

JULY – SEPTEMBER 2026

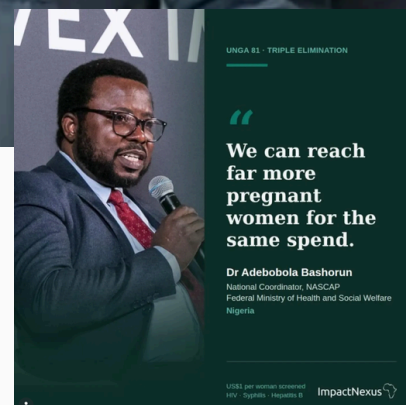
NASCP QUARTERLY



STRENGTHENING GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR HEPATITIS AND TRIPLE ELIMINATION AT UNGA81

The National AIDS, Viral Hepatitis and STIs Control Programme (NASCP), led by Director/National Coordinator, Dr. Adebobola Bashorun, participated in key global health engagements during the 81st United Nations General Assembly (UNGA81) in New York.

These included the Global Friends on Hepatitis Elimination meeting and Impact Nexus' Triple Elimination Testing Bundle reception, which focused on strengthening partnerships, sustainable financing and integrated testing approaches to accelerate hepatitis elimination. The Triple Elimination Testing Bundle offers screening for HIV, syphilis and hepatitis B at US\$1 per woman screened, creating an opportunity to integrate hepatitis B screening into existing antenatal testing platforms. Dr. Bashorun engaged with global health partners to share Nigeria's experience and explore strategies to advance maternal and newborn health and the triple elimination of HIV, syphilis and hepatitis B. NASCP remains committed to strengthening partnerships and advancing Nigeria's national hepatitis and triple elimination agendas.



INSIDE THIS EDITION:

- Driving technical priorities for Nigeria's GC8 HIV Grant-Pg. 2
- Strengthening Quality Assurance for HIV Testing in Nigeria-Pg. 3
- Strengthening Community Leadership for HIV Prevention - Pg. 5
- NASCP Drives Digital Transformation of Nigeria's National Data Repository - Pg. 6

DRIVING TECHNICAL PRIORITIES FOR NIGERIA'S GC8 HIV GRANT

NASCP provided technical input to Nigeria's GC8 HIV grant development during the Grant-Making Week, convened by the Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) from 14–18 September 2026 in Abuja. Contributions covered HIV service delivery, data systems strengthening, prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT), hepatitis triple testing, key population programming, laboratory services, workplans and budgets. The engagement brought together national programmes, states, implementing partners and Global Fund stakeholders to refine grant priorities, marking a key step towards finalising a grant aligned with national priorities and the evolving needs of Nigeria's HIV response.



NASCP JOINS GLOBAL COMMUNITY TO MARK WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY

NASCP joined the global community on 10 September 2026 to commemorate World Suicide Prevention Day. Representing the Director of Public Health, NASCP Director/National Coordinator, Dr. Adebobola Bashorun, participated in the event, which highlighted the link between HIV, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and mental health. Stigma, discrimination, social isolation and the emotional distress associated with these infections can increase vulnerability to depression and suicidal thoughts among affected individuals. The engagement reinforced the need for compassionate, stigma-free health services that integrate mental health support into HIV, hepatitis and STI care, ensuring that affected individuals can access appropriate care and support.





Strengthening Quality Assurance for HIV Testing in Nigeria

Reliable HIV diagnosis depends on the quality, safety and accuracy of test kits. In a move to strengthen these safeguards, NASCP, led by Director/National Coordinator, Dr. Adebobola Bashorun, paid an advocacy visit to the Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria (MLSCN) on 24 August 2026 to advance collaboration on the evaluation and quality assurance of HIV Rapid Test Kits (RTKs). Discussions explored opportunities to strengthen pre- and post-market verification of HIV test kits, improve regulatory oversight and leverage national technical expertise to ensure that products meet required quality and safety standards. Both institutions also considered ways to support local manufacturers through stronger quality assurance processes and technical capacity development. The collaboration is expected to contribute to more robust testing standards, reliable diagnostic results and improved confidence in HIV testing services. By strengthening institutional coordination and quality assurance mechanisms, NASCP and MLSCN reaffirmed their shared commitment to a safer, more reliable and sustainable HIV diagnostic system in Nigeria.



Advancing GC8 HIV grant development through strategic planning

NASCP convened key technical stakeholders for a five-day residential Global Fund Grant Cycle 8 (GC8) HIV Grant Development Workshop, held from 20–24 July 2026 at Exclusive Serene Hotel, Wuye, Abuja. The workshop brought together Heads of Units, Technical Leads, and Technical Partners to shape the strategic and operational framework for implementing Nigeria's GC8 HIV Grant. Following Nigeria's nomination of NASCP as the Principal Recipient (PR) for the grant and the submission of the funding request, the workshop focused on defining strategic interventions, measurable indicators, programme targets, budget allocations, and other essential implementation documents. The engagement strengthened technical coordination and alignment among stakeholders, laying the groundwork for a well-structured, evidence-driven HIV programme. It also reaffirmed NASCP's commitment to accelerating Nigeria's progress towards ending AIDS as a public health threat through strategic planning, collaboration, and effective grant implementation.



NASCP and CHAI explore new frontiers in Nigeria's HIV response

The Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), led by its Global Chief Operating Officer, visited NASCP in Abuja on 14 July 2026 to reaffirm their longstanding partnership. Discussions focused on sustaining HIV, hepatitis and STI gains, advancing triple elimination, strengthening laboratory systems and supply chains, integrating mental health into HIV services, supporting the G2G transition, and aligning with Global Fund GC8 priorities. Both organisations pledged to deepen collaboration to sustain programme gains, strengthen health systems, and accelerate progress towards ending HIV, viral hepatitis and STIs as public health threats in Nigeria.



