

GPEI Afghanistan and Pakistan Hub

Terms of Reference

Purpose

The Afghanistan and Pakistan Hub of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) is an inter-agency collaboration platform based in Amman, Jordan, aimed at strengthening and accelerating polio eradication efforts in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Role

As a coordination platform for GPEI partners at regional level, the role of the Hub is to facilitate partnership to support identification and agreement of shared priorities; facilitate cross-border coordination across the two endemic countries; help address identified gaps and challenges in the endemic country programmes; provide increased bandwidth for country support; and to link the endemic countries with relevant GPEI global bodies.

Composition

Information sharing and coordination across GPEI partners is enhanced by virtue of co-location, and therefore all GPEI partners are encouraged to participate. GPEI staff posted to Amman to participate in the Hub are considered 'members.' It is recognized that it may not be feasible for all GPEI partners to post staff to the Hub office in Amman. GPEI staff that are not posted to Amman but support the endemic countries are considered 'non-co-located partners'.

Membership selection

Members will be appointed by the respective agency and each agency will identify an agency team lead. Membership may change over time following agency needs and staff changes and is at discretion of respective agencies.

Co-location modality

WHO will host the Hub within the EMRO Polio office in Amman as per existing organizational legal framework, FENSA and HR rules. WHO will provide working space and basic support for all members. Working conditions (hours, official holidays, leave, work from home/remote) will be defined along individual agency lines.

Current Members (as of 15 July 2021)

- BMGF Jeff Partridge
- CDC Abdinoor Mohamed, Sunday Akerele
- UNICEF Richard Duncan, Sahar Hegazi, Shamsheer Khan
- WHO Joanna Nikulin, Hemant Shukla, Sally Cooper
- Support staff Mais Ghawi (WHO), Sireen Hamdan (WHO)

Operating Mode, Rhythm of Business

Facilitation

Co-Chairs will be identified on quarterly rotational basis from amongst members based in Amman.

Meetings

Scheduled Hub meetings will occur fortnightly where the agenda will be managed by the Co-Chairs. In addition, *ad hoc* meetings may be requested by any member.

Accountability

Agency accountability and individual accountabilities lie along agency reporting lines and structures.

Communication

- Information sharing and communication between the Hub Members and other GPEI entities (e.g. EMU, SC), will primarily take place along agency communication lines.
- Specific activities will be coordinated and communicated through specific Hub working groups (e.g. TAG, cross-border coordination).
- The Hub will have joint coordination mechanisms with country teams. Details will be worked out with the country teams and global partners and reviewed on a regular basis.

Decision-making

The Hub is not a decision-making body of GPEI. Decisions are made at the appropriate in each agency, in consideration of agencies' and Members' responsibilities.

TOR ratification

These TORs were approved by the SC on 15 July 2021 and came into effect on that date. The TORs will be reviewed and amended internally as needed and submitted to the SC for approval.