

Continue supporting Outreach Vaccination Activities in High-Risk Districts in Egypt

Project Information

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

Objectives

The main objective of the outreach vaccination activities in Egypt for 2024-2026 is to strengthen Routine Immunization (RI) coverage and enhance population immunity, particularly among vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations. This will be achieved through proactive outreach immunization efforts, community awareness initiatives, and improved surveillance measures, ultimately aiming for a routine immunization coverage of over 95% in targeted governorates. The program will specifically focus on addressing the needs of displaced populations, nomads, and other high-risk groups to prevent and control the resurgence of poliovirus and other vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs).

BENEFICIARIES

Primary beneficiaries:

- Children under five years, both Egyptian and non-Egyptian, residing in remote, hard-to-reach, or under-immunized areas.
- Zero-dose and defaulter children previously missed by routine immunization.

Secondary beneficiaries:

- Caregivers and families, through education and counseling sessions.
- EPI staff and local healthcare workers, through capacity-building and training.

PROJECT PHASES

This project involves different phases as following:

Planning & Mapping:

- Update geographic mapping and identify new high-risk districts and communities.
- Prioritize areas with non-Egyptian populations, nomadic groups, and low coverage rates.

Implementation:

- Conduct outreach vaccination sessions and health education classes.
- Monitor zero-dose and defaulter children and ensure vaccination card distribution.

Supervision & Monitoring:

- Conduct regular supervisory visits.
- Use KoboToolbox and field reports to track coverage and progress.

Reporting & Evaluation:

- Monthly and quarterly reporting on process, output, and outcome indicators.
- Final report summarizing lessons learned, coverage achievements, and recommendations for future cycles.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

EMPHNET in collaboration with CDC will continue supporting the outreach vaccination project in Egypt commenced in Year 2024 and will continue to Year 2027. The Outreach Vaccination Project in Egypt aims to increase vaccination coverage among under-immunized and zero-dose populations, with a focus on vulnerable groups, including refugees and displaced persons. Since its inception in 2023, the project has implemented outreach vaccination sessions in remote and high-risk areas, combining direct vaccination with health education to reduce vaccine-preventable disease (VPD) risks. The 2026/2027 cycle builds upon the successes of the previous cycle, expanding geographic reach, strengthening surveillance, and improving immunization coverage for both Egyptian and non-Egyptian children.

Throughout this year, the project will focus on several key phases: preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and sustainability. The preparation phase involves assessing target populations and coordinating with local health authorities to identify areas in need. During the implementation phase, healthcare teams will engage with communities to deliver vaccinations, utilizing local leaders to encourage participation.

Following the vaccination activities, a robust monitoring and evaluation framework will be established to track coverage rates and gather feedback from stakeholders. This data will inform ongoing efforts to refine and enhance the outreach approach. Finally, the project will emphasize capacity building and sustainability by providing ongoing training for healthcare providers and fostering community engagement, ensuring that immunization efforts are maintained beyond the project's initial phases.

Project Start and End Date	08/1/2025 – 07/31/2027
Funded by	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Collaborators	Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP)

Currently . . .

- 2023–2026 (Aug 31) Achievements:
- 1889 outreach sessions conducted across nine governorates.
- 41418 children vaccinated (40534 Egyptian, 884 non-Egyptian).
- Zero-dose children detected: 598; defaulters: 1688.
- Health education sessions delivered: 1696; attendees: 37127.
- AFP and fever/rash surveillance improved in Cairo and Giza.
- Three districts transitioned to regular PHC coverage, reflecting behavior change.

What is next . . .

- Expand coverage to 14 governorates, 54 districts, and 132 areas, including new governorates: Quena, Assiut, and Menya.
- Conduct 130 outreach vaccination sessions per month with integrated health education.
- Strengthen monitoring and reporting of AFP, fever/rash, zero-dose, and defaulter children.
- Ensure consistent distribution and retention of vaccination cards among caregivers.
- Provide cascade training and supervision to EPI teams to enhance vaccination quality and surveillance.
- Conduct final evaluation and integrate findings into government PHC facilities for sustainability.

EMPHNET Information: Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) 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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