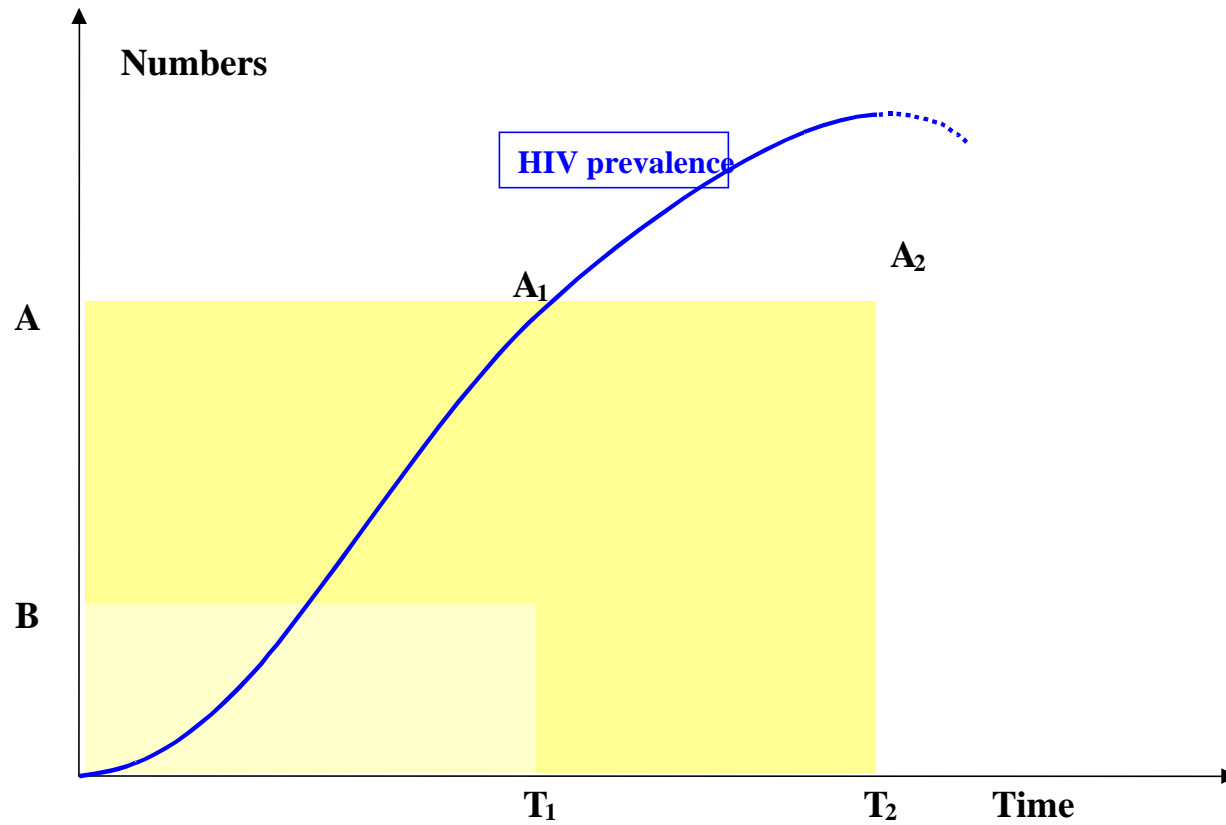


National trends in HIV prevalence

Women attending Public Antenatal Clinics

