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# Board of Trustees



**Dr. Olusola Aruna** is a Fellow of the United Kingdom Faculty of Public Health (FPH). Dr Aruna qualified as a doctor in 1984 from the University of Ife, Nigeria. She gained her Masters in Public Health (MPH) with distinction from the University of Leeds in 1996 as a British Chevening Scholar, and holds a Diploma in Child Health (DCH) from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.

Dr Aruna was appointed Consultant in Public Health Medicine in the UK National Health Service (NHS) in 2007, and has worked on the identification, assessment, analysis and use of data and other information for decision-making, including the control of communicable diseases. Her work has also involved providing expert evidence-based advice to politicians, donor agencies and Board Executives at different levels. Dr. Aruna supported the design, implementation and evaluation of surveillance systems in Nigeria as a Senior Technical Advisor on Surveillance to the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, under the USAID funded MEASURE Evaluation Project. She is currently the country lead for the Public Health England's (PHE) International Health Regulations (IHR) Strengthening Programme in Nigeria.



**Dr Zainab Imam** obtained her medical degree from the University of Ibadan in Nigeria. This was followed by training at the University College Hospital in Ibadan. Dr Imam retrained as a General Adult Psychiatrist in the UK with endorsement in Rehabilitation and Subspecialty interests in Early Intervention

in Psychosis and Perinatal Psychiatry. She has worked in Psychiatry for over 10 years and is currently a Consultant in Women's Mental Health at Sidra Medicine in Qatar. She is a Member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and she holds a One Year Intermediate Certificate of the University of Plymouth in Psychodynamic Psychotherapy. Prior to moving to Qatar, Dr Imam was an Honorary University Fellow at Plymouth University Peninsula Schools of Medicine and Dentistry. She was also a Trustee and Director of Plymouth Centre for Faiths and Cultural Diversity.

Dr Imam is a member of the Public Education Engagement Board of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, and is a Partner in Psychiatry-UK LLP, the only NHS and CQC approved provider of Tele-psychiatry services in the UK, and she is a Faculty member of a United Nation's Population Fund (UNFPA) Supported joint MANSAG and IDP Diaspora Support Group Trauma Counselling Training Program in Nigeria. Dr Imam is married to Ibrahim and they are blessed with four children.



**Dr Ike Anya** is a Partner at EpiAFRIC ([www.epiafric.com](http://www.epiafric.com)) and manages all engagements in Western Europe. He was until recently a Consultant in Public Health Medicine, and Deputy Director of Public Health with the UK National Health Service in London and an honorary lecturer in public health at Imperial

College. A Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health, he has taught at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), Imperial College, University College London, the University of the West of England and Bristol University. A lead partner for the General Medical Council, he is a member of the Black & Ethnic Minority Health and Epidemiology & Public Health Section Council's at the Royal Society of Medicine and member of the Advisory Committee for Medecins Du Monde's Project: London. He is a co-founder of the Abuja Literary Society, the Nigerian Public Health Foundation, and the Nigeria Health Watch ([www.nigeriahealthwatch.com](http://www.nigeriahealthwatch.com)), a TED Global Fellow and cofounder of TEDxEuston.



**Dr. Chikwe Ihekweazu** is the Chief Executive Officer of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), as well as his position as Acting Director of the Regional Centre for Disease Control for West Africa. Dr Ihekweazu trained as an infectious disease epidemiologist and has over 20 years' experience working in

senior public health and leadership positions at the South African National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD), the UK's Health Protection Agency, and Germany's Robert Koch Institute (RKI).

Dr Ihekweazu has led several short-term engagements for WHO, mainly in response to major infectious disease outbreaks around the world.

He is a graduate of the College of Medicine, University of Nigeria and has a Masters in Public Health (MPH) from the Heinrich-Heine University, Dusseldorf, Germany. In 2003, he was awarded a Fellowship for the European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training (EPIET), completing his Public Health specialisation in the UK. He is widely published in medical peer review journals and is on the board of the NGOs: Public Health Foundation of Nigeria, Health Watch Foundation, Society for Family Health (SFH), Education as a Vaccine (EVA). He is on the Africa Policy Advisory Board of ONE and a TED Fellow, and co-founder of TEDxEuston. In between public service, he was Managing Partner of EpiAFRIC - a health consultancy firm based in Abuja and curator of the health policy advocacy platform, Nigeria Health Watch.

# Foreword

It has been an incredibly eventful year for Nigeria Health Watch in 2017. Our Annual Report chronicles our continued growth outlining the projects we have embarked on. What we have achieved could not have been possible without our amazing team members and volunteers who give of themselves to build this shared vision. We are indebted to our supportive partners, who continue to show confidence in the work that we do.

I hope that as you explore this year's Annual Report, you will find new reasons to be proud of your support for Nigeria Health Watch. We are a young team committed to ensuring that Nigerians have access to accurate, relevant, timely and useful information on the Nigerian health sector. Our core health forums for 2017 tackled two key issues in the Nigerian health sector, the importance of leadership and the application of sound business principles in healthcare delivery.

Between our health forums, we kept critical conversations about Nigeria's health sector alive on our social media platforms. We increased our health advocacy and communications campaigns, embarking on the UNICEF funded *#FeedNaijaPikin* campaign which advocated for more funding and a greater focus on the high rate of malnutrition. Another important conversation we were able to intensify in 2017, was the Christian Aid supported *#Health4AllNaija* campaign. Our ongoing advocacy looked to increase awareness around the important issue of

attaining Universal Health Coverage in Nigeria, and the steps necessary for us as a country to get there. Our audience are an intricate part of why we do what we do and we are incredibly grateful for the positive feedback we have received throughout the year.

Throughout 2017, our advocacy campaigns helped to grow our social media platforms which saw our *Twitter* followers increase by 25%, and *Facebook* likes increased by 69% throughout the year. Over 50 Thought Leadership blogs were published targeting diverse issues, from Primary Healthcare Centre revitalisation and Nigeria's population crisis to depression in Nigeria and our culture of denial about the problem.

