

Background

The National Stop Transmission of Polio (NSTOP) program was established in July 2012 under the Africa Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET) in response to National Polio Eradication Emergency Plan (NPEEP) to strengthen the Nigeria polio eradication program at the operational level. Implemented through the Nigeria Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programme (N-FELTP), the purpose of NSTOP is to provide Nigeria with high quality and culturally competent technical field support staff in high-risk areas to implement the polio eradication emergency plan (NPEEP) PEI accountability framework and strengthen routine immunization.

Program Content

One of the major focus of NSTOP is strengthening immunization and surveillance in underserved communities. Between July 2012 and April 2015, NSTOP conducted enumeration and landscape analysis in 375 Local Government Areas finding and vaccinating about 1.7 million children less than five years of age with oral polio vaccine; 6% of which had never taken the vaccine prior to the enumeration.

Since its inception, NSTOP officers have formed part of the management cadre of the polio program, through their membership in the polio eradication emergency operation centers (EOCs) at both national and state levels. At the operational level, NSTOP officers have supported the planning, implementation, supervision, and monitoring of polio and non-polio SIAs in several states across the country. Officers have also conducted surveillance assessments, outbreak response,

NSTOP supports routine immunization (RI) strengthening through capacity building for immunization staff at state and LGA level, and improving RI data quality and use through the implementation of a RI specific module and dashboard on the DHIS2 platform. The DHIS2 RI module and dashboard has been implemented in 28 states.

In line with the polio legacy and transition goal, NSTOP is using its structures to support other health programs. One of such is its support towards the elimination of malaria in Nigeria through its malaria flagship project. The project is in its pilot phase in 2 states and will focus on capacity building for healthcare workers, strengthening surveillance and data collection and use, improving access to insecticides treated nets and improved management of malaria cases.

NSTOP program has a staff strength of over 302 with 44 working at the national level, while 36 and 220 work at the state and LGA levels respectively. The program has successfully enhanced Global Polio Eradication Initiative partnerships and outreach in Nigeria, providing an accessible, flexible, and culturally competent technical workforce at the front lines of public health. NSTOP enjoys financial and technical support of US centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC).

For more information on:

NSTOP

visit our website

www.afenetnigeria.net

