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BACKGROUND

- Maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH) is a key aspect of National and County development
- Skilled birth attendance (SBA) is a high impact interventions (HII) in MNCH
- Samburu County recorded poor performance on access to SBA (12% according to KDHS 2014)
- Maternal shelters is a key strategy adopted to upscale access to SBA
- Two methods were used to establish the maternal shelters
- First is establishment of shelters through initiative of health care worker with support from implementing partners with peripheral community involvement
- Second is establishment of shelters through community led initiative where community members prioritise the need to address access to SBA, contribute materials and labour to construct the maternal shelter and mobilize community members to utilize the shelters.

DESCRIPTION

- This study investigated whether the mode of establishment of maternal shelters has an effect on the utilization of the same by members of the community
- Utilization data for 3 maternal shelters established through health worker and implementing partner led initiative was compared with performance of 3 maternal shelters established through community led initiative.

LESSONS LEARNT

- There was general increase in access to SBA in Samburu County from 17% in 2012 to 34% in 2015
- There was higher increase in SBA in health facilities in which there were maternal shelters
- There was higher utilization of maternal shelters and SBA in health facilities with maternal shelters established through community led initiative as compared to facilities with maternal shelters established through health worker led initiative
- There was higher community ownership and participation in running of the maternal shelters established through community's initiative.

NEXT STEPS

- Establishment of maternal shelters is an effective strategy to enhance access to SBA
- Maternal shelters established through community led initiative resulted in higher utilization of maternal shelters and SBA.
- Establishment of the maternal shelter should optimally involve the community in all stages

- The construction of maternal shelters should also be culturally sensitive to enhance acceptance
- Maternal shelters are being up scaled in more communities and health facilities to further enhance access to SBA.

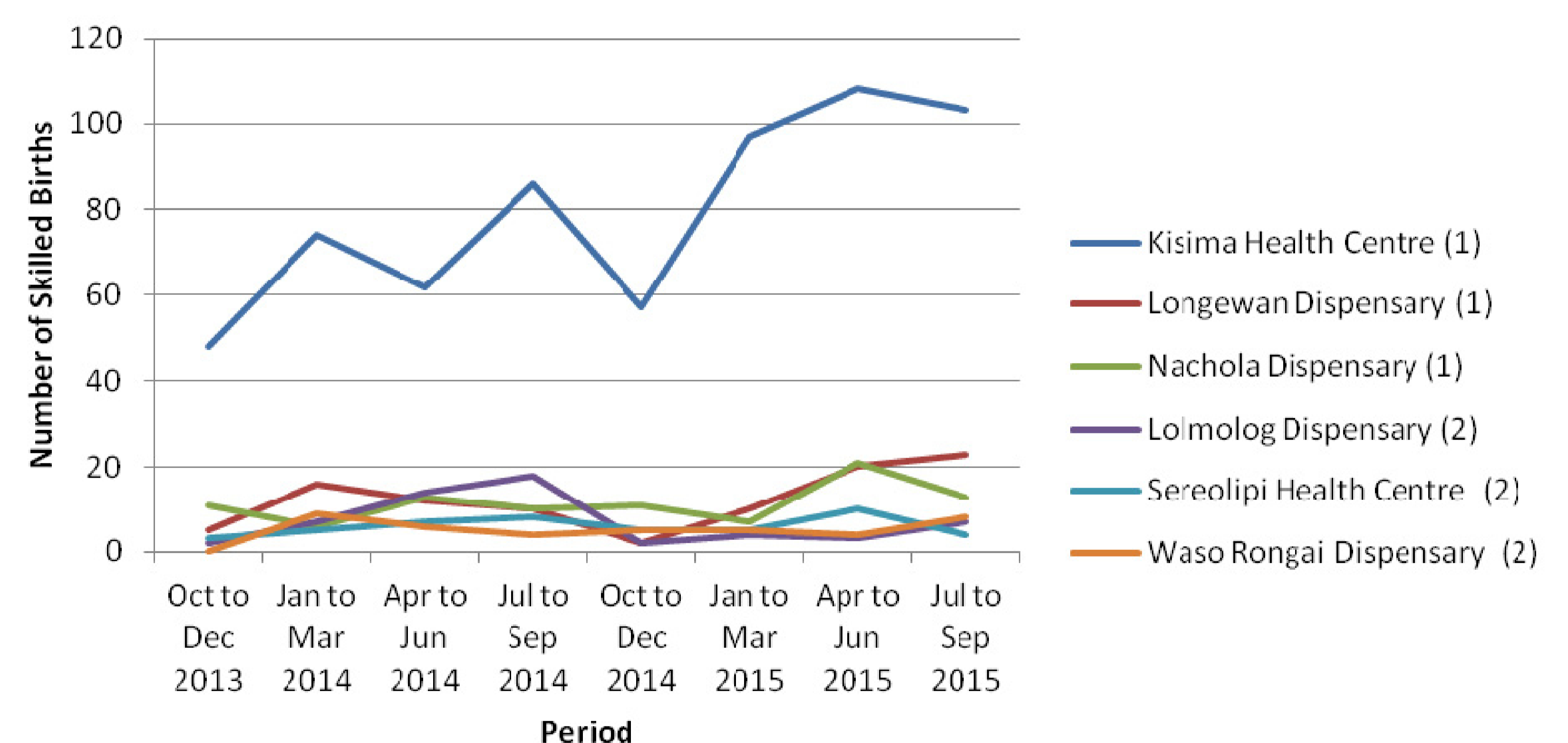
Skilled Birth Attendance at Health Facilities with Maternal Shelters

Health Facility	Oct - Dec 2013	Jan - Mar 2014	Apr - Jun 2014	Jul - Sep 2014	Oct - Dec 2014	Jan - Mar 2015	Apr - Jun 2015	Jul - Sep 2015
Kisima Health Centre 1	48	74	62	86	57	97	108	103
Longewan Dispensary 1	5	16	12	10	2	10	20	23
Nachola Dispensary 1	11	6	13	10	11	7	21	13
Lolmolog Dispensary 2	2	7	14	18	2	4	3	7
Sereolipi Health Centre 2	3	5	7	8	5	5	10	4
Waso Rongai Dispensary 2	0	9	6	4	5	5	4	8

Key: 1 – Facilities with community's initiated maternal shelters;

2 – Facilities with health worker / implementing partner initiated maternal shelter

Skilled Birth Attendance (SBA) at Health Facilities in Samburu County
(Type 1 - with community initiated maternal shelters; Type 2 - with health worker / implementing partner initiated maternal shelter)



Legacy of healthy mother and baby – contribution of the maternal shelter