



# Advancing Maternal, Newborn, Child Health in Sokoto State: The Progress So Far 2009-2015

Final Dissemination Meeting  
July 2, 2015



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



From 2010 to 2015, the Government of Sokoto and USAID helped  
**save the lives of  
6,313 women and newborns.**

Including:



**537** newborn lives saved



**383** lives saved due to CHX alone



**44** maternal lives saved



TSHIP Partnership Goal #1:  
Support Government  
of Nigeria to Accelerate  
Progress towards MDG 4  
and 5

TSHIP Partnership Goal #2:  
Support the innovative  
roll-out of  
maternal, newborn, child  
health and family planning  
interventions

# Our Focus

**Increase use** of MNCH & FP services

Work in **partnership** with government, civil society,  
and the people of Sokoto State

Work with and through **existing systems**

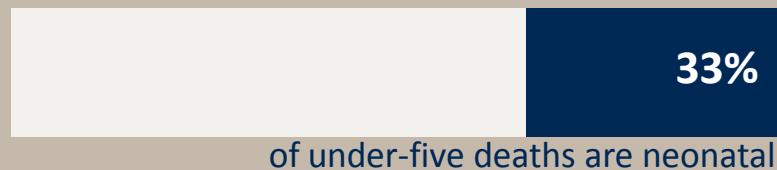
Aim for **sustainability** from the get-go

