

# ICAP CQUIN dHTS Stream of Work: Progress and Next Steps

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### Outline

- Overview of CQUIN
- CQUIN dHTS Work
- CQUIN Technical Assistance, Collaboration and Partnerships
- Country Progress in dHTS Implementation
- Countries: 2024/2025 Priorities



# CQUIN

HIV Coverage, Quality, and Impact Network

Convening **health system** leaders to accelerate the scale-up of high-quality, high-impact HIV services since **2017**.

**Global Partners:** 

WHO, GHSD, Global Fund, ITPC, CDC, USAID, **UNAIDS** 

**COUNTRIES** 

CONVENED BY ICAP AT **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY** 

Burundi Kenya Lesotho Cameroon Liberia Côte d'Ivoire Malawi DRC Eswatini Nigeria Ethiopia Rwanda Ghana

> **FUNDED BY** THE BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION



Promotion of country-to-country learning, diffusion of innovation, community engagement, data for decision making, and the cocreation of practical knowledge and tools

- ICAP Technical Assistance and thought leadership
- Advisory Group Members
- Global Partners WHO, GHSD, Global Fund, ITPC, IAS, CDC, USAID, UNAIDS







## CAPABILITY MATURITY MODELS

- Three systematic tools for countries to self-assess their national DSD programs (Treatment, AHD, Testing)
- Used to identify country strengths and gaps, and to accelerate action to address the gaps to scale up services
- Used to compare year-toyear maturity of national DSD programs over time against a consensus standard
- Used to determine network priority activities

### **DSD ACTION PLANS**

CQUIN country teams develop national DSD action plans that:

- Reflect national priorities
- Align with donor-funded activities (PEPFAR, Global Fund, other)
- Are timed to lead into the PEPFAR and Global Fund planning cycles so identified priorities can be rapidly matched with funding
- Country teams report back on progress at the CQUIN Annual Meeting

### **NETWORK ACTIVITIES**

- Self-staging with CQUIN capability maturity models
- In-person all-network meetings
- Country-to-country visits
- Communities of practice
- Country-specific technical assistance
- Data use for decision making
- Webinars
- WhatsApp groups
- Website
- Monthly newsletter

#### **GOAL:**

Increased coverage and quality of HIV person-centered services, leading to enhanced health outcomes and programmatic efficiencies

Ministries of Health are our primary stakeholders leading country engagement with key country stakeholders – recipients of care, PEPFAR agencies, and implementing partners

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### **How Does CQUIN Work?**

- CQUIN is a catalytic project
- Convenes health system leaders from network countries to participate in joint learning and information exchange, with the goal of fostering the scale-up and spread of high-quality, highimpact HIV services
- Countries join at MOH level. MOH engage a core team, including recipients of care, implementing partners, civil society, donors, academic institutions, etc.
- This country team then:
  - ✓ conducts baseline and periodic self-assessment using CQUIN capability maturity models
  - ✓ develops DSD action plans, commitments and targets
  - ✓ participates in network activities (including communities of practice) via an opt-in demanddriven approach
  - ✓ exchanges knowledge and tools/resources and shares data on progress of scale up, best practices and lessons learned



