

AFP Surveillance in Morocco

Project Information

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

SCOPE OF WORK

The main objective of this project is to maintain the country's Polio Free status and preventing the importation of wild polio virus from high risk neighboring countries and strengthening the quality of the Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) surveillance as a key component within the national integrated Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (VPDs) surveillance systems in Morocco.

REGIONS OF WORK

This project is being implemented in Morocco.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will target the low-performing regions in Morocco through strengthening monitoring and evaluation activities at regional level through implementation of supportive supervision mandated by regional supervisors and Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) residents in close collaboration with STOP team to maintain high immunization coverage and preventing importation of wild Polio virus.

The selection of the projects to support will be based on the key gaps that would be identified and translated into an action plan during the AFP Surveillance System Internal Review Dissemination Meeting.

Project Start and End Date	October 1st, 2018 – April 30th, 2021
Funded by	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Collaborators	Ministry of Health (MOH), Morocco

PROJECT PHASES

The project involves two main phases:

Phase I – Planning and Coordination: Coordination with the Morocco MOH to arrange for the project activities and identify the key gaps and translate them into an action plan during AFP Surveillance System Internal Review Dissemination Meeting.

Phase II – Implementation: Support regional supervision and monitoring plans and provide technical and logistical support for the implementation of these supervision and monitoring plans. Support conducting an annual national AFP review meeting at the national level.

BENEFICIARIES

The project's main beneficiaries are Surveillance officers, Central Surveillance Unit, FETP graduates.



Currently . . .

Morocco is at risk of wild polio importation from neighboring countries as it is a corridor for migrants from Africa to Europe. AFP surveillance indicators are still below the regional and national targets, despite the notable improvement that was achieved in 2017. The key challenges facing Morocco are high and rapid turnover of trained staff, weak coordination between AFP and Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) at provincial and district level, limited data management, and monitoring and evaluation capacities at the peripheral level. These challenges still need to be addressed in a more systematic approach of continuous training, mentoring and staff replacement plans.

What's next . . .

Under this project, technical and logistical support will be provided for the implementation of the supervision and monitoring activities in the low performing regions. This support will contribute to strengthen the AFP Surveillance system in the country which plays a key role in polio eradication.

OUTCOMES BY NUMBERS

40 surveillance officers and
FETP graduates
participating at the Annual
National AFP Review
Meeting

**Regional supervision and
monitoring plans supported**

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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