**Use lessons** to advance MNCH across Nigeria

# Nigeria

**168.8 million**  
Total Population

Neonatal mortality rate  
**37 per 1000**  
births



**5.5 children**  
per woman



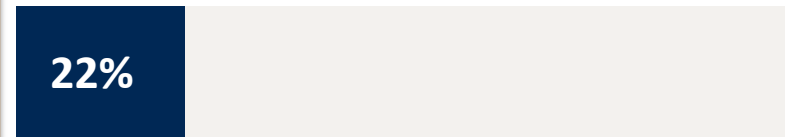
**-3.5% decline**

In fertility rate from  
2008 to 2013

# Sokoto State

**4.45 million**  
Total Population

**44 per 1000**  
births



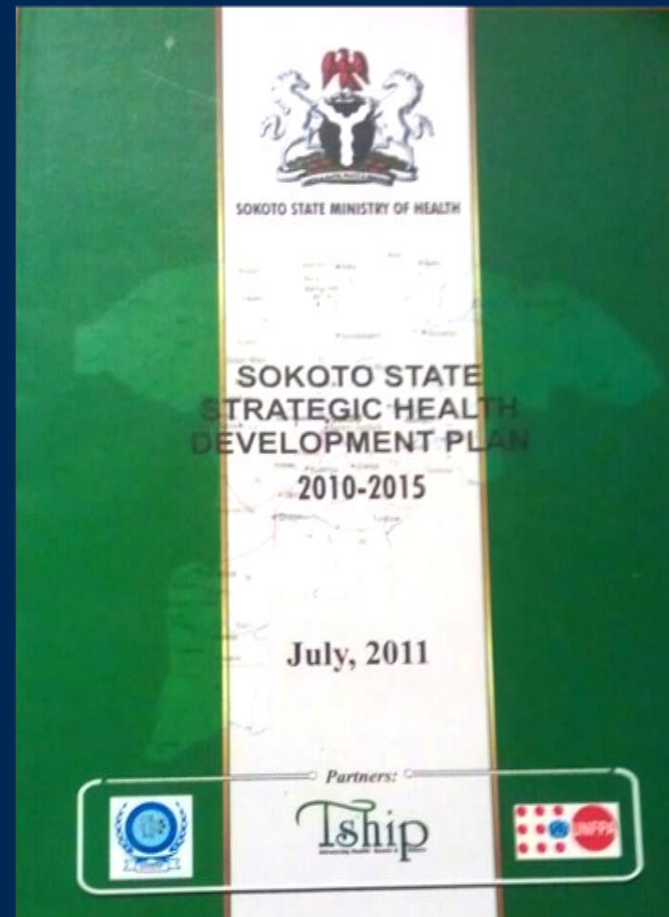
**7 children**  
per woman



**-20% decline**



# First 5-Year Health Strategic Plan Developed and in Use





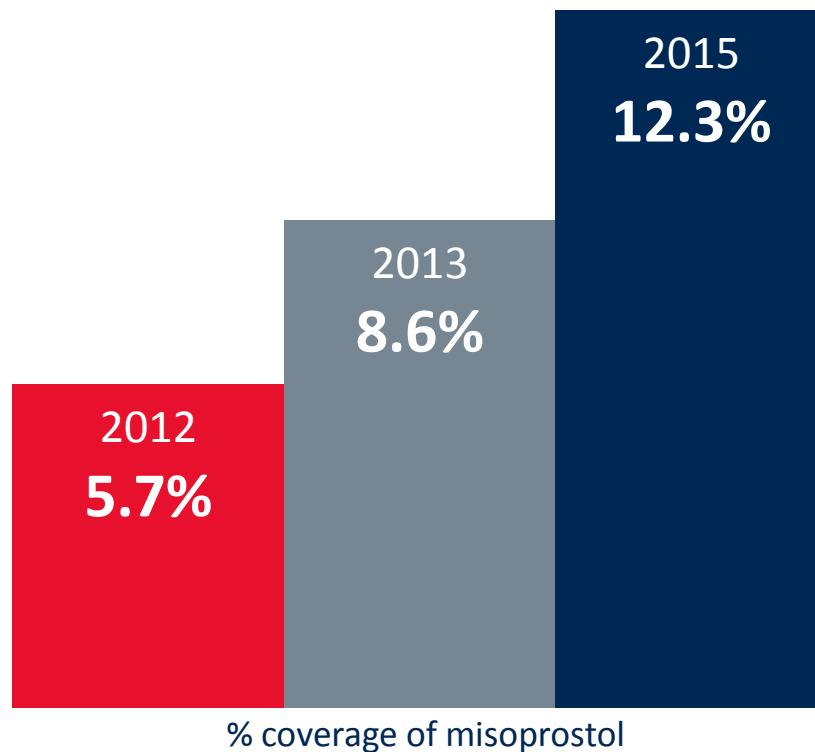
# **MATERNAL HEALTH**

A black and white photograph of a man in a white shirt and headwrap, holding a megaphone. He is standing in front of a building. The background shows some trees and a person sitting on a bench.

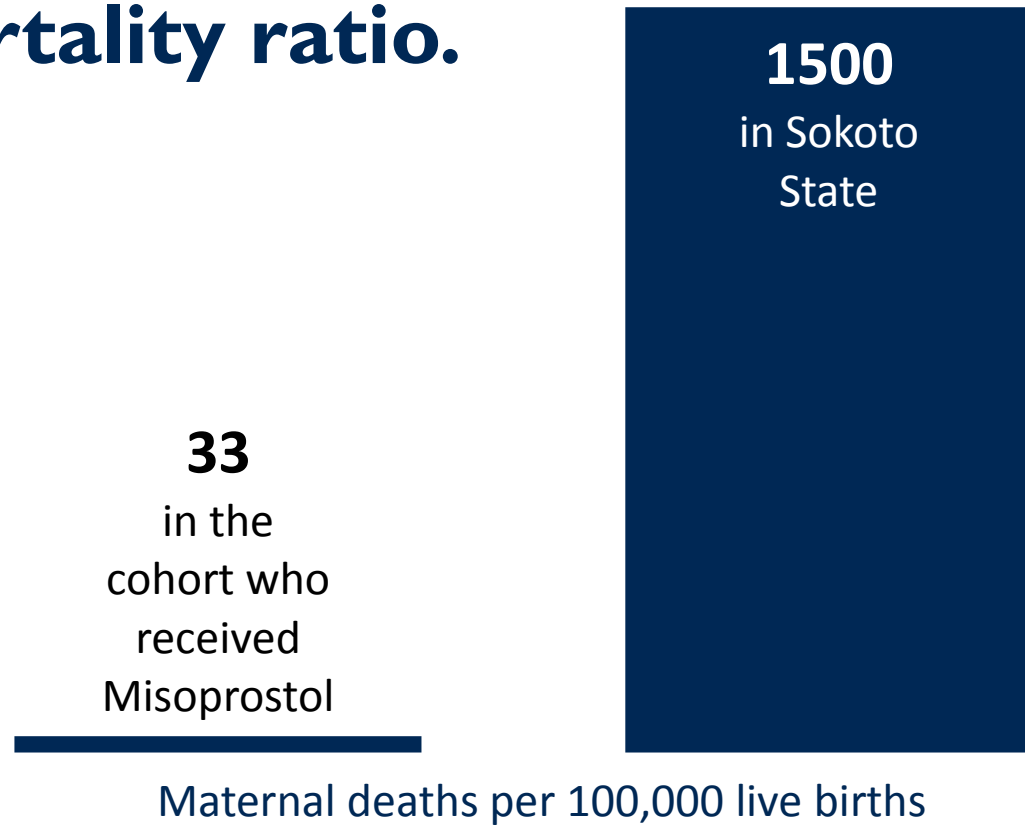
Sokoto State was first  
in Nigeria to roll out  
misoprostol use at scale.


