

The use of local solutions like the HOCAM model empowers communities and families to strengthen adoption of SBC malaria practices, implement control and preventive measures which collectively result in reduced malaria prevalence.

Effectiveness of Household Champions Against Malaria (HOCAM) Intervention in High Malaria Burden Sub-counties in Uganda: A Case of Butebo District

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INTRODUCTION

Malaria remains a significant health challenge in Uganda, with Busoga and Bukedi regions contributing 24%³ of the malaria burden. Children under 5 years and pregnant women are at a higher risk of severe infection and face challenges in accessing quality malaria services. In 2022, with funding from the Global Fund through TASO, HOCAM was piloted in 5 high malaria burdened districts in Uganda, namely; Butebo, Abim, Nwoya, Kyotera and Kanungu. CDFU implemented HOCAM in the 2 sub-counties of Kanyum and Butebo in Butebo district with Kanginima as a control sub-county. This was aimed at empowering households to reduce the malaria burden by preventing a mosquito bite, strengthening adoption of SBC malaria practices and improving health seeking behaviour.

METHODS

1. Stakeholder engagement, orientation and review meetings at national, district, sub-county and village level.
2. Transect walks, gap identification, community dialogue meetings, action planning and follow-up of the previous actions.
3. Sensitizing household heads through monthly cluster meetings involving stakeholders from sub-counties and district.
4. Assessment of HMIS malaria data from health facilities covering the 3 sub-counties.

