

## Contact

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## Top Skills

Program Coordination

Landscape Analysis

Coordination Of Resources

# Kabiru Atta

Health and Social Development | Policy Advocacy and Program Management | Digital Health

Nigeria

## Summary

Dr. Kabiru Atta is a strategic leader working at the intersection of digital transformation, health systems strengthening, and sustainable financing in emerging markets. His career reflects a consistent focus on translating strategy into execution; moving from ideas and policy frameworks to practical, scalable solutions that improve lives.

Certified in PRINCE2 (UK) project management and a Master Trainer in PMDPro, he has overseen a combined portfolio of projects valued at over \$34 million USD across multiple states in Nigeria. His work spans governance reform, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health, tuberculosis and nutrition programming, gender equality, menstrual hygiene, WASH, conflict sensitive programming, and economic empowerment. Across these sectors, his approach is grounded in systems thinking, recognizing that sustainable change requires alignment between communities, service delivery platforms, financing mechanisms, and policy environments.

Over the past decade, Dr. Atta has been deeply involved in strengthening primary and secondary healthcare systems, with a strong emphasis on digital innovation. He has led and supported the deployment of community and health management information systems, electronic medical records, biometric attendance and accountability systems, and digital insurance platforms, working closely with Federal and State Ministries of Health, Primary Health Care Development Agencies, and State Health Insurance Agencies to pilot, institutionalize, and scale these innovations.

Through his leadership, he is advancing AI-enabled health systems, digital insurance infrastructure, and blended finance models that expand access to quality care. His work consistently explores how private sector capabilities can responsibly and effectively improve access to essential social services, particularly in underserved settings.

Beyond technical expertise, Dr. Atta brings strong emotional intelligence and collaborative leadership. He works effectively across government institutions, donors, private sector actors, and communities, building partnerships, strengthening accountability, and driving measurable impact.

His core belief is simple but powerful: lasting systems change happens when leadership, financing, technology, and governance move together with clarity and purpose.

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## Experience

### EngenderHealth

#### Country Representative

November 2021 - Present (4 years 7 months)

Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria

Develop and lead the vision and strategy of EngenderHealth's overall country program and support new business development opportunities, including interacting with corporate and other philanthropic organizations in Nigeria.

Have overall responsibility for the country's program portfolio, including achieving program results, financial management, accounting and reporting, ensuring compliance with all EH and donors' contractual matters and other applicable laws and regulations.

Provide direct responsibility for supervision of designated staff and oversee and work closely and in a complementary fashion with other global key personnel managing projects..

The Country Representative will lead the USAID MOMENTUM Safe Surgery in Family Planning and Obstetrics project in Nigeria, ensuring that the project meets all key benchmarks and oversight of the technical, programmatic, and fiscal day-to-day management of the project. S/he will manage the critical relationships with the Government of Nigeria and other national partners, being the primary liaison with all key stakeholders, including other USAID implementing partners in Nigeria.

### Plan International Nigeria

6 years 1 month

#### Head of Development Programmes

January 2020 - October 2021 (1 year 10 months)

## Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria

The role provides leadership in the design, development, implementation and evaluation of all development programs and projects in line with Country Strategic Plan. The role provides support to all projects on the development side and works closely with the Emergency Response Manager to build and sustain a development humanitarian nexus.

Key successes include

1. Expanded the portfolio of the development programmes to include a \$9.7m dollar proposal for the World Bank ANRIN nutrition project in Niger, an \$18 million dollar follow on Global Affairs Canada funded ASRH project for Sokoto and Bauchi states, a \$2m dollar Costed BORN and SHOW extension COVID project, \$400,000 TB REACH funded gender responsive case finding TB project in Sokoto state, and a \$4.5m dollar World bank Gender, Health and economic empowerment proposal for the NFWP project which was approved by the World Bank.

I provided technical leadership and program oversight to 7 projects under the development portfolio.

Addressed strategic and operational bottlenecks through regular project and grant meetings, PMP review meetings, management accounting analysis and action planning, national and state level advocacies and engagements to ensure all projects under the development portfolio achieve agreed KPIs.

