



Differentiated HIV Service Delivery: Optimizing Person-Centered HIV Services

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BACKGROUND

- Uganda joined CQUIN in 2018. DSD in Uganda is implemented at scale, with an emphasis on increasing community DSD coverage following the roll-out of new consolidated HIV guidelines in 2022.
- DSD is coordinated by a dedicated technical working group (TWG), which meets on a quarterly and *ad hoc* basis (as needed). The DSD TWG has representatives from key stakeholders, including donors, IP leads, CSOs, MOH, and recipients of care (RoCs).
- National HIV treatment policies and guidelines promote the use of DART for diverse RoC groups. National DSD quality standards are available and are being tracked at different levels.
- RoCs are engaged in DSD through representation in the TWG and are involved in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of DSD activities.

DSD IMPLEMENTATION

Figure 1: DSD Model Mix: Results vs. projections

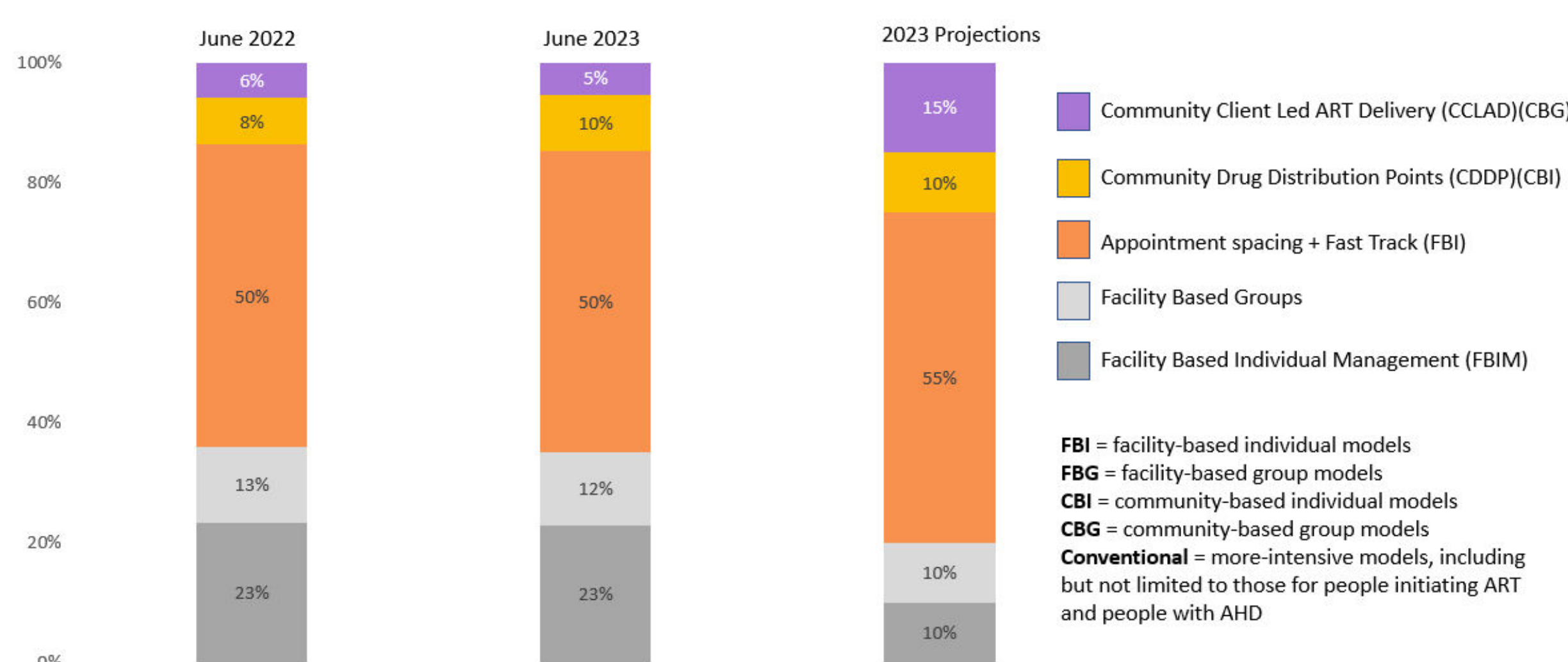
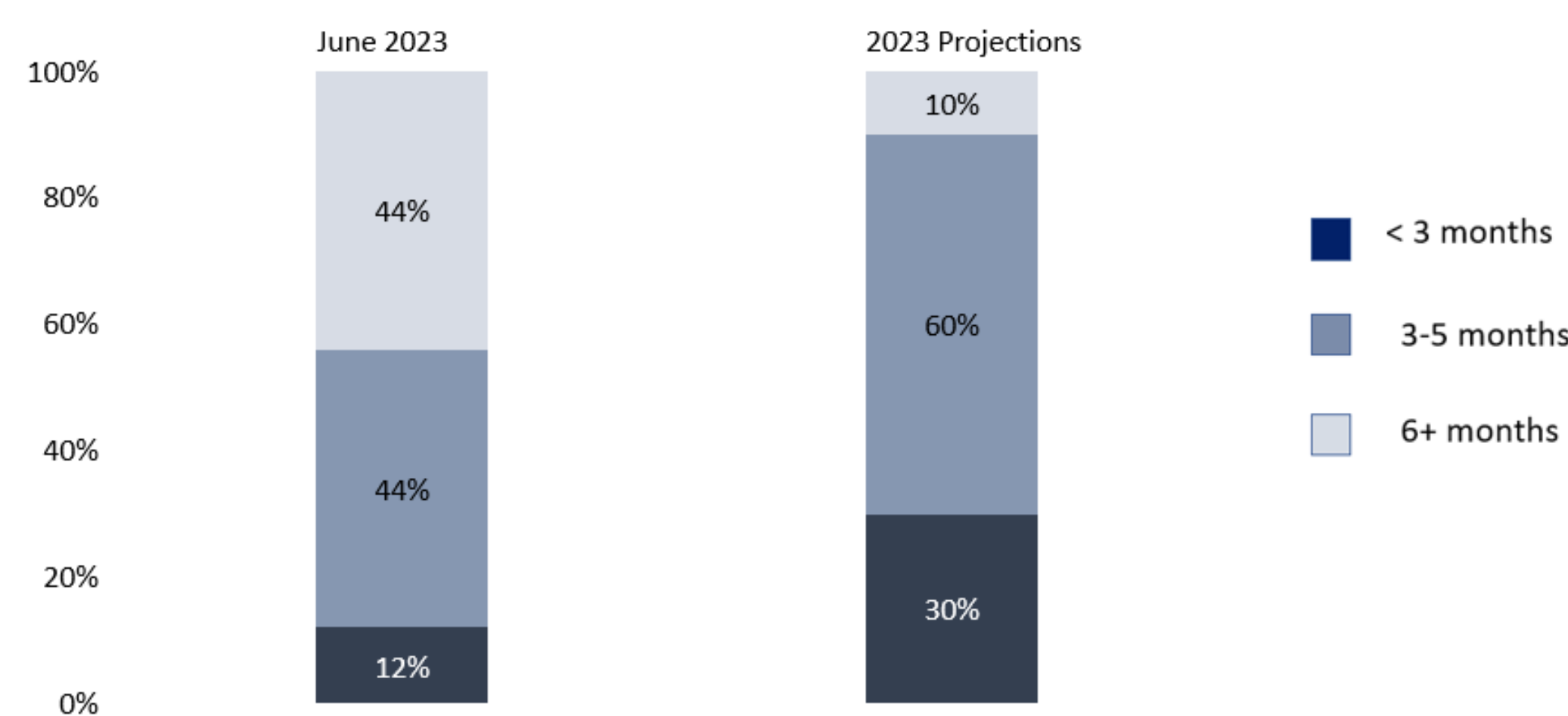