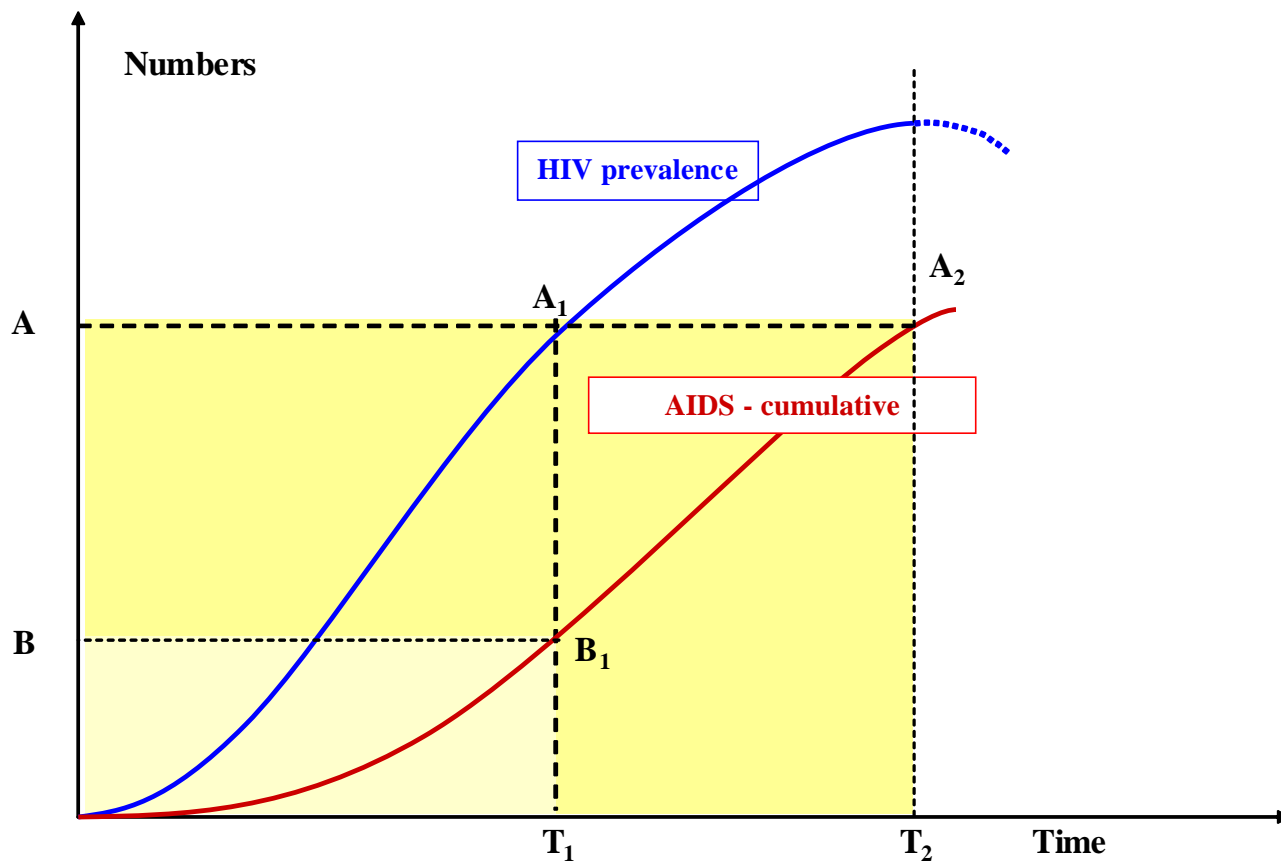


Epidemic Curve: HIV



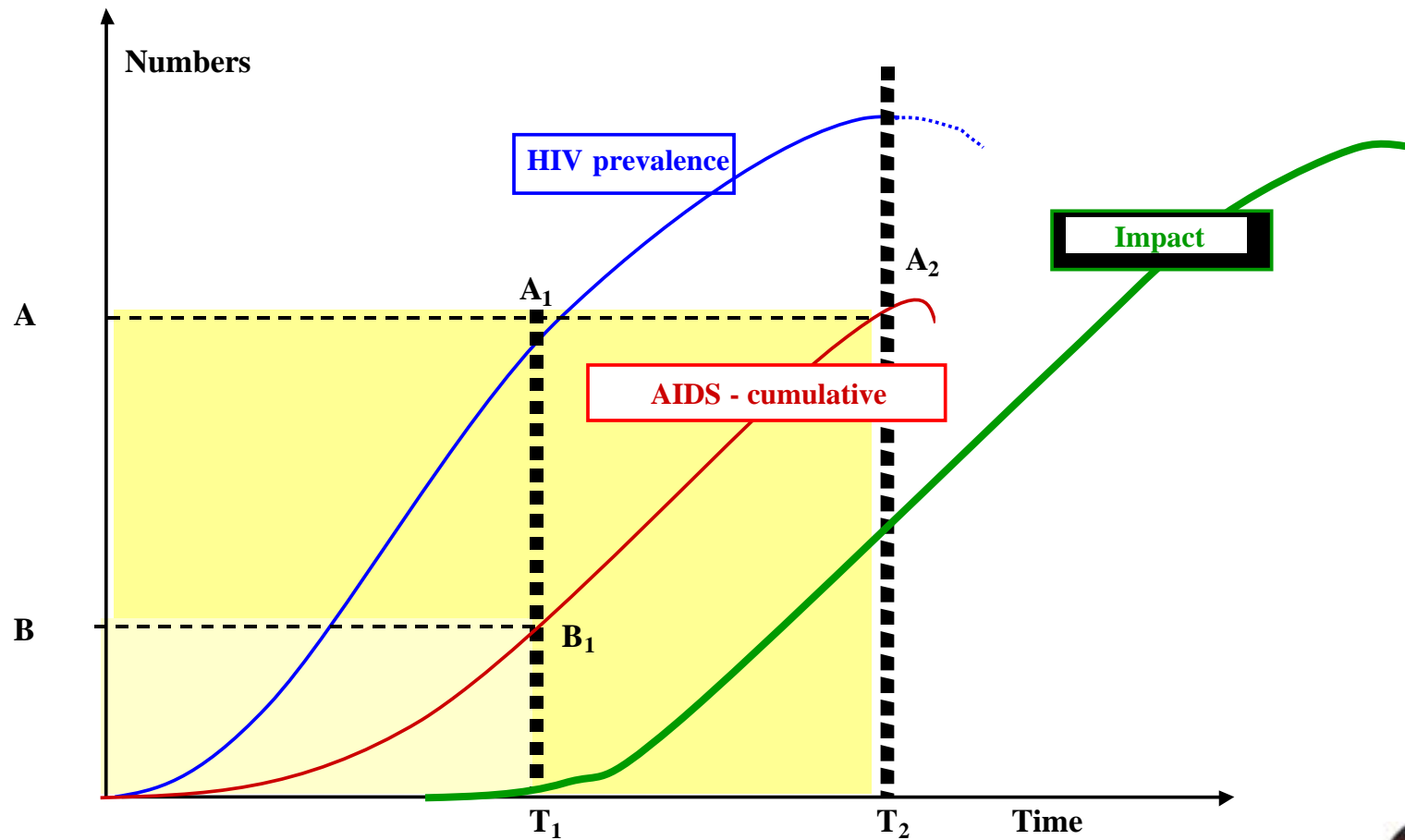
27Aug01-Report I: *Epidem'gy & Lit.* p.27

