

# MINIMINIA ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS HIMMINIA 🛚

AfriYAN - African Youth and Adolescents Network on Population and Development

AR - Annual Report

AVAT - African Vaccine Acquisition Trust

BHCPF - Basic Health Care Provision Fund

**CCT - Certificate of Completion of Training** 

CHWP - Community Health Watch Project

EPIET - European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training

FHC - Future of Health Conference

FP- Family Planning

GBINAP- Giving Birth in Nigeria Advocacy Project

**GPAP- Global Policy Advocacy Project** 

MNCH - Maternal, Newborn and Child Health

NAPHS - National Action Plan for Health Security

NBSC - National Blood Service Commission

NCDC - Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention

NHS - National Health Service

NICD - National Institute for Communicable Diseases

PE - Prevent Epidemics

PEP - Prevent Epidemics Project

PHC- Primary Healthcare Centre

**RTSL-** Resolve To Save Lives

SDGs- Sustainable Development Goals

SJAIP- Solutions Journalism Africa Initiative Project

SJN- Solutions Journalism Network

SM- Social Media

**UHC - Universal Health Coverage** 

**UN - United Nations** 

**UNDP - United Nations Development Programme** 

USAID - United States Agency for International Development

WaSH - Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

WHO - World Health Organisation

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# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### DR ZAINAB IMAM



Dr Zainab Imam obtained her medical degree from the University of Ibadan in Nigeria in 1991, followed by training at the University College Hospital in Ibadan in General Practice. Dr Imam retrained as a Psychiatrist in the UK, obtaining her CCT in General Adult Psychiatry with endorsement

in Rehabilitation Psychiatry and Subspecialty interests in Early Intervention in Psychosis and Perinatal Psychiatry. She has worked in Psychiatry for 15 years. She works at Sidra Medicine in Qatar, where she is the Acting Division Chief and Medical Students Clerkship Director for Women's Mental Health.

She is a Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and chairs the International Workroom of the Perinatal Faculty. She also holds a one-year Intermediate Certificate in Psychodynamic Psychotherapy from the University of Plymouth. She is a co-founder and trustee of the Foundation for Refugees Economic Empowerment (FREE), a trustee of Nigeria's IDP Diaspora Support Group, and a faculty member of its Lay Trauma Counseling Course.

### **DR IKE ANYA**



Dr Ike Anya is a Partner at
EpiAFRIC and manages all
engagements in Western
Europe. Until recently, he was
a Consultant in Public Health
Medicine, Deputy Director of
Public Health with the UK National

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Health Service in London, and an honorary lecturer in Public Health at Imperial College. A Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health, he has taught at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), Imperial College, University College London, the University of the West of England, and Bristol University. A lead partner for the General Medical Council, he is a member of the Black & Ethnic Minority Health and Epidemiology & Public Health Section Council at the Royal Society of Medicine and the Advisory Committee for Medecins Du Monde's Project: London. He co-founded the Abuja Literary Society, the Nigerian Public Health Foundation, and the Nigeria Health Watch. He is a TED Global Fellow and cofounder of TEDxEuston.

### **DR CHIKWE IHEKWEAZU**



Dr Chikwe Ihekweazu is the
Assistant Director-General at the
World Health Organisation (WHO),
leading the WHO Hub for Pandemic
and Epidemic Intelligence. Before this,
Dr. Ihekweazu was the first DirectorGeneral of the Nigeria Centre for Disease

Control (NCDC) and led the agency between July 2016 and October 2021. Dr Ihekweazu trained as an infectious disease epidemiologist and has over 25 years of experience working in senior public health and leadership positions at the South African National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD), the UK's Health Protection Agency, and Germany's Robert Koch Institute (RKI). Dr Ihekweazu has led several short-term engagements for WHO, mainly in response to major infectious disease outbreaks. He graduated from the College of Medicine, University of Nigeria, and has a master's in public health (MPH) from the Heinrich-Heine University, Dusseldorf, Germany. In 2003, he was awarded a Fellowship for the European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training (EPIET), completing his Public Health specialisation in the UK. He was a co-founder of TEDxEuston.

### DR OLUSOLA ARUNA



Dr Olusola Aruna is a
United Kingdom Faculty of
Public Health (FPH) Fellow. Dr
Aruna qualified as a doctor in
1984 from the University of Ife,
Nigeria. She gained her master's in
public health (MPH) with distinction

from the University of Leeds in 1996 as a British Chevening Scholar and holds a Diploma in Child Health (DCH) from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. Dr Aruna was appointed Consultant in Public Health Medicine in the UK National Health Service (NHS) in 2007 and has worked on identifying, assessing, analysing, and using data and other information for decision-making, including controlling communicable diseases. Dr Aruna supported the design, implementation, and evaluation of surveillance systems in Nigeria as a Senior Technical Advisor on Surveillance to the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control under the USAID-funded MEASURE Evaluation Project. She is the country lead for Public Health England's (PHE) International Health Regulations (IHR) Strengthening Programme in Nigeria.

# OVERVIEW

eflecting on the achievements and challenges of the past year, I am proud to present an overview of Nigeria Health Watch's activities and impact in 2023. Throughout the year, Nigeria Health Watch stayed committed to its mission to promote health awareness, and advocate for equitable access to high-quality healthcare services for all Nigerians.

Building upon the successes of previous years, we continued to make significant strides towards realising our vision of a Nigeria where every citizen has access to quality Healthcare.

In 2023, our organisation continued to drive for positive change in the Nigerian healthcare sector. Through our dedicated team and strategic partnerships, we implemented a range of programmes and initiatives aimed at influencing policy.

Our staff's unwavering commitment and dedication were pivotal to our successes. Their hard work and resilience enabled us to amplify the voices of Nigerians and advocate for policy implementation. Through targeted health campaigns, community engagement initiatives, and policy advocacy efforts, we reached a significant number of Nigerians with crucial health information. Our digital media platforms served as powerful tools for knowledge dissemination, further extending our reach and impact.

Strategic collaborations were at the heart of our success in 2023. We forged partnerships with government agencies, international organisations, healthcare institutions, and other stakeholders. These partnerships facilitated knowledge sharing and collaborative action.

With a new administration outlining its agenda, Nigeria Health Watch is ready to communicate these priorities while monitoring policy implementation.

We will be holding the administration accountable for its promises to improve healthcare governance and outcomes. Through our health communications, advocacy efforts, and strategic partnerships, we will ensure find avenues for public engagement, and collaborative opportunities, driving for meaningful improvements in the health system for all Nigerians.

As we look ahead, we are grateful for the support of our employees, partners, and supporters. Together, we are committed to building a healthier Nigeria, prioritising initiatives that address the evolving needs of our communities.

In conclusion, I extend my sincere appreciation to everyone who contributed to Nigeria Health Watch's success in 2023. Your efforts were essential to our collective mission of creating a brighter, healthier future for all Nigerians.

Vivianne Thekweazu
Managing Director
Nigeria Health Watch



# WHO WE ARF





Year Founded: 2007



Location: Abuja, Nigeria



Employees: 37

### a. WHAT IS OUR PURPOSE?

At the inception of Nigeria Health Watch, the founders set out to ensure that health was given a greater priority in Nigeria. With little progress in improving health outcomes, Nigeria's inadequate healthcare system remains challenging. The goal was to communicate the challenges and opportunities in the Nigerian health sector to Nigerians, empowering them with evidence-based information to advocate for better access to quality healthcare. Holding duty bearers accountable for delivering on the health promises and policies that would lead to positive change in the Nigerian health sector was also essential.

### b. WHAT GUIDES US?

We are guided by the belief that health is a right and all Nigerians should have access to affordable quality healthcare.



### **MISSION**

Our mission is to ensure that Nigerians have the tools and knowledge to make informed decisions about their health. We seek to advocate for improved access to health services at the federal and state levels, promoting transparency and health reform where needed. Nigeria Health Watch aims to achieve this mission through informed commentary, effective advocacy, education, health information dissemination and policy recommendation.



### **VISION**

Nigeria Health Watch is committed to working with stake-holders through advocacy to realise its vision of a Nigeria where everyone, regardless of income, has access to improved and affordable health care.



#### **VALUES**

Our values are excellence, partner-ship, collaboration, commitment, and open-mindedness as we work collectively to advocate for better access to health care for all Nigerians.

