

Dear polio eradication supporter,

This month reminded us that the polio eradication programme is truly a global effort. Large-scale vaccination campaigns in countries across multiple continents are protecting the health of children. Encouraging messages from Islamic scholars asking parents to vaccinate their children are helping to increase coverage rates in key areas, and new technology is improving the efficacy of health workers in the field. These efforts remind us that eradication cannot be achieved by just one country or organisation – it requires the commitment and cooperation of the entire global community.

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## HEALTH WORKERS REACH MILLIONS IN DIFFICULT LOCATIONS

Millions of children in [Iraq](#) and [South Sudan](#) have received the polio vaccine over the last several weeks. These campaigns underscore the dedication of health workers around the world to reach children in conflict zones and difficult-to-access areas. Ensuring that at-risk countries maintain high coverage is central to eradication efforts. [\[Read more\]](#)



## INNOVATION FOR ERADICATION

New approaches, such as [new ways to administer vaccines](#) and [mobile applications](#), are helping to bring an end to polio transmission. With a dwindling global case count, these new tools can help to address old problems, and vaccinate the hardest-to-reach children around the world. [\[Read more\]](#)

### INNOVATION FOR ERADICATION

Since 1988, the number of polio cases has dropped by 99.9%

New ideas and approaches are helping bring the number of cases to **ZERO**

**Vaccines**

We are finding new ways to boost immunity and administer vaccines to protect every last child against polio.

**Reaching the hardest to reach**

We are forging new paths to reach children where weak health systems, tough terrain and insecurity stand in the way of protecting the most vulnerable.

**Surveillance**

We are innovating to find and stop every last virus in its tracks.

### Rotary Named Outstanding Foundation

The Association of Fundraising Professionals has recognised Rotary's philanthropic commitment and leadership citing Rotary's comprehensive campaign to eradicate polio as a major driver of the selection. [\[See more\]](#)

### PATH Outlines US Role in Eradication

In a new paper PATH calls for the United States to continue prioritising polio eradication and establish a transition plan that ensures the continuation of programme resources and benefits. [\[See more\]](#)

### Transition IMB Hosts First Preparatory Meeting

The Transition Independent Monitoring Board met in November to begin the process of ensuring the polio programme maintains a polio free world after transmission has been stopped. [\[See more\]](#)

### International Health Regulations

The Emergency Committee met again in November and extended the [temporary recommendations](#) regarding polio vaccination

### POLIO IN THE NEWS

[Los Angeles Times](#): This Boy Could Be One of the World's Last Victims of Polio

[National Geographic](#): Fear of Needles? There's New Tech on the Way

[Thomson Reuters Foundation](#): Nigeria Fights Myths, Fear in Polio Vaccine Drive

## RESPONSE EFFORTS IN NIGERIA INTENSIFYING



In November, experts convened in Abuja to review the outbreak response and plan for how to address key challenges and protect children in the Lake Chad region against polio. While thousands of health workers have been mobilized and trained and more than 1.7 million children vaccinated, more needs to be done to reach children in conflict affected areas or in mobile populations.

[\[Read more\]](#)

A child in northern Nigeria receives a dose of the oral polio vaccine. Vaccination teams are going to great lengths to protect every last child against polio.

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## POLIO IN NUMBERS

### Wild poliovirus in 2016

- Global Total: 32 (56) ↓
- Global WPV1: 32 (56) ↓
- Global WPV3: 0 (0)

### Endemic: 32 (56) ↓

- Afghanistan: 12 (16) ↓
- Pakistan: 16 (40) ↓
- Nigeria: 4 (0) ↑

Data as of 22 November 2016. Numbers in brackets represent data at this time in 2015.

[Current case map](#)

### FUNDING UPDATES

- **Norway** provided 50 million Norwegian krone to WHO for polio eradication as part of its overall annual contribution to the agency.
- Further to the annual review of the GPEI, the **United Kingdom** released £35 million to WHO for activities in 2016/2017.
- The **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** awarded US\$ 22 million, mainly for staff, as part of its continued support to UNICEF's polio activities.
- UNICEF received an annual instalment of US\$ 20 million from the **Carlos Slim Foundation**, as part of the on-going agreement between the two organizations to further the goals of the GPEI.
- **Australia** disbursed 15 million Australian dollars to the GPEI to support WHO priority activities in the endemic regions.
- As part of the **UN Foundation's Shot@Life** campaign, UNICEF received an additional supplement of US\$ 202 319 for social mobilization activities in Afghanistan and US\$ 761 347 for Oral Polio Vaccines supply in the Lake Chad Region.

## ISLAMIC SCHOLARS URGE VACCINATION

More than 120 Islamic scholars gathered in Jalalabad, Afghanistan this month to declare their support for polio vaccination. Regular support from religious leaders makes it easier for the vaccine to reach previously underserved populations. [\[Read more\]](#)



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