

# Doing research ethically

*From the development of the concept to  
the dissemination of the results*

Souheila Abbeddou, MSc. PhD.

Department of Public Health and Primary Care

# Preamble

- We have come a long way
- Still a lot to learn and to improve

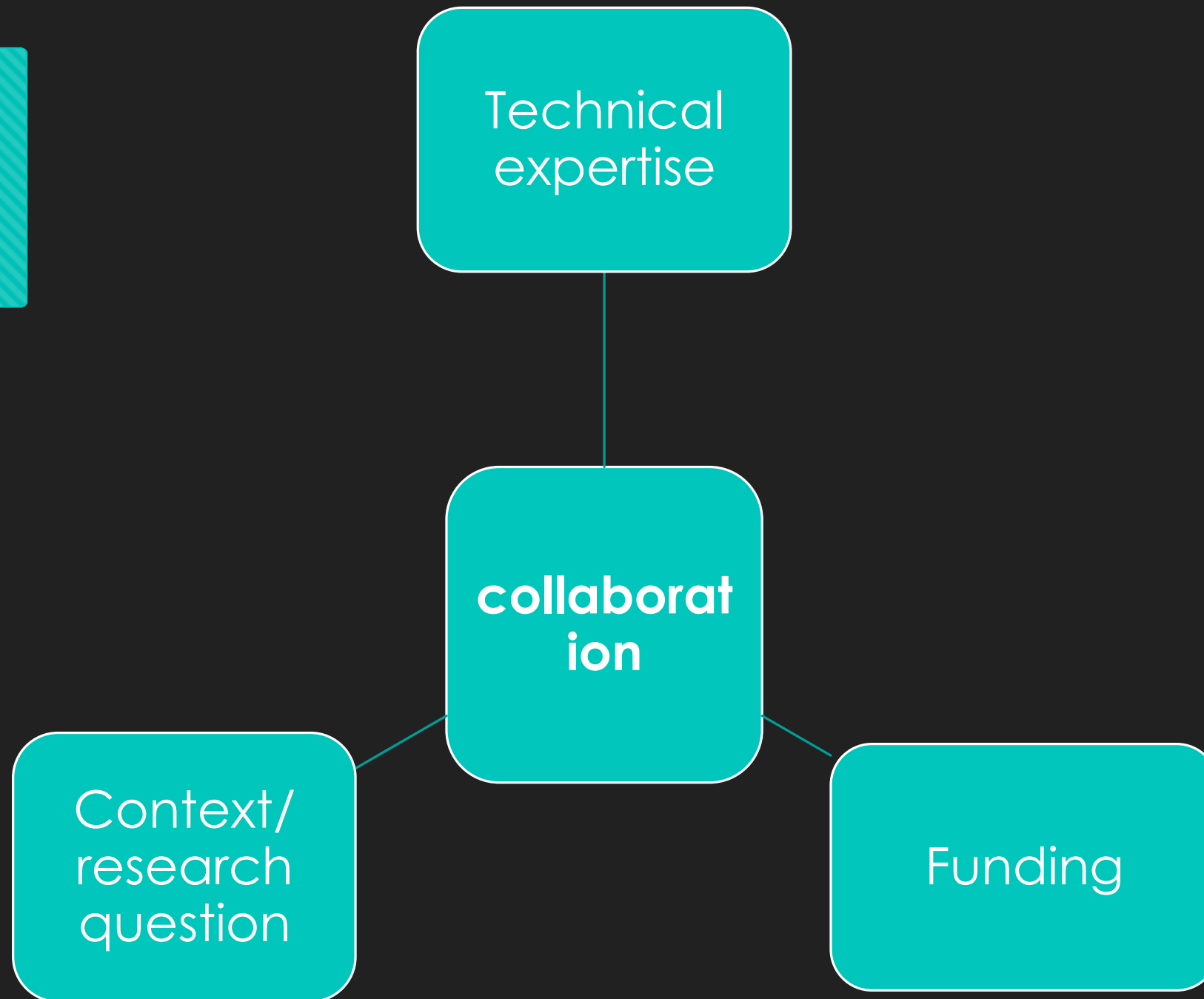
Co-Development of  
the proposal to ensure  
the quality of the  
research