33 state government  
delegations visited to  
learn about  
the approach.

Sokoto State misoprostol  
coverage more than doubled,  
**saving maternal lives.**



The use of misoprostol is strongly associated with **much lower maternal mortality ratio.**





“My wife delivered on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2013, assisted both by my mother and my second wife.

Immediately the baby was delivered I gave her three tablets of Miso. She was and about within 4 hours. Last time, it took her 5 days to get up.”

Mallam Tundu, Community Drug Keeper, Kwacciya-Lalle Ward, Bodinga LGA

Sokoto is one of  
3 states with a  
Maternal Death  
Accountability, R  
eview and  
Notification Law

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA  
SOKOTO STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



FOR

A LAW FOR MATERNAL HEALTH  
ACCOUNTABILITY, ESTABLISHMENT OF  
MATERNAL MORTALITY REVIEW  
COMMITTEE AND OTHER CONNECTED  
PURPOSES.

LAW NO. .... 2014

# What Remains to be Done

Enshrine all women's  
access to  
misoprostol/  
uterotonics as a right

Support/Sustain  
Community-Based  
Health Volunteers'  
System

Sokoto State needs a  
Marshall Plan to  
rapidly train 3000  
community midwives.  
At current pace, it will  
take 200 years

Use insurance/  
universal coverage to  
make antenatal  
care, delivery and  
emergency obstetric  
care work better

