Member States Information Session - The global immunization "Big Catch-Up" effort

Dr. Kate O'Brien, Director, IVB / WHO

Friday, 24 March 2023



Agenda

Opening Remarks (5mins)

Anshu Banerjee, Assistant Director General ad interim, Division of Universal Health Coverage/Life Course

2 IA2030: The global "Big Catch-Up" effort (30 mins)

Presenter: Kate O'Brien, Director, Immunization, Vaccines & Biologicals

3 Questions & Answers

Moderator: Ann Lindstrand, Unit Head, Essential Programme on Immunization

4 Closing Remarks

Kate O'Brien



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- 1 IA2030 Goals and Targets
- **2** COVID-19 Impact on routine immunizations
- Getting back on track through 2023 Immunization intensification3-prong approach
- 4 IA2030 Partnership and "The Big Catch-up"
- 5 Key advocacy opportunities and resources



IA2030 goals, quantitative targets and strategic priorities

IA2030 Impact Goals

- 1 Reduce mortality and morbidity from vaccinepreventable diseases for everyone throughout the life course
- 2 Leave no one behind, by increasing equitable access and use of new and existing vaccines
- 3 Ensure good health and wellbeing for everyone by strengthening immunization within primary health care and contributing to universal health coverage and sustainable development

Targets

- 1.1 50mn future deaths averted globally
- 1.2 All countries achieve endorsed VPD control, elimination and eradication targets
- All selected VDPs have a declining trend in the number of large or disruptive outbreaks
- 2.1 50% reduction in the number of zero dose children
- 2.2 500 vaccine introduction in low- and middle- income countries
- 90% global coverage for DTP3, MCV2, PCV3 and HPVc
- 3.2 Improve Universal Health Coverage

21 Strategic Priority Objectives



Strategic Priority Objective indicators:

15 global indicators

+ Indicator options available for all 21 SP objectives for tailored regional and country M&E Frameworks based on context



IA2030 suffered a significant setback in 2021



Annual Zero Dose Children rose by 37% from 13.3 million in 2019 to 18.2 million in 2021.

Annual measles unvaccinated children rose by 21 % from 2019 to 2021.



An estimated 4 mn future deaths were averted by immunization in 2021, but it is 5.6% lower than initially targeted



No visible progress has been made towards global and regional eradication/elimination goals.

Number of **outbreaks** triggering a global vaccination response are on the rise.



Coverage of all four indicators of vaccination across the life-course (DTP3, MCV2, PCV3 and HPVc) dropped in 2021.



The number of new vaccine introductions in low- and middle-income countries (excluding COVID-19 vaccines) rose slightly from 2020, but remains at lowest level in 20+ years



Composite **breadth of coverage** indicator **fell for the first time ever**, for 2 consecutive years to 68% (70% in 2019)



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COVID-19 caused unprecedented backsliding in immunization, posing greater challenge than ever for protecting life

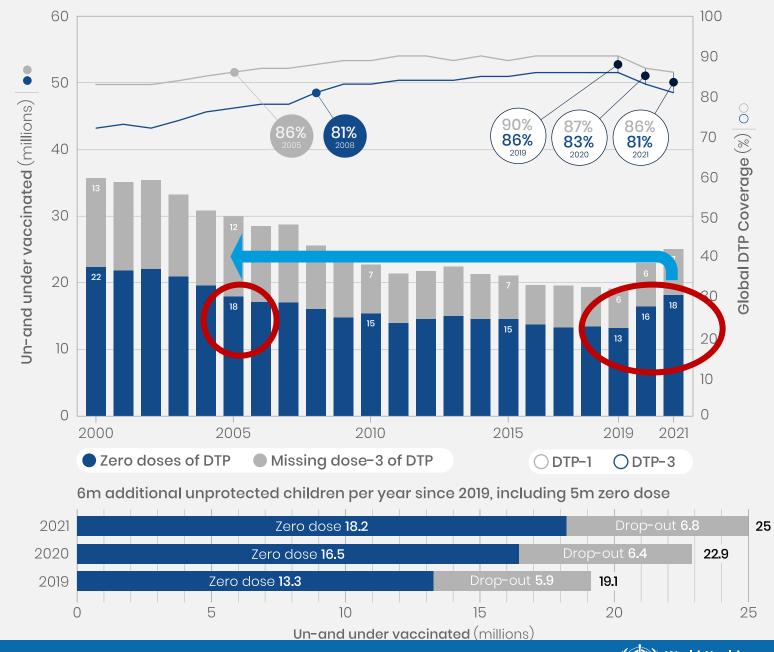
25M children were un-or under-vaccinated in 2021 alone

