

Lake Chad Basin Situation Report on Polio Eradication December 2017 - January 2018



STATES/REGIONS IN THE LAKE CHAD BASIN

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Source: Middle Africa, Administrative map, DFS, United Nations 2014.

Summary

The Lake Chad basin region continues supplementary immunization activities and disease surveillance efforts to guard against the continued threat of poliovirus transmission.

Completed Supplementary Immunization Activities (SIAs)
01/01/17 – 31/01/18:

| COUNTRY | SIA: Bivalent Oral Polio Vaccine (bOPV) | SIA: Monovalent Oral Polio Vaccine 2 (mOPV2) | SIA: Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) and mOPV2 |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|
| CAMEROON | 4 | 1 | - |
| CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC | 4 | - | - |
| CHAD | 5 | 1 | - |
| NIGER | 4 | 1 | - |
| NIGERIA | 7 | 1 | 1 |

Key highlights

- The detection of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) (Borno, Nigeria in 2016) and circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) (Borno and Sokoto states in Nigeria in 2016) continues to pose a risk to the neighbouring countries of the Lake Chad basin.
- Outbreak response efforts continue across the Lake Chad basin, together with activities to fill subnational surveillance gaps across the region.
- Phase 3 of outbreak response was implemented in January, taking into account the recommendations made during the November Outbreak Response Assessments in the countries and the Technical Advisory Group on Polio Eradication (TAG) meeting in December. The objective is to bolster the multi-national, regional outbreak response across the Lake Chad basin region, in particular improving operations and surveillance in hard-to-reach areas and populations.

Immunization and surveillance response

Immunization

- In Nigeria, the planned January supplementary immunization campaign went ahead, aiming to vaccinate over 26 million children across 14 provinces with bOPV.
- Training to improve the use of campaign micro-plans in Chad's high-priority districts took place in N'Djamena.
- Synchronised supplementary immunization campaigns in all Lake Chad basin countries are planned for March and April 2018.



Children in Lafia Local Government Area, Nasarawa State, Nigeria, are vaccinated against polio. Photo Credit: UNICEF Nigeria.

Surveillance

- Training to improve routine surveillance in Chad’s high-priority districts went ahead in mid-January.
- Following recommendations from the TAG, delays in stool specimen transport to labs continue to be investigated, corrected, and monitored by all Lake Chad basin countries.

Communications for Development (C4D) and social mobilization activities

- UNICEF has provided 300 boxes, 500 mobilizer’s guides and 2 500 leaflets for use by women who provide vaccination information in ten high priority districts of Cameroon. Visibility materials, including 3 000 hats, 3 000 bags, and 2 000 jumpers, have also been provided.
- Fulfilling an OBRA recommendation, all communication tools used in Cameroon have been translated into both French and English, reflecting two main languages spoken in the country.
- Theatre interventions performed by Scout groups continue in districts of Bangui and Bossangoa in the Central African Republic.



A scout speaks to their community about the importance of vaccination. Photo Credit: UNICEF/CAR/2017/Kabore.



Polio survivors in Gombe State, Nigeria, take to the streets to raise awareness about the January polio vaccination campaign. Photo Credit: UNICEF Nigeria.



A child is vaccinated at the Nigeria-Niger border, part of efforts to protect children on the move. Credit: UNICEF Nigeria.

Relevant Links

- [Global Polio Eradication Initiative \(GPEI\) website](#), updated weekly.