



Government investment in Family Planning in Nigeria; A comparative analysis of different FP program components using a Policy Environment Score assessment.

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Background

- ❖ The vital role a supportive policy environment plays in the success of public health programs is critical to its success. One of the pointers to provision of enabling environment for these programs to flourish is the availability of adequate funding.
- ❖ In 2012, government has committed about US\$3 million annually for contraceptive procurement. In 2014, Nigeria commits to provide an additional US\$8.35 million annually over the next four years for the procurement of reproductive health commodities.
- ❖ Nigeria renewed its commitments at the 2017 London Summit to increase annual allocation for contraceptive to \$4M with a view to expanding access to family planning for millions of women and girls worldwide to complement ante natal services, and routine immunization.



Background

- ❖ Additionally, supportive policy environment backed with funding, plays a vital role in the success of public health programs.
- ❖ The Challenge Initiative (TCI) is supporting the Government of Nigeria to increase FP funding through domestic resource mobilization thereby expanding access and improving the quality of FP services provided across facilities in Nigeria



Objective

Is to conduct a comparative analysis of different FP program components using a Policy Environment Score assessment.





Policy Environment Score

- ❖ Policy Environment Score (PES) is an assessment that measures the degree to which the policy environment in a country/location supports effective policies and programs for reproductive health of the population.
- ❖ This baseline assessment is designed to measure the level of support and changes, resulting from policy activities, which may occur in the assessed location over a period, usually a “*one to three-year*” period.

Methodology

- ❖ Assessment was carried out between December 2017-April 2018 in 4 States (Bauchi, Niger, Ogun and Delta)
- ❖ A structured questionnaire was designed to reach 180 respondents drawn from Traditional and religious groups, CSOs, Media, technocrats and policy makers from government and IPs.
- ❖ Respondents were a purposive sample of stakeholders with vast knowledge and experience in RH programs and related policy environment in selected States.
- ❖ Program components scored were "political support", "policy formulation", "organizational structure", "program resources", "evaluation and research "legal and regulatory environment" and "program components", reflecting the different characteristics of each program.
- ❖ All the items in the PES were scored on a scale of 0 to 4, with 0 representing “weak” and 4 “strong”. Final analysis is adjusted to range from 0 to 100, with 100 indicating a perfect policy environment.



Results

What did we find?



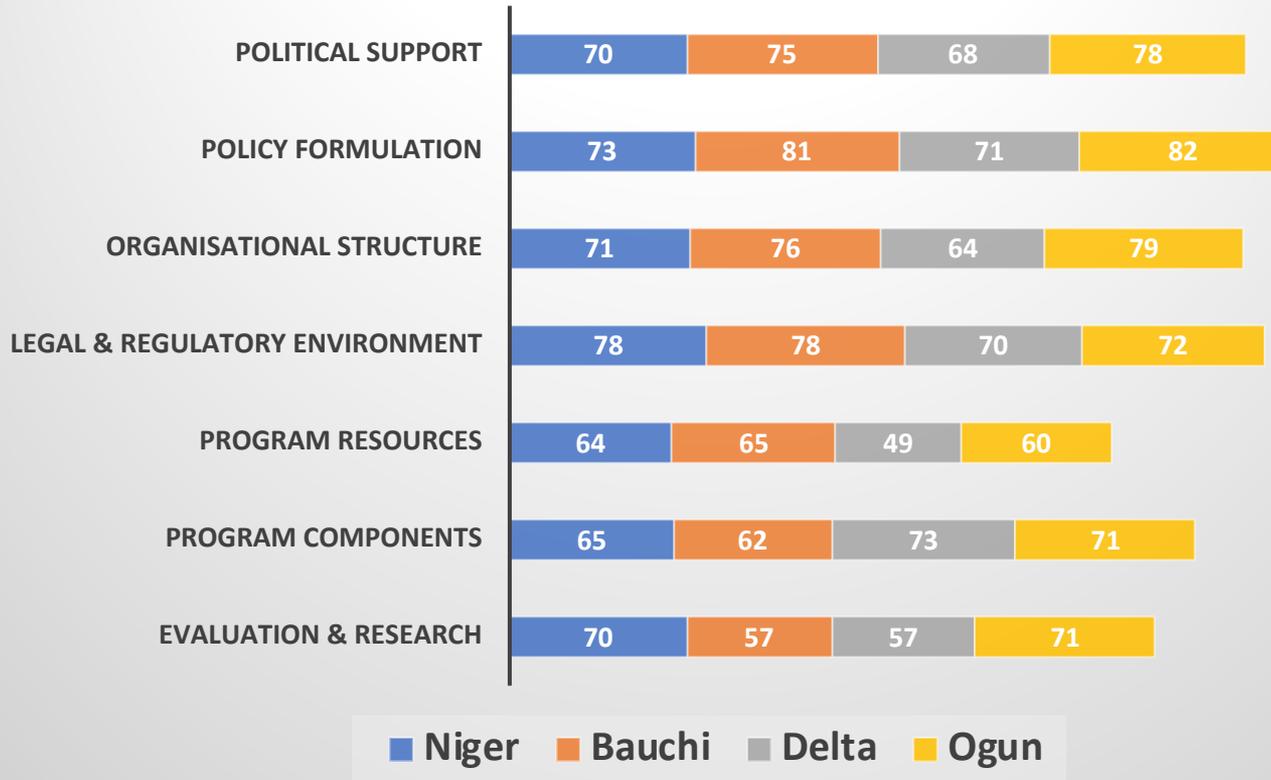
Policy Environment Score by Program

Program	Score (%)			
	Ogun	Delta	Bauchi	Niger
Family Planning	73	67	69	70
Safe Pregnancy	72	69	68	77
Adolescent	62	56	59	61
STDs/AIDS	81	72	76	79



Results

FP program components assessed



All the States except Bauchi had their lowest score in program resources amongst the 7 program components.



Program resources



60%

Legal and regulatory environment



75%

Overall Scores

- Overall, Program resource was seen to be the lowest with an average score of 60%. Policy formulation had the highest average score of 76.5% followed by LRE with 74.7%.

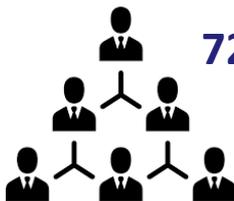


Policy Formulation 77%



73%

Political support



72%

Organisational structure



64%

Monitoring & Evaluation

How have we used this data?

- ❖ Program resources did not enjoy as much attention as other components especially in Delta; this necessitated using the results to advocate for budget line creation and release for FP.
- ❖ Currently, Delta and Bauchi now have specific FP budget lines.
- ❖ Increased budget allocation for FP in the states; 66% increase in Ogun State 2018 as against 2017 with 27% released as of June 2018.
- ❖ 5 LGAs in Ogun State have consistently procured FP consumables for facilities within their LGAs



Conclusion

- ❖ In order to optimize FP/RH outcomes in the States, it is important that adequate resources—human, material and financial—are directed towards existing and ongoing reproductive health initiatives in the State; advocacy to sell the economic reward of meeting FP unmet needs is crucial to achieve this.
- ❖ There is need for government to increase investment in FP and fulfil funding commitments made to optimize FP programs in Nigeria. Government ownership and sustainability can be achieved through state specific FP budget lines and domestic resource mobilization.
- ❖ It is imperative that government takes responsibility and ownership of the health of its people as respondents revealed overreliance on donor agencies to fund reproductive health programs; this poses a great threat to the health system.



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