As always, we *#keppushing*, and as a team we continue to increase our capacity to deliver on projects. The year ahead will be full of new adventures for us as a team. We will continue to bring attention to important topical issues that affect Nigeria's health sector and to bring them to the forefront of public discussions.

With general elections a year away, there is a lot at stake as we advocate for a better health sector. We cannot relent until we see a Nigerian health sector that we are happy to leave to generations to come.

Stay with us on this journey.



**ADAOBI N. EZEOKOLI**  
Managing Director

 ***With general elections a year away, there is a lot at stake for those of us who advocate for a better health sector.***



# Profile

Nigeria Health Watch is a not-for-profit health communications and advocacy organisation that seeks to advocate for the health of Nigerians, engage and support government and other partners in the formulation and implementation of positive and effective health policies and holding duty bearers accountable for delivering affordable and quality healthcare to Nigerians. Our dual strengths in health and communication enables us to provide solutions for communications and advocacy in the health sector.



Since inception in 2014, Nigeria Health Watch has provided informed health news, aimed at advocating for better health care for Nigerians as well as meeting the health information needs of patients and health professionals. Advocacy and communications work is carried out using Nigeria Health Watch's online platforms, a weekly thought leadership blog, weekly health news round-up and social media channels.

Nigeria Health Watch's content and advocacy work reaches a wide audience of health practitioners, civil society organisations and individuals who influence and formulate health policy decisions in Nigeria. This audience also includes academics, activists, community leaders and non-governmental organizations in the field of health. Nigeria Health Watch's following in the health sector demonstrates that it is recognised as an important voice in the sector.



## MISSION

The mission of Nigeria Health Watch is to ensure that Nigerians have the tools and knowledge to make informed decisions about their health. We seek to advocate for improved access to health services at the federal and state level, promoting transparency and health reform where needed.

Nigeria Health Watch aims to achieve this mission through informed commentary, effective advocacy, education, health information dissemination and policy recommendation.

## VISION

Nigeria Health Watch is committed to working with stakeholders, through advocacy to realise its vision of a Nigeria where all people, irrespective of income have access to improved and affordable quality health care.

## VALUES

Our Values are the core beliefs that guide our actions and behaviour, the way we work and engage with our stakeholders, and these include excellence, partnership, commitment and open-mindedness as we work collectively to advocate for better access to healthcare for all Nigerians.



