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VIHIGA COUNTY QUARTERLY BULLETIN

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OVERVIEW

- Vihiga County is located in the Lake Victoria Basin of western region of Kenya and covers an area of 531.0 square kilometers. The county has five Sub-Counties, namely Hamisi, Emuhaya, Luanda, Sabatia and Vihiga. According to the 2019 National Population and Housing Census, the County had a population of 647,591 people with under-one-year children comprising of 2.1% and under-five year old children comprising of 17.5%. The county has one of the highest population densities in the country at 1,033 persons per square kilometer compared to the national average of 66 persons per square kilometer. 47.8% of the population are male while 52.2% are female.
- The county's demographic profile depicts a youthful population comprising of 46% of persons aged below 15 years. Women of reproductive age (15-49 years) make up 22.8% of the total population. Nearly 7.7% of adolescent girls 15-19 have given birth or were pregnant at the time of the Kenya 2022 DHS survey.
- Vihiga County has 148 health facilities out of which 76 are public health facilities, nine facilities are faith-based and 63 facilities are private.
- To provide summary of status of implementation of RMNACH activities, issue 4 of Vihiga County Quarterly Brief covers Apr to June 2022 based on KHIS data and program activity reports.

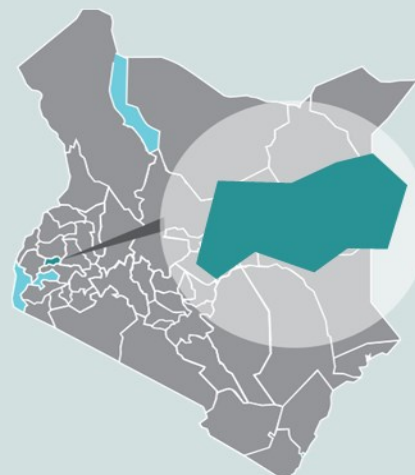
Key Achievements

- Improved timely perinatal audits from 32% in FY23 Q2 to 54% in FY23 Q3
- "Expanded Access" From 1 PPIUD Instrument to 35 Complete Sets now distributed Across 30 Facilities
- Reduced teenage pregnancies from 21% in FY21 to 18% in FY23
- Improved reporting of infant PNC within 48 HRS compared to live births from 66% in FY21 Q1 to 100% in FY23 Q3
- Improved quality of data and management of diarrhea and pneumonia cases from 92% to 99% and 111% to 95% respectively



Key Priorities

- Mapping of pregnant women in 3 sub-counties, 10 wards, 40 CUs and 82 health facilities
- Joint workplan and co-creation meeting for MCGL and Vihiga County
- USAID visit 10th August 2023



Key Highlights

Launch of the ASRH Action Plan:

"Empowering Vihiga's Youth: Taking Action to Reduce Teen Pregnancies!"

Boosting Family Planning Support:

"MCGL Addresses Gap, donates 35 PPIUCD Sets to Vihiga County!"

Roll Out of Group Antenatal Care (G-ANC):

Introducing Group ANC for Expecting Mothers in Vihiga!"

Monthly Data Validation for Improved

Data Quality: "Monthly Data Validation Enhances RMNCAH Reporting!"

Dissemination of Comprehensive New-

born Care Protocols: Sharing Updated Care Protocols with Health Workers!"

Distribution of Child Health Posters

and Job Aids: "Promoting Child Health: Posters and Job Aids Now Available in Facilities!"



MCGL and vihiga county Department of Health Implementation Strategies

Launch of the ASRH Action Plan: The Vihiga County ASRH Action Plan to reduce teenage pregnancies to below 8% by 2027 was successfully launched during the reporting period. The event brought together stakeholders from the health sector, adolescent groups, education, and CSOs, and was graced by the Vihiga County Governor. The action plan will also address HIV/AIDS and STI prevention, gender-based violence reduction, and improved nutrition for adolescents.

The operationalization of the AYSRH Action Plan will follow a coordinated and collaborative approach. The Department of Health in Vihiga County will take the lead in primary coordination. Additionally, the County RMNCAH Interagency Coordinating Committee, comprising representatives from various departments responsible for devolved and national government functions within the County, will provide ultimate coordination. At the ground level, the implementation of activities will primarily take place at both facility and community levels to ensure effective execution and impactful results.

