



Dear polio eradication supporter,

On 24 October, partners and champions from around the world came together to celebrate World Polio Day and call for the urgent end to polio everywhere. Among many highlights, UNICEF Nigeria launched a new music video from West African artists, [No More Zero Dose](#), and football legends on [Paris Saint-Germain](#) shared a message in support of [Team End Polio](#). U.S. President Joe Biden expressed the country's continued commitment to eradication in an official [White House Statement](#) for World Polio Day. Health Ministers of the [G7](#) and [G20](#) also reaffirmed their dedication to ending polio this month.

This critical show of support comes a week after the GPEI's Polio Oversight Board approved a [revised budget](#) for the extended 2022-2029 strategic period. To make polio history, the world must rally together now – US\$ 2.4 billion more and renewed political commitments will be paramount to end polio in the face of today's challenges.

Pakistan's Prime Minister's Focal Person for Polio Eradication, Ayesha Raza Farooq, highlights what the country is doing to respond to virus resurgence, in an [opinion piece](#) published in The News International Today.

Ensuring access to nOPV2 around the world



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nOPV2, which has been in development since 2011, is a next-generation polio vaccine that is being used to more sustainably stop type 2 variant poliovirus outbreaks, the most prevalent form of the virus today. So far, over

1.2 billion doses of nOPV2 have been delivered to children in countries around the world. Now, Biological E in India is joining Bio Farma to manufacture nOPV2, critically increasing supply of this important vaccine to protect more children from polio. Learn more about nOPV2 and its journey from formulation to the hands of health workers around the world in [this video](#).

One team, one dream – a polio-free world

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative's new Team End Polio campaign unites legendary athletes and polio survivors to raise awareness and inspire action against the disease. This team

POLIO IN NUMBERS

Wild Poliovirus in 2024 (2023)*

Global Total: 64 (10)

Circulating Vaccine Derived Poliovirus in 2024 (2023)*

Global Total: 195 (342)

*Data as of 30 October 2024. Numbers in brackets represent data at this time in 2023.

Breakdown by country
[Polio this week](#)



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includes cricket players, Paralympians, and eradication champions, all committed to advocating for a polio-free world through their platforms and athletic achievements. With powerful messages of perseverance, they emphasize that polio remains a threat to children everywhere as long as it exists anywhere. Read the stories of some of the team members [here](#).

Polio vaccine campaign resumed in northern Gaza after pause due to escalating conflict



Two weeks ago, the Polio Technical Committee for Gaza, along with key health organizations, postponed the third phase of a vital polio vaccination campaign in northern Gaza due to extreme violence, restricted humanitarian access, and safety concerns for both families and health workers. This phase was restarted over the

weekend but substantially reduced, limiting the number of children who will receive their crucial second dose of nOPV2. Interruptions in the campaign and continued violence put efforts to control the polio outbreak at risk, jeopardizing children's health in Gaza and beyond. [UNICEF](#) and [WHO](#) urge all involved parties to support humanitarian pauses, enabling safe vaccination access and safeguarding civilians. Read more about the campaign [here](#).

POLIO IN THE NEWS

The Guardian: [The essential ingredient of any vaccination programme? Women](#)

BBC: [North Gaza polio vaccinations delayed due to strikes and displacement](#)

CNN: [A million children in Pakistan miss polio vaccine shots as cases spike](#)

Scientific American: [The Staggering Success of Vaccines](#)

Reuters: [More time and money needed to wipe out polio, global group says](#)

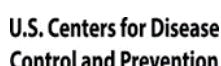
DONOR UPDATES

WHO extends its gratitude to the **Agence française de développement (AFD)** for the contribution of €50.46 million in support of the Pakistan Polio Eradication Program. This funding will accelerate efforts to eradicate polio in Pakistan through targeted surveillance and vaccination, and to strengthen the resilience of the Pakistani health system by sustaining the gains of the Polio Eradication Program.

WHO thanks the **Government of Canada** for the first two installments totaling Can\$ 3.5 million of a Can\$ 4 million grant to support polio eradication efforts in Pakistan. This is part of Canada's new contribution of Can\$ 151 million over the next three years to support the work of the GPEI.

WHO is grateful to the **United States Agency for International Development (USAID)** for the continued support and recent contribution of US\$ 40.9 million that will bolster global surveillance and eradication efforts.

WHO thanks the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** for the generous contribution of US\$ 44.99 million to support polio campaign operations, technical assistance and other immunization activities in Pakistan.



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@EndPolioNow

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@Gavi

Photo of the Month



Children in Gaza hold up their pinkies after being vaccinated against polio. ©WHO