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## **Innovative capacity development approaches for routine immunization data reporting and use in Nigeria: An overview of implementation**

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Prior to November 2014, key routine immunization (RI) data were yet to be incorporated into the web-based District Health Information System version 2 (DHIS2), a major reporting platform for NHMIS in Nigeria. The management and use of RI data was very complex and cumbersome because of huge backlog of unprocessed data and poor data flow. In November 2014, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in collaboration with National Stop Transmission of Polio Program (NSTOP) Nigeria and National Primary Health Care Development Agency received Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation grant to strengthen RI data reporting in Nigeria through capacity building and introduction of RI module on DHIS2 national instance. We describe DHIS2 RI module capacity development approaches currently in use in Nigeria, the key achievements and associated challenges. To ensure RI cadre staff were equipped with skills for improved data reporting and use, NSTOP piloted DHIS2 RI Module project in Kano state and scaled-up to 36 states and Federal Capital Territory. This involved implementation of innovative, efficient and cost-effective capacity building approaches from November 2014 till date. These approaches included national training of trainers, state-level project implementation, refresher and clustered trainings; routine on-the-job mentoring for healthcare workers; webinars on use of DHIS2 features and project monitoring tools etc. The implementation of innovative capacity development approaches in DHIS2 RI Module project in Nigeria has created a pool of trained healthcare workers, resulted into enhanced capacity development and improved routine immunization data quality and use in Nigeria.

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