

Tracking public investment in family planning in Jigawa State

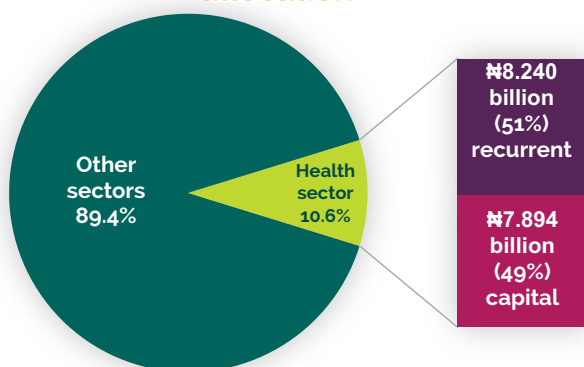
Budget tracking 2020: findings from quarter 1

The DIFD-funded Women's Integrated Sexual Health (WISH) Programme has been working in collaboration with Jigawa MNCH Accountability Forum (JIMAF) to track public investments in family planning in Jigawa State since January 2020. The objective of the exercise is to assess the extent to which funds allocated for family planning are being released and spent in order to increase access to quality family planning services, thereby contributing to a reduced total fertility rate in Jigawa State. This brief presents the findings from the tracking exercise carried out in quarter 1 (Q1) of 2020.

1. Overview of Jigawa State budget allocation

The total appropriated budget for Jigawa State for 2020 was ₦152.9 billion. Out of this, ₦16.1 billion (10.6%) was allocated to the health sector. This is down from 12.3% the previous year.

2020 Jigawa State budget allocation



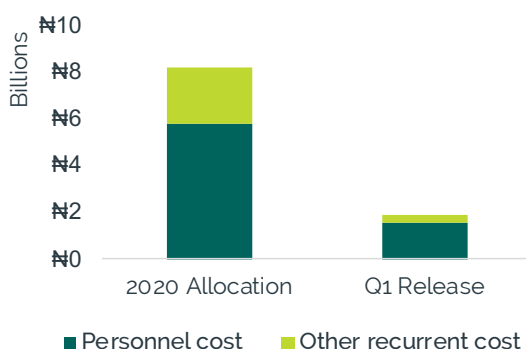
Just over half of the health sector budget (₦8.2 Billion or 51%) was allocated for recurrent expenditures, which includes salaries and overhead costs. A total of ₦7.9 billion (49%) was allocated to capital expenditure. This includes the budget allocated for construction or maintenance of health facilities and programs such as Saving One Million Lives (SOML) and Family Planning. For the first time, a budget line for family planning services was created in 2020 and ₦10 million (0.06%) was allocated to this line.

- The budget allocation to the health sector for 2020 is 10.6%, far less than the 15% benchmark (Abuja declaration, 2001).
- The budget allocation for family planning is hugely inadequate. Less than 1% of the total health budget is allocated to family planning

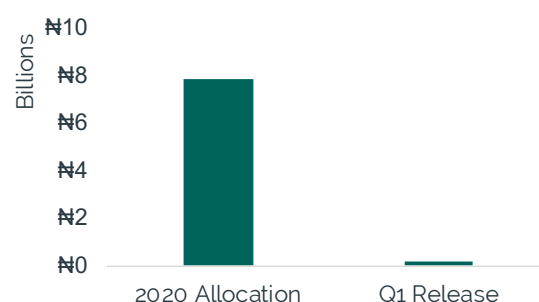
2. Quarter 1 expenditure outturns for the health sector

The health sector recurrent budget performance for Q1 is relatively good at 23% overall, but this mostly relates to payment of salaries (27% of allocated amount). Only 13% of the amount allocated for overheads has been released. The health sector capital budget performance is very poor at 3%. As of end of Q1, no funds have been disbursed for important health programmes such as Family Planning, Saving One Million Lives (SOML) and Jigawa Health Insurance Scheme.

