

## ELONA TOSKA

Centre for Social Science Research, 4.89 Leslie Social Science Building, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, Cape Town, South Africa • [elona.toska@uct.ac.za](mailto:elona.toska@uct.ac.za) • +27818629611

### SUMMARY

A/Prof Elona Toska is Chief Research Officer at the Centre for Social Science Research, where she leads a \$7 million research portfolio on adolescent HIV and SRHR. Elona is a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee for the Social Impact Bond on Adolescent Girls and Young Women, led by the South African Medical Research Council and on the HIV Prevention Task Team of the National AIDS Council. In 2020, she was part of UNAIDS-led high-level consultations on the next HIV global strategy. Dr Toska is the UCT Lead Principal Investigator of the UKRI GCRF Accelerate Hub and co-PI for two large social science cohorts: the Helping Empower Youth Brought up in Adversity with their Babies and Young children (HEY BABY), focusing on adolescent mothers and their children, and Mzantsi Wakho, focusing on the sexual and reproductive health outcomes of adolescents on long-term medication. Dr Toska's research has resulted in over 50 high-impact peer reviewed publications in international journals in the last 5 years, 12 first-authored, over 50 conference presentations, and a dozen webinars. Her publications have been cited nearly 600 times, resulting in an h-index of 14 and a ResearchGate score of 32.3, higher than 85% of all ResearchGate members. Findings from her research have been cited in several UN documents, including annual UNAIDS reports (2018 & 2019), UNAIDS HIV and social protection guidance, WHO and UNICEF technical briefs. Her team's research has been presented at two UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board – the highest decision-making body for the agency in 2014 and 2019. As an emerging leader in adolescent HIV research, she was invited to be a Deputy Editor for the Journal of International AIDS Society (Impact Factor 5.2) and in 2020, acted as a guest editor for the special issue: Shifting paradigms: Empowering and Holistic Approaches for Adolescent HIV. She is a peer reviewer for over 20 journals, including the highest impact in HIV/AIDS and adolescent health such as AIDS, JIAS, JAIDS, Journal of Adolescent Health, Lancet HIV, Lancet Child and Adolescent Health.

### EDUCATION

- 2012-2017 **University of Oxford**, United Kingdom: *DPhil in Social Intervention*
- 2011-2012 **University of Oxford**, United Kingdom: *MSc in Evidence Based Social Intervention*. Distinction
- 2001-2005 **Princeton University**, USA: B.A. Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs
- 1999-2001 **United World College of the Atlantic**, United Kingdom: *International Baccalaureate*

### ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH POSTS

- 2021-ongoing Centre for Social Science Research, University of Cape Town: Chief Research Officer
- 2018-ongoing Department of Sociology, University of Cape Town: Associate Lecturer
- 2017-ongoing Department of Social Policy and Intervention, Oxford University: Associate Member
- 2019-2021 Centre for Social Science Research, University of Cape Town: Senior Research Officer
- 2017-2019 AIDS and Society Research Unit, University of Cape Town: Postdoctoral Researcher
- 2009-2011 USAIDS's Rritje Albania Project, Albania: Monitoring & Evaluation/ Coms Specialist
- 2008-2009 Universal Sodexo, Sepon Mine, Lao PDR: Sustainable Development Manager
- 2007-2008 Canada South East Asia Regional HIV/AIDS Prevention, Vientiane, Lao PDR: Monitoring & Evaluation/ Resource Mobilization Advisor
- 2005-2006 PSI/Laos, Vientiane, Lao PDR: Princeton-in-Asia Fellow – Programme Officer

### RESEARCH PORTFOLIO

- 2012-ongoing **Mzantsi Wakho ('Your South Africa')**, South Africa. Co-Principal Investigator with Prof Lucie Cluver and Dr Rebecca Hodes. A longitudinal cohort of adolescents living with HIV (n=1,064, 93%

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retention) combining self-reported data, patient file/ medical records, and clinic-level characteristics.

2016-ongoing **Helping Empower Young parents Brought up in Adversity with their Babies and Young children (HEY BABY)**, South Africa. Co-Principal Investigator with Prof Lucie Cluver. A cohort of adolescent mothers and their children (n=1,046 mothers and 1,187 children) combining adolescent parent and child self-reported data with medical records.

2019-ongoing **Understanding Predictors of Long-term Initiation and Follow-up Treatment outcomes among ALHIV in South Africa (UPLIFT ALHIV)**. South Africa. Principal Investigator. A longitudinal cohort of all Mzantsi Wakho and HEY BABY adolescents and young people living with HIV.

2019-ongoing **UKRI GCRF's Accelerate Hub**, multiple countries in sub-Saharan Africa. UCT co-Principal Investigator with Prof Lucie Cluver. In addition to the UCT co-PI role, my academic involvement includes:

**Identifying accelerators for adolescent development using observational datasets.** co-I with Prof Heidi Stoeckl (LSHTM) and Dr Lucas Hertzog (UCT). The goal of this work package is to support researchers analysing data from studies in Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia to identify development accelerators for adolescent outcomes spanning multiple SDGs.

