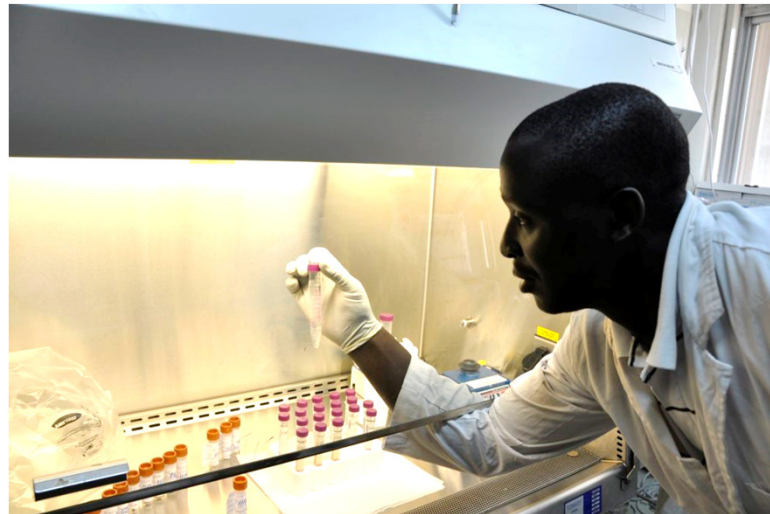


# Transition Planning Roundtable: Perspectives from Non-Polio Global Health Actors



*Credit: GPEI*

Ambassador John E. Lange, United Nations Foundation  
Workshop on Transition Planning and Implementation  
Global Polio Partners Group  
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## **Polio and other global health programs:**

“On average, 25% to 50% of staff funded through the GPEI spend time on non-polio activities such as routine immunization, disease surveillance, laboratory testing, and responding to public health emergencies; some countries’ health systems have been heavily dependent on polio funding for decades”

Report of Transition Independent Monitoring Board, July 2017

## **Synergies with other international efforts (1):**

- Draft WHO Thirteenth General Program of Work (2019-2023):
  - Universal Health Coverage:
    - Essential health services (including full child immunization, health-seeking behavior for child illness, and health security: compliance with the International Health Regulations)
  - Health priorities:
    - Reduce rate of under five child deaths by 30%
    - Eradicate polio: zero cases of poliomyelitis caused by wild poliovirus or circulating vaccine derived poliovirus
  - Health emergencies

## **Synergies with other international efforts (2):**

- WHO Health Emergencies Program:
  - Strengthen national capacity to address health emergencies, including countries facing transition and health emergencies
  - Opportunity for integration with humanitarian sector
  - Ability to access hard-to-reach, border, migrant, refugee populations
- International Health Regulations:
  - Commitment by 196 States-Parties to prevent, protect against, control, and provide a public health response to international spread of disease
  - Wild polio virus reconfirmed to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern in Nov 2016
  - In 2014, less than 1/3 of reporting countries (64) noted full achievement of IHR capacities

## **Synergies with other international efforts (3):**

- Global Health Security Agenda:
  - 7 of 11 action package/technical areas directly relevant to polio infrastructure
  - 9 of 16 GHSA members are polio transition priority countries
- Related health initiatives include:
  - Immunization (routine immunization, measles and rubella, other vaccines)
  - Infectious diseases (HIV, TB, malaria, etc)
  - Child health
  - Water, sanitation and hygiene
  - Health data/surveillance
  - Human resources for health

## Example: polio contributions to global health security

<b>Prevent</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Immunization</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In 16 focus countries, polio staff often largest source of immunization support</li><li>• Following 2016 discovery of WPV in Nigeria, Lake Chad region immunized 116 million children across 13 countries in days</li></ul>
<b>Detect</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Surveillance (laboratory, environmental, community)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unprecedented capacity to detect VPDs and other emerging pathogens</li><li>• Global Polio Laboratory Network in 92 countries</li></ul>
<b>Respond</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Outbreak response</li><li>• Emergency Operations Centers</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Malaria response in Nigeria (2017)</li><li>• Plague response in Madagascar (2017)</li><li>• Earthquake response in Nepal (2015)</li><li>• Ebola response in Nigeria (2014)</li><li>• Flood response in Pakistan (2010)</li></ul>

## Considerations for discussion:

- To ensure a polio-free world, how can we help situate the Post-Certification Strategy within broader public health regulations, frameworks and programs?
- How can we generate more documentation, analysis and action around practical implications, opportunities and challenges of polio transition at country-level?
- Should we promote a coordinated approach to relevant country assessments (polio transition planning, Joint External Evaluations (JEEs), WHE assessments, etc.)?
- How can we better engage other global health initiatives regarding the potential impact of GPEI winddown on their planning, budgeting and programming efforts?
  - Global Vaccine Action Plan, Gavi, WHO Regional Committee meetings, GHSA Ministerial meetings, JEE Alliance meetings, regional laboratory networks, etc.
- What is the best way to engage donors and national governments to address gaps identified by countries through transition planning?
- How can we maximize the contributions and insights of NGO/CSO partners working in relevant areas (advocacy and programmatic)?
- What is the role of the private sector and public-private partnerships in polio transition?