Figure 2: Multi-month Dispensing (MMD): Results vs. projections



Before the new 2022 guidelines, Uganda had been implementing five differentiated treatment models: the two more intensive models include the Facility-based individual model (FBIM) and the Facility-based group model (FBG); and the three less-intensive models include the Fast track drug refill (FTDR), Community Drug distribution point (CDDP), and the Community Client Led ART Distribution (CCLAD) models. Eligibility for less-intensive modes includes anyone aged 15+ years with suppressed VL, no AHD, and not pregnant and/or breastfeeding.

With the new guidelines, there is less use of strict eligibility criteria to determine ART model options for RoCs, as there has been an opening up of all approaches to be patient-centered. A total of 2,009 health facilities currently provide ART, with 85% providing less-intensive models. Currently, 64% of people on ART are enrolled in less-intensive models. MMD data currently available are general and reported as a proxy through the PEPFAR In-country Reporting System (PIRS), as the new tools are awaited.

CQUIN ENGAGEMENT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2023, Uganda continued engagement with the CQUIN network by:

- Participating in several communities of practice: Care & Treatment, AHD, TB/HIV, M&E, PMTCT, QI, KP, and dHTS.
- Hosting teams from Sierra Leone, Ghana, and Rwanda; and being hosted by Mozambique—together with Ghana—during C2Cs.
- Conducting self-staging on the dHTS, AHD, and Treatment capability maturity model dashboards.
- Participating in DPR assessment in 3 regions: Rwenzori, East Central, Mukono.