"Boosting Family Planning Support: MCGL Addresses Gap, donates 35 PPIUCD Sets to Vihiga County. Previously, the county had only one instrument for PPIUD, limiting access to immediate postpartum family planning. Recognizing this need, MCGL procured and handed over 35 sets of PPIUCD kits to the Vihiga County Department of Health. These sets not only address the unmet need for family planning but are also utilized in skills labs to enhance healthcare workers' proficiency in offering FP services. The county deputy governor graciously received the donation, acknowledging MCGL's invaluable support in mentorship, training, and capacity building in RMNCAH/FP."



Roll Out of Group Antenatal Care (G-ANC): To improve 4th ANC in Vihiga County, the project initiated "Group ANC," training 25 healthcare workers to encourage early attendance of 1st ANC and promote 4th ANC retention in priority facilities. Additional strategies, such as household mapping of pregnant mothers, have been proposed for the upcoming quarter.

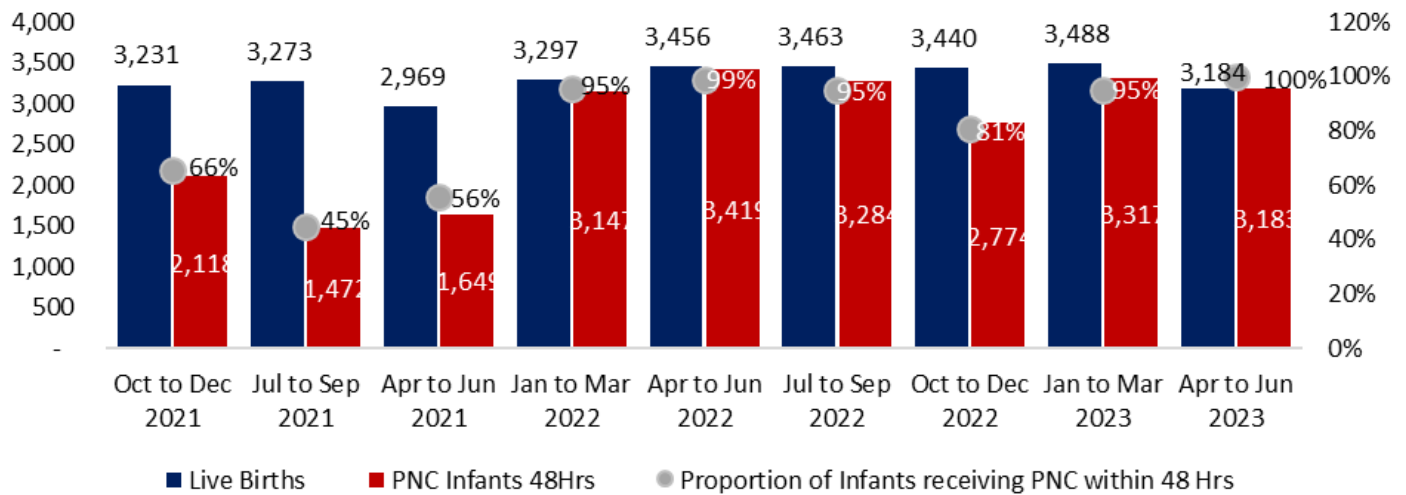
Enhancing Data Quality through Monthly Data Validation in Vihiga County. Working closely with the county, our team conducted monthly desk reviews and data validation exercises, focusing on FP/RMNCAH indicators reported routinely. To maintain the integrity of data in the Kenya Health Information System (KHIS), the Project introduced a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for monthly data validation, ensuring the accuracy and reliability of collected data. Notably, this effort led to a significant reduction in overtreatment cases for diarrhea from 138% to 94% and pneumonia from 127% to 99%, showcasing the positive outcomes of the validation process.

Dissemination of Comprehensive Newborn Care Protocols: The recently revised newborn care protocols and use of chlorhexidine di gluconate 7.1% for cord care were disseminated to 35 health care workers and county leadership during the KMC assessment feedback meeting. On-site mentorship on integrated management of childhood illnesses (IMNCI) was also conducted, supporting facility-based case management.

