



Amanda Banda

Adherence 2023 • June 11-13 • Puerto Rico

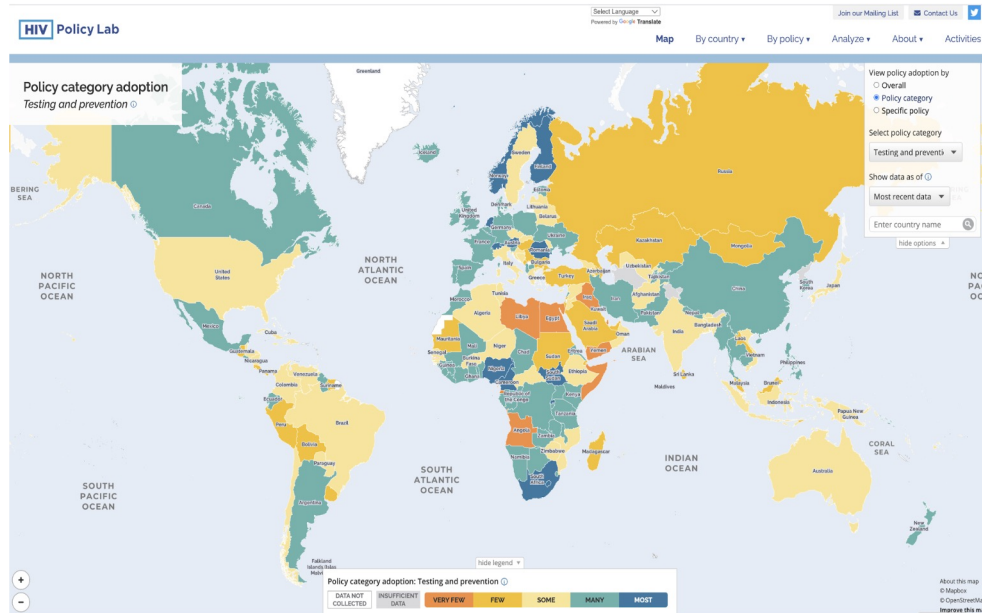


Analyzing policy gaps in optimal pediatric HIV treatment regimens: A global overview

www.hivpolicylab.org

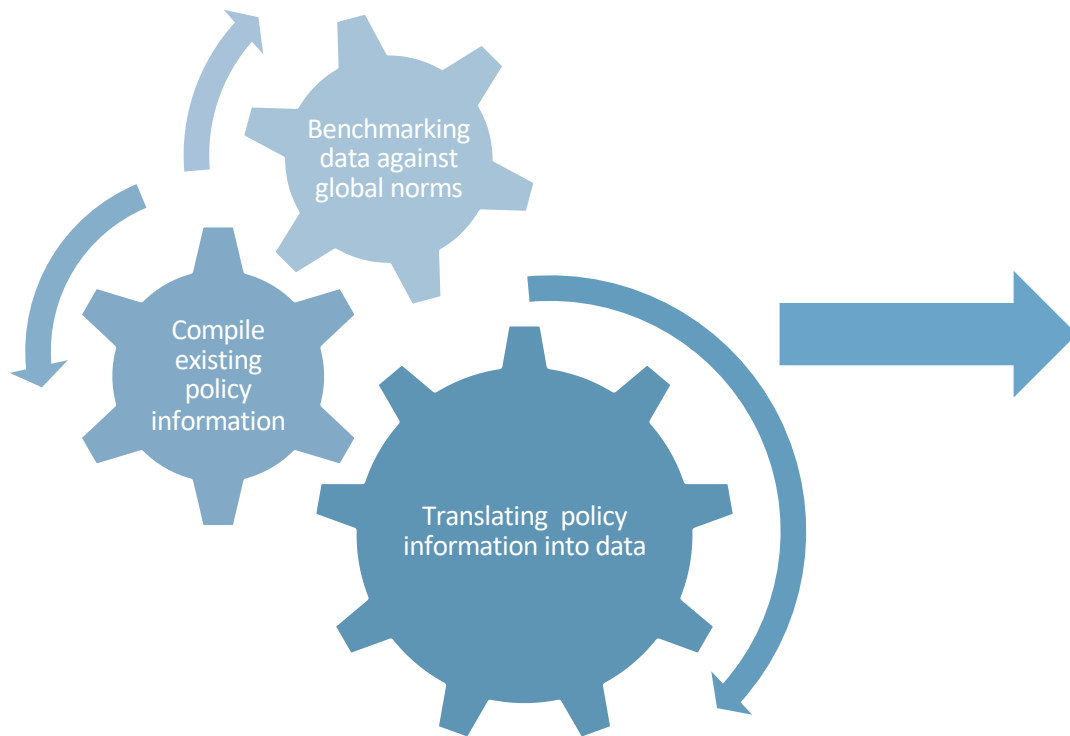
What is the **HIV** Policy Lab?

