



Zamfara is located in northwest Nigeria and has a population of 4.1 million (800,000 children under five). Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) is 1,100 deaths per 100,000 live births. Infant mortality is 104/1000 per live births. Contraceptive prevalence rate has increased from 3.3% in 2011 to 5% 2016. (MIC survey 2011-2016).

Key achievements

- To improve the availability of minimum stock levels of essential life-saving drugs in supported facilities, MNCH2 distributed RMNCH commodities to 84 facilities across the 14 LGAs in Zamfara.
- Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) referred 1,640 pregnant women to health facilities across the states' 14 LGAs.
- MNCH2 participated in the validation meeting for the Zamfara State Health Strategic Development Plan II (ZSHSDP2) with the support of Zamfara State Ministry of Health and Saving One Million Lives Programme for Results (SOML-P4R).
- As a result of regular advocacy and joint spot-checks by the programme and SMoH, we are recording improvements in the attitudes of service providers.



Facility Health Committee members renovate the borehole at Barayar Zaki PHC, Anka LGA

Lessons

- It as been observed that some, like Bodinga community, are more likely to trust Traditional Birth Attendants than the healthcare service providers. This reinforces the need to engage the TBAs more.
- Vaccine Utilisation Summary Report writing has been neglected in favour of the Vaccines Dashboard.

“MNCH2 is a blessing to the entire population of Zamfara State. This project has saved a lot of lives and without this it, I couldn't have imagined what would have happened to the state health sector.”

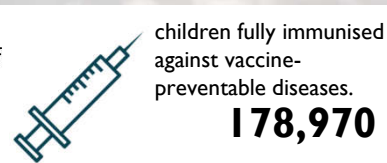
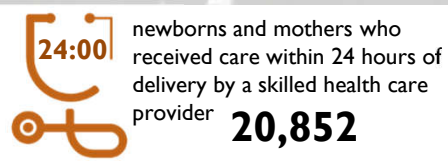
- Adamu Ali
Village Health Committee member
Bilbis PHC, Tsafe LGA

Transition and Sustainability

- The programme supported the State Ministry of Health (SMoH) to review the 2017 the Annual Operational Plan (AOP) and develop the 2018 AOP.
- The SMoH has been intensifying efforts to identify budget lines for some of the key activities carried out under MNCH2 to be taken over by the government.
- There is also a commitment to work closely with Nahuce Centre in an effort to continue identification and resolution of MCH-related issues in the state.

Priorities for next month

- Advocate to local government authorities for renovation of primary healthcare facilities that are in a dilapidated condition.
- Conduct outreaches with sensitisation of communities on the danger signs of pregnancy, importance of routine immunisation and accessing antenatal services.



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