Epidemic Curves: HIV and AIDS

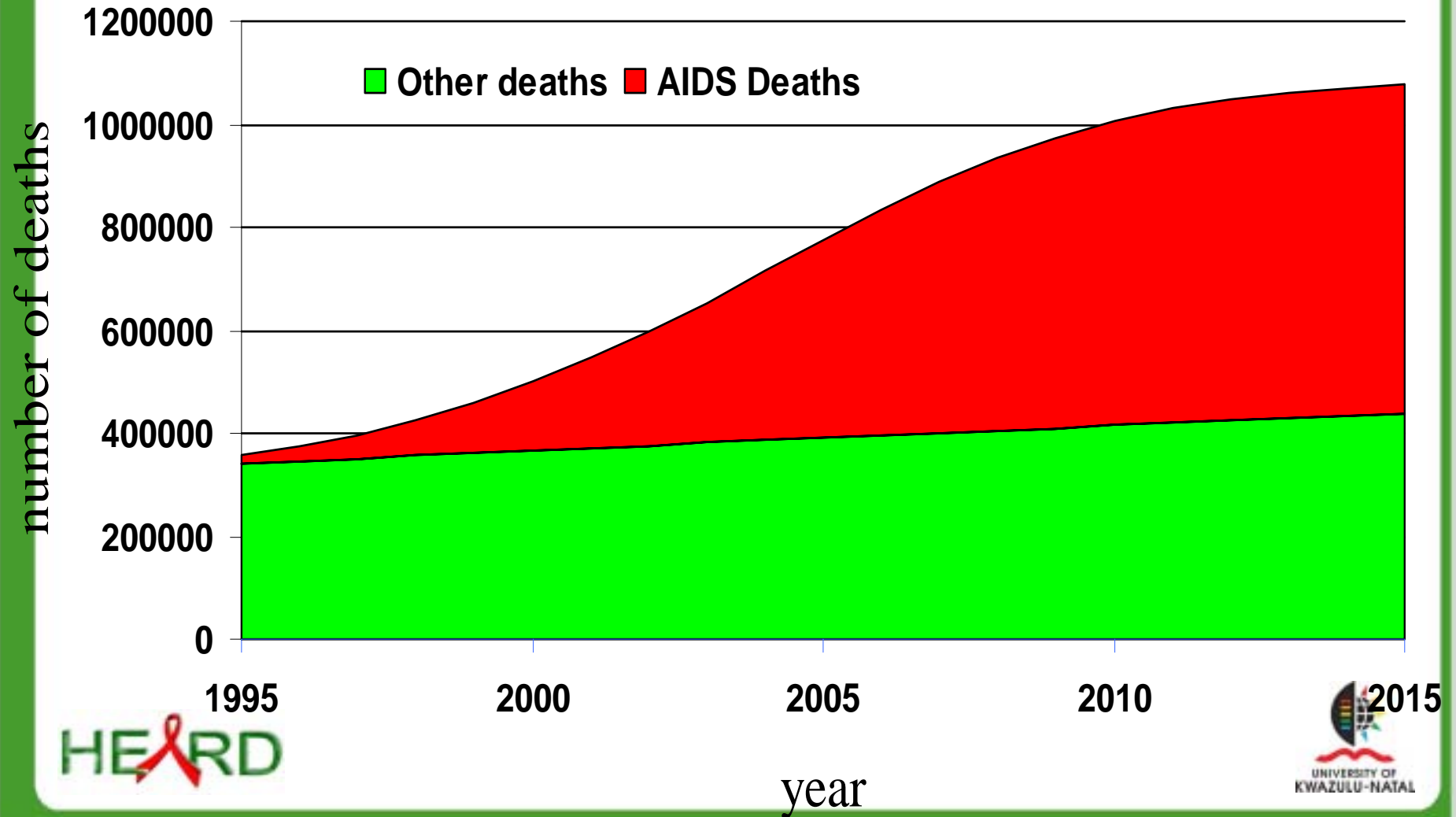


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