### **CORE BELIEFS**



Excellence



Partnership



Commitment



Open-Mindedness

# 2023 IN NUMBERS





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Trained

30 JOURNALISTS
from 10 newsrooms

Editorials Written

# 73 Limit Leadership Stories Published

# **36 TORCHLIGHT SERIES**

Community Health
Watch Reports
Published



10 TORCHLIGHT AFRICA Stories Published

Top 10
Health News
Blasts

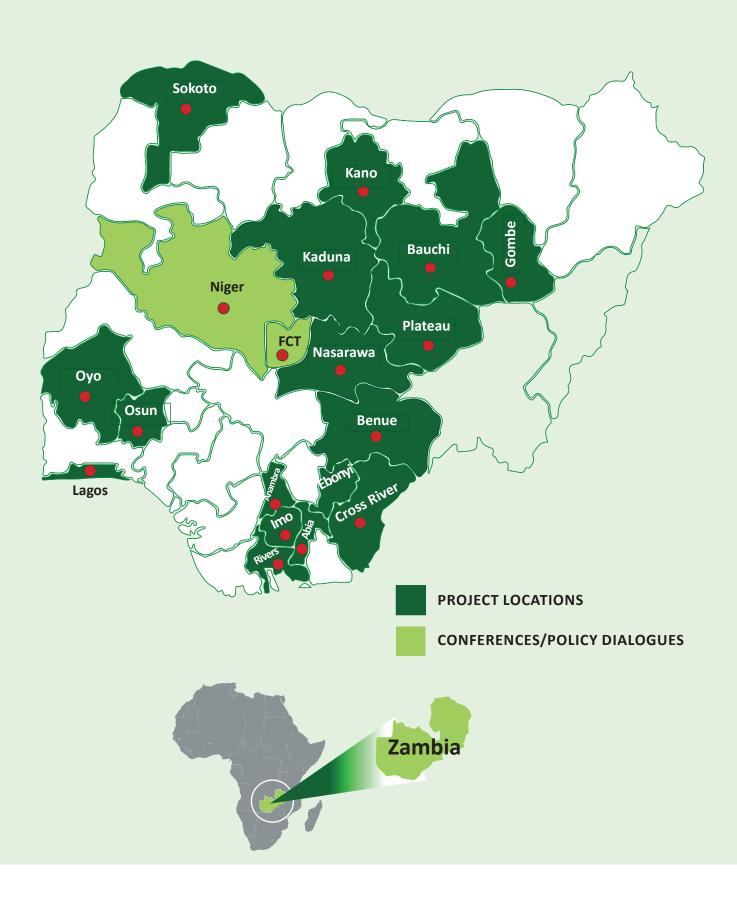


Press Releases



168,857 Website Page Views

# PROJECT LOCATIONS



# 2023 IN PICTURES



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# **PROJECTS:**

# What We Achieved in 2023

# The Global Policy Advocacy Project

Founded By BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION

# **About:**

In 2023, the Global Policy Advocacy project continued to raise public and policymaker awareness on key health issues, including primary health care, nutrition, routine immunisation & Polio, maternal and child health, universal health coverage, gender equality, health systems strengthening and sexual and reproductive health and rights. Funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the project employed diverse formats and platforms to advocate for these issues, including our editorial, convening strategic events and direct engagements with policy and decision-makers, leveraging both social and traditional media.



### Goal:

To raise awareness, knowledge and engagement on health issues in Nigeria.

# **Objectives:**

- Increase knowledge and awareness of key health focus areas at federal and state levels
- Increase engagement with decision-makers and policymakers around key health focus areas and salient issues like health security and gender equality

- Increase accountability in Nigeria's primary health sector by policymakers at federal and state levels
- Increase salience of key health issues, including gender equality, health security, and the Basic Health Care Provision Fund (BHCPF), contributing to their prioritisation at the federal and state levels.

### **Outcome:**

- Invitations to contribute to policy development and reviews, e.g. Revised National Policy on Food Safety Quality, National Guideline for Integrated Health Advocacy for family well-being,
- Multiple news mentions in mainstream newspapers, e.g. Premium Times, the Guardian, DailyTrust, Leadership, ThisDay, The Nation, etc.
- Invitations to provide strategic communications support to major health events and organisations, e.g. the 64th National Council on Health, Health Commissioners' Induction Retreat, the Social Norms Learning Conference, Annual Results Conference of the Accelerating Nutrition Results in Nigeria (ANRIN) project, ECOWAS Nutrition Forum, etc.
- Received an Award of Recognition for active collaboration from Results for Development (R4D)
- Winner, Best Poster Presentation at Vaccination Acceptance Research Network (VARN 2023) conference.
- Winner, 2023 Private Sector Health Alliance of Nigeria's (PSHAN) "Media Health Advocacy" Award
- Winner, 2023 Healthcare Media Excellence Award online category 5th consecutive winner.

### **Achievements:**

Increased knowledge and awareness of the public and policymakers on key health issues, with our audience identifying primary health care (43%), universal health coverage (43%) and maternal health care (39%) as the top three most important health issues facing Nigerians today.

From our 2023 survey to determine the impact of our work, 59% of our audience use their voices to

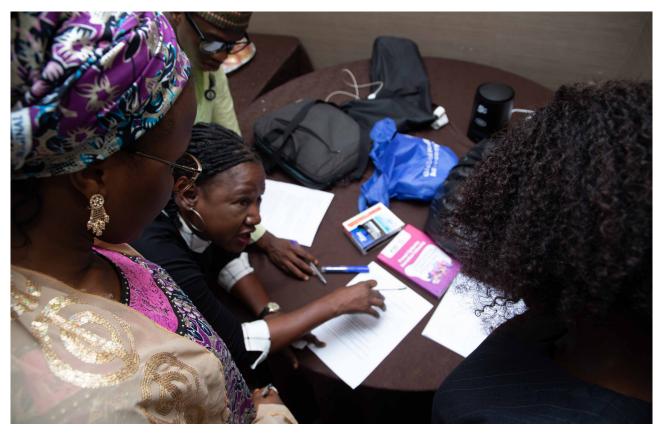


advocate for health issues and 60% of our audience forward our articles/advocacy materials to their network after coming in contact with them.

Increased engagements with policy and decision-makers at the subnational level on salient health issues, including Primary Healthcare, and the Basic Healthcare Provision Fund (BHCPF).

Expansion to new geographical areas and leveraging global platforms such as conferences to effectively communicate the great work being done on the African continent e.g. the Vaccination Acceptance Research Network (VARN 2023) conference held in Bangkok Thailand, the 2nd Global Forum on Childhood Pneumonia in Madrid Spain.





# Giving Birth in Nigeria Project: Advocacy & Communications for Maternal Health in Nigeria

Funded By MSD FOR MOTHERS



### **About:**

Nigeria has the second highest maternal mortality rate in the world at 512 deaths per 100,000 live births. Globally, maternal mortality and morbidity continue to be a public health concern, especially in developing countries with high levels of maternal deaths. This has impacted the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.1 target- to reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births by 2030.

Despite interventions to reduce these alarming maternal mortality and morbidity levels, considerable gaps remain that need to be addressed. This is partly attributed to the inequities faced by access to quality maternal health care. Investing in maternal health has a ripple effect on the country's entire population. A woman's health during pregnancy, childbirth and after delivery has long-term consequences on her child's health and the family's well-being. Healthy mothers lead healthy families and societies.

On the other hand, the death of a mother during pregnancy, childbirth or after delivery impacts the nutritional status of the child and overall health outcomes. Maternal health programmes must be supported by a well-funded health system where mothers can access quality maternal health care. This calls for a more strategic approach to designing and implementing advocacy and communications campaigns to raise awareness of the most pressing challenges confronting women seeking care, reaching key decision-makers, and influencing transformative high-level discourse and policymaking.

The Maternal Health Advocacy and Communications project was launched in 2018 and is a strategic initiative to address critical challenges in maternal healthcare in Nigeria. This is done by highlighting the work and impact of MSD for Mothers' collaborators' initiatives in Nigeria, which align with MSD for Mothers' advocacy, communications, and evidence generation (ACE) priorities.

