

# Reaching Men

## Closing the Gap in the Journey towards epidemic Control in Zambia

Mubiana Muhau

Health Systems Strengthening Advisor  
Center For Infectious Disease in Zambia



# Outline

- HIV overview in Zambia
- Strategies for improving case finding in Men
- Achievements
- Challenges
- Next steps

# HIV overview in Zambia in 2021

## 95:95:95

- ❑ Country achievements towards 95-95-95 UNAIDS target are 88.7%: 98%:96.3% (ZAMPHIA 2021)
- ❑ 88.7% adults living with HIV know their status yet only **86.6% of men know their status**
- ❑ **Viral Load suppression for men aged 15-34 years is 70.1%** (ZAMPHIA 2021).

## Prioritizing and Targeting Men

- ❑ Aim to increase number of men aged 15-49 accessing HIV services through establishment of Men's Clinic and Community Posts
- ❑ Create demand for HIV testing services through digital platforms.
- ❑ Intensified Advanced HIV Disease screening and management among men

## DSD Strategies to Reach Men

- ❑ Policies and strategies to reach men 15-44yrs with HIV services
- ❑ National scale-up of Differentiated service delivery(DSD) models targeting men to improve the delivery of HIV services across the cascade.
- ❑ Develop Virtual Intervention to create demand for men
- ❑ Advanced HIV Disease (AHD) country staging and implementation framework

# Strategies for improving case finding in Men to close the gaps in Zambia

Establishment of Community HIV Care and Treatment posts where men can easily access basic health services

Establishment of Men's Clinics in the health facilities to offer male friendly health services

**Increase the number of men 15- 49 years accessing HIV services**

Intensified Advanced HIV Disease (AHD) screening and management among men.

Develop a robust monitoring and evaluation (M&E) program

# Process of Reaching Men in Zambia through the Men's Clinic Approach



A specialized clinic within an established health facility, catering for adolescent boys and men only



Preferably operated by **trained male staff** through incorporating **fast track model targeting service delivery** for **adolescent boys and men**

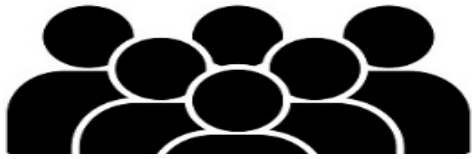


Platform for differentiated service delivery:

- HIV Testing
- Test & Start
- Routine Monitoring of HIV Care
- Provision of male specific services such as VMMC, ED, Male infertility, prostate cancer screening etc.



# Reaching and Linking Men in the Community via Community Health Posts



An easily accessible site in the community for decentralized service delivery e.g., markets, bus stations, church grounds, fishing camps



Operated by trusted local staff trained in customer care and in the core values of the model



Platform for differentiated service delivery:

- HIV Testing
- Test & Start
- Routine Monitoring of HIV Care
- Referrals to certified parent facility