### CORE BELIEFS



EXCELLENCE



PARTNERSHIP

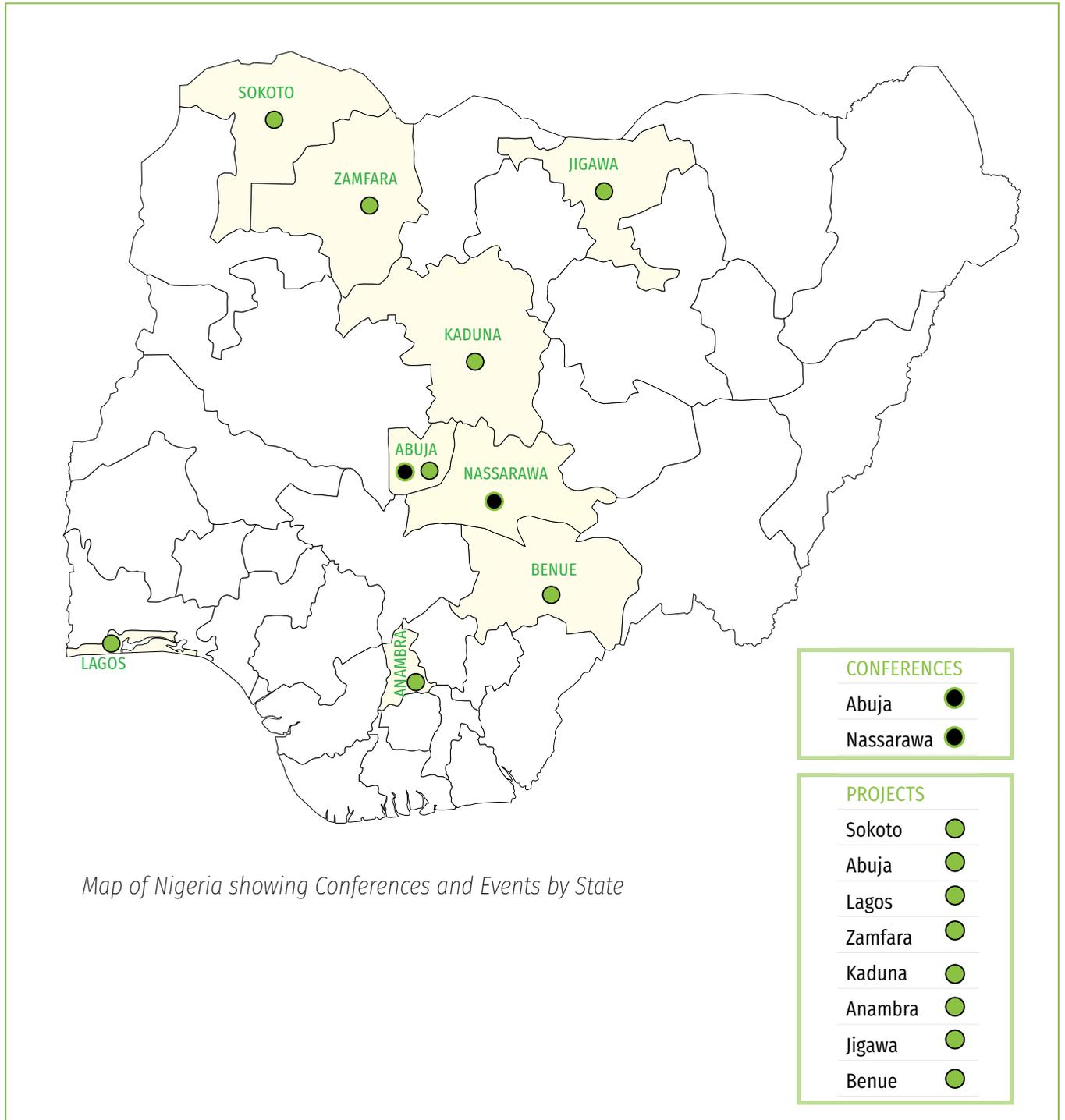


COMMITMENT

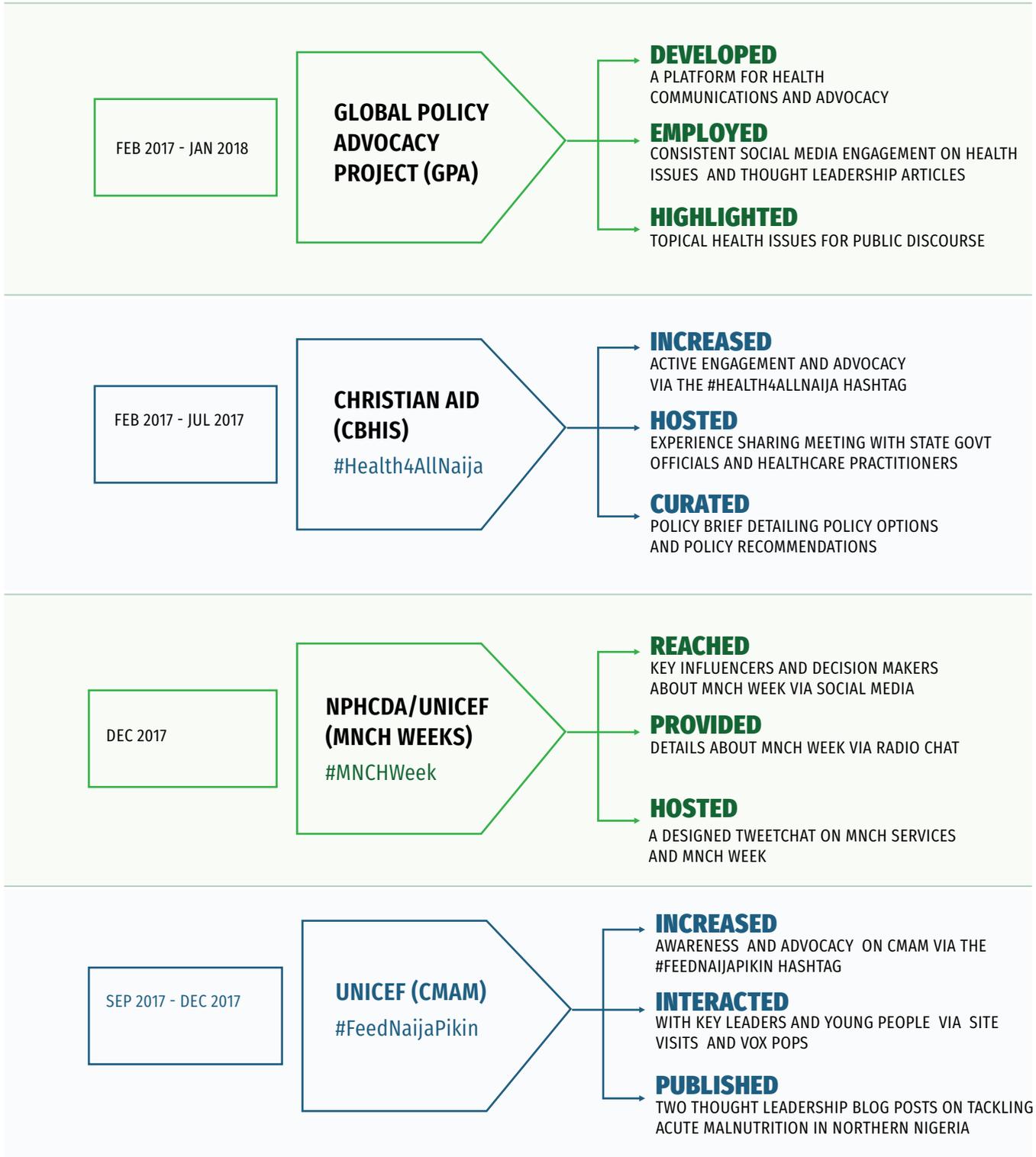


OPEN-MINDEDNESS

# Project Map Overview



# Projects



## GLOBAL POLICY ADVOCACY PROJECT

### GLOBAL POLICY ADVOCACY PROJECT

The Global Policy Advocacy (GPA) project created a health communication, education and advocacy platform that supported patients, caregivers, family members, and individuals to make informed decisions about their health, understand the key priorities in health and hold government and other key organizations and individuals in the health sector to account.

### TIME PERIOD

February 2017 - January 2018

### AIM OF THE PROJECT

To foster an environment where Nigerians can access accurate information about their health and begin to actively engage in the Nigerian health sector, from an accountability perspective, driving the critical need for improvements in public sector health delivery.

### KEY RESULTS

The GPA project successfully developed a well-recognized and trusted platform for health communications and advocacy in the Nigerian health sector, over the period of the grant. This was achieved through consistent social media engagement on health issues relevant to Nigerians, informed thought leadership articles on issues facing the health sector and health-sector focused forums and policy dialogues that brought topical health issues to the forefront of public discourse.

