EQUAL PARTICIPATION
Women have a right to participate in all aspects of polio eradication. Removing barriers to women’s full participation at all levels is a key goal for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

BUILDING TRUST FOR VACCINES
Female health workers and social mobilizers share critical information and build trust in their communities to encourage caregivers to vaccinate children.

PROGRESS ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
Progress on SDG5 on women’s empowerment and gender equality is directly linked with SDG3 on better health and well-being. When women participate, entire communities benefit. Supporting women’s ability to participate in polio eradication activities at all levels is critical for success.

MORE CHILDREN VACCINATED
Due to gender norms in some communities, only women are able to access households, interact with mothers, and deliver polio vaccines to children.

POSITIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES BEYOND POLIO
In addition to delivering life-saving vaccines, polio workers also educate women in many areas about the benefits of exclusive breastfeeding and better hygiene practices, supporting the advancement of women and children’s health.

BENEFITS FOR ALL
Increasing women’s participation in the polio programme not only increases access to children but can also provide women with greater social and economic opportunities to increase their status and influence within their communities.

For more information:
www.polioeradication.org/gender