



Igniting Family Planning Acceptance with Increased Spousal Communication

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Background

Male involvement in family planning has been identified as pivotal to the adoption and continual use of family planning and childbirth spacing.

Improvement in spousal communication has been seen to positively influence the uptake of family planning.



Objective

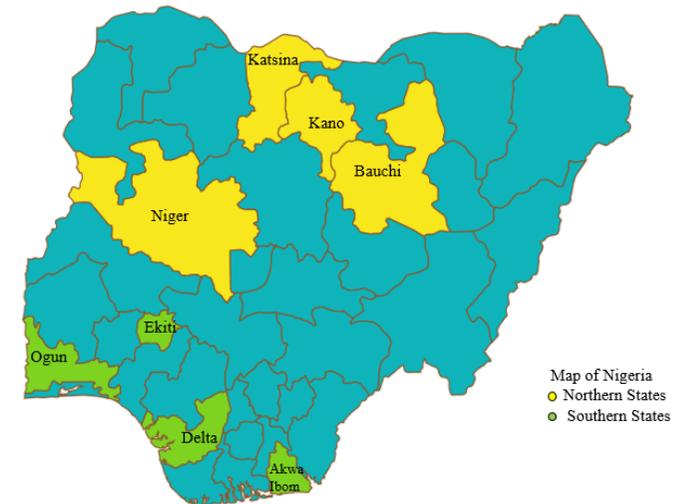


To assess spousal discussion about family size among the sample male population following an intervention by The Challenge Initiative in 5 states: Bauchi, Delta, Ogun, Niger and Kano



Methodology

- A cross sectional survey to track program exposure and associated changes in ideation and intention to use contraceptives was conducted in 8 States in Nigeria (5 Intervention states and 3 control states).
- The study assessed changes in perception relating to family size among the male population sampled in two rounds (May and December 2017).
- Data was analyzed using STATA to measure spousal discussion on FP and family size.



Key findings



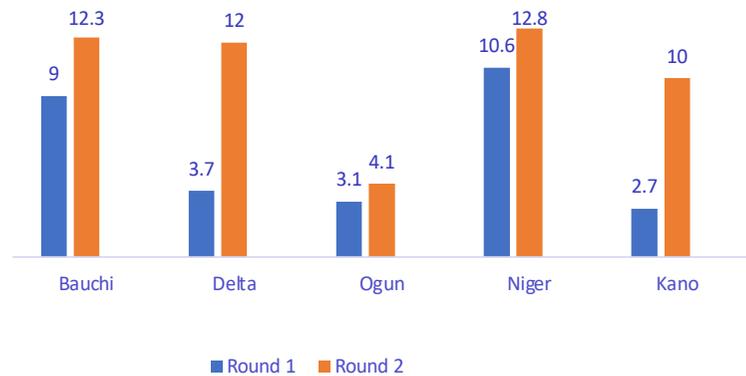
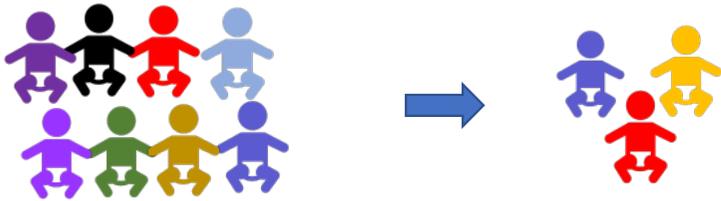
There was increase in spousal communication in 5 intervention states when round 1 was compared with round 2.



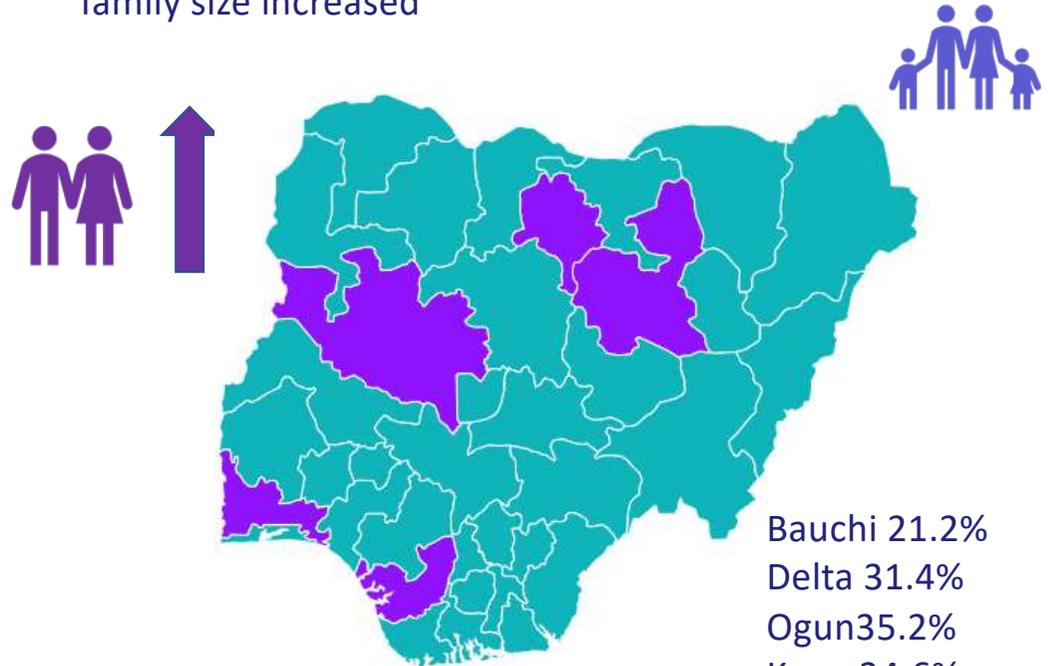
What did the data say?