### Goal:

The project aims to provide targeted health communications to advocate to policymakers and healthcare professionals for better access to improved and quality maternal health services.

# **Objectives:**

 Increase awareness through advocacy and communications on the importance of integrating private providers and approaches into mixed health systems to improve the quality of maternity care.



- Increase awareness through advocacy and communications, on the importance of a systematic collection and analysis of why women are dying to inform efforts aimed at improving the quality of maternity care
- Increase awareness through advocacy and communications, on the importance of integrating women's voices to shape policies and practice to improve the quality of maternity care
- Increase awareness through advocacy and communications, on the importance of supporting maternal health equity to improve the quality of maternal care

## **Outputs:**

- Strategic events to facilitate knowledge dissemination and actionable discourse among policy and decision-makers.
  - Celebrating Womanhood Art Gala: a "Health Meets Art" initiative to increase awareness about maternal health issues among a broader audience of stakeholders outside the health sector.
     The event provided a platform for critical maternal health issues to be depicted through various art forms and discussed by stakeholders. (link to the report).
  - O Building resilient maternal health systems through private sector integration: A virtual event (webinar) to advocate for private sector integration in Nigeria's Mixed health system.
- Published editorials on the Nigeria Health Watch Platform and other electronic print media to advocate for improved maternal health.
  - o RICOM3: A Collaborative Effort to Reduce Maternal Deaths from Indirect Causes in Nigeria.
  - O Celebrating Womanhood: The Art of Elevating Women's Voices for Quality Healthcare
  - o <u>#ThePowerOfOptions: Improving Maternal Health through Increased Access to Contraception</u>
  - o <u>Strengthening Health Systems to Improve Maternal Health Care The FOR M(om) Programme</u>
- Podcast on MPDSR to engage policymakers on the importance of an effective maternal death review and surveillance system in maternal health quality improvement.
- Radio programmes: Programmes on Women's voices, private sector integration, maternal health equity and other related maternal health hot-button topics.
- Themed social media campaigns to communicate targeted advocacy messages on the project objectives were designed and disseminated on social media platforms to increase public awareness/ engagement on maternal health issues and advocate for better access to quality maternal healthcare. The campaigns were themed Women's Voices, Private Sector Integration, Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response (MPDSR) and Maternal Health Equity





- Collaboration and partnership: MSD for Mothers collaborators (RICOM 3, Smiles for Mothers,
   IntegratE/PACS, FOR Mom) were supported during virtual and in-person events to amplify the
   impact of their work and advocate for better maternal care by providing pre-event publicity, live
   social media coverage during events and post-event publications for continued public engagement
   and event. Health conferences were also leveraged through collaboration and partnership to provide
   platforms for MSD for Mother's collaborators to expound knowledge on maternal health issues and
   advocate for improved maternal care by discussing their work.
  - Future of Health Conference: Maternal health panel session at the Future of Health conference where stakeholders advocated effective private sector integration https://articles. nigeriahealthwatch.com/private-sector-integration-in-maternal-health-care-delivery-moving-from-talk-to-action/
  - Side Event at the Society of Gynaecology and Obstetrics of Nigeria (SOGON) Conference themed: Improving maternal health outcomes: A conversation on effective health system strengthening for quality maternal health care
  - o <a href="https://guardian.ng/news/msd-for-mothers-partners-drive-solutions-to-reduce-maternal-mortality-in-Nigeria/">https://guardian.ng/news/msd-for-mothers-partners-drive-solutions-to-reduce-maternal-mortality-in-Nigeria/</a>

## **Outcomes:**

- Increased and continued engagement with policy/decision makers and stakeholders on maternal health discourse for improved healthcare
- More stakeholders speaking up and advocating for a strengthened health system and improved maternal health services that effectively integrates the private sector
- Increased engagement and awareness on the importance of maternal and perinatal death surveillance and response (MPDSR) and its role in maternal health quality improvements.
- Increased engagement and awareness on the importance of incorporating women's perspectives in program and policy design for better maternal health outcomes
- Increased focus on the importance of equitable access to healthcare for improved population outcomes
- Increased access to better maternal health services in collaborators intervention sites
- Sustained media and public engagement on critical maternal health issues leading to increased awareness among the target audience.

# Prevent **Epidemics**

Funded By >

GLOBAL HEALTH ADVOCACY INCUBATOR

### **About**

The Prevent Epidemics Project aims to build and demonstrate public and policymaker support for epidemic preparedness and response funding at national and subnational levels in Nigeria, particularly Lagos and Kano. Launched in 2018, the project has actively utilised media advocacy by empowering media and civil society organisations to achieve its objective of increased epidemics preparedness and response funding, budget accountability and policy changes for health security.



### Goal:

This project aims to enhance epidemic preparedness and response in Nigeria by raising awareness, promoting sustainability, transparency, and accountability in the epidemic preparedness and response budget process, and strengthening and sustaining epidemic preparedness reporting at the national and sub-national levels.

# **Objectives:**

- 1. To raise awareness among decision-makers, the public, and relevant stakeholders about maintaining epidemic preparedness as a national priority at the federal and state levels in Kano and Lagos.
- 2. To strengthen and increase epidemic preparedness reporting nationally and in Lagos and Kano states.

# **Outputs:**

- Weekly social media messages related to epidemic preparedness and response.
- Editorials on epidemic preparedness and response issues.
- Twitter Spaces, Instagram Live, and Facebook Live events with relevant groups and individuals to increase awareness and demand for increased funding to prevent infectious disease outbreaks.

- Roundtable meeting to orientate new federal legislators in health committees on epidemic preparedness and response issues.
- Host the 3rd edition of the #PreventEpidemics Journalism Awards
- Develop, pilot, and launch a comprehensive media advocacy toolkit for increased and sustained epidemic preparedness funding.

### **Outcomes:**

- Increased public awareness about epidemic preparedness and response.
- Increased awareness among policymakers about epidemic preparedness and response priorities.
- Influenced policy decisions and increased resource allocation.
- Strengthened advocacy and sustained media engagement on epidemic preparedness and response issues
- Increased awareness among legislators about epidemic preparedness and response priorities.
- Enhanced support and commitment from legislators towards allocating resources for epidemic preparedness.

### **Achievements:**

• Empowered Journalists for Epidemic Reporting:

Our media advocacy fellowship and workshops empowered 45 journalists from various media platforms (electronic, print, and social) to understand and report epidemic preparedness issues. We continuously monitored their progress, observing significant improvements in their reporting of epidemics preparedness. Inspired by the training, several journalists authored impactful stories published and used to advocate for better preparedness.

- Amplified Epidemic Preparedness Message:
  - By leveraging our social media platforms, we significantly amplified our advocacy for epidemic preparedness, reaching a vast and diverse audience. Our robust social media advocacy engaged over 8 million individuals, groups, organisations, and policymakers.
- Developed the Media Advocacy Toolkit for Epidemic Preparedness:
  - The Media Advocacy Toolkit on Epidemic Preparedness developed by the Prevent Epidemics Project Team provided a comprehensive step-by-step guide to media advocacy. The toolkit targets a diverse audience, including advocates, activists, healthcare professionals, policymakers, civil society organisations, academia, and public health communicators. It is a valuable resource that can be used locally or globally. It empowers the user to plan, understand and successfully execute media advocacy campaigns that can lead to saved lives through epidemic preparedness.
- Hosted a Side Event: 3rd Annual International Conference on Public Health in Africa
  To drive the discourse on the role of media advocacy in public health, the team hosted a side event
  at the 3rd Annual International Conference on Public Health in Africa in Lusaka, Zambia. The event
  brought together national, regional and global experts to share key insights from their experiences
  leveraging the media to drive positive change in public health.

The Media Advocacy Toolkit for Epidemic Preparedness was launched at this side event in the presence of a diverse audience.

# Solutions Journalism Africa Initiative Project

Funded By

SOLUTIONS JOURNALISM NETWORK

### **About**

The Solutions Journalism Africa Initiative project, implemented with support from the Solutions Journalism Network (SJN) USA, trains and supports newsroom and freelance journalists across Nigeria to investigate and report on how people respond to various social problems.



## Goal:

Increase reporting on responses to various social issues and address the predominant trend of problem-focused reporting, leading to news avoidance by audiences.