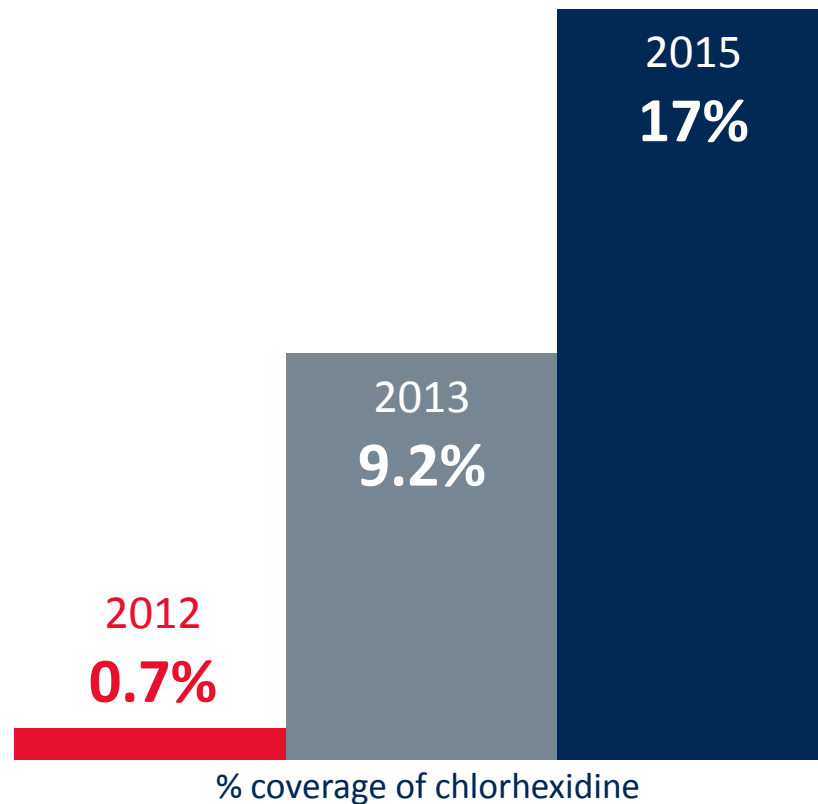


# **ADVANCING NEWBORN HEALTH**

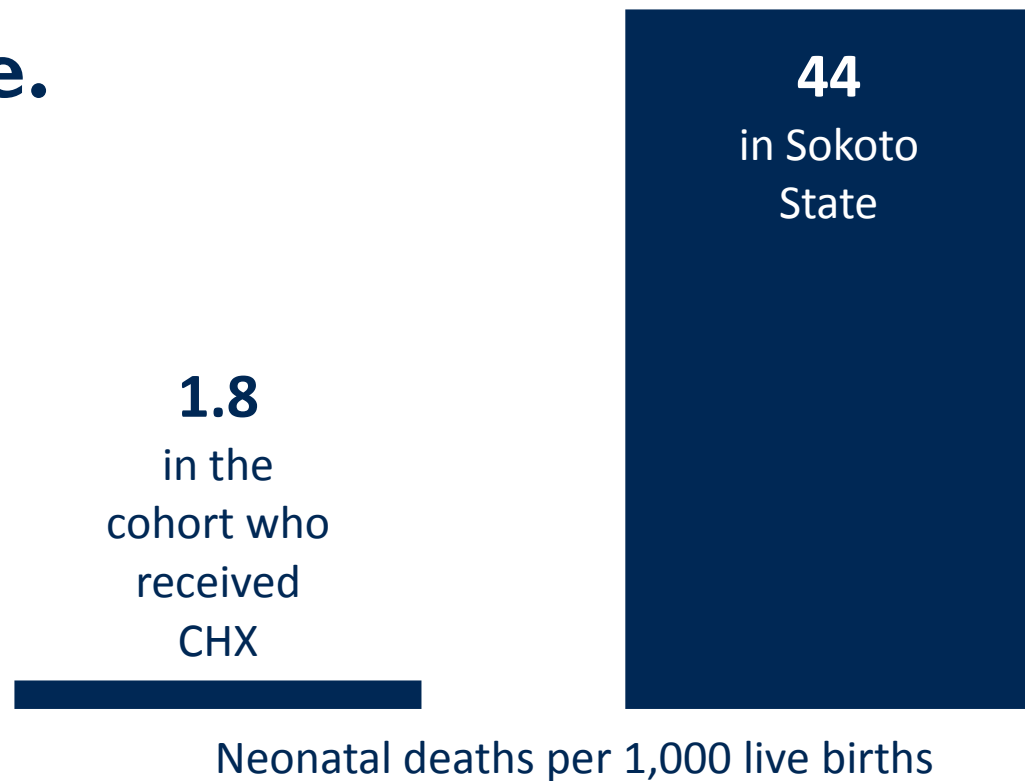
Sokoto State led Nigeria on  
at-scale use of chlorhexidine  
gel 7.1% for cord care.