wanted fewer children



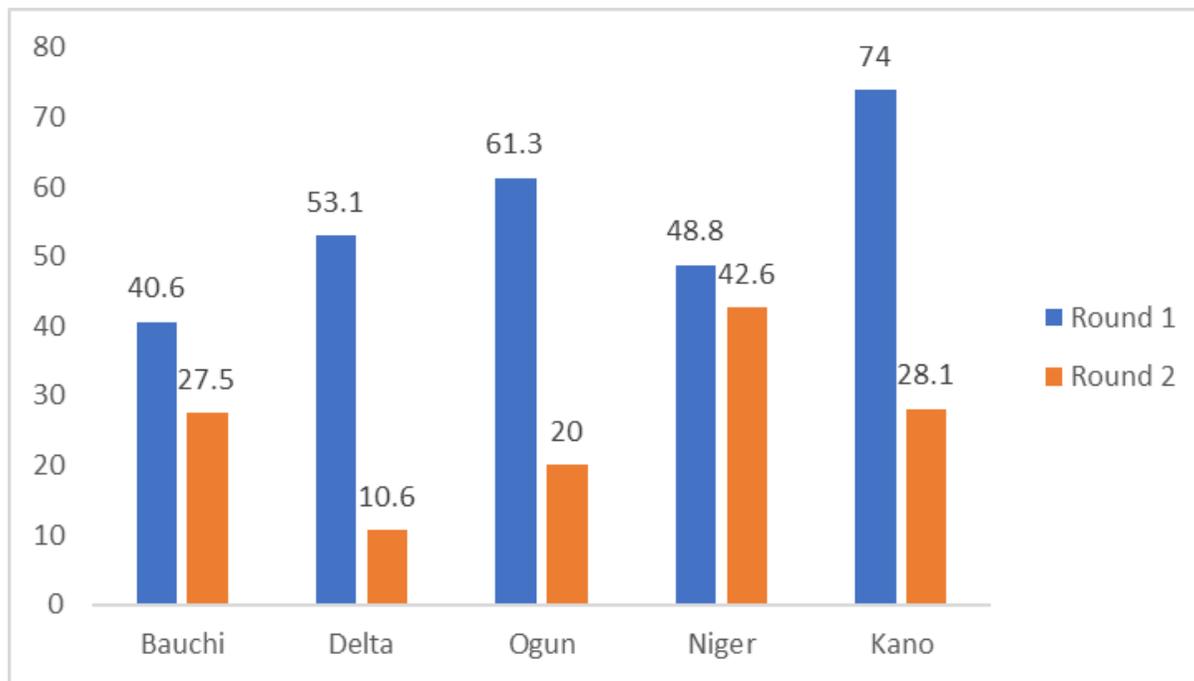
The proportion of couples who discussed about family size increased



- Bauchi 21.2%
- Delta 31.4%
- Ogun 35.2%
- Kano 24.6%
- Niger 3.4%.



.....and



The proportion of respondents who considered parity as “up to God” also declined significantly.

This signaled an increase in knowledge of the issues around family planning.



Conclusion

Overall, this study showed that:

- Considerations of family size grew during the six-month study period.
- There was increased awareness of the role that individuals play in determining family size as the number of respondents who felt that parity was “up to God” declined significantly
- More male respondents in round 2 wanted the same number of children as their partners when compared to round 1 of the study showing that spousal communication among couples also grew during the period
- This is the right step to closing the gap and ensure initial uptake and sustained use of family planning methods.





tci THE **CHALLENGE**
INITIATIVE