# **Objectives:**

- Engage leadership of media organisations for partnership and buy-in.
- Train select staff of media organisations and provide support to write and publish solutions-focused stories.
- Encourage participating media organisations to take ownership by establishing solutions-journalism desks.
- Select, train, and support freelance journalists to spread solutions journalism through storytelling and activities.

# **Outputs:**

- Reached over 1000 journalists with solutions journalism training (their peers trained some of them).
- Over 300 solutions journalism stories

### **Outcome:**

- Increased reach of insights from the project beyond Nigeria and journalist communities.
- Acceptance of speaking panel at the 2023 International Journalism Festival.
- Acceptance of the project insights as an oral abstract at the 2023 Conference on Public Health in Africa.
- Project hashtag (#SoJoNigeria) reached over a million users on X (Formerly Twitter)

### **Achievements:**

- Quality solutions journalism stories produced as part of the project, helping amplify responses to various social problems in Nigeria and other African countries.
- 50% of stories from the project are indexed on the Solutions Journalism Tracker, an international database of solutions journalism stories.
- The project has raised champions who have taken ownership of the practice by establishing dedicated solutions journalism desks in their organisations and spreading it to their peers and within their networks.





# Media Development Innovation Fund/ MDIF-NAMIP

Funded By DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT FUND (MDIF)



### **About:**

The Nigeria Media Innovation Program (NAMIP) is a multi-year media initiative that seeks to accelerate digital media innovation and sustainability among independent media outlets or media-focused organisations in Nigeria.

Goal: Assist participating organisations in increasing revenue, testing new business models, and instilling financial discipline. In addition, help them build a robust partnership and collaboration community.

# **Objectives:**

- Actively participate in program activities largely focused on capacity building through incountry online and offline workshops, international conferences and monthly community calls.
- Engage with a support coach assigned by NAMIP to appraise organisational strategies and offer recommendations for improvement.
- Leverage NAMIP resources and network to address operational challenges.
- Use project funds to refine a new product idea submitted at the project's inception and prepare it for market/launch.

## **Outputs:**

- New editorial product being finalised for launch.
- Participation in multiple capacity-building workshops and international events by team members.
- Participation in the program's community calls.

## **Outcome:**

• Partnership with other media organisations in the program.

# **Achievements:**

 Conceptualised and advanced a new editorial product leveraging the program's resources and network.





# Women's Voices for Action

Funded by WHITE RIBBON ALLIANCE



### **About**

In December 2022, with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation through White Ribbon Alliance, Nigeria Health Watch initiated the "Women's Voices for Action: Advocacy and Communications for Better Maternal Health Care project" with the goal of elevating reproductive and maternal health in Niger State through concrete policy and accountability wins.

The project's focus was to build on the outcomes, insights, and recommendations of the 'What Women Want' and 'Midwives Voices' campaigns and the community-informed maternal death review - Why Are Women Dying While Giving Birth in Nigeria? Report.

The project was implemented in partnership with the Niger State Primary Health Care Development Agency (now known as the Niger State Ministry of Primary Health Care) and women and girls at the community level to raise awareness for gaps in better maternal health.

The project focused on prioritising the needs and priorities of women and girls.

This was achieved through various approaches, including desk review and research, stakeholder mapping and engagement, policy engagement and dialogues, editorials and social media campaigns.



### Goal:

Elevating reproductive and maternal health in Niger State through concrete policy and accountability wins.

# **Objectives:**

- Objective 1: The Niger State Primary Health Development Agency equitably deploys at least one midwife in each of the 274 focal primary health care (PHC) facilities in the state and conducts two supportive supervision visits in 25% of the focal PHCs by December 31, 2023.
- Objective 2: The Niger State Ministry of Health institutionalised and made fully functional community Maternal

and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response (MPDSR) committees in at least three communities in Niger State by December 31, 2023. (Functional means to hold monthly verbal autopsy review meetings where recommendations are made, and responses are provided and monitored).

 Objective 3: Mobilize at least 150,000 responses from women and girls across the life cycle from Kebbi and Niger state about what they most want for their health and well-being and for their economic empowerment by August 14, 2023.



# **Output:**

- Support the BHCPF team to conduct supportive supervision - 25% of the facilities in Q3.
- Develop a brief on supportive supervision, highlighting insights and gains from the supervision.
- Advocacy and Stakeholder Engagement for project buy-in.
- Identify and Mobilise communitybased organisations to lead Advocacy and Sensitisation to establish Community Maternal Perinatal Child Death Surveillance Review c-MPCDSR in the three communities.
- Technical support for state sensitisation and engagement meeting on community MPCDSR
- Policy Dialogue: To discuss how accountability for maternal, perinatal and child deaths can be fostered through community MPCDSR.

## Outcome:

- The Niger State Primary Health Care Development Agency, with support from the National Primary Health Care Agency (NPHCDA) and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), conducted two Integrated Supportive Supervision visits (May 2023 and August 2023) to over 100% of the 274 focal facilities in Niger.
- A thought leadership editorial was published on "Transforming Maternal Care: Empowering
  Midwives in Niger State through supportive supervision". The article provided recommendations on
  the focus areas for the NPHCDA to sustain midwives' retention in the states, particularly in hard-toreach communities.
- The project conducted a baseline assessment, which provided insights into three target communities' dynamics and existing accountability systems for maternal deaths.

- Two Community-Based Organisations with a strong interest in maternal and perinatal health and a
  history of community mobilisation were identified as potential partners for the sustainability of the
  project objective.
- The project supported the State Ministry of Primary Health Care to conduct a sensitisation exercise for key stakeholders on the establishment of c-MPDSR
- During this dialogue, a clear call was made for communities to be involved in the design and decisions made for reporting maternal, perinatal and child deaths. At the state level, the dialogue emphasised the need for implementing the recommendations of the MPCDSR Committee.

# **Achievements:**

- Successfully mobilised and collected a total of 207,143 responses across Kebbi and Niger states from women and girls on what they want most for their health and well-being and what is their biggest economic ambition.
- Successfully supported the Niger State Ministry of Primary Health Care to conduct the State Training of Trainers for the institutionalisation and establishment of functional c-MPDSR in at least 3 communities in Niger state.
- The Niger State Primary Health Care Development Agency, with support from the National Primary Health Care Agency (NPHCDA) and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), conducted two Integrated Supportive Supervision visits (May 2023 and August 2023) to over 100% of the 274 focal facilities in Niger State.
- Published a thought leadership editorial on <u>"Transforming Maternal Care: Empowering Midwives in Niger State through supportive supervision"</u>. The article provided recommendations on the focus areas for the NPHCDA to sustain midwives' retention in the states, particularly in hard-to-reach communities.



# Undetectable = Untransmittable Campaign

Funded By VINITED STATES
CENTER FOR DISEASE
CONTROL

## **About**

The Undetectable equals Untransmittable (U=U) Campaign aimed to raise awareness on HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment in Nigeria. It promoted the message that people living with HIV (PLHIV) who achieve and maintain an undetectable viral load through consistent antiretroviral therapy (ART) cannot transmit the virus sexually. The campaign sought to transform HIV/AIDS prevention and reduce stigma.



### Goal:

The goal of the U=U campaign was to disseminate U=U messages to increase awareness of U=U, promote HIV/AIDS testing, increase awareness of and adherence to HIV/AIDS treatment, and reduce the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS.

# **Objectives:**

- 1. Promote HIV/AIDS testing among the young population (18-35 years) in Nigeria.
- 2. Increase awareness of and adherence to HIV/AIDS treatment among young people (18-35 years) living with HIV/AIDS.
- 3. Reduce stigma and discrimination against young people (18-35 years) living with HIV/AIDS in Nigeria.

## **Outputs:**

- Development and dissemination of U=U messages via social media (Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube) and radio jingles.
- Creation of a repository of 35 key messages validated by the Federal Ministry of Health.
- Production of 29 infographics, 8 comic strips, and 10 videos focusing on different aspects of U=U messaging.
- · Broadcast of radio jingles in English, Pidgin, Hausa, Igbo, and Yoruba across ten states

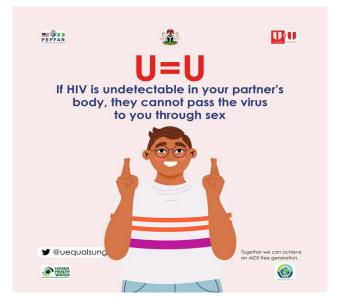
# **Outcome:**

- Significant increase in online conversation volume related to U=U messages.
- Notable increase in engagements per post/message and positive sentiments towards the messages.
- Increased awareness and discussions about HIV/AIDS prevention, testing, and treatment, particularly among the young population.

