

# PAKISTAN POLIO UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2017



The second country-wide immunization campaign during the current low season for poliovirus transmission took place from 20-23 November 2017 in Pakistan. More than 38 million children under 5 years of age were vaccinated by a team of almost 260,000 dedicated frontline workers.

In November 2017, Pakistan reported three new polio cases, bringing the total national case count so far this year to eight, compared to 19 this time last year (corresponding to 58% reduction). Two of the three new cases, including one from Karachi and one from Killa Abdullah district in Baluchistan, belong to Pakistan's "core polio reservoirs", while the third case is from Zhob district in Baluchistan. The responses to all of these cases are currently underway, with the objective of protecting other children in the community and stopping the virus circulation.

The month of November 2017 was also marked by the meetings of two independent monitoring and advisory bodies on polio eradication including the Independent Monitoring Board (IMB), whose meeting was held in London from 31 October -

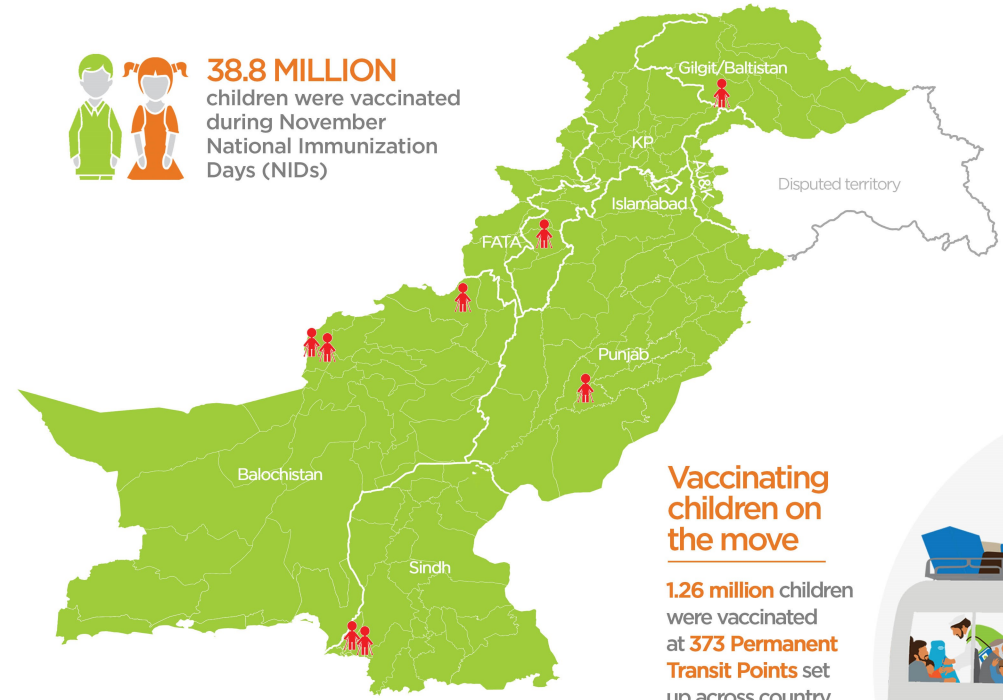
1 November 2017, and the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) who met in Islamabad from 30 November - 1 December 2017.

The TAG recognized the high level of Government commitment and the progress made to date, while reminding the programme of the existing gaps and concluding that simultaneous high-quality campaigns need to take place across the Pakistan-Afghanistan epidemiological block to stop the virus transmission. In its 15th report entitled "Every Last Hiding Place", the IMB commended the dedication and hard work of leaders and staff of the polio programme, while emphasizing on continuing action by the governments of Pakistan and Afghanistan to work closely together to secure strong cross-border arrangements for anti-polio vaccination. With the three newly reported cases from Pakistan and the most recent case from Afghanistan's Shah Wali Kot district in Kandahar province, the total number of polio cases in the Pakistan-Afghanistan epidemiological block so far this year is 20, compared to 37 this time last year.

## NOVEMBER 2017 POLIO VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS



**38.8 MILLION** children were vaccinated during November National Immunization Days (NIDs)



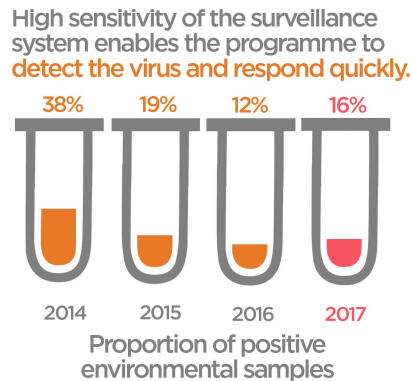
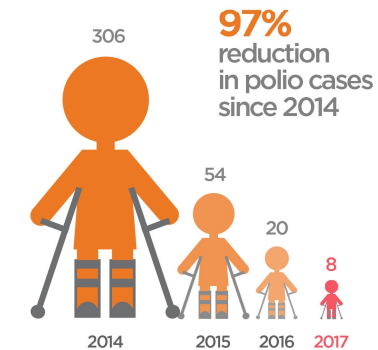
### Vaccinating children on the move

1.26 million children were vaccinated at **373 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)	
November 2016	November 2017	November 2016	November 2017	November 2016	November 2017
19	8	11%	16%	24	22
0 Islamabad	0	0 Islamabad	45%	0 Islamabad	1
0 Punjab	1	6% Punjab	5%	5 Punjab	4
8 Sindh	2	10% Sindh	22%	9 Sindh	9
2 FATA	0	n/a FATA	n/a	1 FATA	0
8 KP	1	13% KP	7%	6 KP	2
1 Balochistan	3	27% Balochistan	29%	3 Balochistan	5
0 GB	1	n/a GB	n/a	0 GB	1

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



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

## PAKISTAN POLIO ERADICATION INITIATIVE AT A GLANCE

- 37.7M** average no. of children < 5 targeted during NIDs
- 260,000** frontline workers during NIDs
- 2,300** social mobilizers
- 95%** vaccine acceptance