Nigeria adapted and adopted the Community Infant and Young Child Feeding (C-IYCF) Counselling Package, starting in 2011. Many groups have been involved in rolling it out across the country. The Nigerian Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) has partnered with SPRING and UNICEF to evaluate the package when implemented at scale in Kaduna State.

Our baseline findings show that while community volunteers may learn key messages from the training, they may not fully grasp the importance of these behaviors.
Baseline findings underscore the importance of **going beyond trainings to unpack entrenched behaviors and address the misconceptions, barriers, and enablers to optimal breastfeeding practices.**

While 64.9% of community leaders knew that breastfeeding should be initiated immediately after birth, **few strongly agreed with the importance of this practice.**

Many women are not very confident in their ability to follow optimal breastfeeding practices, which may not be surprising given that their decision-making power is limited. **Turning knowledge into action will require social change to support women and families to adopt optimal IYCF practices.**

**While 62.5% of pregnant women report intending to exclusively breastfeed for 6 months, only 20.4% of children under 6 months old are exclusively breastfed. Only 14.5% are exclusively breastfed up to 4-5 months.**

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