### IMPACT

The GPA Project had the following impact:

1. Increased engagement with Nigerians about health-sector issues and topics: Our social media platforms grew their audiences as more Nigerians became engaged with our content and more connected with health sector discussions. Our Twitter platform saw a 28% increase in followers over the grant period, with our Facebook platform growing by 69% in page likes.
2. Increased recognition as a trusted source for credible and reliable health-focused news, information and insight: Our web portal, Nigeria Health Watch, comes top of search items on “health” and “Nigeria”. The organisation was listed as one of the most credible sources of health news in several online health blog listings, and brought together key stakeholders and policymakers in forums to engage in health policy discussions.
3. Increased involvement in health sector focused government advisory committees and voluntary sector partnerships: we were invited to sit on the editorial board for Universal Health Coverage (UHC) organised by the Ministry of Health and other advocates for UHC. Nigeria Health Watch is also a member of the Legislative Joint Network for Universal Health Coverage organised by the National Assembly and chaired by the Chairman Senate Committee on Health.



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## CHRISTIAN AID (CBHIS)

### POLICY INFLUENCE AND SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN ADVOCACY (#HEALTH4ALLNAIJA) FOR COMMUNITY-BASED HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME (CBHIS)

Advocacy campaign commissioned by Christian Aid for Nigeria Health Watch to raise awareness for the Community-Based Health Insurance Scheme (CBHIS).

#### TIME PERIOD

February 2017 - July 2017

#### AIM OF THE PROJECT

1. Increase messages about CBHIS on social media
2. Improve the capacity of health journalists to understand the CBHIS and to report about it
3. Provide a platform for experts in the health sector for community health advocates to share their knowledge on the CBHIS and improved health access
4. Publish condensed information on how to start a CBHIS
5. Create an opportunity for state government officials and healthcare practitioners to discuss and share experiences with Health Management Organizations (HMOs), NGOs, government agencies and other relevant stakeholders

#### KEY RESULTS

Active engagement and increased advocacy was measured via the #Health4AllNaija hashtag which trended on Twitter with over 2,000 people talking about it on Facebook.

A policy brief detailing policy options and policy recommendations was curated from the experience sharing meeting with state government officials and healthcare practitioners.

#### IMPACT

The Nigeria Health Watch Project had the following impact over the life of the grant:

1. Masterclass on Health Journalism - two-day focused update course on writing for health journalists. Case-oriented program provided training for journalists reporting on health events as well as editors from media houses.
2. Experience Sharing meeting on State Health Insurance – entailed a brief presentation by a representative of each State Ministry of Health. Followed by a panel discussion and Q&A with the state representatives in participating states yet to sign their health insurance bill into laws.
3. Christian Aid - Nigeria Health Watch Technical Meeting on Benue State Health Insurance – entailed a technical meeting led by presentations by Nigeria Health Watch and Christian Aid on why effective state health insurance legislation is imperative for Benue state.
4. Regular advocacy on our social media platforms including a Twitter chat on how CBHIS will improve health access. Experts and community health advocates shared their knowledge on the challenges and potential solutions in CBHIS.
5. Monthly radio show on CBHIS - three monthly radio shows broadcast on Nigeria Info 95.1 FM Abuja, March 20 2017, June 5 2017 and August 2 2017. The aim was to preview the Experience Sharing Meeting on State Health Insurance Schemes and discuss pertinent issues.



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## NPHCDA/UNICEF (MNCH WEEKS)

### STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION TO CREATE AWARENESS FOR MNCH WEEK IN NIGERIA

Maternal and Newborn Child Health (MNCH) week is the national week organized to deliver an integrated package of highly cost-effective MNCH services and interventions to Nigerians. These services are primarily delivered to strengthen the routine Primary Health Care (PHC) services. Nigeria Health Watch was commissioned by UNICEF and the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) to implement a strategic communication campaign aimed at raising awareness about maternal health, looking at the well-being of children and the importance of keeping up with routine immunization. MNCH week, which is observed twice a year, is implemented across different states at separate times. The project was implemented in 32 states of the 36 states in Nigeria, and the FCT.

### TIME PERIOD

December 2017

### SUMMARY OF IMPLEMENTATION DATES

S/N	DATE	IMPLEMENTING STATES
1	November 2017	Abia, Bauchi, Kwara, Lagos, Nasarawa, Taraba, Adamawa, Kebbi, Kogi, Ondo, Yobe, Zamfara, Jigawa
2	4th – 8th December 2017	FCT, Bayelsa, Kaduna, Plateau
3	11th – 15th December 2017	Borno, Ebonyi, Enugu, Kano, Katsina, Ogun, Osun
4	13th – 17th December 2017	Delta
5	18th – 22nd December 2017	Benue, Ekiti, Gombe, Sokoto
6	January 2018	Akwa-Ibom, Imo, Niger, Rivers

### AIM OF THE PROJECT

1. To provide the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) with social media support services to help amplify the objectives of MNCH week in the different implementing states in Nigeria.
2. To increase the visibility and awareness of Maternal New Born and Child Health Week (MNCHW) at the state and national level in order to increase take up of the package of services on offer.

### KEY RESULTS

#### 1. Social Media Awareness Campaign

Utilized social media in reaching key influencers and decision makers and spreading information about MNCH week. The campaign hashtag (*#MNCHWeek*) was used to track the level of dissemination of information for MNCH week. It was used for MNCH week to support the different implementing States to raise awareness about the activities being carried out and package services on offer which were free of charge.