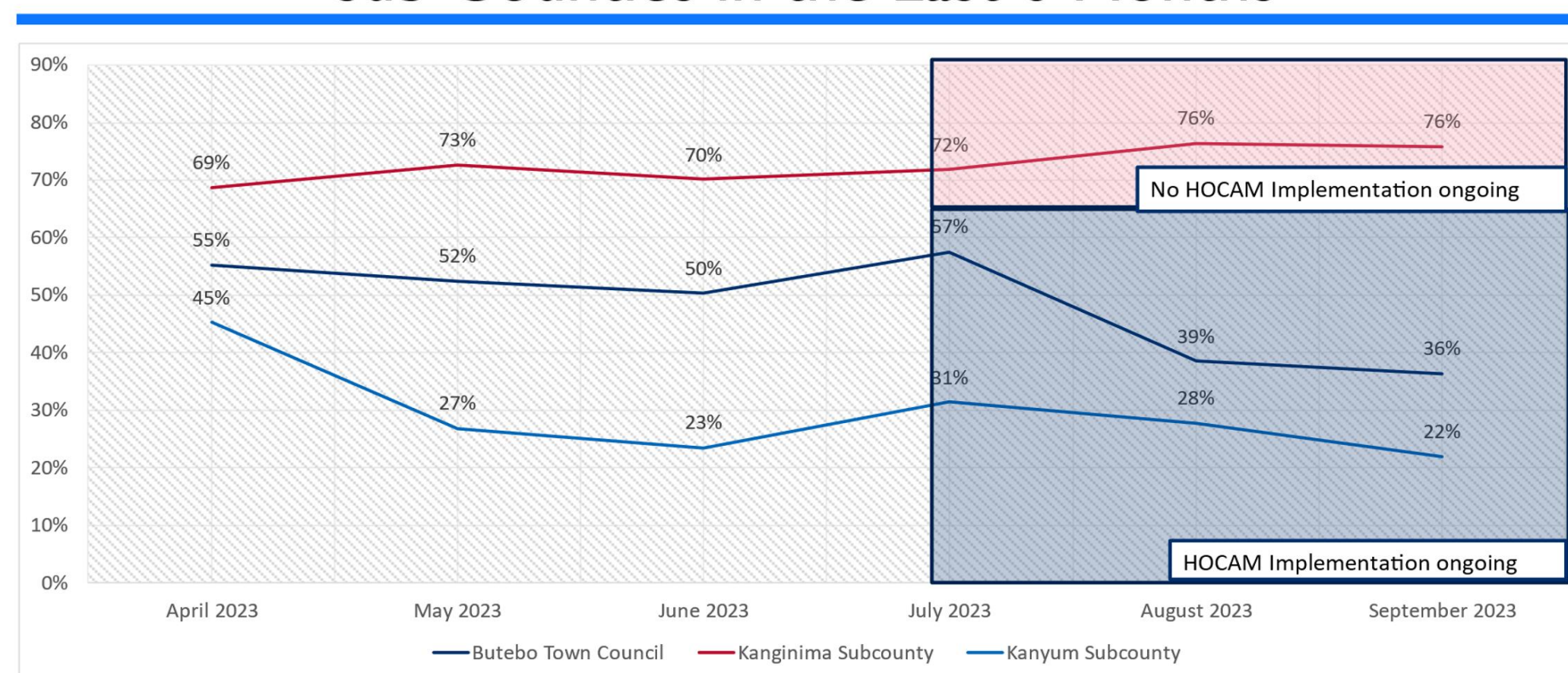
RESULTS

- Malaria test positivity rate reduced from 57% to 36%⁴ in Butebo and 31% to 22%⁴ in Kanyum.
- There was a 40% increase in the 1st ANC visits by pregnant mothers in their 1st trimester in Butebo and Kanyum while Kanginima only experienced an 18%⁴ increase.
- Additionally, general hygiene and sanitation improved as evidenced by the construction of 40 new pit latrines in Kanyum and Butebo.

CONCLUSION

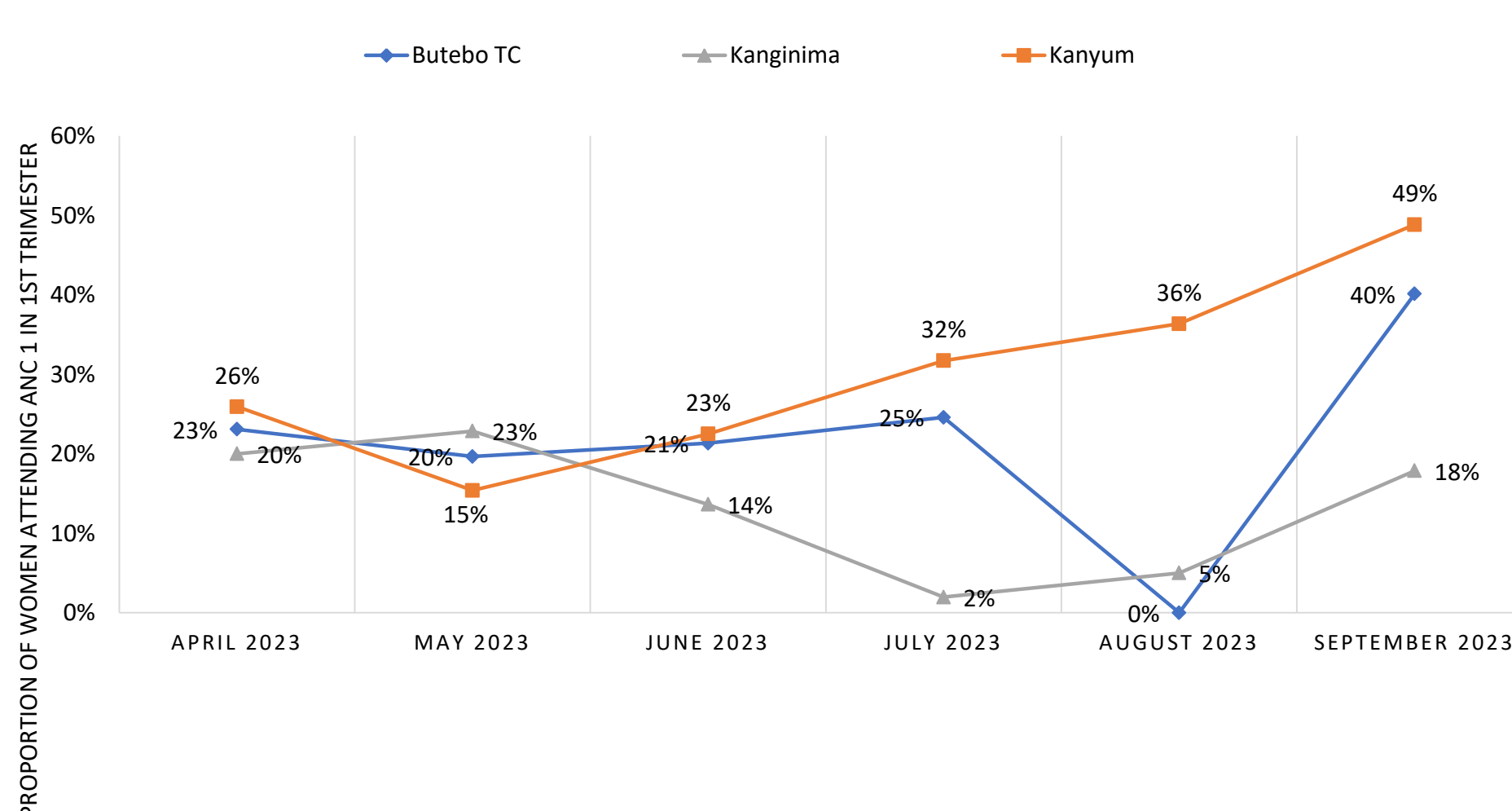
HOCAM empowered communities and families to implement control and preventive measures, collectively using local available resources resulting in reduced malaria prevalence in Kanyum and Butebo. Conversely, Kanginima sub-county, where no interventions were implemented, experienced a rise in malaria test positivity rates (72%-76%).⁴ These findings advocate for scaling-up the use of local solutions through the HOCAM model based on its demonstrated effectiveness and community engagement.