### **Achievements:**

- The campaign hashtag #UequalsUNG achieved substantial increases in social media conversations and engagements.
- The radio campaign reached a broad audience, especially in Kaduna State.
- The campaign successfully bridged the gender gap, reaching a significant female listenership across various age groups.







# Noma Aid Advocacy Project (NAAP)

Funded By ▶ NANI



### **About**

In December 2022, Nigeria Health Watch was engaged by the Noma Aid Nigeria Initiative (NANI) to execute the Noma Aid Advocacy Project (NAAP) in Adamawa, Benue, Nasarawa, Niger, Taraba States, and the Federal Capital Territory Abuja (FCT). The project's primary objective was to improve awareness about Noma disease in these states, emphasising the associated risks and, more importantly, spotlight the construction of an 80-bed noma treatment facility by NANI is situated on the grounds of the National Hospital Abuja.

The project achieved its objectives through a multifaceted approach, including state-level advocacy visits, stakeholder engagement, sensitisation and training of health workers, radio programs, dissemination of jingles, editorials, and social media campaigns. The project also collaborated with Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) in the target states, utilising the hashtag #EndNomalnNaija for advocacy and communications.





### Goal:

Improve awareness about Noma disease in implementing states and bring attention to the ongoing construction of an 80-bed noma treatment facility by NANI

# **Objectives:**

- 1. Improve awareness of Noma disease, its causes, effects and prevention among Nigerians
- Advocate for improved attention and funding from policymakers towards preventing and managing Noma disease
- 3. Improve case identification and early referral of patients with Noma disease by health workers, especially in PHCs
- 4. Create awareness about the ongoing construction of the Noma treatment centre within the National Hospital, Abuja grounds.

## **Outputs:**

- 1. Supported CBOs in conducting advocacy and sensitisation among citizens about Noma disease in five states.
- 2. Produced two documentary videos disseminated on social media platforms and TV stations.
- 3. Produced and disseminated jingles in Hausa, Igbo, Yoruba, Tiv, Idoma, and Pidgin languages to sensitise Nigerians about noma disease.

### **Outcome:**

The CBOs carried out over twenty sensitisation activities in their various states, targeting different groups, including Directors of Health, health workers, women of childbearing age, stakeholder engagement, community engagement, and the general public. To ensure effective communication and diversity inclusivity, different languages for awareness efforts, including English, Pidgin, Tiv, Idoma, and Hausa, were utilised to enhance the overall reach of the sensitisation programs.

## **Achievements:**

- 1. Article publication: The articles provided the public with crucial insights about noma disease and the ongoing efforts regarding noma treatment by highlighting the Noma Abuja Centre. The articles were strategically disseminated through traditional and online media platforms.
- Community Engagement: The community awareness campaign equipped the community members with
  essential information on Noma disease prevention, identification, and early referral. Participants were
  provided with tools such as Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials and a toll-free
  number to facilitate referrals to NANI.
- 3. Health Workers training and sensitisation: The training for health workers focused on enhancing their knowledge and skills in identification and early referrals of noma cases. During the training, health workers were encouraged to enrol in the World Health Organisation (WHO) noma course in Hausa or English.
- 4. Media Engagement: The project leveraged radio appearances to raise public awareness about Noma disease and to bring attention to the Noma Centre Abuja.
- 5. Partnership with Community-Based Organisations (CBOs): The collaboration with the CBOs ensured a wider community reach with the awareness campaign about noma disease.
- 6. Contributed to the Share of Voice in the inclusion of Noma in WHO's official list of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs).

# Misinformation #HealthFactCheckNaija

Funded By BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION

### **About**

The Misinformation Project began as a collaboration between Nigeria Health Watch and Meedan from June to September 2020 to address COVID-19-related misinformation through strategic debunking on social media. Drawing from lessons from the West Africa Ebola outbreak, the project expanded, embracing a more proactive, data-driven approach that includes online and offline listening to combat health misinformation. Key focus areas included data collection, analysis, insights generation, report dissemination, timely responses, and continuous monitoring.



## Goal:

The project's goal is to combat the rapid spread of health misinformation through strategic debunking across a range of channels, including social media platforms, leveraging multimedia strategy and proactive, data-driven approaches.

# **Objectives:**

- Combat misinformation through strategic evidence-based debunking on social media platforms using a multimedia strategy and proactive, data-driven approaches.
- To inform, engage, and empower the public against health misinformation, addressing challenges posed by the rapid spread of false information during the pandemic.

# **Outputs:**

- 1. Debunk Misinformation: Systematic and strategic debunking of false information related to COVID-19 on various social media platforms.
- 2. Community Engagement: Increased public awareness and understanding of accurate health information through community engagement efforts.
- 3. Data Collection and Analysis: Comprehensive data collection on prevalent misinformation, rumours, and fake news, coupled with insightful analysis to inform targeted interventions.
- 4. Reports Dissemination: Regularly disseminating reports to stakeholders, sharing insights, and identifying concerns, gaps, and challenges related to health misinformation.
- 5. Timely Responses: Swift and timely responses to identified concerns, actively addressing misinformation and mitigating its impact.
- 6. Continuous Monitoring and Feedback: Ongoing monitoring of information ecosystems, with continuous feedback loops, to adapt strategies based on emerging trends and challenges.
- 7. Empower Public: Increased empowerment of the public against health misinformation, fostering informed decision-making and adherence to accurate health guidelines.

### **Outcome:**

- 1. Decreased Misinformation Spread: A decrease in the dissemination and belief of false information related to COVID-19 within the target communities.
- 2. Improved Public Awareness: Increased awareness among the public about the importance of accurate health information, leading to more informed decision-making.
- 3. Enhanced Digital Literacy: Improved digital literacy skills among the community, enabling them to critically evaluate and discern reliable health information from misinformation.
- 4. Increased Trust in Health Communication: Strengthened trust in official health communication channels, such as those from the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, through proactive debunking efforts.
- 5. Positive Changes in Health Behaviour: Observable positive changes in health behaviours, with the public adopting recommended practices and measures due to access to accurate information.





# Community Health Watch

Funded By ▶ NIGERIA HEALTH WATCH



### **About**

Primary healthcare is the first point of contact between an individual and the healthcare system, and a functional primary healthcare system can cater to more than 70 per cent of an individual's health needs throughout their lives. A strong primary healthcare system is needed to achieve Universal Health Coverage, where people can access the health services they need without going through financial hardship. It is the bedrock of any resilient health system, where people in rural, underserved, or hard-to-reach communities can access quality healthcare.

The Nigerian primary healthcare system is fraught with challenges, including inadequate human resources for health, poor infrastructure and water, hygiene and sanitation facilities, etc. To improve accountability, Nigeria Health Watch, in August 2021, launched the Community Health Watch project. The project aims to monitor and report on access to and delivery of primary healthcare services in rural communities across Nigeria.

## Goal:

To improve accountability in the delivery of primary healthcare services by providing a platform to hear the voices of community members and healthcare providers as they share their experiences accessing and providing healthcare.

# Objectives:

- 1. Amplify good practices and challenge poor practices in primary healthcare delivery in Nigeria.
- 2. Highlight the challenges health facilities face in rural communities in providing care.
- 3. Present policymakers and stakeholders with evidence about the experiences of community members accessing healthcare in rural communities.
- 4. Hold decision-makers accountable for delivering primary healthcare services and push for improved service delivery in communities.