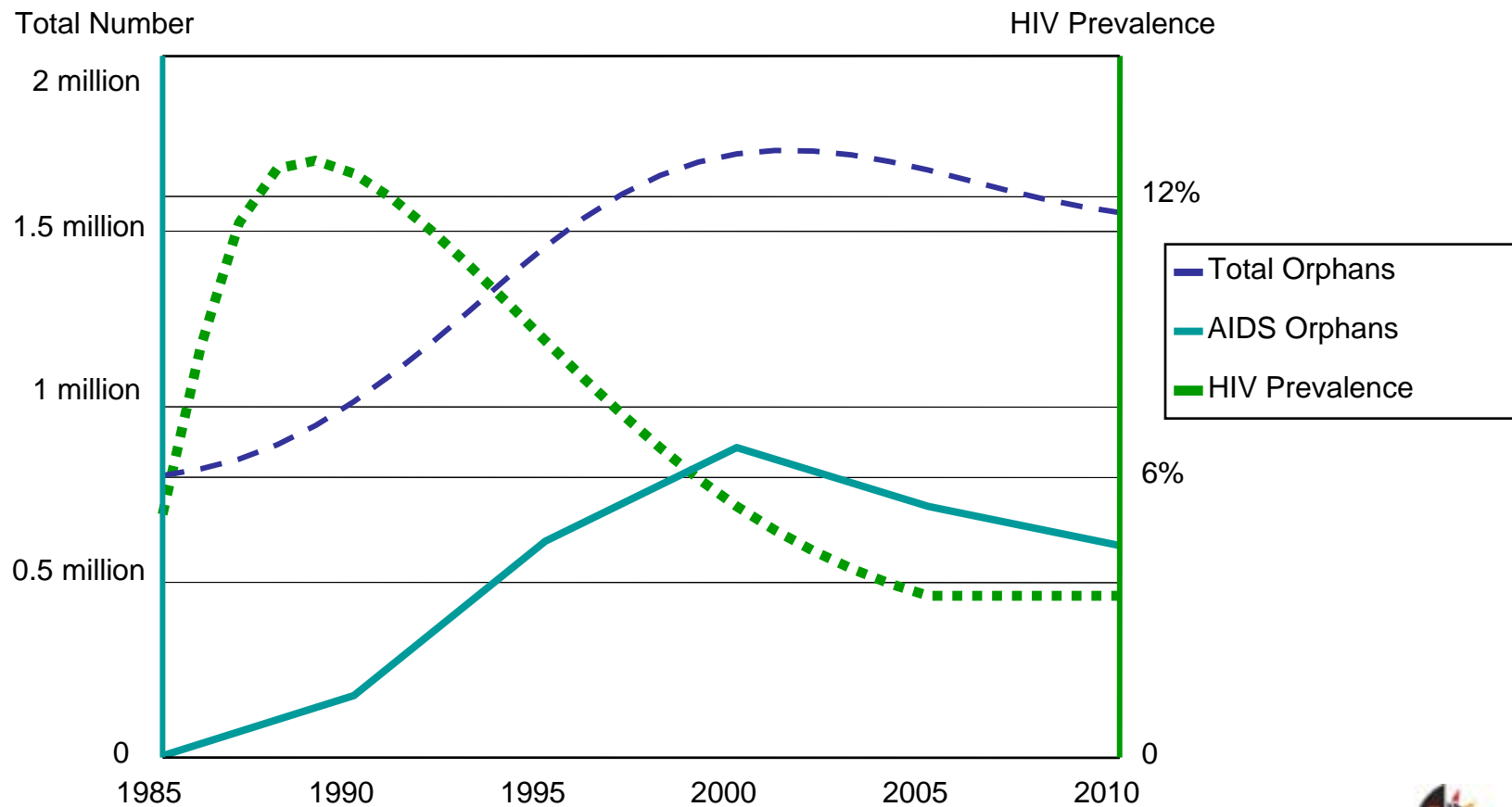
Epidemic Curve: HIV, AIDS and Impact