HASHTRACKING ((#MNCHWEEK) 1ST – 31ST DECEMBER 2017

**883**

POSTS

Number of tweets with the #MNCHWeek hashtag

**3.97million**

TIMELINE DELIVERIES

Total number of times that people saw posts containing the #MNCHWeek hashtag

**383**

CONTRIBUTORS

Number of users who posted with the #MNCHWeek hashtag

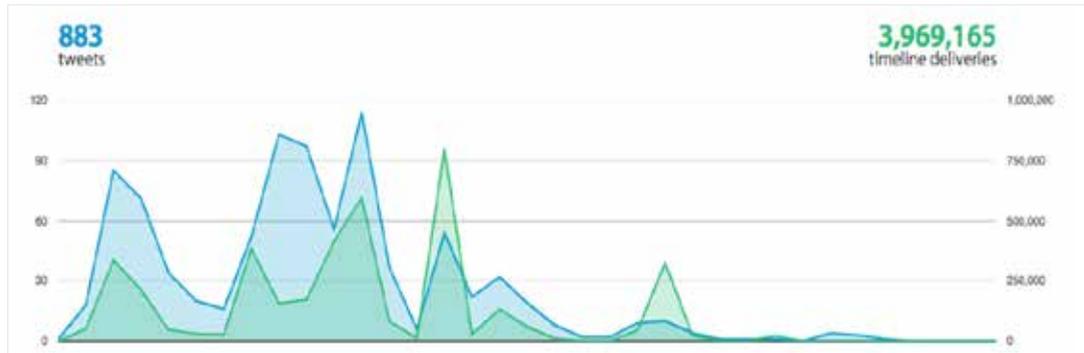
**1.26million**

REACHED

Number of unique users who saw posts containing the #MNCHWeekhashtag

## NPHCDA/UNICEF (MNCH WEEKS) CONT'D

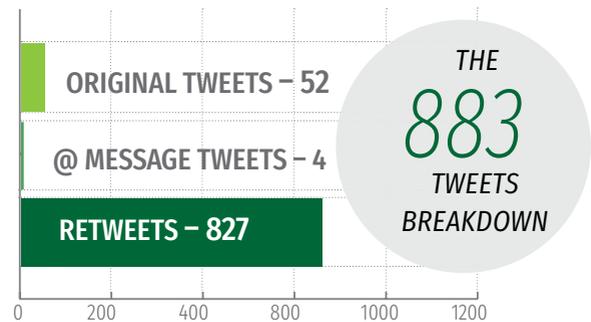
### ACTIVITY SUMMARY



### BUZZ WORDS



### ENGAGEMENT



Name	Tweets	Followers (Reach)	Timeline Deliveries
 <b>Nigeria Health Watch</b> @nighealthwatch Putting health and healthcare at the forefront of the public agenda in Nigeria. Find out more at <a href="http://www.nigeriahealthwatch.com">http://www.nigeriahealthwatch.com</a> #NigHlth	53	22,186	1,164,803
 <b>Hamzy CODE</b> @HamzyCODE Activist   Building Grassroots Movement #OpenData One Community at a Time @4lowthemoney #OpenGov   Co-Creator/CEO @Connected_dev   Board Member @AYICC #SDGs	2	301,577	587,018
 <b>Govt of Nigeria</b> @AsoRock Follow for the latest from the Federal Government of Nigeria.	1	294,486	294,486
 <b>Yinka</b> @yeancarrh Dont famz me.    <a href="mailto:info@mustardelsmedia.com.ng">info@mustardelsmedia.com.ng</a> Business Only!	6	28,601	171,564

## KEY RESULTS CONT'D

### OTHER ACTIVITY

#### 2. Radio chat (27th November 2017)

The radio show 95.1 Nigeria Info was used to provide details about MNCH week, informing the audience about the range of free services for women and children under 5 that are being delivered at Primary Health Care facilities and how to access them nationwide. Dr Ifeanyi Nsofor, Director Policy and Advocacy at Nigeria Health Watch and Victoria Azodoh, Program Officer, MNCH Week.



#### 3. Tweet chat (3pm, Wednesday December 6, 2017)

The Tweet chat was designed in partnership with NPHCDA and UNICEF. The one-hour Tweet chat took place on the 6th of December at 3pm. Nigeria Health Watch assisted in recruiting 10 participants to take part in the Tweet chat, as well as developing infographics to publicize the event. Participants were recruited based on their knowledge of MNCH services and MNCH week.

#### Questions asked:

- Q1: What services do you use most often at your local primary health care centre?
- Q2: What maternal new-born and child health services are you aware are offered in a primary healthcare centre?
- Q3: What are the basic free health services delivered during Maternal Newborn and Child Health Week?
- Q4: Who are those eligible to receive free services during Maternal Newborn and Child Health Week?





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## UNICEF (CMAM) PROJECT

### POLICY ADVOCACY USING SOCIAL MEDIA FOR NUTRITION AWARENESS AND RESOURCE PROVISIONING TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OF ACUTE MALNUTRITION (CMAM)

The Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) project was carried out by Nigeria Health Watch under the SSFA and provided by UNICEF. The project ran from September 1, 2017 – November 30, 2017. The project was borne out of the quest to present a solution to the challenges of severe and acute malnutrition (SAM). The proposed solution sought to advocate for government to make the political choice to fund the treatment and management of severe and acute malnutrition among children under five, commencing with the procurement of ready-to eat therapeutic foods (RTF) and ensuring sustained funding for the most at-risk communities.

#### Objectives of the project for UNICEF were:

1. To develop and implement a targeted social media campaign for discussion on all issues around CMAM, especially public resource investment to influence CMAM budget decisions of policy makers in Nigeria.
2. To enhance media engagement including online platforms to reach the strategic group of media and mobile information users, aged 15 – 35 years in Nigeria, to make nutrition an issue that awakens national discussion.
3. To monitor the dissemination of information through social media platforms.

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#### TIME PERIOD

September 2017 - December 2017

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#### AIM OF THE PROJECT

In turn, the project goals set by Nigeria Health Watch were:

1. To create awareness about nutrition issues in the media especially the management of SAM
2. To create a demand and supply for nutrition services, especially public investments around community management of SAM
3. To engage in media advocacy, put pressure on stakeholders and duty bearers (government at all levels) to take action. Influence government and legislature ultimately.

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#### PROJECT STRATEGY

##### Social Media Advocacy Campaign

The hashtag **#FeedNaijaPikin** was developed for the advocacy campaign and used on social media to circulate information about malnutrition in Nigeria, raising awareness about the issue and advocating for more resources to be dedicated by both State and Federal governments.