# **Outputs:**

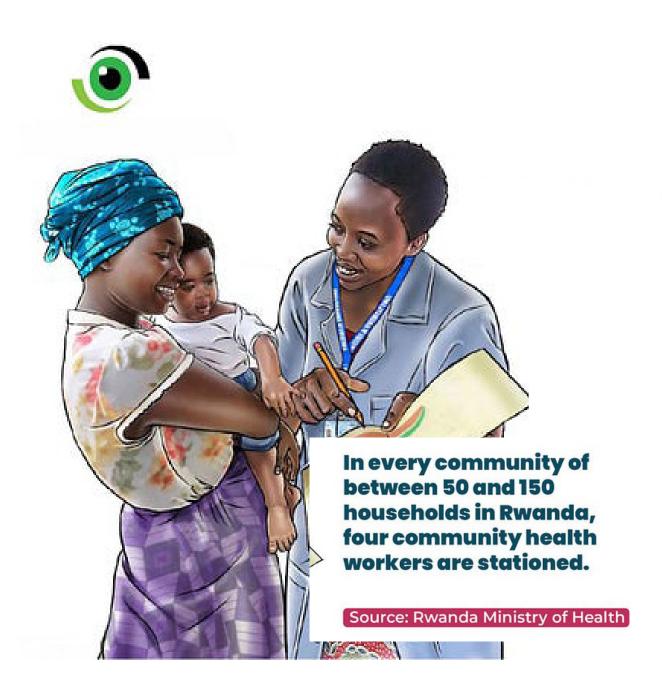
Produced a comprehensive report from the PHC policy dialogue.

### **Outcome:**

- 1. Produced over 60 reports from rural communities.
- 2. Convened a two-day training with the reporters in Niger State.
- 3. Held primary healthcare stakeholders policy dialogue meeting in Niger State in August 2023.
- 4. Radio shows in local languages in implementing states were held, with community members phoning in to share their experiences.

### **Achievements**

Reports and other activities have improved stakeholder engagement in addressing some of the issues raised.









# EVENTS IN 2023

# PreventEpidemicsNaija Journalism Award Ceremony

January 27, 2023

igeria Health Watch held the third edition of the '#PreventEpidemicsNaija Journalism Awards' ceremony to celebrate evidence-based and accurate reportage of funding for Epidemic Preparedness and Response (EPR) in Nigeria. Nominations closed on Monday, January 2, 2023, and winners were announced at the award ceremony on January 27, 2023.

Since 2021, Nigeria Health Watch has rewarded journalists for exemplary reporting on EPR through the #PreventEpidemcsNaija Journalism Awards (PEJA). The awards ceremony also brings together key stakeholders in the Nigerian health security space, including Heads of Ministries, Departments and Agencies responsible for implementing the National Action Plan for Health Security, which highlights EPR activities designed to bridge the health security gaps in the country.

This year's edition of the award, tagged: "Celebrating Media Excellence for Epidemic Preparedness and Response," recognised and celebrated journalists for their outstanding reportage, raising awareness about epidemic preparedness funding to enable the effective response to infectious disease outbreaks.











# **Break It Down Podcast Launch**

Friday, 17th February 2023

n the 17th of February, the Nigeria Health Watch team launched the 'Break It Down' podcast to contribute to the organisation-wide strategic priority of increasing policy understanding for our audiences.

The podcast aims to help listeners better understand these often complicated health topics and policies and use the information they receive to engage and ask better questions about their health. We will invite experts as guests to break down the topics.

Traction from the podcast enabled organisations such as the Africa Centre for Disease Control )Africa CDC) to entrust the team with producing two podcast episodes ahead of the Conference for Public Health In Africa held in Lusaka, Zambia, between the 26th and 20th of November 2023. The two episodes featured the Managing Director of Nigeria Health Watch, Vivianne Ihekweazu, engaging with Dr Magda Robalo on strengthening the public health workforce for strong health security in Africa and Dr Ahmed Ogwell Ouma on unpacking Africa's new public health order. Listen to the podcast by searching for Break It Down Nigeria Health Watch anywhere you get your podcasts.

# Celebrating Womanhood Art Gala

Friday, 24 March 2023

n 2021, Nigeria Health Watch conceptualised a health meets art event titled the Celebrating Womanhood Art Gala to improve awareness of maternal health issues and reach audiences beyond the health sector. The gala is another crucial event organised by Nigeria Health Watch, and critical issues concerning the health of women and girls are portrayed vividly through the lens of the creative arts, with active participation from critical stakeholders within and outside the health sector.

On the 24th of March 2023, the team organised the Celebrating Womanhood Art Gala in partnership with the National Gallery of Art (NGA) and the Female Artist Association of Nigeria (FEAAN) to celebrate the strength and resilience of women and raise awareness about the health issues they face. The 2023 theme was Elevating Women's Voices for Quality Maternal Healthcare, in line with the MSD for Mothers advocacy, communication and evidence generation (ACE) pillar to increase awareness of the importance of integrating women's voices and experiences in shaping maternal health policies.

















#### **GHAI Roundtable**

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

n collaboration with the Global Health Advocacy Incubator, the Nigeria Health Watch team organised and hosted a media roundtable with legislators to discuss strengthening health security in Nigeria through public health legislation.

The roundtable allowed experts to share their views and insights on the bills, discuss the challenges and opportunities they present, and identify areas where further action is needed to ensure Nigeria is better prepared to respond to public health emergencies. By bringing together key stakeholders, the roundtable contributed to a more informed and inclusive dialogue around these critical public health issues.

Key stakeholders, including Senator Yahya Oloriegbe, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, and Hon. Tanko Sununu, Chairman of the House of Representatives Committee on Healthcare Services, attended and shared insights. The discussions focused on the challenges, opportunities, and ways to enhance the proposed bills.





Health Financing Policy
Dialogue: Accelerating
the Implementation of
the NHIA Act to Improve
Health Insurance Coverage

Thursday, 11 May, 2023

n May 2023, the Nigeria Health
Watch team collaborated with the
National Health Insurance Authority
(NHIA) to host a Health Financing
Policy Dialogue on 'Accelerating
the Implementation of the NHIA Act to
Improve Health Insurance Coverage.'

The operationalisation of the NHIA in Nigeria is a critical step towards achieving universal health coverage. Accelerating its implementation is critical to improving Nigerians' health outcomes and wellbeing. It requires a coordinated effort between the government, private sector, and civil society organisations, with the NHIA providing leadership, regulation, and support for healthcare providers and consumers.

The 2023 Health Financing consultative forum brought key stakeholders together to discuss the challenges and opportunities in implementing the NHIA Act and to develop strategies to accelerate its implementation. The policy dialogue provided a platform for stakeholders to share their experiences, insights, and perspectives on NHIA implementation in Nigeria. It also offered an opportunity to identify the key challenges facing NHIA implementation and develop strategies to address them.

Key stakeholders at the forum included the government at the national and sub-national levels, healthcare providers, civil society organisations, the private sector, and development partners. The government has a critical role in accelerating NHIA implementation by providing adequate funding, strengthening the governance structures,

and creating an enabling environment for NHIA to thrive.

Healthcare providers are vital in delivering quality healthcare services to Nigerians enrolled in NHIA. Civil Society Organisations and Private Sector actors provide advocacy and support to increase awareness and enrollment in NHIA. Development partners offer technical assistance and financial support to enhance NHIA's capacity to deliver quality healthcare services.

Panel sessions at the dialogue included one on Understanding the Roles and Responsibilities of Different Stakeholders in implementing the National Health Insurance Authority Act and another on 'Exploring Strategies for Expanding Mandatory Health Insurance Coverage to the "Missing Middle" in Nigeria'.

The outputs from the event included tweets, editorial content, and a communique. The Policy Dialogue provided a platform for stakeholders, including the Director-General of NHIS (National Health Insurance Scheme), Prof. Sambo, and the Director-General of Budget and Planning, Ben Akabueze, among others, to share their experiences and perspectives on the NHIA Act and its implementation.













# Solutions Journalism Project Closeout

June 8th and 9th 2023

igeria Health Watch has implemented the Solutions Journalism Africa Initiative (SJAI) project in Nigeria with support from the Solutions Journalism Network (SJN) USA since 2021 to address the predominant trend of problem-focused reporting that is contributing to news avoidance by audiences. During the two years of the project, we trained and supported newsrooms and freelance journalists across Nigeria to investigate unique problems within different communities and report on innovative responses to these social problems.

To officially close out the first phase of the #SoJoNigeria project in the company of newsrooms, journalists and partners, the Nigeria Health Watch team held a close-out event at the Ladi Kwali Hall in the Abuja Intercontinental Hotel. The event provided an opportunity to celebrate the journalists who participated in the project, emphasise how Solutions Journalism can impact newsroom audience engagement and spotlight feelgood solutions stories from across the continent.



