

PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Volume 3, Issue 6

February to November, 2021

Inside This Issue

- **Project Background, Pg.1**
- **Key Project Results, Pg.1**
- **Highlights of Activities Implemented, Pg.1&2**
- **Project Performance, Pg.2**

Available statistics indicate that maternal and child Mortality is still major cause of deaths among women of reproductive age 15-45 and under 5 children in Nigeria. "Over 40 million Nigerian women age 15-49 suffer disproportionately high level of health issues surrounding birth(UNICEF,2021)."

"Nigeria with maternal mortality rate of 917 deaths per 100,000 live births is ranked 4th highest ...WHO,2019."

"For every 1,000 live births in Nigeria, about five women die during pregnancy, childbirth, or within two months of childbirth. Also, more than 1 in 8 children in Nigeria die before their 5th birthday ...NDHS,2018."

TY Danjuma Foundation through its Healthy Mother Healthy Child Project which started in 2018 is contributing to reducing the prevalence of under-five and maternal mortality in Akwa Ibom State and ARRDEC was contracted to undertake this task. Sustaining the gains achieved since inception, in the year 2021, the Foundation extended the project to 3 LGAs of Esit Eket, Uruan and Ikono. Results-focused activities implemented included: Sensitization meeting with Community gate keepers, Capacity Building Community-based Outreaches, Health Talk, Cluster Meetings, Meeting with Male Partners, and tracking and follow-up of positive clients.

KEY PROJECT RESULTS

ANTE NATAL CARE



991

Pregnant women persuaded and enrolled for Ante Natal Care at 9 PHCs across Esit Eket, Uruan & Ikono LGAs



781

Pregnant women made 4 Ante Natal Care visits at 9 PHCs across Esit Eket, Uruan & Ikono LGAs



1359

Pregnant women made 4 plus Ante Natal Care visits at 9 PHCs across Esit Eket, Uruan & Ikono LGAs

174

Babies successfully delivered at 9 PHCs across Esit Eket, Uruan & Ikono LGAs



PMTCT



991

Pregnant women counselled & tested for HIV at 9 PHCs across Esit Eket, Uruan & Ikono LGAs



25

HIV+ Pregnant women identified & placed on Antiretroviral drugs at 9 PHCs across Esit Eket, Uruan & Ikono LGAs



14

HIV exposed Babies received Antiretroviral drugs at 9 PHCs across Esit Eket, Uruan & Ikono LGAs



HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED BETWEEN FEB. & NOV.,2021

"In February 2021, the project team visited the selected project communities for the purpose of mobilization, sensitization and partnership building."

6



sensitization meetings held across Esit Eket, Uruan & Ikono LGAs



23

"Community Gate-keepers (like vilage heads, youth leaders, women leaders etc.) assured their support to the project after holding sensitization meetings with them."

"Also, focused-group sessions were held in Feb.,2021 with community structures (PHCs workers, Traditional birth Attendants, etc.."



27

Community structures were sensitized on the project.



ARRDEC's Program Manager, Elizabeth Adebajo (right) with Mrs Margaret Johnny, a traditional birth attendant (left) during mapping, identification & sensitization visits at Edo II community of Esit Eket LGA, on Feb 09, 2021.



The Village Head of Mbakuyo community, Esit Eket LGA (middle) and ARRDEC Team during the sensitization visit to his palace, Feb. 09, 2021

COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING FOR IMPROVED ANC AND PMTCT SERVICE

2

“The pre-project assessment conducted in February, 2021 revealed that health System strengthening was key to achieving the project goal.”

Responding to this finding, these activities were implemented: capacity building for selected community volunteers, Refreshers Training for Primary Health Centres' workers (PHCWs) And quarterly cluster meetings of PHCWs, Traditional birth Attendants, and Mission Homes Operators

2-Day Refresher Training for 30 Health Workers in 3 PHCs



Training Outcomes:

“Improved knowledge of **31** PHC Workers on ethics, code of conduct, best practices, Focused Antenatal Care (FANC), sign/symptoms of pre-eclampsia, management of pre-eclampsia”

2-Day Capacity Building Training, held on 23rd & 24th March, 2021 at SAMLAH Hotels, Uyo.



Training Outcomes:

15 Traditional Birth Attendants & **9** community health workers Had Improved knowledge on ANC and PMTCT. “Consumables such as hand gloves, Methylated Spirits and cotton wool were provided to **15** TBAs”

Cluster Meeting with PHCWs, PPMVs, TBAs, Mission Homes, & Mentor Mothers



2 Cluster meetings

were held each in Esit Eket, Uruan & Ikono LGAs betw. Feb. & Dec., 2021 “Collaboration/synergy among **63** persons comprising traditional birth attendants, Mission Homes Operators and Primary Health workers was strengthened.”