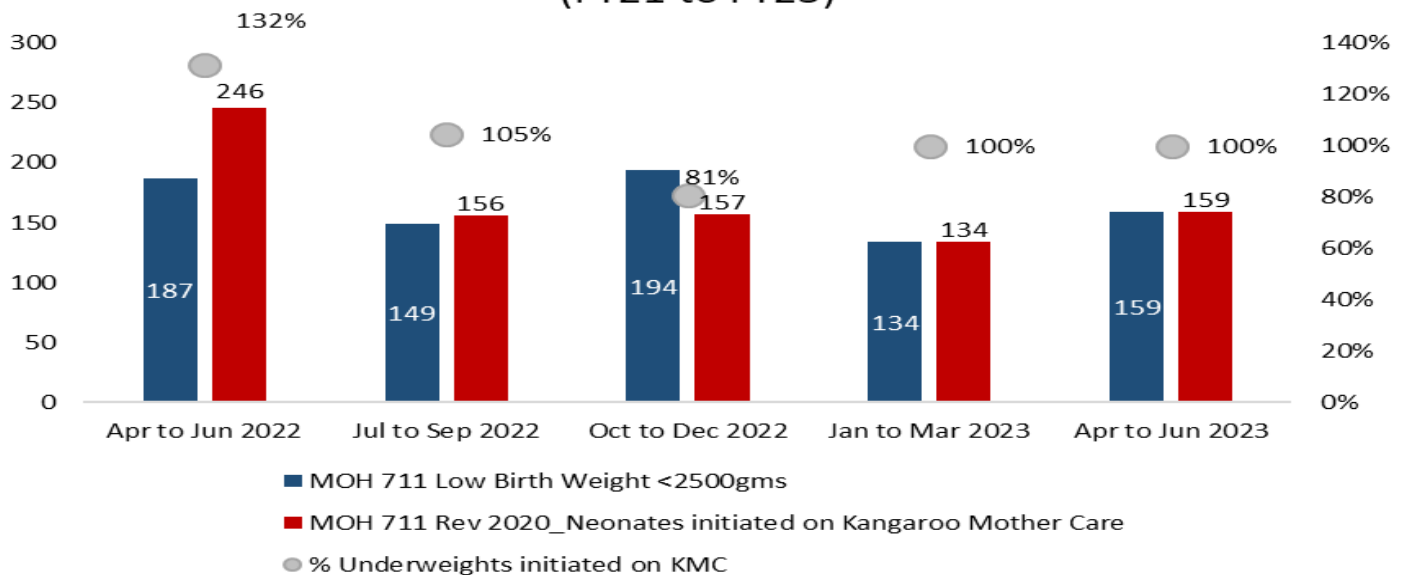
Distribution of Child Health Posters and Job Aids: MCGL printed and distributed assorted child health posters and job aids, including an updated IMNCI guide, innovative childhood pneumonia inpatient neonatal register, Kangaroo care register, and CHX flip charts, to thirty facilities in Vihiga County.

Pause and Reflect Meeting for Essential Newborn Care Data: A pause and reflect meeting was held in Vihiga County to review last quarter's performance based on data, with a focus on low birth weight babies initiated on KMC and infants initiated on PNC. Challenges were identified, and our team responded through mentorship and data validation, resulting in improved service quality and data accuracy.

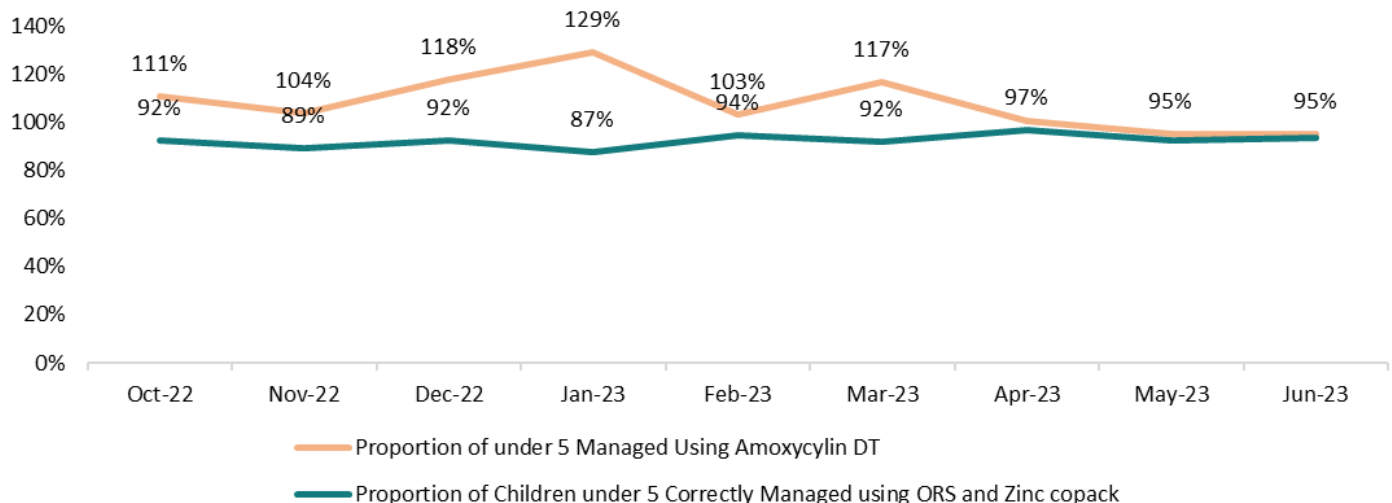
Proportion of Infants receiving PNC within 48 Hrs



