



# 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 2018, more than 400 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.
- With the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, every \$1 Rotary commits to polio eradication is matched 2-to-1 (up to \$ 50 million per year).

## Polio Cases (as of 1 August 2019)

	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of Cases	37	22	33	56

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



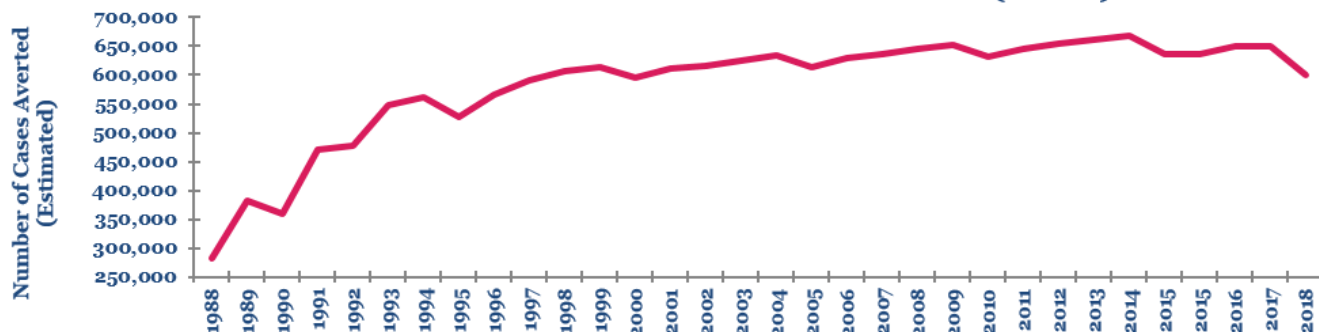
Since 1998, Vitamin A supplements have been added to polio immunization activities, helping to avert an estimated 1.5 million childhood deaths.



A study published in 2010 in the medical journal "Vaccine" estimates the economic benefit of polio eradication as US\$40-50 billion.



## Number of Polio Cases Averted (18 M)\*



\* Source: WHO/CDC

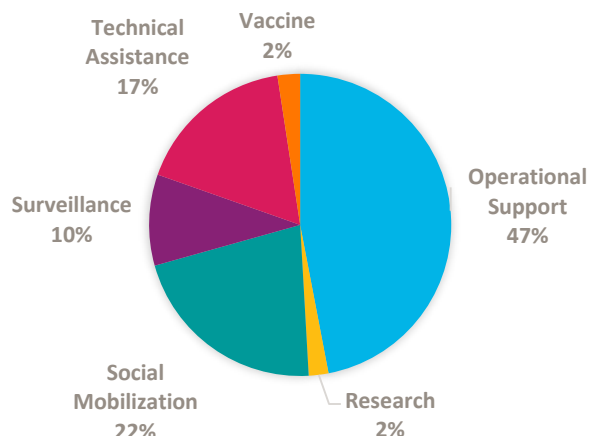
## FUNDING

- A new strategy called the *Polio Endgame Strategy 2019-2023: Eradication, Integration, Certification and Containment* is being drafted. Rotary is extending our matching agreement with the Gates Foundation to raise US\$50 million per year to be matched 2:1 to support the new 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 10% of all contributions through June 2018 and approximately 31% of private sector giving.

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

	Recipient	WHO	UNICEF	Other	TOTAL
1	Nigeria	\$ 81	\$ 150	\$ 27	\$ 258
2	Pakistan	92	109	5	206
3	WHO-AFRO	195			195
4	India	77	88	16	181
5	Afghanistan	65	88		159
6	Sudan	44	48		92
7	WHO-EMRO	60			60
8	DR Congo	36	32		68
9	Somalia	28	19		47
10	Chad	25	21		46

### Distribution of Grants 2010-2018:



### Select PolioPlus Grant Projects Funded in 2018

- DR Congo: 300,000 information, education and communication materials (posters) as well as 751 broadcasting messages by community based media during National Immunization Days.
- Afghanistan: Allowance and training for 125,014 vaccinators during one National Immunization Day and one Sub-National Immunization Day.
- Pakistan: Allowance and training for 310,229 vaccinators during one National Immunization Day and one Sub-National Immunization Day.
- 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 is 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](http://www.endpolio.org)