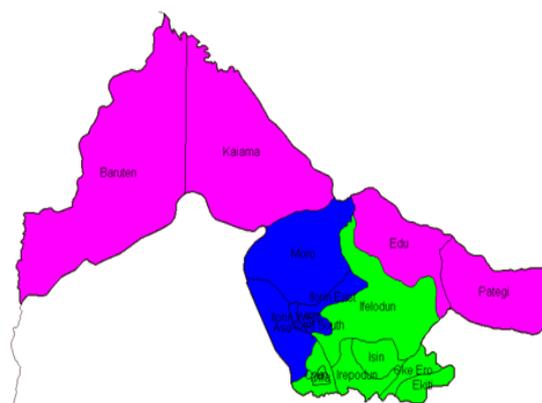




KWARA STATE REPORT (Q4 2014 – Q2 2016)

Major Developments

- The EU-SIGN State Technical Assistant (STA) provides significant technical, training and monitoring support to immunisation activities, including polio, measles and meningitis campaigns within Kwara State.
- EU-SIGN is involved in State technical and stakeholder working groups and monthly meetings to ensure coordination among the government, stakeholders and partners, especially on cold chain activities and health education.
- EU-SIGN has provided 26 Direct-Drive Solar Refrigerators (DDSR), renovation in 1 health facility (Lafiagi Ward III, Edu LGA) and 2 LGA cold stores (Lafiagi Ward II, Edu LGA & Ilorin West LGA).



Source: STA Team

Key Personnel and Telephone Numbers

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| State Commissioner for Health | Mr. Alhaji Suleiman A. Alege | +234 (0)803 358 6172 |
| Executive Secretary, SPHCDA | Dr. A.P. Folorunso | +234 (0)803 452 9346 |
| State Focal Person | Mrs. Hajara Suleiman | +234 (0)806 434 5106 |
| State Technical Assistant | Dr. Yusuf Funsho Issa | +234 (0)808 805 4479 |

Total Population: 3,003,625

Population 0-11 months: 120,145

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------------------|-----|
| LGAs | 16 | Mission Hospitals | 1 |
| Wards | 193 | Public Health Facilities | 676 |
| Communities | 542 | Private Health Facilities | 245 |

Background

Kwara State is in the North-Central Zone of Nigeria. EU-SIGN activities began in October 2014. The planned official launching of the project did not happen, as planned in April 2015, due to political tensions surrounding the general election.

The Kwara State Primary Health Care Development Agency (SPHCDA) was established in 2010. However, little or no action was taken concerning the SPHCDA until May 2012 when the State Ministry of Health ceded the entire assets and liability of its Department of Primary Health Care (PHC) and Disease Control to the Agency. The SPHCDA contains PHC units, including immunisation, and works closely with the LGA health departments, partner agencies and other stakeholders. The STA has conducted advocacy and sensitisation visits aimed at strengthening the administrative organisation and functionality of the SPHCDA. A separate budget line was created for the SPHCDA starting in 2015 and it has increased its staffing of technical and director-level staff.

Despite these efforts to strengthen the SPHCDA, Kwara State's scoring towards Primary Health Care Under One Roof (PHCUOR) has stagnated and has not passed 50%. Slight improvements in repositioning, systems development, funding and office set-up have been made, but significant work remains to identify a Minimum Service Package (MSP) and develop operational guidelines and human resources. Kwara State's PHCUOR score has been 40% since June 2015. Lack of political will by the Government (at both State and LGA levels), dwindling government financial resources, and insufficient health workforce are some of the identified roadblocks to full scale-up of PHCUOR within the State. The STA, in conjunction with other partners, have continued to seize every opportunity to deepen high-level advocacy to government and other stakeholders on the need to do more in attaining the goals of PHCUOR. This has yielded encouraging results as appointing a strong Executive Secretary in April 2016, and some LGA Chairmen have established LGA Primary Health Care Boards in their LGAs.

Since the start of EU-SIGN, Kwara State has experienced fluctuating immunisation coverage, with 123% Pentavalent 3 coverage in September 2014 to 91% in Q4 2015 to 35% in Q1 2016. Much of the decrease in coverage in 2016 was due to a nine-week health worker strike where no vaccinations were conducted. However, Kwara State has strong Routine Immunisation (RI) systems in place and immunisation dashboards have helped to monitor coverage, vaccine distribution and supplies and the LGAs regularly show sufficient vaccine and increasing fixed and outreach immunisation services are being conducted. Integrated Supportive Supervision (ISS) visits show improvements in data management and use of data tools.

Inactivated Poliovirus Vaccine (IPV) was introduced in June 2015 and Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) was introduced in August 2016. Coverage for Q2 2016 shows that Pentavalent 3 was 98%, OPV3 was 94% and IPV was 86%.

On-going challenges include strengthening community linkage with RI, improving Adverse Events Following Immunisation (AEFI) data collection and increased supervision from the LGA to the health facility. The State was not able to do the transition to the Vaccine PUSH system due to lack of funds.