### Multi-Layered Interconnected Activities Leading to Impact...



CMM Selfassessment



CQUIN
Meetings,
Workshops,
Webinars
and CoP



Country-tocountry learning exchange visits



Prioritization of gaps and action plan development

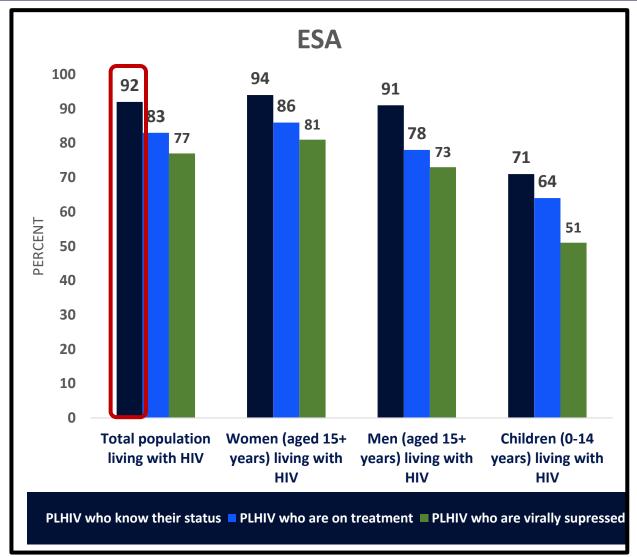


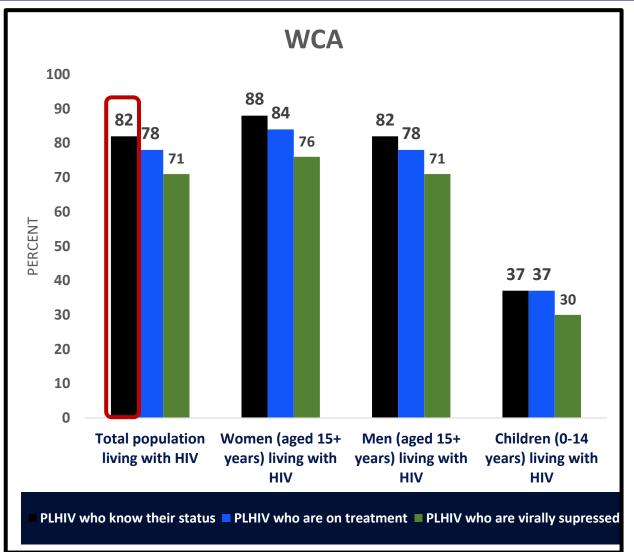
## **CQUIN Network Engagement in dHTS**

- Significant progress has been made towards achieving the 1st 95, 86% of PLHIV knew their status [UNAIDS 2023 report]
- Despite significant progress, not all people who need HIV testing have been reached with appropriate, context specific HTS:
  - Geographic gaps in achievement of the first 95
  - Men are less likely to know their HIV status (83%) than women (90%)
  - Children are less likely to know their HIV status (63%) than adults (86%)
  - Key populations are less likely to know their status than the general population



## 95:95:95 Among Women, Men, and Children (ESA vs WCA)







## **CQUIN Network Engagement in dHTS -2**

- CQUIN collaborated with CHAI, WHO, and other stakeholders to develop the CQUIN dHTS CMM after Gates Foundation expanded CQUIN's scope
- Member countries then conducted their baseline CMM in early 2023
- In March 2023, we held the 1<sup>st</sup> all country CQUIN dHTS meeting where countries discussed new testing strategies and innovations that are person-centered, and address political, gender, social-cultural and geographic barriers that are needed to reach populations that have been left behind.
- The goal of CQUIN is to leverage country experiences to cross-fertilize best practices, as well as work together to address cross-cutting challenges to bridge the 1<sup>st</sup> 95 gap in all sub-populations.
- During this meeting, we will hear how the CQUIN dHTS capability maturity model toolkit, co-created with MOH and global partners, is being used by member countries to inform coverage, quality, and impact of national HTS programs.



### **CMM Domains**

### **CQUIN Member Countries (by maturity level)**

					 	 		(	,	 	, ,			′
1	es/ nes	Strategic model mix and decentralisation												
2	Policies/ Guidelines	2. Optimizing HIV Testing												
3		3: Linkage												
4		Financing and resource allocation												
5		SOPs												
6		Implementation and scale up plan												
7		Meaningful community engagement												
8		Private sector engagement/oversight												
9		Coordination												
10		dHTS Training												
11		M&E												
12		Procurement & supply chain management												
13		Population coverage												
14	Linkage to tx	1: Timely Linkage												
15	Linka	2: Confirmatory/ Verification testing												
16		Linkage to prevention and other services												
17	of vices	1: EQA/IQC												
18	Quality of testing services	2: Proficiency Testing												
19	Q testi	3: Clinical services												
20	t	1: Knowledge of HIV status												
21	Impact	2: Linkage to treatment												
22		3: Linkage to prevention												
CC	ZONVO	irris Miccing   July 5 12, 2024												

## The dHTS Community of Practice (CoP)

### Scope of work of the dHTS CoP

- Identify priority gaps and common challenges related to dHTS at the national level
- Exchange best practices and resources for dHTS across the HIV cascade (mobilizing, testing, linking)
- Contribute to the design and implementation of HIV testing and linkage strategies for different population groups
- Provide ongoing feedback and technical support for dHTS to DSD programs
- Promote cross-learning among CQUIN member countries