Test Positivity Rates in Butebo, Kanyum & Kanginima Sub Counties in the Last 6 Months

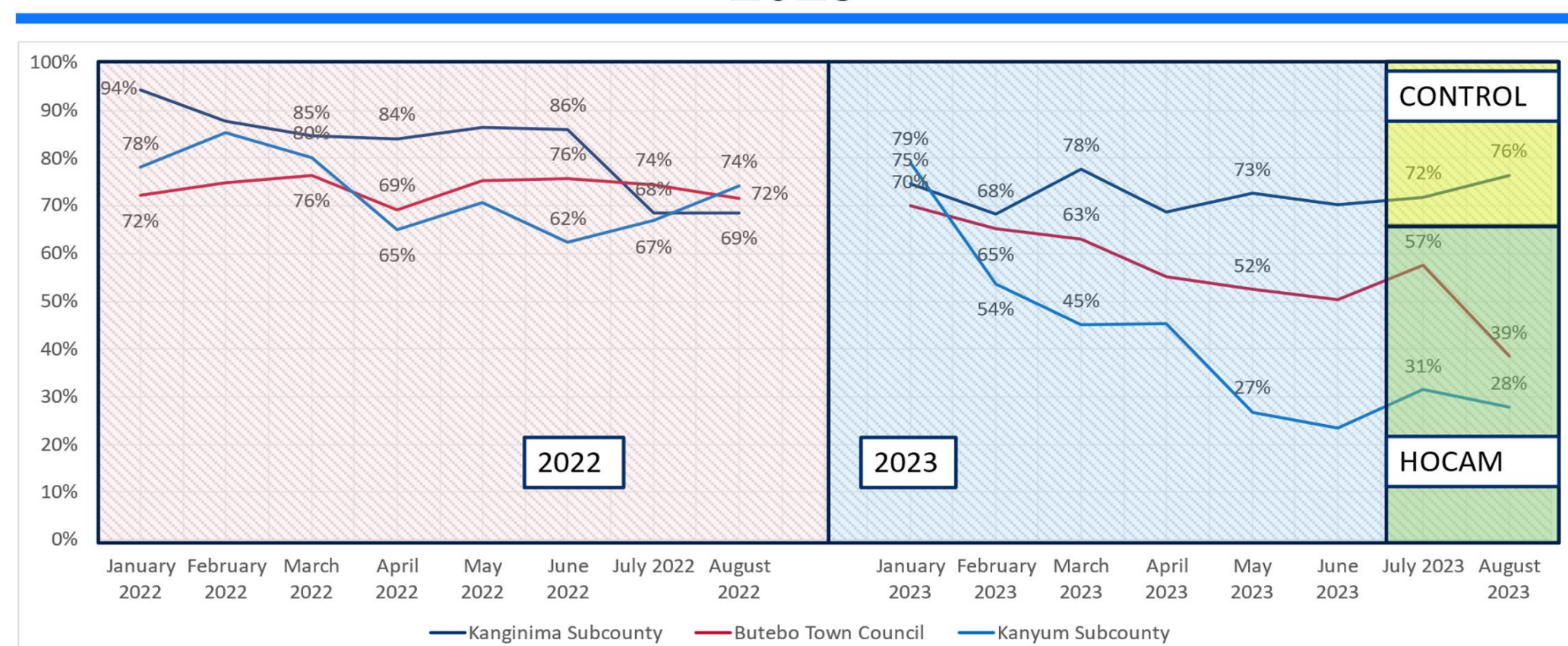


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Data Source: DHIS 2 Sept 2023



TPR – A comparison of 2 years; January– August 2022 & 2023



GLOBAL FUND – TASO/CDFU – MALARIA PROJECT

REFERENCES

- ¹ Communication for Development Foundation Uganda (CDFU)
- ² The AIDS Support Organization (TASO)
- ³ Uganda Malaria Indicator Survey 2019
- ⁴ District Health Information System 2 (DHIS 2)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- The Global Fund
- The AIDS Support Organization
- Communication for Development Foundation Uganda
- Butebo District Local Government
- Kanyum Sub-county
- Butebo Sub-county
- Kanginima Sub-county
- Butebo HC IV and Kanyum HC III
- VHTs and LC1 Chairpersons of Kanyum and Butebo sub-counties