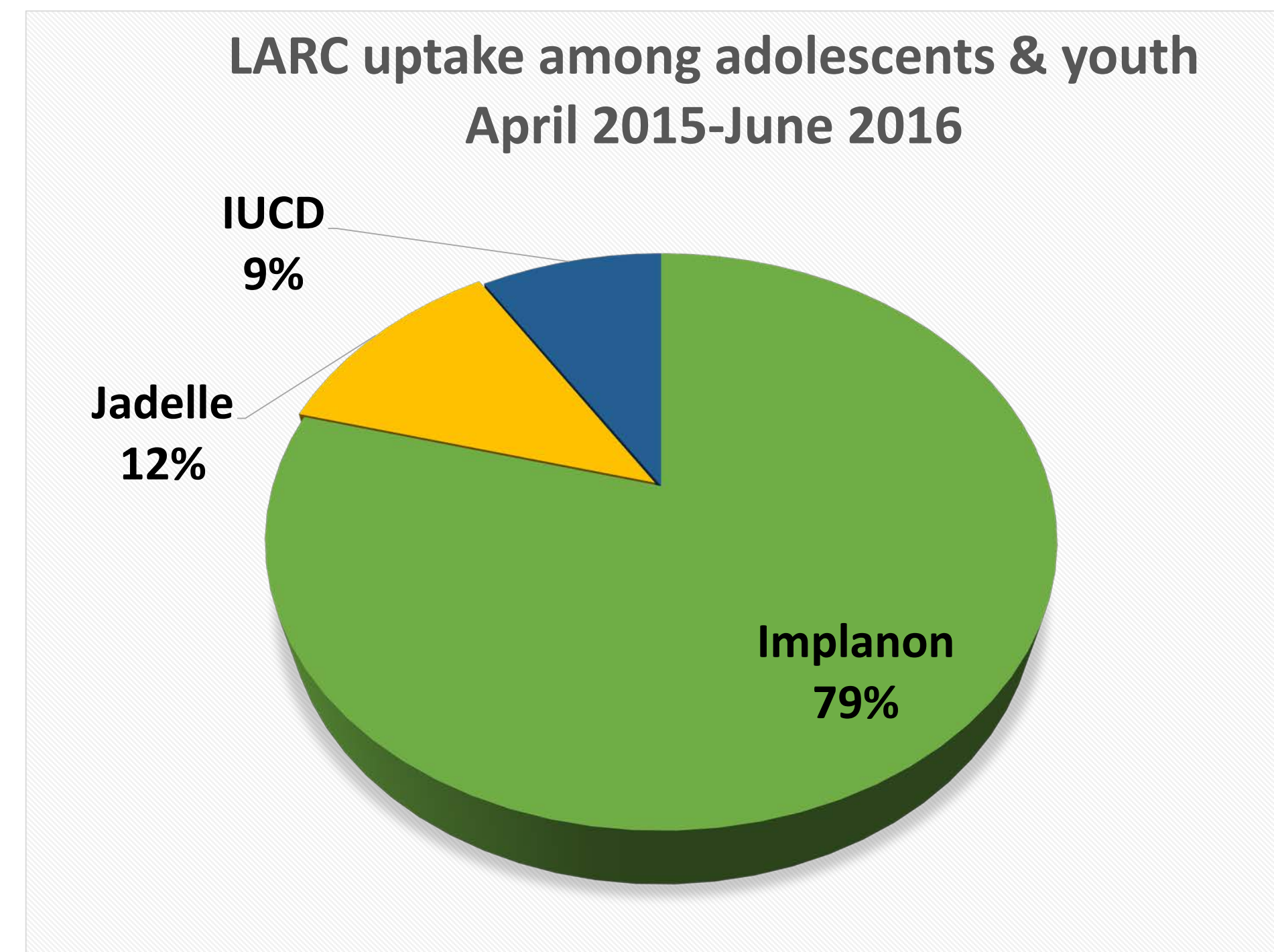


Background

- One-third of Ethiopia's population is aged 10-24 years.
- Teenage pregnancy is 13%
- Unmet need for contraceptive is high 30.3% and 20.3% among 15-19 and 20-24-year old women respectively
- Adolescents and youth have limited access to the full range of contraceptives including long acting reversible contraceptives (LARCs)
 - The most preferred methods in both age groups are short-acting methods, injectables being the most frequently used.
- The scale-up of LARCs with a focus on youth started in April 2015 and continues today
- Providers were trained for two-weeks using theoretical and practical sessions; 368 health care providers were trained on LARCs from 184 Youth Friendly Service (YFS) facilities
- Peer educators were oriented on LARC counseling and referrals to create demand and improve referrals
- Project staff provided close technical support to cover any inadequacies and technical challenges in service delivery
- Data presented here are from the start up phase April 2015 – June 2016