A model of future AIDS and non-AIDS Deaths



All orphans & orphans due to AIDS by HIV prevalence Uganda



The Commonwealth Interests

- **Economic Impact**
- **Development Consequences**
- **Security**

Development and 2015 Millennium Development Goals

HIV/AIDS means MDGs unattainable. e.g.

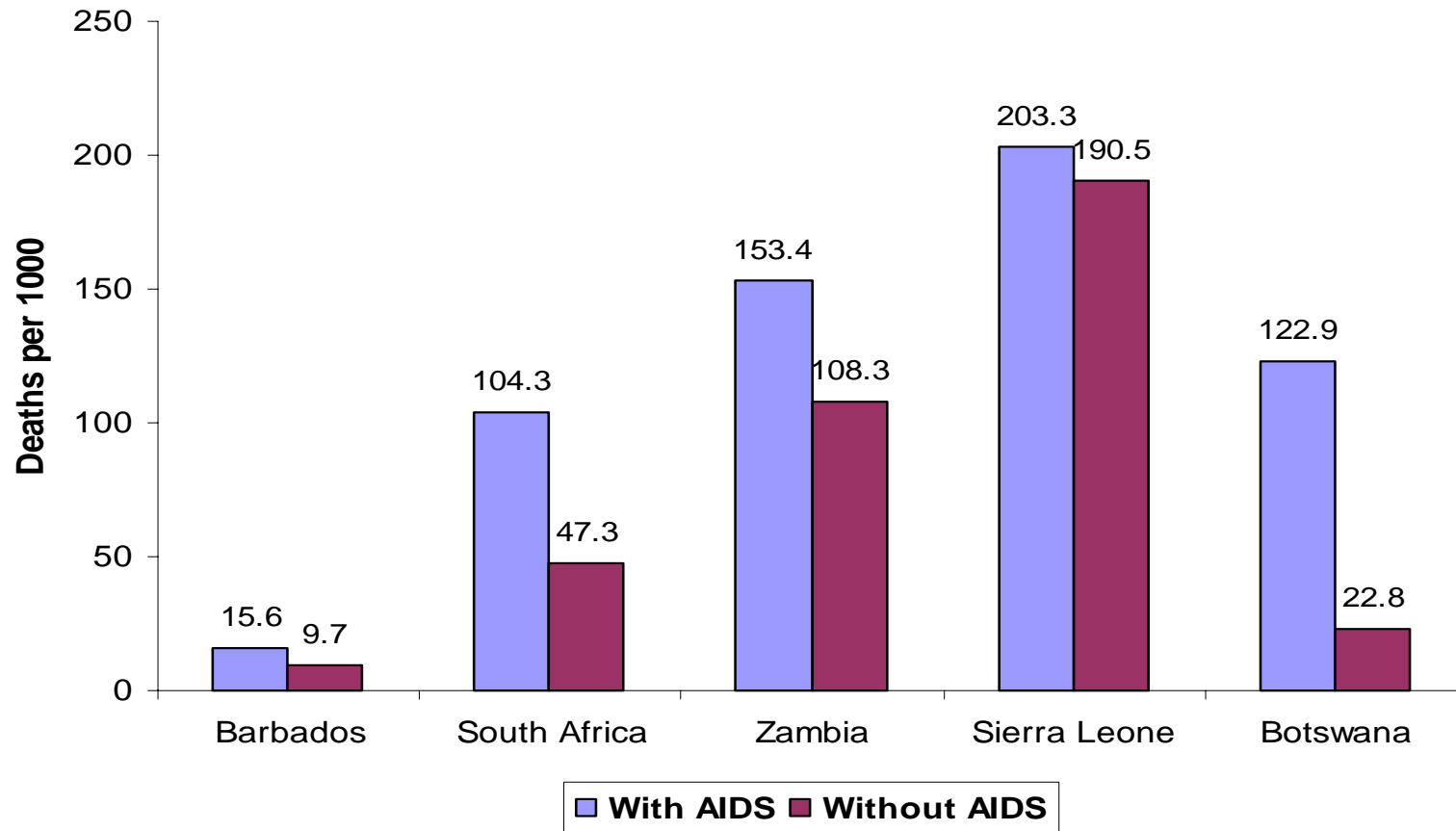
Goal 4: reduce under-five mortality by 2/3rds