#### Nutrition Policy Dialogue: Strengthening Nutrition Outcomes in the Face of Climate Change

22nd June 2023

s part of Nigeria Health
Watch's advocacy goals, the
organisation held a policy
dialogue to strengthen
nutrition outcomes in the face
of climate change. Stakeholders across
sectors graced the dialogue to explore
resilient innovations to strengthen
nutrition outcomes.

The 2023 Nigeria Health Watch Nutrition Policy Dialogue, 'Strengthening Nutrition Outcomes in the Face of Climate Change.' The dialogue will bring together government stakeholders, including the ministries of health, agriculture and environment, academia, research, development, civil society, nutrition commodities manufacturing and marketing, relevant groups and associations, and healthcare providers.

The theme of the policy dialogue highlighted the importance of multistakeholder and multisectoral collaboration to strengthen and increase understanding of the linkages between climate change, food security and nutrition and improving policies and practices for nutrition security.





















# Policy Dialogue: Strengthening Community Accountability Mechanisms for Quality Primary Healthcare Spotlight on Niger State

14th August 2023

healthcare delivery in Nigeria, Nigeria Health Watch initiated the Community Health Watch project to monitor and report on access and delivery of primary healthcare services in rural and urban communities. This project was initially piloted in Niger state in August 2021, subsequently expanding to Kano state in April 2022. Between August 2021 and April 2023, a total of 57 reports have been published, 49 of these from Niger state.

The 2023 Nigeria Health Watch Primary Health Care Policy Dialogue themed 'Strengthening Community Accountability Mechanisms for Quality Primary Healthcare -Spotlight on Niger State" brought government stakeholders together, including the State Ministry of Health, the State Primary Health Care Development Agency (SPHCDA), the State Health Insurance Scheme, the BHCPF coordinator, healthcare providers, relevant groups, and associations.

The Primary Health Care policy dialogue aimed to improve the delivery of primary healthcare services in Niger State by providing a platform to amplify the voices of community members, healthcare providers and stakeholders as they shared their experiences accessing or providing care. It was also a platform utilised to emphasise the need to set up and institutionalise Community Maternal Perinatal and Child Death Surveillance Review (C-MPCDSR) Committees in Niger. Experts and stakeholders will get the chance to exchange knowledge and make recommendations to fill in the existing gaps.

# Future of Health Conference

12th October 2023

onths of meticulous planning culminated in the Future of Health Conference 2023, themed 'The Private Sector as a Catalyst for a Resilient Health System'. The event focused on harnessing the power of public-private partnerships to bridge funding gaps and support crucial healthcare initiatives.

Key speakers like Dr Salma Ibrahim Anas, Special Adviser on Health to the President, Dr Pate Muhammed, Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare and Dr Amit Thakker, Chairman of Africa Health Business, delivered key speeches and provided insight on the necessity of collaboration between the public and private sectors to deliver a resilient health system for all Nigerians.

The conference was divided into three panel sessions focusing on the Private Sector Financing for Health Systems Strengthening to Achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC), "Private Sector Partnerships and Collaboration to Sustain the Diaspora Brain Gain", and Leveraging the Private Sector for Quality Maternal Healthcare. A fireside chat on 'Leveraging the Private Sector for Lassa Vaccine R&D: A Scientific Perspective' was also moderated by Kate Kelland, Chief Scientific Writer, CEPI. The Nigeria Health Watch team also provided a glimpse into the future by unveiling the theme for the 2024 conference, The Climate-Health Nexus.









#### SIDE EVENTS AND TRAINING

#### **SIDE EVENTS**



#### **O**

#### Recommendations

The following emerged as recommendations for leveraging media advocacy in health security:

- 1. Capacity Building for Public Health Professionals
- 2. Strategic Media Integration into public health discussions
- Highlighting Success Stories to emphasise the positive impact of health security interventions.
- 4. Community-Level Engagement
- 5. Promoting Media as an Agenda Setter

#### Social Norms Conference Side Event

25th September 2023

Nigeria Health Watch provided communications support for the Social Norms Conference, where we hosted a side event titled Leveraging Media to Foster Community for Behaviour Change to enhance the practical understanding of strategies and tools in designing and implementing behaviour change programs using media. The two-day conference started on the 25th and ended on the 26th.





#### **SOGON Side Event**

20th November to 24th November 2023

Nigeria Health Watch hosted a session panel session on Elevating Maternal Health: Strengthening Health Systems for Improved Outcomes with the support of MSDForMothers.

#### **SIDE EVENTS**

#### Conference on Public Health In Africa (CPHIA) Side Event

26th-30th of November

On the 27th of November 2023, the Nigeria Health Watch team hosted its first side event at the Conference on Public Health in Africa, titled Communications for New Vaccine Introduction: Boosting Vaccine Demand and Acceptance in a Post-COVID Era.

On the 30th of November 2023, Nigeria Health Watch hosted a second side event titled: (Media Advocacy for Epidemic Preparedness Funding), which focused on how best to harness the power of media for public health advocacy.











NTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

#### **TRAININGS**









# **Capacity Building Exercise: GAIN Training**

17th & 18th August

In partnership with GAIN and the Federal Ministry of Health, the Nigeria Health Watch team organised a capacity-strengthening training program on nutrition reporting for media professionals. The goal was to equip participants with the skills to develop compelling and informative stories that advocate for better nutrition and educate policymakers and the general public, particularly in the face of food security challenges. This two-day training involved media professionals undergoing training in over eight sub-themes and included a field trip to facilitate practical story development.



# MEDIA APPEARANCES IN 2023 ........

#### Nigeria Health Watch in the news



#### Nigeria Health Watch on the radio



























#### Nigeria Health Watch on television











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#### COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT

#### **Provided Communications Support for:**

#### 4th JAN 2023

#### MINISTERIAL PUBLIC PRESENTATION

of the Breakdown & Highlights of the FGN 2023 Approved Budget

#### 2nd FEB 2023

#### **LAUNCH**

of First Ladies Against Cancer (FLAC) coffee table book titled: "Footprints"

#### 6th FEB 2023

#### **WORLD CANCER DAY**

'Close the care gap' radio appearance

#### 9th FEB 2023

#### **WORLD CANCER DAY**

Symposium powered by Project PINK BLUE and other sponsors

#### 10th FEB 2023

#### THE DUTCH CONSULATE

and PharmAccess stakeholders hosted the launch of the Health Market Study Report

#### **2nd FEB 2023**

#### **WORLD CANCER DAY**

Launch of First Ladies Against Cancer (FLAC) coffee table book

#### **27th APRIL 2023**

#### **LAUNCH**

of the Women in Global Health Nigeria Chapter

#### **//26th-28th APRIL 2023**

#### **GLOBAL FORUM**

on Childhood Pneumonia in Madrid, Spain

#### **Provided Communications Support for:**

#### 8th-11th MAY 2023

#### **INTERNATIONAL MATERNAL**

Newborn Health Conference 2023

#### 9th MAY 2023

#### **MEDIA ROUNDTABLE**

with legislators to discuss strengthening health security in Nigeria

#### 16th MAY 2023

#### **BUDGET OFFICE HEALTH**

Stakeholder Workshop on Enhancing Health Sector Budgeting

#### 17th MAY 2023

#### **WORLD BANK NIGERIA**

Round Table Engagement

#### 23rd MAY 2023

#### **HEALTHCARE FINANCING**

Technical Assistance Programme End of Project Dissemination Event

#### **6th JUNE 2023**

#### **CLOSE-OUT EVENT**

for SCIDaR's Northern Routine Immunisation Project

#### **5th JULY 2023**

#### **TWO-DAY ANRIN**

Annual Results Conference

#### 26th JULY 2023

#### **GATEFIELD**

**Health Summit** 

#### **Provided Communications Support for:**



#### MANAGERACTIONS MANAGERACTIONS

#### WEBINARS...

#### WEBINAR IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NSSF

#### **1ST JUNE 2023**

Nigeria Health Watch hosted the first Fireside Chat webinar in partnership with the Nigeria Solidarity Support Fund on Expanding Vaccine Access and Strengthening Development. Discussions shed light on the challenges impeding widespread vaccine coverage, proposed strategies for improving access, and emphasised the crucial role of leadership in effective vaccine management.







