

# ADVANCING HEALTH



## ABOUT TSHIP

The Targeted States High Impact Project (TSHIP) is a five-year, USAID-funded project which aims to strengthen healthcare delivery in all 20 Local Government Areas (LGA) in Bauchi State and all 23 LGAs in Sokoto State of Nigeria. The overall objective of TSHIP is to increase the use of high-impact integrated maternal, newborn and child health and family planning/reproductive health interventions.

Using a tri-focus approach to improving community engagement, quality of health care services, and health system effectiveness, TSHIP partners with and builds the capacity of the Bauchi and Sokoto State Ministries of Health (SMoH) and the associated LGAs in order to improve health systems and management and quality service delivery in both states.

Ultimately, TSHIP is working to establish strong and durable bonds between community institutions and the healthcare delivery system to improve household health practices and increase people's use of health services.



*A mother and child during a visit to one of the TSHIP-supported health facilities*

## ANTICIPATED RESULTS OVER LIFE OF PROGRAM INCLUDE:

- Improved health practices and outcomes among the most vulnerable groups, namely, women of childbearing age, pregnant women, infants and children under five; reductions in the maternal and infant mortality rates and increases in contraceptive prevalence rates in Sokoto and Bauchi.
- Improved health systems, including health information systems, use of data for decision-making, use of standards-based health management, improved health facilities and logistics systems and improved overall capacity to plan, manage, and evaluate primary health care programs.
- Strengthened policy environment at the state and LGA levels, improved allocation of resources for primary health care, as well as more efficient and effective utilization of resources.
- Empowered communities and key stakeholders, including religious leaders, social and political decision-makers, and private sector; more active involvement of women in primary health care programs and social mobilization.

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## USAID | TSHIP'S GROUNDBREAKING WORK IN CHX AND MISOPROSTOL

With the support of TSHIP, on March 8, 2013 the Sokoto state government of Nigeria launched its procurement of two lifesaving drugs: Chlorhexidine gluconate 7.1% gel (CHX) and misoprostol tablets for the survival of newborns and mothers. Sokoto is the first government in Africa to launch the use of CHX. Later that year, Bauchi state emulated this action also with TSHIP's assistance.

Sokoto's initial order of CHX and misoprostol alone meant that up to 2,250 newborn deaths due to cord infection and up to 1,000 maternal deaths due to postpartum hemorrhage were averted. Presently, 95% of all births in Sokoto take place at home; the ability to deliver such lifesaving, low-cost drugs to women in their homes is critically important.

A week after Sokoto's launch, Nigeria's Minister of State for Health Dr. Muhammad Ali Pate issued a powerful "call to action" at a TSHIP-organized meeting held for health editors of leading news outlets in Nigeria. Since then, delegations from 25 of 36 Nigerian states plus the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, who represent 112 million Nigerians; have undertaken study tours of Sokoto's program.

Exactly one year after the national call to action (March 2014), Nigeria's Minister for Health, Prof. Onyebuchi Chukwu announced that approval had been granted to a local company -Drugfield Pharmaceuticals Limited

to begin manufacturing chlorhexidine. A total of six states have purchased and received delivery, or have ordered Chlorhexidine using their own funds: Sokoto (112,000 units in two batches of 56,000 units); Bauchi (75,000); Gombe State (26,500); Taraba State (48,000), Plateau (38,000) and Kano (60,000 units). Drugfield supplied Gombe, Plateau and Kano and has begun exporting to Haiti. Another six states have either set funds aside or have taken concrete steps to procuring chlorhexidine in the near term.

As of June 2014, a total of 101,300 newborns are projected to have been served with chlorhexidine in Bauchi and Sokoto States combined (Bauchi averaged 4,200 newborns per month; Sokoto at 3,350 per month).

In August 2014, Nigeria's National Council of Health will consider memos for national scale up of CHX.



*Beneficiaries who met with participants of the Sokoto study tours*

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To implement TSHIP, JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. is partnering with Jhpiego, Futures Group, PLAN and Management Strategies for Africa (MSA).