- The HIV Policy Lab compiles and categorizes 33 indicators across four policy areas, including Clinical & Treatment, Testing & Prevention, Structural, and Health Systems, for 194 countries worldwide
- It offers a valuable tool for comprehensive analysis of global HIV policies and allows us to map and quantify the policy environment



HIV science is getting better. **Is policy keeping up?**

Objective



- Understand where and why policy gaps exist
- Assess correlations between policy change and epidemiological progress
- Building a platform for policy-reform and advocacy



Goal

Analyzing policy gaps in optimal pediatric HIV treatment regimens: A global overview

Policy Question

Does the first-line ARV regimen for infants and children included in national guidelines align with WHO recommendations?

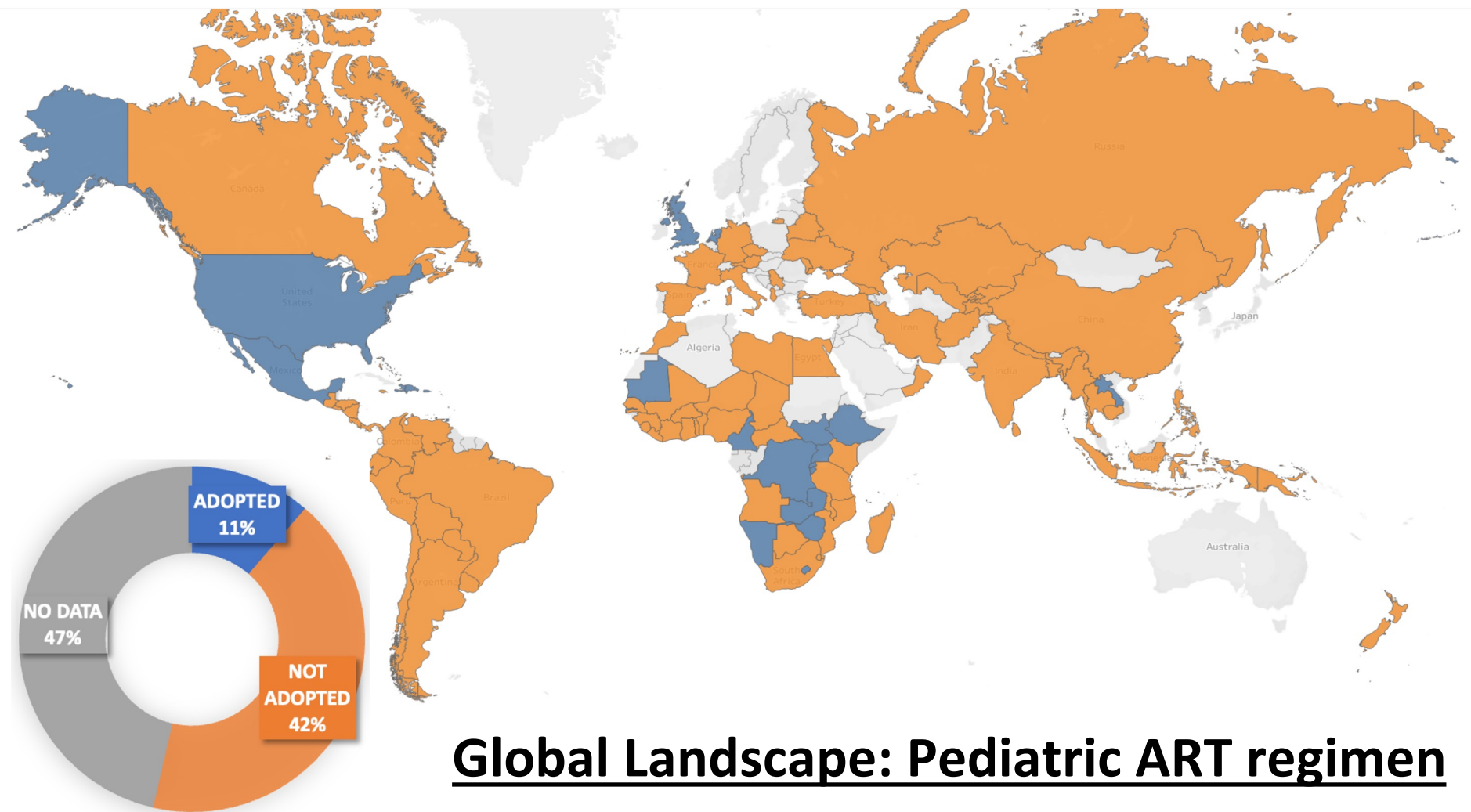
Our Indicator

WHO-recommends dolutegravir or bictegravir-based regimens for all children >3 kilograms or >4 weeks

The policy is considered to be **adopted** if countries have incorporated these regimens into the national policy.

