

# Healthcare Federation of Nigeria (HFN) **IMPACT REPORT**

**Transforming Nigeria's Healthcare Landscape  
Through Strategic Advocacy and Private Sector Leadership**



## Executive Summary

The Healthcare Federation of Nigeria (HFN) has consistently driven transformative impact across Nigeria's healthcare landscape through strategic advocacy, public-private partnerships, and sectoral collaboration. This impact report highlights key milestones achieved over the years, including the establishment of a permanent Secretariat, the successful execution of policy-shaping dialogues with high-level government stakeholders, and the development of national incentives to attract healthcare investment in partnership with the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC). Through capacity-building initiatives, quality improvement trainings, and consistent stakeholder engagement, HFN has strengthened the role of the private sector in advancing Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and fostering a more resilient, inclusive, and investment-ready health system in Nigeria.

### Who Are We

We are a coalition of Nigerian private healthcare sector organizations. We are an apolitical, non-partisan, non-profit organization. We aim to speak with a unified voice for improving the Nigerian Health Sector through advocacy. This is borne out of the neglect the sector has suffered over the years because of many factors. To this effect, the organization advocates for changes in policy and policy reforms that will support the growth and development of this sector.

We are independent of any governmental/political ideology, economic or religious interest and funding is mainly by our membership and volitional donations from well-meaning Nigerians. We envision bringing all stakeholders in the Nigerian private health sector under one umbrella with the healthcare and practices in the country. aim of influencing

### HFN Executives



### Mission

Our mission is centered on advocacy, capacity building and improving access to finance for the private sector, all in collaboration with the public sector.

### Vision

We are driven by the vision to support the achievement of universal healthcare coverage through the activation and empowerment of the private sector.

### Organizational Overview

- Founded in 2015.
- Offices in Lagos & Abuja.
- Organizational Structure: Board of Trustees, National Executive Council, Executive Committee, & The Secretariat.
- Funding Membership fees, Grants & Sponsorships.

## HFN's Impact Areas

HFN is uniquely positioned to leverage its deep understanding of both the healthcare sector and the policy landscape to facilitate transformative change. We have the expertise to connect public and private sectors, mobilize financing, and advocate for reforms that drive long-term, sustainable growth in the healthcare industry. Our proven ability to advocate for policy reforms, foster Public Private Partnerships, and connect healthcare innovators to financing has made us a key player in advancing Nigeria's healthcare sector, ensuring that the private sector plays a central role in the achievement of universal healthcare coverage.

### 1. Policy Advocacy: Shaping National Healthcare Policies

#### COVID-19 Response: Securing Private Sector Engagement

During the COVID-19 pandemic, HFN successfully advocated for private-sector participation to complement the efforts of the government with subsequent increase in the amount of testing and rapid establishment of Isolation centers.

Key achievements include:

- Expanding COVID-19 testing capacity by securing government approval for private laboratories—a move that increased testing centers from 3 to 80 nationwide.
- Facilitating the inclusion of private hospitals in administering COVID-19 vaccines, which improved vaccine accessibility by 42%, reaching underserved populations.
- Accelerating the procurement of critical medical supplies, PPEs, and ventilators through private sector partnerships.



#### Initiating the Nigerian Cancer Health Fund (NCHF)

HFN spearheaded the advocacy for sustainable cancer care financing, leading to the establishment of the Nigerian Cancer Health Fund (NCHF) (formerly the Catastrophic Health Fund). HFN advocacy also led to the creation of the National Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment (NICAT). HFN is on the Cancer Health Fund committee (NCCP)

The Cancer Health Fund has:

- Provided financial assistance to over 1,500 indigent cancer patients since its inception.
- Enabled treatment in six major teaching hospitals, including National Hospital Abuja, University College Hospital Ibadan, and Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital Zaria.
- Secured ₦200 million in the 2024 Federal Budget for oncology services.





## Strengthening Pharmaceutical Supply Chains and Healthcare Logistics through engagements with the Nigerian Customs

HFN led strategic discussions with Nigeria Customs Service, advocating for streamlined medical imports. Outcomes of these dialogues include:

- Implementation of zero duties on Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) to drive down medicine production costs.
- Reduction in customs clearance time for medical equipment from an average of 60 days to 18 days, ensuring timely availability of life-saving drugs.



