

# VIRTUAL

**FAST-TRACK CITIES 2020**

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HIV response in the context of the Covid-19 Epidemic in the City of Yaounde, Cameroon

Albert Frank ZEH MEKA, MD, Msc  
Coordinator, Regional Technical Group for Aids Control, Centre Region

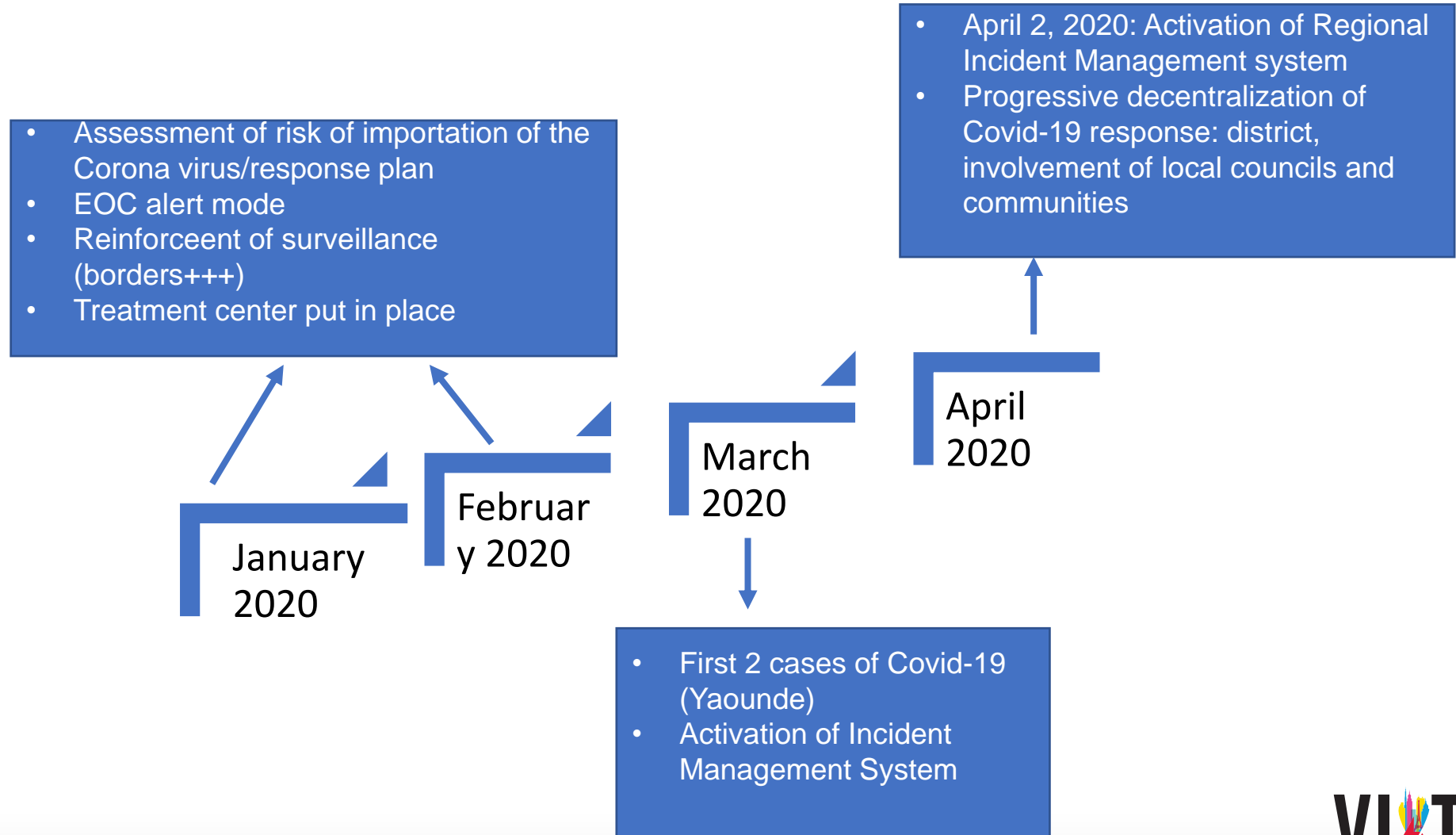
# Plan

- Background
- Covid-19 trend data in Cameroon and City of Yaounde
- HIV and TB trend data in the Covid-19 context and strategies to mitigate impact on HIV services
- Impact and challenges on organization of HIV service provision
- Lessons learned

# Background

- 26 153 961 inhabitants
  - 4 846 002 centre Region
  - 3 255 651 City of Yaounde
- Drop in country HIV prevalence 15-49 years: 5.5% (2004); 4.3% (2011); 2.7%(2018)
- Prevalence Yaounde: 6.3%(2011), 2.4% (2018)
- June 30, 2020: 328 264 on ART/ 504 258 PLHIV (65%)
- 40 000 new infections yearly (6 out of 10 in the 15-24 years)
- 2014: 90-90-90 targets
- 2016: Test and treat strategy

