IMMUNISATION: STRENGTHENING PRIMARY HEALTHCARE, BUILDING UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

IMMUNISATION ROUTINELY REACHES MORE HOUSEHOLDS THAN ANY OTHER HEALTH SERVICE

- Globally, 85% of children (116.2 million) are now receiving their third dose of a diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis-containing vaccine (DTP3).
  - For the first time in 2017, the coverage of the third dose of the pentavalent vaccine reached the same level as DTP3 at 80% in Gavi-supported countries, increasing from 66% in 2015.

- Routine immunisation benefits the unprivileged and under-served, including many in hard-to-reach locations, making it one of the most equitable health interventions. For example, at the global level there is no significant difference in immunisation coverage for boys and girls.

- Gavi is helping countries to further strengthen routine immunisation by systematically addressing inequities, whether geographic, socioeconomic or gender-related.

- Countries are displaying strong commitment to sustain their national immunisation programmes. By early 2018, 16 countries had started fully self-finance all their vaccines introduced with Gavi support.

IMMUNISATION PROVIDES A PLATFORM FOR REACHING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES WITH INTEGRATED HEALTH SERVICES

- Immunisation is the only intervention that brings the majority of children and their families into contact with primary health services five or more times during the first year of a child’s life.

- Immunisation offers opportunities to reach communities with additional health services, ranging from malaria prevention and nutritional supplements through neonatal and maternal healthcare to sexual and reproductive health and education.

COUNTRY CASE STUDIES

**In Pakistan**, outreach immunisation sessions provided through the Government’s essential packages of health services, which have so far been implemented in 20 districts, include not only vaccination but also antenatal and postnatal care services, family planning and micro-nutrient supplementation. With Gavi support, Pakistan’s lady health workers go door-to-door in communities to increase immunisation coverage as well as to provide other essential maternal and child health services.

The Government of **Burundi** is strongly committed to providing high-quality maternal and child healthcare services to its population. Gavi is supporting these efforts through nationwide delivery of an integrated package of health services provided through health facilities, as well as a community-based pilot initiative which will be scaled up over the next three years. Gavi is also providing tailored support to 15 low-performing districts for integrated treatment for major childhood diseases.
IMMUNISATION CONTRIBUTES TO STRONGER HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

- Gavi has helped to strengthen health systems and immunisation services in more than 60 countries.
- With immunisation comes supply chain, cold storage, trained healthcare staff, data monitoring and use, disease surveillance, community outreach and healthcare records – all of which contribute to more responsive primary healthcare delivery and support countries’ capacity to prepare for, prevent and respond to emergencies.
- Strong health systems are needed to deliver and scale up new vaccines, improve immunisation coverage and equity, and improve the reach of other essential health services.

IMMUNISATION AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

- The sustainable development goals (SDGs) recognise vaccines as an essential factor in ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for people all over the world.
- Immunisation supports inclusive human development, increased productivity and prosperity.
  - In Gavi-supported countries, for every US$ 1 spent on immunisation, the broader return of people living longer, healthier lives amounts to US$ 48.
  - Vaccines administered between 2016 and 2030 will prevent 24 million people in 41 of the world’s lowest-income countries from falling into poverty.

GAVI CONTINUES TO STRENGTHEN HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS BY:

- Committing US$ 1.3 billion for health system strengthening support to Gavi-eligible countries in the 2016-2020 period, complementing this with support through Alliance partners such as WHO, UNICEF and civil society organisations.
- Investing in evidence-based strategies, best practices to improve primary healthcare, and immunisation integrated with other essential health services.
- Helping countries to invest in vaccines that prevent deadly diseases (such as pneumonia, diarrhoea and cancer) and help to combat the rising risk of antimicrobial resistance.
- Catalysing Gavi-supported countries, to invest in sustaining primary health care.