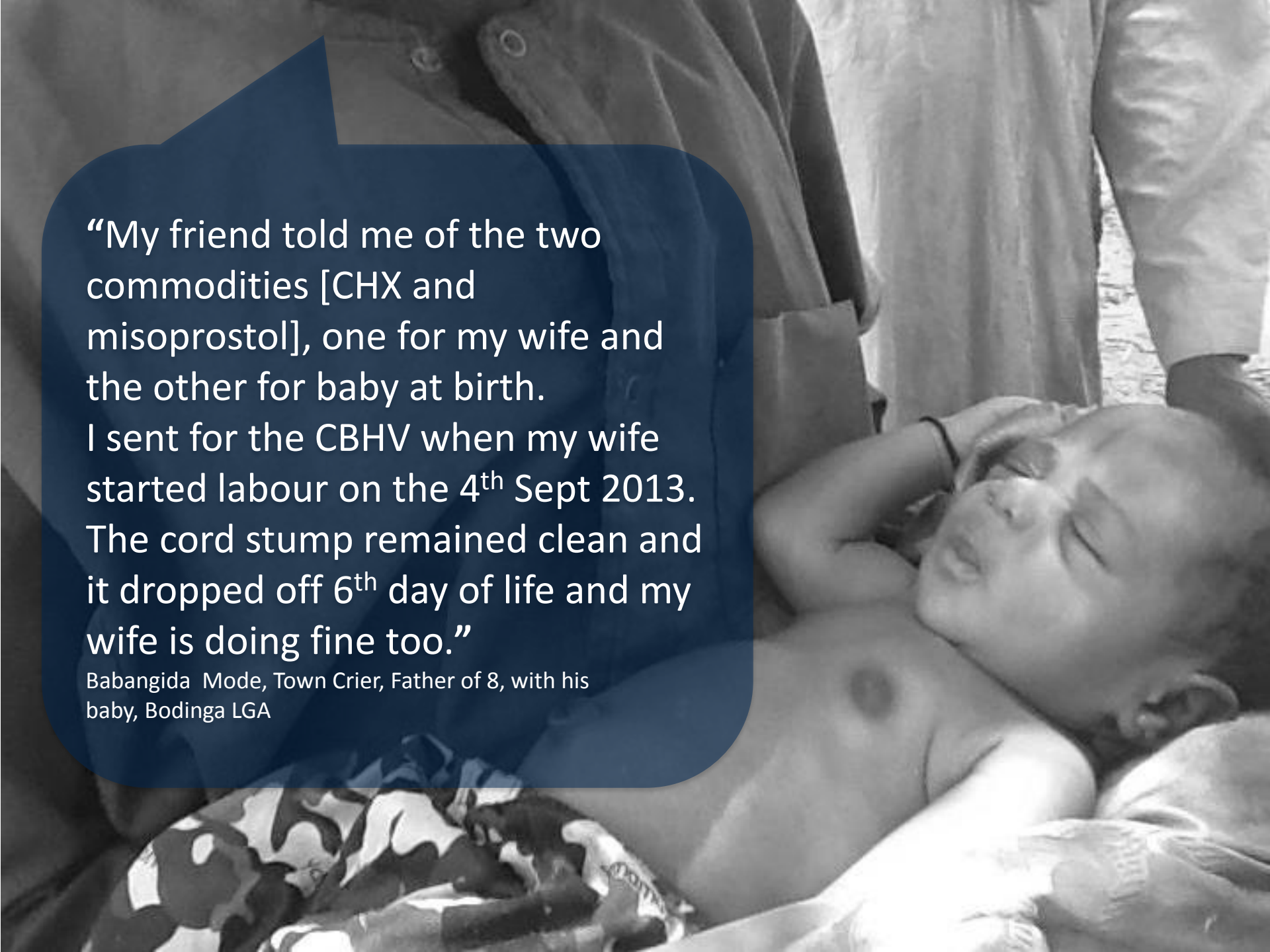


Coverage of chlorhexidine in Sokoto State increased more than 20-fold, **saving newborn lives.**



The use of chlorhexidine is strongly associated with a **much lower neonatal mortality rate.**





“My friend told me of the two commodities [CHX and misoprostol], one for my wife and the other for baby at birth. I sent for the CBHV when my wife started labour on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2013. The cord stump remained clean and it dropped off 6<sup>th</sup> day of life and my wife is doing fine too.”

Babangida Mode, Town Crier, Father of 8, with his baby, Bodinga LGA

# What Remains to be Done

Aim to achieve  
universal coverage of  
newborns' access to  
chlorhexidine gel

Support/Sustain  
Community-Based  
Health Volunteers'  
System

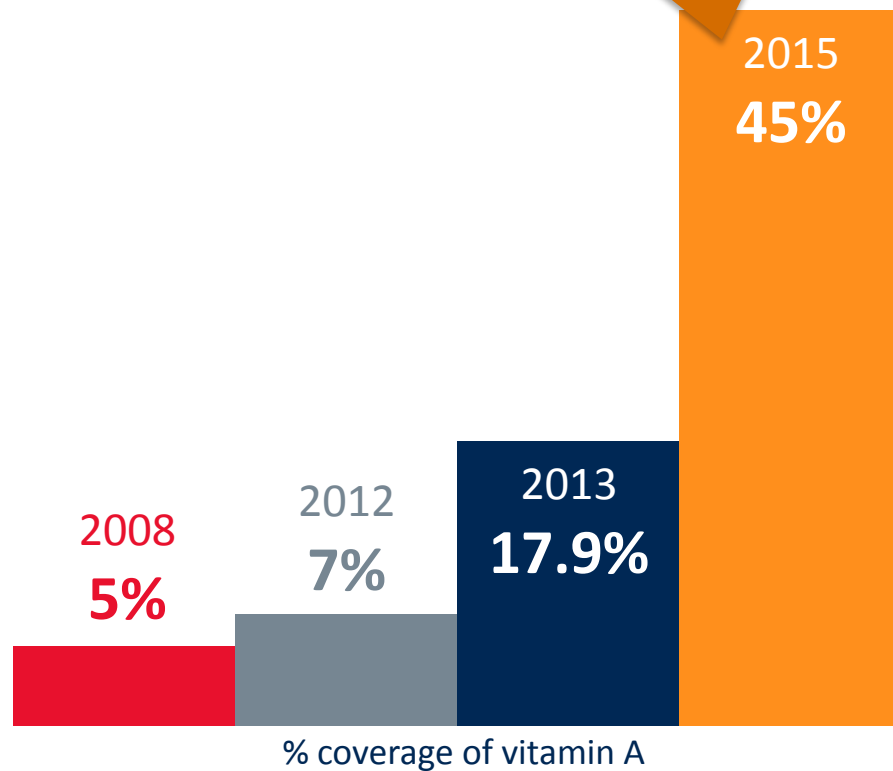
Increase/Improve  
predictable  
availability of  
chlorhexidine

Implement Helping  
Babies Breathe with  
community based  
health volunteers

The background is a solid dark blue color. At the top, there are several overlapping, wavy, light blue lines that create a sense of movement and depth, resembling stylized waves or a horizon line.