# Background



# Background

- 4 main axes of the country response plan
- Track-test-treat strategy



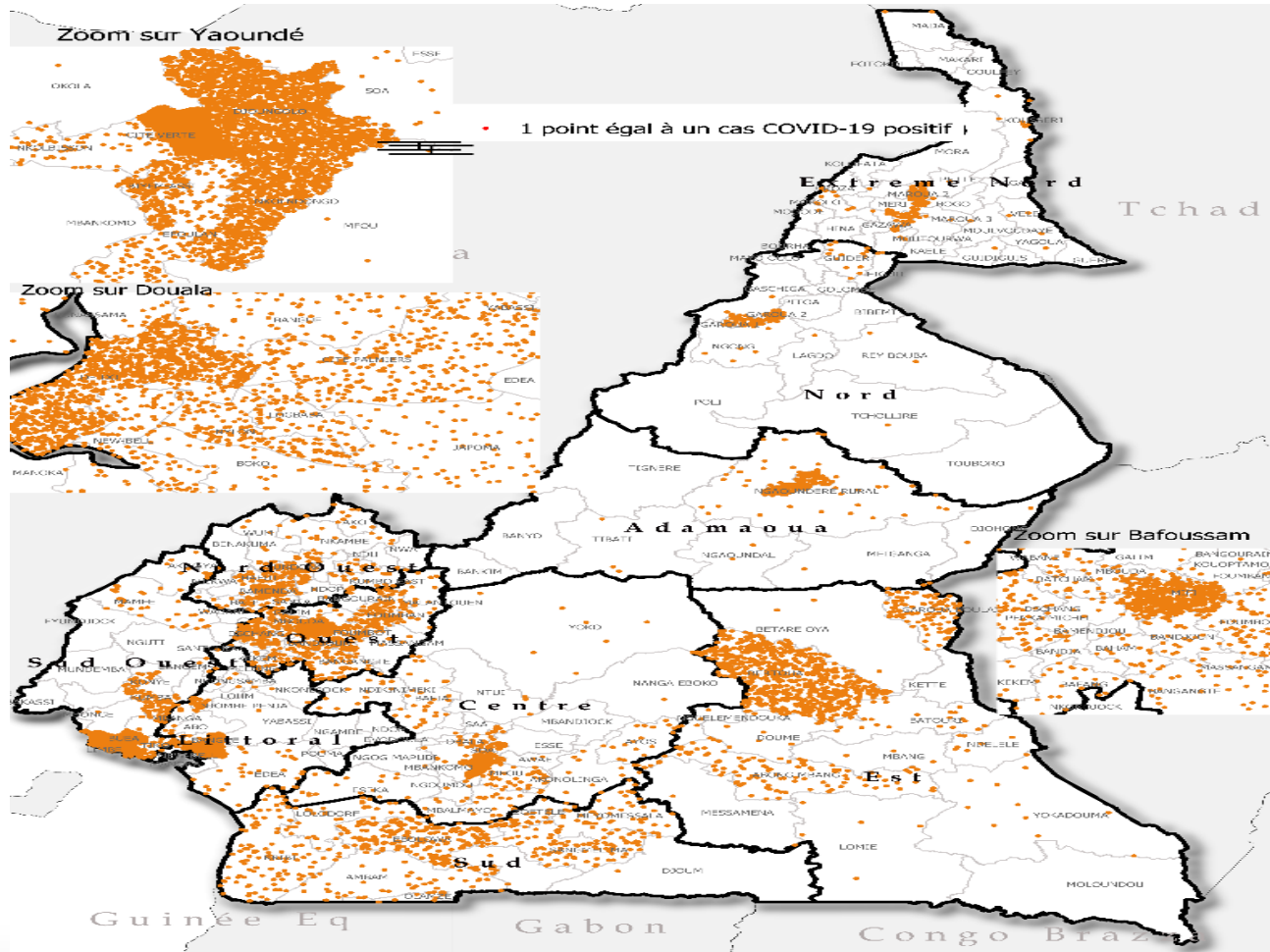
# Covid-19 trend data in Cameroon and City of Yaounde

# Widespread Covid-19 epidemic in Cameroon

Distribution of covid-19 cas across health districts in Cameroon (02/09/2020)