**Adolescent Participation and Engagement (Teen Advisory Groups study)**, co-PI with Dr Lesley Gittings. This study aims to design, test and dissemination methodologies and findings on meaningful adolescent engagement and participation in research in sub-Saharan Africa. In 2019-2020, the research team conducted research activities with three groups of adolescents and young people in South Africa (Eastern and Western Cape provinces) and Kenya. Prior activities included workshops in South Africa, Sierra Leone and Uganda.

2018-ongoing **Ask-Boost-Connect-Discuss (ABCD)**, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia. Co-Principal Investigator with Dr Christina Laurenzi (Stellenbosch University/ UCT) and Ms Agnes Ronan and Paediatric Adolescent Treatment for Africa (PATA). An implementation study of a psychosocial/ mental health support for young women affected by HIV and SGBV through community-clinic collaborations, centred on peer-delivered approaches, with a small-scale pilot of a clinic-community GBV-screening and linkages to services for young women living with HIV in Zambia in 2022-2023.

## RESEARCH GRANTS

### *Ongoing research grants*

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2022-2023 **Grand Challenges Canada.** *Co-Principal Investigator.* Responding to GBV among young mothers living with HIV in Zambia through peer supporter-clinic teams. Dr Christina Laurenzi (co-PI) & Agnes Ronan (co-PI).

2022-2024 **National Research Foundation (NRF).** *Principal Investigator.* Syndemics of COVID-19 and HIV in South Africa: HIV healthcare experiences amongst young women living with HIV and their healthcare providers.

2022-2024 **National Research Foundation (NRF).** *Principal Investigator.* Promoting adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights in South Africa during-and-beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

2021-2023 **Global Fund for the Fight Against HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria:** *Principal Investigator.* Review of the programmatic and cost effectiveness of national frameworks for AGYW programs in five countries: Lesotho, eSwatini, Cameroon, Kenya and Mozambique.

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- 2020-2024 **Oak Foundation:** *Co-Principal Investigator.* Accelerating Violence Prevention in Africa. Prof L Cluver (co-PI).
- 2019-2024 **Fogarty International Centre/ National Institute of Mental Health:** *Principal Investigator* (Training grant K43 award number K43TW011434, Administrative Supplement 3K43TW011434-02S1, Administrative Supplement 3K43TW011434-03S1). Undetectable and Untransmittable: reducing HIV transmission among young women living with HIV, their partners and children in South Africa.
- 2019-2024 **UKRI Grand Challenges Research Fund.** *UCT Co-PI.* Accelerating Adolescent Achievement in Africa Hub. Prof L Cluver (PI).
- 2019-2024 **European Research Council.** *Co-Investigator.* Helping Empower Youth Brought up in Adversity with their Babies and Young children. Prof L Cluver (PI).
- 2017-2022 **UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Office:** *Co-Investigator.* Generating evidence and capacity building for scalable solutions to improve wellbeing of adolescents living with HIV and adolescent HIV-affected mothers in Eastern and Southern Africa. Prof L Cluver (PI).

### Completed research grants

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- 2018-2022 **Collaborative Initiative for Paediatric HIV Education and Research (CIPHER):** *Principal Investigator (training grant).* Improving retention in PMTCT and ART care for HIV-infected adolescent mothers and their children in Southern Africa.
- 2021 **International Planned Parenthood Federation.** *Principal Investigator.* What should sexual and reproductive health and rights in 2030 look like?
- 2018-2021 **Medical Research Council UK.** *Co-PI.* From Stop to Go! Overcoming barriers to healthcare utilisation for high-risk adolescent mothers and their children in Southern Africa. Prof L Cluver (PI).
- 2018-20 **Gates Foundation (Grand Challenges Exploration).** *Co-Investigator.* Ask, Boost, Connect, Discuss (ABCD) for Improved Mental Health for HIV-positive Adolescent Mothers in Africa. Agnes Ronan (PI), Camille Wittesaele (Co-I) & Lucie Cluver (Co-I).
- 2017-2019 **ELMA Philanthropies.** *Co-Investigator.* Strengthen PATA-Mzantsi Wakho study team collaboration. Dr Rebecca Hodes (PI) and Prof Lucie Cluver (co-I).
- 2018 **Higher Education Funding Council for England (Internal GCRF Support).** *Co-Investigator.* Building frontline service provider capacity in Africa to improve services for adolescents living with HIV. Prof L Cluver (PI).
- 2016-2018 **Janssen Pharmaceutica N.V.** *Co-Investigator.* Promoting adolescent ARV Adherence and Sexual Reproductive Health Access in South Africa. Dr Rebecca Hodes (PI) and Prof Lucie Cluver (co-I).
- 2014 – 2018 **The Nuffield Foundation** *Co-Investigator.* 'Pathways to survival: identifying psychosocial, family and service mechanisms to improve antiretroviral adherence amongst HIV+ adolescents in South Africa'. Prof L Cluver (PI).
- 2017 **UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office. USD45,000.** *Co-Investigator.* Hey Baby: Helping Empower Youth Brought up in Adversity with their Babies and Young children. Prof L Cluver (PI).
- 2017 **Janssen Pharmaceutica (PTY) LTD, South Africa** *Principal Investigator.* Perspectives of healthcare providers and adolescent experiences of clinic services in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. Dr Rebecca Hodes (co-I) and Prof Lucie Cluver (co-I).
- 2015-2017 **Evidence for HIV Prevention in Southern Africa (UKAID/DFID-funded programme).** *Co-Investigator.* The missing link in HIV prevention: Helping HIV-positive adolescents to reduce transmission in Southern and Eastern Africa. Dr R Hodes (co-PI) & Prof L Cluver (co-PI).

