

Title: Enhancing Supply Chain Decision-Making by Improving Data Visibility Through the Creation of a Weekly Tracer Report Dashboard for Medicines and Medical Supplies: A Case of Zambia

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Background

- Achieving universal health coverage relies heavily on:
 - Consistent availability of medicines and supplies.
 - Accurate forecasting based on stock, consumption, and distribution data.
- Zambia's electronic logistics management information system (eLMIS):
 - Manages essential medicines and supply data.
 - Facilities report monthly to Zambia Medicines and Medical Supplies Agency (ZAMMSA).
- Current reporting has concerns:
 - Data on stock availability and consumption is typically reported only monthly.
 - 90% of facilities report by the second week of the following month, causing delays.
 - Reporting delays impact timely decision-making, particularly for addressing low stocks or stockouts.
- The National Supply Chain Coordination Unit developed weekly tracer tools and a Power BI dashboard which provide real-time insights into stock levels, enabling swift action to balance supplies and prevent shortages across Zambia's health facilities.

Aim

- To enhance supply chain decision-making by offering weekly visibility of medicine and supply stock levels in health facilities, improving availability and minimizing wastage from expiries.

Methodology

- Weekly data gathered from 1,600+ facilities (50% of national facilities) using Standardized excel spreadsheet template.
- Data is analyzed through Power BI dashboards developed by the Control Tower
- Comprehensive weekly reports generated and shared with provincial and district supervisors

Results

- Dashboard has enhanced visibility of stock levels for supervisors and staff managing supplies.
- Improved Commodity Availability:
 - Copperbelt: 76% to 83%
 - Luapula: 73% to 83%
 - Lusaka: 72% to 78%
- Improved high-level monitoring for senior management

