



Workshop on 'Bringing PHC under one roof'

Consultants: **Andrew McKenzie and Nana Enyimayew**

With Kwame Adogboda, Carole Baekey and Bryan Haddon

Many reports describing the Nigerian health system have identified the PHC/LGA level as the area of most concern and weakness. The major limitations are linked to fragmentation and lack of accountability. Over the years, there have been several initiatives focused on addressing these areas of weakness. Most create unitary, integrated and decentralised management bodies and structures.

A workshop on bringing "PHC under one roof" was hosted by NPHCDA in October 2009.¹ The current report describes the follow up workshop in March 2010, hosted by NPHCDA (with PRRINN-MNCH and PATHS2 support) in which the draft implementation guidelines and policy document were reviewed.

The Mid-level Managers Training programme (MLMT) was discussed and experiences from across the country in bringing "PHC under one roof" were shared. Participants came from across Nigeria.

Key outcomes included a deepened understanding of "PHC under one roof", agreement on the policy document and implementation guidelines (with some minor changes) and interest and support expressed for the MLMT.

Key presentations included those from NPHCDA (on the state of PHC in Nigeria and on the MLMT initiative), and from PATHS2 (Creating an enabling environment for better health outcomes), NHIS (NHIS Community

Health Insurance Scheme) and PRRINN-MNCH (on lessons on training midlevel managers in other African countries).

In addition, many more (approximately 25) states were present (in relation to those present at the October workshop) and new states shared progress in bringing "PHC under one roof". This included presentations from Lagos, Bauchi and Ekiti states.

In going forward it was agreed that:

- a. NPHCDA would ensure approval and adoption of the Policy Brief and PHCUOR Implementation Guidelines by the NPHCDA Board and then present the two documents to the National Council for Health for approval.
- b. NPHCDA would link support for bringing "PHC under one roof" with the MLMT and the NHIS.
- c. States would similarly present the documents for adoption at the States Councils for Health and utilise them in implementing "PHC under one roof"
- d. Development partners would support the NPHCDA and states in finalising and implementing the above tasks.

The workshop ended with a commitment to get together before the end of 2010 to review progress.

For the full report, please email info@prinn-mnch.org.

¹ See report 'Workshop on bringing PHC under one roof by Andrew McKenzie and Nana Enyimayew, October 2009'.