



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

- The programme supported the State Ministry of Health (SMoH) in facilitating partners' coordination meetings where development allies jointly review and harmonise their workplan to avoid duplication of activities.
- Community “interactive forum” was conducted in 22 non supported communities. Sessions provided a platform for direct interface with community members and sensitising them on the benefits in adopting healthy Reproductive Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (RMNCH) behaviours such as Antenatal, Delivery, Postnatal, Routine immunisation and Healthy timing and spacing of pregnancy
- MNCH2 mentored the State Primary Healthcare Management Board (SPHCB) outreach teams from 7 LGAs on effective RMNCH outreach services.

Lessons

- Community interactive forum seems to be more cost effective and shows a lot of promise in reaching more people than house-to-house sensitisation.
- Regular joint review of state and partners' workplan reduces duplication of efforts and enhances efficiency in the implementation of activities.

Transition and Sustainability

- The SPHCB has taken over the conduct of community outreach services.
- Primary Healthcare Board has began data collection using the harmonised non-Health Management Information System (HMIS) data from the community and reported at the state level.
- SPHCB has inaugurated Data Management Unit (DMU) to coordinate all data management activities and to promote the demand and use of data for decision making.

Priorities for next month

- Conduct data mop-up across all the primary and secondary health facilities in the state.
- Follow up with the SMoH to release fund for the conduct of the quarterly Data Quality Assessment (DQA).
- Pay advocacy visit to Emir of Tsafe to discuss issues related to traditional leaders engagement for sustainability.
- Work closely with State led Accountability Mechanism (SLAMs) members to push for release to improve Maternal, newborn and child health services in the state.

“ Any project that intends to improve the lives of the people in any society should invest its resources in promoting health education among women in that society.

- George from Marie Stopes International- during partners' meeting in the SPHCB



Women and children during RMNCH community outreach services at Kauran community kauran Namoda LGA.

