



Global Health
Development

Partnership with Private Health Service Providers to Improve the Immunization Coverage in Afghanistan

Project Information

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

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this project is to conduct an evaluation to clearly define the role of the private health sector in an attempt to increase their engagement in routine immunization, with an ultimate goal of improving routine immunization coverage in low performing provinces in Afghanistan.

BENEFICIARIES

The project's main beneficiaries are the Ministry of Public Health and Private For-Profit Health Service Providers

REGIONS OF WORK

This project was implemented in Paktya province in Afghanistan as it is having a low coverage and good private sector presence.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

GHD started this project by conducting a desk review to compile all assessments and relevant documents, and review any available data, on private sector types (NGO, CSO, pharmacist, for-profit, etc.), registries, and locations in Afghanistan the results of the study will be incorporated into the final study report. GHD used data generated from data analysis and mapping of private health service providers to identify a low-performing province or urban area to conduct an evaluation of private providers to identify current knowledge attitudes and practices related to immunization and explore potential contributions to improving vaccination coverage. Two types of questionnaires were developed one for the health service providers and the second one for the exit interview of the beneficiaries.

The data collectors were trained and based on the developed protocol and strategy the data collection conducted. Once the data collection was completed a user-friendly database was developed to enter the data. After that, the data cleaning and a descriptive analysis were conducted by GHD. The study team provided all the required information to GHD and CDC. After the finalization of the analysis and final report, a meeting was conducted to present the study results and it was attended by member of GHD, CDC representative, MoPH, NEPI, NGOS and other developments partners.

Project Start and End Date	October 1, 2019 – June 30, 2021
Partner Organizations	-
Funded by	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
Collaborators	Ministry of Public Health (MoPH)



PROJECT Phases

The project involves three main phases:

Phase I: Assessment: Conduct desk review, prepare the study protocol and questionnaires, get the IRB approval, and agree on the targeted district to conduct the study.

Phase II: Implementation: Conduct the feasibility study in the targeted district.

Phase III: Closing: Conduct the dissemination meeting.

Currently . . .

The Partnership with the Private For-Profit Health Service Providers (PPHSP) was started in 2008 including four provinces (Urozgan, Farah, Paktia and Nuristan). After the external evaluation for the partnership in 2011 which demonstrated the tremendous achievements of this partnership in extending the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) coverage to under-served and insecure areas, the project was proposed to be scaled up to 12 provinces under Health System Strengthening-3 (HSS-3) proposal.

What is next . . .

Under this project, GHD will conduct a feasibility study to find opportunities for expanding the Public Private Partnership (PPP) in other provinces in Afghanistan. Noting that good partnership with private-for-profit especially in insecure areas of the country can lead to improve the coverage of health-related indicators and immunization. Also, the partnership and collaboration with private sector will improve access to health services particularly to the primary health services. GHD selected Paktia province where PPP is implemented to conduct this study and provide evidence-based recommendations to MoPH.

OUTCOMES BY NUMBERS

12 data collectors and supervisors as surveyors trained on the method of data collection.

40 Health Facilities in the data collection sample of the feasibility study.

(20 Public Health Facilities and 20 Private Health Service Providers PHPs).

100+ Structured questionnaires were done.

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.

- ◆ Abdallah Ben Abbas St, Building No. 42, Amman, Jordan
- ◆ Email: info@emphnet.net

- ◆ Tel: +962-6-5519962
- ◆ Fax: +962-6-5519963
- ◆ www.emphnet.net