Nigeria began work to address policy, supply, diagnostic, and financing gaps for oxygen in 2017. Despite paving the way for oxygen scale-up prior to the pandemic, COVID-19 strained the system and highlighted critical areas for investment.

As of 2020, the Nigeria Ministry of Health, with support from Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) and other partners, carried out multiple initiatives to improve reliable supply of oxygen, including:

- Completed facility assessments in 433 facilities and isolation and treatment centers across 16 states:
  - Results showed monthly oxygen consumption rates averaged to just 25% of estimated demand (or 1,224 tons/month), signifying a sizable gap that was likely exacerbated by low hypoxemia diagnostic capacity and a lack of requisite equipment.
- Conducted rapid situational assessments in five additional states (Akwa Ibom, Plateau, Bayelsa, Ogun, and Imo states) with further biomedical equipment assessments planned for 2022.
- Drawing from assessment data, carried out demand quantification exercises to estimate facility needs for oxygen equipment and consumables, which were used to inform the Global Fund COVID-19 Response Mechanism Fast-Track rapid procurement plan for the country.
- Coordinates partner implementation activities and procurement updates through the United 4 Oxygen coalition.
- Setting up oxygen coordination desks at the subnational level—currently in seven states—to provide a one-stop shop for oxygen coordination, implementation, and planning. As part of this effort, completed situational analyses in each state—creating an opportunity to collect data on prominent oxygen suppliers and pressure swing absorption (PSA) oxygen plants.
- Currently collaborating with partners on the review and revision of the 2017-2022 National Strategy for Scale-up of Medical Oxygen in Health Facilities.
- With support from several partners, procured equipment to be distributed to numerous health facilities across the country:
  - 57 PSA plants
  - 27K high-flow nasal cannulas
  - 1,000 cylinders
  - 1,700 concentrators
  - 800 pulse oximeters
  - 400 ventilators
- Currently constructing four oxygen kiosk centers in Lagos State.
- Conducted nationwide training of trainers for 50 healthcare workers and 64 biomedical engineers on topics ranging from oxygen administration to equipment maintenance, with plans to cascade the trainings to additional staff in facilities across the country.
- Currently working with other partners to harmonize training modules into a national curriculum.

Recent efforts by the Nigerian government, Ministry of Health, CHAI, and partners have significantly increased access to medical oxygen in facilities across Nigeria.

Efforts to bolster oxygen policy and supply networks prior to the pandemic set Nigeria up for a rapid COVID-19 response, but work remains to ensure that all patients in all facilities have access to lifesaving oxygen.