POLIO SNAPSHOT AFGHANISTAN NOVEMBER 2020

3 WPV1 CASES IN NOVEMBER 2020
56 WPV1 CASES IN 2020
1 WPV1 POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT SAMPLES IN NOVEMBER 2020
7M CHILDREN VACCINATED IN NOVEMBER 2020
56,900 SUSPECTED COVID-19 CASES REPORTED UPTO END OF NOVEMBER 2020
109,153 HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INCLUDING PARAMEDICS TRAINED IN DETECTING AND REPORTING COVID-19 CASES

Data as of 30 November 2020
• 3 new cases of Wild Poliovirus (WPV1) were confirmed in November 2020, 2 from Helmand, and 1 from Kandahar province

**POLIO TRANSMISSION**

• 255 children with Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) - 103 females and 152 males - were reported in November 2020. A total of 3,571 AFP cases have been reported since the beginning of 2020. Of this 2,988 cases have been discarded as non-polio. About 311 cases are pending final classification

• The non-polio AFP rate remained above 11, stool adequacy stood above 88%, and non-polio enterovirus rate ranged between 9-18% in all regions

• 1 new WPV1 positive environmental sample was confirmed in November 2020

**PEI support to COVID-19 Jan-Nov 2020**

• 56,900 suspected cases of COVID-19 were reported, of which 8,726 tested positive

• 5,839 government and NGO partners were trained on COVID-19 surveillance

• 109,153 health professional (Including paramedics/nurses) were trained on COVID-19 surveillance

**COMPLEMENTARY VACCINATION ACTIVITIES**

• 54 cross-border teams and 288 permanent transit teams (PTTs) were operational across Afghanistan in November 2020. These teams vaccinated 79,489 and 538,674 children, respectively

• Since the beginning of 2020, a total of 9,714 children have been vaccinated with OPV and 348 with IPV at the UNHCR and IOM repatriation centres. Of these 1,137 children under the age of 10 were vaccinated with OPV in UNHCR repatriation centres in November 2020

**SUBNATIONAL IMMUNIZATION ACTIVITIES**

• November National Immunization Days (NID) were conducted between 30 Nov-04 Dec 2020 and 7 million children were vaccinated.

• 3,622 social mobilisers of the Immunisation Communication Network (ICN) and 471 Female Mobiliser Vaccinator (FMVs) engaged more than 167,000 caregivers in polio and mother and child health promotion, and conducted awareness raising sessions on COVID-19 prevention

**AFP ENVIRONMENTAL & COVID-19 SURVEILLANCE**

Sakina, Championing Women in the Fight Against Polio in Afghanistan

Kandahar- Afghanistan, In Dand District, Kandahar, southern Afghanistan, Sakina Abdul Ghafar mobilises her community in support of polio vaccines. She is amongst 520 females, including mothers, in Kandahar that play a key role in reaching families with polio information. Sakina is a District Communication Officer leading nearly 200 mobilisers in her district. Before national polio campaigns begin, she sits with groups of influencers, including the village chief and elders, and debates vaccine misconception and the importance of vaccinating children.

Sakina, a mother of five children, studied midwifery 12 years ago. She worked for several health initiatives where, because of traditions and gender norms, the presence of females is critical to accessing households. In April 2020, Sakina joined the UNICEF supported Immunisation Communication Network (ICN) and was assigned to lead mobilisers.

[Click here to read the story]

**Key communication activities**

• 2,182 local governance representatives were engaged by Frontline Workers (FLWs) in the south, east, south-east, west and north-east to address refusals, support campaign announcements and investigate absent children in their neighbourhoods

• 425,000 females attended polio and maternal and new born child health (MNCH) awareness sessions organised by the Female Mobiliser Vaccinators (FMVs). A total of 32,000 such sessions were held in west, east, south and south-east regions

• 3,037 social mobilisers in south and east attended planning and data review meetings, with the main focus being cluster plans to work with refusal families, updating the field books data and networking with community influencers to address refusals during the November NID

• 150 Community Based Education teachers across Kandahar city were engaged by polio programme through orientation meetings to raise community awareness on vaccination

• 65 local journalists in the west and east regions attended polio briefings and orientations on accurate reporting on polio

• 32 radio and 10 TV discussions on polio vaccine acceptance, routine immunisation and mother and child health were held in the west, east, south and south-east regions

• 3,622 social mobilisers of the Immunisation Communication Network (ICN) and 471 Female Mobiliser Vaccinator (FMVs) engaged more than 167,000 caregivers in polio and mother and child health promotion, and conducted awareness raising sessions on COVID-19 prevention