

Prevalence of HIV and effectiveness of a proximity community-based intervention for access to healthcare services in artisanal gold-mining zones in Mali (ANRS-12392 Sanu Gundo)

M. Guindo¹, M. Fiorentino², A. Kamissoko¹, F. Traoré¹, G. Maradan², M. Bourrelly^{2,3}, M. Mora², F. Diallo¹, Z. Diarra¹, M. Cissé¹, B. Dembélé Keïta¹, B. Spire², L. Sagaon-Teyssier²

¹Arcad Santé Plus, Bamako, Mali; ²Aix Marseille Univ, Inserm, Ird, Sesstim, Isspam, Marseille, France; ³Community-based Research Laboratory, Coalition PLUS, Pantin, France



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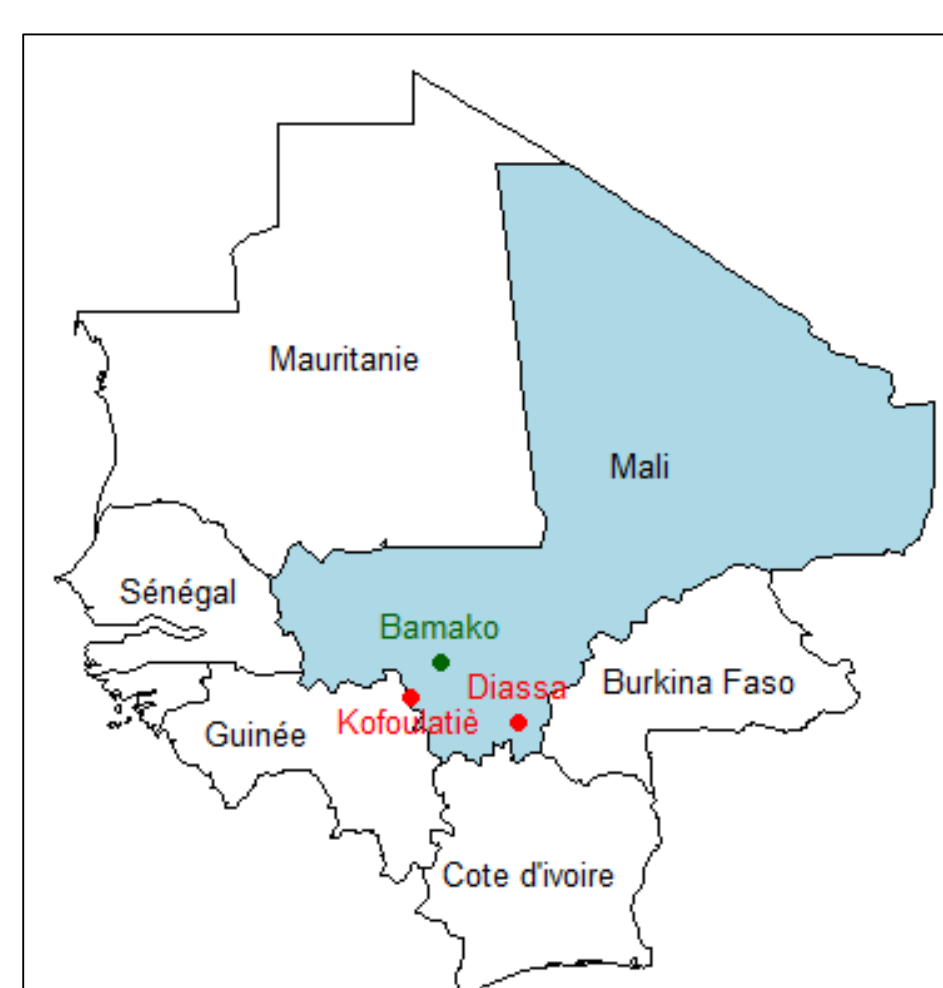
Background and objective

In Mali, artisanal gold-mining zones (AGMZ) are characterized by mass circular migration, convergence of key-populations and the lack of adapted healthcare services. This contributes to the potential risk of “bridging” infectious diseases including HIV.

