



# 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 2016, more than 450 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.
- At Rotary’s 2017 International Convention in Atlanta, global leaders pledged \$1.2 billion to the fight to eradicate polio.
- This pledge included Rotary’s commitment to raise \$50 million per year over the next three years as part of the End Polio Now: Countdown to History campaign.
- 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).

## Polio Cases (as of 15 November 2017)

	2016	2017
Number of Cases	37	15

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

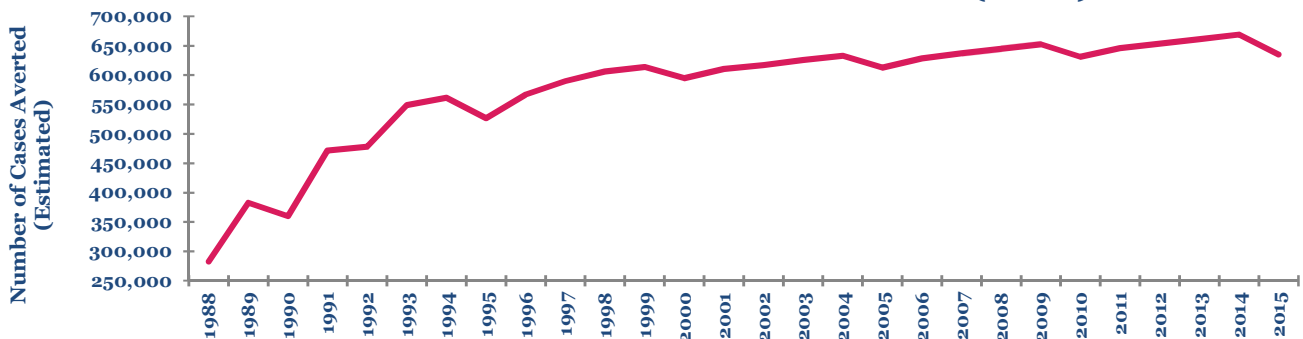


A study published in 2010 in the medical journal “Vaccine” estimates the economic benefit of polio eradication as US\$40-50 billion.

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



## Number of Polio Cases Averted (16 M)\*



\* Source: WHO



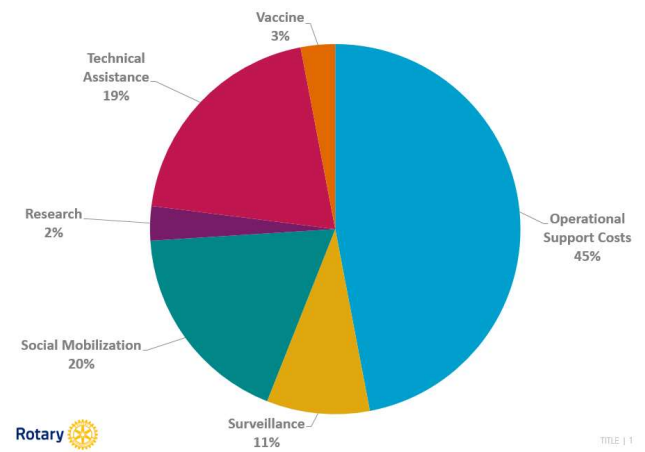
## FUNDING

- 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.
- Rotary has contributed more than US\$2.2 billion to polio eradication efforts, including US\$985 million in matching funds from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Rotary's contribution to the GPEI since 1988 accounts for nearly 11% of all contributions through December 2016 and approximately 42% of private sector giving.

### Rotary Polio Grants - Top 10 recipients: (US\$ Million, as of June 2017)

	Recipient	WHO	UNICEF	Other	TOTAL
1	Nigeria	\$ 81	\$ 126	\$ 27	\$ 234
2	WHO-AFRO	179			179
3	India	74	87	15	176
4	Pakistan	73	69	5	147
5	Afghanistan	38	68		106
6	Sudan	38	40		78
7	WHO-EMRO	53			53
8	DR Congo	17	29		46
9	Chad	23	17		40
10	Somalia	16	24		40

### Distribution of Grants 2010-2016: (US\$ Million)



### Select PolioPlus Grant Projects Funded in June 2017

1. DR Congo: 250,000 posters to create awareness of National immunization Days and stipends for 32,000 vaccinators.
2. Afghanistan: Allowance for 65,000 vaccinators, supervisors, and district coordinators for two National Immunization Days
3. Pakistan: 2500 female community health workers and 680 social mobilizers to raise awareness of National Immunization Days.
4. Nepal and Myanmar: Support for disease surveillance medical officers to detect and investigate any possible cases of polio.

### 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)



Rotary



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