



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

- MNCH2 trained 60 traditional birth attendants and youth volunteers on community distribution of misoprostol across 3 selected pilot communities (Yanwaren Daji in Tsafe Local Government Area (LGA), Janbako in Talatar Mafara LGA and Nassarawar Godel in Birnin Magaji LGA)
- The programme printed and distributed 45 copies of health facility based Maternal Death Review tools to the Principal Medical Officers of the state's 14 secondary health facilities.
- Doctors from all the 14 local government secondary health facilities and maternity in charges were trained on post-operative care in an effort to reduce maternal mortality.

### Lessons

- Monthly assessments of stock out rates of reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health tracer drugs across the supported health facilities have made it easier in identifying and addressing stock outs and expired medical consumables.
- Intensive training of religious leaders has led to the launching of Religious Leaders Forum on Primary Health Care (RLFPH), with inauguration of its Executive Committee members during the month under review.

### Transition and Sustainability

The Zamfara State Government has started the renovation of 147 Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs) in the state in an effort to improve rural health care delivery.

### Priorities for next month

- Track religious leaders' community interventions to ensure compliance with MNCH2 guidelines.
- Strengthen the capacity of Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response Committees on development of effective action plans.
- Support the Sustainable Healthcare Financing Forum to operationalise the Task Shifting and Sharing Policy.
- Meet with all the 14 local government traditional rulers to discuss MNCH2 transition plan.

*“ I stand here to commend the efforts of MNCH2 and the doctors and nurses who, despite their busy schedules, always try to give their very best in ensuring the quality of healthcare especially for women and children in Zamfara State.”*

- Muhammad Bello Umar Bungudu,  
Deputy Director, Planning Research and Statistics,  
Zamfara State Ministry of Health



Traditional birth attendant escorts a nursing mother to the health facility for immunisation at Sabon Gari community, Maru LGA

