



During October, the Polio Eradication Programme utilized its existing infrastructure to support a nationwide measles campaign led by Pakistan's Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI). This support was provided to prevent further measles outbreaks in country and provide communities with a much-needed and highly demanded health service. In all, up to 37 million children were reached during this mass vaccination effort. The Polio Eradication Programme's involvement during the campaign included assistance in both the planning and implementation phases of the campaign, such as assistance in team trainings, the development of micro-plans, community mobilization activities, field facilitations, data-entry and reporting, as well as participation in review meetings and real-time feedback of challenges. The programme also utilized the measles campaign to administer bOPV to eligible children in 12 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as a response to wild poliovirus cases identified in Charsadda district, Khyber tribal district as well as the positive environmental samples reported from Bajaur district.

Two new wild poliovirus cases were also reported from the Bajaur tribal district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, bringing the total polio caseload in Pakistan for 2018 to eight. With the exception of the 3 cases from Dukki district in Balochistan, all other cases had received multiple polio vaccine doses. In turn, these rounds of vaccination had substantially boosted immunity levels of these children and protected them from obtaining life-long paralysis.

from the poliovirus. As such, the programme has been effectively reaching out to children nationwide through its vaccination campaigns and offering them considerable protection from the debilitating effects of the poliovirus.

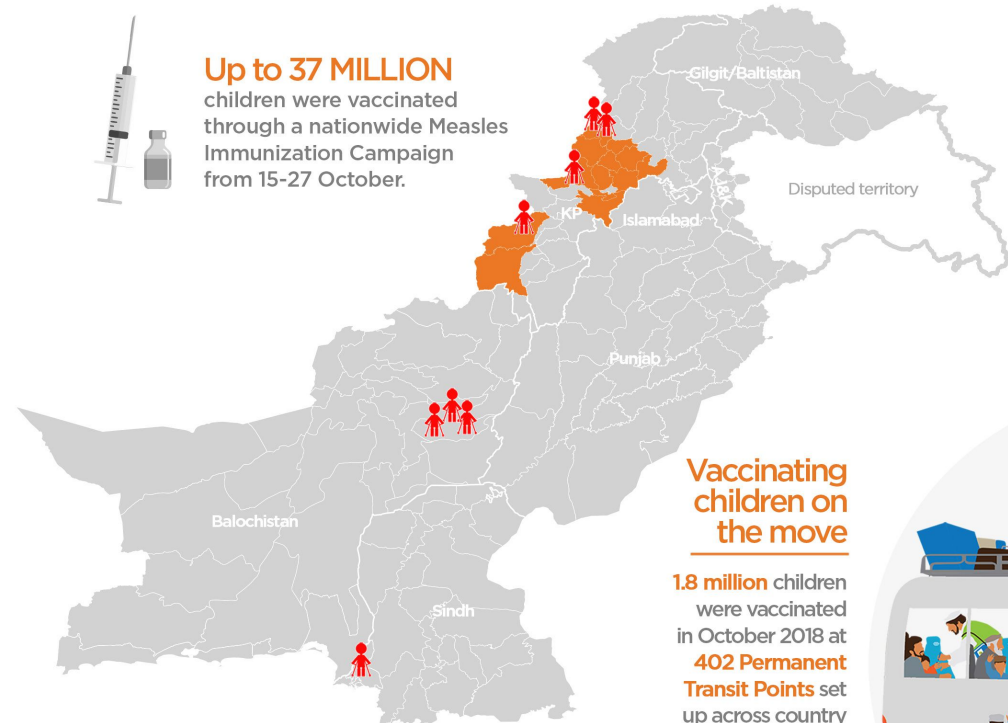
Through its highly sensitive surveillance system, the programme continued to monitor the presence of the poliovirus in sewage samples from 57 strategically selected sites across Pakistan. In October, 18% of environmental samples tested positive for the poliovirus, as opposed to 17% at the same time last year, thereby indicating continued virus circulation in core reservoir areas such as the Quetta block, the Khyber-Peshawar block, as well as in parts of cities such as Karachi, Lahore and Rawalpindi.

Furthermore, the programme continued to vaccinate children on the move through the use of up to 402 Permanent Transit Points across the country, which has helped to vaccinate up to 16.5 million children thus far in 2018. The programme also continues to coordinate with the Afghanistan Polio Eradication Programme to synchronize immunization activities and halt poliovirus transmission across the shared epidemiological block of both nations. Following the measles campaign, the programme shifted its focus towards preparations for the November vaccination campaign scheduled from the 12th to the 15th.

OCTOBER 2018 POLIO VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS



Up to 37 MILLION children were vaccinated through a nationwide Measles Immunization Campaign from 15-27 October.



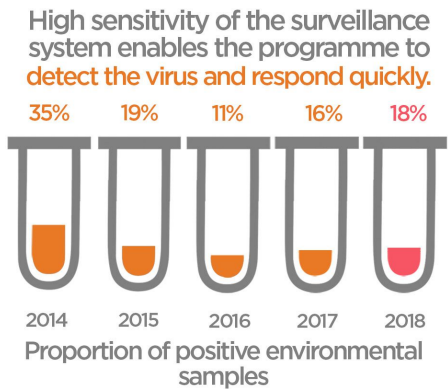
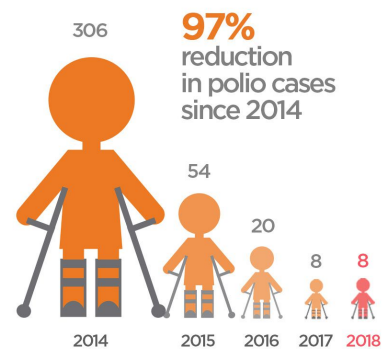
Vaccinating children on the move

1.8 million children were vaccinated in October 2018 at **402 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 (WPV cases, environmental samples) | |
|-------------------------|--------------|--|--------------|--|--------------|
| October 2017 | October 2018 | October 2017 | October 2018 | October 2017 | October 2018 |
| 5 | 8 | 17% | 18% | 20 | 27 |
| 0 | 0 | 50% | 60% | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 5% | 12% | 3 | 3 |
| 1 | 1 | 23% | 17% | 9 | 11 |
| 0 | 3 | n/a | 29% | 0 | 2 |
| 1 | 1 | 7% | 27% | 2 | 6 |
| 1 | 3 | 30% | 15% | 4 | 5 |
| 1 | 0 | n/a | n/a | 1 | 0 |

*Point in time comparison, data as of 31st October 2017/2018.



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

PAKISTAN POLIO ERADICATION INITIATIVE AT A GLANCE

- 38.6M** average no. of children < 5 targeted during NIDs
- 260,000** frontline workers
- 2,100** social mobilizers
- 95%** vaccine acceptance