NIGERIA
WHO-SCHOLARS
ACCELERATING TOWARDS IMPACT
Outline

• Global overview of WHO scholar programs
• Who are Nigeria Scholars?
• Linking scholar program to the country EPI (Impact)
• Next steps
Introduction of WHO Scholars Program

- The WHO Scholar program is a digital of e-learning platform that aims to deepen the knowledge of SCHOLARs (immunization managers and public health practitioners) on how to improve in immunizations coverages in our different context and further creating lasting impact.

- The program uses material based on new guidelines developed by WHO, UNICEF, CDC and others partners.

- It started in 2016 and had made significant progress till date.

- The program has participants from countries all over the world including Nigeria.
Global Overview

- WHO Scholars is a network of over 5,000 English and French speaking public health practitioners and immunization managers.
- A total of four WHO Scholar courses have been offered so far.
- To be certified a WHO Scholar in any of the courses, participants complete a project focusing on their country or work environment. So far, over 2000 projects have been completed by WHO Scholar Alumni in 23 cohorts (English and French) as at the July, 2019.
- There are 410 WHO Scholar Accompanists globally (volunteer tutors and mentors, who guide scholar through their course and project).
- There is plan in place for country-specific scholar courses.
Courses offered by WHO Scholar program

• The WHO Scholar program have built up capacity of Scholars on the following four courses;

1. Coverage survey (Module A1-A3)
2. Data Improvement plan (DIP)
3. GRISP Level 1 (Global Routine Immunization Strategy and Practices) 2017 and 2019
4. GRISP Level 2 - Reducing Inequities and Improving Coverage
Methodologies

- The learning methodology includes
  - Open webinars
  - Short videos by experience course contributors from WHO, UNICEF, CDC, Geneva Learning Foundation etc.
  - Peer review processes using the peergrade platform
  - Use of guidelines shared by course team on scholar community
  - Zoom conference meeting
  - WhatsApp platform & Skype conferencing meeting
Who are the Nigeria Scholars

- Nigeria WHO Scholars is made up of scholars who have completed one or more of the WHO Scholar courses.
- There are 300 scholars from Nigeria.
- Nigeria Scholars are Public Health Professionals with vast knowledge and experience in the field of Immunization working with the Government (FMoH, NPHCDA, State MoHs), WHO, UNICEF, CDC, AFENET, NGOs, Private Organizations and other partners at different professional levels.
WHO Scholar Affiliations

- WHO, 52, 24%
- State Primary Healthcare Dev. Agency, 41, 19.9%
- UNICEF, 9, 4%
- UMB, 4, 2%
- Federal Ministry of Agriculture, 23, 11%
- Federal Teaching Hospital, 13, 6%
- Federal Ministry of Health, 17.8%
- State Ministry of Health, 6, 3%
- AFENET, 15, 6.9%
- CHAI, 6, 3%
- Federal Medical Centre, 5, 2.3%
- Others, 20.9%

Others:
- Defence Reference Laboratory
- PHI360
- Afrihealth Optnet Association, Abuja
- Albarka Health Spring Foundation
- Core Group Partners Project (CGPP), A.
- Data Management Consultant, Abuja
- Direct Consulting and Logistics
- Hamptons Vet Services
- Hospital Management Board
- KNCV
- Lagos based
- MCSP Bauchi
- Madobi
- NCDC, Abuja
- RDISSE Project, FMARD, Abuja
- Rotary International
- Survive fistula Healthcare foundation
- University of Calabar
Nigeria Scholars and their participation by Courses

• **33** Nigerians participated in the Coverage survey course – Module A1 and A2

• **73** Nigerians participated in the last IMA level 1 course- Data Improvement Plan

• **72** Nigerians participated in the GRISP Level 1 course (2019 cohort)

• **43** Nigerians participated in the GRISP Level 2 on Reducing inequity and improving coverage
Nigeria WHO Scholars: Courses participation

- Coverage survey, 33, 15%
- GRISP 1, 73, 33%
- GRISP 2, 43, 19%
- Data Improvement Plan, 72, 33%

Legend:
- Coverage survey
- GRISP 1
- GRISP 2
- IMA
NIGERIA SCHOLARS- Impact Accelerator: A system to achieve impact better and faster, together.
Nigeria Scholar towards impact acceleration

1. Beyond learning and acquiring of certificates, the Nigeria scholar team are planning to collaborate with Federal Government of Nigeria (NPHCDA, FMOH) to support and be part of the implementation strategies with a view of improving the immunization indices in the country.

