



Katsina State is located in the Sahel Savannah in northwest Nigeria. It has a total population of nearly 6 million. Each ward has at least one functional primary health facility and the state has seen great improvement in some health indicators: delivery by skill birth attendant has risen from 5.1% in 2008 to 20.8% in 2017. However, antenatal attendance stands at 33.40% and immunisation coverage is 6%. The unmet need for child spacing is 29.5%. (MICs 2016/2017)

### Key achievements

- MNCH2 supported the state's Maternal Death Review (MDR) team to conduct Community Maternal, Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response mentoring in 19 secondary health facilities. The data was used to develop an MDR scorecard to be used for advocacy to improve quality of services.
- The programme helped the state conduct monthly NHMIS data mentoring visits to health facilities aimed at strengthening the capacity of health service providers, as well as the data producers and users.
- Following the recruitment of 80 Emergency Transport Service (ETS) volunteers through the ETS garage mobilisation, volunteers have transported a total of 1,314 women and children to health facilities in just one month.



**Mothers waiting for routine immunisation in Guga health facility, Bakori LGA.**

### Lessons

- The involvement of LGA health educators and promoters improves collaboration and buy-in of the Village Health Committees' (VHC) activities in the LGA.
- Linking up the traditional birth attendants (TBAs) with the community structures, has been increasing antenatal attendance and demand for other maternal health care services in the state.

“My emirate owes appreciation to this organisation as you are supporting in saving and improving the lives of pregnant mothers, newborns and children in our communities. Thank you very much, we are grateful”.

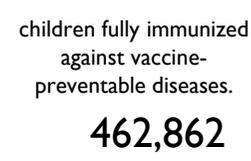
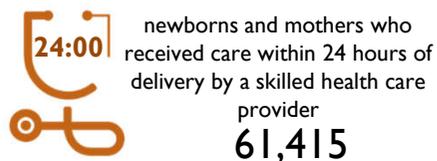
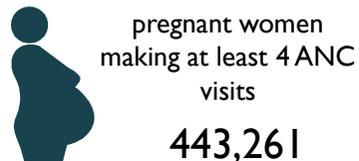
- Emir of Daura, Alh Farouk Umar Farouk (CON)

### Transition and Sustainability

MNCH2 supported the State Ministry of Health to develop, print and distribute the State 2017 Annual Operational Plan (AOP) that informs the state health budget in line with the vision of the Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH). The programme is also supporting the state to develop the State Strategic Health Development Plan (SSHDP) II working with the State Planning Team and stakeholders from health training institutions. The two emirates in the state have been engaged in the process, which has also informed the draft MNCH2 Transition and Sustainability Plan for Katsina.

### Priorities for next month

- Institutionalisation of VHCs and Facility Health Committees (FHCs) within government and other structures; intensified engagement with State Primary Health Care Development Agency (SPHCDA) to achieve this goal.
- Conduct of advocacy visits to key stakeholders for their participation on budget process and tracking.
- Continued awareness creation of Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) among religious leaders.



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