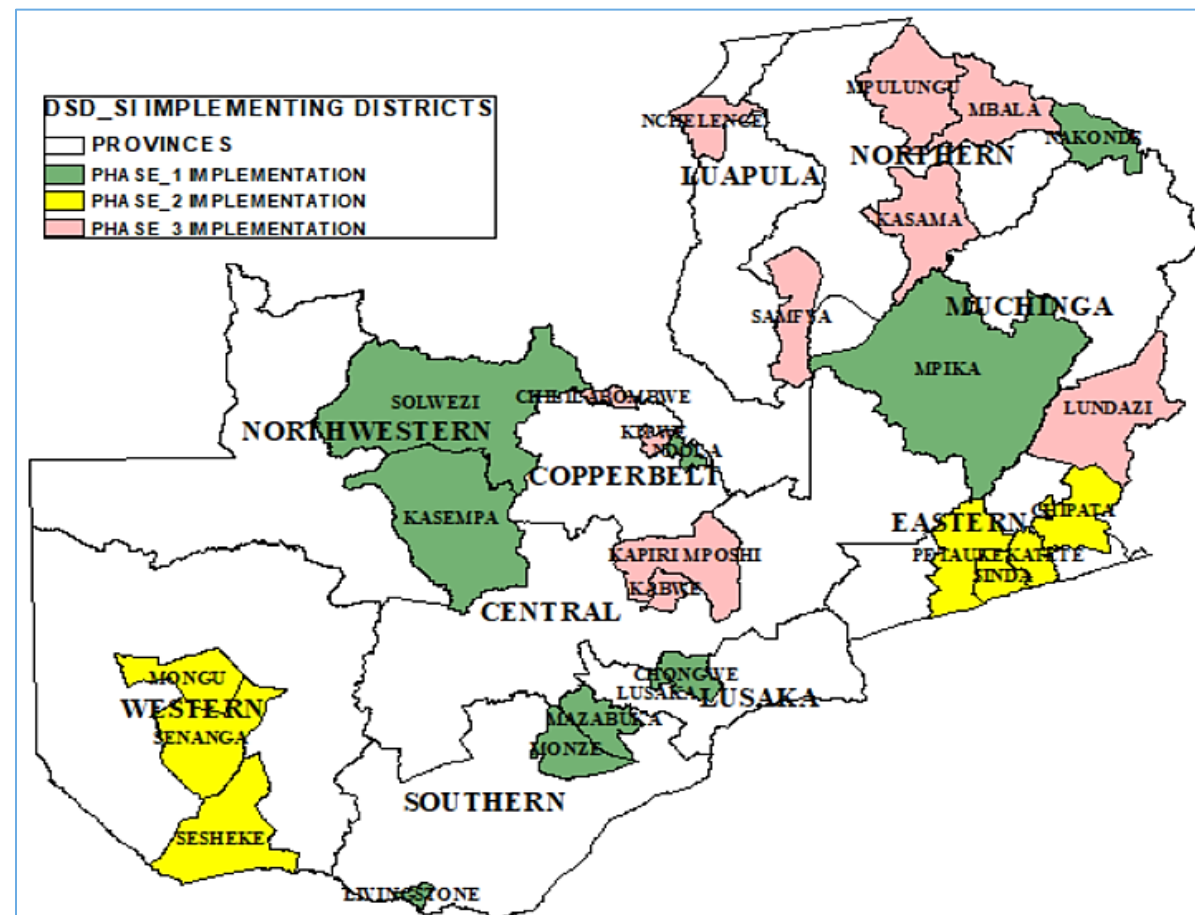
# Implementing DSD Strategic Initiative (SI) Models in Zambia

- 10 Implementing Provinces
- 30 implementing Districts
- 27/27 Target Districts

## Phased approach-Men's Clinic implementation

- **Phase 1:** Lusaka, Southern, Muchinga and Northwestern (Following trainings in November 2021, implementation began in January 2022)
- **Phase 2:** Western, Copperbelt and Eastern (Following trainings in March-April 2022, implementation began in May 2022)
- **Phase 3:** Central, Northern, Luapula (Following trainings in May 2022, implementation began in July 2022)

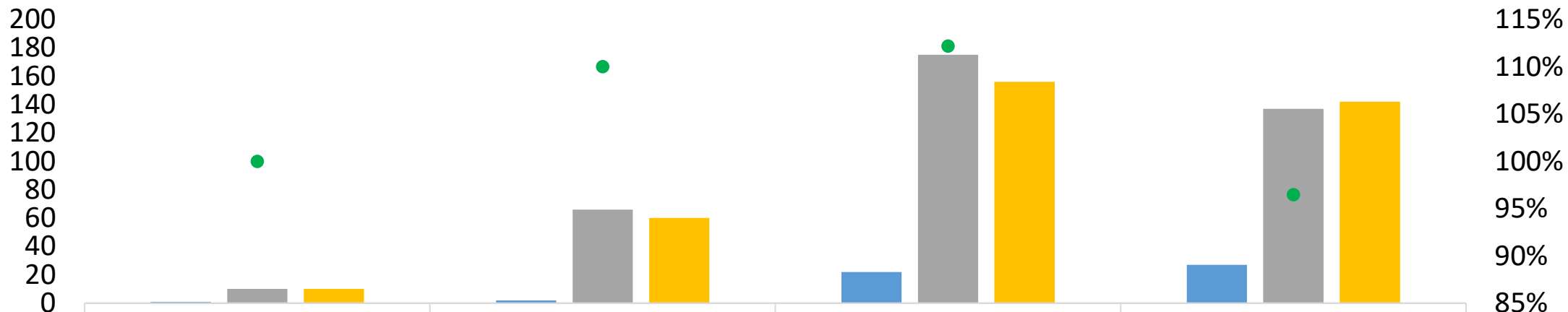
*\*There are flag ship sites that have implemented men's clinic since 2018 in Lusaka Province\**