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- 2015-2016 Regional Inter-Agency Task Team for Children Affected by AIDS – Eastern and Southern Africa ZAR 444,259.00 *Principal Investigator* with Ms Lesley Gittings (UCT).
- 2015 **Janssen Global Health Programme. Co-Investigator.** Promoting adolescent ARV Adherence and Sexual Reproductive Health Access in South Africa. Dr Rebecca Hodes (PI) and Prof Lucie Cluver (co-I).

### AWARDS

- 2022-2026 Future Leaders 2030, University of Cape Town (UCT)
- 2020 College of Fellows Young Researcher Award, UCT
- 2020 University Research Committee Building Research Active Academic Staff Grant, UCT
- 2019 Enabling Grant-seekers Excellence Award, UCT
- 2019 University Research Committee Start-Up grant, UCT
- 2019 Conference hosting grant, UCT
- 2016 Oxford University Barnett Prize for Best Student Research Paper. Awarded for the paper: Is Knowledge Power? HIV-status disclosure and protective sexual practices among adolescent girls and boys in South Africa.
- 2012-2015 Oxford University Full Scholarship for Doctoral Studies in Social Intervention, University of Oxford (approx. US\$ 112,200 for 2012-2015).
- 2012 Oxford University Teresa Smith prize for Best Master Thesis in Evidence-Based Social Intervention. Awarded for thesis: Risk and Protective Factors for Adolescent Pregnancy among Girls in High HIV-Prevalence Areas of three Provinces in South Africa (Distinction).
- 2011-2012 Open Society Foundation Scholarship for Masters of Science degree in Evidence-Based Social Intervention, University of Oxford.
- 2001-2005 Shelby C. Davis Scholarship, BA in Public and International Relations, Princeton University

### TEACHING, SUPERVISION, & LECTURING EXPERIENCE

#### *Examiner/ Discussant*

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- 2022 External examiner, PhD Thesis – Constanca Mavodza – Faculty of Public Health and Policy, LSHTM
- 2021 Reviewer/ Discussant, PhD proposal – Martin Oswald (Sociology)
- 2020 External examiner, PhD Thesis – Lario Viljoen – Sociology, Stellenbosch University
- 2020 Reviewer/ Discussant, PhD Proposal – Sheehani Peerera –DSBS, SPHFM, UCT
- 2020 Reviewer/ Discussant, PhD Proposal – Tatenda Mugwendere – CARE/ Demography, UCT
- 2019 Reviewer/ Discussant, PhD Proposal – Kamal Yakoubi – Sociology, UCT

#### *Postgraduate students (Supervision in progress)*

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- 2022-ongoing Chelsea Coakley, PhD student, Medicine, UCT (with Prof Linda-Gail Bekker) *The key to youth power: investigating pathways to positive outcomes in adolescent health mentorship models*
- 2022-ongoing Jenny Chen, PhD, Department of Medicine, UCT (with Prof Linda-Gail Bekker)
- 2022-ongoing Chuma Busakhwe, Masters of Social Science, Psychology, UCT (with Dr Christina Laurenzi)
- 2022-ongoing Lindokuhle Jack, Honours student, Sociology, UCT (with Dr Hlokomang Mangqalaza)
- 2021-ongoing Dineo Sekgobela, Honours student, Sociology, UCT (with Dr Wylene Saal)
- 2021-ongoing Nontokozo Langwenya, DPhil, Department of Social Policy and Intervention, U. of Oxford (with Prof Lucie Cluver)
- 2021-ongoing Kate Bergh, PhD, Dept. Psychology, UCT (with Prof Cathy Ward & Dr Kim Jonas)
- 2021-ongoing Angelique Thomas, PhD, Dept. Social Anthropology, UCT (with Prof Susan Levine)
- 2021-ongoing Vongai Munats, PhD, Dept. Sociology, UCT (with Dr Natasha Vally & Dr Wylene Saal)

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2021-ongoing	Siyanaï Zhou, PhD, School of Public Health and Family Medicine, UCT (with A/Prof Lucia Knight)
2021-ongoing	Denis Okova, MPH in Health Economics, UCT (with Dr Olufunke Alaba)
2021-ongoing	Vuyolwetu Tibini, MPH in Health Economics, UCT (with Dr Olufunke Alaba)
2020-ongoing	Silinganisiwe Dzumbunu, PhD, Demography, UCT (with Prof Tom Moultrie & Dr William Rudgard)
2020-ongoing	Petro Ntemi, PhD, Sociology, UCT (with Dr Faisal Garba)
2019-ongoing	Camille Wittesaele, PhD, Social Epidemiology, London school of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (with A/Prof Aoife Doyle and Prof Helen Weiss)

### *Postdoctoral researchers*

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2022-ongoing	Dr Hlokoma Mangqalaza, Centre for Social Science Research, UCT (with Dr Jane Kelly)
2022-ongoing	Dr Martina Mchenga, CSSR, UCT (with A/Prof Brendan Maughan-Brown)
2021-ongoing	Dr Boladé Hamed Banougnin, Post-Doctoral Researcher, CSSR, UCT