The social media campaign involved raising awareness about the issue of malnutrition and the need for the government to fund nutrition programmes and State budgets to include nutrition funding as a line item.

*Twitter* was used to disseminate State-specific data on the level of malnutrition in Nigeria, with a focus on States in the North East and North West regions.



## PROJECT STRATEGY CONT'D

### Visit to CMAM sites

On September 26, 2017, the Nigeria Health Watch Team, accompanied by a State Nutrition Officer (SNO) from UNICEF paid a visit to the Nahuce CMAM centre, Bungudu Local Government Area in Zamfara State. The group had interactions with key leaders in the communities, including meeting the district head of the Bungudu LGA in Zamfara State who expressed delight with the level of support from international development partners: Save the Children and UNICEF



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## PROJECT STRATEGY CONT'D

### Visit to CMAM sites cont'd

On the 16th – 18th October, the team accompanied by 10 social media influencers visited the Mando CMAM site in Igabi Local Government Area, Kaduna State. The aim was to amplify the advocacy for more funding for CMAM, leveraging on the audiences of the social media influencers. This visit to the CMAM centre was critical as it improved the capacity of the bloggers to understand the challenges of malnutrition, which ensured that when they shared their experience, the messages were more personal, thought-provoking and clearly communicated.



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#### TWEET POSTS

**BlessingTimidi DIGHA**  
@SuperGirlTimidi

Following

We are about to witness how the appetite test is carried out. My partner in observation is @DEMOLAEXPOZE @nighealthwatch #FeedNaijaPikin

10:41 AM - 16 Oct 2017

51 Retweets 1 Like

**Dee**  
@DEMOLAEXPOZE

Following

These amazing Twins are 23months old

They can't walk  
Mother is malnourished  
Malnutrition is Serious in Northern Nigeria  
#FeedNaijaPikin

10:34 AM - 16 Oct 2017

76 Retweets 11 Likes

## PROJECT STRATEGY CONT'D

### Vox Pops – Betta Food, Betta Sense

The *vox pop* interviews targeted university students with discussions centring around the issue of malnutrition. This aspect of the advocacy campaign was to ascertain their understanding o about nutrition and what constitutes a balanced diet. The *vox pop* was a crucial part of the advocacy campaign as it exposed the inadequate knowledge and awareness about malnutrition among young people, especially in the North of Nigeria.

### Thought Leadership Blog

Two thought leadership blog posts were published by Nigeria Health Watch to further intensify the urgency in tackling acute malnutrition in Northern Nigeria.

On the September 14, 2017, a blog post titled ***#FeedNaijaPikin: The Fight To Invest in Nigeria's Future Flagbearers*** was published. It tackled the issue of malnutrition, acute malnutrition and proffered solutions to these epidemics. It presented the CMAM as currently the most prominent programme tackling severe acute malnutrition. The blog post also shed light on awareness and the challenges of low levels of awareness among people in Northern Nigeria and beyond.

To conclude activity for this initial project a blog titled ***Misery In The Midst Of Plenty: Can Knowledge Undo Nigeria's Malnutrition Tragedy?*** was published on November 29, 2017. The blog piece took a bird's eye view of the matters arising from the visits to the two CMAM sites.

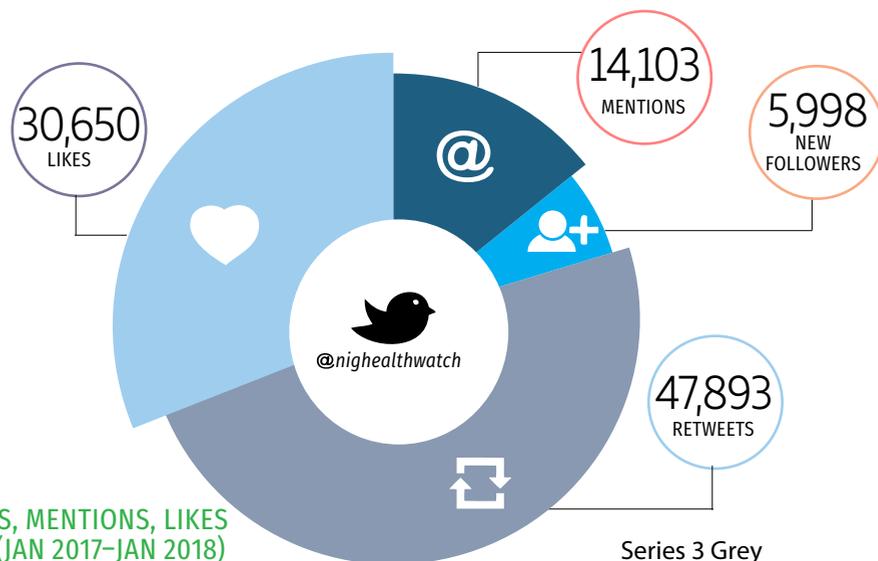
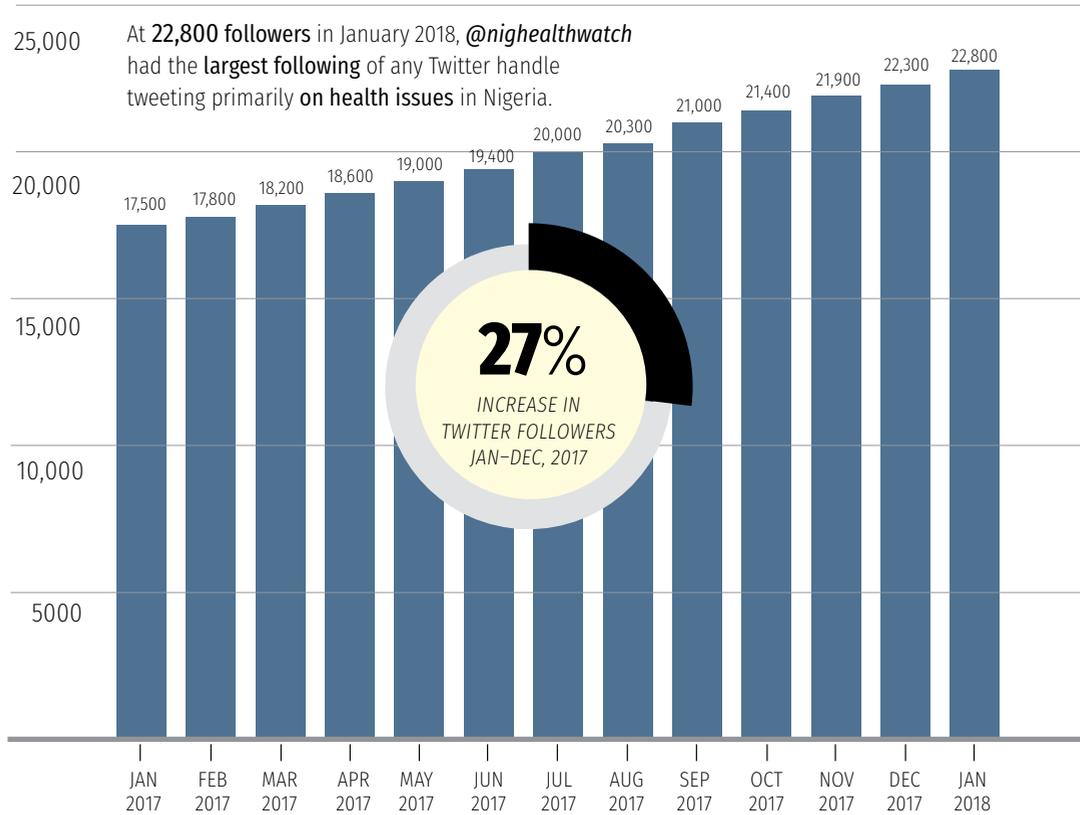