## City of Yaounde

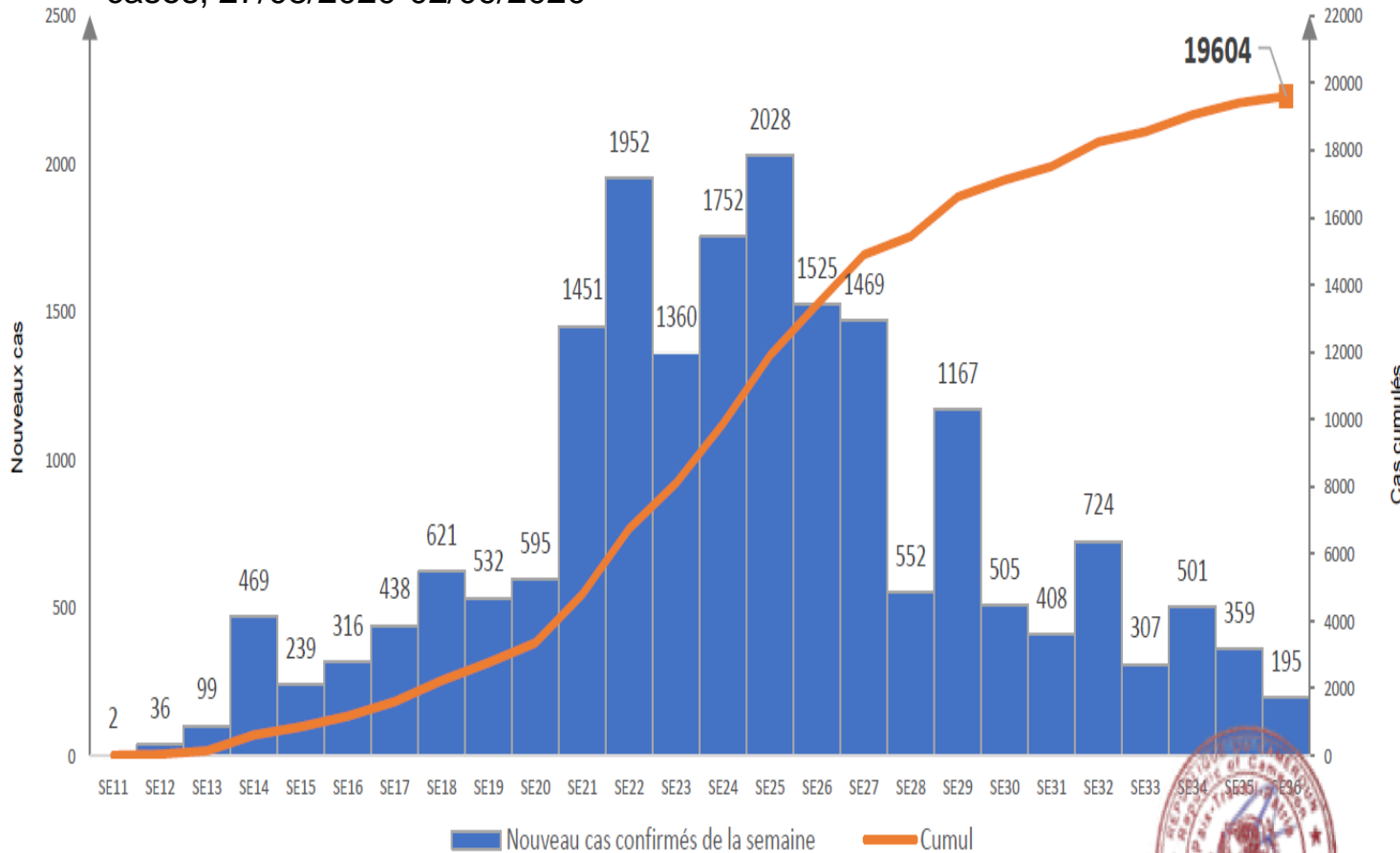
- 30% Covid-19+ cases



Source: situation report, Centre Cameroon, 02/09/2020

# Decline in the number of new Covid-19+ cases in Cameroon

New and cumulative number of Covid-19 cases, 27/08/2020-02/09/2020



**Confirmed cases**  
19 604

**Total deaths**  
414

**Recovered cases**  
18 448

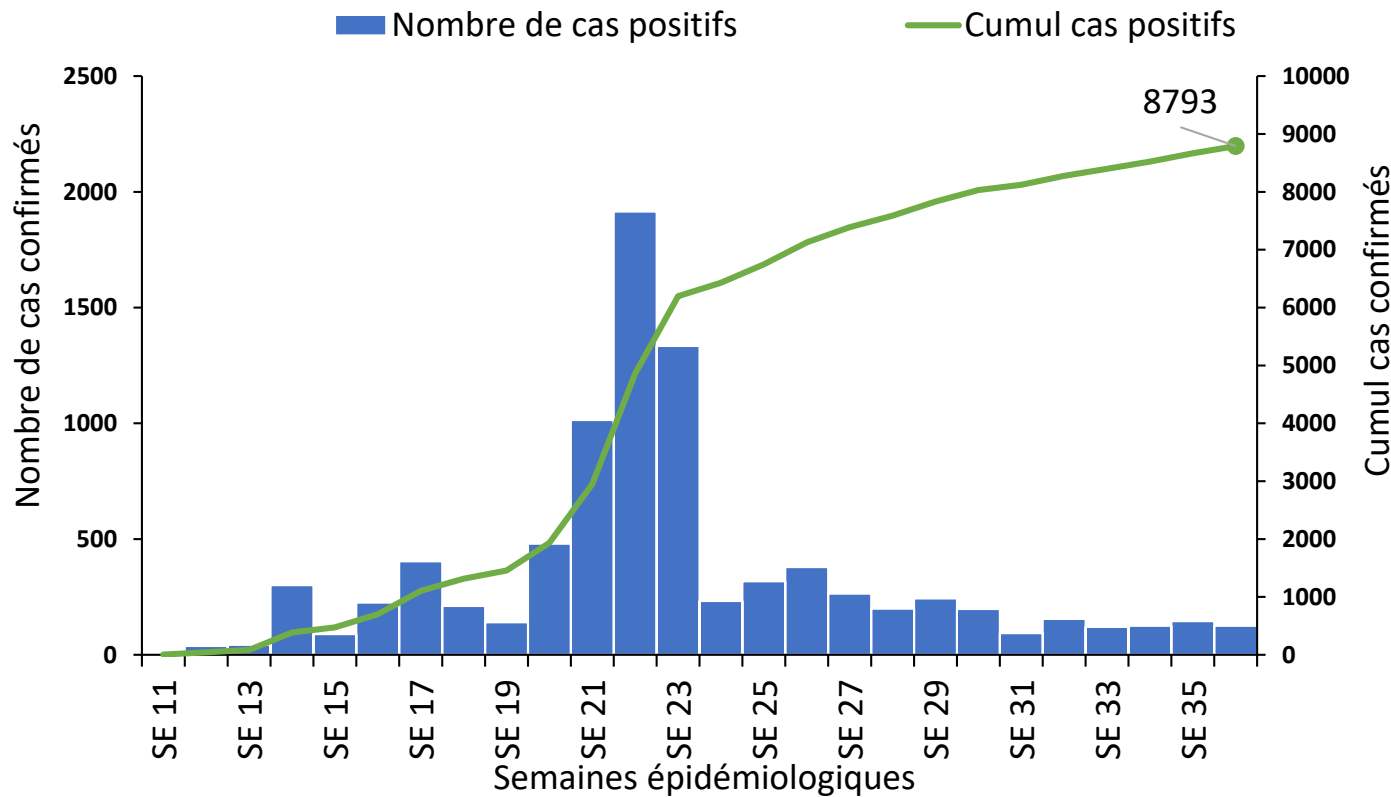
**Fatality rate**  
2.1%

Source: situation report, Centre Cameroon, 02/09/2020