Technical  
expertise

collaborat  
ion

Context/  
research  
question

Funding



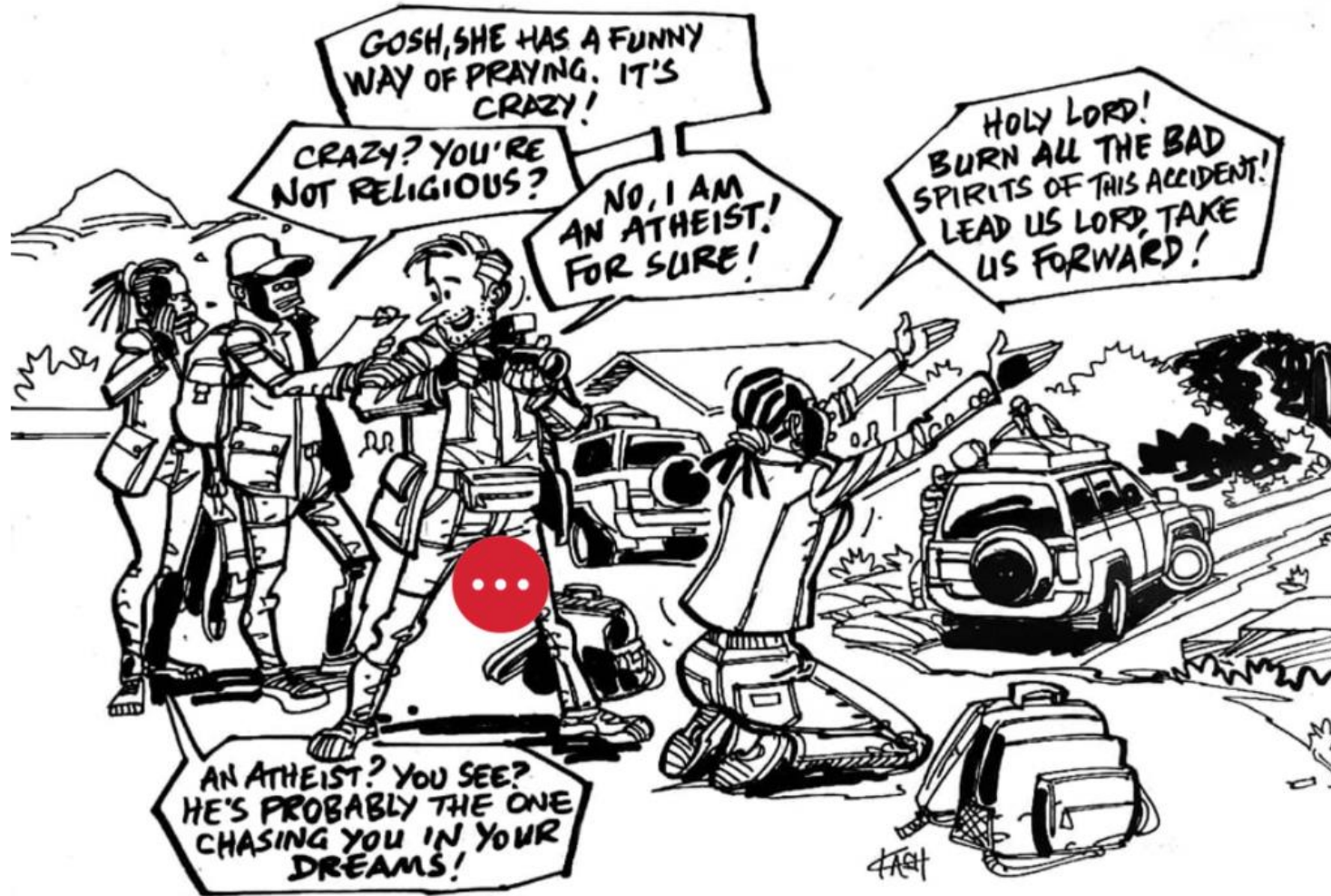
# Understand the history and the backgrounds

