



## VALUE FOR MONEY CASE STUDY

# Kaduna state boosts investments to make life-saving decisions possible

Kaduna • August 2013



A health worker charts data for ANC and facility deliveries

Nigeria's health system still faces challenges impeding the availability of health care for the people who need it the most: poor, rural households.

Despite some reforms by the government, the country remains the second largest contributor to the global under-five and maternal mortality rates. The country loses 2,300 under-five children and 145 women of child-bearing age daily to mostly preventable health events, according to UNICEF.

Without the data needed for evidence-based health management, health policy-makers are unable to make critical life-saving decisions.

Kaduna State, located in Nigeria's northwestern region, faces considerable challenges in managing health-related data. In response, the UKaid-funded PATHS2 programme began supporting the Kaduna State Ministry of Health (KSMoH) in 2010, to strengthen its Health Management Information System (HMIS).

A baseline assessment in 2010 showed that only 15% percent of health facilities were reporting routine health data. "Before PATHS2 intervened, it appeared there was no direction," said KSMoH Permanent Secretary, Dr Paul Manya Dogo.

The programme improved the data management skills of 56 Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Officers throughout the state, to improve. "I learnt a lot of technical things from the trainings and feel more like an M&E officer now," said Jeema Local Government M&E Officer Monica Ogah.

PATHS2 also supported the state in digitising the data management process. "Before now, data transmission was paper-based in Kaduna. The support given to us by PATHS2 has saved us money and man-hours needed to travel to the SMOH to submit health data," said Ms. Ogah. Monthly data review meetings sponsored by PATHS2 provide the platform for M&E teams throughout the state to improve the quality of routine health data.

To ensure the continuous availability of data beyond the life of PATHS2, PATHS2 partnered with the State Ministry of Local Government and SMOH to conduct a

stakeholders' meeting in April 2013. At the end of the meeting, all Primary Health Care Directors reached a consensus to assume full funding of the monthly data review meetings, costing 11,600,000 naira (£46,400) annually.

Before the meeting, PATHS2 and the government had co-funded the review meetings at 78 percent costing 9,100,000 naira (£36,400) and 22 percent 2,500,000 naira (£10,000) respectively. Following the resolution, two review meetings wholly funded by the government were held in May and June 2013.

State ownership of the review meetings has allowed PATHS2 to invest in other aspects of HMIS to further improve availability and quality.

Forty percent of money saved is facilitating the scale-up of routine supportive supervisory visits by Local Government Area M&E teams to all 1,600 health facilities in the state. The remaining 60 percent is supporting activities targeting routine data generation from private hospitals.

Meanwhile, Kaduna State has recorded a 71% increase in health facility reporting rates in 2013 compared with 15% baseline figure in 2010.



Health workers entering data into a facility NHMIS register

Health managers in Kaduna State are excited about the immense possibilities. "We are now using the HMIS to ensure that information is actively collected and used to understand problems, and to plan interventions to address them," said Dr Dogo.

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**The Partnership for Transforming Health Systems Phase Two (PATHS2)** is a six-year development initiative that aims to ensure Nigeria achieves important health-related Millennium Development Goals.

Funded by UKaid from the Department for International Development, PATHS2 is working in partnership with the Government of Nigeria and other stakeholders to improve the planning, financing, and delivery of sustainable health services for those most in need. In addition to its work at the federal level, the PATHS2 programme is implemented in the five states of Enugu, Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, and Lagos. PATHS2 follows the successful PATHS programme, which was implemented from 2002 to 2008.

PATHS2 is managed by Abt Associates, in association with Options, Mannion Daniels, and the Axios Foundation.