### *Postgraduate student supervision (completed)*

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2021-2022	Refentse Melamu, Honours student, Sociology, UCT (with Dr Jane Kelly)
2020-2022	Dr Wylene Saal, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Centre for Social Science Research, UCT
2020-2021	Dr Quintin van Staden, Masters, Sociology, University of Cape Town (with Dr Faisal Garba)
2020-2021	Dr Lesley Gittings, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Centre for Social Science Research, UCT
2021	Dr Mia Granvik Saminathen, Post-Doctoral Researcher, CSSR, UCT
2020-2021	Elisa Maria Campos, Master of Arts, Philosophical Faculty of Albert-Ludwigs-Universität, Freiburg i. Breisgau (Germany) and the University of Cape Town (South Africa) (with Prof Dr Manuela Boatca)
2020	Dr Omololu Aluko, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Centre for Social Science Research, UCT
2017-2020	Roxanna Haghighat, PhD student, Dept of Social Policy & Intervention, U. of Oxford (with Prof Lucie Cluver)
2017-2019	Jacqueline Burgess, MPH student, London school of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
2017-2018	Julia Standish-White, MSc student, Dept of Social Policy & Intervention, U. of Oxford (with Prof Lucie Cluver)
2017-2018	Geraldine Chipendo, MSc student, Dept of Social Policy & Intervention, U. of Oxford (with Prof Lucie Cluver)

### *Courses taught*

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2019	SOC3007/3027F Introduction to Social Research Methods (quantitative and mixed methods modules), ~315 students, course evaluation available from Vula (average score 84% agreed/strongly agreed with positive teaching experiences).
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### *Guest lecturing*

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2020	Centre for Actuarial Research (CARE), Demography MPhil, UCT. <i>Guest Lecturer</i>
2017-2020	Adolescent and Youth Healthy Policy Short-Course, LSHTM & UCT. <i>Faculty</i>
2019	SOC3007/ 3027F – Introduction to Social Research Methods, Quantitative Module. <i>Lecturer</i>
2017-2019	MPH in Social and Behavioural Sciences, UCT. <i>Guest Lecturer</i> .

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### ADVISORY & COMMUNITY ROLES

2022– ongoing	UCT Academic Union Executive Committee – Soft-Funded Researchers Representative
2021- ongoing	UCT Steering Committee – Research Finance. <i>Academic Member</i> .
2020- ongoing	Child Survival Working Group. <i>Member</i> .
2020- ongoing	South African National AIDS Council (SANAC) Prevention Task Team. <i>Academic Member</i> .
2020- ongoing	Adolescent Treatment Coalition Steering Committee. <i>Member</i> .
2021	African Studies Association of Africa (ASAA) 2022. <i>Reviewer</i> .
2021	IPHASA 2021. <i>Abstract reviewer</i> .
2020-2021	South African Medical Research Council Social Impact Bond Scientific Advisory Committee, <i>Member</i> .
2020	UCT eRA Reporting and Analytics Working Group (eRAWG). <i>Academic Member</i> .
2020	Journal of the International AIDS Society. <i>Deputy Editor</i> .
2020	AIDS & Behavior. <i>Editorial Board</i> .
2017-2020	International AIDS Society. <i>Mentor</i> . Abstract Mentorship Programme.
2019-2020	UCT Department of Sociology. <i>Member</i> . Mental Health and Wellbeing Committee.
2019- ongoing	University of Cape Town (UCT), Dept of Sociology. <i>Ad hoc Member</i> . Ethics Committee.
2019	UCT. Faculty of Health Sciences. <i>Reviewer</i> . Health Research Ethics Committee (HREC).
2018	UNICEF HQ. <i>Technical Advisor</i> . Adolescent Girls and Young Women Toolkit Development.
2018	World Health Organization. <i>Expert Advisor</i> . Guidelines Development Group on User-Initiated Interventions for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.
2016-2018	South African Social Science and HIV Programme, U. of Cape Town. <i>Research Associate</i> .
2016-2017	P-ART-Y study (POPART HPTN071) Study Advisory Group Member.

