

## PROJECT REPORT

<b>Project Title</b>	USAID TB LON 1 &2 Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) Project
<b>Consultant</b>	Equitable Health Access Initiative (EHAI)
<b>State of Implementation</b>	Akwa Ibom State
<b>Country</b>	Nigeria
<b>Type of Report</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Final report (October 2021 to September 2022)
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<b>Submission Date</b>	20th October 2022
<b>Submitted To</b>	Dr. Sani Useni

## **SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY-KEY ACHIEVEMENT**

During the 12-month implementation of the project, the consultants achieved the following

### **1. Increased domestic resources for TB control from Government and Private sector and institute a system for expenditure tracking of financing for TB control interventions within the state:**

- Set up a functional 22 Member Rivers State TB Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) Technical Working Group to facilitate mobilization of more resources for TB control from the State and private sector organizations as well as setting up of the State Health Insurance Scheme.
- Facilitated regular meetings of the Rivers State TB DRM TWG and instituted it as a functional system for tracking utilization of funds and other resources from the Government and private sector for TB control
- Facilitated the release of over N43,486,950.00 for TB control in the State as at 25th September 2022. This is a significant increase from about N5,000,000.00 in 2021.
- Facilitated the Rivers State World TB Day Celebration where 8 big private sector organizations were reached and their commitment to invest in TB control in Rivers State was obtained.
- Facilitated the development of advocacy tools for the engagement of private sector organizations to generate funds and other resources for TB control.

### **2. Support Rivers state integrate TB treatment and care into the minimum health benefit package in the state health insurance scheme:**

- Facilitated High-Level Meeting with policymakers to discuss the appointment of the Board and setting up the Rivers State Health Insurance Agency and the commencement of the State Health Insurance Scheme.
- Conducted advocacy visit to the Speaker Rivers State House of Assembly, Permanent Secretary PHC Board and other relevant stakeholders on commencement of State Health Insurance Scheme.
- Provided Technical Support and mobilization of resources for planning and implementation of the State Health Accounts Survey.

### **Critical Constraints / Challenges:**

- Paucity of political will and motivation by the Executive Governor to appoint a Board and set up the State Health Insurance Agency and commence the health insurance scheme.
- Instability in political appointments and government policy.
- Paucity of funds and resources to conduct a proper high-level advocacy meeting with critical stakeholders and high-level policymakers in Government and political space.



## SECTION 2: KEY OBJECTIVES



To support Rivers State integrate TB treatment and care into the minimum health benefit package in the state health insurance scheme.



To work with the state TB program and other TB stakeholders to address key identified gaps in the sustainability capacity assessment results for Rivers State.



To institute a system for expenditure tracking of public financing of TB within the state.

## SECTION 3: TRATEGIC STEPS TAKEN TO ACHIEVE OBJECTIVES

### STEP

### DATE

### ACTIVITY

### OUTCOME/ RESULT

1

1st – 31st October  
2021

Desk Review of “**Consolidated Report of Baseline Sustainability Capacity Assessment for State Implementing Entities (Rivers State) TB Control**” as well as other relevant policy and literature documents on the Rivers State TB program, Budgeting and Finance policies and practices.

Development of strategic plans and interventions to address key gaps identified within allowable budgetary limits and Terms of Reference of the consultancy.

2

1st – 30th  
November  
2021




Desk review of the Bill setting up the Rivers State Contributory Health Protection Program as signed into law by the Executive Governor.

Detailed information on the RVSCHPP Law, identify gaps and provide solutions.

## SECTION 3: STRATEGIC STEPS TAKEN TO ACHIEVE OBJECTIVES

STEP	DATE	ACTIVITY	OUTCOME/ RESULT
3 	1st – 2nd November 2021	Entry level meeting with the Permanent Secretary, Director of Public Health, Director Health Planning, Research and Statistics and Head of Health Financing Unit Rivers State Ministry of Health as well as the Manager State TB and Leprosy Control Program.	Buy in, cooperation and commitment to achieving the objectives of the DRM Project obtained from the PS, Director of Public Health, Director of Planning Research and Statistics, Head, Health Financing Unit and State TB Program Manager.
4 	10th February 2022.	Meeting with High Level Policy Makers on Domestic Resource Mobilization for TB services in Rivers State.	Obtained their buy-in and support in achieving increased Government and private sector funding for TB, and ensure Rivers State commences its health insurance scheme and TB services is integrated into the benefit package of the scheme.
5 	8th February 2022	Setting up of the 22 Member Rivers State TB Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) Technical Working Group (TWG) as a sub-committee of the Rivers State Health Financing Committee	Obtained their buy-in and support in achieving increased Government and private sector funding for TB, and ensure Rivers State commences its health insurance scheme and TB services is integrated into the benefit package of the scheme.

## SECTION 3: STRATEGIC STEPS TAKEN TO ACHIEVE OBJECTIVES

STEP	DATE	ACTIVITY	OUTCOME/ RESULT
6 	10th February 2022	Setting up of the 22 Member Rivers State TB Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) Technical Working Group (TWG) as a sub-committee of the Rivers State Health Financing Committee	Rivers State TWG set up to drive mobilization of resources for TB program from Government and private sector as well as ensure the health insurance scheme kicks off and Tb services is integrated into the benefit package of the scheme.
7 	3rd March 2022	Inauguration of RS TB DRM TWG by the Honourable Commissioner for Health.	TWG became functional.
8 	24th March 2022	Facilitated the Rivers State World TB Day Celebration Symposium for Mobilizing Resources for TB Control in the State from the Organized Private Sector.	About 8 Private Sector Organizations were present and gave commitments to invest in TB intervention in the State.
9 	7th April 2022; 30th June 2022; and 25th September 2022	Bi-Monthly Review Meetings of the RS TB DRM TWG	Obtained their buy-in and support in achieving increased Government and private sector funding for TB, and ensure Rivers State commences its health insurance scheme and TB services is integrated into the benefit package of the scheme.