# Implementation Highlights

## DSD Models Scale up 2021- 2024

Implementation Coverage based on Provincial set targets

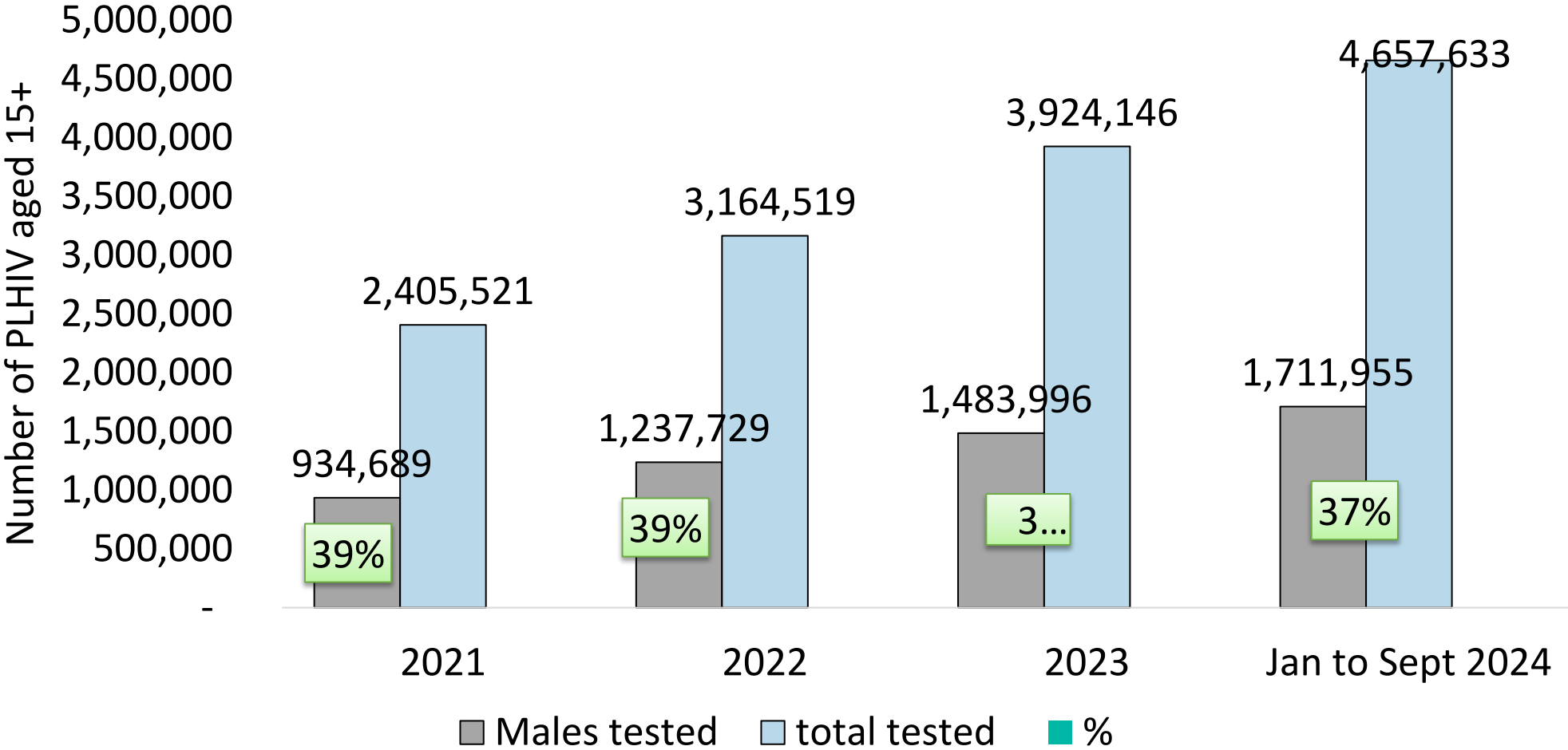


	Province	District	Men's Clinics	Community Posts
Baseline	1	2	22	27
Achieved 2024	10	66	175	137
Target	10	60	156	142
%Achieved	100%	110%	112%	96%

