

# **POLIOPLUS FACT SHEET**

Although it currently circulates in only a few countries, polio is highly infectious and spreads rapidly. The disease, which afflicts mainly children, is transmitted via contaminated water and food supplies. Five to 10 percent of cases are fatal. As long as polio threatens even one child anywhere in the world, children everywhere are at risk. Only the global eradication of polio will ensure that no child ever again suffers its devastating effects.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- If polio is not eradicated, within 10 years, as many as 200,000 children will be paralyzed by it each year.
- In 2017, more than 430 million children were vaccinated multiple times using more than two billion doses of oral polio vaccine. This will be done every year until the world is certified polio free. Rotary funds will help do this.
- To date, 122 countries have benefited from PolioPlus grants.
- Since 1988, the number of polio endemic countries declined from over 125 to three.
- In 2017, under an expanded partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, every \$1 Rotary commits to polio eradication will be matched 2-to-1 (up to \$ 50 million per year) through 2020.

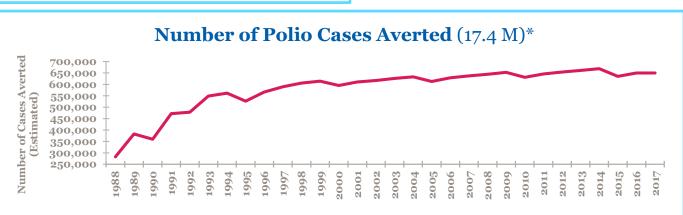
### Polio Cases (as of 25 July 2018)

	2016	2017	2018
Number of Cases	<b>3</b> 7	22	13

On average, a child can be fully protected against polio for US\$3.

Since 1998, Vitamin A supplements have been added to polio immunization activities, helping to avert an estimated 1.5 million childhood deaths. A study published in 2010 in the medical journal "Vaccine" estimates the economic benefit of polio eradication as US\$40-50 billion.







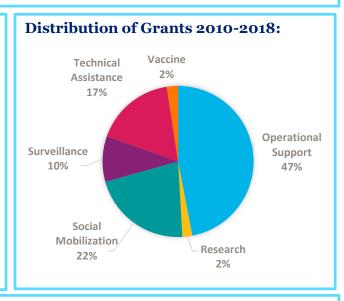
\* Source: WHO

#### **FUNDING**

- From 2013 until the certification of eradication, an estimated US\$7 billion in donor contributions is needed to fully implement the activities of the Polio Eradication and Endgame Strategic Plan.
- By the time the world is certified polio-free, Rotary's contributions to the global polio eradication
  effort will exceed US\$2.2 billion, including over US\$985 million in matching funds from the Bill &
  Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Rotary's contribution to the GPEI since 1988 accounts for nearly 14% of all contributions through June 2017 and approximately 42% of private sector giving.

# **Rotary Polio Grants - Top 10 recipients:** (US\$ Million)

	Recipient	WHO	UNICEF	Other	TOTAL
1	Nigeria	\$ 81	\$ 142	\$ 27	\$ 250
2	Pakistan	92	101	5	198
3	WHO-AFRO	190			190
4	India	77	88	16	181
5	Afghanistan	64	89		153
6	Sudan	44	45		89
7	WHO-EMRO	60			60
8	DR Congo	27	32		59
9	Somalia	28	19		47
10	Chad	25	20		45



### **Select PolioPlus Grant Projects Funded in 2018**

- 1. DR Congo: 300,00 information, education and communication materials (posters) as well as 751 broadcasting messages by community based media during National Immunization Days.
- 2. Afghanistan: Allowance and training for 125,014 vaccinators during one National Immunization Day and one Sub-National Immunization Day.
- 3. Pakistan: Allowance and training for 310,229 vaccinators during one National Immunization Day and one Sub-National Immunization Day.
- 4. Cameroon: Organization of a micro-plan workshop, 800 post-round evaluation meetings, and cross-border activities for one National Immunization Day.

## What is circulating vaccine-derived virus?

In populations with low-immunization coverage, it is possible for the weakened virus used in the oral vaccine to circulate in the environment long enough to undergo genetic changes that can cause paralysis. This is called vaccine derived poliovirus and is tracked separately than cases of wild poliovirus. When a population if fully immunized, they will be protected against both vaccine derived and wild polioviruses.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

Take action by hosting fundraisers, raising public awareness, writing your government representatives, donating, sharing stories, and encouraging others to join our cause.

www.endpolio.org