Goal 5: reduce maternal mortality ratio by 3/4ths

Goal 6: combat HIV/AIDS and other diseases



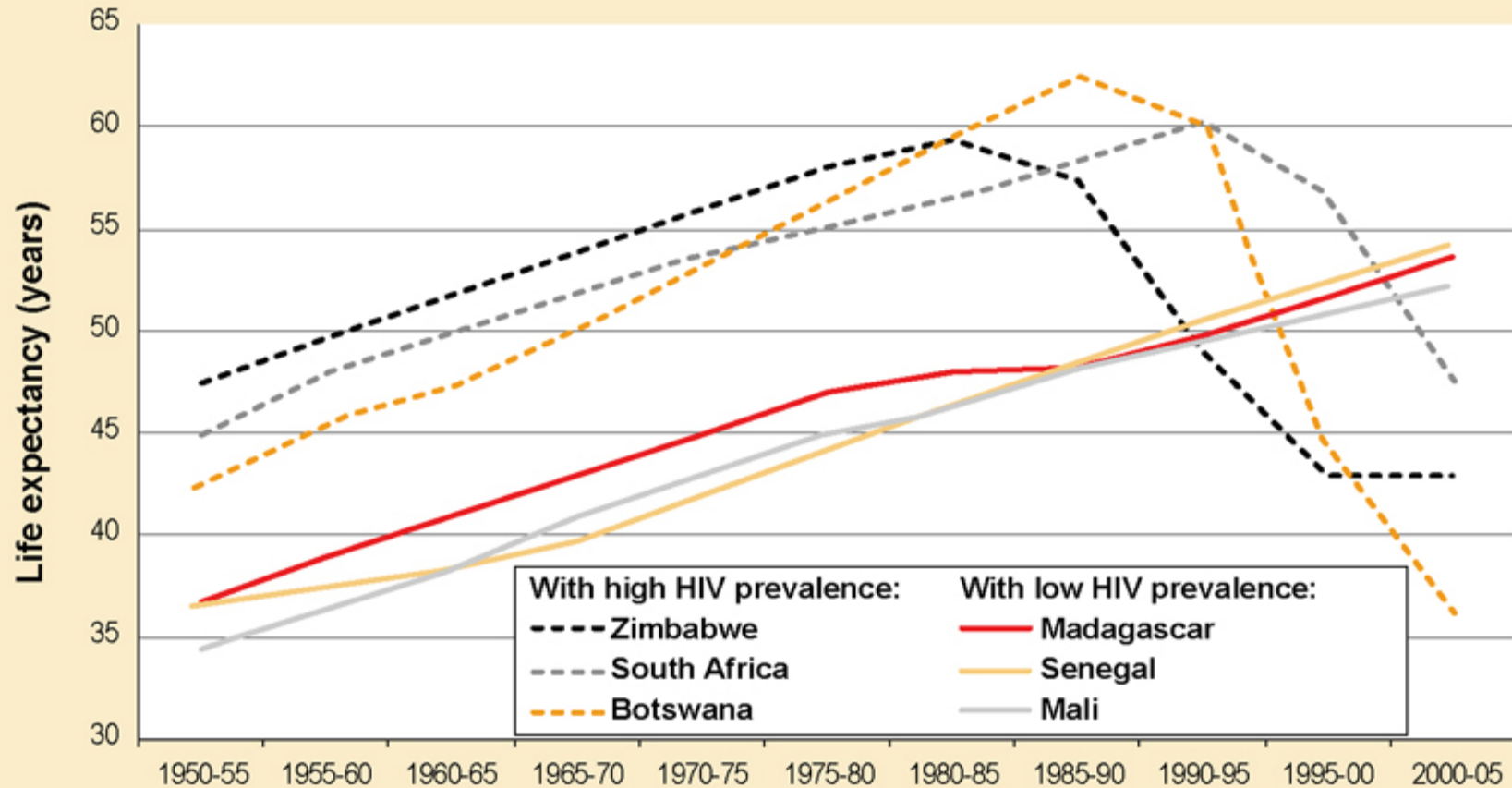
Child Mortality in 2010 with and without AIDS



Source: US Census Bureau, AIDS Pandemic in the 21st Century



Changing life expectancy in African countries with high and low HIV prevalence: 1950-2005



Source: UNAIDS, 2002. Report on the global HIV/AIDS epidemic



Security: "force for peace, democracy, equality and good governance"?

