

PAKISTAN POLIO UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2017



The first country-wide immunization campaign of the current low season for poliovirus transmission took place from 18-22 September 2017. More than 38 million children under 5 years were vaccinated by a team of 250,000 dedicated frontline workers. According to the independent post-campaign monitoring, the September National Immunization Days (NIDs) have been one of the best campaigns this year.

The September campaign set the foundation for eradicating the virus from the last remaining areas of Pakistan. Other key deliverables to achieve this goal include continued focus on reaching peak performance in core polio reservoirs, closer collaboration with Afghanistan, and improved microplanning to ensure that high-risk mobile populations such as children who are nomads, refugees, internally displaced persons and seasonal migrants, among others, are reached with the polio vaccine.

The Pakistan polio programme has come a long way and with a sustained level of commitment the

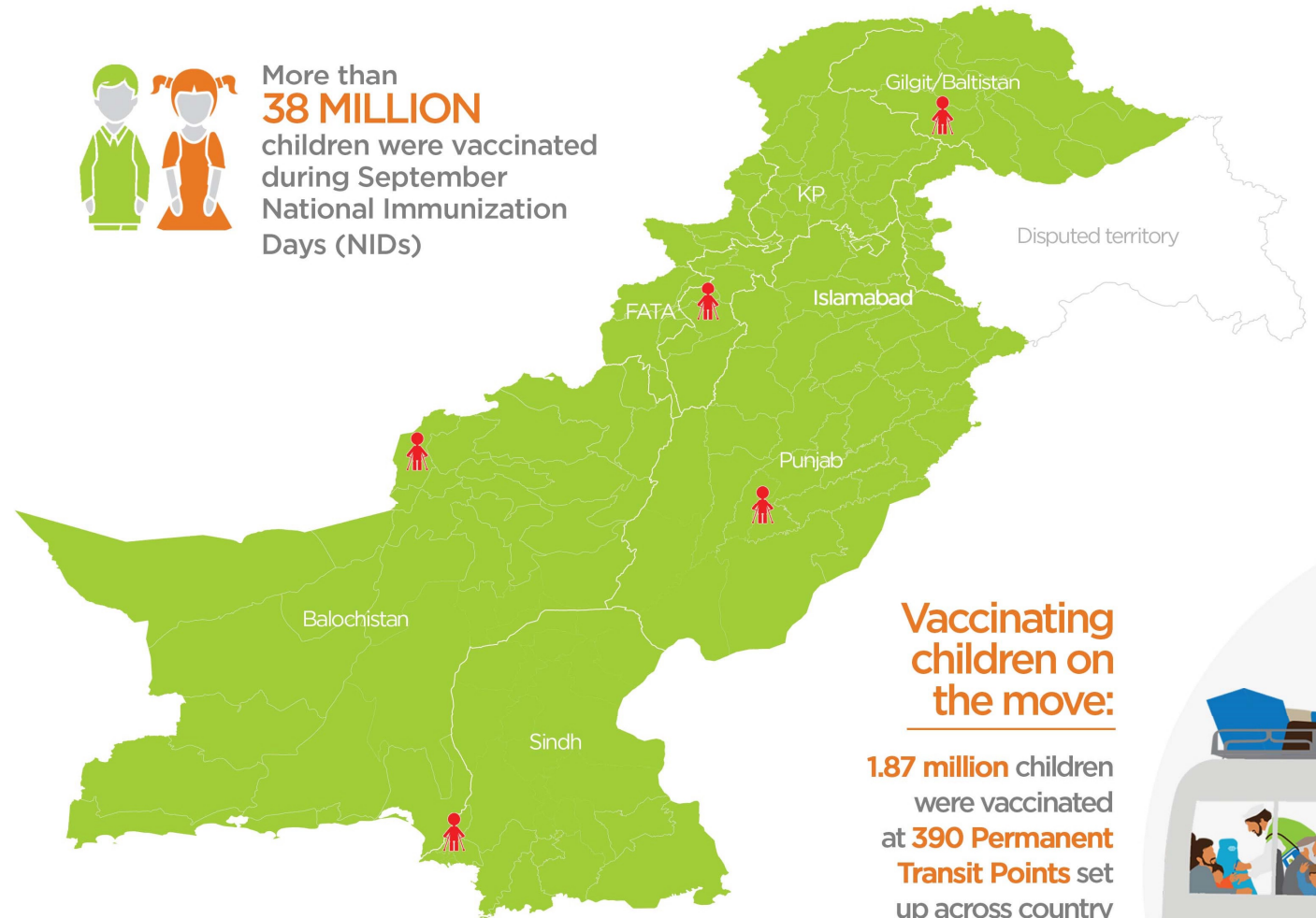
country is well-positioned to end polio next year. The performance improvements achieved since the beginning of 2015 are now clearly visible in the declining number of wild poliovirus (WPV) cases. From 306 in 2014, the number of cases declined to 54 in 2015, and 20 in 2016. So far this year, the number of polio cases reported in Pakistan is five, including the most recent case from Lakki Marwat district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, reported in September 2017. All these cases are being contained through aggressive outbreak responses.