MoH recurrent budget



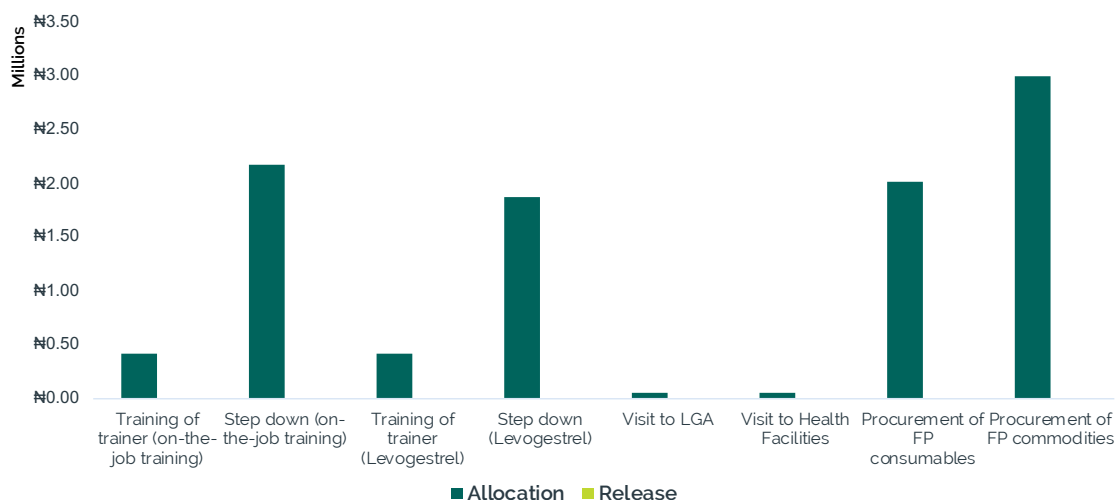
Capital budget



3. Quarter 1 expenditure outturns for the family planning budget line

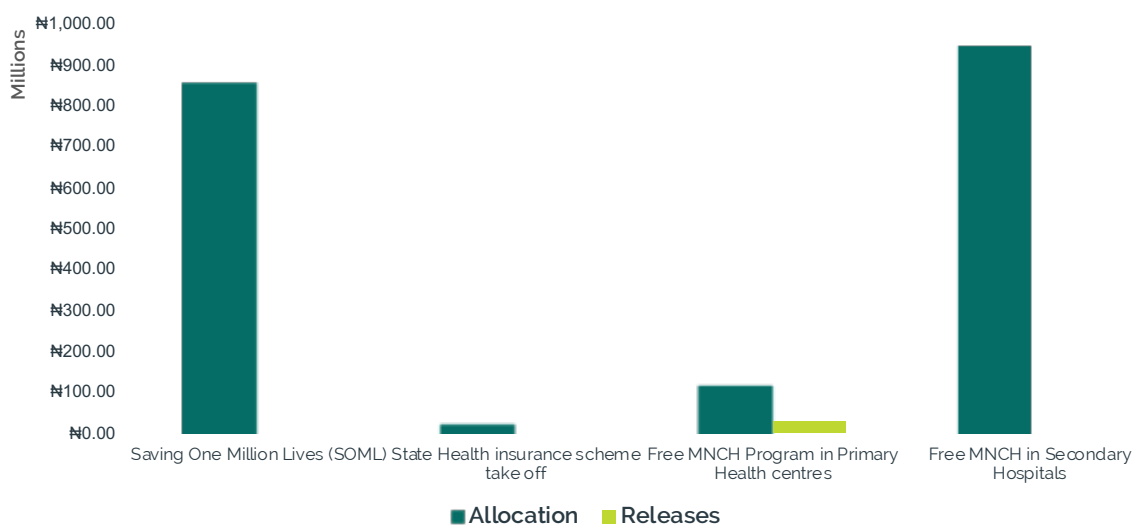
As mentioned above, ₦10 million was allocated for family planning services in 2020. As of the end of Q1 however, no funds have been released from this budget line.

• By the end of Q1, no funds have been released for family planning



4. Quarter 1 expenditure outturns for programmes with a family planning component

While not explicitly earmarked for family planning, there are a number of programmes included in the budget that could be a source of funding for family planning. These include SOML, the State Health Insurance Scheme and the Free Maternal Newborn and Child Health (MNCH). As of the end of Q1, however, no funds were disbursed to these other than ₦30.3 million to Free MNCH at the primary level, a small portion of which may have been spent on Family Planning commodities.



Recommendations



Jigawa State Ministry of Health should urgently investigate why so many critical programmes included in the **capital budget** have not had any funds disbursed yet this financial year and work with the Ministry of Finance to ensure that they are released as soon as possible. Given the poor performance of the capital budget, the **absorption rate will have to be significantly increased** if the budget is to be fully utilized by the end of the year.



In the context of COVID-19, there is a significant risk that disruption to essential health services will have a devastating effect on health outcomes. It is therefore critically important that **funds allocated to life-saving services are urgently released** to ensure continuity of essential services such as family planning and reproductive health services.