### REPORTS AND POLICY DOCUMENTS

1. World Health Organization and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF). (2021). Safeguarding the future: giving priority to the needs of adolescent and young mothers living with HIV. Geneva. <https://www.unicef.org/esa/media/10111/file/AYM-Technical-Brief-WHO-UNICEF-Dec-2021.pdf> (*Contribution: conceptualization, contributing content from HEY BABY study*)
2. International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). (2021). Sexual and reproductive health and rights in 2030: Co-designing responsive, effective and scalable SRHR for 2023–2028. Report to inform IPPF’s 2023-2028 Strategy Development. (*Contribution: lead writer, team lead*).
3. Zungu N, Naidoo I, Hodes R, North A, Mabaso, M, Skinner D, Gittings L, Sewpaul R, Takatshana S, Jooste S, Moyo S, Ramlagan S, Cloete A, **Toska E**, and the ALHIV Team. (2020). Being ALHIV: What do we know about adolescents living with HIV in South Africa. The Human Sciences Research Council and University of Cape Town, AIDS and Society Research Unit. Pretoria: Human Sciences Research Council. (*Contribution: co-author*)
4. UNICEF ESARO. (2020). Addressing the needs of adolescent and young mothers affected by HIV in Eastern and Southern Africa. <https://www.childrenandaids.org/sites/default/files/2020-10/UNICEF-ESA-Young-Mothers-HIV-Report-2020.pdf> (*Contribution: HEY BABY findings added*)
5. UNICEF Innocenti. Beyond Masks: Societal impacts of COVID-19 and accelerated solutions for children and adolescents. (2020). Innocenti Research Report. <https://www.unicef-irc.org/publications/1149-beyond-masks-societal-impacts-of-covid-19-and-accelerated-solutions-for-children-and-adolescents.html> (*Contribution: lead writer for sections on adolescent SRHR and adolescents living with HIV*)
6. UNICEF & WHO. (2020). Prioritizing the Continuity of Services for Adolescents Living with HIV During the COVID-19 Pandemic. <http://childrenandaids.org/sites/default/files/2020-06/Prioritizing%20the%20continuity%20of%20services%20for%20adolescents%20living%20with%20HIV%20during%20the%20COVID-19%20pandemic.pdf> (*Contribution: section on SRHR*)

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7. Paediatric Adolescent Treatment for Africa. (2020). Evidence Brief: Caring during COVID-19: Supporting mental health among vulnerable adolescents and young people. PATA: Cape Town, South Africa. <http://teampata.org/portfolio/evidence-brief-caring-during-covid-19-supporting-mental-health-among-vulnerable-adolescents-and-young-people/> (Contribution: co-authored with Christina Laurenzi)
8. Elizabeth Glaser Paediatric AIDS Foundation. (2020). Adolescent and Youth Transition of Care Toolkit. Supported by the New Horizons Collaborative. <https://www.pedaids.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/new-horizons-adolescent-toolkit-v3.pdf> (Contribution: co-author and lead of M&E section)
9. **Toska, E.** & Omar, Z. A. (2019). Making U=U work for adolescents living with HIV: making options, choices, and opportunities available for all. DSBS Fieldnotes. <http://www.dsbsfieldnotes.uct.ac.za/news/making-uu-work-adolescents-living-hiv-making-options-choices-and-opportunities-available-all> (Contribution: first author)
10. UNFPA. (2019). Regional Guidance: Strengthening Competency-Based Education on Adolescent Health in Pre- and In-Service Training for Health-Care Providers. UNFPA Eastern and Southern African Regional Officers: Johannesburg, South Africa. (Contribution: co-author and lead of M&E section)
11. **Toska, E.** Laurenzi, C. Roberts, K. Cluver, L & Sherr, L. (2019). Adolescent mothers affected by HIV and their children – understanding and meeting their needs in our HIV response and global commitments. Report for the Coalition for Children Affected by HIV/AIDS. (Contribution: lead author)
12. **National Department of Health. 2017.** National Adolescent and Youth Healthy Policy. (Contribution: co-author, evidence review lead)

### Pre-prints

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1. Natukunda, H.P.M., Toska, E., Boyes, M.E., Sherr, L., Hoare, J., Nightingale, S., and Cluver, L.D. Cross-Sectional Analysis of Cognitive And Functional Difficulties Among Adolescents Living With HIV In Low-Resourced Settings: Can A Simple Screening Algorithm Identify Adolescents For Support?, 25 September 2020, PREPRINT (Version 1) available at Research Square [<https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-71577/v1>]

**PUBLICATIONS:** [www.orcid.org/0000-0002-3800-3173](http://www.orcid.org/0000-0002-3800-3173)

### Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

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1. Chen-Charles, J., Rudgard, W. E., Doyle, A. M., *Toska, E.*, & Cluver, P. L. (2022). What do adolescents value most and is this affected by HIV status? Aspirations and self-perceptions from a large cohort study in South Africa. *Psychology, Health & Medicine*, 1-10. DOI: 10.1080/13548506.2022.2116059
2. Moshia, N., Mshana, G., **Toska, E.**, Hertzog, L., Desmond, C., Cluver, L., Kapiga, S., & Stöckl, H. (2022). Intergenerational education and violence effects on adolescent education, early employment and adolescent parenting. *Psychology, Health & Medicine*, 13:1-4. DOI: 10.1080/13548506.2022.2108083
3. Kusi-Mensah, K., Tamambang, R., Bella-Awusah, T., Ogunmola, S., Afolayan, A., **Toska, E.**, Hertzog, L., Rudgard, W., Evans, R. & Omigbodun, O. (2022). Accelerating progress towards the sustainable development goals for adolescents in Ghana: a cross-sectional study. *Psychology, Health & Medicine*, 13:1-8. DOI: 10.1080/13548506.2022.2108086