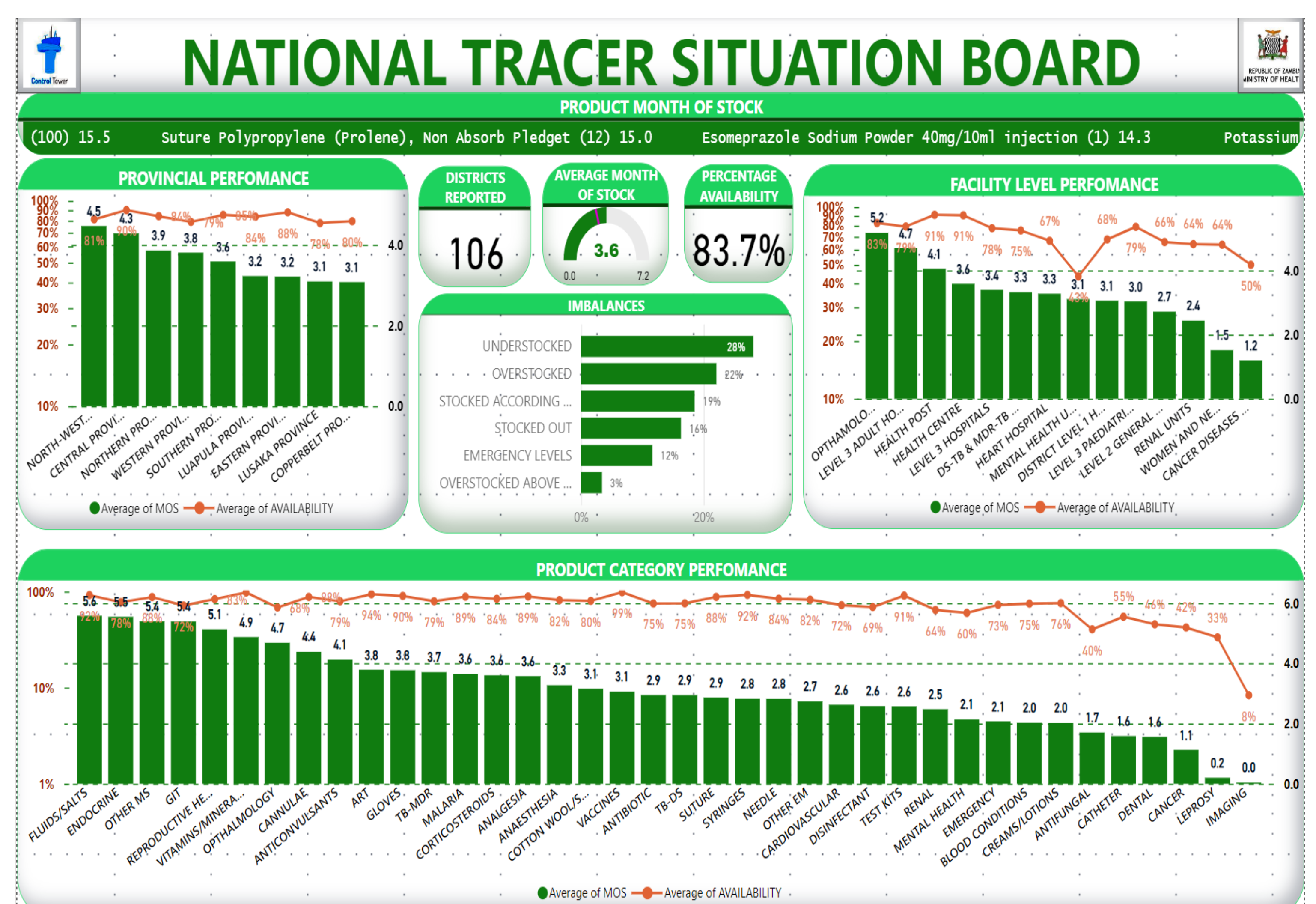


Fig 2: National Tracer Situation Board

The national tracer situation board shows a summary of the stock availability, product category performances, provincial stock availability, stock imbalances and facility level performance.