# **ADVANCES IN CHILD HEALTH**

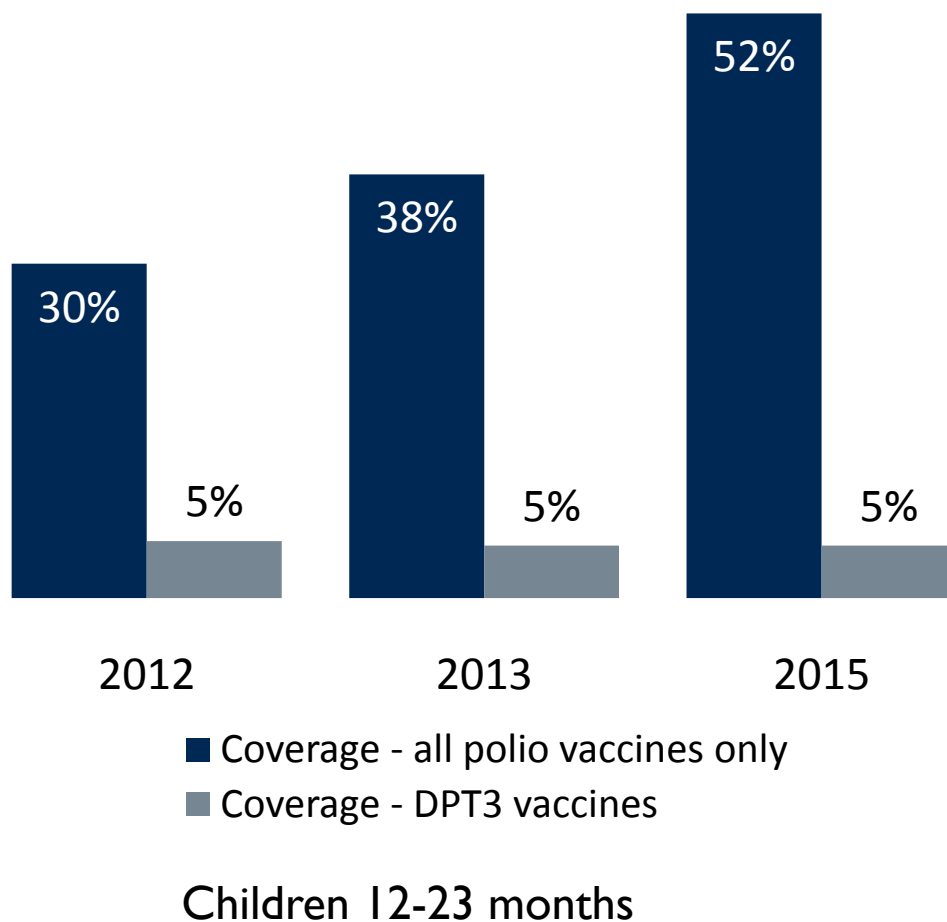
Vitamin A coverage for children rose nine-fold from 2008 to 2015, **saving young lives.**