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4. Hertzog, L., Banounin, B. H., Stöckl, H., & **Toska, E.** (2022). Accelerating ontological security for South African adolescents living in high HIV-prevalence areas: a longitudinal study. *Psychology, Health & Medicine*, 1-22. DOI: 10.1080/13548506.2022.2108079
5. Gittings, L., Medley, S., Logie, C.H., Ralayo, N., Cluver, L., Petersen, N., Chen-Charles, J., & **Toska, E.** (2022). Art-based reflections from 12 years of adolescent health and development-related research in South Africa. *Health Promotion International*, 37(Supplement\_2), ii83-ii96. <https://doi.org/10.1093/heapro/daac020>
6. Cluver, L., Rudgard, W., **Toska, E.**, Orkin, F., Ibrahim, M., Langwenya, N., Kuo, C., Xaba, N., Roehm, K., Smith, M., Bernadini, S., Giordana, G., Mumma, M., Kingori, J., Yates, R., & Sherr, L. (accepted). Food security reduces multiple HIV infection risks for adolescent mothers and non-mothers in South Africa: A cross-sectional study. *JIAS*. DOI: 10.1002/jia2.25928
7. Cluver, L., Sherr, L., **Toska, E.**, Zhou, S., Mellins, C-L., Omigbodun, O., Li, X., Bojo, SI Thurman, T., Ameyan, W., Desmond, C., Willis, N., Laurenzi, C., Tomlinson, M., & Myeketsi, N. (2022). From surviving to thriving: Integrating mental health care into HIV services for adolescents living with HIV. *The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health*. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642\(22\)00101-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642(22)00101-8)
8. Jochim, J., Meinck, F., **Toska, E.**, Roberts, K., Wittesaele, C., Langwenya, N., & Cluver, L. (2022). Who goes back to school after birth? Factors associated with postpartum school return among adolescent mothers in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. *Global public health*, 1–15. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1080/17441692.2022.2049846
9. Laurenzi, C., Ronan, A., Phillips, L., Nalugo, S., Mupakile, E., Operario, D., & **Toska, E.** (2022). Enhancing a peer supporter intervention for young mothers living with HIV in Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia: Adaptation and co-development of a psychosocial component. *Global public health*, 1–15. Advance online publication. DOI: 10.1080/17441692.2022.2081711
10. Roberts, K. Sherr, L. Haag, K. Smith, C. Jochim, J. **Toska, E.** Marlow, M., & Cluver, L (2022). Adolescent parenthood and HIV-infection in South Africa – associations with child cognitive development. *PLOS Global Public Health*. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pgph.0000238
11. Rudgard, W.E., Dzumbunu, S.P., Yates, R., **Toska, E.**, Stöckl, H., Orkin, M., & Cluver, L. (2021). Multiple Impacts of Ethiopia's Health Extension Programme on Adolescent Health and Wellbeing: a Quasi-Experimental Study 2002-2013. *Journal of Adolescent Health*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2022.04.010>
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### *Edited Collections*

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### *Book Chapters*

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### *Commentaries and Editorials*

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- 2019 **Toska, E.**, Cluver, L., Zhou, S., and Langwenya, N. *Supporting adolescents living with HIV survive and thrive*. Oral presentation. 9<sup>th</sup> Southern African AIDS Conference. Durban, South Africa. 11-13 June 2019. (Oral).
- 2018 **Toska, E.**, Cluver, L., Bungane, N., Carty, C., Marikeni, Z., Mbiko, A., Hodes, R., and Malunga, S. Factors associated with high HIV transmission risk among adolescents living with HIV in South Africa. Oral Presentation. African Conference on Sexual and Reproductive Health. Johannesburg, South Africa. 13-15 February 2018. (Oral Presentation).
- 2017 **Toska, E.**, Cluver, L., Bungane, N., Carty, C., Marikeni, Z., Mbiko, A., Hodes, R., and Malunga, S. Vectors or Victims: Risk factors for high HIV transmission risk among HIV-positive adolescents: quantitative analyses from a community-traced sample in South Africa. AIDSImpact 2017. Cape Town, South Africa. 13-15 November 2017. *Oral Presentation*.
- 2017 **Toska, E.**, Cluver, L., Bungane, N., Carty, C., Marikeni, Z., Mbiko, A., Hodes, R., and Malunga, S. High HIV Transmission Risk Among HIV-positive adolescents: findings from a community-traced sample in South Africa. 8<sup>th</sup> Southern African AIDS Conference. Durban, South Africa. 13-15 June 2017. *Oral Presentation*.
- 2017 **Toska, E.**, Cluver, L., Bungane, N., Carty, C., Marikeni, Z., Mbiko, A., Hodes, R., and Malunga, S. HIV-positive adolescents most at risk of onwards HIV transmission: quantitative findings from a community-traced sample in South Africa. 11<sup>th</sup> INTEREST Workshop. Lilongwe, Malawi. 16-19 May 2017. *Oral Presentation*.
- 2016 **Toska, E.**, Cluver L., Hodes, R., and Gittings, L. The triple-care effect: associations between safe sex and relationships at home, school and clinics among HIV-positive adolescents. Children and HIV: Equity Now! Symposium. Durban, South Africa. 15 July 2016. (Oral presentation)
- 2015 **Toska, E.**, and Hodes, R. (2015) Today's children, tomorrow's parents: Childbearing intention and access to sexual and reproductive health for HIV-positive adolescent girls. 7<sup>th</sup> Southern African AIDS Conference, Durban, South Africa. *Oral presentation at roundtable on Women and Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights*.
- 2015 **Toska, E.**, Cluver, L., Hodes, R., Kidia, K. (2015). Sex and Secrecy: Disclosure and condom use in a community-based sample of HIV-positive teens in South Africa. 7<sup>th</sup> Southern African AIDS Conference, Durban, South Africa. Abstract No: 490. (Oral presentation).

