

# PAKISTAN POLIO UPDATE

JUNE 2019



In June 2019, the Pakistan Polio Eradication Initiative finalized the extension of the National Emergency Action Plan for Polio Eradication (NEAP 2018-2019) which will carry the programme forward for the period from July to December 2019. The NEAP extension was finalized through extensive planning and discussions between national and provincial offices and various departments. A key inclusion in the NEAP extension is renewed focus on improving routine immunization, delivery of integrated basic services to the most deprived communities and re-branding of the programme to gain community trust and limit resistance, as well as improved performance management.

The programme continued to recover from the fall out that occurred during the April campaign, during which widely circulating anti-vaccine propaganda originating from Peshawar resulted in a significant increase in refusals. A Sub-National Immunization Days (SNID) campaign was implemented targeting children in 67 districts from 17 - 20 June. In total, 11.78 million children were reported as vaccinated, with a slight decrease in the numbers of missed children compared to the April campaign. Evidence from the field shows that the programme is recovering from the increase in refusals that occurred in April. Ensuring and sustaining high-quality campaigns over the next months will be key to stopping virus transmission.

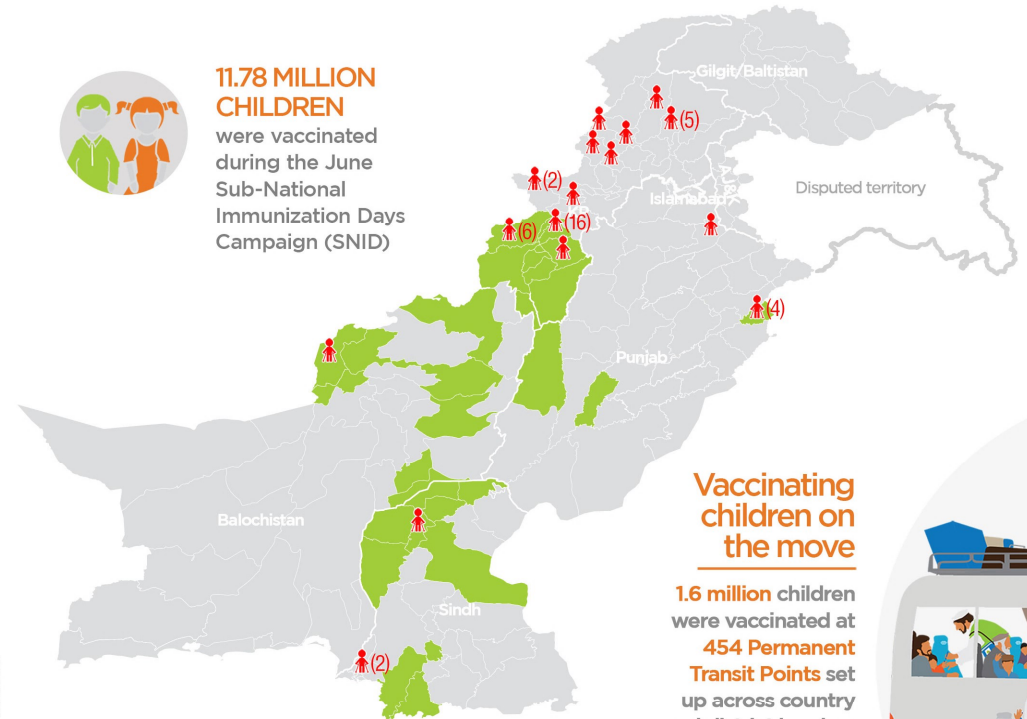
Meanwhile, halfway through 2019, an additional 16 new wild poliovirus cases were reported in Pakistan, bringing the total count to 44 cases as of 30 June. Of these cases, 9 were reported from district Bannu in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), 3 from district Torghar (KP), and 1 each from district North Waziristan (KP), Killa Abdullah (Balochistan), Jhelum and Lahore (Punjab). On the other hand, June saw a 6% drop in positive environmental samples, compared to the previous month.

To improve coordination, planning and implementation of programme objectives at the provincial level, Provincial Task Force meetings were held in Balochistan, Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in June. Furthermore, to improve cross-border coordination, the Pakistan programme held a meeting with the Afghanistan programme on 27 June via videoconference. Moreover, a high level GPEI delegation visited Pakistan from 16 - 19 June for interactions with senior management of the programme, including the Special Adviser to the Prime Minister on Health and the Prime Minister's Focal Person on Polio Eradication. The delegation had productive discussions and their suggestions were captured within the NEAP extension.

## JUNE 2019 POLIO VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS



**11.78 MILLION CHILDREN** were vaccinated during the June Sub-National Immunization Days Campaign (SNID)

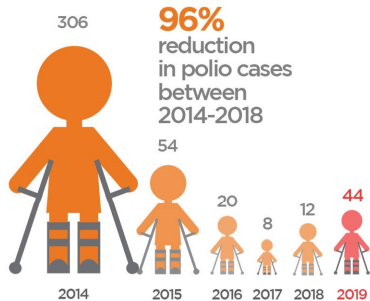


**Vaccinating children on the move**  
1.6 million children were vaccinated at **454 Permanent Transit Points** set up across country and district borders and other important transit points such as bus stops, railway stations and highways.

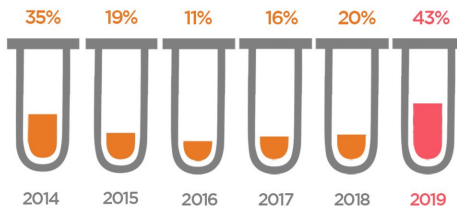


No. of wild polio cases		Proportion of positive environmental samples		No. of infected districts (WPV cases, environmental samples)	
June 2018	June 2019	June 2018	June 2019	June 2018	June 2019
3	44	13%	43%	20	42
0	0	33%	25%	1	1
0	5	6%	34%	3	6
0	3	16%	59%	8	15
0	8	17%	33%	1	5
0	26	21%	34%	3	09
3	2	10%	45%	4	6
0	0	0%	0%	0	0

\*Point in time comparison; data as of 30 June 2019



High sensitivity of the surveillance system enables the programme to **detect the virus and respond quickly.**



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

## PAKISTAN POLIO ERADICATION INITIATIVE AT A GLANCE

