



Global Health  
Development

# Strengthening outreach sessions through establishing third-party monitoring to decrease under-vaccinated children in Afghanistan

## Project Information

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

## OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this project is to support the monitoring of immunization activities through remote monitoring and monthly data analysis, free short code for frontline and community reporting with the engagement of third-party monitoring to enhance equitable coverage at all levels of the national health system. The implementation of those interventions will improve the EPI coverage with equity focus.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

GHD through this project will support the MoPH to develop and update the training materials and curriculum of the concept of community engagement and remote monitoring of the EPI outreach and mobile sessions to be used for train around 20 EPI provincial supervisors. These trained EPI supervisors will facilitate the process of community elder selection from the already established Village Health Shuras. A total of 160 community elders will be selected and one day orientation sessions will be conducted in 16 batches.

When the community elders receive the orientation sessions, the provincial supervisors will contact them regularly on daily bases to remotely monitor the EPI outreach and mobile sessions. Therefore, GHD will provide monthly top up cards for EPI provincial supervisors cell phone. This project will help in increasing the Penta 3 coverage and decreasing in the dropout rate of the Penta1- Penta 3.

## BENEFICIARIES

The project's main beneficiaries are the EPI Provincial Supervisors

## REGIONS OF WORK

This project will be implemented in Afghanistan targeting the low EPI coverage, lack of monitoring and supervisions due to insecurity and hard to reach areas.

<b>Project Start and End Date</b>	<b>August 1, 2021 – July 31, 2022</b>
<b>Partner Organizations</b>	-
<b>Funded by</b>	<b>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).</b>
<b>Collaborators</b>	<b>Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), National and sub-national EPI program as well as the Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS) implementer NGOs</b>



## PROJECT PHASES

The project involves two main phases:

**Phase I: Preparation:** contract the consultant and establish a national technical committee to develop and update the training materials and curriculum in close coordination and cooperation with GHD.

**Phase II: Implementation:** train the provincial EPI supervisors and orient the community elders on the concept of community engagement and remote monitoring of the EPI outreach and mobile sessions.

### Currently . . .

Afghanistan population is overwhelmingly rural where 74% of the people live whereas 6% belong to nomadic Kochi. The current EPI's under-coverage rate (61%), insecurity, weak health system, and the inability of the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) to monitor the hard to reach and insecure areas. Furthermore, the routine immunization data shows that the EPI coverage in the fixed area is much when compared with the outreach and mobile areas.

### What is next . . .

GHD through this project will implement number of interventions that will improve the EPI coverage with the focus on equity. The remote monitoring was used by MoPH for the polio campaigns, and it will be used for the first time to monitor routine immunization outreach sessions. Likewise, involving third party monitors were used to monitor polio campaigns, while for the first time the community will be engaged as a third-party monitor to monitor routine immunization outreach sessions

## OUTCOMES BY NUMBERS

20 Provincial EPI supervisors will be oriented on engaging the community with the EPI program

160 community elders will be oriented on engaging the community with the EPI program

**GHD|EMPHNET Information:** Global Health Development (GHD) 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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