



Dear polio eradication supporter,

Vaccinators in several countries conducted polio immunization activities this month, following Global Polio Eradication Initiative recommendations for safe campaign resumption. All campaigns were implemented in line with the latest WHO guidance to protect both vaccinators and children amid the pandemic. Alongside their efforts to end polio, health workers continued through July to [deliver lifesaving messages](#) on COVID-19 to the communities they serve.

Protecting against polio & COVID-19

Following a four-month pause amid COVID-19, vaccinators in several countries in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean and African Regions have resumed polio immunization campaigns. See how health workers are delivering vaccines



© UNICEF/Pakistan

while adhering to strict infection prevention measures including regular handwashing, symptom screenings and a 'no touch' vaccination method. [\[More\]](#)

Stopping cVDPV outbreaks in Somalia



© WHO/Somalia

When COVID-19 arrived in Somalia, the country's polio programme was ready to support information distribution, contact tracing and disease surveillance while continuing to fight cVDPV outbreaks. While challenges remain in the

battle against both diseases, the tireless polio programme response efforts demonstrate that with continued funding and support, progress can be made. [\[More\]](#)

POLIO IN NUMBERS

Wild Poliovirus in 2020 (2019)*

Global Total: 94 (59)

Circulating Vaccine Derived Poliovirus in 2020 (2019)*

Global Total: 236 (44)

*Data as of 28 July 2020. Numbers in brackets represent data at this time in 2019.

Breakdown by country
[Polio this week](#)

POLIO IN THE NEWS

[NBC News](#): U.S. exit from WHO will jeopardize global fight against COVID-19, polio, other diseases, experts say

[Science](#): Polio vaccination campaigns restart after modelers warn about risk of 'explosive' outbreaks

[Deutsche Welle](#): Polio eradication in Africa points to challenges ahead

[Facebook Live, Dr Hamid Jafari](#): The WHO Director of Polio Eradication for the Eastern Mediterranean Region speaks about campaign resumption in the context of COVID-19.

Rotary women leading the way

No matter their backgrounds or where they live, these women leaders from Rotary have been working towards the same goal – protecting every child everywhere against poliovirus. From building awareness in Nigeria and delivering vaccines in Pakistan to advocating for children in Côte d'Ivoire, meet five women leading the fight for a polio-free world. [[More](#)]



Marie-Irène Richmond-Ahoua. ©Rotary

Eye on eradication

In 2019, GPEI established a multi-partner hub in Amman, Jordan to enhance coordinated support to Afghanistan and Pakistan. The Hub has just launched a newsletter which will focus on progress and challenges faced in the eradication of poliovirus in the endemic countries. Take a look at the [first issue](#) to learn more about the outcomes of the latest technical advisory group meeting, and [sign up](#) for future issues on the GPEI website.

DONOR UPDATES

UNICEF expresses its gratitude to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for its contribution of US\$ 36.5 million, as part of the UNICEF-CDC Cooperative Agreement. Funds will go to support global polio eradication activities including vaccine purchase, social mobilization and staffing.

WHO thanks the National Philanthropic Trust (NPT) for generously contributing US\$ 20 093 700 to support technical assistance, disease surveillance and outbreak response in 2020 and 2021.

The [Global Polio Eradication Initiative Financial Report for 2019](#) has been published on the GPEI website.

Picture of the Month



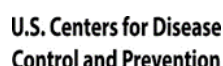
Nabeela, a polio frontline worker in Pakistan, vaccinates a child in Liaqatabad using the 'no touch' method. ©UNICEF/Pakistan



@WHO



@EndPolioNow



@CDCGlobal



@UNICEF



@GatesFoundation



@Gavi