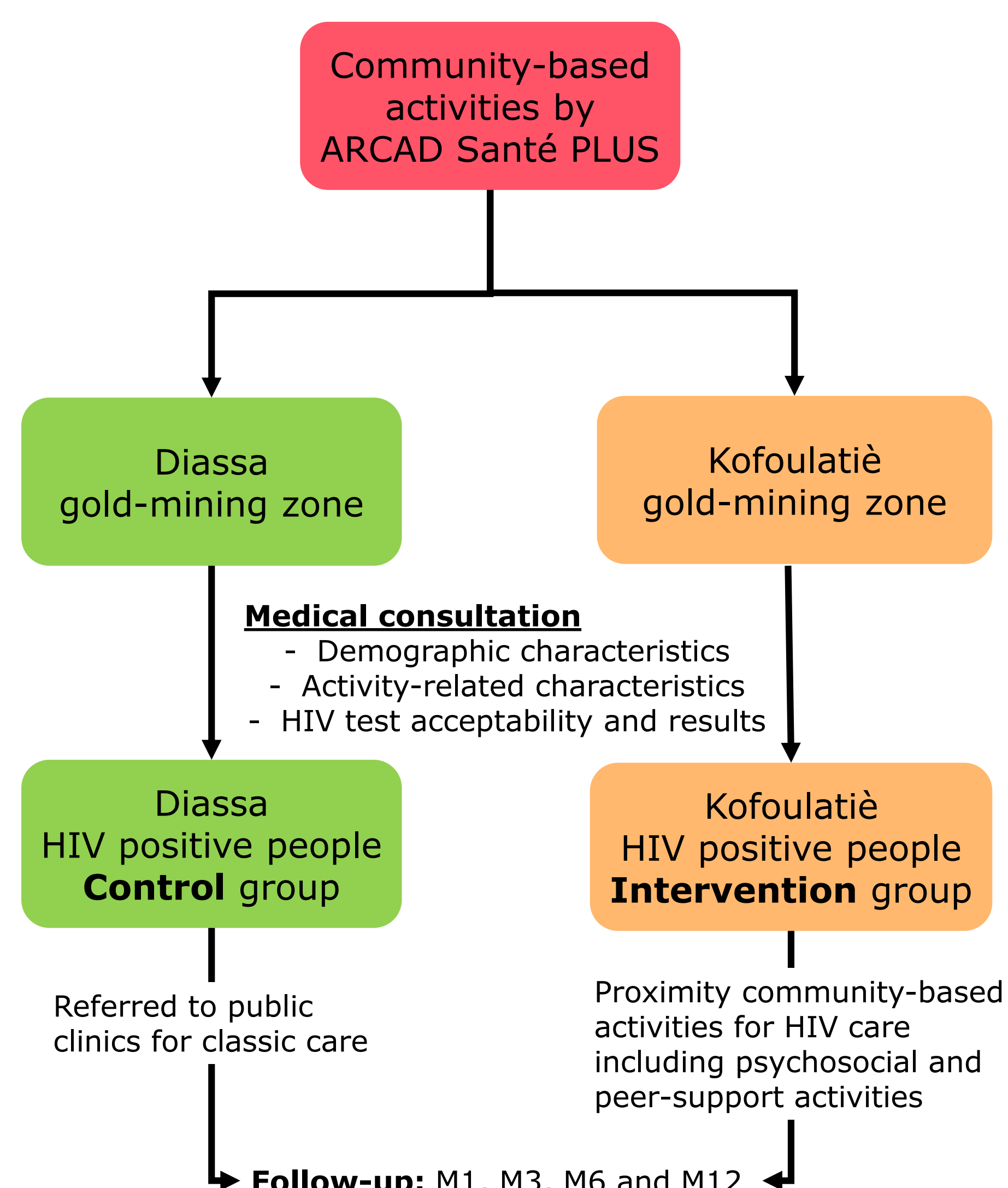
→ To assess the extent of HIV in AGMZ and the effectiveness of proximity community-based services for early antiretroviral treatment (ART) initiation.

The ANRS 12392 Sanu Gundo study

Non-randomized interventional study launched in December-2020 in two Malian AGMZ (Diassa and Kofoulatiè).