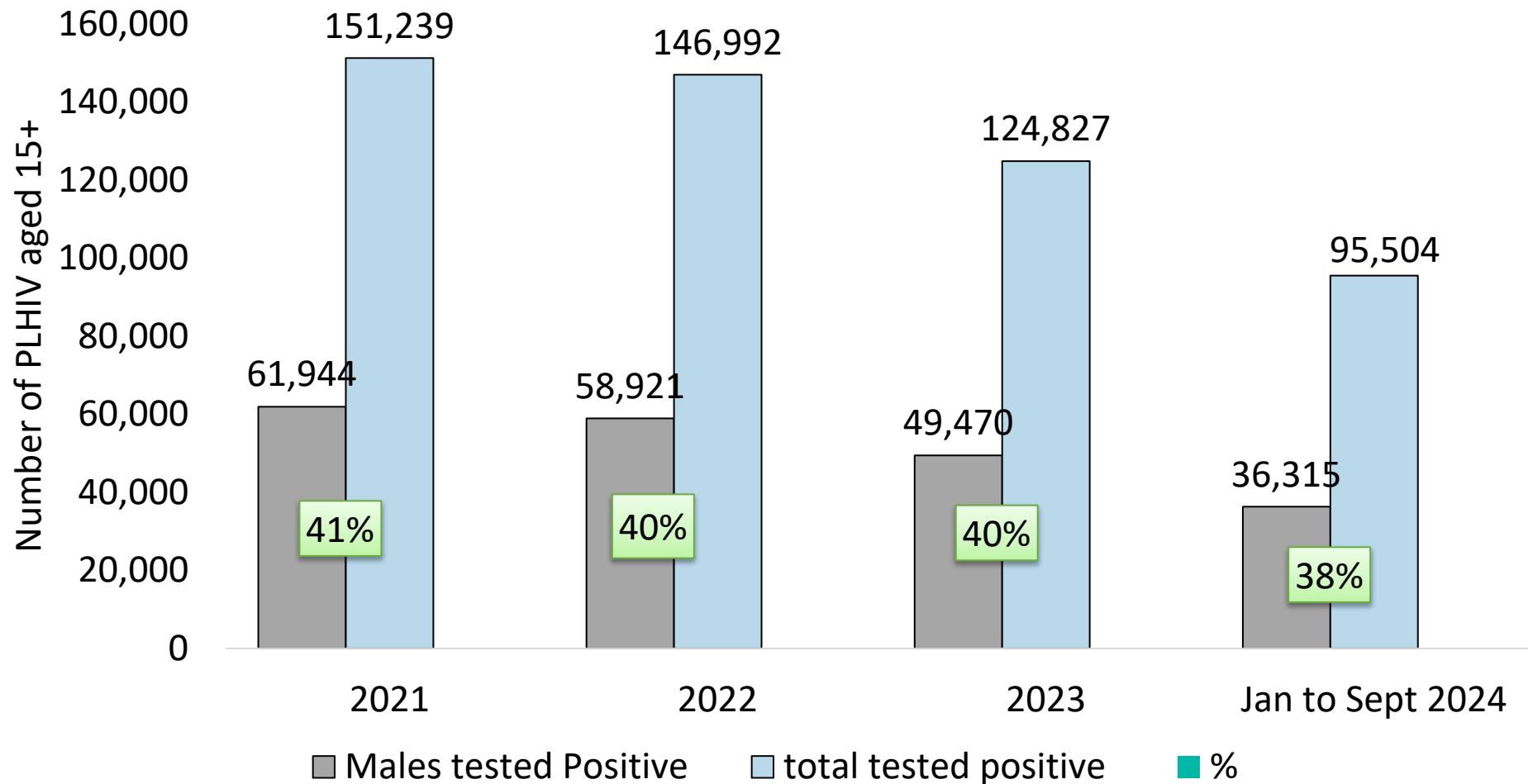
- DSD SI Targets: 27 districts, 50 men's clinics and 110 CPs
- Post DSD SI: 60 districts, 156 men's clinics and 142 CPs have been targeted by the province.
- 66 districts, 175 men's clinics and 137 CPs have been achieved by the province in 2024