### INVITED TALKS

- 2022 **Safeguarding the future: giving priority to the needs of adolescent and young mothers living with HIV**. WHO TeleECHO Sessions, TeleECHO on Pediatric and Adolescent HIV Treatment and Care. Hosted by the WHO. 8 February 2022.
- 2022 **Adolescent mothers livingwith HIV & their children: Evidence on accelerating access to services and rights**. TeleECHO on Pediatric and Adolescent HIV treatment and care. (With Cluver, L., Langwenya, N. and the Mzantsi Wakho and HEY BABY Study Teams). 8 February 2022.
- 2022 **Accelerating Gains in Adolescent HIV: Evidence from Eastern & Southern Africa**. Paediatric-Adolescent Treatment Africa (PATA AOP). (With Laurenzi, C.). 28 February 2022.
- Accelerating health, education and empowerment among adolescents and young people affected by HIV in sub-Saharan Africa**. WeMove: An Adolescent Health Research Series. WeMove webinar 6: Empowerment, Cash Transfers & Social Determinants. Hosted by Desmond Tutu Health Foundation and IAVI. 22 March 2022. Webinar. (With Dzumbunu, S.)
- 2022 **Accelerating Health Education & Empowerment Among Adolescents and Young People**. 'We Move': An Adolescent Health Webinar Series. Desmond Tutu Health Foundation. (With Dzumbuzu, S.). 22 March 2022.
- 2022 **2022 Accelerating Gains in Adolescent HIV: Evidence from Two South African Studies. UNICEF SACO meeting**. (With Cluver, L.). 8 April 2022.
- 2022

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- 2022 **Parenting Experiences and Perspectives: Adolescent Boys and Young Men Living with HIV.** Men Matter: Male Involvement in Parenting and Nurturing of Children Affected by HIV - Benefits and Barriers. (With Gittings, L. & Toronto, D.). 3 May 2022
- 2022 **Improving mental health, violence and HIV outcomes among adolescents and young people living with HIV in Eastern and South Africa.** Paediatric And Adolescent HIV Learning Collaborative for Africa (PAHLCA) in collaboration with UNICEF ESARO. (With Lamgwenya, N. & Armstrong, A.). 24 May 2022.
- 2022 **Accelerating Gains in Adolescent HIV: Evidence from Two South African Studies.** Regional Office Mission to eSwatini on Adolescent HIV and SRH. In collaboration with UNICEF ESARO. (With Langwenya, N). 26 May 2022.
- 2022 **Improving Health Among Adolescents and Young People Living with HIV in South Africa.** University of Fort Hare, Health Sciences Presentation in collaboration with UNICEF SARO. (With Sidloyi, M & Cluver, L.). 29 June 2022.
- 2022 **Pandemic Pivoting adjusting research methods and safeguarding practices in a mixed-methods study of adolescent mothers and their children during COVID-19.** Helping Empower Youth Brought up in Adversity with their Babies and Young children. **HEY BABY Study Fieldwork Team, UCT Psychiatry Talk.** (With Saal, W & Sidloyi, M.). 23 August 2022.
- 2022 **Prioritizing viral load testing among adolescents living with HIV in South Africa: Preliminary analyses from a mixed-data cohort.** 24<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on HIV and Hepatitis Observational Databases webinar series. (With Zhou, S., Olanrewaju, E., Langwenya, N., Jochim, J., Dzumbunu, S., Haghighat, R. and Sherman, G.). 24 September 2022
- 2021 **Adolescent Mothers Living with HIV & their Children: Evidence on Accelerating Access to Services and Rights.** 21st International Conference on AIDS And Sexually Transmitted Infections in Africa. 10 December 2021. Keynote at Satellite: Progress and Evidence to further advance Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health. (With Cluver, L., Langwenya, N., and the Mzantsi Wakho and HEY BABY study teams).
- 2021 **Evidence into Action for Accelerated HIV Prevention: Complex Lives Cash+ Combinations Multiple Improved Outcomes.** Achieving more for Young Women and Girls: Sharing insights and a roadmap for success. Hosted by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in partnership with UNAIDS, UNFPA, and The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. 23 November 2021. Webinar.
- 2021 **Broader Social Protection in Eastern and Southern Africa Expanding Access to Education, Livelihoods and Employment for Adolescent Girls and Young Women.** Advancing the HIV-sensitive social protection agenda of key stakeholders in Eastern and Southern Africa through capacity strengthening. Hosted by the Int Labour Organization, the World Food Programme and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). 16 November 2021. Webinar.
- 2021 **Fact or Fiction: busting myths about mental health, violence, HIV and adolescence in our communities.** Session title: Screen and Support: holistic approaches to understanding and addressing gender-based violence and mental health in the context of HIV care. Paediatric-Adolescent Treatment Africa (PATA) summit. 1 November 2021. (With Laurenzi, C).
- 2021 **Accelerating Gains in Adolescent HIV: Evidence from Eastern & Southern Africa.** Session title: Access to Services During Covid-19 Era. 3rd Paediatric and Adolescent HIV Learning Collaborative for Africa (PAHLCA). 20 October 2021. (With Cluver, L., and Ibrahim, M).
- 2021 **Being ALHIV: Sexual and reproductive health of adolescents and young people living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa.** STI & HIV 2021 World Congress. Virtual. 18-21 July 2021. Symposium talk. (With Banounin, B.H).
- 2021 **Adolescent girls and young women: The role of food security across the HIV cascade.** Global Fund for the Fight Against HIV, TB and Malaria. 30 April 2021. Webinar. (With Cluver, L., and Langwenya, N).

