Selected Findings: The Mother-Newborn Dyad: Community-Based Distribution of Misoprostol & Chlorhexidine in Sokoto State, Nigeria (April-Dec 2013)

By

Nosa Orobaton & USAID/TSHIP Team
Chief of Party
## The Landscape: Sokoto, Bauchi & Nigeria
(Rationale for Community-Based Approaches)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHARACTERISTICS</th>
<th>BAUCHI</th>
<th>SOKOTO</th>
<th>NIGERIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent delivered by Skilled Assistance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDG / Skilled Delivery Assistance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Delivery with No One Present</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>34.3%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage point change (drop)</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Home Delivery (2013)</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>94.2%</td>
<td>63.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMR (Most recent): Deaths/100,000 LB</td>
<td>1400</td>
<td>1500</td>
<td>576</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: NDHS (2013)
“Approaches that consider local context and engages local stakeholders are likely to be successful. In every context, regardless of the number of challenges being faced, there is always a way to promote quality MNH care, but the solution should be generated by and with local stakeholders.”

Source: SCUS-MHTF, 2014
Lady in Labor at Home in Sokoto, Nigeria
Integration in Life = Take What You Can Get, With a Caveat

Na condition make crayfish bend

Anonymous, Nigerian Proverb
Never Lose Sight of Integration as Non-Negotiable Design Principle

“It is by the straight line and the circle that the first and most simple representation of all things may be demonstrated…Neither the circle without the line, nor the line without the point can be artificially produced.”

John Dee, English Philosopher. Special Advisor to Elizabeth I

Source: Monas Hieroglyphica (1564), Theorem I and II.
Our Approach to Integration  
(Celebrate Unity in Unities)

• Mum-Newborn-United in Biology & S/vival
• Whole Community Involvement-So that levers of power can lift the many
• Tap into shared history of community
• Policy Advocacy as storytelling
• Be unafraid of chaos-richness in unity
• Measure, then measure but keep it simple
The Approach in Sokoto State, Nigeria

Ministry of Local Government

244 Ward Development Committees

Ministry of Health

1000 (M) Community Drug Keepers

2440 (F) Community-Based Health Volunteers

Mother-Newborn Dyad Over 180K/yr)

Trainings/Refreshers
Monthly Review Meetings
Monthly stipend
Psychic rewards
Nana Asma’u—Yan Taru
Data Entry & Quality Control Checks

• Source of data: routinely collected from the statewide, at-scale community-based distribution of misoprostol tablets and chlorhexidine gel during delivery
  • N of mothers = 36,370 mothers received Miso
  • N of births: 36,404 newborns received CHX
    – DQA: 5% of the 36,370 women who received Miso tablets and 5% of the 36,404 births treated with CHx 4% gel between April to December 2013 were re-visited to verify initial reports

Analysis revealed only 1.6% error rates among a sub-sample of 1900 mother & child pair re-visited
Number of Newborns Served with Chlorhexidine 4% Gel in Sokoto State by Month, April-Dec 2013
Newborns as Percent of Expected Births Reached with Chlorhexidine 4% Gel in Sokoto State, April-Dec 2013.
Newborn Deaths By Reported Timing in Cohort of 36,404 Who Rcvd CHX in Sokoto State, April-December 2013 (N=124)

- At Birth, 96, 77%
- 7 Days, 20, 16%
- 28 Days, 8, 7%
Neonatal Mortality Rate in Cohort of 36,404 Newborns in Sokoto, Nigeria, April-December 2014 vs National Neonatal Mortality Rate
Mothers as Percent of Expected Births Reached with Misoprostol Tablets versus in Sokoto State, April-Dec 2013.
Post Partum Bleeding Experiences Reported by 36,370 Mothers Who Received Misoprostol, Sokoto state, April-Dec. 2013.

36,337

Normal bleeding

Heavy bleeding

33
# Actions to Stop/Prevent Delivery With NOP – One Cohort in Sokoto

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<tr>
<th>ALL</th>
<th>FEMALE</th>
<th>MALE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Husband key agency - must support HF use</td>
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<td>Locate HF in close proximity to women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depends on husband</td>
<td>Depends on husband</td>
<td>Make drugs available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men to allow wife use HF</td>
<td>Men to allow wife use HF</td>
<td>Train female HW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locate HF in close proximity to women</td>
<td>Ensure availability of HW</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make drugs available</td>
<td>Provide HF with infrastructure</td>
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<td>Train female HW</td>
<td>Make delivery services free</td>
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Source: USAID/TSHIP Field Notes (2014)
Emerging Spin-offs of Community

- Vitamin A Distribution—90% plus coverage (6-59 month olds)
- Statewide routine distribution of LLIN
- Birth/Death Registration and Certification of Cause of Death
- Community-based distribution of SP for IPTp of Malaria
- Legislation for making maternal deaths notifiable
Helpful Developments

- Nigeria adopted Community Midwife cadre
- Task shifting for Health Extsn Worker
- Miso & Chlorhexidine locally produced
- Amoxicillin DT on verge of local pdctn
- Unmistakable Community demand for CHX-Miso
- Training curriculum for nurse/midwives—now competency-based
Unresolved Issues

- Institutional arrangements remain fragile
- Monthly stipend of volunteers
- Massive shortage of midwives hinder development of MNCH ecosystem
- Mastering Administrative Behavior (Satisficing, equality vs equity)
- Will the will of the people prevail?

Reliance on donor funding (Gombe expt)
Concluding Remarks

- Are we sufficiently integration-centric architects?
- Have we failed in our approach to design?
- Why do we avoid chaos and messiness when it is in fact the norm?—Pilots that beguile; administrative behavior, politics
Lady in Labor at Home in Sokoto, Nigeria