Risk Assessment and Resource Sharing to

Protect CSOs and HRDs from Tech-Facilitated Abuse Threats

Numan Afifi @ DRAPAC25

Why This Matters

Tech-facilitated abuse = human rights issue

Disproportionately harms LGBT+ HRDs & GBV survivors

Erodes safety, silences voices, shrinks civic space

Common Tech-Facilitated Threats

Doxxing, online harassment, disinformation campaigns

Platform surveillance, spyware, phishing, data breaches

Gendered and sexuality-based abuse targeting women, LGBTQI+ & minority HRDs

Impact

[The police] searched all our phones. They took my phone and started sending messages to each other from my phone, then they took screenshots of those conversations and screenshots from my photo gallery. They took photos and videos where I have makeup or a dress on, and they used them as evidence against me. They went through my WhatsApp chats and took contact details so they could entrap my friends as well.

—Amar, 25-year-old transgender woman from Jordan

[The police] took me to the "morality ward" and kept me until 4 a.m. in a tiny room with no food or water. They took my phone and belongings. When they came back with a police report, I was surprised to see the guy I met on Grindr is one of the officers. They beat me and cursed me until I signed papers that said I was "practicing debauchery" and publicly announcing it to fulfill my "unnatural sexual desires."

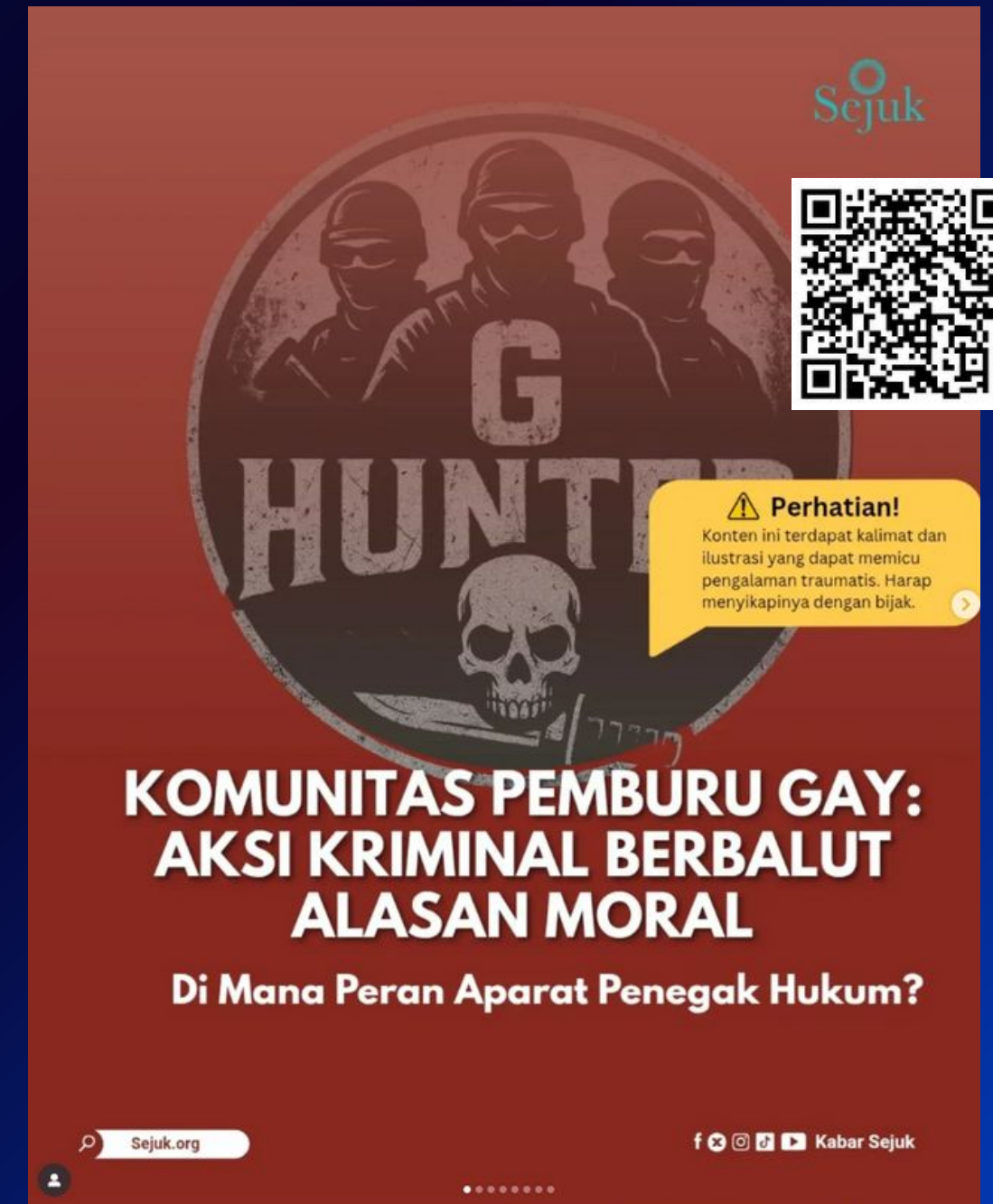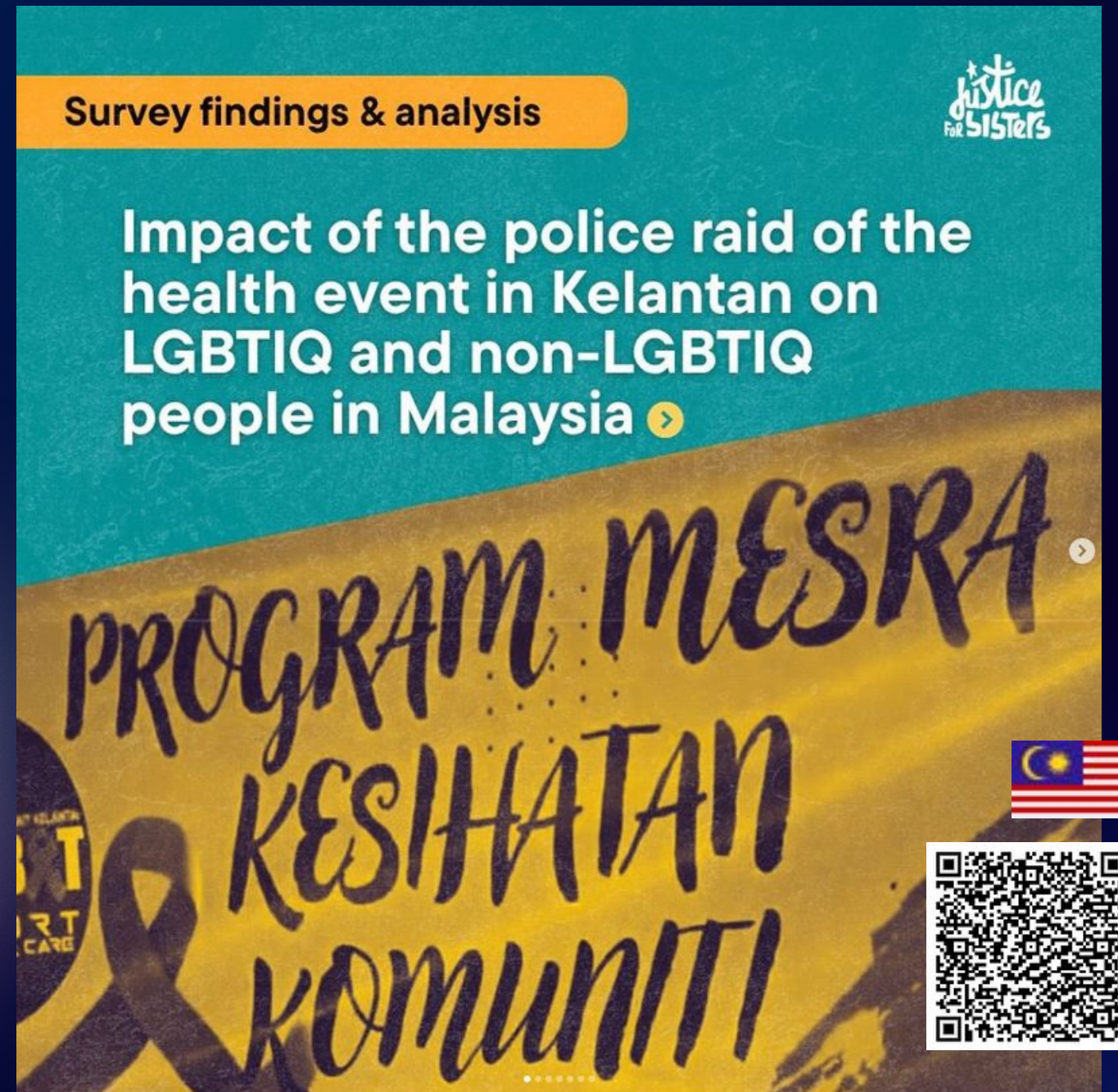*—Yazid, 27-year-old gay man from Egypt*

HUMAN
RIGHTS
WATCH

Recent regional case studies

malaysiakini
news and views that matter

Under fire, organiser explains Pride Day 'buka puasa' event

Malaysiakini Team

2 min read

https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/385686

The organiser of a Pride Day event held last Saturday has explained the reasons behind conducting the programme.