Built strategic partnerships with National and State Ministries of Health, and Women Affairs, state ministries of Local Government, Religious Affairs, Budget and Finance.

Built and maintained strategic partnerships with Global Affairs CANADA, Nutrition International, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, USAID, and the World Bank.

Led on development and delivery of research and knowledge management content at national and international conferences.

Liaised with the Humanitarian programme to strengthen the development humanitarian nexus which led to the development and implementation of the 1.5m Euro BMZ SRHR and conflict project and the \$1m Global Affairs Canada MHD SRHR and protection.

Head of Health programs

October 2015 - January 2020 (4 years 4 months)

Nigeria

Provided leadership and management oversight to a team of about 25 persons in the implementation of the Global Affairs Canada funded MNCH/SRHR projects in Sokoto and Bauchi state, with a combined portfolio of about \$23m CAD. Led the team in the design, update and pilot of the Community Health Information System which was approved at National level. Supported the national update of MLSS training guidelines for CHEWS which was used to train over 400 health workers using a competency based model. Facilitated interventions that cut across expanding access to birth registration services, rolling out Adolescent and youth friendly and gender responsive PHCs, implementing a male engagement strategy, community score card system, partnership to improve referral system through policy and tool development and implementation, and a host of other gender responsive interventions

### USAID funded FHI360 MAPS project

#### State Project Coordinator

November 2014 - September 2015 (11 months)

Zamfara state, Nigeria

- Provides technical assistance and management to the overall programs in Zamfara state. . Management of the program and finance sub unit heads and officers to ensure effective implementation of program. Ensures operational and financial compliance with internal and external regulations. Monitors budget for programs and develops monitoring system for reviewing project status. Ensures completion of program while adhering to budget, scope, and schedule requirements. Develops/Reviews work plans, prepares presentations, and supports other related program objectives and deliverables. Supervises and mentors staff and provides training on systems, policies, and regulations. Develops relationship and serves as the liaison with government officials, local communities, and other organizations. Management of contracts for consultants and vendors.
- Supported the development of the draft Zamfara state Primary Health Development Board bill.
- Successfully coordinating a state wide Lost lasting insecticide Treated Net (LLIN) replacement campaign in the state, managing over 7000 personnel for the activity.
- Instituted quarterly PMP review with staff which led to increased understanding and deliverable of over 80% work plan implementation by end of Q3 FY.

- Carried a team wide 360 degree evaluation process early in the job which helped to identify sources of team conflict, leading to resolution and increased team effectiveness.
- Successfully tracked performance against Financial Cost Objective, timelines and budgets to inform program decision making in addressing operational and program bottlenecks.
- Reviewed the health facility monitoring tool to include a community and gender component that captured demand side of facility delivery services and issues and resulted in increased collaboration between Health facilities and host communities.
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#### DfID funded SuNMaP project

##### State Technical Malaria Manager

October 2013 - November 2014 (1 year 2 months)

Kano state, Nigeria

- The SuNMaP Project in Nigeria focuses on strengthening the health systems delivery of malaria efforts towards reducing malaria within the target population of women and children under five.
- Coordinate the public sector, private sector and civil society on-site training of health workers and PMVs on malaria diagnosis and case management and Behaviour change communication (BCC) and community mobilization interventions. Ensure programme monitoring data are regularly collected, collated and fed-back to the Central programme team and monitor access to LLINs and ACTs through the commercial sector and civil society
- Coordinated the training of over 1400 health workers across the state on Malaria Commodity Logistics System tools, including delivery of tools to sustain a push system, leading to improvement in the malaria supply chain system and reduction in stock outs by 50% and expiry of commodities within health facilities.
- Engaged the state budget process to ensure appropriations of funds for procurement of anti malaria commodities worth over a hundred million naira and distribution to public health facilities.

- Developed a private sector edutainment initiative with film producers of Hausa films to incorporate malaria messages into their movies and drama presentations as part of their corporate social responsibility. This resulted in reduction of cost of BCC interventions while ensuring sustainability and increased coverage.