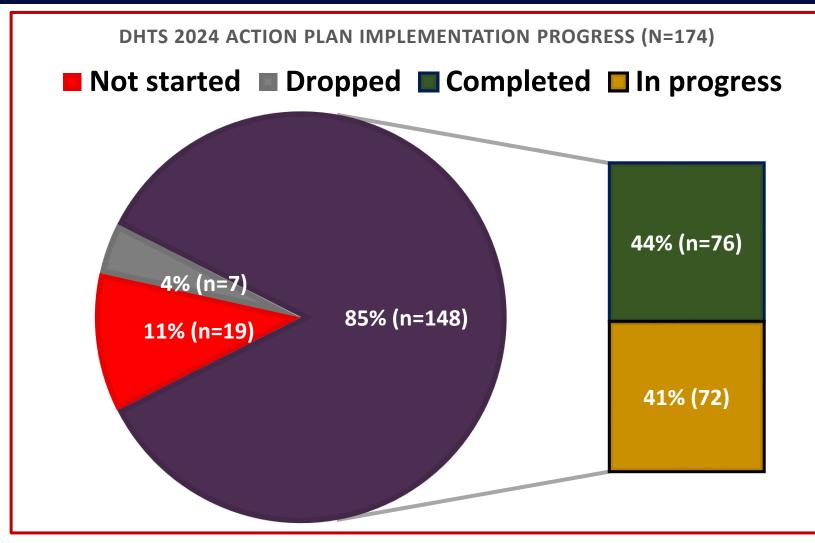


## From Self-Assessment and Workshopping to Action Planning and Technical Assistance Support

- Country teams developed national action plans as an output of the dHTS meeting in 2023
- Priority activities covered
  - Domains/gaps prioritized for intervention in 2023/2024
  - Requests for country-to-country exchange
  - Technical Assistance needed from CQUIN and other partners
- Country teams validated their action plans with key stakeholders
- Cross-cutting country priorities informed activities and plans for the dHTS community of practice during the previous year



## Significant Progress made by Countries in Implementing 2023/2024 Action Plans



## Reasons for delayed or dropped activities:

- Unrealized funds
- Competing priorities
- Preceding policy guidance was not ready to inform implementation
- Time not enough to implement all activities



### **CQUIN TA Support in Collaboration/Partnership With Other Stakeholders**

### **2023 TA and engagements**

- Launch of the dHTS CoP on May 9
- 3 CoP calls on Linkage from Testing to HIV Combination prevention services
  - Focused on availability of policies and guidance, Best practices on, and Monitoring and Evaluation of Linkage from HIV testing to combination prevention services
- C2C visit related to dHTS:
  - Cameroon and Cote d'Ivoire visited Senegal on HIV-Syphilis Duo Testing
  - Mozambique to Malawi on Testing for Re-engagement
- Focused TA to Uganda to develop a dHTS implementation and scale up plan
- Held a plenary and parallel session at the CQUIN annual meeting on dHTS Quality and Status Neutral Testing approach
- Panelist during ICASA satellite session on the future of HIVST (Zimbabwe)

### **CQUIN TA Support in Collaboration/Partnership With Other Stakeholders - 2**

### 2024 (Jan-June) TA and Engagements

- Webinar on WHO 2023 HTS Updates (Co-hosted with WHO)
- CoP calls on Social Network Testing (dHTS and KP CoPs) and M&E of dHTS (dHTS and KP CoPs)
- TA to countries to implement their action plans, 2024 CMM staging, action planning, and action plan synthesis

### **Collaborations and Partnerships**

- Collaborated with IAS to solicit input from MOH stakeholders into the dHTS Decision
- TA to UNAIDS supported countries to conduct dHTS CMM self-assessment beyond CQUIN boundaries



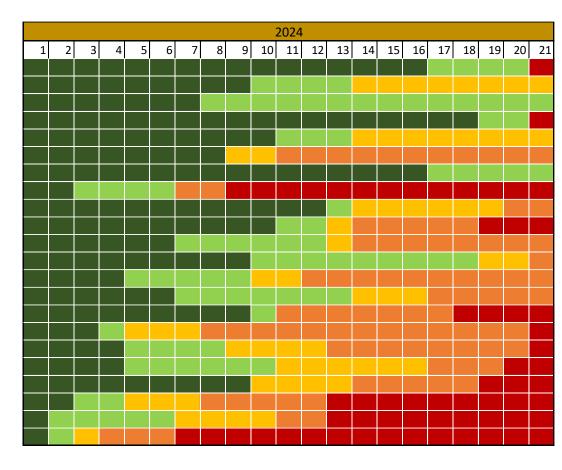
### 2024 dHTS CMM Dashboard – All 21 Countries