## SECTION 4: ACHIEVEMENT

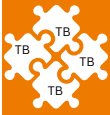


### OBJECTIVE 1

**Increased domestic resources for TB control from Government and Private sector and institute a system for expenditure tracking of financing for TB control interventions within the stat**

### ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1 Set up 22 member Rivers State TB DRM TWG.
- 2 Facilitated development of several memos that were approved and release of N43,486,950.00 for TB control in the State as at 25th September 2022. This is a significant increase from about N5,000.000,00 in 2021.
- 3 Facilitated the Rivers State World TB Day Celebration aimed at mobilizing investment in TB from big private sector organizations in the State. About 8 organizations were in attendance and they are being followed up to mobilise resources from them.
- 4 Instituted a the TWG as a functional system for tracking utilization of funds and other resources from Government and private sector for TB control.
- 5 Engagement of 8 private sector organizations for mobilization of additional resources for TB control.
- 6 Facilitated development of advocacy tools for the engagement of private sector organizations to generate funds and other resources for TB control in the State



## OBJECTIVE 2

**Support Rivers state to integrate TB treatment and care into the minimum health benefit package in the state health insurance scheme.**



## OBJECTIVE 3

**Work with the state TB program and other TB stakeholders to address key identified gaps in the sustainability capacity assessment results for Rivers State.**

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1 Facilitated High Level Meeting with policymakers to discuss the appointment of Board and setting the Rivers State Health Insurance Agency and commencement of RIVCHPP.
- 2 Conducted advocacy visit to the Speaker Rivers State House of Assembly on commencement of RIVCHPP.
- 3 Provided Technical Support and mobilization of resources for planning and implementation of the State Health Accounts Survey by the Health Financing Unit of the State Ministry of Health. Taking place in November 2022

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1 Worked with Akwa Ibom State National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA) State Coordinator to develop draft policy documents, guidelines, frameworks and Benefit Package (with TB services integrated) for the State Health Insurance Scheme.

## SECTION 5: CRITICAL CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES



Paucity of political will and motivation by the Executive Governor to appoint a Board and set up the State Health Insurance Agency and commence the health insurance scheme



Instability in political appointments and government policy:

- The Executive Governor relieved the SSG, all Commissioners, Special Advisers, and Senior Special Assistants of their duties for over 6 months and has not made new appointments
- There are several Agencies in the State (in the PHC Agency) without an appointed Board
- Stakeholders and policymakers are very apprehensive about discussing issues that the Governor has no apparent interest in with him e.g. Health Insurance
- Governors participation in the presidential primaries of his political parties and its fall made him inaccessible in the State for several months

## SECTION 6: OBSERVATIONS, ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION



1. Working directly and through the State TB Program and State Health Financing Unit, the consultants have been able to set up a functional TB DRM TWG in Rivers State.
2. This TB DRM TWG brings together senior level (Director and PS) stakeholders from the Ministries of Finance, Budget and Health, Accountant General, House of Assembly, Private Hospitals and other Departments and Agencies to one round table with the sole agenda of discussing and driving an agenda aimed at mobilizing resources for sustainable financing of TB interventions in Rivers State.
3. In less than 8 months, the TB DRM TWG has achieved some commendable success by increasing TB funding from the State from N5,000,000.00 in 2021 to over N42,000,000.00 in 2022; created awareness and driving the private sector to fund TB interventions; and actively pursued the setting of Rivers State Contributory Health Scheme with TB services on its benefit package.



## SECTION 7: ECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS



The USAID TB LON 2 DRM project has demonstrated potential to mobilize resources from Government and private sector for TB control in Rivers State.



The TB LON 2 DRM TWG needs to keep building on its modest success by ensuring it continues meeting regularly.



There is a dire need to increase funds for the TB LON 2 DRM project to ensure it can scale its activities to include interventions that will impact directly on health financing and the setting up of the State Health Insurance Scheme.



Some of these activities will include conducting actuarial studies to provide a risk-based cost of integrating TB services into the benefit package of the State Health Insurance Scheme; supporting the SHA study; supporting conferences, workshops, and trainings, especially targeted at critical high-level policy makers including the SSG, Head of Service, Finance, Budget, Accountant General, Justice and MoH, who may be ignorant of operations, opportunities and immense benefits of the State Social Health Insurance Scheme.



The consultants will continue to engage the Head of the Health Financing Unit of the Ministry of Health and other Stakeholders on all interventions aimed at facilitating commencement of Health Insurance in the State.



The consultants will continue to follow up with the proposals and advocacy tools to be developed and submitted to the organizations that attended the 2022 World Tb Day event in the State.



The consultants will also continue to work with the Director of Public Health and State TB Program Manager to conclude the 2023 TB AOP and ensure the TB budget is approved and retained on the State 2023 Appropriation Law.