2. Nigeria Scholars are taking a holistic approach towards Impact accelerators exercise, by this approach they have decided to harmonize all projects from the different courses such as Immunization coverage survey, Data Improvement Plan, GRISP Level 1 and GRISP Level 2, into 4 harmonized documents with actionable recommendation and simplified strategies.
Linking scholar program to the country EPI (Impact)

1. Enroll for scholar course
2. Develop project based on context with actionable point
3. Complete the course and be certified
4. Join the country group- WHO Scholars-Nigeria
5. Submit project to country group for peer review
6. Review Impact of implemented project on country's Immunization system and coverage
7. Publish result in WHO website, Tech-Net, impact accelerators platform
8. Implement project
   - Implement jointly as a group in collaboration with the Country's EPI team or individually
9. Review Impact of implemented project on country's Immunization system and coverage
Nigeria Scholars-Road map to impact

25/2/2019
- First Digital online meeting held by Nigeria Scholars
- Topic: Nigeria Scholar Collaborate National with EPI on DIP
- 40 scholars in attendance
- Guest present: Program Manager (NERRIC), Focal person on DIP-WHO HQ, President GLF, Partners
- Action Point: Harmonize scholar project per courses, share recommendation with National EPI and partners

8/8/2019
- Strategic Planning Meeting By Nigeria Scholars

30/08/2019
- Presentation of Recommendation By Nigeria Scholars @ National WHO Office

04/10/2019
- Presentation of Recommendation By Nigeria Scholars @ National Emergency Routine Immunization Coordination Center (NERICC)
- Involvement of scholars in the DHIS2 DQIP six months plan

09/08/2019
- Presentation of recommendation by Nigeria Scholar’s @ the National EOC

12/10/2019
- Selection of National Leaders
- Selection of State team leaders
- State by state data improvement plan

1st quarter, 2020
- Proposal drafting
- Collaboration Nigeria scholar with other countries scholars
- Collaboration with BLN on DQU
Nigeria Scholar – Proposed areas of collaboration based on action points
Action points from the survey cohort 1

1. Collaboration between Nigeria Scholars and NPHCDA for the reduction of missed opportunities for vaccination in health facilities.

2. Addressing the reduction of drop-out rate through close follow-up with birth cohorts using the tickler file and calls to mothers through their phone numbers as well as home visits by community extension workers and community nurses.

3. Development of communication messages targeting card retention by mothers among different communities – and tracking card retention over time.
4. Nigeria scholars can also participate in future vaccination coverage surveys to ensure that facility registers are used as a source of data in addition to home based records (cards) and deemphasize the use of recall as evidence of vaccination.

5. Nigeria Scholars, trained in coverage survey, are willing to support review of survey protocols and in monitoring the quality of future surveys including the forthcoming measles, Yellow fever and Men A coverage surveys.
Action points for Data Improvement Plan 1

1. Conduct advocacy and communication with stakeholders and policymakers on the importance of improving immunization and surveillance data, this advocacy can include advocating for investments in research and capacity development.

2. Follow up on the priority research topics relating to improving immunization and surveillance data and use include the following:
   • Major barriers and enablers to producing high-quality data for action at different levels and at different settings.
   • The main sources of inaccuracies in the system and their relative contribution.
   • The economic costs and implications of countries converting to electronic immunization information system.
   • How to integrate immunization information systems and tools with national HMIS.
   • Effective ways of creating a “data use culture”, including strategies to increase the motivation of health workers to check and improve the quality of data they are responsible for collecting.
Action points on Data Improvement Plan 2

3. Collaborate with NPHCDA-NERICC and State Ministries of Health for the roll-out and implementation of the Data improvement plan.

4. Conduct data triangulation of the different data sources so as to improve accuracy of the estimated coverage.
Action points for GRISP Level1

1. Development of communication messages on EPI e.g. on where to obtain immunization services to be shared in strategic locations – urban slums, markets, motor parks, religious institutions etc.

2. Development of training materials (training videos, job aids etc.) for medical NYSC members (e.g. doctors, nurses, pharmacists, laboratory scientists etc.) to support MNCH week and Community health service as part of their CDS

3. Use of ICT to map and track vulnerable/ invincible populations for demand creation and linkage to immunization services. These may be populations living in urban slums, riverine communities, pastoralist and internally displaced persons.
Action points for GRISP Level 2

1. Enhance full adoption and commencement of effective community engagement strategy by Q1 2020 in all states, to ensure all the newborn and defaulters are tracked.
2. Develop tools to engage existing community structures to timely trace and track newborns in the communities and link them with the health system for immunization
3. Develop and pilot an integrated referral system
4. Pilot the reduction of missed opportunities in specific LGAs
Next Steps

- Coordination of implementation of action points by individual scholars
- Support NPHCDA, FMOH in the implementation additional action points – *jointly scholars are planning to work towards implementation of the data improvement plan.*
- Facilitation of NPHCDA Technical Officer, Immunization Managers at all levels especially all SIOs, LIOs, M&E officers to participate in the global course and also implement their projects as a way of impacting their world
- Develop a country-specific course in partnership with immunization stakeholders
- Develop network of champions and advocates for impact country-wide
THANK YOU