



Resume functionality of AFP surveillance in selected high-risk provinces in Iraq

Project Information

- ◆ Department: Public Health Program
- ◆ Unit: Polio & Immunization Department

OBJECTIVES

This project's main goal is resume functionality of AFP surveillance in selected high-risk provinces in Iraq to achieve the main AFP surveillance indicators.

BENEFICIARIES

AFP surveillance officer at provincial level.
AFP/VPDs surveillance officer at the district level and major hospitals.
Unvaccinated children (zero doses AFP case and under vaccinated and hot cases) in the hard-to-reach areas.

REGIONS OF WORK

The Refresher ToT on AFP surveillance will cover the 25 provinces in Iraq. The rest of training workshops will focus on the 6 low performing provinces namely, Dahuk, Missan, Anbar, Muthanna, Kirkuk, and Ninewa.

PROJECT PHASES

This project involves two phases as follow:

Phase 1 Preparation: GHD will support conducting a refresher ToT on AFP Surveillance for the provincial AFP surveillance officers.

Phase 2 -Implementation: GHD will support conducting 6 subsequent training workshops for AFP/VPDs surveillance officers on AFP Surveillance in the low performing provinces. GHD will provide technical and logistical support during the year to the surveillance team to implement comprehensive epidemiological investigation of reported zero doses AFP case and under vaccinated and hot cases in the hard-to-reach areas.

Project Start and End Date	8/1/2021 – 7/31/2022
Partner Organizations	Iraq Ministry of Health (MoH)
Funded by	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In 2020, around one third of provinces in Iraq did not achieve the main AFP surveillance indicators, the low performance indicators may delay detection and response for wild WPV importation and VDPV. The reported high turnover rate of the AFP surveillance officer at subnational level and to respond to unmet needs GHD will support the MoH to conduct a refresher ToT on AFP surveillance across Iraq, and another 6 subsequent training workshops on AFP surveillance in the low performing provinces. In addition, GHD will provide technical and logistical support during the year to the surveillance team to implement comprehensive epidemiological investigation of reported zero doses AFP case and under vaccinated and hot cases in the hard-to-reach areas.

Currently . . .

Iraq is among countries that are no longer infected with polio virus. The key surveillance performance indicators for the last three years remain above global certification target at national level, but this is not the case at subnational level. Iraq remains at risk of polio importation or emergence of cVDPV because of the decreased immunization coverage due to the COVID-19 emergency response and decreases in AFP key indicators in 2020 compared with 2019. COVID-19 emergency had serious implications for the delivery of a range of public health interventions and essential health services, including polio eradication.

What's next . . .

Resume functionality of AFP surveillance in selected high-risk provinces in Iraq to achieve the main AFP surveillance indicators. Through conducting refresher ToT across Iraq, and another subsequent training workshops on AFP surveillance in the low performing provinces. In addition, to conduction of limited scale coverage surveys in the catchment area to identify the unvaccinated children.

By the Numbers

- +25 AFP surveillance officer at provincial level.
- +150 AFP/VPDs surveillance officer at the district level and major hospitals.
- +50 limited scale coverage surveys in the catchment area to identify the unvaccinated children.
- One refresher ToT across Iraq on AFP surveillance.
- Six training workshops on AFP surveillance in the low performing provinces.

GHD|EMPHNET Information: Global Health Development (GHD) and 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 dis

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