# Decline in the number of new Covid-19+ cases in Cameroon

New and cumulative number of cases in the city of Yaounde



Source: situation report, Centre Cameroon, 02/09/2020

**Confirmed cases**  
5 678

**Total deaths**  
89

**Recovered cases**  
1 771

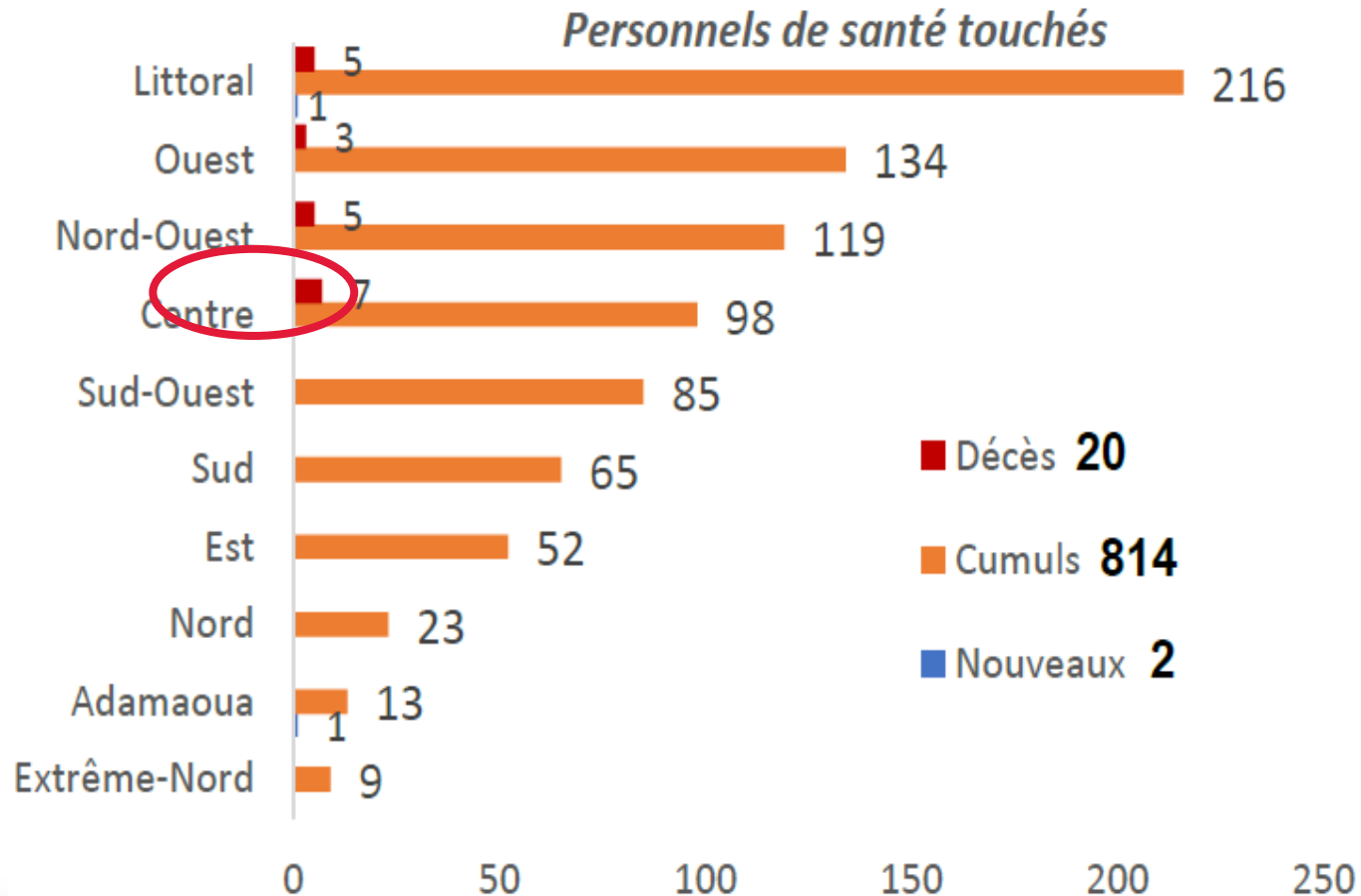
**Fatality rate**  
1.6%

City of Yaounde  
accounts 22% of  
death cases

# Health personnel highly affected by the Covid-19 epidemic

## Yaounde

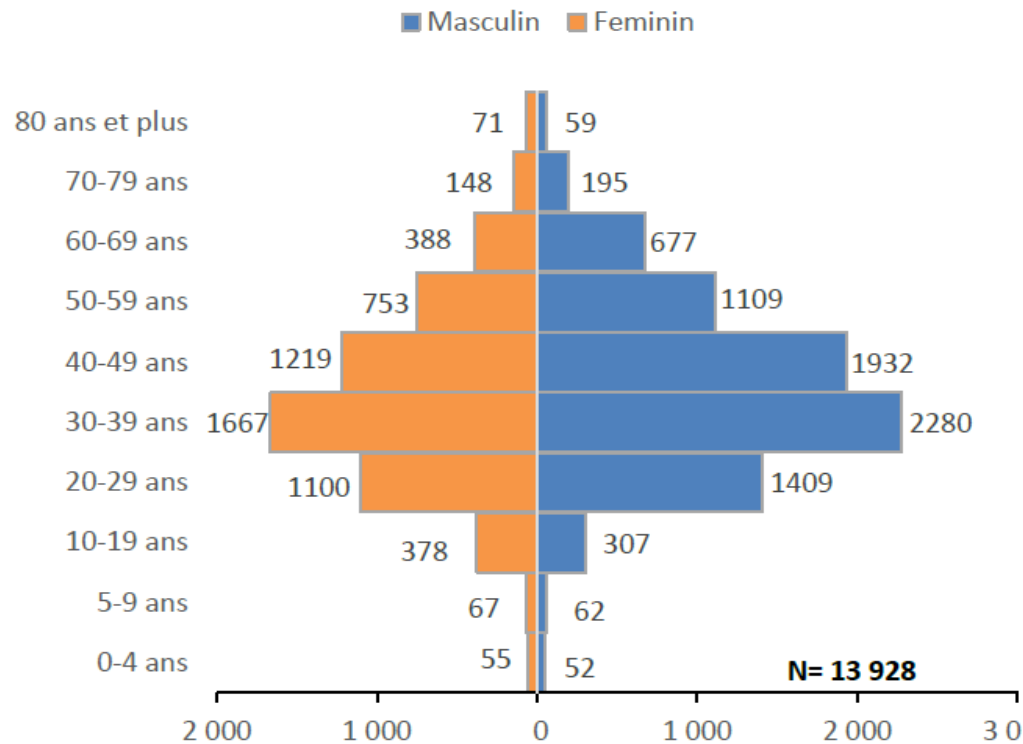
