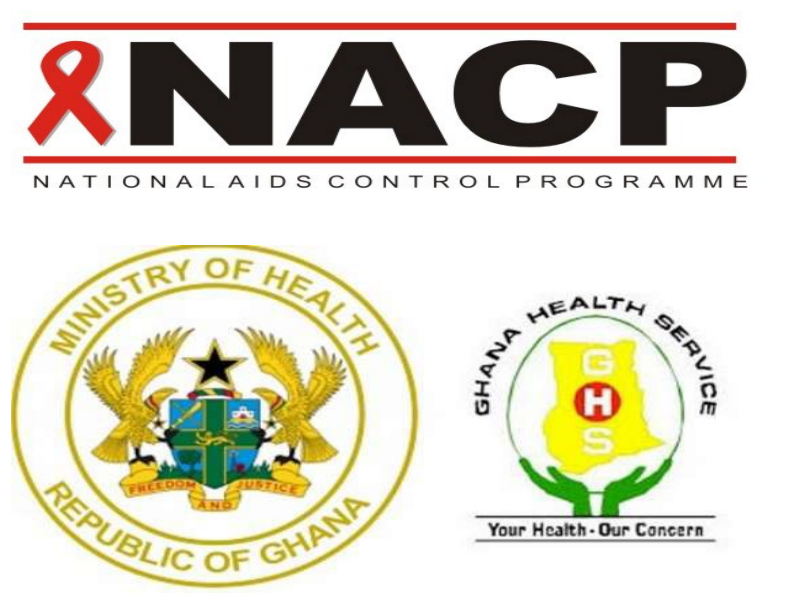




Ghana's Progress in the CQUIN Network

Differentiated HIV Service Delivery: Optimizing Person-Centered HIV Services

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BACKGROUND

Ghana's National AIDS/STI Control Programme (NACP) adopted the 2016 WHO recommendations to treat all people living with HIV with ART regardless of immune status or clinical stage. Among the recommendations adopted was differentiated service delivery (DSD) to improve HIV services and attain the ambitious 90-90-90 targets. In 2017, a comprehensive DSD operational manual was developed, which has guided phased national DSD scale-up. A DSD task team was formed to oversee and track the progress of DSD implementation. Implementation of the DSD-based acceleration plan led to major gains, but the country fell short of achieving the 90-90-90 targets at the end of 2020. To accelerate progress toward achieving epidemic control, Ghana joined several initiatives in 2020, including CQUIN.

At the national level, DSD is coordinated by the Programme's DSD Coordinator, with support from the HIV Technical Working Group and DSD task team. At the sub-national level, DSD interventions are coordinated by Regional HIV Coordinators. Recipients of care (RoCs) play a significant role in DSD, including by participating in the DSD task team, helping with demand creation, serving as expert clients, providing adherence and psychosocial support, and tracking service quality.