18.2M were zero-dose

6M more than in 2019









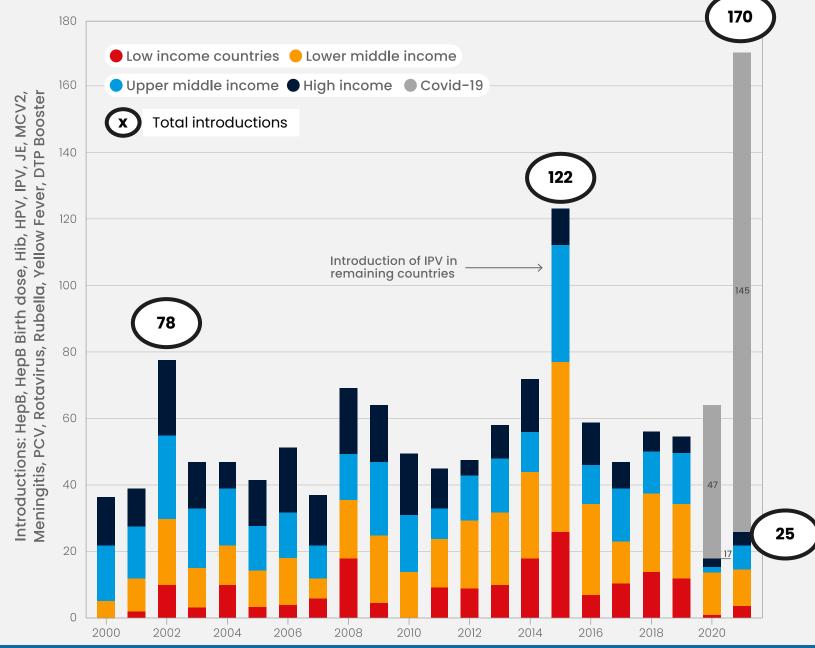
2021 - Greatest number of vaccine introductions ever in a single year

Driven by COVID-19 vaccine

- 192 Member States introducedCOVID-19 vaccines in 2020 &2021
- □ Fewer other vaccine introductions, not seen since before 2000
- Well below long-run average of approx 50/year

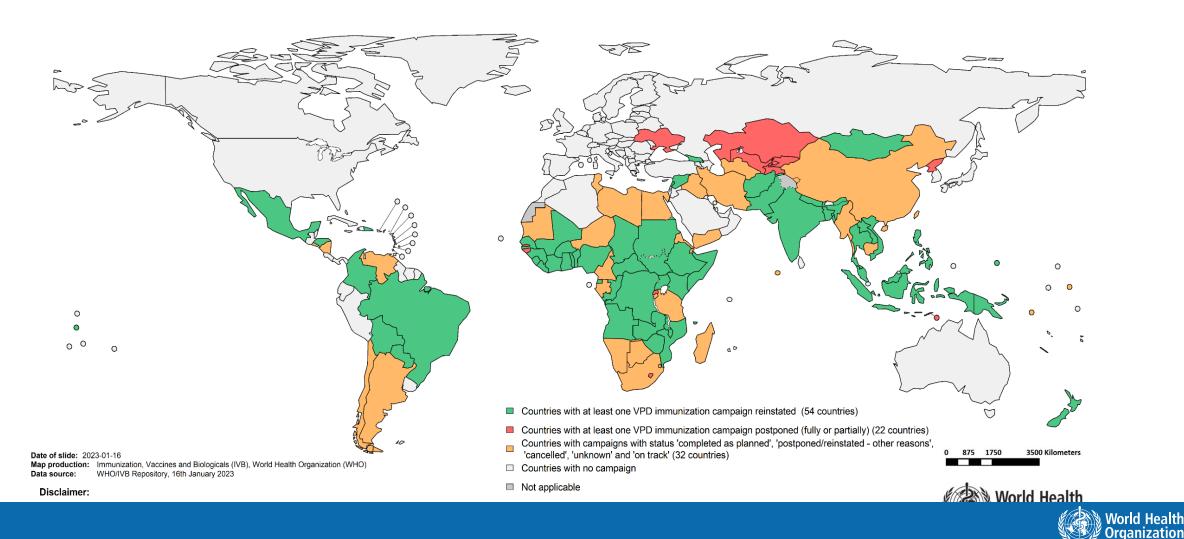








VPD campaigns postponed due to COVID-19: 22 countries with at least one VPD campaign still postponed, 16th January 2023



