

Nigeria HPN Multi-Activity Evaluation

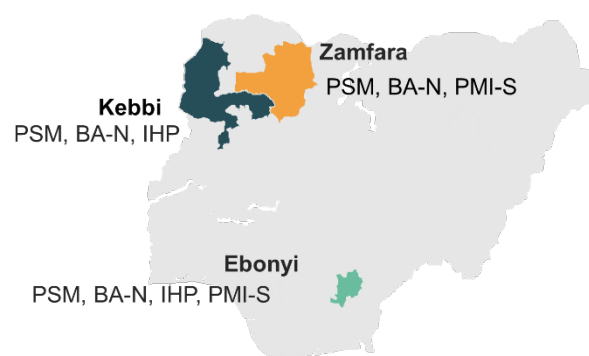
Findings from a Most Significant Change (MSC) Workshop in Zamfara

Data for Impact (D4I) is conducting a mixed-methods, portfolio-level evaluation of four USAID/Nigeria HPN activities with a focus on comparing the strengths and challenges of an integrated health programming approach with a disease-focused approach (e.g., malaria). D4I, in collaboration with local research partner Data Research and Mapping Consult Ltd. (DRMC), conducted two-day MSC workshops in Ebonyi, Kebbi, and Zamfara in July/August 2022.

MSC¹ is an approach to monitoring and evaluation that involves assessing changes and impacts in response to a program from the perspective (in this case) of HPN activity staff, State Ministry of Health staff, and the World Health Organization.

Workshop Participants

Breakthrough Action – Nigeria (BA-N)	2
Global Health Supply Chain-Procurement and Supply Management (PSM)	2
President’s Malaria Initiative for States (PMI-S)	2
State Ministry of Health (SMOH)	8
World Health Organization (WHO)	2
Total	12
Female (%)	12.5%



Methods

Participants shared stories of change related to three domains: (1) advocacy and accountability for health, (2) capacity for leadership and governance in healthcare, and (3) sustainability of health systems and health outcomes. Participants then narrowed down the stories they considered significant and ultimately identified one story per domain per state as “most significant.”² Participants chose those stories that they found to be impactful, detailed/comprehensive, verifiable, and sustainable.

Who benefitted from the interventions described in the MSC stories?



The people who benefitted from the interventions described in the MSC stories were ultimately community members, with a focus on women of reproductive age, pregnant woman, mothers, children, and people with malaria.




Additionally, health care providers gained clinical skills and/or skills in data management. State and local health officials gained skills in planning, management, data use, and/or coordination, and community leaders gained skills in awareness raising related to priority health behaviors.

¹ Davies R and Dart J. The ‘Most Significant Change’ (MSC) Technique. Available at: <https://www.mande.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2005/MSCGuide.pdf>.

² For more detail on methods, see the [MSC methods brief](#). For more details on the workshop findings, see the [Zamfara MSC short report](#).


The MSC Stories by Domain

Domain 1: 
Advocacy and Accountability

State Government Supplied 75,000 Doses of SP to Prevent MIP

- USAID stopped procuring SP in 2018 which led to reduced coverage of IPTp
- The HPN activities advocated for the state to procure SP for the DRF for distribution to facilities throughout the state


Significance: With increased IPTp coverage, the state can reduce morbidity and mortality due to malaria in pregnancy

Domain 2: 
Capacity for Leadership and Governance

Strengthening the State Malaria Elimination Program

- Through regular data validation meetings, reactivation of working groups, quality control for malaria diagnosis, training on updated guidelines for malaria case management, and integrated supportive supervision, PMI-S strengthened the capacity of SMEP

Significance: Morbidity and mortality due to malaria will likely reduce in the future


Domain 3: 
Sustainability of Systems/Outcomes

Institutionalization of the Drug Revolving Fund (DRF)


- The DRF was implemented in Zamfara starting with secondary health facilities and has increased the availability of affordable drugs and commodities in the state, including ACT and malaria RDTs

Significance: The DRF has increased the availability and uptake of quality, affordable malaria commodities in health facilities


What key themes emerged from the MSC stories?

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Sustainable availability of malaria commodities

 - State procurement of SP and establishment of the Drug Revolving Fund
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Capacity strengthening of state (SMEP) officials

 - Strengthened capacity of health workers and officials for improved malaria diagnosis and case management, improved reporting and data quality, AOP planning, and management of the DRF
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Reactivation of state structures for sustainable management of malaria

 - Malaria Technical Working Group and its committees

How did the MSC stories align with HPN desired high-level outcomes and impacts?

- Each story was associated with more than one desired outcome or impact.
- All 3 stories were aligned with increased sustainability of health outcomes/systems.

Health System Outcomes	Facility-Level Outcomes	Impacts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthened health financing • Strengthened financing for EDDS • Increased use of data for decision making • Improved planning, management, and coordination • Increased advocacy and accountability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved provider knowledge, skills, and practices • Improved client-provider interaction • Increased availability of EDDS • Increased facility readiness to provide services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased demand for high quality services • Increased use of RMNCH+NM services • Increased sustainability of health outcomes/systems <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>■ 0 stories</p> <p>■ 1 story</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>■ 2 stories</p> <p>■ 3 stories</p> </div> </div>

This publication was produced with the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the terms of the Data for Impact (D4I) associate award 7200AA18LA00008, which is implemented by the Carolina Population Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, in partnership with Palladium International, LLC; ICF Macro, Inc.; John Snow, Inc.; and Tulane University. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government. SR-23-177h D4I