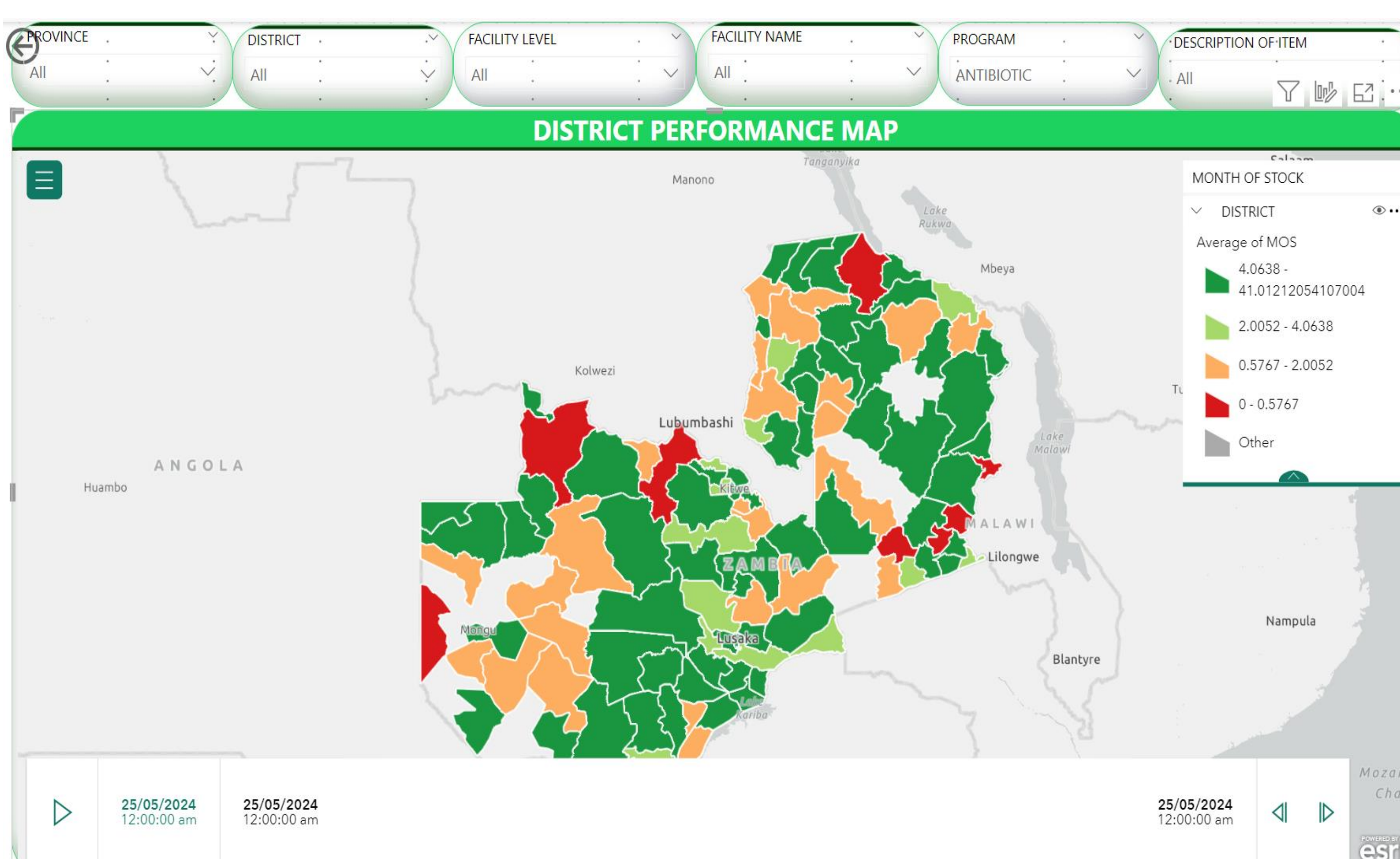


Fig 1: District Performance Map

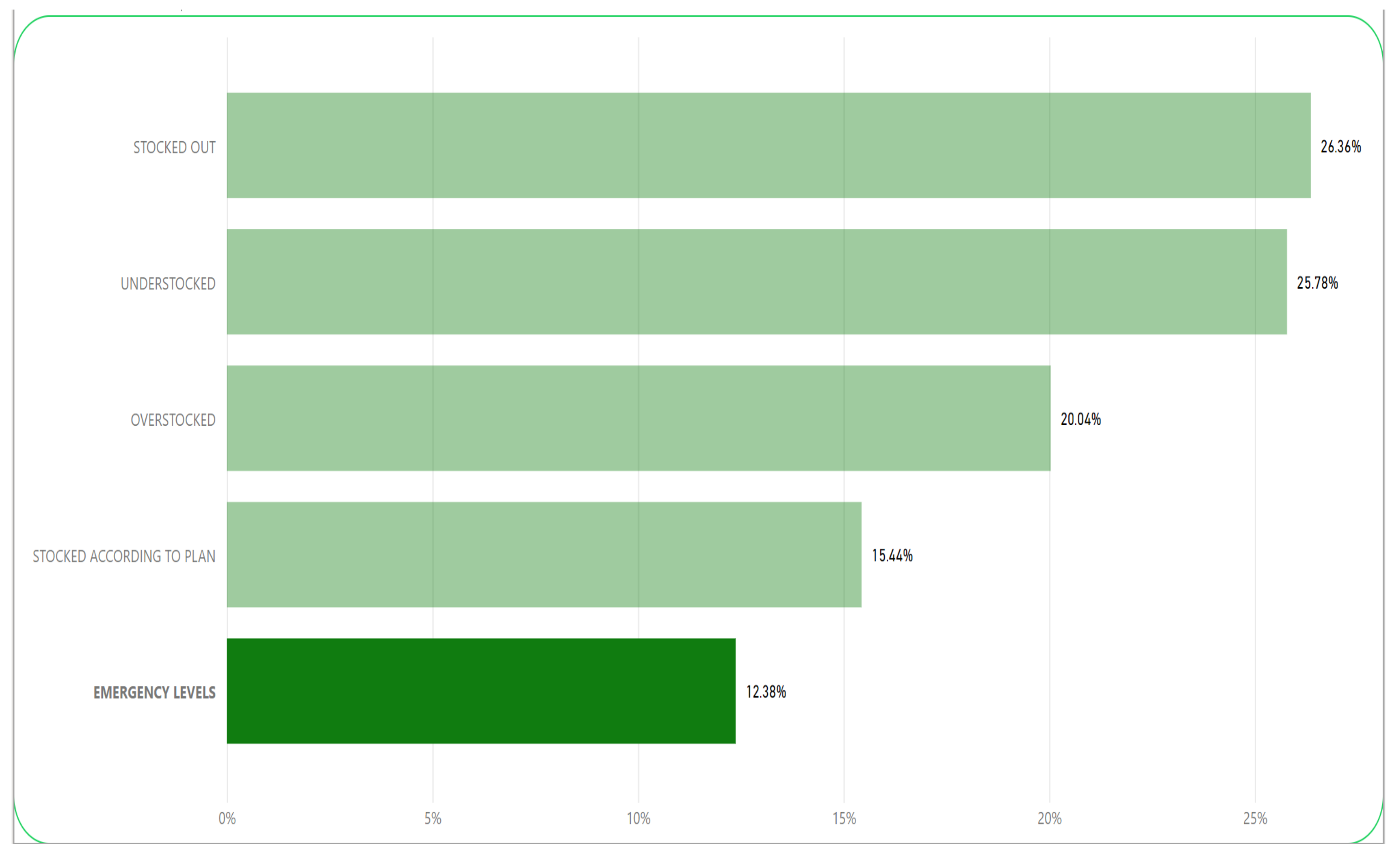


Fig 1: District Performance Map

Conclusion:

- The dashboard improves visibility and timely decision-making, boosting product availability and reducing expiries through redistribution, which supports progress toward universal health coverage

Recommendation:

- Expand the dashboard to include all health facilities nationwide, ensuring timely decision-making and a responsive medicines supply chain at every level

Partners & Collaborators



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