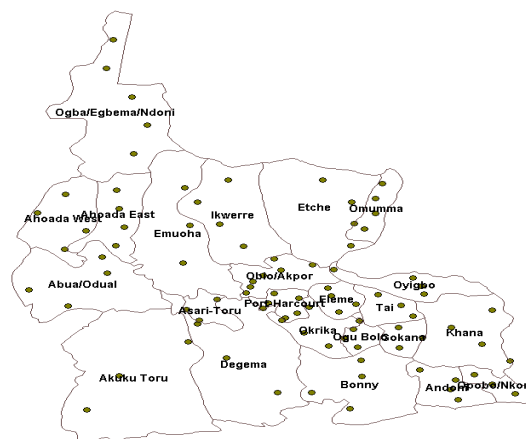




RIVERS STATE REPORT (Q4 2015 – Q2 2016)

Major Developments

- EU-SIGN is represented on all working groups in Rivers State.
- The EU-SIGN State Technical Assistant (STA) is actively involved in polio eradication activities; maternal, newborn and neonatal health weeks and other supplemental activities.
- EU-SIGN has provided 46 Direct-Drive Solar Refrigerators (DDSR) and the construction of a new cold store (Khana LGA) is on-going.



Source: STA Team

Key Personnel and Telephone Numbers

State Commissioner for Health	Dr. Theophilus Odagme	+234 (0)8055026571
Secretary, SPHCDA	Dr. Agiriye M. Harry	+234 (0)8033410908
State Focal Person	Mrs. Joeba Joe	+234(0)8035345209
State Technical Assistant	Dr. Bandeke Tamuno-Tonye Agborubere	+234 (0)8033422341

Total Population: 7,005,951
Population 0-11 months: 280,238

LGAs	23	Hospitals	295
Wards	319	Mission Hospitals	2
Health Districts	23	PHC Centres	391
		Private Health Facilities providing RI	95
Communities	4,276	Health Posts	38

Background

Rivers State is in the South-South Zone of Nigeria and EU-SIGN activities began there in April 2015. The project was not selected for a project launch.

Since the start of EU-SIGN, Rivers State had a strong State Primary Health Care Management Board (SPHCMB), with a score of 89% towards achieving Primary Health Care Under One Roof (PHCUOR). The EU-SIGN State Technical Assistant (STA) meets regularly with the Executive Secretary (ES) to review progress towards PHCUOR. In Q1 2016, the State score dropped to 73% due to issues connected to repositioning and the failure of LGAs to transfer payment of staff salaries to the SPHCMB. There is poor political will to drive Government counterpart funding.

Rivers State has good Routine Immunisation (RI) coverage with Pentavalent 3 consistently well over 80%. However, a year-long health worker strike in 2015 affected the provision of RI services resulting in high numbers of unvaccinated children and fluctuating services and coverage rates across the State. Inactivated Poliovirus Vaccine (IPV) was introduced in November 2015 and Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) was introduced in December 2015. In Q2 2016, coverage for Pentavalent 3 was 106%; OPV3 was 107% and IPV was 35%. The State's vaccine dashboard shows adequate stock of vaccines and supplies.

At the start of EU-SIGN, the State's Inventory Replacement Plan Tool (IRPT) had not been regularly updated making it difficult to determine where the Cold Chain Equipment (CCE) needs were. A solution was found to keep the tool up-to-date, but there are still difficulties in keeping the data current. A review of available CCE data shows significant gaps in wards across the State. Facilities without solar refrigerators have to collect their vaccines from the LGA cold store.

Rivers State has a high number of unvaccinated children due to the health workers strike, but also due to lack of funding for outreach services, especially in hard-to-reach areas. Funding gaps have also prevented ward development committees from meeting to support community involvement in RI. There is no child tracking system which would help to reduce the number of unimmunised children. Data management and timely reporting is also a challenge. Rivers State uses the District Health Management Information System (DHIS) 2 and disparities have been found between DHIS data and the District Vaccine Data Management Tool (DVD-MT). A Data Quality Self-Assessment was conducted in 2015 and found that some health facilities had not been captured in DHIS 2. A data harmonisation meeting was held to discuss the results and identify areas for improvement.

There is continued insecurity in some LGAs due to communal clashes and kidnappings.

EU-SIGN Activities in Rivers State

- The STA attends monthly review meetings with the Rivers SPHCMB for continued assessment of the PHCUOR score card, identifying areas of improvement and strategies for full implementation of PHCUOR.
- EU-SIGN is represented at RI stakeholder and technical meetings in Rivers State, including all monthly working groups (RI, Logistics, Training, Social Mobilisation, Monitoring and Evaluation and Surveillance). Working groups are an opportunity to coordinate activities; review immunisation data and cold chain inventory; and share findings from supervision visits. EU-SIGN supported a Partners Quarterly Review Meeting on RI and logistics.
- 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 several Maternal, Newborn and Child Health weeks and measles campaigns.
- The EU-SIGN team conducts assessments of private health care facilities prior to their implementation of RI services.
- 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, use of monitoring charts and microplans and data management.
- EU-SIGN provides technical support to training sessions in the State. In addition to training support given to campaigns, the STA has provided training on new vaccine introduction (IPV and PCV) and management of Adverse Events Following Immunisation (AEFI). EU-SIGN supported Data Quality Use Supportive Supervision (DQUSS) training.
- EU-SIGN supported a needs assessment in LGAs and Wards with high cold chain and maintenance gaps.

- EU-SIGN has provided 46 Direct-Drive Solar Refrigerators (DDSR) and construction of a new cold store at Khana LGA is on-going (See table below).

EU-SIGN Supported Equipment, Construction and Renovation Works in Rivers State

EU-SIGN PROJECT SUPPORT AND PROJECT IN RIVERS STATE – UPDATED 2016					
			<i>August 2016 Exchange Rate:</i>	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)	45	8,423	379,035	
1b	Direct Drive Solar Refrigerator (small size = 30-105 Lts)	1	6,151	6,151	
	Sub-Total Cost DDSR			385,186	
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			421,403	
	WORKS / CONSTRUCTION / RENOVATION OF COLD STORE AND HEALTH FACILITIES				
	CONSTRUCTION				
1	Khana LGA (Cold Store)	1	96,937	96,937.06	
	RENOVATION				
2	Ahoada LGA (Cold Store) – (Cancelled)	1	-	-	
				-	
	SUB-TOTAL WORKS COST			96,937	
	GRAND TOTAL IN EURO			518,341	
	GRAND TOTAL EQUIVALENT IN NAIRA			176,212,343	