- 55 Covid-19+
- 7 cases of death



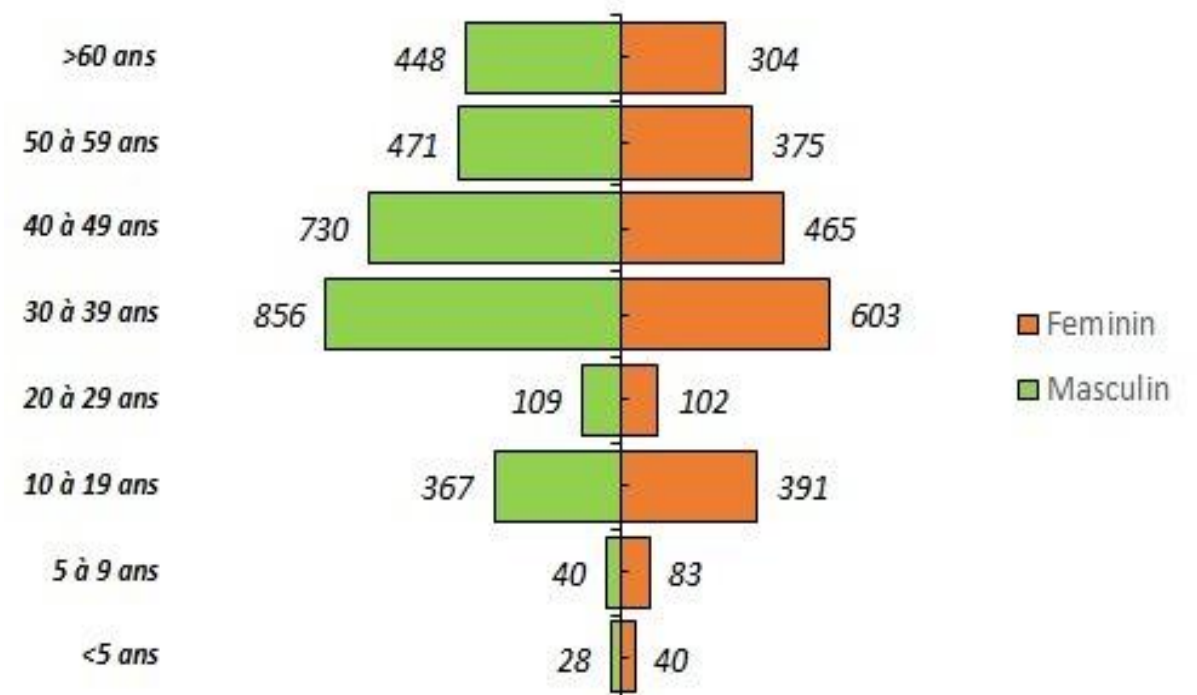
Source: situation report, Cameroon, 02/09/2020

# High morbidity in the 20-49 years age group

Gender and age Distribution of covid-19 Cases in Cameroon



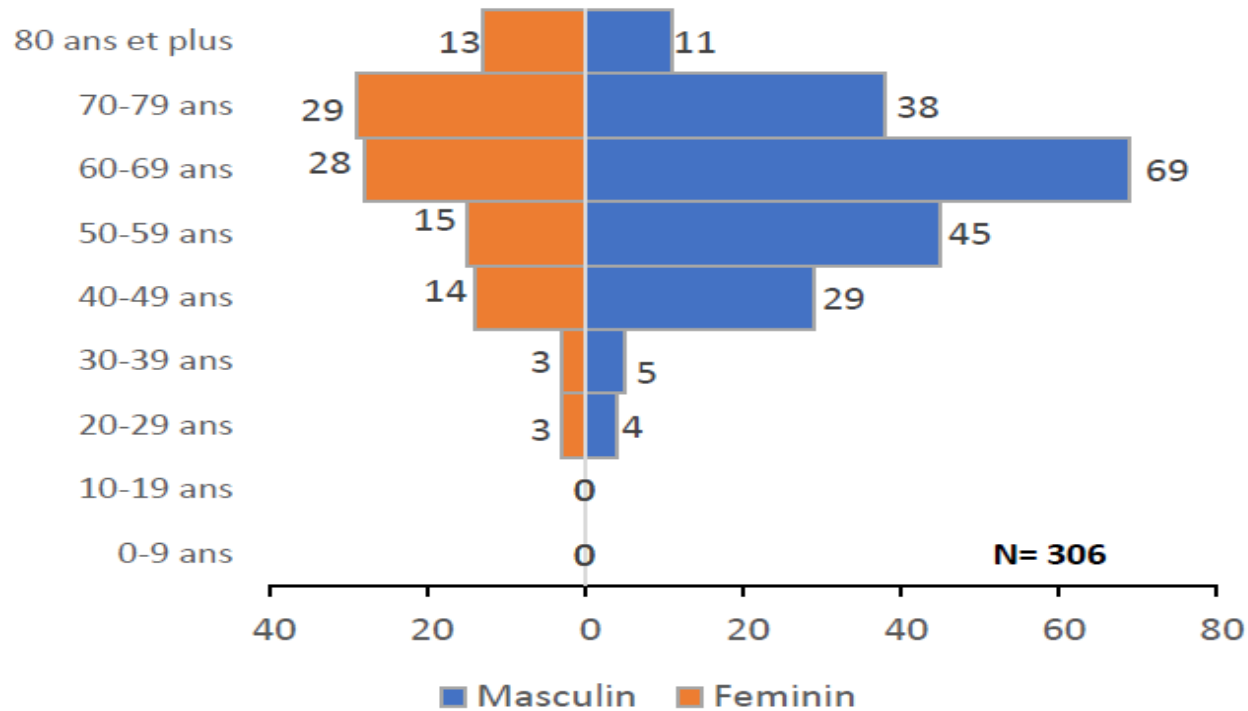
Gender and age Distribution of covid-19 Cases in the city of Yaounde



Sources: situation reports, Centre Cameroon, 02/09/2020; Centre Region 04/09/2020