CQUIN dHTS Capability Maturity Model 2024							,								,						
2027	BUR	CAM	CIV	DRC	ESW	ETH	GHA	KEN	LES	LIB	MAL	MOZ	NIG	RWA	SEN	SL	SA	TZ	UG	ZAM	ZIM
Policy: Strategic Model Mix																					
Policy: Optimizing HIV Testing																					
Policy: Linkage																					
Finance/Resource Allocation																					
SOPs																					
Scale-up Plan																					
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Proficiency Testing																					
Clinical Services																					
Impact: Knowledge of Status																					
Impact: Linkage to Tx																					
Impact: Linkage to Prevention																					



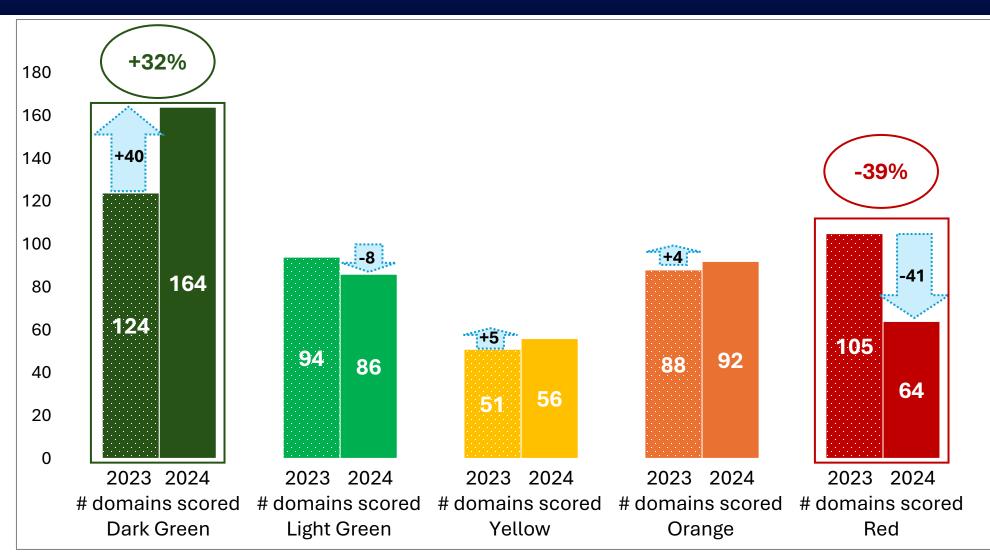
# Compared to the 2023 results, the 2024 Dashboard is "Greener" and "Less Red" – A Sign of Forward Progress

		2023																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Policy: Strategic Model Mix																					
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## Significant Progress Made by Network Countries in 2024