Pandemic impact on immunization: special imperative to act

Immunization System: 2020 – 2022+

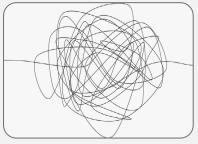
5.5 Billion

Adults vaccinated (with 13.3 billion doses)

50 Million

Children did not get DTP3











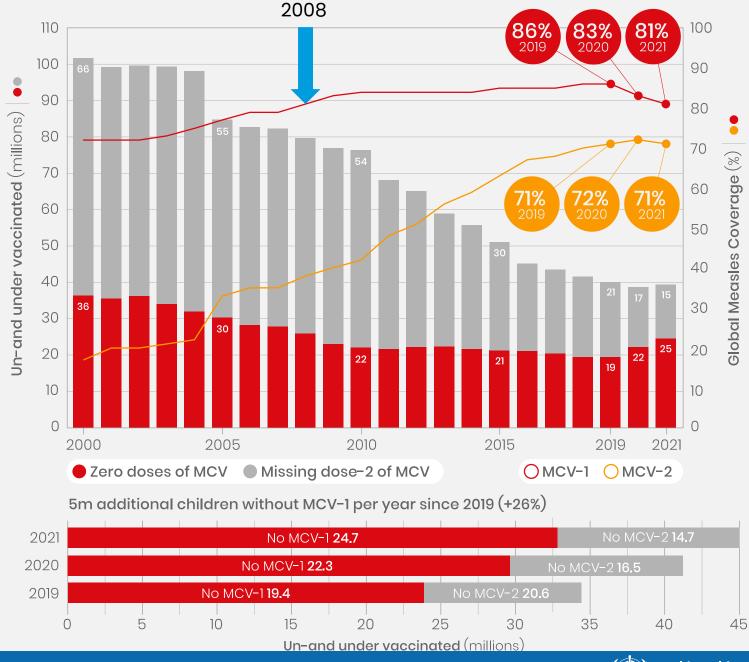
Measles is the "canary in the coal mine"

First dose measles coverage dropped to 81% (2021)

- 25 million children no MCV-1
 - 5 million more than in 2019
 - lowest coverage since 2008
- 15 million additional children no MCV-2
- Supplemental Immunization Activities (including campaigns) continue to be required