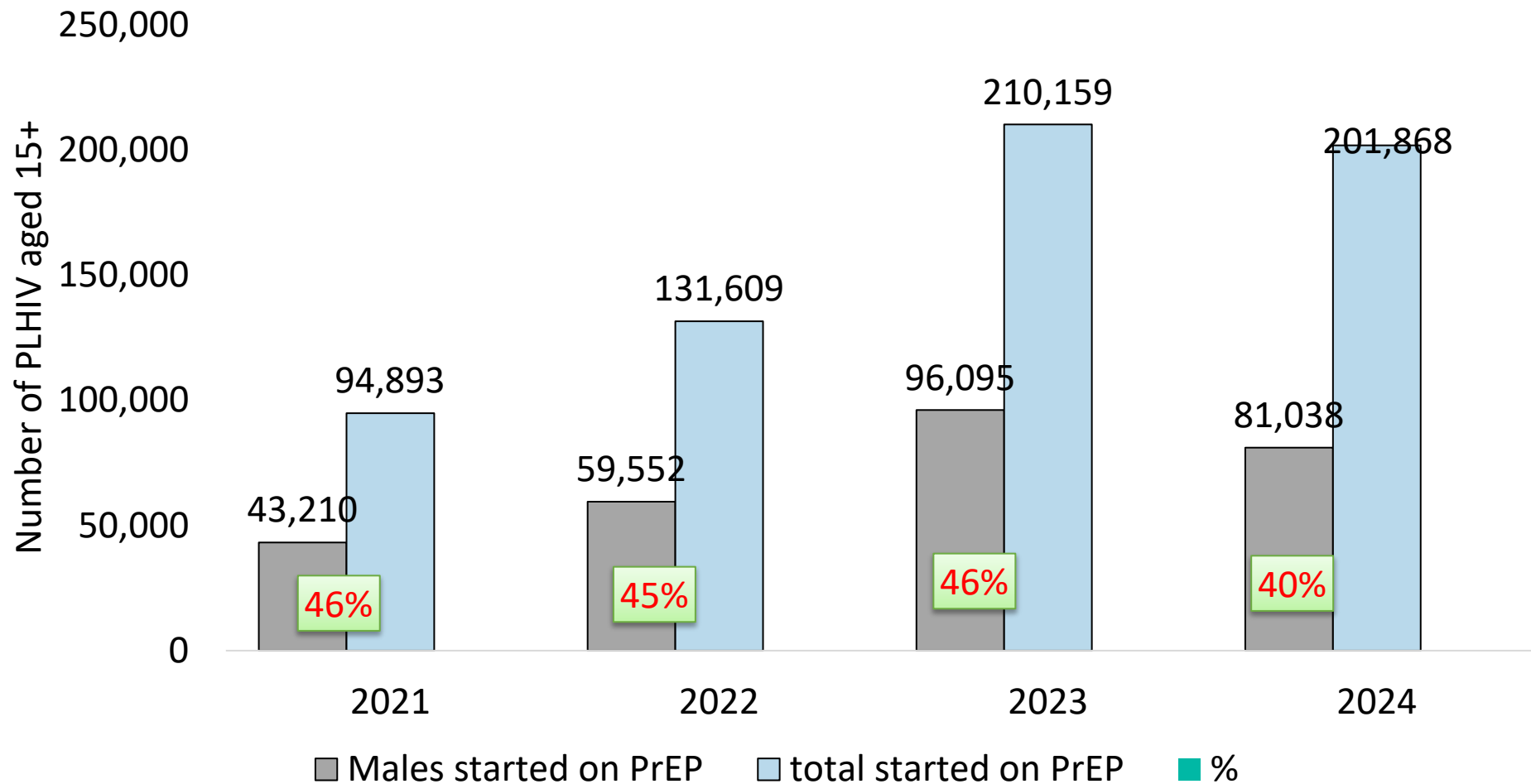
# Males tested for HIV against the total population tested



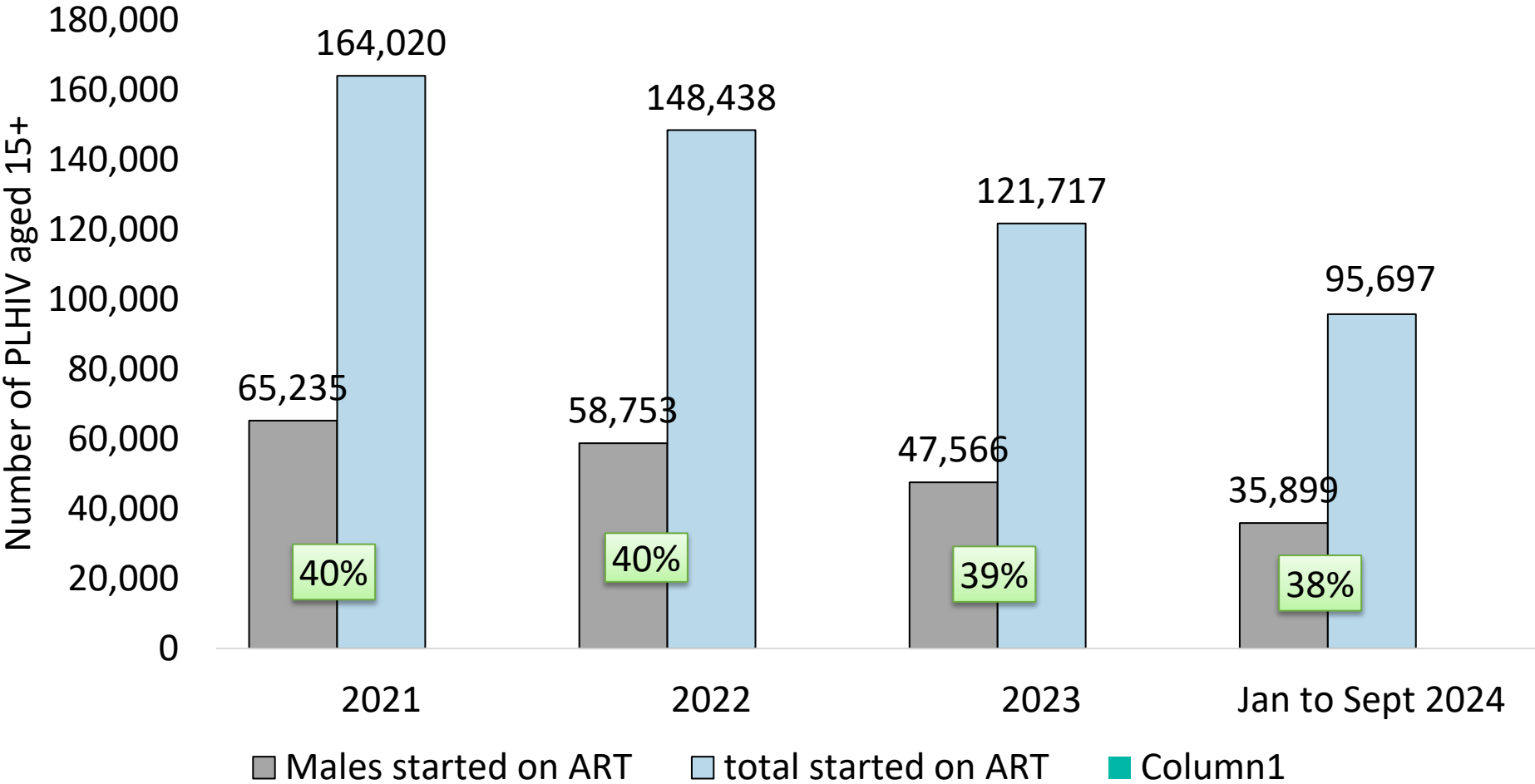
# Males testing HIV positive against the total tested positive