DSD IMPLEMENTATION

Figure 1: DSD Model Mix: Results vs. projections

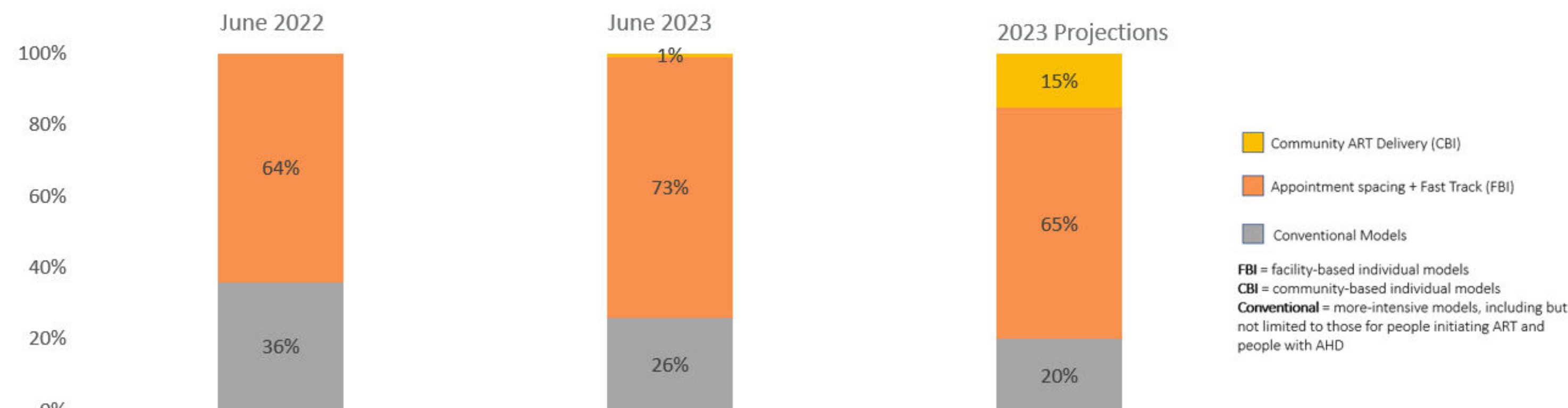
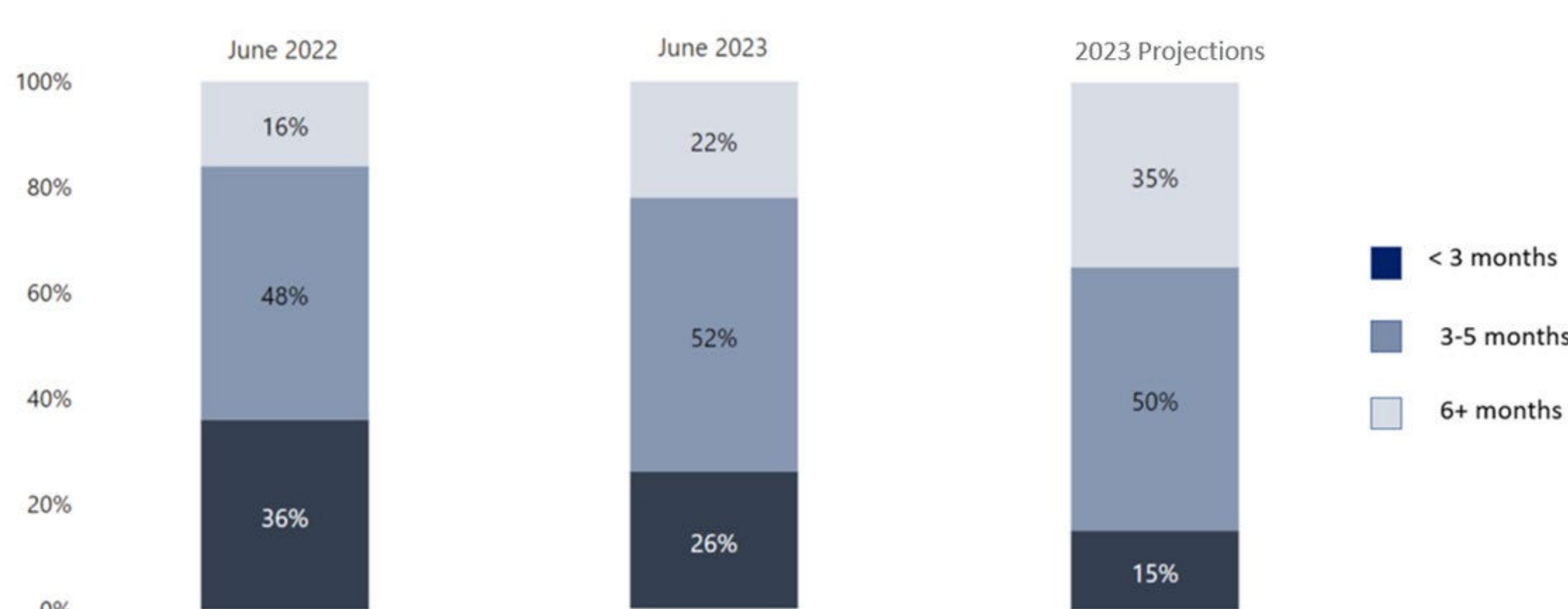