- Example 1: Data property
- Example 2: Ethnicity as a variable

# Respectful to cultural differences

Example 1: women's position in the community

Example 2: using unadapted tools – cognitive development

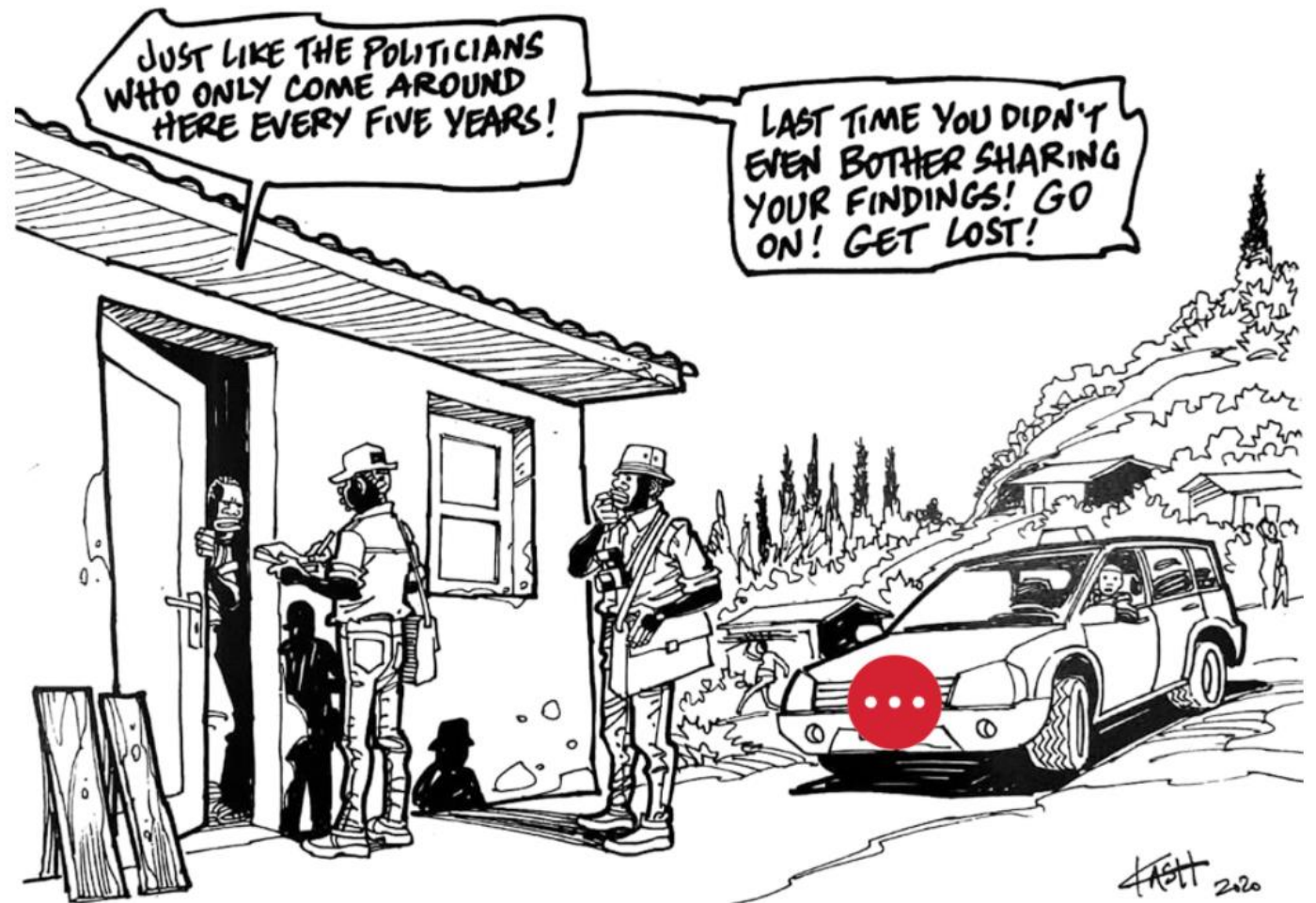


# Ethical clearance

Recommendation 1.3:  
Clinical trials  
conducted in  
developing countries  
should be limited to  
those studies that are  
responsive to the  
health needs of the  
host country.