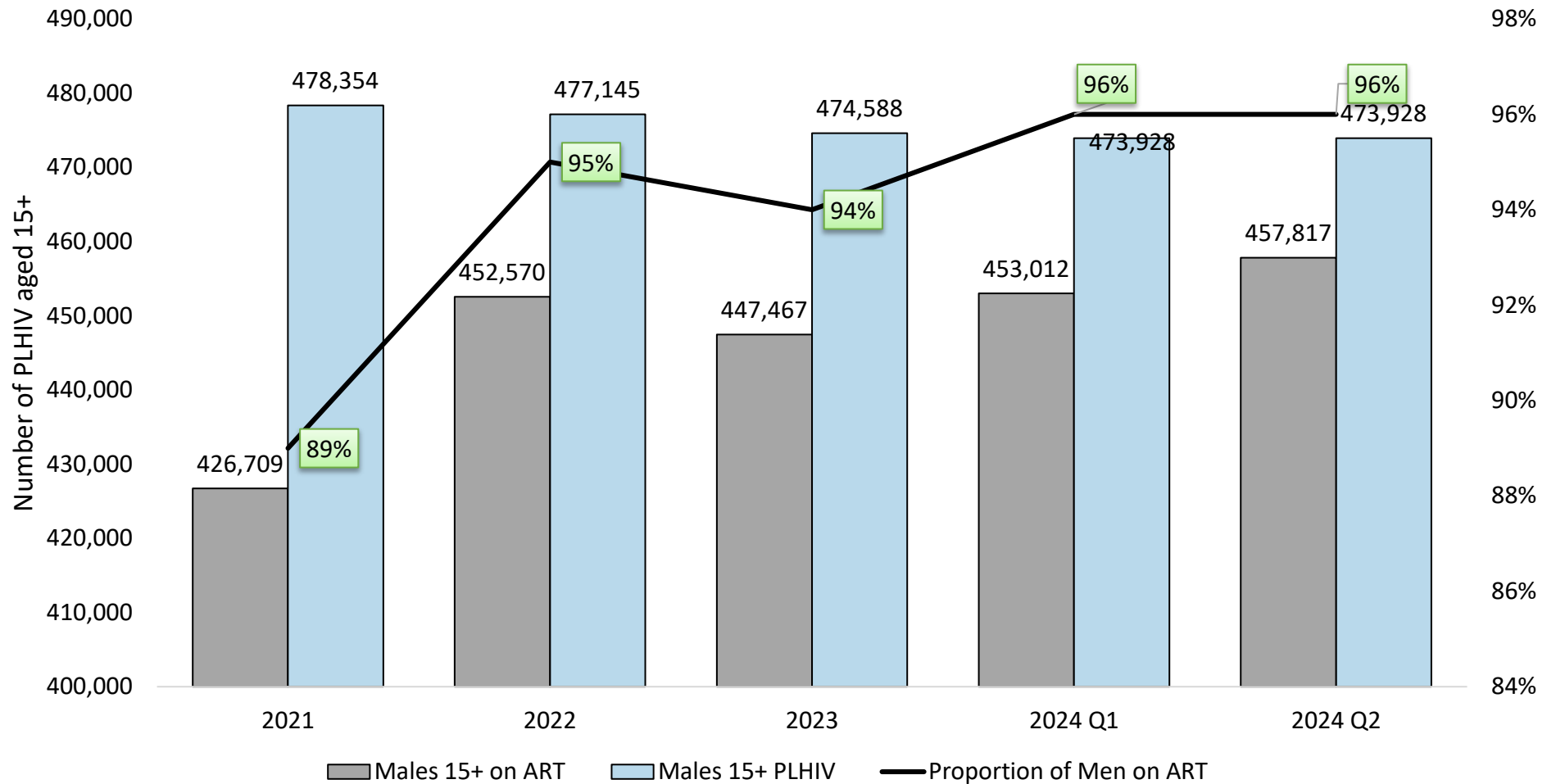
# Males started on PrEP against the total population initiated