Figure 2: Multi-month Dispensing (MMD): Results vs. projections



DART services are offered in 71% of the 727 ART sites in the country and 72% of clients on ART are receiving treatment via a less-intensive model. DSD eligibility follows WHO recommendations. Most eligible RoCs receive facility-based care (which involves appointment spacing and fast-track refills), while 1% collect their refills in the community. Although the 2023 projections for community drug delivery and conventional models were not met, there was a 10% overall increase in the proportion of RoCs in less-intensive models (since June 2022). The proportion of RoCs receiving fast-track refills was higher than the 2023 projection due to the scale-up of DSD services to additional facilities, increased involvement of RoCs in DART services, and better commodity security after the COVID pandemic.

CQUIN ENGAGEMENT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

CQUIN Intervention	Output	Lessons Learned/Effect on DSD Implementation
Communities of Practice	M/E; Quality/QJ; AHD; TB/HIV; MCH; HIV/NCD; KP; HTS; Mobile, migrant and displaced pops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DSD-friendly data collection tools Plans to review and revise policies
Country-to-Country visits	Family planning-HIV integration learning exchange visit to Mozambique	To pilot and scale-up intervention
DSD performance review (DPR)	Conducted baseline DPR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaps in viral load coverage and suppression Undocumented BP measurements Regional and facility-specific QI projects ongoing
dHTS Service Quality Assessment	Assessment conducted in 185 facilities	Need for continuous mentorship and SOPs following dHTS orientation
Other CQUIN-supported activities	1. CMM staging meetings on testing, treatment, and AHD 2. dHTS meeting (Nairobi)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to work on key domains Gaps being used for resource mobilization Need to expedite adoption of status-neutral approach to testing

DART CAPABILITY MATURITY MODEL TRENDS (2022-2023)

Figure 3: DART Capability Maturity Model Trends (2022-2023)