Data and Methods

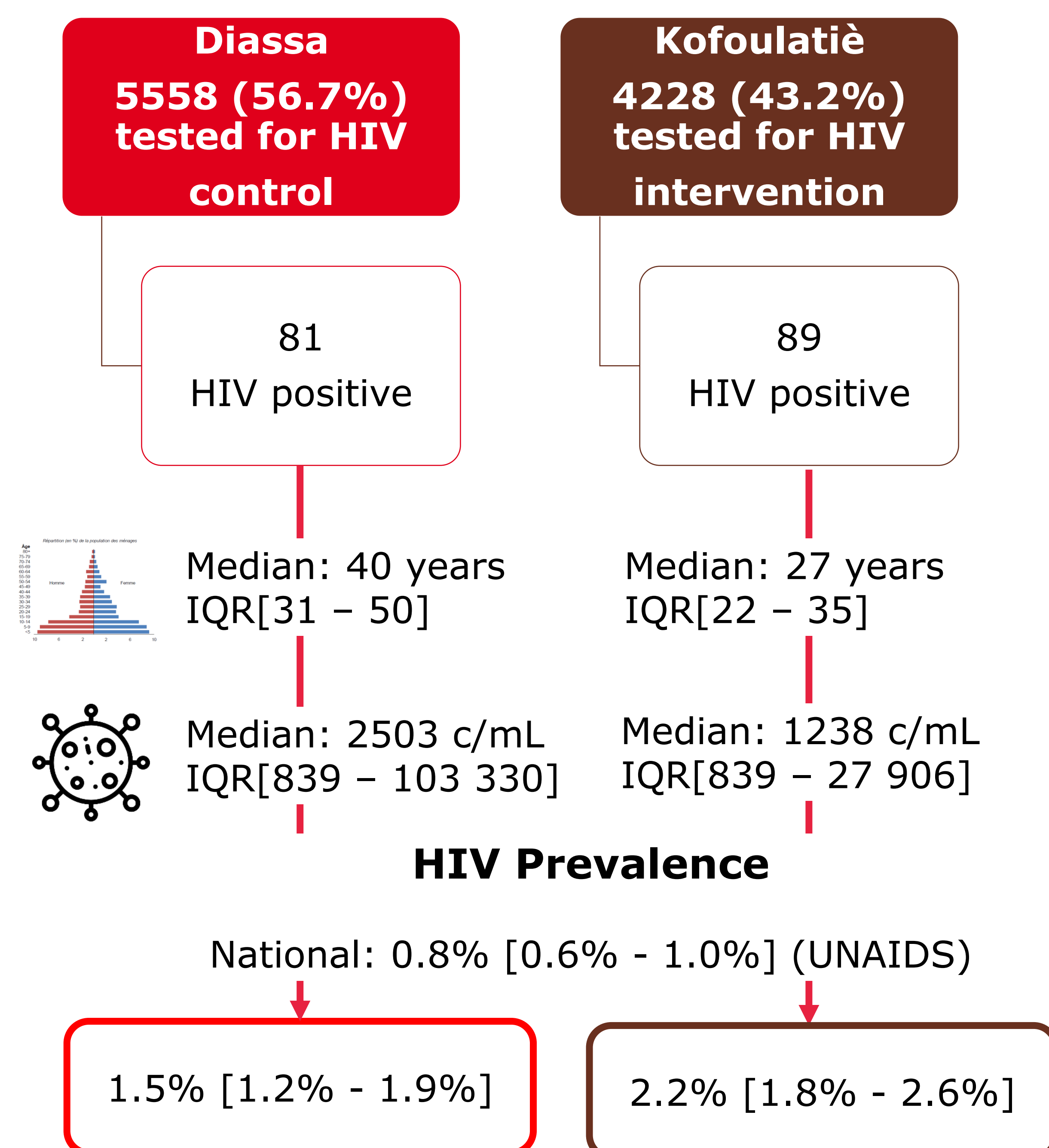


Individual, behavioral and clinical characteristics were collected at different time points during 12 months.

- HIV Prevalence was estimated
- Effectiveness of the intervention on ART initiation one month after diagnosis (M1) was assessed using a Probit logistic model

Results

Medical consultation was offered to 9798 people living in both gold-mining zones



Probit estimation of being on ART (=1) one month after diagnosis

- PLHIV in the control group were 70.6% (p<0.001) less likely to be on ART one month after diagnosis
- Early ART initiation was more likely for
 - Older PLHIV (13%, p=0.008)
 - Non-gold-miners (19%, p=0.006)

The intervention effectiveness on early ART initiation persisted after adjusting for covariates (- 80.2% for control group, p<0.001).

Conclusion

The Sanu Gundo intervention was effective for early ART initiation to improve linkage-to-care often disrupted by cyclical migration and the lack of adapted healthcare services. Community-based approaches can effectively promote access and retention in care to limit HIV dissemination.