

# Community collective action helps communities to recognize their health issues, empower them to mobilize resources, and take ownership of their health issues

## Understanding the effectiveness of community health actions through community led-participatory assessment

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### BACKGROUND

Breakthrough ACTION-Nigeria (BA-N) - USAID's flagship project for social and behavior change (SBC) in close collaboration with Stakeholders has been working with Ward Development Committees(WDCs) to build their capacity in identifying and recognizing health related issues, mobilizing resources and for Maternal, newborn and child health plus nutrition (MNCH+N) interventions.

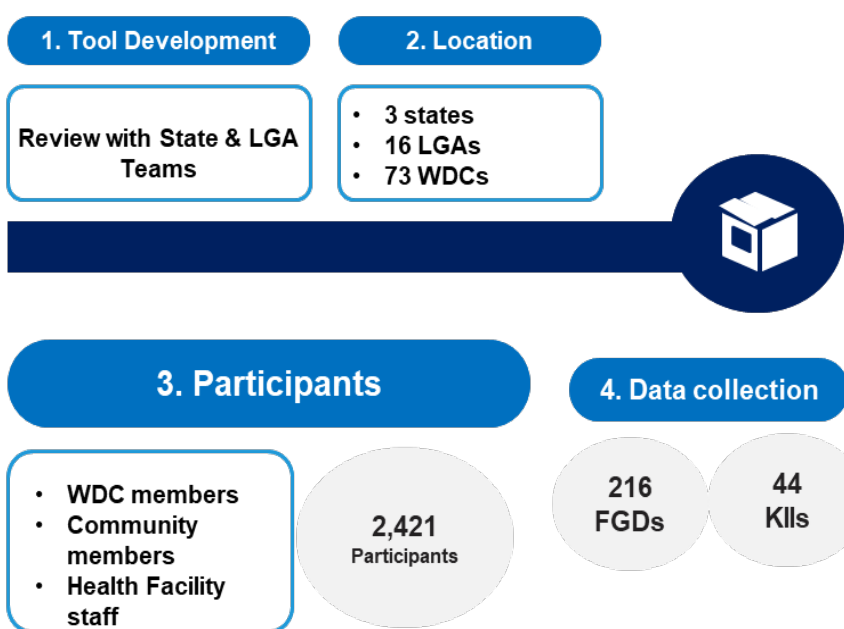
### OBJECTIVES

The assessments aims to evaluate the effectiveness of using **Community Health Action Resource Plans** to address MNCH+N barriers.

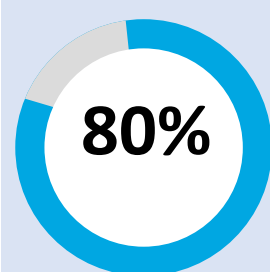
### INTERVENTION

From 2019 – 2020, 73 WDCs participated and were supported to develop Community Health Action Resource Plan (CHARP) to include activities to support women for antenatal care (ANC) and facility delivery, facility repairs, etc. from Kebbi, Sokoto, and Bauchi States

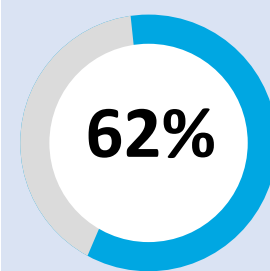
### METHODOLOGY



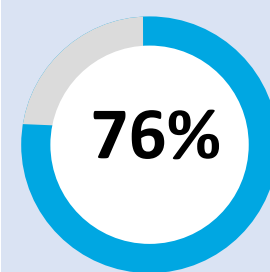
### RESULTS



of the WDCs assessed were able to implement at least two activities in their action plan through collective action.



of WDCs established a community transportation system with 1,146 pregnant women for ANC and 1,127 pregnant women for facility delivery. 132 children under 5 for emergency cases and 128 women for other illnesses.



of WDC assessed provided and documented support provided to their health facilities.

- Raised \$8,047 to purchase drugs and consumables for ANC, delivery kits, and facility renovations
- Line-list 6,693 newborns for RI out of which 4,224 received their first dose of immunization.



### LESSONS LEARNED



Key motivations driving the WDCs include acceptance and community support from community members and health facility staff in addition to training and capacity building by BA-N and other partners.



There is a great potential for sustainability as WDCs showed willingness and ability to raise funds and implement activities.

### IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FIELD

- By strengthening existing community platforms such as ward development committees, Breakthrough ACTION contributes to communities fashioning their own solutions to strengthen community health systems. This in turn is contributing to changes in health service uptake and behavioral outcomes
- The mid-term assessment was an opportunity for community leaders to identify what has worked well and what needs to be improved to enhance the quality of future community action plans.



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