Key lessons learned from CQUIN meetings include:

- Self-evaluation to identify programmatic and operational gaps through discussions with other countries using CMMs
- Knowledge exchange during webinars
- Focused action planning for coverage and quality improvement

These lessons learned have led to the adoption of normative guidance on DSD, which has been incorporated in the revised national DSD guidelines.

DART CAPABILITY MATURITY MODEL TRENDS (2022-2023)

Figure 3: DART CMM trends (2022-2023)

	Uganda	
	2022	2023
Policies	Dark Green	Dark Green
Guidelines	Dark Green	Dark Green
Diversity	Light Green	Dark Green
Scale-up Plan	Dark Green	Dark Green
Coordination	Dark Green	Dark Green
Community Engagement	Light Green	Yellow
Training	Dark Green	Dark Green
M&E System	Orange	Orange
Facility Coverage	Dark Green	Dark Green
Client Coverage	Light Green	Light Green
Quality	Orange	Dark Green
Impact	Red	Red
P&SM	Orange	Dark Green
AHD	Yellow	Light Green
KP	Orange	Dark Green
TB/HIV	Orange	Yellow
MCH	Red	Orange
FP	Orange	Orange
HTN	Grey	Yellow

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

In 2023, Uganda achieved the most mature stage (dark green) in **10 domains**, while **one domain** remained in the least mature (red) stage.

Following last year's staging, most of the work has been tailored to improving the domains that were not in green. Some challenges remain, especially in the M&E and Impact domains.

We aim to assess the impact of community DSD models in 2024.

AHD CAPABILITY MATURITY MODEL SELF-STAGING

Figure 4: AHD CMM results, 2023

Policies	Dark Green
Guidelines	Dark Green
AHD Scale-up Plan	Dark Green
SOPs	Dark Green
Coordination	Dark Green
ROC Engagement	Dark Green
Training	Dark Green
Facility Coverage	Dark Green
Supply Chain	Dark Green
M&E System	Dark Green
Quality	Dark Green
Impact	Red

Most mature domains: Diagnostic Capability 1, Client Coverage 1, Client Coverage 2, Client Coverage 3, Client Coverage 4. Least mature domains: Impact.

Figure 4 shows the results of the country team's recent self-assessment using the CQUIN AHD capability maturity model. In 2023, Uganda achieved the most mature stage (dark green) in **11 domains**, while **one domain** remained in the least mature (red) stage.

dHTS CAPABILITY MATURITY MODEL SELF-STAGING

Figure 5: dHTS CMM results, 2023

Policy: Strategic Model	Dark Green
Mix	Dark Green
Financing and Resource Allocation	Dark Green
SOPs	Dark Green
Meaningful CE	Dark Green
Coordination	Dark Green
dHTS Training	Dark Green
Linkage Tx: Confirm/Verification Testing	Dark Green
EQA/IQC	Dark Green
Proficiency Testing	Dark Green
Clinical Services	Dark Green
Procurement & Supply Chain Management	Dark Green
Population Coverage	Dark Green
Linkage to Tx: Timely Linkage	Dark Green
Impact: Linkage to Treatment	Dark Green
Impact: Linkage to Prevention	Dark Green
Policy: Optimizing HIV Testing Implementation and Scale-Up Plan	Orange
M&E	Orange
Linkage to Prevention and Other Services	Orange
Private Sector Engagement	Red
Impact: Knowledge of HIV Status	Red

Most mature domains: Policy: Strategic Model, Mix, Financing and Resource Allocation, SOPs, Meaningful CE, Coordination, dHTS Training, Linkage Tx: Confirm/Verification Testing, EQA/IQC, Proficiency Testing, Clinical Services, Procurement & Supply Chain Management, Population Coverage, Linkage to Tx: Timely Linkage, Impact: Linkage to Treatment, Impact: Linkage to Prevention. Least mature domains: Policy: Optimizing HIV Testing Implementation and Scale-Up Plan, M&E, Linkage to Prevention and Other Services, Private Sector Engagement, Impact: Knowledge of HIV Status.

Figure 5 shows the results of the country team's recent self-assessment using the CQUIN dHTS capability maturity model. In 2023, Uganda achieved the most mature stage (dark green) in **10 domains**, while **two domains** remained in the least mature (red) stage.

NEXT STEPS / WAY FORWARD

In the coming year, Uganda plans to:

- Pilot the integration of other services into DSD, with an emphasis on community DSD that will improve domains in TB, Community engagement, M&E, FP, and NCDs
- Refresher trainings on DSD across all MOH regions
- Scale up community DSD, including for children and adolescents
- Update the DSD implementation guidelines and align them with the 2022 National HIV guidelines