DRIVING HEPATITIS ELIMINATION THROUGH AWARENESS AND FREE SCREENING

In observance of World Hepatitis Day 2026, the NASCP, organised a two-day free hepatitis screening exercise at Edo House. The initiative promoted awareness of viral hepatitis, encouraged early detection, and reinforced the importance of accessible screening in advancing Nigeria's efforts towards hepatitis elimination.



STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP FOR HIV PREVENTION

To accelerate community-led uptake of innovative HIV prevention options, NASCP, in collaboration with Root to Rise and NACA, conducted a National Training of Trainers on the HIV Prevention Ambassador Training Package and Toolkit (HPAT) from 30 June to 2 July 2026 at Wetland Hotel, Abuja. The training equipped government, civil society, community and implementing partner representatives to promote informed PrEP choices, reduce stigma, drive community-led demand generation, and support the rollout of Lenacapavir (LEN) PrEP alongside oral PrEP and long-acting injectable cabotegravir (CAB-LA). Building on the February 2026 National Community Consultation, the initiative advanced efforts to equip communities with the knowledge and skills to make informed HIV prevention choices and expand equitable access to innovative prevention options.





Stakeholders Advance Integrated Caregiver Health Literacy for Improved Child Health

Stakeholders convened at Dover Hotel, Lekki, from 13–17 July 2026 for the Caregiver Literacy Document Development Meeting, aimed at harmonising caregiver education materials and developing evidence-based health literacy messages. Discussions also reviewed progress in the paediatric HTM screening initiative across Kano, Rivers, and Kwara States and mapped out strategies for nationwide implementation. The meeting resulted in a validated draft Integrated Caregivers' Health Literacy Document, strengthened stakeholder commitment to family-centred health education, and facilitated the sharing of implementation lessons. Participants also agreed on key next steps for nationwide dissemination and scale-up to promote informed caregiving and improved child health outcomes.



NASCP Drives Digital Transformation of Nigeria's National Data Repository



While strengthening Nigeria's digital health infrastructure, NASCP advanced plans to modernise the National Data Repository (NDR) at a technical meeting held on 16 July 2026 at Rockview Royale Hotel Abuja. Stakeholders reviewed the platform's planned migration to Galaxy Backbone, identified key technical requirements and risks, and agreed on next steps to enhance data management and evidence-based decision-making for Nigeria's HIV response.

FROM THE STATES...

Abia State Advances Safer Paediatric HIV Care Through Technical Working Group Meeting



The Abia State AIDS/Viral Hepatitis and STIs Control Programme (SASCP), under the State Ministry of Health, convened a Paediatric Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting on 7 September 2026 at the SASCP Conference Room. Held under the theme "Finishing Strong: Data Quality, Transition Readiness and Safer Paediatric HIV Care," the meeting focused on strengthening data quality, preparing for programme transitions, and improving the delivery of safe, effective HIV treatment and care for children.

The meeting underscored the importance of coordinated technical oversight, accurate data, and evidence-based planning in sustaining treatment outcomes and improving the quality of paediatric HIV services across Abia State. It also reinforced the need for continued stakeholder collaboration to ensure a smooth programme transition, strengthen service delivery, and promote safer, more effective, and uninterrupted HIV care for children living with HIV.



Osun Stakeholders Review Health Programme Performance and Prioritise Service Delivery Gaps



Health stakeholders in Osun State convened at the Ministry of Health's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) on 7 September 2026 to review programme performance across HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, PMCT, laboratory services and community interventions. The meeting focused on improving treatment outcomes, strengthening data quality, addressing staffing and commodity gaps, expanding health insurance enrolment for eligible people living with HIV, and resolving barriers to hepatitis treatment. Stakeholders also emphasised stronger community follow-up, integrated monitoring, and improved coordination among government agencies, implementing partners and community organisations. The meeting concluded with a renewed focus on closing service delivery gaps, strengthening accountability, and improving access to quality, integrated health services across the state.



FROM THE STATES...

Strengthening Commitment to Sustainable HIV Programmes and Health Financing in 6 states



Building sustainable, state-led health systems took centre stage as the National Sustainability and HIV Impact Project (N-SHIP), engaged stakeholders across Cross River, Ebonyi, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Edo and Kano States across the months of August and September. The engagements brought together state health officials, programme leads and partners to advance government ownership of HIV interventions, improve health financing, promote service integration and reform supply chain systems. Discussions focused on strengthening health sector governance and ensuring the sustainable availability of essential commodities and quality health services. The initiative marks a renewed push towards state-led health systems that protect programme gains, strengthen local capacity and sustain access to essential HIV services beyond donor support.

Osun Maps Out Health Priorities for 2027

The Osun State Ministry of Health convened health stakeholders and development partners from 22–26 September 2026 for a workshop to develop the 2027 Health Sector Annual Operational Plan (AOP). The workshop provided a platform to review health sector priorities, assess service delivery gaps, strengthen coordination, and identify evidence-based interventions aligned with the state's health needs. Stakeholders also worked towards ensuring that planned activities and resource allocation support the effective implementation of health programmes in the coming year. The engagement reaffirmed Osun State's commitment to strategic planning, stakeholder collaboration, and efficient resource utilisation to strengthen healthcare delivery and improve health outcomes for residents across the state.



www.nascp.gov.ng



@nascp fmoh



@nascpfmoh



@nascp fmoh



fmoh_nascp