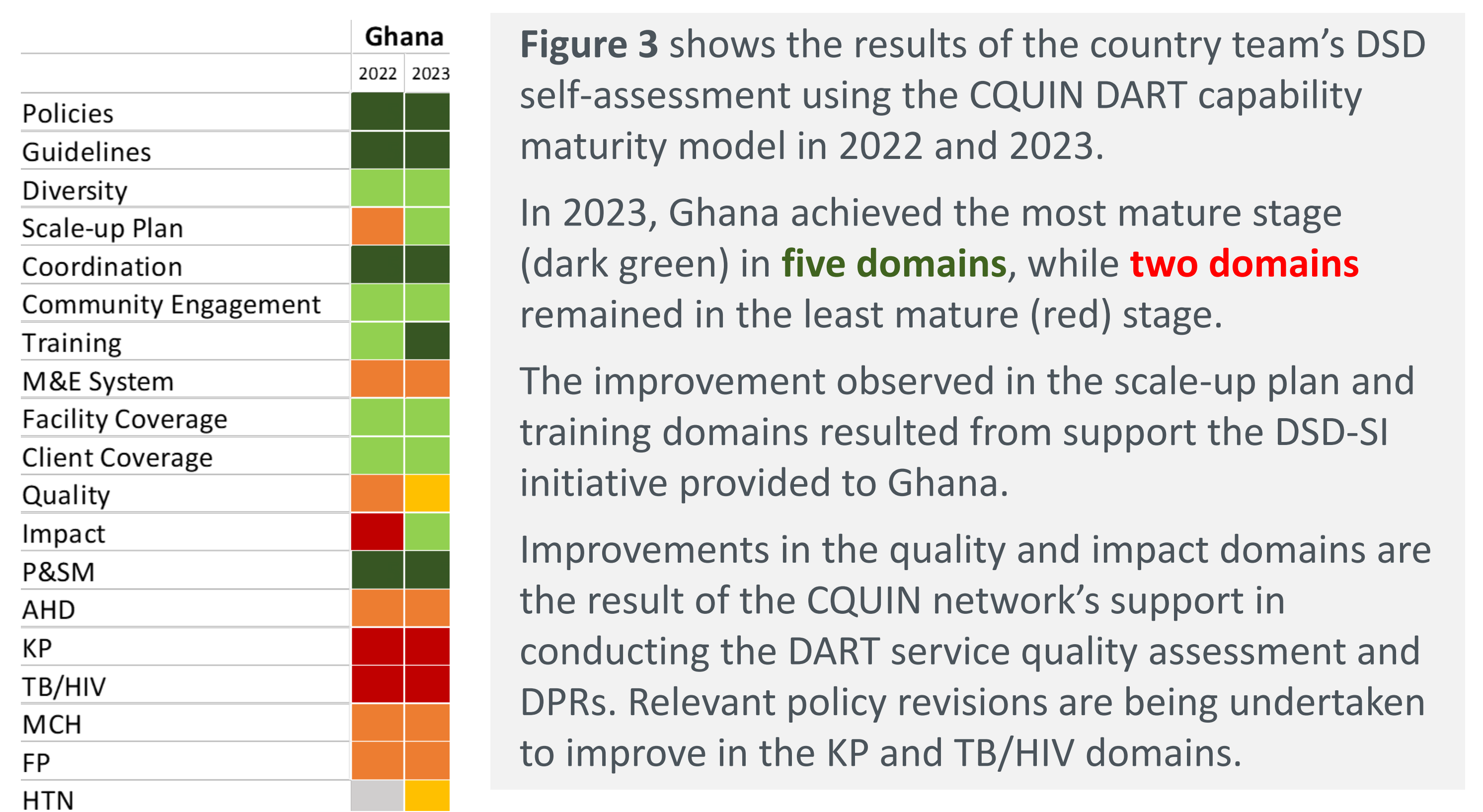


Figure 3 shows the results of the country team's DSD self-assessment using the CQUIN DART capability maturity model in 2022 and 2023.

In 2023, Ghana achieved the most mature stage (dark green) in **five domains**, while **two domains** remained in the least mature (red) stage.

The improvement observed in the scale-up plan and training domains resulted from support the DSD-SI initiative provided to Ghana.

Improvements in the quality and impact domains are the result of the CQUIN network's support in conducting the DART service quality assessment and DPRs. Relevant policy revisions are being undertaken to improve in the KP and TB/HIV domains.

AHD CAPABILITY MATURITY MODEL SELF-STAGING

Figure 4: AHD Capability Maturity Model Results, 2023

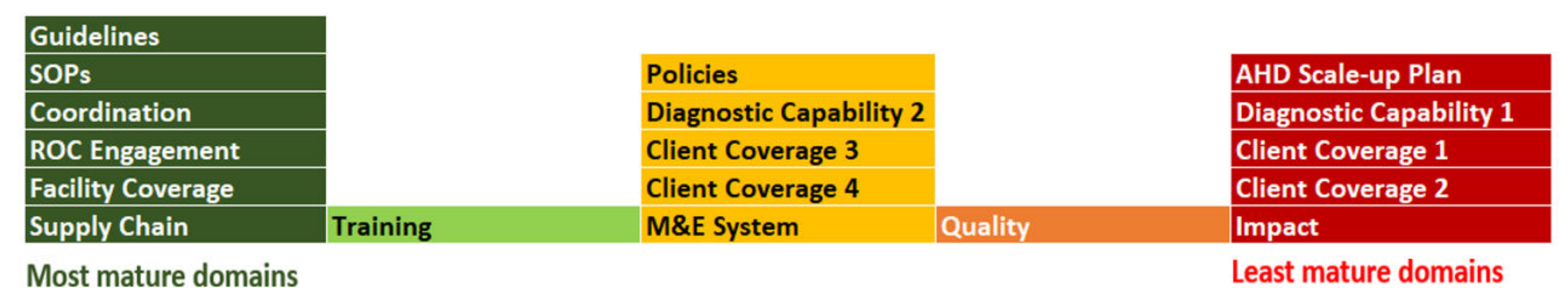


Figure 4 shows the results of the country team's baseline AHD self-assessment using the CQUIN AHD capability maturity model. In this inaugural assessment, Ghana achieved the most mature stage (dark green) in **six domains**, while **five domains** were in the least mature (red) stage.