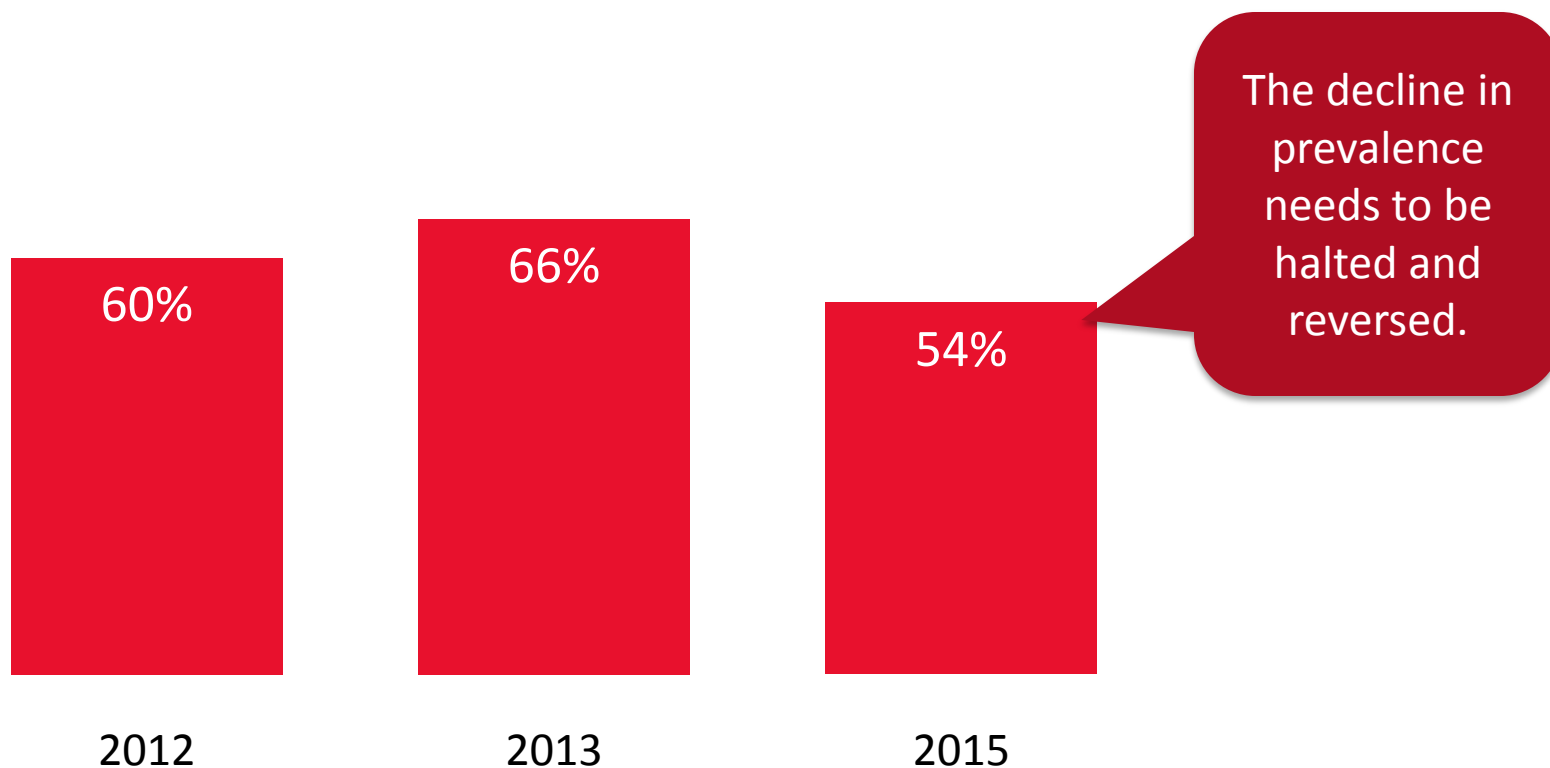
Nearly 400,000 children were reached with Vitamin A capsules biannually in 2014/15 child health weeks.

The pace is now set to use polio vaccination platform to urgently **strengthen routine immunization.**

**Zero polio cases  
in Sokoto State  
in  
35 months.**



**Over 50%\* of infants under 6 months were exclusively breastfed in Sokoto State,** more than double the national average in Nigeria.



Sources: 2012, 2015: TSHIP LQAS; 2013: DHS

\*Based on 24 hour recall

# What Remains to be Done

Accelerating Progress  
in Routine  
Immunization—  
Improve Quality, Cold  
Chain maintenance

Increasing  
Predictable Supply of  
Life Saving  
Commodities—  
Zinc/ORS,  
Amoxicillin DT

