



Katsina State is 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 improvements in some health indicators: delivery by skilled birth attendance 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 engaged facilitators from Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) to support development of the Minimum Service Package and Operational Guidelines for the State Primary Health Care Development Agency (SPHCDA)
- MNCH2 conducted spot checks on service delivery in 204 supported health facilities in the state.
- 160 trained health care providers in 12 local government areas (LGAs) were assessed and certified to provide maternal, newborn and child health services by the programme.

Lessons

Integration of traditional birth attendants, religious leaders, Union of Road Transport Workers, Male Support Groups and Young Women Support Groups has increased coverage of reproductive maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH) service delivery and saved costs.

“ Demand creation interventions have really encouraged people to know the importance of visiting health facilities for service uptake. Maternal deaths are gradually becoming history in our communities. We need to sustain these interventions and keep all hands on deck to complement the efforts of MNCH2 and the State Government in reducing maternal mortality.”

- Umma Likita,
Religious Leader,
Hisbah Office Daura LGA.

Transition and Sustainability

- The Routine Immunisation Technical Working Group, in collaboration with State Logistics Working Group (SLWG), have implemented Direct Vaccine Delivery (DVD) for routine immunisation antigens to 16 LGAs.
- The Ministry of Women Affairs (MOWA) has pledged to use part of the funds allocated for reproductive health to carry out community mobilisation through the Safe Space Initiative intervention in the state.
- Management Sciences for Health (MSH) in collaboration with the State Ministry of Health (SMoH) has taken over the conduct of data review and validation meeting at the state and local government levels.

Priorities for next month


- Support Master Trainer Mentors (MTMs) to conduct spot-checks in all the supported health facilities.
- Follow-up with the SMoH to release funds for the conduct of the quarterly Data Quality Assurance (DQA).
- Support the State Government partnership to disseminate the findings on the 2018 health budget performance scorecard.
- Support the SPHCDA to re-position Primary Health Care Under One Roof (PHCUOR) management in the state.
- Support the SMoH to print and disseminate the Task Shifting Policy document.




Cross section of women during a facility scorecard focus group discussion at Tudun Maiduna community, Malumfashi LGA



births assisted by skilled personnel
208,449



pregnant women making at least 4 ANC visits
655,474



newborns and mothers who received care within 24 hours of delivery by a skilled health care provider
135,091



children fully immunised against vaccine-preventable diseases.
719,375



additional women using modern Family Planning methods
306,125