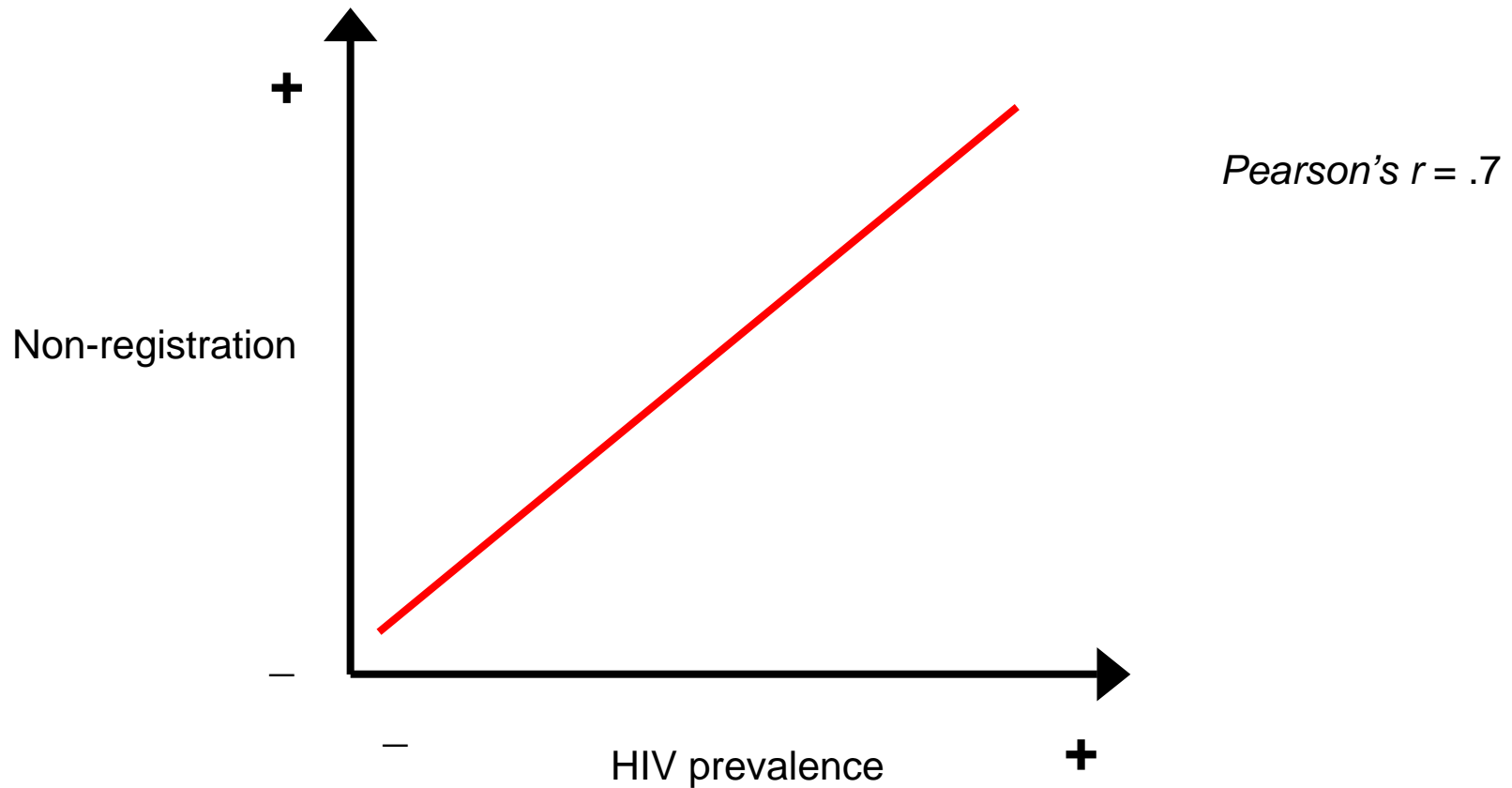
Is AIDS a source of insecurity, failing democracy, inequality and poor governance?