Pelangi Campaign president Numan Afifi was responding to an article by a portal which called the programme a "big gay iftar (breaking of fast)" event.

Admitting that he was bombarded with questions from his family, colleagues, friends and the public following the event, Numan explained that the original idea for the programme was to "unite people from various backgrounds through a breaking of fast event".

"It was aimed to go back to basics by having a dialogue with each other and getting to know one's beliefs, culture and identity," he said in a Facebook posting.

2017

malaymail

Lawyer cries harassment after cops bring in activist Numan to ask about unrelated foreigner's speech

By R. Loheswar

5 min read

https://www.malaymail.com/news/malaysia/2019/04/26/lawyer-cries-...

2019

REUTERS

Jawi questions 18 arrested at Halloween party, says LGBT activist

Reuters

2 min read

https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2022/10/31/jawi-...

Jawi questions 18 arrested at Halloween party, says LGBT activist

Numan Afifi says some of those detained were dressed up for Halloween in different costumes and not cross-dressing as alleged.

2022

Risk Assessment Approaches

Movement
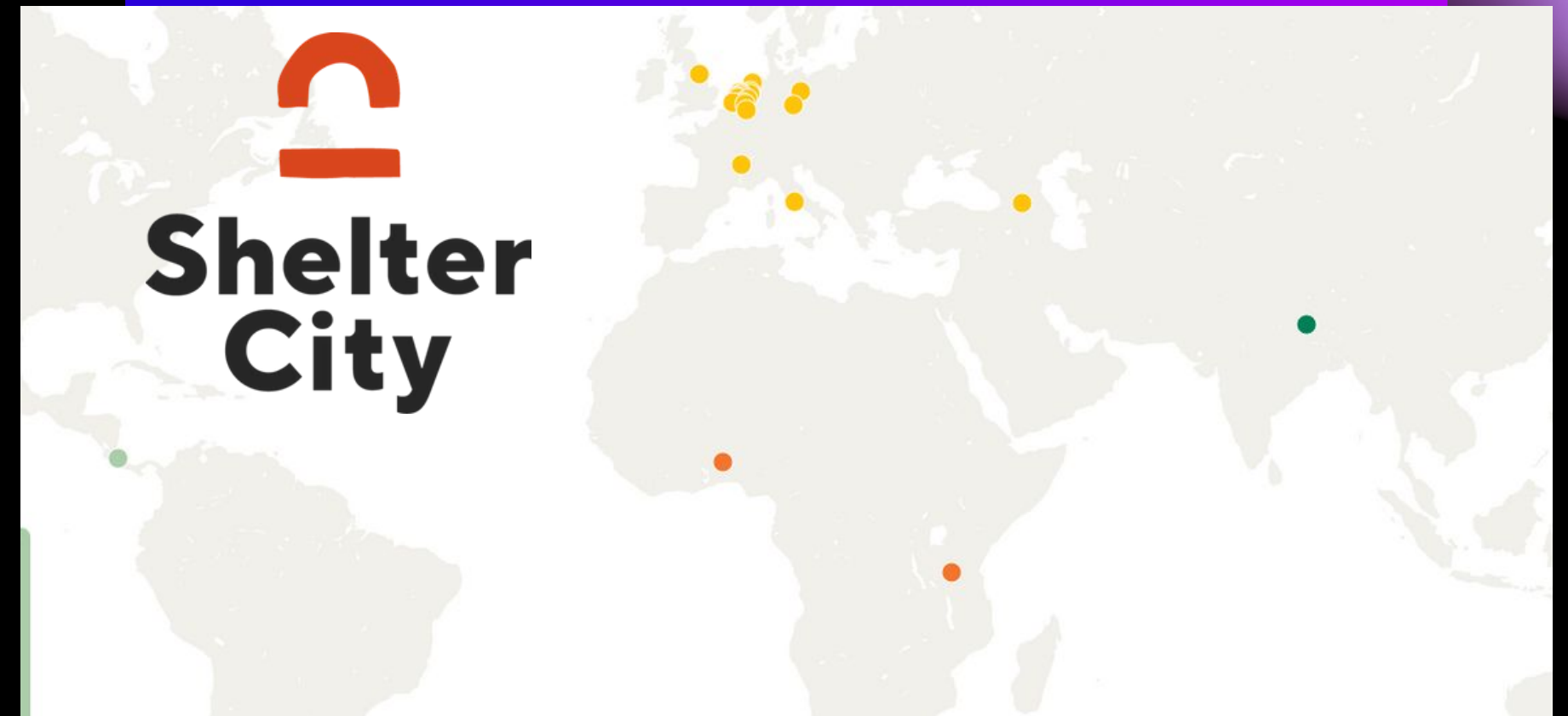threat mapping, collective protection strategies