While fewer children are being missed by vaccinators and the campaign quality continues to increase, Pakistan's strong polio surveillance system is still detecting the virus in different parts of the country. Environmental surveillance data shows continued transmission in Karachi, the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad, and Quetta block. The programme is systematically addressing and responding to these challenges by focusing on reaching missed children and continuously improving campaign quality.

SEPTEMBER 2017 POLIO VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS



More than **38 MILLION** children were vaccinated during September National Immunization Days (NIDs)



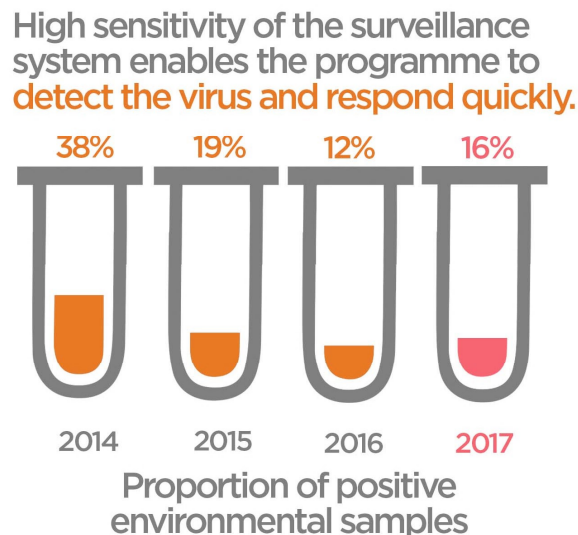
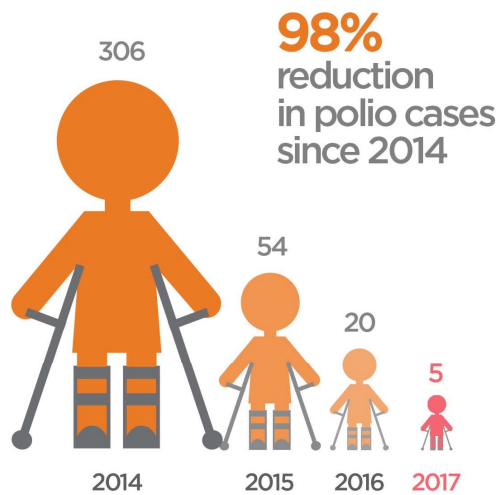
Vaccinating children on the move:

1.87 million children were vaccinated at **390 Permanent Transit Points** set up across country and district borders and other important transit points such as bus stops, railway stations and highways.



No. of wild polio cases		Proportion of positive environmental samples		No. of infected districts (cases, environmental samples)	
September 2016	September 2017	September 2016	September 2017	September 2016	September 2017
16	5	10%	17%	22	19
0	0	0	56%	0	1
0	1	4%	5%	4	3
5	1	12%	22%	8	8
2	0	n/a	n/a	1	0
8	1	11%	8%	6	2
1	1	22%	30%	3	4
0	1	n/a	n/a	0	1

*Point in time comparison; data as of 30 September 2016/2017



53 environmental detection sites = largest polio environmental footprint in the world

PAKISTAN POLIO ERADICATION INITIATIVE AT A GLANCE

