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 with an economy mainly based on agriculture. Under-five mortality stands at 102 per 1000 live births, immunisation coverage is 7%, and antenatal care attendance is 26.6%. Most (98.4%) wards have a functional health facility (MICs 2016/2017).

Key achievements

- The programme printed and distributed 600 copies of training manuals for emergency transport scheme (ETS) workers, traditional leaders, religious leaders, Safe Space Initiative and Male Support Group members across all the 17 local government areas (LGAs) of the state.

- MNCH2 supported local government Essential Drugs Officers to carry out return and redistribution of reproductive maternal newborn and child health (RMNCH) commodities across all the supported facilities using the appropriate Logistics Management Information System (LMIS) tools. It was hoped this would eliminate expiries, minimise wastages, increase utilisation and improve accountability.

- 553,289 women and children were reached with integrated maternal, newborn and child health services during the MNCH week across all the 17 LGAs.

- The programme supported the development of the 2018 health budget and reviewed the health budget scorecard based on the available data.

- Return and redistribution of essential reproductive maternal newborn and child health commodities has evened-out demand and supply and reduced stock-outs of medical consumables in the state.

- Involving labour unions, religious leaders and traditional leaders in advocacy activities at the State House of Assembly has fast-tracked the 2nd reading of the Contributory Health Care Bill.

Lessons

- MNCH2 has made us more enlightened through capacity building and exposed us to contributing to saving lives, especially of our women and children. This would not stop even beyond the programme’s life span because it has now become of our routine responsibilities as religious leaders.”

- Idris Mohammed Chiroma, Religious Leader, Fika LGA

Transition and Sustainability

- The bill to establish the State Drug Management Agency (DMA) has undergone 1st and 2nd readings on the floor of the Yobe State House of Assembly (YBSHoA)

- State Ministry of Health (SMoH) procured 51 mobile pads (3 per LGA) and deployed the Open Data Kit (ODK) platform for data collection and storage.

Priorities for next month

- Conduct advocacy to push for the establishment of the Drug Management Agency (DMA) and Contributory Health Care Scheme by the State Government.

- Support the implementation of integrated supportive supervision and provide technical support to the SMoH to conduct data quality assessments in all the 17 LGAs of the state.

- Continue distribution of demand creation training manuals to all the established community structures in the state.