



GAZA POLIO CAMPAIGN UPDATE

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ROUND 2 - 16 OCTOBER 2024

HIGHLIGHTS:

Phase 1 of the polio vaccination campaign concluded in central Gaza on 16 October following three robust days of polio vaccination and Vitamin A supplement delivery to the eligible children.

Day 3 update:

- ✔ Phase 1 of the second polio campaign finished strong:
 - The cumulative number of children under 10 years who **received polio vaccine (nOPV2)** during the three days of phase 1 is **181 428**.
 - The cumulative number of children between 2 and 10 years who **received Vitamin A** during the three days of the phase 1 is **148 864**.
- ✔ Polio vaccination and Vitamin A will continue to be offered to families who haven't received vaccination in the first 3 days of the campaign from 8 large Health Facilities in the area (which includes 3 in Nuseirat, 2 in Zwaida and 3 in Deir al-Balah) from 17 October until the completion of phase 3 (22 October). Figures of cumulative coverage for phase 1 will be revised.
- ✔ Most teams operated as mobile teams on Day 3 in an effort to reach unvaccinated children in communities dwelling in shelter homes and tents.
- ✔ Social mobilization kicked off 3 days ahead of phase 1 started and involved community awareness generation, engaging families and identifying unvaccinated children during campaign days. Their efforts were supported by town criers who visited remote communities, including shelter homes/tents.
- ✔ Intra-campaign monitoring reports identified a cluster of refusals on Day 3 due to vaccine-related rumours. This was referred to the EOC, who are working towards ensuring eligible children are covered.



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DAY 3 BY THE NUMBERS:

Administrative coverage data shows:



Children reached with polio vaccination on Day 3:
Administrative coverage data shows a total of **24 468** children under 10 years were reached with **polio vaccine** on Day 3.



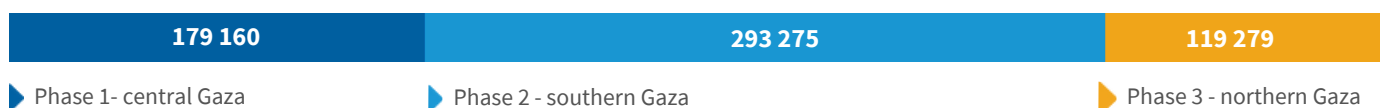
Children reached with Vitamin A on Day 3:
A total of **19 943** children between 2 and 10 years received **Vitamin A** dose.

As in the first round, the second round of the campaign will be conducted in three phases:



*Pending further coordination

Target population for polio in Round 2 (children aged under ten years):



Reached 101%
of the target population for phase 1

KEY LESSONS

FOR PHASE 2 AND PHASE 3



- ✓ A greater emphasis will be on mobile team operations to ensure more comprehensive coverage in the target areas during remaining phases of round 2.
- ✓ Intra-campaign monitoring (ICM) will prioritize high-density areas and areas with dense shelter homes/tents.
- ✓ Social media campaigns and public service announcements were highlighted as effective strategies to maintain community awareness. Increased social mobilizers' activity in shelter homes and tented areas was noted as a crucial factor for phase 2 planning.
- ✓ Although Vitamin A supplies were ample, the EOC recommended recalibrating distribution strategies for phase 2 to prevent stockouts in some areas. The target allocation will be based on specific population sizes rather than a uniform bottle distribution approach.
- ✓ The hotline established by the EOC remains a useful way to monitor complaints and issues during the campaign.
- ✓ Enhanced coordination in the second round has enabled high vaccination rates in populations outside of the humanitarian pause areas. Preliminary figures indicate that during phase I 95.5% vaccination coverage rate was achieved in these areas.
- ✓ Phase 2 preparations, including enhanced cold chain measures and additional coordination for vaccination in areas outside of humanitarian pauses, remain ongoing. Simultaneously, a mission to the northern Gaza is planned on 18 October to dispatch vaccine, Vitamin A and supplies ahead of the Phase-III start

NOTE:

The [first round](#) was successfully implemented from 1-12 September 2024 and vaccinated 559 161 children, or an estimated 95% of eligible children at governorate level, according to independently conducted post-campaign monitoring.

Thanks to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) partners, donors, and Member States of the Region for their support, and to the [UAE for their allocation of critical funding](#) of US\$ 5m towards the polio vaccination campaign.