dHTS CAPABILITY MATURITY MODEL SELF-STAGING

Figure 5: dHTS Capability Maturity Model Results, 2023

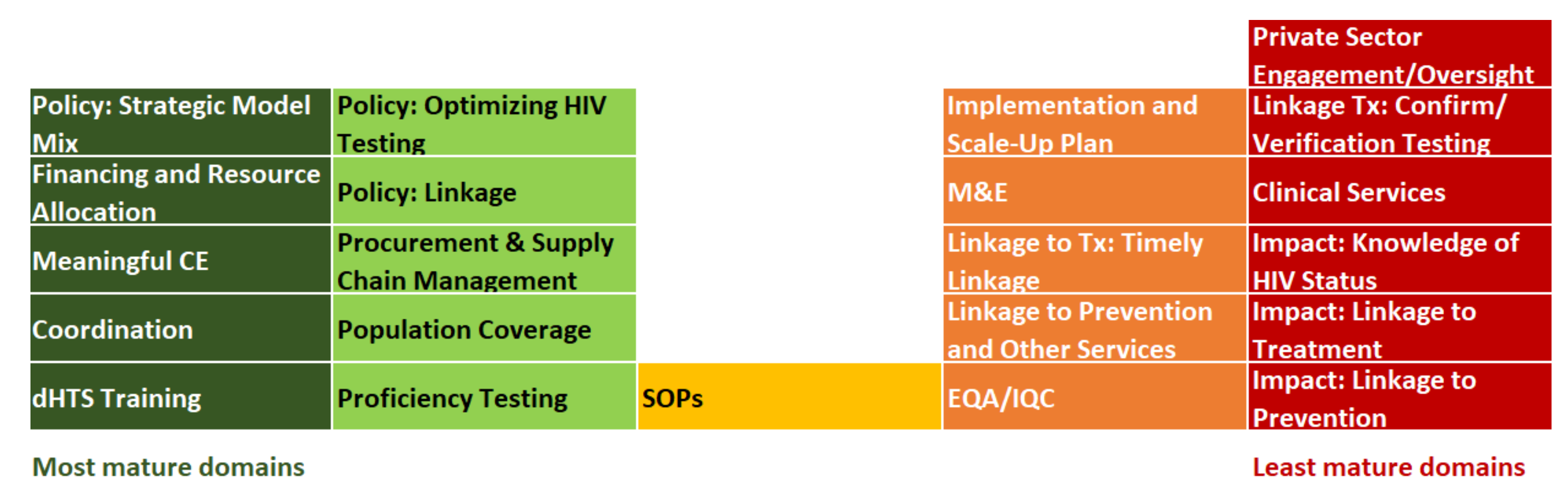


Figure 5 shows the results of the country team's baseline dHTS self-assessment using the CQUIN dHTS capability maturity model. In this assessment, which was conducted in January 2023, Ghana achieved the most mature stage (dark green) in **five domains**, while **six domains** were in the least mature (red) stage.

NEXT STEPS / WAY FORWARD

Priority next steps include:

- Rolling out new, DSD-friendly M&E tools
- Securing Global Fund resources to support DSD initiatives (including DPRs) in GC7
- Learning how to programmatically integrate key, non-HIV services into HIV care
- Making significant strides on the three CQUIN capability maturity model dashboards
- Improving supportive supervision for DSD using the Service Quality Assessment tool
- Playing an active role as a CQUIN member country and contributing to the growth of the network