# High number of deaths in the 40-79 years age group

Gender and age Distribution of covid-19 deaths in Cameroon



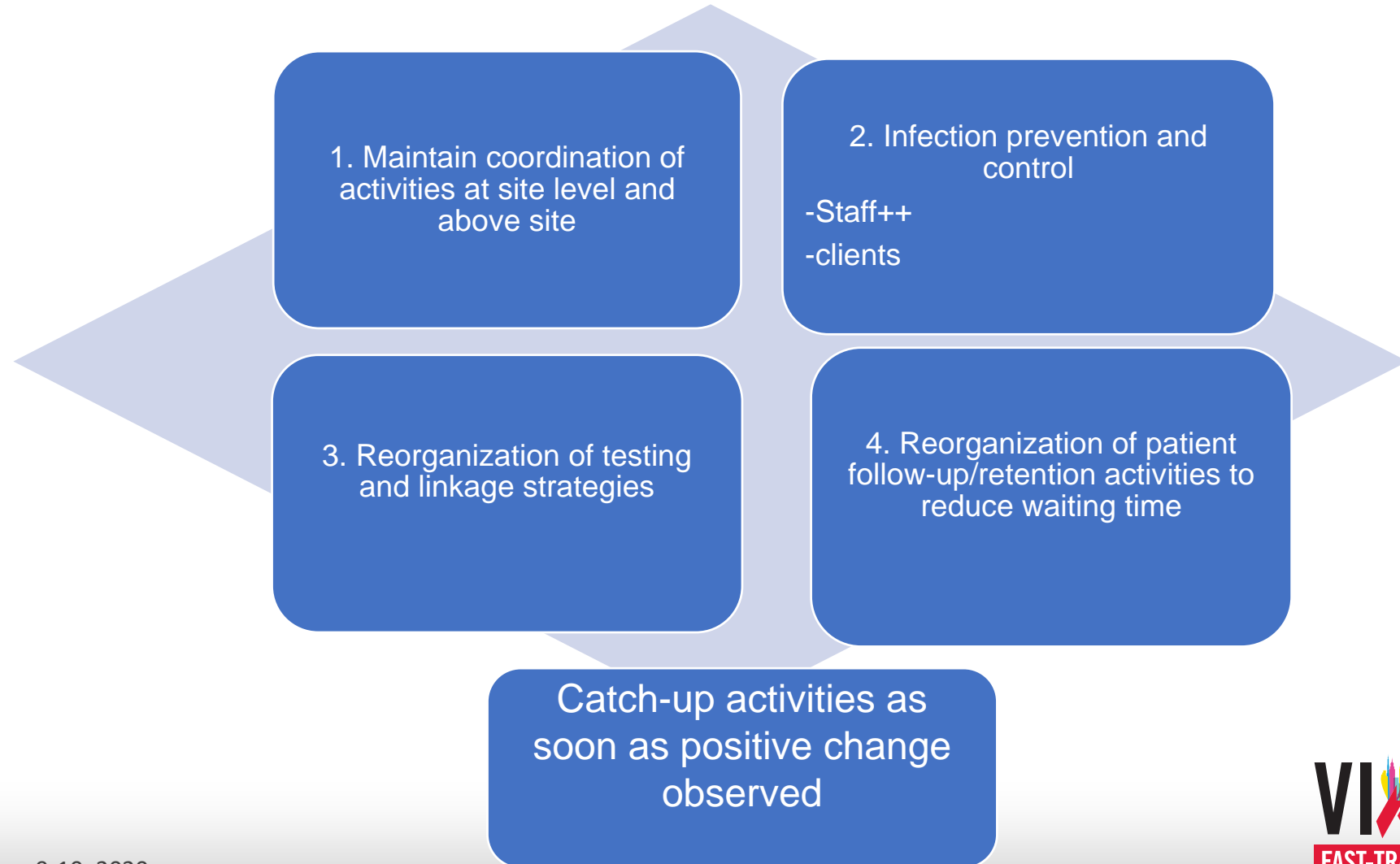
Source: situation report, Cameroon, 02/09/2020

# HIV and TB trend data in the Covid-19 context in the City of Yaounde

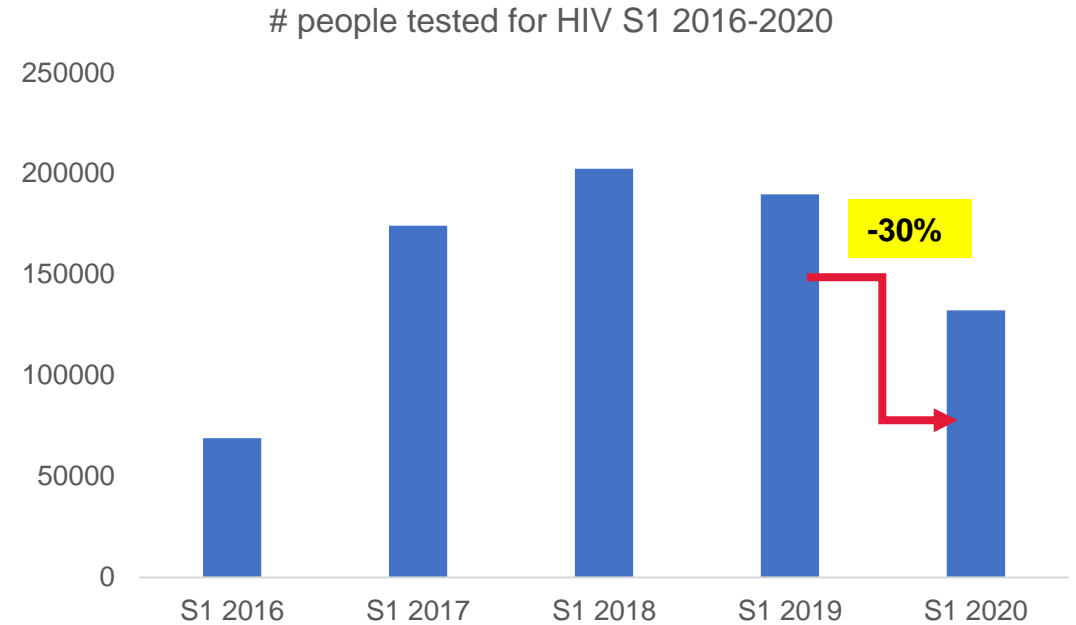
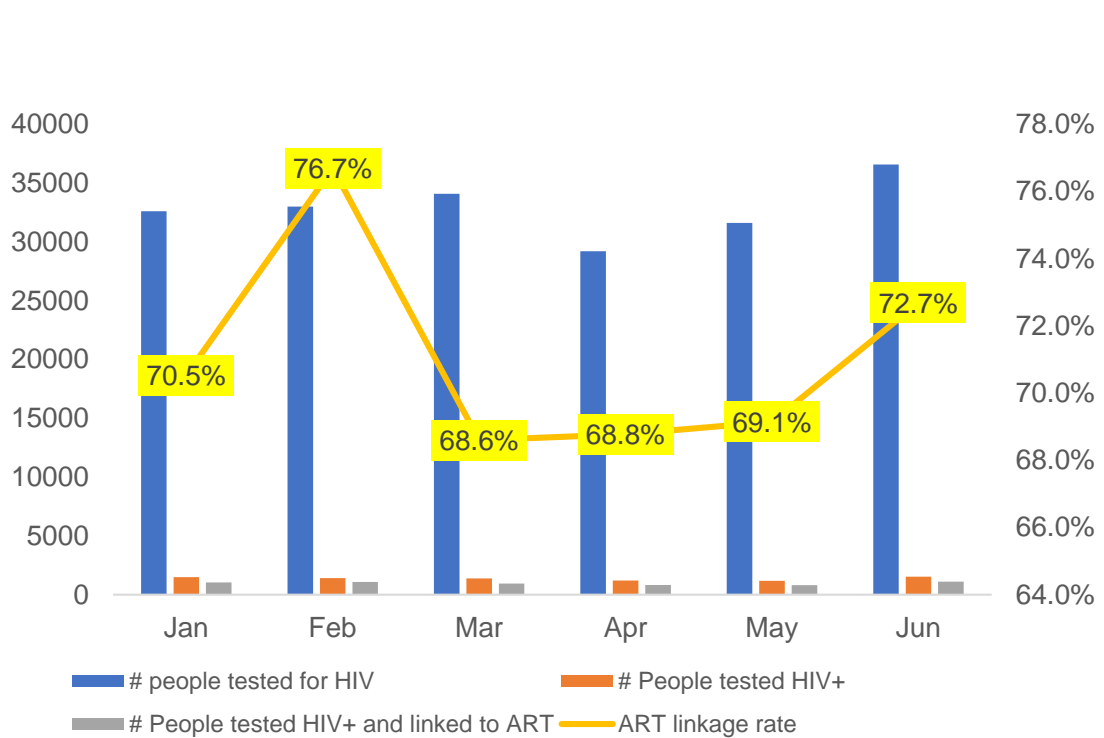
# Operational contingency plan for service provision

