



Zamfara is located in northwest Nigeria and has a population of 4.1 million (including 800,000 children under 5). Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) is 1,100 deaths per 100,000 live births; Infant mortality is 104/1,000 live births. Contraceptive prevalence rate has increased from 3.3% in 2011 to 5% 2016. (MIC survey 2011-2016).

Key achievements

- A total of 168 Medical Records Officers and Facility In-charges were trained in record keeping and maintenance across the 84 MNCH2 supported health facilities in all 14 local government areas (LGAs).
- The programme conducted a quarterly review meeting on outreach sustainability plan with Maternal and Child Health Coordinators from the 14 LGAs.
- MNCH2 conducted Maternal Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response review meetings in 14 General hospitals in the state, as a result of which the MPDSR Committee developed action plans to reduce maternal deaths in the state.
- Mentoring visits were conducted to 12 primary health care facilities. Targeted towards addressing data quality issues, the visits have brought about synergy between health facility staff in addressing challenges regarding data quality and overall service delivery.

Lessons

- Logistics issues and inadequate capacity in filling requisition and utilisation forms are leading to stock-outs of healthy timing and spacing of pregnancy commodities in some primary and secondary health facilities.
- Security challenges are leading to some supported health facilities closing earlier in Anka Local Government Area.

Transition and Sustainability

- The State Ministry of Religious Affairs has set up a monitoring committee that is ensuring strategic sermons on maternal, newborn and child health issues during every Ramadan period
- The State Government released 72 Million Naira for the construction of two cold rooms for storage of vaccines and other medical consumables at Kaura Namoda and Talata Mafara LGAs.
- The State Governor has finally signed the memo authorising transfer of all LGA primary health care staff from the Ministry for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs to the State Primary Health Care Board.

“*The MNCH2 approach to service delivery is different from other partners’. They build the capacity of the state’s workers so that we can take charge of most activities after the programme exits.*”

- Isa Mohammed Gusau,
Director Pharmaceutical Services,
Zamfara Hospital Services Management Board

Priorities for next month

- Provide technical support to established community structures (traditional birth attendants and religious leaders) to sustain MNCH2 activities.
- Mentor newly recruited local government Monitoring and Evaluation Officers on effective utilisation of District Health Information system (DHIS2).
- Collaborate with the state Ministry of Health to conduct immunisation outreaches in hard to reach communities.



MNCH2 outreach team dispensing free drugs to women and children at Kofar Yamma community, Bodinga LGA.

