



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 1,150 women and children were reached with integrated maternal, newborn and child health outreach interventions across 10 communities in 5 local government areas (LGAs).
- 14 Facility In-charges and 7 LGA Primary Health Care Directors (PHCD) from 7 LGAs were trained on operations of the Sustainable Drug Supply System (SDSS).
- The programme sensitised women of reproductive age through community interactive forum on the importance of antenatal attendance, routine immunisation and family planning in 8 communities around MNCH2 non-supported health facilities.



Cross section of women during a community sensitisation forum at Zangon Bakura, Bakura LGA.

Lessons

- Reports generated from community distribution of misoprostol have shown high utilisation of the commodity in areas prone to insecurity due to fewer emergency transport worker activities.
- More local government-trained healthcare workers are ready to serve in rural communities due of the transition of all LGA health workers to the State Primary Healthcare Board and the assurance of regular payment of their remunerations by the State Government.

“ I had negative perceptions of immunisation and family planning, but now I understand the health benefits of both. I have allowed for all of my children to be immunised and I also received a family planning method to space my births. Thanks to MNCH2 for the sensitisation.”

- Rukaiyya Isa
Unguar Sarki community,
Tsafe LGA

Transition and Sustainability

- The State Government has budgeted and released 6 Million Naira for the conduct of sermons and community sensitisation.
- The Ministry for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs has commenced training of emergency transport scheme workers on efficient means of transporting pregnant women to health facilities.

Priorities for next month

- Advocacy to LGA Council Chairmen for the improvement of quality of care in their health facilities.
- Transit the conduct of community scorecard to Health Promotion Officers in the State Ministry of Health (SMoH).
- Showcase the significance of using evidence generated by programmes in the state to inform maternal, newborn and child health strategy, planning, budgeting and decisions to the State Government.
- Train the 14 LGA Primary Health Care Directors on Data Demand and Use (DDU).
- Advocate to the State Government to inaugurate Governing Board members for the State Primary Health Care Board.