## Objectives

1. Service continuity
2. Staff protection



# Declining trends in testing and linkage to ART

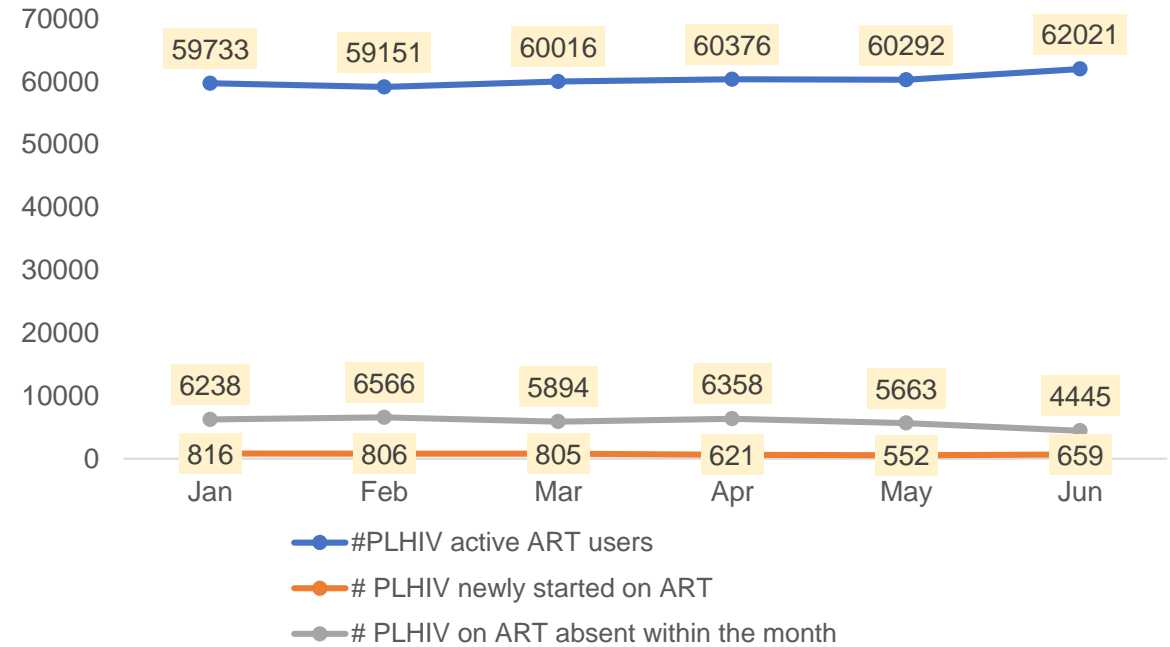
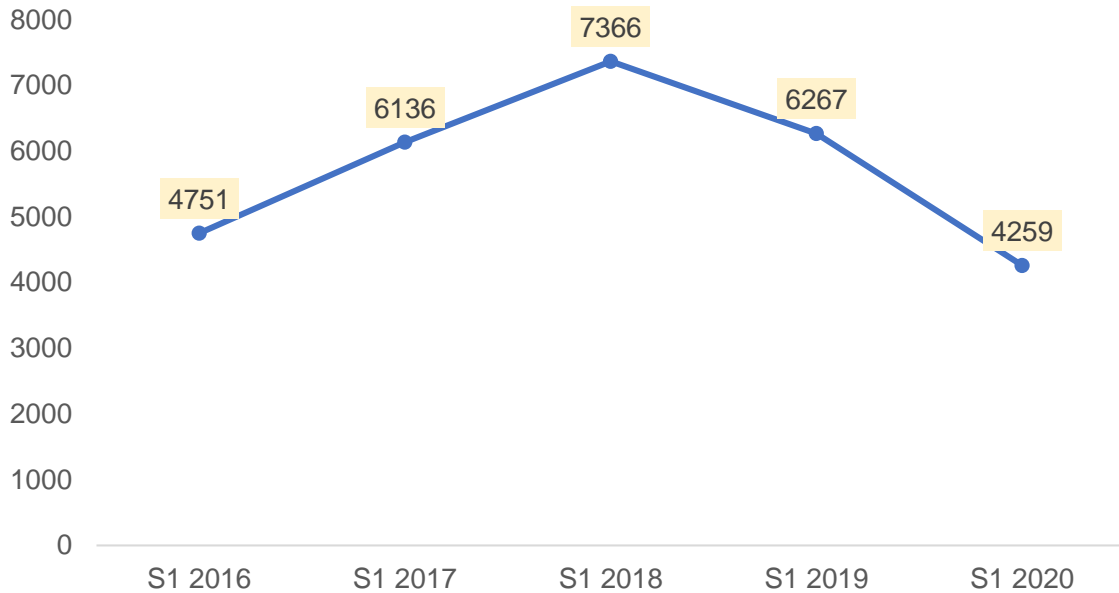