Importance of policy tracking

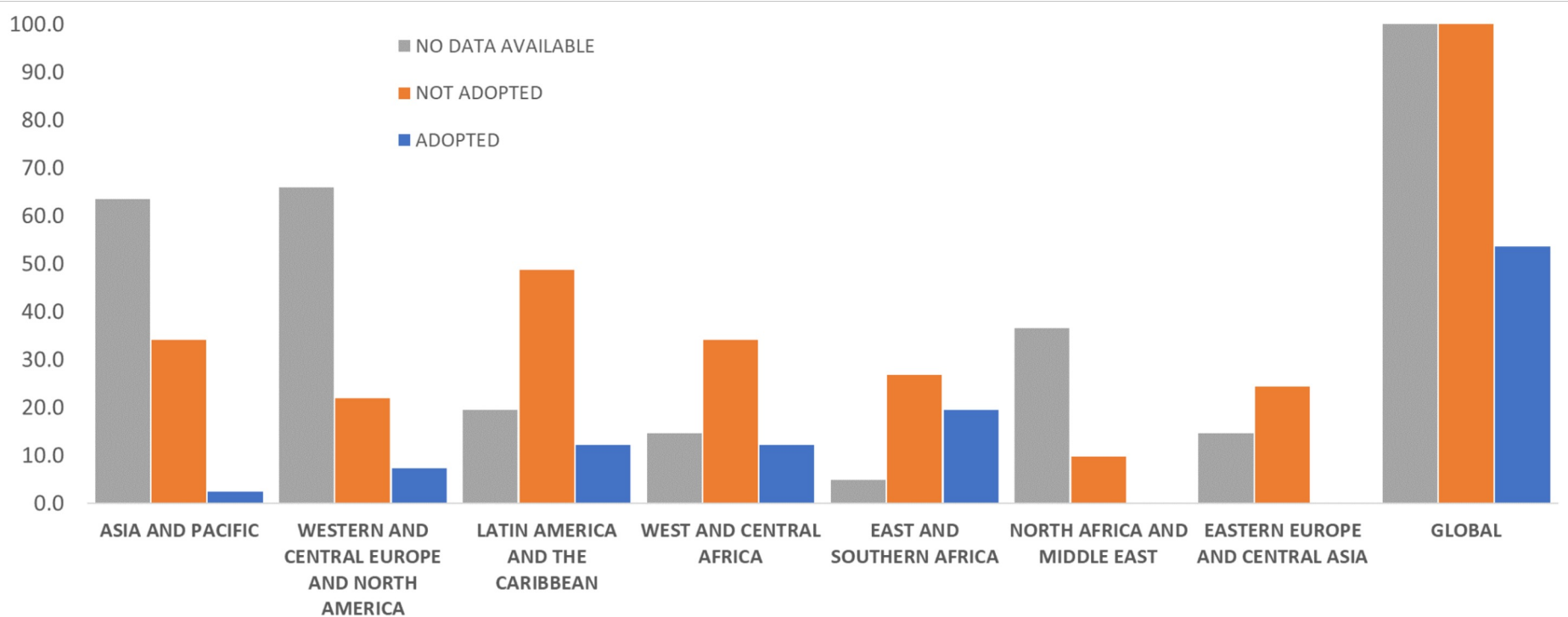
54% of children with HIV receive treatment & only 40% achieve suppressed viral loads—subpar pediatric health outcomes partly attributable to suboptimal treatment regimens.



How the HIV Policy Lab data can be linked to epidemiology?

- 56 countries updated treatment guidelines to include DTG-based optimal regimens for adults, but not for children.
- According to the 2021 UNAIDS Report 50% of new child infections worldwide are in only seven countries. We found that only 3 countries – DR Congo, Uganda, and Zambia have adopted while Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa and Tanzania have not adopted.
- Nine out of the 10 countries with the lowest proportion of people on antiretroviral therapy do not include DTG-based regimens as the preferred regimen for children.

Percent regional policy adoption



Conclusion

- The science behind ending the HIV/AIDS pandemic is the most advanced it has ever been, yet some countries have had swifter and more consistent progress than others due to the slow and uneven translation of science into policy.
- HIV PL as a novel longitudinal dataset which aims to comprehensively map variation in the HIV legal and policy environment to measure the alignment of national policies with international recommendations.



Policy Lab

Thank you!

www.hivpolicylab.org