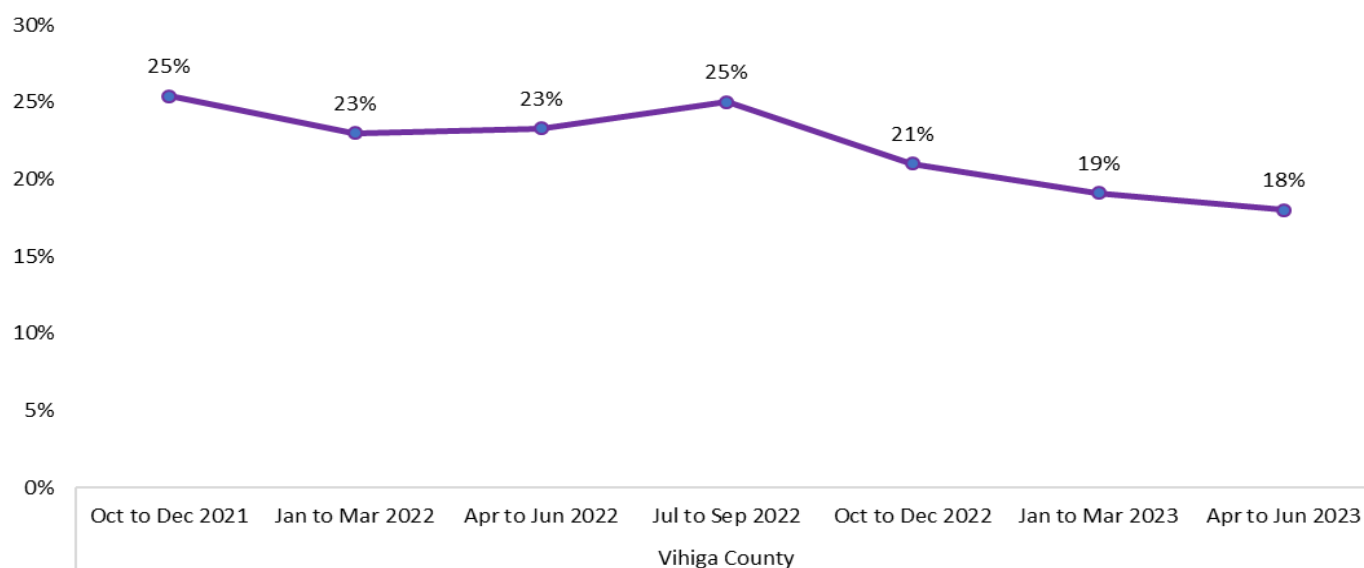
Proportion of Underweight Infants Initiated on KMC (FY21 to FY23)



Management of Under 5s: Proportion Using Amoxicillin DT and Proportion Correctly Managed with ORS and Zinc Copack"



(%) of Adolescents (10-19 years) pregnant at 1st ANC visit



"Smiles and Success: A Photo Session Commemorating the Launch of the AYSRH Action Plan in Vihiga County on June 10th, 2023"

"Handover of 35 PPIUD sets to the deputy governor by MCGL team in vihiga county on 14 th June 2023 "



"Day 3 of G-ANC Training for Health Care Workers Comes to a Close. A Brief and Educational Song Serves as a Reminder of the Learnings."