



Cuba

Cuban National Center for Sex Education (CENESEX)

Mariela Castro Espín is a deputy in the Cuban parliament, the director of the Cuban National Center for Sex Education (CENESEX, an institute focused on sexual rights and AIDS education), and one of Cuba's best-known LGBTI rights activists.

In 2005, Mariela successfully introduced a law allowing transgender people in Cuba to receive free sex reassignment surgery and change their legal gender. She has published 13 scholarly articles and nine books, and has spoken on LGBTI rights at numerous international events. Daughter of Raul Castro and renowned feminist Vilma Espín, Mariela is well positioned to understand the social, economic and political complexities of the Cuban context, and brings a wealth of knowledge and commentary to the public space.

Manuel Vásquez Sejjido is a lawyer who works as chief of the legal counseling team with CENESEX. Manuel also serves as a Coordinator of Social/Community Networks and as a regional board member for the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Intersex Association.

Zimbabwe

Sexual Rights Center (SRC)

Mojalifa Mokoete is a program officer with SRC, the first openly gay individual to be interviewed in Zimbabwean media, and a well known and respected advocate for LGBTQ rights, women's rights, and sex workers' rights. Mojalifa and the SRC are working to create a sexual rights culture in Zimbabwe by challenging behaviour and attitudes in society, capacity building and empowering vulnerable and marginalized communities to advocate for their legal, social and cultural rights.

Mojalifa describes himself as: "a passionate and committed activist who has worked tirelessly for LGBTI rights."

Vietnam

Center for Research Innovative Communications and Services on Sexuality (ICS)

Nguyen Hai Yen is a program officer with ICS – an organization that works with teachers, students, non-profit organizations, journalists, lawyers to change social awareness about LGBT issues in schools, in the media and in public services.

She works tirelessly in developing and empowering LGBT networks and leaders within the lesbian and transgender community and advocates for women’s rights via programs on lesbian, bisexual women and transgender people. Nguyen founded, administered and participated in the first online forums and in-person programming for LBT rights in Vietnam.

Mozambique

Association of Sexual Minorities Human Rights (LAMBDA)

Frank Bernardo Amade Lileza is the assistant of Communications, Documentation and Impact Mitigation at LAMBDA - the only LGBTI-focused NGO in Mozambique. LAMBDA works to increase the visibility and acceptance of sexual minorities in Mozambique through conferences, workshops, theater, and public celebrations.

Karina Hermina Conde Nhassengo is a board member of LAMBDA, a feminist, and a human rights activist, who has been actively involved in advancing women’s rights and the rights of sexual minorities.