The jury is out but.....

- **Zimbabwe**
- **South African Voter Registration**
- **Zambian representative deaths**



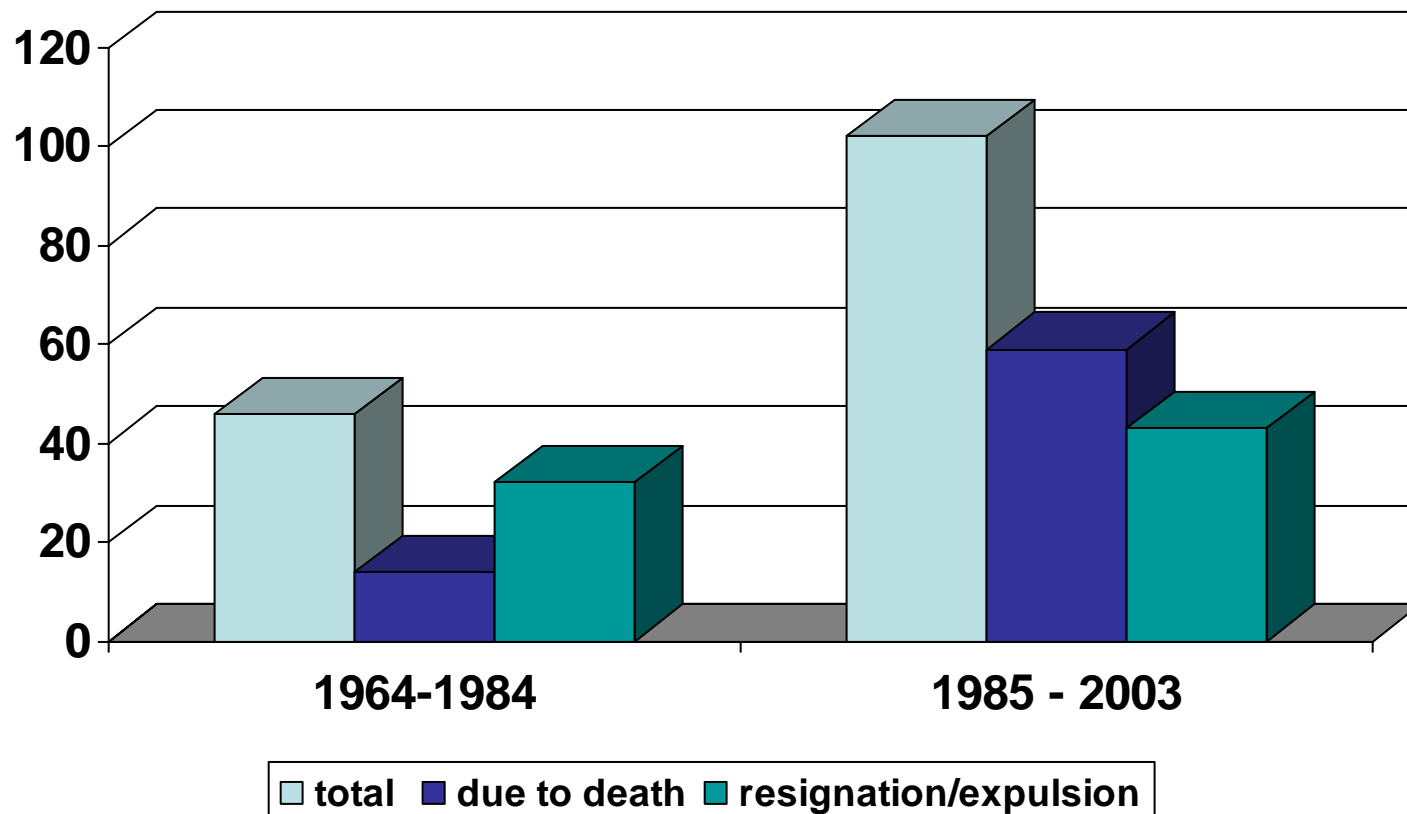
South Africa's 2004 election non-participation by young women



Level of analysis: the nine provinces

Source: DARU

By-elections in Zambia (number)



thoughts

- Inequality
- Increased migration
- HIV positive migrants and asylum seekers
- Rich country response?

What does HIV/AIDS mean for the the Commonwealth and especially the legal framework and asylum

- **Pointers**

- Most new HIV cases here are from the commonwealth. Is this true for all rich countries? Asylum seekers or migrants?
- Are there commonwealth standards?
- What does the Commonwealth Lawyers Association have to offer?