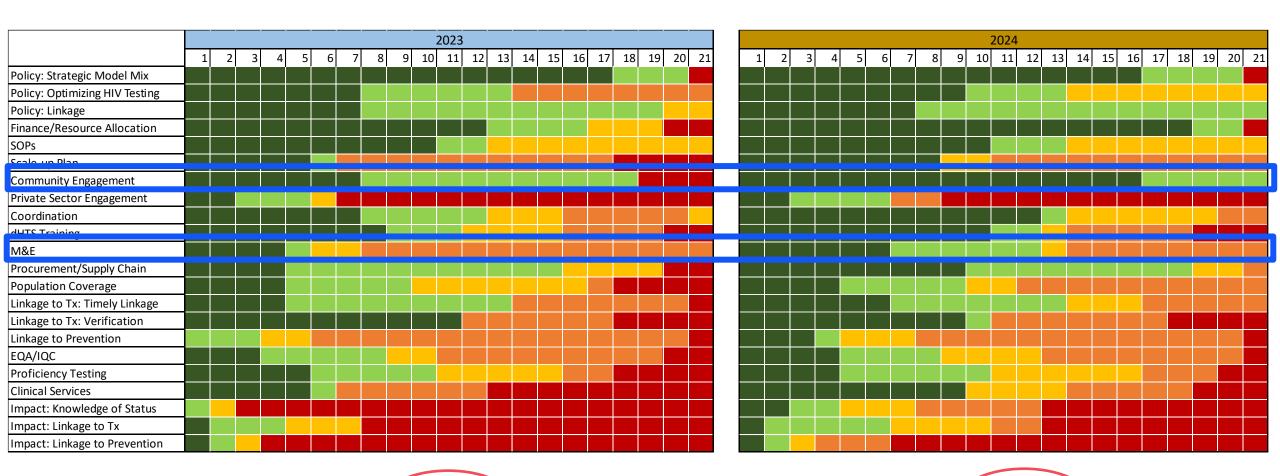


### The bigger picture

- 32% increase in
   Dark Green Scores
- A 39% reduction
   in Red Scores



## Significant Improvement in M&E and Community Engagement

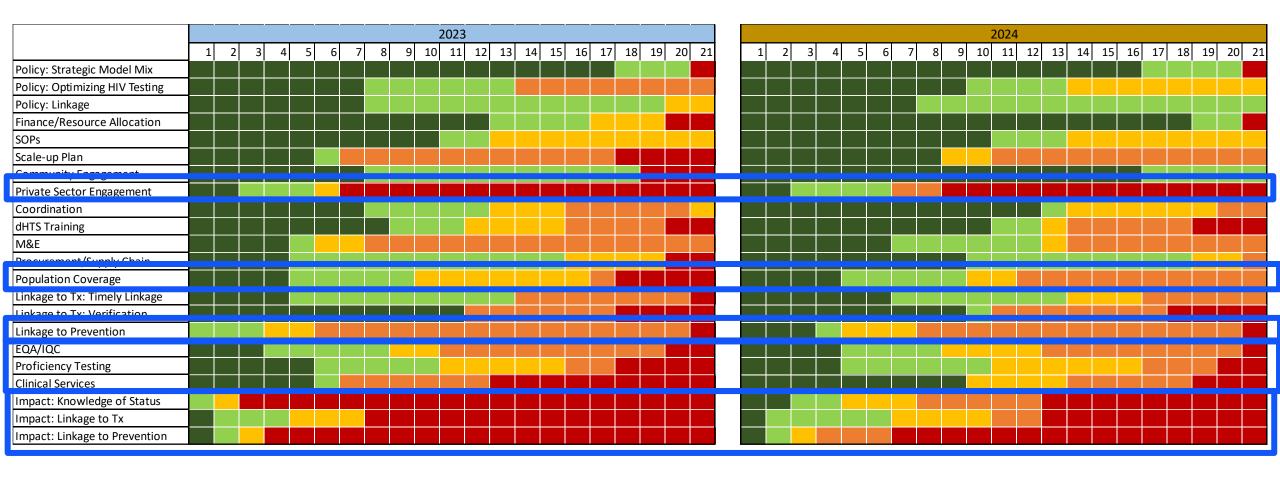


2023



2024

# Cross-Cutting Gaps in Private Sector Engagement, Population Coverage, Linkage to Prevention, Quality and Impact Domains

