



Yobe is located in northeast Nigeria and borders four Nigerian states as well as the Republic of Niger. It has a population of 3.4 million. Its economy is mainly based on agriculture. Under-five mortality stands at 102 per 1000, immunisation coverage is 7%, and antenatal care attendance is 26.6%. Most wards in the state (98.4%) have a functional health facility (MICs 2016/2017).

Key achievements

- MNCH2 conducted house-to-house sensitisation with referrals to health care facilities provided by Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) trained by the programme.
- The programme marked the World Breast-feeding Week at a ceremony in the State Specialist Hospital in Damaturu, using the opportunity to sensitise mothers on the importance of exclusive breast feeding.
- As part of an effort to ensure service availability in hard-to-reach communities, the outreach team visited 3 LGAs (Bade, Jakusko and Yunusari) to deliver interventions in 9 communities and provide mentorship to 7 healthcare facilities.



Zagaradima in Yunusari LGA was one of the communities which received routine immunisation during the outreach.

Lessons

Introduction of 4 meetings within 2 months (instead of 2 per month over a 6-month period) as the new benchmark for graduation in the Young Women Support Group (YWWSG) scheme has facilitated faster achievement of the programme Year 4 target for number of young women benefiting from safe space interventions.



There are only two partners who come to our aid in many situations without going back – especially when we are in the need of support. These partners are no one other than MNCH2 & W4H”

- Dr Ali Gaji
Director Planning, Research and Statistics
SMOH Yobe

Transition and Sustainability

The Yobe State Emirate Council Committee on Health (YECCOH) met to review community-based activities piloted in 3 emirates with the support of Chigari Foundation and MNCH2. This is part of the efforts to reduce high maternal mortality and morbidity rates in the state in a way that promotes community ownership and sustainability.

Priorities for next month

- Advocacy for community ownership of health facilities
- Advocacy for increasing number of Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) in the state.
- Intensification of community mobilisation for routine immunisation.
- Adaptation of new community data collection tools in consultation with the emirate committees.