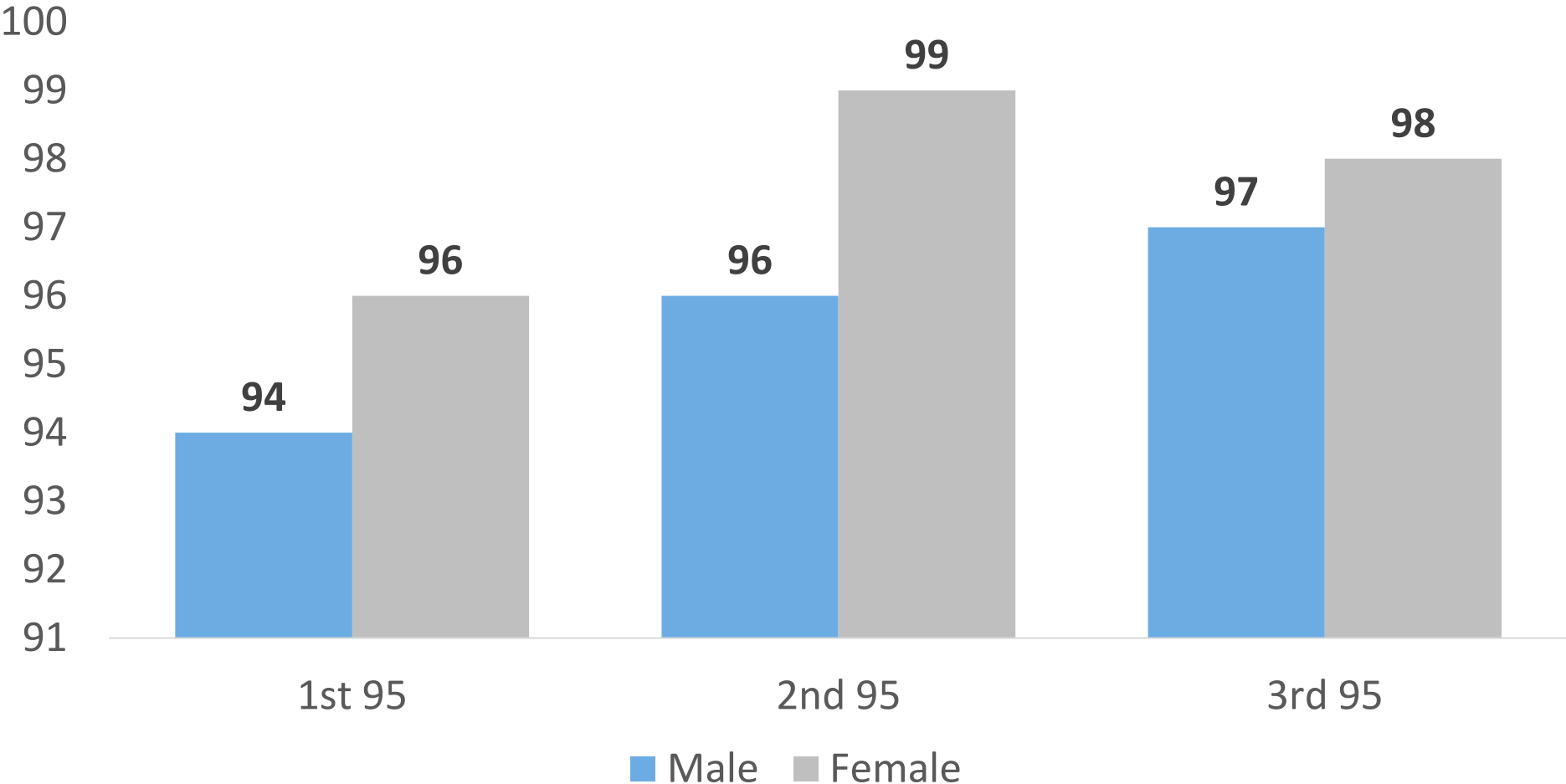
# Males started on ART against the total started on ART