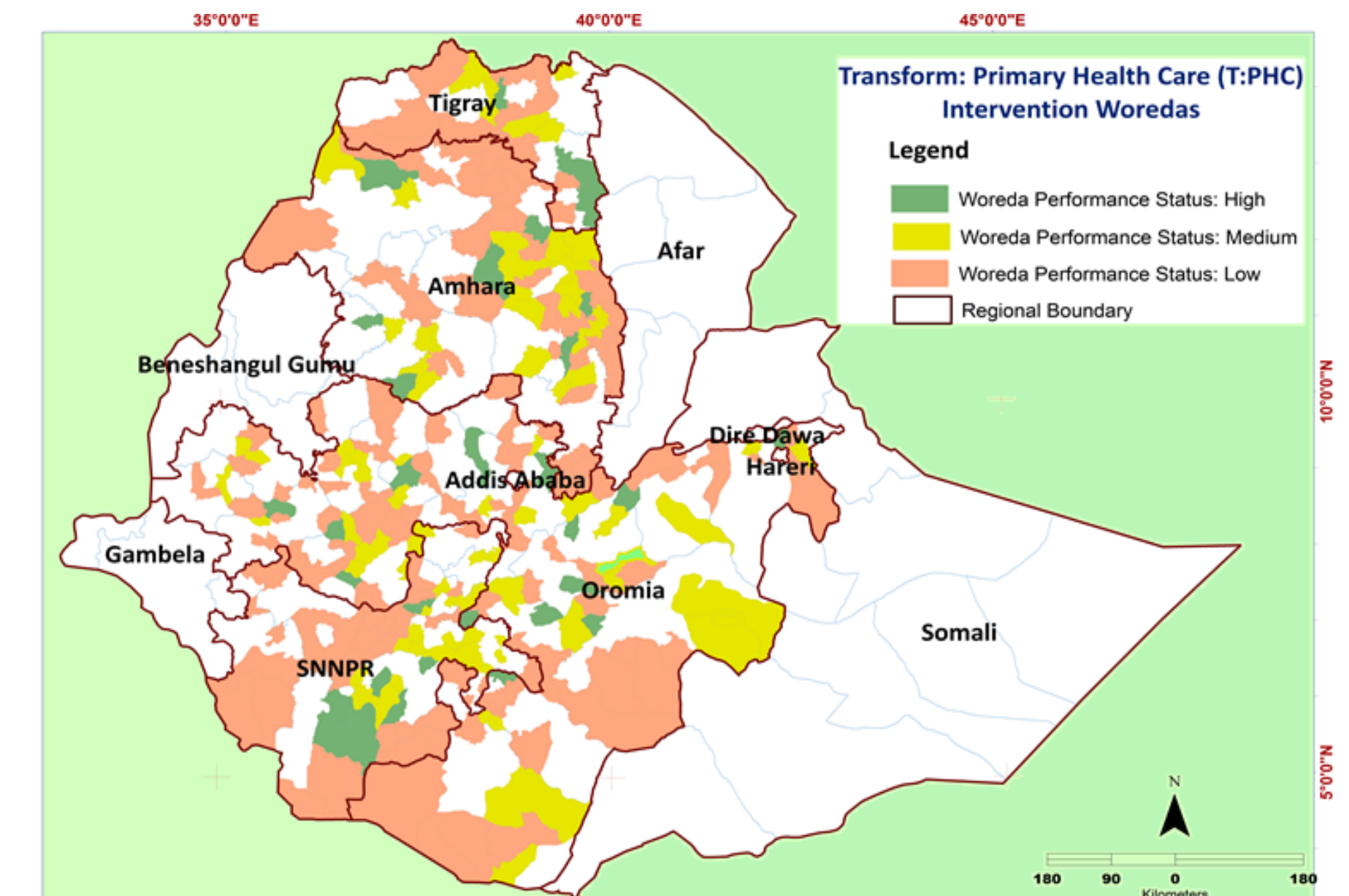


LARCs acceptance increased to 18.5%

Results

- During the period of April 2015 to June 2016 - 187,590 clients accepted modern contraceptives, of these clients, 18.5% (34,757) received long acting reversible contraceptives of which 79% was Implanon; 12% Jadelle and 9% received an IUCD
- The acceptance rate in the intervention areas was higher for LARCs than for these age groups nationally (Ethiopian Demographic Health Survey).
- There was a rapid increase in uptake during the first two quarters, which then leveled off.
 - Levelling off attributed to high turnover of trained YFS providers and peer educator attrition affecting service provision and demand creation at the community level

For more information please contact Worknesh Kereta WKereta@pathfinder.org



Conclusions and Lessons Learned

Conclusion

- Creating access to LARCs and young people's knowledge on LARCs services will result in a steady increase in LARCs utilization and ultimately reduce teenage pregnancy

Lessons learned

- Training of providers on LARCs and integrating LARCs service within YFS improved providers' attitude in LARC provision.
- Providing orientation to peer educators and sensitizing the community clarified community bias that denies young people opportunities to access LARCs.
- Planning for staff and peer educator turnover needs to be considered from the beginning
- It is vital to engage the public sector and create program ownership from the beginning