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# Social Media Impact

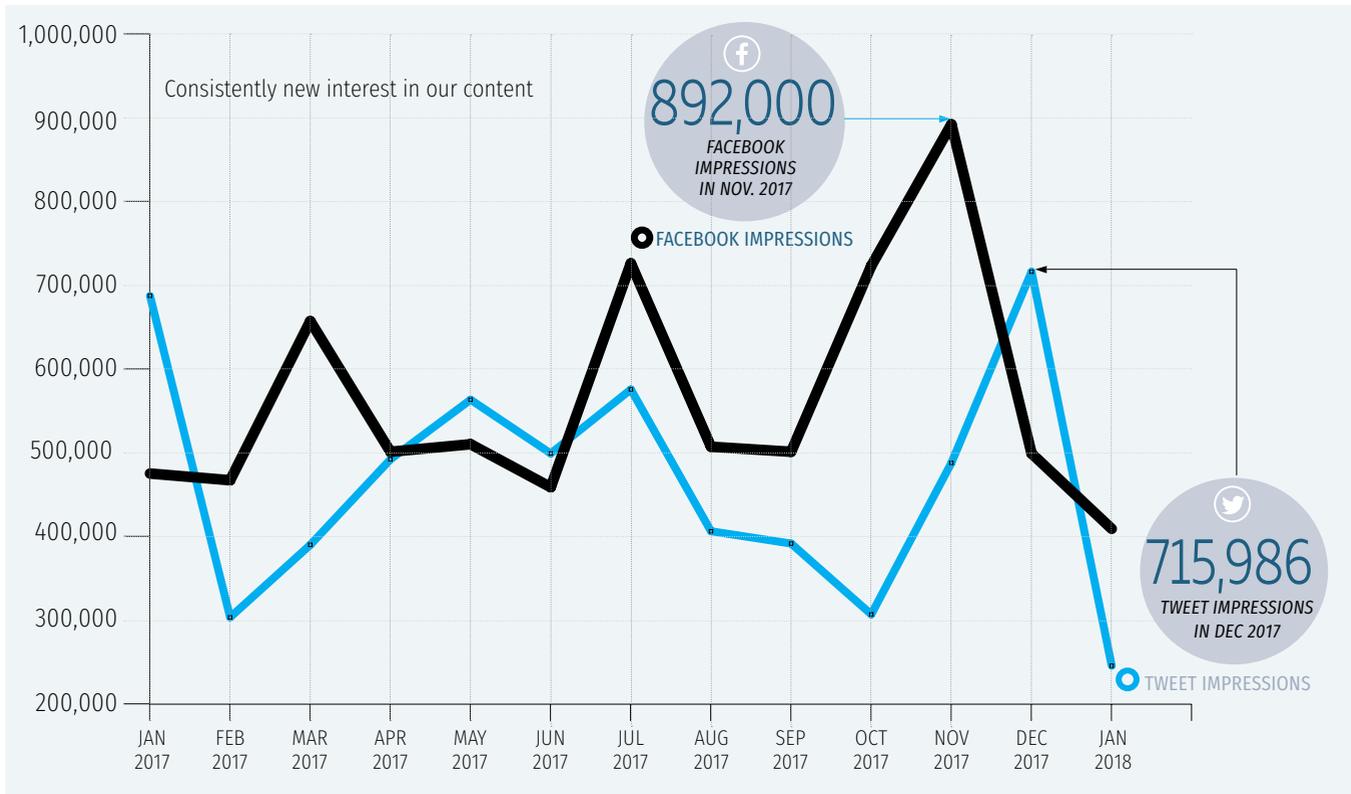
## Nigeria Health Watch Social Media Reach: Jan 2017 - Jan 2018

### NUMBER OF TWITTER FOLLOWERS



### NEW FOLLOWERS, MENTIONS, LIKES AND RETWEETS (JAN 2017-JAN 2018)

## ENGAGEMENT



## SUMMARY DATA

	January 2017	February 2017	March 2017	April 2017	May 2017	June 2017	July 2017
Facebook likes	24,146	24,330	24,629	25,219	26,788	27,657	28,653
Independent blog views	12,536/ wk	13,103/ wk	19,456/ wk	15,652/ wk	18,511/ wk	20,736/ wk	20,977/ wk