# Men 15+ Tx\_curr contribution against estimated PLHIV Trends



# Progress towards the 95:95:95 targets for adults by sex Q3 2024

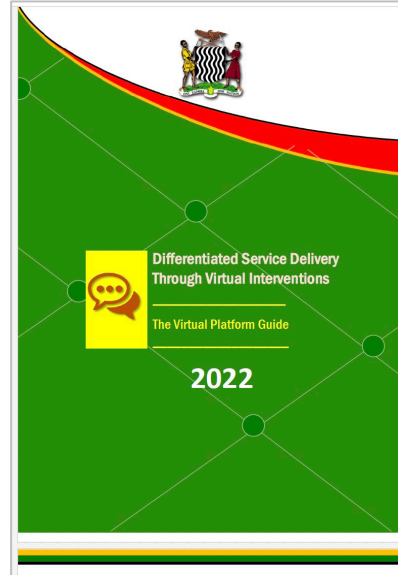


# Implementation Policies and Guidance 2023



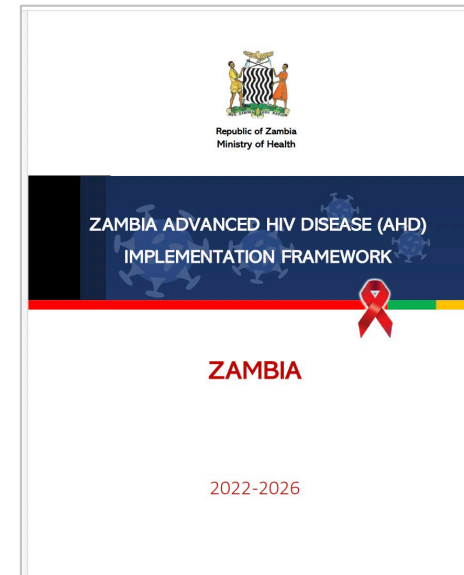
## DSD framework Key components:

- dHTS models
- dART model for ROC established on care RoC at risk of HIV
- Scaleup Plan



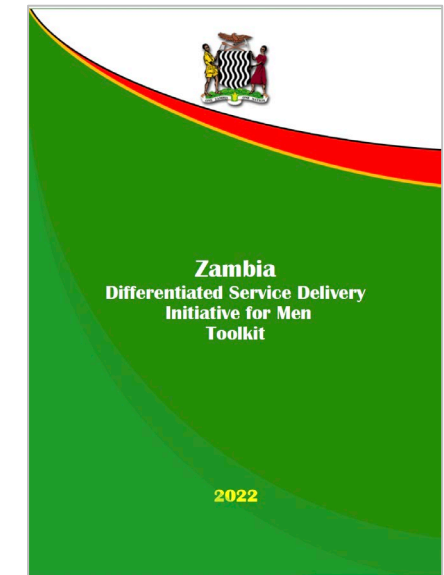
## DSD virtual platform guide Key components:

- Development processes
- Implementation process
- Self assessment Messages



## AHD implementation framework

- AHD Implementation Plan
- Supply chain and Commodity management
- Monitoring and evaluation



## DSD initiative for men toolkit

- Introduction to DSD for men
- Men's Clinic models
- Community post model
- M&E
- Demand creation

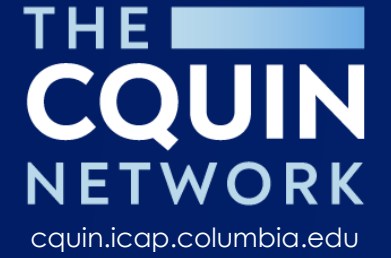
# Challenges

- High costs of setting up and maintaining community posts, limits linkage to treatment and prevention services for men that test in the community.
- Limited HR capacity to offer testing and treatment after hours.
- Limited male-friendly services and support groups
- Low coverage among the AYP and 25-34 compared to the 35+



# Next Steps

- Increase coverage of men's models. There is increased linkage in sites with men's clinics
- Continue monthly updates on implementation through subnational DSD taskforce
- Evaluation of impact of men's models



Thank You!