#### **VIRTUAL DIALOGUE:**

The First 100 Days in Office: What Should the Health Sector's Priorities Be?

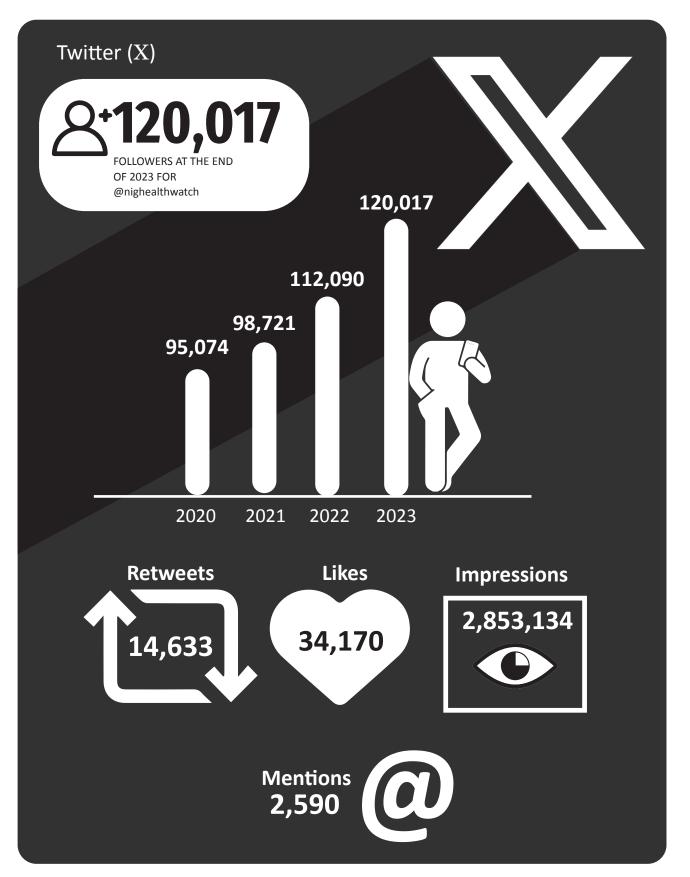
#### WEBINARS...

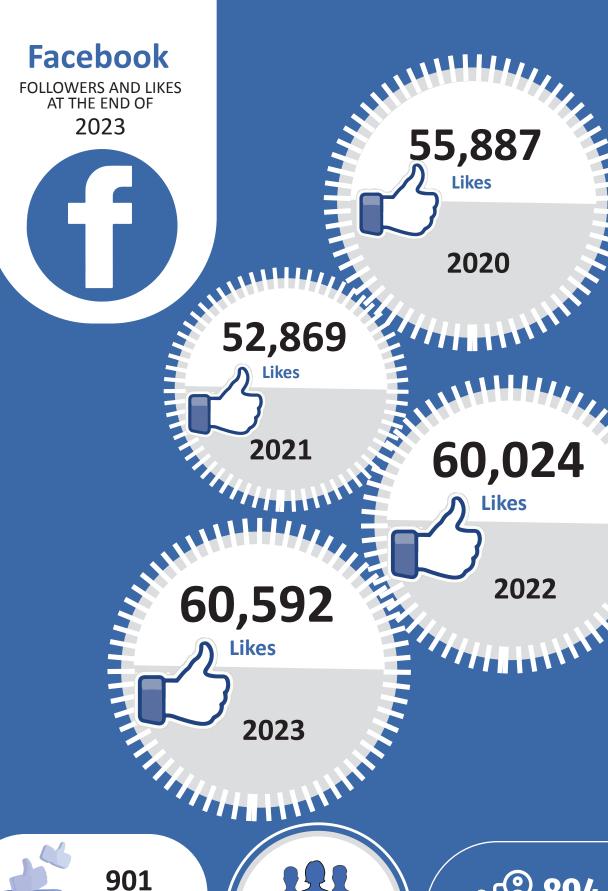
#### **Webinar in partnership with The Conversation Africa**

#### **31ST AUGUST**

We hosted a virtual dialogue in collaboration with The Conversation Africa to delve into the health agenda of the new administration as they approached their first 100 days in office. The event commenced with an opening address delivered by Dr Kemisola Agbaoye, our Director of Programmes. After this, Dr Salma Ibrahim, Special Adviser on Health to the President, then delivered an insightful keynote speech. The panel discussion featured distinguished guests, including Sen. Ibrahim Oloriegbe, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health in the 9th Assembly, Dr. Mairo Mandara, Founder of Girl Child Concern, Prof. Obinna Onwujekwe, a Professor of Health at the College of Medicine, and Prof. Morenike Folayan, a Professor of Paediatric Dentistry at Obafemi Awolowo University. Onyedikachi Ewe, Senior Programmes and Advocacy Manager, and Gbemileke Oscar Oyinsan from The Conversation Africa skilfully moderated this engaging discussion.

#### Nigeria Health Watch follower growth on Social Media:













# Instagram FOLLOWERS

**7,194** in year 2021

**7343** in year 2022

**7681** in year 2023

TOTAL REACH ▶49,582

TOTAL IMPRESSIONS ▶44,379



**FOLLOWERS** 

8,237 in year 2022

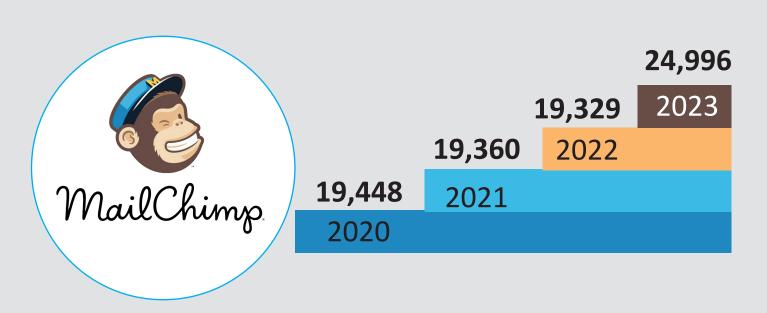
**10,561** in year 2023

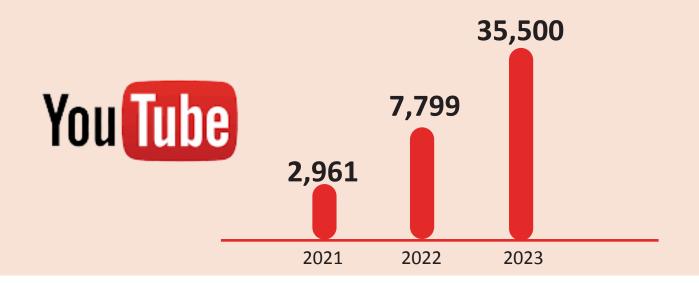
44,379
TOTAL REACH
322,999
TOTAL
IMPRESSIONS





289 IN 2023







#### Friday, May 19, 2023

We premiered our new web series, "The Medics", to combat misinformation and debunk health myths. Through this series, we hope to provide accurate and reliable information to the viewers and contribute to reducing misinformation in the health sector.



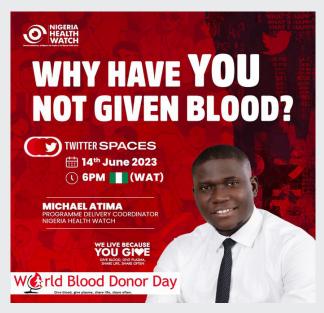
#### **Year 2023**

Last year, we held several discussions on X Spaces with a total combined listenership of over 5000 people. Here's a list of topics we explored on X Spaces:

#### Enhancing Nigeria's Public Health Response: Accelerating the Assent of Public Health Emergency Bill



### Why Have You Not Given Blood Before?





## The 2023 Prevent Epidemics Naija Journalism Fellowship



#### Let's Talk About Obesity:



#### Role of Media in Achieving Universal Health Coverage



# **#Vote4HealthNaija: Prioritising Health Discourse Ahead of the 2023 General Election**



# Transforming Public Health in Africa Through Digital Innovation



#### PARTNERS







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