EU-SIGN Activities in Kwara State

- EU-SIGN provides continuous technical guidance to the SPHCDA towards the establishment of PHCUOR by looking for areas of improvement and working with the agency and partners to strengthen those areas.
- The STA participates in planning and conducting ISS visits in the State, which is an important opportunity to observe performance, review data, provide training and assess the condition of the cold chain. During each visit, the STA conducts on-the-job training to improve immunisation skills, vaccine management and data management.
- EU-SIGN helped to establish and support monthly meetings of LGA health educators to strengthen communication and social mobilisation planning and activities; improve coordination and help to revitalise Ward Development Committees. However, engagement with communities needs' strengthening in Kwara State and this is an opportunity to build health educators skills and awareness on RI, supplemental immunisation activities and other health issues.

- EU-SIGN has identified five Civil Society Organisations (CSO) / Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) to strengthen relationships between communities and service delivery institutions. The CSO/NGOs have a wide network of grassroots organisations across all LGAs.
- EU-SIGN is represented at RI stakeholder and technical meetings in Kwara State, including the Local Immunisation Officers and Disease Surveillance Network Officers' monthly meetings where the Group reviews RI coverage and ISS results, identifies interventions to improve performance, and provides feedback, technical guidance and skill updates. EU-SIGN is also represented on the State Logistics Working Group and social mobilisation, logistics and waste management Sub-Groups.
- Following a review of the status of Cold Chain Equipment (CCE) and vaccine supply across all LGAs by the State Logistics Working Group, EU-SIGN successfully engaged a CCE engineer who carried out a needs' assessment of LGAs and health facilities in 28 wards with high CCE and maintenance gaps.
- The STA coordinated the Kwara State's first quarterly State partners meeting in Q1 2016. The meeting reviewed the State annual work plan and RI performance for 2015 with a view to identifying bottlenecks and addressing them; the current score card of Kwara SPHCDA on the implementation of the 9 pillars of PHCUOR as well as the status of cold chain equipment and the State equipment inventory. The meeting recommended that the State with the support of partners should take urgent steps in closing the identified gaps in RI services (advocacy, supportive supervision, cold chain maintenance and data management) as this year progress in order to salvage the 2016 State RI coverage.
- EU-SIGN supports polio eradication activities; including planning, supervision, monitoring and facilitating training for Immunisation Plus Days (IPD) and providing technical assistance during the switch from trivalent to bivalent OPV. The STA has also helped to prepare, implement and provide training for Integrated Measles Campaigns and meningitis vaccine campaigns.
- The STA provides technical support to training sessions in the State. In addition to training support given to IPDs, the STA has provided training on new vaccine introduction (IPV and PCV), improving immunisation coverage and surveillance.
- EU-SIGN facilitated the training from across the State, including local Immunisation Officers and Monitoring and Evaluation Officers, and participants from the State Ministry of Health and SPHCDA on Data Quality Use Supportive Supervision (DQUSS).
- EU-SIGN has provided 26 Direct-Drive Solar Refrigerators (DDSR); renovations in Lafiagi Ward III, Edu LGA Health Facility, Lafiagi Ward II, Edu LGA Cold Store and Ilorin West LGA Cold Store (see table below).

EU-SIGN Supported Equipment, Construction and renovation Works in Kwara State

| EU-SIGN PROJECT SUPPORT AND PROJECT IN KWARA STATE – UPDATED AUGUST 2016 | | | | | |
|--|--|-----|-------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| | | | August 2016 Exchange Rate: | 339.9548 | |
| S/N | ITEMS | Qty | Unit Cost in Euro | Amount in Euro | Comments |
| | SUPPLY | | | | |
| 1a | Direct Drive Solar Refrigerator (big size = 90-120 Lts) | 25 | 8,423 | 210,575 | |
| 1b | Direct Drive Solar Refrigerator (small size = 30-105 Lts) | 1 | 6,151 | 6,151 | |
| | Sub-Total Cost DDSR | | | 216,726 | |
| 2 | Vehicle 4WD | 1 | 31,210 | 31,210 | Inspection done, expecting the delivery any time from now |
| 3 | Computer systems | 4 | 1,252 | 5,007 | Yet to be delivered; to be done before 7 of October, 2016 |
| | SUB-TOTAL SUPPLY COST | | | 252,943 | |
| | WORKS / CONSTRUCTION / RENOVATION OF COLD STORE AND HEALTH FACILITIES | | | | |
| | RENOVATION | | | | |
| 1 | Lafiagi Ward II/Edu LGA (Cold Store) | 1 | 44,098 | 44,098 | |
| 2 | Lafiagi Ward III/Edu LGA (Health Facility) | 1 | 47,006 | 47,006 | |
| 3 | Ilorin West LGA (Cold Store) | 1 | 77,024 | 77,024 | |
| | SUB-TOTAL WORKS COST | | | 168,127 | |
| | GRAND TOTAL IN EURO | | | 421,071 | |
| | GRAND TOTAL EQUIVALENT IN NAIRA | | | 143,144,976 | |