## USAID LEAD project

Senior Technical Advisor Gender

September 2012 - September 2013 (1 year 1 month)

Sokoto State

- Work closely with the Senior Technical Managers to identify opportunities to advance gender integration and social inclusion within all aspects of the project and work with relevant team members to ensure that concept notes and activities reflect state-of-the-art practices in gender and social inclusion;
- Identify key activities for the project to undertake to advance women's participation in service delivery decision making or building the skills and competencies of LGA officials to conduct their work in a more gender sensitive and socially inclusive way
- Working closely with Training Managers to ensure that all training materials and packages reflect best practices in gender and social inclusion;
- Building the capacity of CSOs, community women and gender champions to productively engage in service delivery decision making. This would demand designing capacity building activities and advocacy strategies;
- Reviewing and revising concept notes for gender and social inclusion;
- Crafting concept notes for new activities and oversee their completion (hiring consultants, implementing the activity, conducting capacity building training, oversee work of consultants);
- Identifying consultants to assist in activities and prepare SOWs;
- Developing training materials (or make revisions to existing materials) that reflect state-of-the-art practices in gender and social inclusion;
- Developing M&E systems to capture the impact of gender related activities on project outcomes;
- Developing staff capacity in gender and social inclusion;
- Preparing quarterly and final reports;
- Creating project levels systems and protocols to ensure that gender and social inclusion is integrated into the project's operational systems;
- Engage with project leadership to advance gender and social inclusion throughout the project portfolio.

## LEAD Project Sokoto State

## Service Delivery Specialist

August 2010 - August 2012 (2 years 1 month)

Sokoto State

- • Design and implement concepts notes and implementation plans on engagements with State MDAs, LGAs, CSOs and other relevant stakeholders through participatory and gender approaches that ensure improvement in service delivery as they relate to water and sanitation and economic growth.
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- Design strategies to strengthen partnerships that match State, LGA, private sector and civil society services with articulated community needs in water and sanitation and in collaboration with TSHIP and NEI on health and education respectively.
  
- Contribute to the development or/and review of state wide and LG policies, laws and implementation guidelines to improve sector financing, coordination and regulation for effective service delivery.
  
- Conduct gender disaggregated beneficiary assessments to identify the public service needs of different constituencies and initiate public private partnerships for effective service delivery.
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- Promote, conduct, design community-based activities to improve service delivery by engaging beneficiaries and Local governments in the design of service improvement activities
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- Identify ways to improve service delivery by addressing gender considerations
  - o Reducing time spent in water collection
  
- Work collaboratively with other members of the LEAD technical team on local governance processes, the budget process, IGR strategies and CSOs/CBOs engagements for effective service delivery in the LGAs.
  
- Work closely with TSHIP and NEI to identify and implement strategies in areas of collaboration for improved service delivery in the health and education sectors.
  
- Contribute to project reporting and documentation.

- Represent CEDPA on LEAD with partners and communities at the highest standard to ensure strong acceptance and implementation support for activities.

### Kogi State Specialist Hospital, Lokoja

Medical Officer

December 2008 - August 2010 (1 year 9 months)

Lokoja, Kogi State

- # Management of patients on Anti Retroviral Therapy and Tuberculosis treatment regimen through the Management Sciences for Health/Hospital partnership.
- # Management of different cases presenting to the hospital at the Outpatient department and Accident & Emergency unit of the Hospital during normal working hours and call periods.
- # Management of HIV opportunistic infection and HIV and TB drug related side effects.
- # Liaising with the medical and paediatrics units on co management of HIV Patients on admission.
- # Facility and adherence counselling to patients on ART and anti TB regimen.
- # Participation in weekly clinical meetings within the Family Medicine Department.
- # Management of PLWHA and OVC under the MSH facility based support group.
- # Monthly review meetings of the Patient Care Team [PCT] on HIV.
- # Monthly review meetings of the HIV/TB Team within the outpatient department.
- # Participation in the regular month end MSH facility support group care and support meetings.
- # Training of PLWHA on home based care and management of opportunistic infections.

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## Education

University of Ibadan

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) · (1997 - 2005)

University of Liverpool

Postgraduate Diploma , Public Health (Management of Health Systems) · (2013 - 2017)

Nigeria Defence Academy

Masters in Development Studies, Development Studies · (June  
2017 - September 2018)