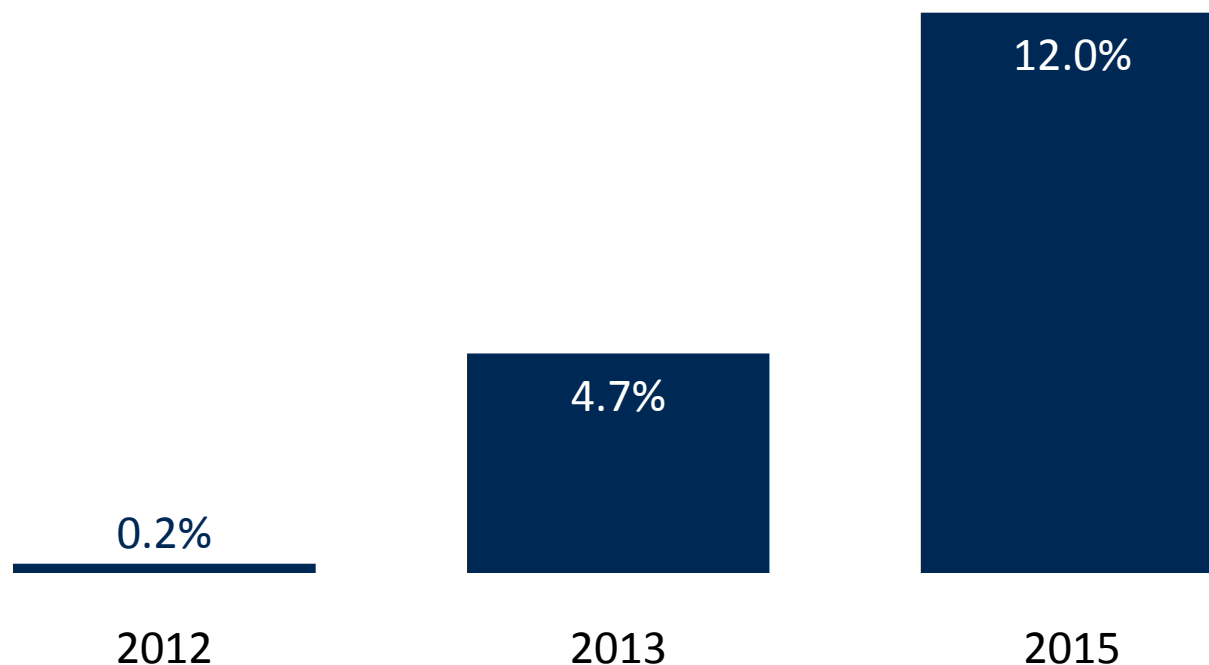
Exploring New  
Approaches to  
Community Case  
Management

Intensify promotion  
of Exclusive  
Breastfeeding  
through CBHV;  
educate men on its  
importance



# **ADVANCES IN FAMILY PLANNING**

In Sokoto State, the **percent of women who do not want to have additional children** has increased markedly.



And Sokoto State recorded  
**among the fastest decline  
in fertility in Nigeria.**



# Multiple factors supported family planning growth

- ✓ Introduction of **Long-acting Contraceptives**
- ✓ **300% increase** in the number of facilities
- ✓ **Very strong support from *Modibbos***
- ✓ Strong visible **support from men**



**ADVANCES IN RELATED  
HEALTH SYSTEMS &  
CROSS-CUTTING AREAS**



**IMPACT on NIGERIA:**  
Sokoto State provided  
national leadership  
in MNCH & FP



**27,000 members  
of 100-Women Groups  
on the move in 23 LGAs**

**\$425,000  
IN LOANS  
AWARDED  
BY  
CENTRAL  
BANK**

# Internships: Investing in the Next Generation of Leaders Matter

- Trained **100** young graduate interns
- Average duration = **8 months**
- 57 Males
- 43 Females

“The most successful aspect of my internship experience is that I was trained and moulded into an individual ready for a successful career with vast knowledge of office management processes matching the required demand of a standard organisation.”  
Shehu A, Male

# Key Lessons and What the State Government Needs to Know/Do/Act

- ✓ **Good governance** saves lives
- ✓ Invest in **community health system**—they connect health to the last mile—it saves lives
- ✓ A Marshall Plan is needed to urgently **produce 3000 community midwives**
- ✓ **Supplies** Critical to Accelerating MNCH to save more lives

# **Nana Asma'u**, Daughter of Sheikh Usman Danfodio on Governance

**“Rulers must persevere to improve affairs,**

Do you hear? And you who are ruled, do not  
stray: Do not be anxious to get what you want.

**Those who oppress the people in the name  
of authority will be crushed in their graves,  
in the Hereafter, *Be Sure of God's Truth.*”**

From 2010 to 2015, the Government of Sokoto and USAID helped  
**save the lives of  
6,313 women and newborns.**

Including:



**537** newborn lives saved



**383** lives saved due to CHX alone



**44** maternal lives saved



TSHIP Consortium:  
JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. (JSI),  
JHPIEGO, Futures Group International,  
PLAN and Management Strategies for Africa (MSA)

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**THANK YOU**