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- 2021 **Evidence update on ALHIV programming – Data from a longitudinal cohort in South Africa.** UNAIDS Democratic Republic of Congo. Briefing to National AIDS Commission. 6 May 2021. (With Zhou, S., Banougnin, B.H., and Cluver, L).
- 2021 **SRHR & wellbeing for adolescent mothers: New evidence update from Southern Africa.** UNFPA Strengthening Youth Programming Steering Committee. Talk. (With Cluver, L., and Langwenya, L).
- 2021 **Global Goals, Real Lives: 90-90-90 among adolescent mothers and their children.** The Coalition for Children Affected by HIV/AIDS. Talk. 23 February 2021. (With Langwenya, N).
- 2021 **Adolescent mothers living with HIV & their children: Evidence on accelerating access to services and rights.** ICASA. (With Cluver, L., Langwenya, N., and the Mzantsi Wakho and HEY BABY study teams).
- 2020 **From STOP to Go: Evidence and strategies to support and deliver services to adolescent and young mothers.** PATA 2020 Summit. Virtual. Talk.
- 2020 **Beyond clinics: Programming entry points for adolescent mothers and their children.** UNICEF ESARO. Webinar.
- 2020 **Cohort Adjustments in the Times of COVID-19: Plan rigorously, Implement flexibly.** Accelerate Hub COVID-19 Webinar Series. University of Oxford/ University of Cape Town. Talk. (With Langwenya, N).
- 2020 **Opportunities in HIV & SRHR Programming for the Second Decade of Life in East and Southern Africa.** UNICEF/ UNFPA/ WHO/ UNAIDS. Johannesburg, South Africa. Presentation at 2GETHER 4SRHR Regional Meeting. (With Langwenya, N).
- 2019 **Adolescent mothers affected by HIV and their children.** ICASA. Kigali, Rwanda. 2-6 Dec 2019. Symposium Talk. (With Wittesaele, C., Cluver, L., Sherr, L., Roberts, K., Jochim, J., Hodes, R., Langwenya, N., Laurenzi, C., and Haghigat, R).
- 2019 **Resilient Relationships for Adolescents and Young People living with HIV: what can we do in clinics and communities?** PATA 2019 Summit. Johannesburg, South Africa. Talk.
- 2019 **Researching resilience and risk in resource-constrained communities: Supporting adolescents affected by HIV in their journey to adulthood.** Brown University School of Public Health. Providence, Rhode Island, U.S.A. Talk.
- 2019 **Researching resourcefulness, resilience and risk: Personal and professional trajectories in adolescent health research.** University of Cape Town Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health. South Africa.
- 2019 **From Clinics to Community: Supporting Adolescents Living with HIV.** Elizabeth Glaser Paediatric AIDS Foundation. Washington D.C., U.S.A. Webinar.
- 2019 **Reducing Life-threatening Infections: Innovative Social Science Approaches.** 2019 Meeting of the American Academy on the Advancement of Science (AAAS2019). Washington D.C., U.S.A. Symposium Talk.
- 2018 **What works for HIV prevention (primary and secondary) among adolescents in South Africa (and the region)?** Social Impact Bond Workshop. South African Medical Research Council. Cape Town. South Africa. Talk.
- 2018 **#DataDriven Advocacy for our adolescent and young people HIV response: what are the priorities?** PATA Youth Summit. Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania. Talk.
- 2018 **Psychosocial Support for Children and Adolescents living with HIV: transition to adult care.** New Horizons Workshop. Johannesburg, South Africa. Talk.
- 2018 **Nothing for Us, Without Us! Providing Holistic Youth-responsive HIV Care in Resource-Limited Settings.** 12th INTEREST Conference. Kigali, Rwanda. Symposium talk.

**INVITED PEER REVIEWER FOR JOURNALS:** AIDS and Behavior; AIDS Care; BMC Public Health; BMJ Global Health; Culture, Sexuality, and Health; Development in Practice; Evaluation and Programme Planning; Global Health Action; Health Psychology Review; International Journal of Infectious Diseases; International Journal of



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Health Policy & Management; Infant Mental Health Journal; JAIDS; Journal of Adolescent Health; Journal of the International AIDS Society (JIAS); PLoS One; Psychology, Health, and Medicine; Reproductive Health; Pilot and Feasibility Studies; Prevention Science; South African Review of Sociology; Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies.

### OTHER

**Nationality** Albanian (South African spousal and post-doctoral visa)  
**Languages** English (fluent), Albanian (mother-tongue), Italian (fluent), French (advanced), Spanish (intermediate), Lao (intermediate), Xhosa (beginner), German (beginner), Russian (beginner)  
**Computer Skills** MS Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, Publisher, Access)  
**Statistical packages** SPSS (advanced), STATA (intermediate), R (beginner)