Mrs. Grace Okon of Ministry of Health Reproductive Health Unit facilitating the Refresher Training in Ikono LGA on May 27, 2021



Mrs. Ruth Enyongekere, a Senior Nursing Officer, facilitating the session during capacity building training on March 24, 2021



ARRDEC's Program Officer, Mr. Inim Joshua, addressing participants during a cluster meeting at Ekpeni Ukim, Uruan LGA, 30th June, 2021

CREATING DEMAND FOR UPTAKE OF ANC AND PMTCT

“The pre-project assessment conducted by ARRDEC's Team in Feb., 2021 revealed demand gaps at the Health facilities as pregnant women preferred the services of Traditional Birth Attendants to services Health Centres provide. The project employed a community based house-to-house Outreach strategy. This resulted in more uptakes of ANC & PMTCT by pregnant women at the health facilities. Tracking & follow-up was also carried out on HIV positive pregnant women to ensure adherence to treatment.”

MOBILE OUTREACHES

9 Trained community volunteers conducted mobile outreached across Esit Eket, Uruan & Ikono, between March and Nov., 2021.

These outreaches resulted in

991 Pregnant women persuaded & enrolled Ante Natal Care at 9 PHCs

25 HIV+ Pregnant women identified & placed on Antiretroviral drugs at 9 PHCs

14 HIV exposed Babies received Antiretroviral drugs at 9 PHCs

Tracking and Follow-up Visits to Identified HIV Positive Pregnant Women by Mentor Mothers:

6 Mentor mothers were engaged on the project. They carried out tracking and follow-up activity across Esit Eket, Uruan & Ikono LGAs, between March and Nov., 2021

These tracking & follow-up resulted in

25 HIV+ Pregnant women retained on treatment at 9 PHCs

BEHAVIOUR CHANGE COMMUNICATION

“Behaviour change communication was used as an effective strategy for not only achieving the project goal but for sustaining project gains. Improved knowledge of the beneficiaries will result in their practicing good health seeking behaviours. Activities carried out under this strategy included Bi-monthly Health Talk and meetings with Male Partners.”

Quarterly Health Talk



3 Health Talk meetings

Were held each in Esit Eket, Uruan & Ikono LGAs Betw. March & Nov., 2021

221

Persons comprising pregnant women, women of reproductive age, male partners etc., Participated.

Quarterly Meeting with Male Partners

2 MenCare meetings

Were held each in Esit Eket, Uruan & Ikono LGAs Betw. March & Nov., 2021

86

Persons comprising male partners of the pregnant women and other men of reproductive age, Participated.



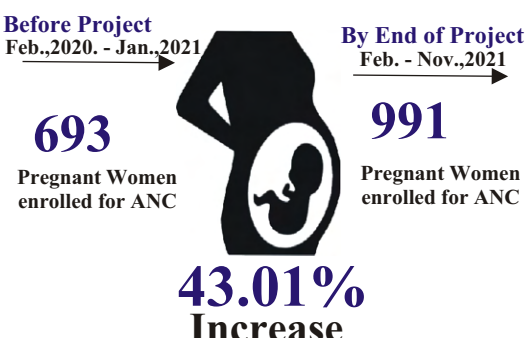
Mrs. Mercy Okon, in-charge of PHC Ukpom, Ikono LGA, addressing participants during health talk on 29th April, 2021.



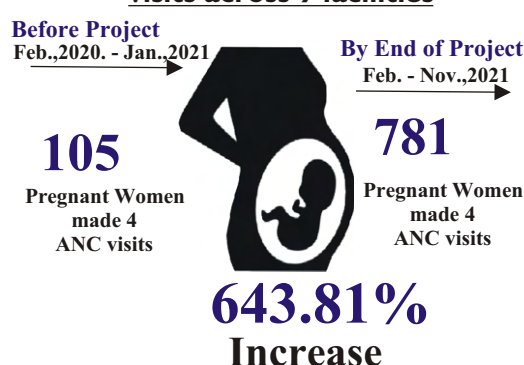
Cross Section of the Men at during MenCare forum at Etebi Mbakuyo Esit Eket LGA on 30th June, 2021

PROJECT PERFORMANCE - FEBRUARY TO NOV., 2021

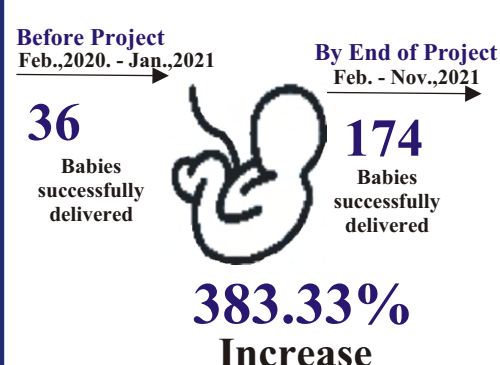
Number of Pregnant women who enrolled for ANC across 9 facilities



Number of Pregnant women who completed 4 ANC visits across 9 facilities



Number of deliveries across 9 facilities



Contact Us

Head Office | No. 2 Mary Hanney Avenue, Off Louis Ating Road, Oron, Akwa Ibom State
Abuja Office | No. 17 Isah Mohammed Street, Durumi 2, Abuja.

Uyo Office | Park Lane, Akpan Andem Entrepreneurial Market, Uyo.
Email | arrdec@arrdec.org.ng Twitter | @arrdec Facebook | www.facebook.com/arrdec.arrdec
Website | www.arrdec.org.ng Instagram | @arrdec Phone | +2348037880282, +2348035867218