**PHC Revitalization and Universal Health Coverage Dimensions: A Model Experience – Lessons from Nigeria State Health Investment Project (NSHIP) Implementation**

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**Introduction**

International collaborations/commitments have become one of the avenues for common course of action, especially with regards to health sector. Since the global target of Health for All (now Universal Health Coverage – UHC) was declared in 1978, primary health care (PHC) has been become universally approach to achieving this common goal. Thus, Nigeria adopted PHC approach as part of efforts to strengthen the health care system. Thus, PHC in Nigeria has evolved through various stages of development; few of which included establishment of National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) and subsequent adoption of Ward Health System (WHS). The WHS postulated that there should be at least one functional PHC in each political ward and supported by other PHC structures. This resulted intensive public investment in the health sector from which public PHCs accounted for over 85% of PHC facilities in Nigeria. However, the instability in political governance, poor funding/contrasting fiscal space, lack of political support and low capacity of managerial structure to manage PHC led to serious deterioration in PHC structures. It was in this light that several interventions were introduced to strengthen the PHC Systems with little or no progress. However, the introduction of pilot implementation of output-based approach under the Nigeria State Health Investment Project (NSHIP) from December 2011 in the three States: Adamawa, Nasarawa and Ondo has indicated considerable progress. The results from recent surveys have consistently rated project States among the best performing States in Nigeria. With this level of improvement and possible expansion to more States, Nigeria stand a chance for right course towards universal health coverage and hence attainment of MNCH SDGs. This study therefore assessed the NSHIP contribution in PHC revitalization and chances of attaining universal health coverage in Nigeria.

**Methodology**

Mixed research method was adopted for the study. Secondary data were obtained from the national dhis2 and project portal for analysis. Qualitative data was obtained through in-depth interviews for analysis.

**Findings**

The study found that the NSHIP model has great potential in PHC revitalization and an implementation model for accelerating progress towards UHC. Basic principles of the project were found to have high positive impact on the PHC components as well as UHC dimensions in Nigeria from planning through management to implementation of PHC approach.

**Conclusion**

The study concluded that NSHIP model provides Nigeria with the opportunity for improving population health indices and hence high chances of attaining UHC/health for all.