Individual
digital hygiene, trauma-informed practices

Organisation
survivor-centered policies, incident response, psychosocial support

Spotlight

- Network of 20+ cities offering safe & inspiring spaces for HRDs
- Tailored support: wellbeing, security, training, solidarity networks
- HRDs, journalists and LGBT+ activists find healing, resilience, strategy
- Origin: **The Hague**, 2012 → now global movement

Other resources

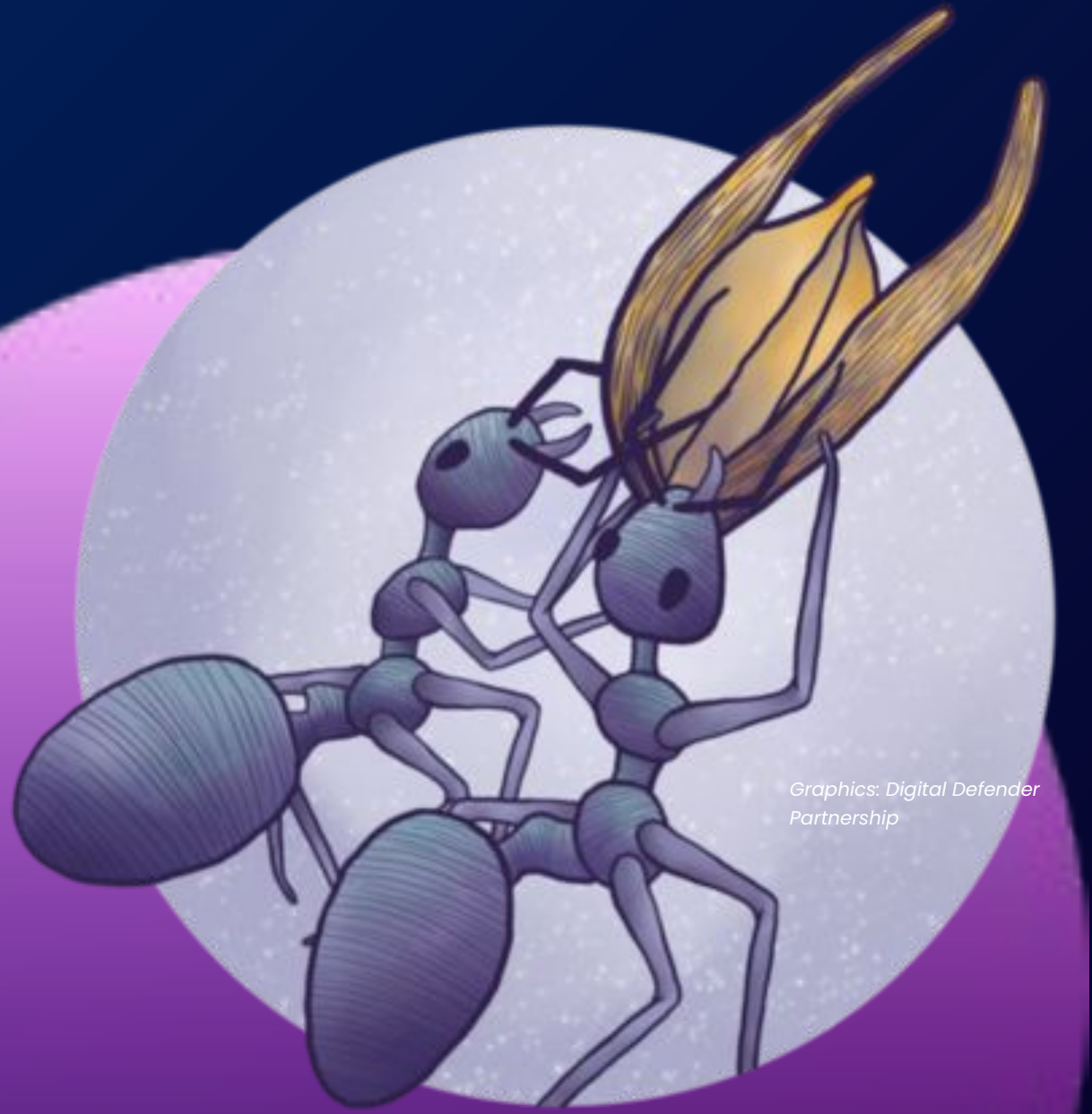 Digital Defender Partnership

 AccessNow

DIGNITY FOR ALL
LGBTI ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

IPPF+Front Line Defenders

ProtectDefender.eu

Graphics: Digital Defender Partnership

Graphics: Digital Defender Partnership

Collective Protection = Collective Power

- Make digital safety intersectional
- Centre survivors' voices in risk assessments
- Fund holistic protection → healing + digital safety
- Demand accountability from tech platforms

Thank You

Our collective protection is only as strong as our ability to centre the most targeted

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