



Dear polio eradication supporter,

At the forefront of eradication are polio workers around the world — across cities, rural settings, and even behind desks — as they analyze critical immunization data. Investing in their work is crucial to success and will have a lasting impact on health systems long after polio is gone. Leading into October, World Polio Day 2019 will recognize their efforts, thanks to which the potential global eradication certification of wild poliovirus type 3 is on the cards.

The Pakistan polio team is crowdsourcing innovative ideas on how to tackle anti-vaccination propaganda on social media. For more information and to [join the collective effort](#).

Why invest in polio eradication?



WHO-DG and Chair of the GPEI Polio Oversight Board, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, sharing a candid moment with His Excellency Obaid Saleem Saeed Al Zaabi, UAE Permanent Representative to the United Nations. © WHO

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) partners and the United Arab Emirates co-hosted a pre-event ahead of the Polio Pledging Moment at the Reaching the Last Mile Forum in Abu Dhabi, in November 2019. The programme presented the 2019-2023 GPEI

Investment Case. Learn more about why the time is now for world leaders, donors and governments to rally for a polio-free future. [\[More\]](#)

From town to country, disease detectives

In Somalia, both cities and rural environments provide challenges for health workers eliminating the poliovirus. From the crowded streets of Mogadishu to remote stretches of Somaliland, get an inside look at how [vaccinators](#) and [environmental surveillance teams](#) make it possible to protect every last child from polio.



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POLIO IN NUMBERS

Wild Poliovirus in 2019 (2018)*

Global Total: 82 (18)

Circulating Vaccine Derived Poliovirus cVDPV in 2019 (2018)*

Global Total: 80 (52)

*Data as of 26 September 2019. Numbers in brackets represent data at this time in 2018.

Breakdown by country
[Polio this week](#)

POLIO IN THE NEWS

[Seeker](#): A new episode of web series SICK explores how polio causes paralysis

[STAT](#): Gavi has an ambitious plan to expand immunization and support polio eradication

[U.S. News](#): Nigeria's women volunteers fight polio and improve health systems

Data handlers revolutionize eradication



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Meticulous data collection is critical to ensuring that every immunization campaign reaches as many children as possible. In Pakistan, data officers improve data management systems to guide vaccinators' strategies on the ground with evidence. Discover why data is the lifeblood of polio eradication. [\[More\]](#)

FUNDING UPDATE

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) released US\$ 10 million to support World Health Organization's "No Regrets" outbreak vaccination activities in response to the circulation of vaccine-derived viruses, particularly in the African region.

BMGF also approved a grant of US\$ 1 million in support of WHO's global poliovirus containment efforts, for the implementation of activities to June 2020.

Picture of the Month



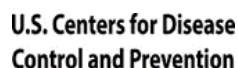
Vaccinator Suad Hashi Handule gives polio vaccine to a new born baby in the nomadic community at the outskirts of Hargeisa, Somaliland. © WHO/EMRO



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