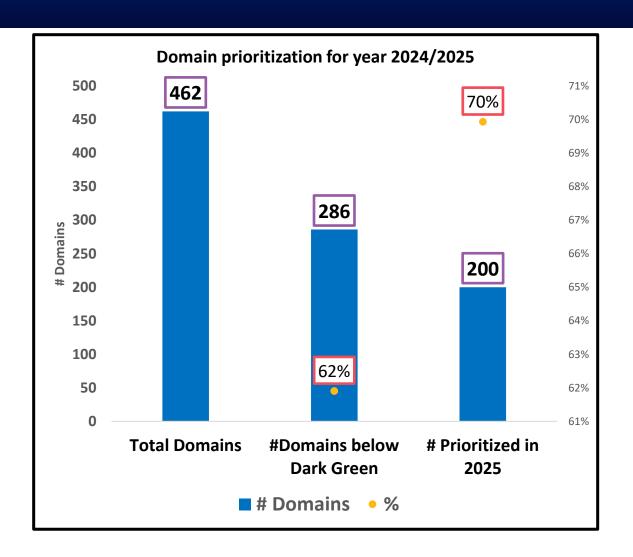


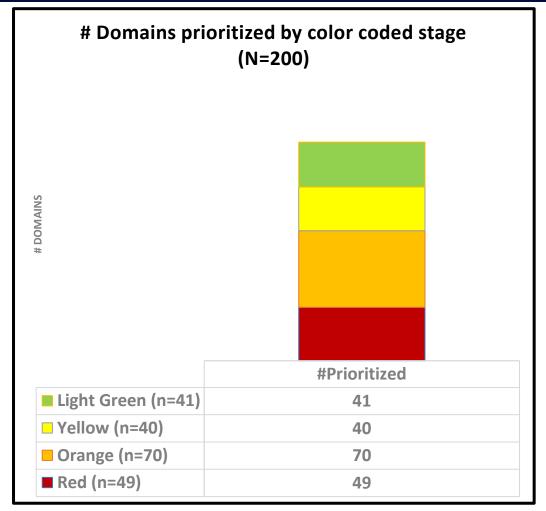
2023



2024

## Of the 286 domains below Dark Green, 70%(n=200) have been prioritized in 2024/2025 [Total Domains (N=462) = 22 CMM Domains x 21 Countries]







### Improving the Quality of dHTS Is Among the Top Priority Domains

Country	Quality 1: EQA/IQC (n=11)	Quality 2: Proficiency Testing (n=9)	Quality 3: Clinical services (n=6)
<ul> <li>Cameroon</li> </ul>			
• Burundi			
• Ghana			
• Liberia			
<ul> <li>Tanzania</li> </ul>			
• Eswatini			
<ul> <li>Mozambique</li> </ul>			
• Rwanda			
• Uganda			
<ul> <li>Senegal</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>Sierra Leone</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>South Africa</li> </ul>			

_		
•	Eswatini	<ul> <li>Provide a tracking system for monitoring proficiency testing pass rates</li> <li>Monitor proficiency testing performance per tester</li> </ul>
		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
		Access and certify the competence of testers on HIV rapid testing,  including both point of care testing providers and laboratory personnel.
		including both point of care testing providers and laboratory personnel
•	Ghana	<ul> <li>Although it's a priority there is currently no funding; when funds are available more facilities will be available</li> </ul>
•	Mozambique	Technical support for the HF's with low acceptable scores
		<ul> <li>ToT of the new HTS guidelines (which includes EQA practical lessons)</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Revision and finalization of the rapid testing quality improvement</li> </ul>
		guidelines
•	Rwanda	Assessment of root cause analysis for EQA failure sites AND Provide
		supportive mentorship to improve EQA
•	Senegal	Conduct a workshop to develop quality assessment tools for differentiated
	-	screening services
•	Sierra Leone	<ul> <li>Leverage on partner support to implement EQA activities,</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Advocate for additional partners beyond PEPFAR to enhance EQA activities</li> </ul>
•	Tanzania	Conduct mentorship on the HIV testing site for improving the EQA
		performance
•	Uganda	<ul> <li>Conduct more EQA trainings targeting more sites and ensure that they</li> </ul>
		achieve acceptable pass rate.



## Other Top Domains Prioritized Include:

- Scale up plans
- M&E of dHTS
- Linkage to prevention
- 3-Test algorithm
- Private sector engagement/oversight



## In Summary

- CQUIN Network countries have made significant progress in scaling up quality dHTS over the past year:
  - 85% of 2024 action plans have been completed or are in progress
  - 32% improvement in dark green scores compared with 2023 dHTS CMM selfassessment results
  - 39% reduction in red scores compared with 2023 dHTS CMM results
- Significant gaps remain in the Quality domains, linkage to prevention, private sector engagement, M&E, population coverage and impact
- Countries have prioritized most of the current gaps for remediation in 2024/2025
- Consolidated efforts and commitments by donors and MOH will be critical in addressing these gaps
- ICAP-CQUIN will deepen its collaborations and partnerships with key stakeholders to strengthen provision of technical assistance support to the network priorities



## **Appreciation**

### Among others, we acknowledge and appreciate the following:

- ✓ MOHs
- ✓ Recipients of care
- ✓ Gates Foundation
- ✓ CHAI
- ✓ WHO
- ✓ PEPFAR
- ✓ UNAIDS
- ✓ IAS
- ✓ ITPC
- ✓ The Global Fund
- ✓ Implementing partners





### On a Sad Note!





Sincere condolences to Sierra Leone for the loss of their Country HTS Coordinator



## On a good Note: The July Babies!



Cordelia MOH Uganda



Gabi ICAP Eswatini

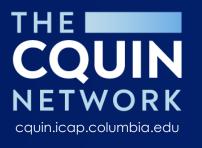


Eleen ICAP Nigeria

Who are the other July Babies here?







## Thank You!

