

Support the MOH in Operationalizing Routine Immunization Micro-Plans in Pakistan

Project Information

- ◆ Department: Public Health Programs
- ◆ Unit: Polio and Immunization

SCOPE OF WORK

The main objective of this project is to generate updated micro-plans at the health facilities level to expand the coverage of immunization and overcome the limitations in accessing immunization services in Pakistan.

REGIONS OF WORK

This project will be implemented in Pakistan.

BENEFICIARIES

The project's main beneficiaries are the EPI Staff, Health Facilities, and Vaccinators.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Micro-plans will be updated to respond to the coverage enhancement requirements targeting hard-to-reach areas and high-risk districts. The development of the micro-plans will be based on a situational analysis that will be conducted in the area where the polio cases are reported, and frequent outbreak of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (VPDs) are reported. Once the micro-plans are updated, GHD will take into consideration supporting the MoH in developing a plan for operationalizing of the micro-plans to ensure the optimal delivery of the equitable immunization services.

PROJECT PHASES

The project involves three main phases:

Phase I – Planning: planning and coordination with Pakistan MOH officials to present project activities, reach consensus and gain support on implementation. Situational analysis of the current EPI data at the health facility level.

Phase II – Development of materials: based on the situational analysis findings the micro-planning training curriculum, manual and materials will be developed.

Phase III – Implementation: TOT workshop to train EPI staff as master trainers for updating the micro-plans. The master trainers will identify health facilities to provide training and update the micro-plans. Eventually, the targeted vaccinators will be trained and hence update the micro-plans based on the situational analysis findings. Once the micro-plans are updated, GHD will support the MOH in developing a plan for operationalizing of the micro-plans to ensure the optimal delivery of the equitable immunization services at sub-national level. GHD will continue assessing the progress and determine the challenges to further enlighten future plans.

Project Start and End Date	October 1st, 2019 – April 30th, 2021
Partner Organizations	Implementing partner: National Integrated Development Association (NIDA-Pakistan)
Funded by	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Collaborators	Ministry of Health (MoH), Pakistan; National Institute of Health (NIH); WHO and UNICEF in Pakistan



Currently . . .

Immunization coverage in Pakistan has stagnated over the last decade. Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey (PDHS) findings indicate that the increase in immunization coverage rate between the years 1999 and 2008 was only 12%.

The current vaccination coverage varies between 47% to 88%, increases the risk of the children to the VPDs. According to the World Bank, VPDs are still a leading cause of infants' and children's' mortality in the country.

The most common cause for the poor performance of the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) in Pakistan, is the limited access to the immunization service, program management, and community behaviors.

What is next . . .

The situation analysis of the current EPI data at the health facility level will be conducted with a focus on areas where the polio cases and frequent outbreak of VPDs are reported. This analysis will contribute to the development of the micro-plans. The microplanning will ensure enhancing the vaccination coverage in the country and reaching every community, which is a cornerstone towards polio and other VPDs eradication. Overall, the situation analysis will assist Pakistan to have an informed general national vaccination planning.

OUTCOMES BY NUMBERS

25 EPI staff trained as master trainer for updating the micro-plans

300 health facilities to be trained and update the micro-plans

600 vaccinators will be trained to update the micro-plans

Estimated **300** updated micro-plans generated

GHD and EMPHNET: Working together for better health

Global Health Development (GHD) is a regional initiative created to support countries in the Eastern Mediterranean Region strengthen their health systems in response to public health challenges and threats. GHD was initiated to advance the work of the Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) by building coordination mechanisms with Ministries of Health, International Organizations, and other institutions to improve population health outcomes. As an implementing arm to EMPHNET, GHD aligns its strategies with national policies and directions, while serving as a collaborative platform dedicated to support national efforts in promoting public health policies, strategic planning, sustainable financing, resource mobilization, public health programs, and other related services.

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