	August 2017	September 2017	October 2017	November 2017	December 2017	January 2018
Facebook likes	29,420	29,976	37,562	39,913	40,901	41,099
Independent blog views	12,536/ wk	13,103/ wk	19,456/ wk	15,652/ wk	18,511/ wk	15,123/ wk

● **69%** increase in Facebook likes January 2017 - December 2017

# Events

## **Health Watch Forum: Does Leadership Matter in The Nigerian Health Sector?**

DATE: 20TH APRIL 2017

Leadership in the health sector is critical, and on the 20th April 2017, Nigeria Health Watch hosted a Health Watch Forum which focused on change in leadership at five of the health parastatals in the country. The change in leadership took place at the National Agency for the Control of AIDS (NACA), National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA), Nigerian Institute of Medical Research (NIMR), Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) and National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS). This led to a rise in the expectations of many Nigerians, including health sector professionals, NGOs and development partners.

The Health Watch Forum was a town hall style breakfast meeting that provided an opportunity for the new heads of the parastatals to tell Nigerians just how they planned to make their lives better in the offices in which they had been called to serve. It was also an opportunity for Nigerians to come and dialogue with each other and with leadership, to ask those questions that they need answered.

Only three of the five heads of the parastatals were able to take part in the Health Watch Forum. They were Professor Usman Yusuf, Executive Secretary of the NHIS , Dr Sani Aliyu, Director General of NACA and Dr Chikwe Ihekweazu, Chief Executive Officer of the NCDC. The heads of the health agencies assured with one voice, the promise of a reform in the Nigerian health sector, backed by strategic steps to achieve better results in the Nigerian healthcare system.

During the presentations, each head was able to communicate their capacity to transform their institutions to positively affect the lives of millions of Nigerians. It was a highly interactive, engaging and challenging meeting which resulted at the end, in the revival of hope for the average Nigerian. We believe the forum contributed to the beginning of the journey to a better Nigerian health sector.



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## Future of Health Conference: Business of Health

DATE: 3RD NOVEMBER 2017

This was the third annual Future of Health Conference, themed *The Business of Health*, Nigeria Health Watch has brought together an exciting line-up of speakers to provide various perspectives on how business models – using the term ‘business’ in the broadest sense – can help bridge the gap in healthcare in Nigeria’s health sector, with the ultimate goal being Universal Health. Nigeria Health Watch developed the *#BizofHealthNG* hashtag to drive the conversations around the conference.

The event brought together leaders and innovators working on some of the most difficult challenges in the Nigerian health sector to dialogue and proffer solutions that will spark the change we want to see in the sector. The aim of the conference was to highlight the need for health practitioners and other stakeholders delivering health services need to look at the ecosystem around health and identify the need to apply sound business principles in the delivery of healthcare, from the public to the private healthcare sector. From Lagos, Ibadan, Ogbomosho and the FCT, attendees came eager to hear our featured speakers share their unique insights on the business of health in Nigeria from their wealth of experience. The Minister of State for Health, Dr. Osagie Ehanire, made time to attend the conference. He pointed out that, ***“Every year, Nigeria loses about \$2bn to medical tourism. The Nigerian health sector is a work in progress which is why we need conferences like the Business of Health.”***

This event was a great start in the conversation around the *Business of Health*. Nigeria Health Watch produced a summary document of the conference, highlighting the key call-to-action points made by each speaker and shared with key health sector stakeholders. Those who attended or watched online through *Facebook Live*, and everyone concerned with the business of health, were encouraged to continue the conversations beyond the conference.



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# Radio Activity

Nigeria Health Watch has a partnership with Nigeria Info 95.1 FM Abuja, in which the Nigeria Health Watch team co-host a monthly one hour radio segment, #OpenMOH, focusing on the health sector and encouraging Nigerians to be more engaged in advocating for a better health sector.

DATE	TITLE	STATION
01/02/2017	<b>Leprosy: A Forgotten Disease and the Nigerians Living With It</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
01/03/2017	<b>Why is the New Health Policy Important?</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
08/03/2017	<b>International Women's Day: Say Her Name</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
20/03/2017	<b>Community-Based Health Insurance in Nigeria</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
05/04/2017	<b>Meningitis Outbreak in Nigeria</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
10/05/2017	<b>Review of the Health Watch Forum 2017</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
05/06/2017	<b>State Health Insurance Experience Meeting</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
05/07/2017	<b>#HealthMeetsTech</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
02/08/2017	<b>#Health4AllNaija</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
16/08/2017	<b>Health Insurance as a Critical Vehicle to #Health4AllNaija</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
06/09/2017	<b>#FeedNaijaPikin</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
04/10/2017	<b>Funding to #FeedNaijaPikin</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
26/10/2017	<b>Polio Eradication in Nigeria</b>	Radio Nigeria, Abuja
01/11/2017	<b>Future of Health Conference</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
27/11/2017	<b>Maternal Newborn and Child Health Week</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
05/12/2017	<b>HIV/AIDS and Universal Health Coverage</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja
10/01/2018	<b>Nigeria Health Sector Priorities for 2018</b>	NigeriaInfo, 95.1FM Abuja

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

CBHIS	Community-Based Health Insurance Scheme
CMAM	Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition
FCT	Federal Capital Territory
GPA	Global Policy Advocacy
HMO	Health Management Organizations
LGA	Local Government Area
MNCH	Maternal and Newborn Child Health
NACA	National Agency for the Control of AIDS
NCDC	Nigeria Centre for Disease Control
NGO	Non-governmental Agency
NHIS	National Health Insurance Scheme
NIMR	Nigerian Institute of Medical Research
NPHCDA	National Primary Health Care Development Agency
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition



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