## Implementation of the Executive Order on Zero Tax and Import Duties on Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients

HFN's sustained advocacy—working with the Nigeria Customs Service, Federal Ministry of Finance, Presidential Advisory Committee on Health, and PVAC—led to the issuance and implementation of the landmark Executive Order eliminating VAT and import duties on critical pharmaceutical inputs, driving local production and access to essential medicines. This reform has:

- Benefited 87 pharmaceutical manufacturers, including Emzor Pharmaceuticals, Fidson Nigeria Ltd, and Neimeth Pharmaceuticals.
- Covered 715 essential raw materials, including APIs, excipients, and packaging components.
- Led to a reduction in the cost of essential medicines, improving healthcare affordability.



## 2. Strategic Partnerships: Creating cross-sectorial collaborations to drive sector-wide growth

### The FOASPS/USAID Grant – Journey to Sustainability Project.

Through the Journey to Sustainability Project supported by the West Africa Private Healthcare Federation (FOASPS/WAPHF) and funded by USAID, the Healthcare Federation of Nigeria (HFN), and 8 other country federations received institutional support aimed at strengthening their long-term viability and advocacy effectiveness.

This strategic grant has significantly enhanced HFN's capacity to deliver on its mission of catalyzing private sector contributions toward improved health outcomes in Nigeria.



## HFN representation on key National Health Committees

As part of its commitment to driving inclusive policy reforms, the Healthcare Federation of Nigeria (HFN) has secured strategic representation on several national stakeholder committees. These committees were inaugurated to strengthen collaboration between the public and private sectors and to enhance the delivery and regulation of healthcare services across Nigeria..

### Some of these key committees with HFN Representation:

#### ❖ National Medical Laboratory Regulation and Inspection Committee

**HFN Representative:** Dr. Olayemi Dawodu, CEO, Cerba Lancet

**Focus:** Strengthening regulatory oversight and quality assurance for medical laboratories.



#### ❖ National Health Facility Regulatory Agency (NHFRA) Committee

**HFN Representative:** Dr. Richardson Ajayi, Founder of Bridge Clinic; Board of Trustee Member, HFN, Mrs. Njide Ndili, President HFN, Country Director PharmAccess, Mr. Tosin Runsewe, CEO AfYA Care and Dr. Damilola Matti from the Society for Quality in Healthcare in Nigeria.

**Focus:** Enhancing national health facility standards and regulatory compliance.



#### ❖ Implementation Committee of the Revised National Surgical, Obstetrics, Anesthesia & Nursing Plan (NSOANP)

**HFN Representative:** Dr. Jimi Coker, CEO, Habevit Healthcare Limited

**Focus:** Strengthening surgical and anesthetic service delivery at all levels of care.



#### ❖ Implementation Committee for the National Stakeholder Dialogue on Power in the Health Sector

**HFN Representative:** Mrs. Njide Ndili, President, HFN

**Focus:** Addressing power infrastructure challenges affecting healthcare facilities.



HFN's representation on national committees ensures that private sector perspectives are embedded in health policies and reforms, enabling collaborative solutions to systemic challenges. This inclusion also enhances policy implementation by leveraging private sector expertise for practical, results-driven execution of national strategies.

## HFN Engages in World Bank High-Level Strategy Consultation for West and Central Africa

HFN played a pivotal role in the World Bank High-Level Consultation on the Western and Central Africa (AFW) Regional Health Engagement Strategy, represented by President Mrs. Njide Ndili. This engagement convened key health experts across the region to shape a strategy built on three pillars: #FrontlineFirst, #FixingFinance, and #FutureFit, scheduled for launch in June 2025.

Mrs. Ndili emphasized the vital role of the private sector in driving implementation, advocating for capacity building, cross-sectoral collaboration, and country-specific contextualization. HFN's participation reinforces the Federation's commitment to regional health reform and ensures the private sector remains a strategic partner in delivering sustainable health system strengthening across West and Central Africa.



