



Technical Assistance to Sudan's FMOH for Malaria Vaccine: GHD|EMPHNET's Support

Project Information

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

OBJECTIVES

This project aims to provide *Technical Assistance from GHD|EMPHNET to Sudan's Ministry of Health for Malaria Vaccine* by enhancing the country's malaria immunization program through developing digital tools, building healthcare provider capacity, enhancing vaccine monitoring, and promoting public awareness. The project will also conduct research to improve vaccine acceptance and document best practices for future scale-up.

REGIONS OF WORK

This project will be implemented in Federated Government of Sudan.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project is a one-year initiative designed to support the Ministry of Health in the successful introduction and rollout of the malaria vaccine. It focuses on nine key outcomes to enhance the planning, implementation, monitoring, and public acceptance of the malaria vaccine. The first outcome centers on developing and scaling a digitalized GIS micro-planning tool to improve vaccine rollout. This tool will be customized and piloted in 15 localities before being expanded to 134 localities in 16 states. The second outcome supports the creation of an electronic dashboard for real-time monitoring of vaccine coverage and progress, with a focus on data management and analysis capacity at national and state levels. The third outcome strengthens the capacity of healthcare providers by conducting cascade training on malaria vaccine introduction. This will ensure vaccine providers are equipped to deliver the vaccine according to national guidelines. The fourth outcome involves conducting formative research to design targeted awareness materials that enhance public understanding and address vaccine hesitancy.

BENEFICIARIES

The main beneficiaries of this project are the Ministry of Health, healthcare providers, surveillance and EPI officers, vaccine implementation teams, and community members across Sudan

PROJECT Activities

This project involves nine main activities:

Activity I - Support the country to conduct digitalized GIS micro-planning for malaria introduction to enhance the macroplanning process and quality. Activity II- Support Malaria vaccine reporting through electronic system. Activity III - Conduct Malaria vaccine Introduction training for service Provider (Cascade Training). Activity IV - Conduct formative research to inform vaccine introduction awareness planning. Activity V- Provide support for development and implementation of (RCCE) plans to promote vaccine confidence, including development of relevant IEC materials. Activity VI- Document and disseminate lessons learnt from the Programme to inform scale-up to other sub-national areas of the country. Activity VII Conduct post introduction evaluation study. Activity VIII Conduct Knowledge, Attitude and practice of childcare takers towards multiple injections in routine immunization. Activity IX Conduct community acceptance/ perception study to malaria vaccine study

The fifth outcome focuses on increasing vaccine confidence through innovative communication strategies, including developing IEC materials and community-based mobile cinema sessions to engage the public. The sixth outcome aims to document and share lessons learned during the malaria vaccine rollout to inform future expansion within Sudan and globally. The seventh outcome involves conducting a post-introduction evaluation of the malaria vaccine to assess effectiveness and identify areas for improvement. The eighth outcome focuses on enhancing caregiver engagement by assessing attitudes and practices toward multiple injections in routine immunization, with the goal of optimizing immunization schedules. The final outcome seeks to improve public confidence and acceptance of the malaria vaccine by conducting a community perception study to assess attitudes, concerns, and willingness to accept the vaccine, with findings used to inform strategies for increasing uptake. Through these outcomes, the project aims to contribute to the successful malaria vaccine introduction and long-term public health improvement in Sudan.

Project Start and End Date	October 2024 – December 2025
Partner Organizations	Federated Ministry of Health (FMOH)
Funded by	Gavi

Currently . . .

Sudan's public health system faces significant challenges, particularly in malaria control and immunization. Malaria continues to be a major issue, with over 3.8 million cases and 1,800 deaths in 2022, especially in rural areas with limited access to preventive measures. The immunization program is also struggling, with repeated outbreaks of cVDPV2, measles, and other vaccine-preventable diseases, highlighting gaps in vaccine delivery and weak surveillance systems. These challenges are compounded by limited resources for outbreak response and the impact of political instability on healthcare access. A multi-stakeholder approach is essential to improve healthcare accessibility and reduce the burden of infectious diseases in Sudan.

What's next . . .

The project will focus on introducing the malaria vaccine in Sudan to reduce transmission and deaths, especially in underserved areas. GHD|EMPHNET will work with Sudan's Ministry of Health and partners like Gavi and UNICEF to strengthen health systems, improve immunization services, and enhance malaria surveillance. Key activities include GIS micro-planning for vaccine distribution, healthcare provider training, and public awareness campaigns to ensure vaccine acceptance. The project will also evaluate the vaccine rollout and develop sustainable strategies for long-term impact.

GHD|EMPHNET Information: Global Health Development (GHD) Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) works at achieving its mission by responding to public health needs with deliberate efforts that allow for health promotion and disease prevention.

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