**POLIO SNAPSHOT**

**AFGHANISTAN**

**AUGUST 2020**

**WPV1 CASES IN AUGUST**

**40**

**WPV1 POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT SAMPLES IN AUGUST**

**2**

**CHILDREN VACCINATED IN AUGUST**

**3.2M**

**SUSPECTED COVID-19 CASES REPORTED UPTO AUGUST**

**43,054**

**TOTAL SURVEILLANCE NETWORK MEMBERS TRAINED IN DETECTING AND REPORTING COVID-19 CASES**

**35,896**

**Cases from Jan to July**

**Cases in August**

**Data as of 31 AUGUST 2020**
POLIO TRANSMISSION
6 cases of Wild Polio Virus (WPV1) were confirmed in August 2020 - 2 from Kandahar, 2 from Helmand, 1 from Uruzgan, and 1 from Khost.

POLIO CAMPAIGNS RESUME HAND IN HAND WITH COVID-19 RESPONSE
Gradual resumption of the polio campaigns continued in August, targeting districts at high risk of polio spread. Strict COVID-19 infection prevention and control measures were observed during the campaign delivery.

The PEI programme also continued its support to the COVID-19 response through on-going surveillance and community awareness activities across the country, including focus on vulnerable populations.

"Internally displaced persons (IDPs) live in very vulnerable conditions, putting them at a high risk of becoming infected by COVID-19. We have been delivering COVID-19 prevention messages to people at the Herat IDP Camp. Our team is also involved in carrying out COVID-19 surveillance so that cases can be reported and recorded promptly. We work quite closely with communities, which exposes us to the risk of getting infected but this is a very important job and needs to be done for the greater good," says Safiullah Surosh, WHO Provincial Polio Officer.

AFG ENVIRONMENTAL & COVID19 SURVEILLANCE
221 children with Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) - 96 girls and 125 boys - were reported in August 2020. A total of 2,286 AFP cases have been reported since the beginning of 2020. Some 1,905 of these cases have been non-polio. About 272 cases are pending laboratory classification.

The non-polio AFP rate remained above 9, stool adequacy stood above 85%, and non-polio enterovirus rate ranged between 9-15% in all regions.

2 new WPV1 positive environmental samples were confirmed in August 2020.

PEI support to COVID19
Between Jan-Aug 2020:
- 43,054 suspected cases of COVID-19 were reported, of which 8,289 tested positive
- 4,428 government & NGO partners were trained
- 88,449 health professional (including: paramedics/nurses) were trained
- 165,479 community & religious influencers were reached for training and support
- 6,188 coordination meetings were held with partners and communities

COVID-19 Key Communication Activities:
- 1.1 million soap bars were distributed to 161,631 households by the ICN in the north east, south, south east and west regions
- 2,905 community influencers in the south, south east and north east regions attended COVID-19 awareness sessions
- 175,419 women attended COVID-19 awareness sessions at 630 health facilities in the south, east and west regions
- The COVID-19 call center in the west region answered 490 calls (including from 228 females) related to various questions on rumors, prevention, etc

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TARGETED VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS IN HIGH RISK AREAS
A case response campaign targeting 84,859 children was conducted in Dand & Panjwai districts in the southern region between 15-19 August. This was followed by another case response campaign, which was conducted between 24-28 August, targeting 3.3 million children in the high risk districts of the eastern, central and north eastern regions.

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COMPLEMENTARY VACCINATION ACTIVITIES
285 children under 10 years of age received OPV at the Islamqala border of Herat province.

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