

# THE VALUE OF END-USE VERIFICATION SURVEYS IN IDENTIFYING ISSUES AND TRACKING PROGRESS FOR ANTIMALARIAL COMMODITY STOCKS

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## Introduction

- End-use verification (EUV) surveys are USAID-funded and use a standardized methodology to assess the storage conditions and inventory management of commodities.
- The IMPACT project has supported the Malagasy Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) to conduct the surveys and implement corrective actions and recommendations since 2020.

## Methods

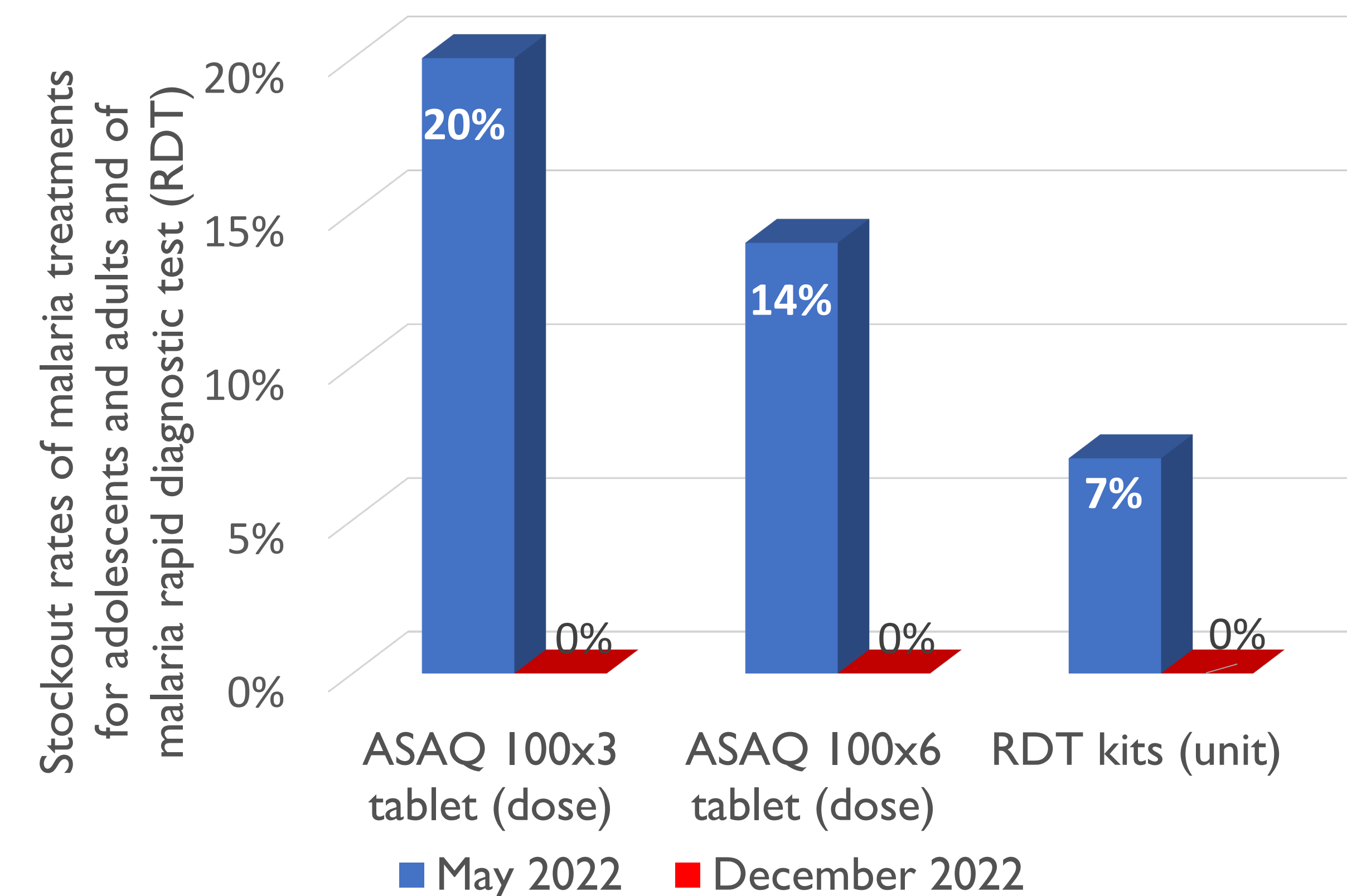
- EUV surveys are conducted approximately every 6 months in ~100 randomly sampled health facilities: 3% hospitals, 17% district pharmacies, 64% basic health centers, and 15% community health workers in USAID-supported regions.
- Findings of each assessment are discussed among stakeholders at each administrative level and actions are defined to address the challenges.



### Relevant definitions:

- Stockout rate: % of health facilities out of stock (of a specific commodity) for 3 or more consecutive days during the 3 months preceding the EUV survey or the day of the visit
- Appropriate stock: stock level sufficient for 3 to 6 months (district pharmacies) or 2 to 4 months (basic health centers)

## Results



**Figure 1.** Stockout rates of malaria treatments for adolescents and adults and of malaria rapid diagnostic test (RDT) kits decreased between the May and December 2022 EUV surveys among surveyed health facilities.

	May 2022 survey	December 2022 survey
District pharmacies with appropriate stock of ACT	13%	35%
District pharmacies with appropriate stock of injectable artesunate	21%	31%

**Table 1.** The percent of surveyed district pharmacies with appropriate stock of artemisinin-based combination therapy (ACT) and injectable artesunate increased between the May and December 2022 EUV surveys.

### Issues identified in the May 2022 survey included:

- Non-availability of stock cards (35% of sampled health facilities)
- Incorrect completion of stock cards by pharmacy service providers, leading to inaccurate calculation of average monthly consumption (51%)
- Restock orders based on miscalculated average monthly consumption and often over- or under-estimated (13%)
- Lack of sufficient space to store pharmaceuticals, leading service providers to split orders and limit security stock (44%)

## Discussion and Conclusions

- After each EUV survey, regional and district supply chain actors review the results and develop and implement action plans to address challenges identified and improve stock management and availability.
- Between the May and December surveys, IMPACT:
  - Coached supply chain actors on ordering, stock inventory management, and correct completion of stock cards to improve data accuracy
  - Trained service providers on using electronic Logistics Management Information System to get accurate data for decision-making
  - Set up a dashboard to visualize data and detect stock imbalances, organize redistribution of excess stocks, and inform placement of emergency orders
- Semiannual EUV surveys are useful not only for continually assessing the availability of malaria commodities, but also for identifying challenges and actions needed to improve availability.
- Further efforts are needed to institutionalize the EUV surveys by integrating the process into the formal systems and procedures of the MOPH in Madagascar.

**Madagascar's district pharmacies, hospitals, and health centers have improved stock availability of antimalarials after semiannual EUV surveys and implementation of action plans designed to address challenges with managing commodities.**

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