Source: DHIS2 data base, Sept 2020

- Acceleration of ICT
- Community testing
- Self testing

# Increase in overall number of regular ART users

# PLHIV newly started on ART S1 2016-2020



Source: DHIS2 data base, Sept 2020

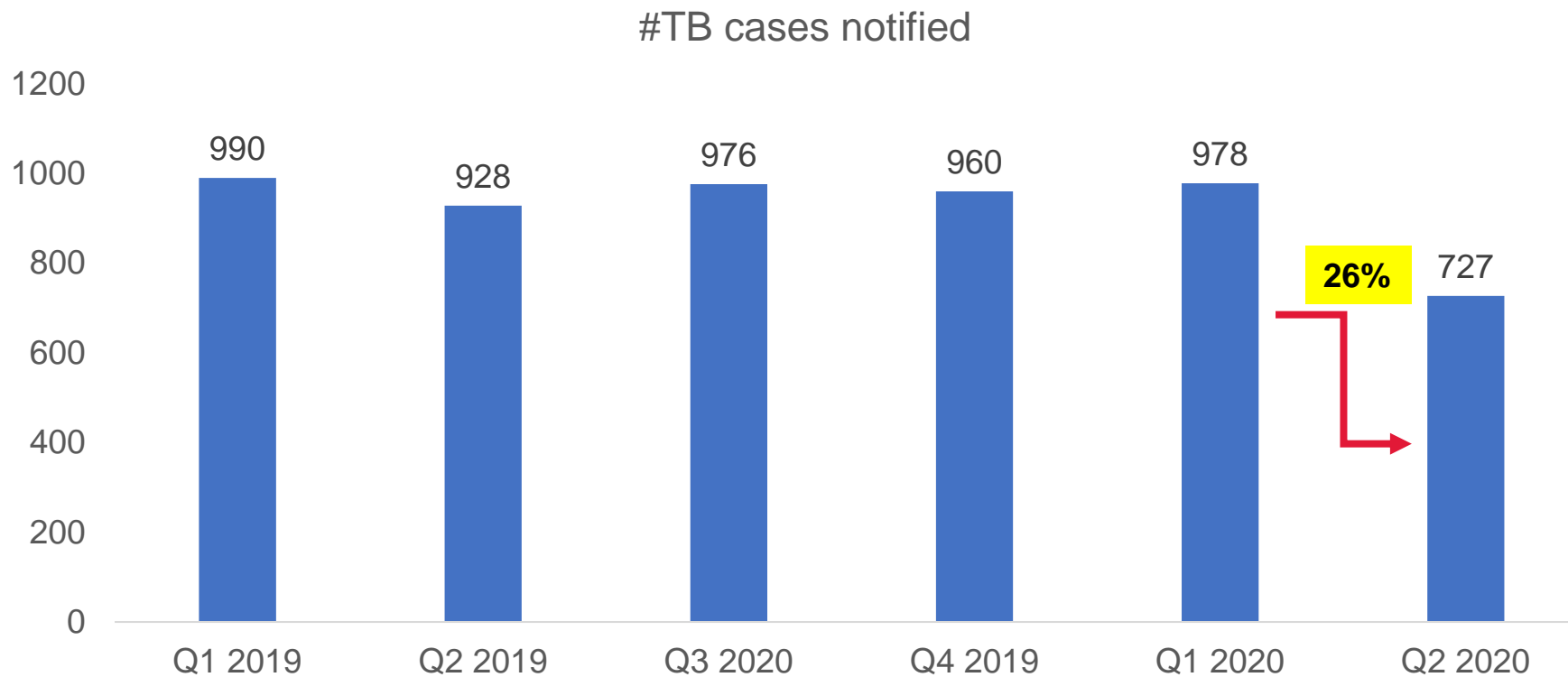
- -32% (2019-2020)

Patient attrition avoided

- Home delivery of antiretrovirals
- Patient flow revised
- Reminder calls
- Scheduling of appointments



# Decline in the notification of TB cases



Source: 2019 and S1 2020 TB regional program report

# Strategies to maintain HIV and TB services continuity and mitigate impact of Covid-19 epidemic

1. Maintain coordination of activities at site level and above site
  - Meetings online
  - Maintain data reporting
  
2. Infection prevention and control
  - Staff
    - Rotations
    - community activities avoided
    - Protection measures
  - Clients
    - Patient flow revised
    - Scheduled appointments per cohorts

# Strategies to maintain HIV and TB services continuity and mitigate impact of Covid-19 epidemic

## 3. Reorganization of testing and linkage strategies

- Intensification of testing at entry points with high yield
- Starter ARV packs for doctors
- Follow-up calls for newly initiated clients

## 4. Reorganization of patient follow-up/retention activities to reduce waiting time

- Pre packing of ARVs
- Homeng time
- Deliveries of ARVs in homes, offices other locations as per agreement between provider and client

# Strategies to maintain HIV and TB services continuity and mitigate impact of Covid-19 epidemic

## 5. Catch-up activities

- Self-testing
- Mobile units to support facilities in testing and linkage
- Community testing
- Viral load campaign
- Return to care campaign

# Impact and Challenges of Covid-19 pandemic in organization of service delivery

## Challenges

- Stock-outs of ARV (challenge in providing MMD until June 2020)
- Staff rotations in health facilities
- Infected staff
- Fear to use services

## Impact

- Relocation of services in some facilities
- Discontinuation of activities at the community level
- Discontinuation of ANC/PMTCT services in one high volume site

## Lessons learned

- Sustainability of service delivery requires innovative approaches
- Planning to anticipate helps mitigate impact
- DSD was a core component of the continuity in service provision

## Acknowledgement

- Mrs Yemban Anastasia, RDPH, CE-CMR
- HIV RTG team
- IAPAC team