## Public-Private Partnerships: Revitalizing Healthcare Infrastructure: Delta State PHC Revitalization Partnership

Initiated by PharmAccess, this initiative to strengthen Primary Healthcare Centers (PHCs) in Delta State was driven forward through implementation and private sector collaboration by members of the Healthcare Federation of Nigeria (HFN). This intervention has:

- Revitalized 15 PHCs in underserved communities.
- Benefited over 30,000 individuals, with 180,000 patient encounters recorded.
- Achieved zero maternal mortality in participating facilities.
- Reduced child mortality rates from 53 deaths per 1,000 births to 7 deaths per 1,000 births over three years.

### SUMMARY BENEFITS & IMPACTS | Ovade Health Facility



## HFN & The Netherlands Trade Mission and Business Matchmaking

The Healthcare Federation of Nigeria (HFN), in partnership with the Consulate of the Kingdom of the Netherlands successfully hosted a Healthcare Trade Mission and Business Matchmaking Forum in Lagos & Abuja. This engagement was designed to foster bilateral collaboration between Dutch healthcare innovators and Nigerian private sector stakeholders, focusing on technology, investment, and market expansion.

Through its partnership with the Consulate of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, HFN demonstrated leadership in creating market access for its members by hosting a successful Healthcare Trade Mission and Business Matchmaking Forum. This strategic engagement connected Nigerian private sector stakeholders with Dutch healthcare innovators, opening doors for technology exchange, investment opportunities, and cross-border business growth.





### 3. Investment Facilitation: Connecting healthcare innovators with financing opportunities

#### Unlocking Healthcare Financing for Private Providers through CBN Healthcare Intervention Fund

HFN played a crucial role in ensuring private sector eligibility for the CBN ₦100BN Healthcare Sector Intervention Fund, which has:

- Provided financial support to some private sector facilities enabling the acquisition of MRI machines, CT scanners, and cancer treatment equipment across multiple hospitals.
- Boosted medical research, including transnational studies on COVID-19 and Lassa fever test kits.



#### PVAC Presidential Initiative: Driving Investments into Private Healthcare

HFN partnered with the Presidential Initiative for Unlocking the Healthcare Value Chain (PVAC) to facilitate private sector funding opportunities. A landmark pitch event enabled 14 HFN member companies to showcase healthcare innovations before top industry leaders, who gave insightful and constructive feedback on gaps and strategies to ensure growth and sustainability.



#### HFN Women's Forum – Empowering Women in Healthcare

The HFN Women's Forum was established to close the leadership gap for women in healthcare, who make up 70% of Nigeria's health workforce but remain underrepresented in decision-making roles. The Forum promotes inclusion, mentorship, innovation, and leadership development through a variety of strategic initiatives.

Key activities include:

- Mentorship programmes connecting emerging professionals with seasoned leaders.
- Capacity-building workshops and training sessions to enhance skills and career advancement.

The Forum continues to champion women as key contributors to healthcare transformation in Nigeria, ensuring they are supported, visible, and equipped to lead.



#### Conclusion: HFN's Continued Leadership in Healthcare Transformation

HFN remains the most influential private sector healthcare body in Nigeria, shaping policies, securing financing, and strengthening healthcare delivery systems. With continued advocacy, stakeholder engagement, and strategic partnerships, HFN is advancing Universal Healthcare Coverage, ensuring every Nigerian has access to quality, affordable healthcare.



Healthcare Federation  
of Nigeria

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**CONTACT US**

Phone Number

**+234 703 851 9794**

[info@hfnigeria.com](mailto:info@hfnigeria.com)





## NOTES

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of Nigeria**

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# **IMPACT REPORT**

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## **Contact Information**

The Healthcare Federation of Nigeria welcomes expression of interest for collaboration and partnerships.

### **Office Address:**

109A Awolowo Road, Ikoyi, Opposite Standard Chartered Bank  
+2347038519794

Email: [executivesecretary@hfnigeria.com](mailto:executivesecretary@hfnigeria.com)  
[info@hfnigeria.com](mailto:info@hfnigeria.com)



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