<https://bioethicsarchive.georgetown.edu/nbac/clinical/execsum.html>

# Result dissemination



# Care for your colleague(s)



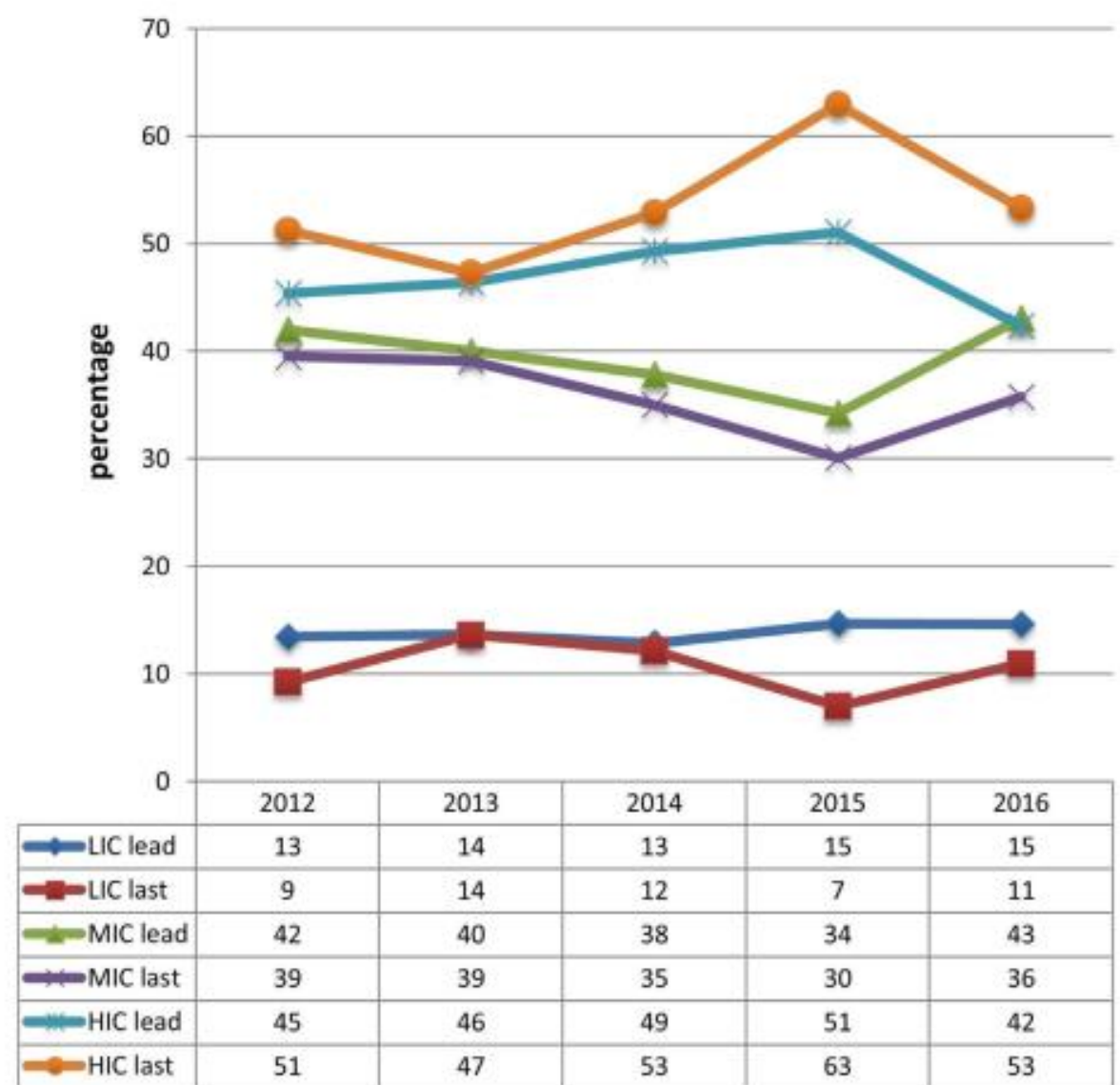
Because you don't want to be that person!

Example of collaboration during COVID health crisis.  
What did we do?

Data property

Publication in international papers

Investments in global health programs may have benefited health but not necessarily capacity for knowledge generation in LMICs.



**Figure 3** Percentage distribution of lead and last authorship of community health worker publications by income classification (n=649). HIC, high-income country; LIC, low-income country; MIC, middle-income country.

Schneider H, Maleka N. *BMJ Glob Health* 2018;**3**:e000797.  
doi:10.1136/bmjgh-2018-000797

# Keep the same standards of quality research

- Authorship is a measurable yet imperfect metric of inclusion in research
- Recognizing the two sides of the coin:
  - High **demand** (for publication in HIC) while Little recognition is given to capacity building
  - Little local investment to support career development and to build the articulation skills needed for proposal and paper writing and research leadership.

# What can make the international research ethical?

- Conducting research in low and middle income countries can be a successful experience if conducted ethically.
- Understanding the context can make us actors of change and development
- Investing more in the capacity building of the local researcher's contribution in generating the evidence and not merely in collecting the data.

# An interesting link

<https://bukavuseries.com/>