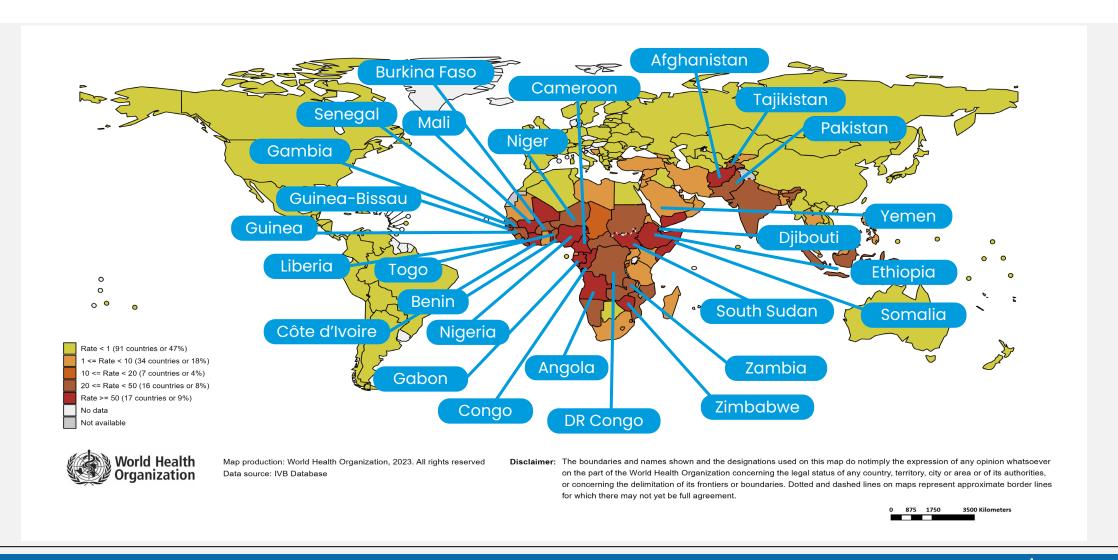








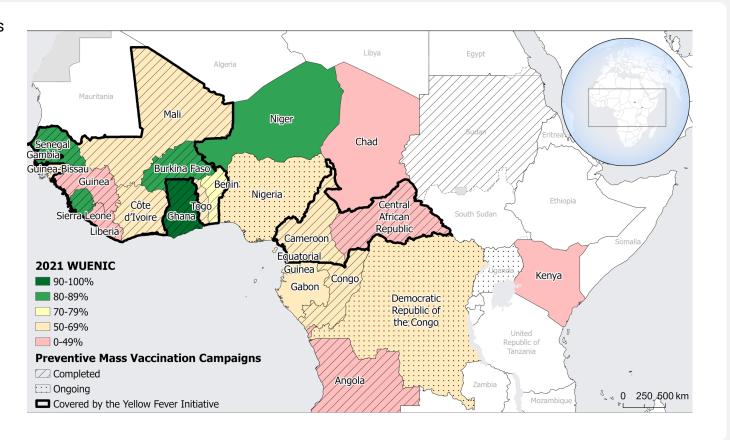
Large and Disruptive Measles Outbreak (12M period) 1/2022 – 12/2022 Measles Incidence Rate per Million





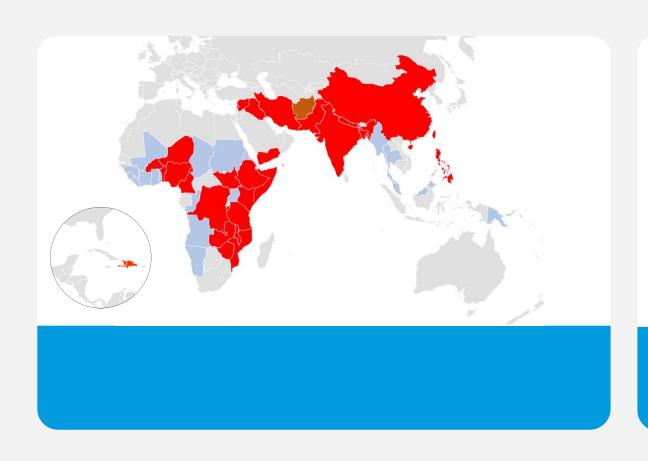
Yellow fever vaccine coverage stagnated: concerns of outbreak in areas with past large vaccination campaigns

- 15 countries reporting confirmed & probable YF cases
- Outbreaks signal immunity gaps in high-risk countries
- Since late 2020:
 - 11 outbreaks, of which
 - 7 were disruptive
 - 7 were in countries with history of preventive campaigns (6/7 are disruptive)
- High concerns about urban risk
- Potential for exportation
- Response is resource-intensive
- Underlying risk aggravating factors
- WHO Grade 2 emergency





Cholera Outbreaks 2022- 2023



CV Market Shaping Roadmap: identified main areas for action to improve the OCV market



Many countries facing crisis upon crisis (example country)

Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases per million people

7-day rolling average. Due to limited testing, the number of confirmed cases is lower than the true number of infections.

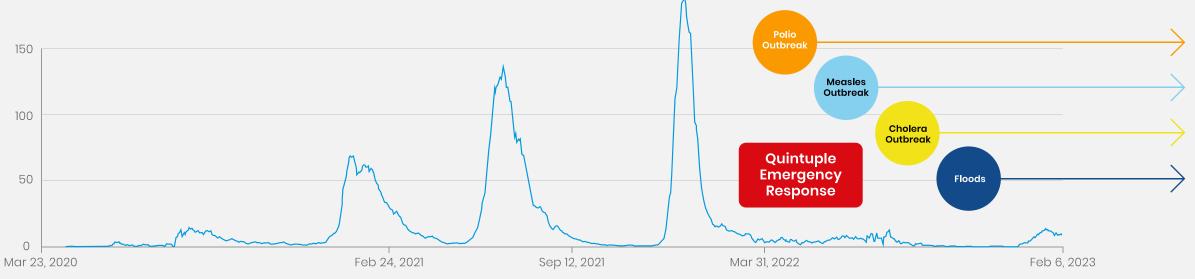
Emergency Response

Resilience and EHC security
Td Vaccines, RMNCH drugs, IPC
supplies, PPEs, Medical Oxygen
Equipment, 3 Oxygen Plant
Rehabilitation

Continuity of EHS

Sustain EHC security, HSS, Resilience Vaccines, ACSM, newborn equipment, Cold Chain revitalisation, TSS Building Back Better

Health System
Strengthening
EPI (including COVID-19)
in PHC



Maternal deaths (900); Newborn deaths (16,000); Under 5 deaths (35000); Still Births (10,000)



Kenya

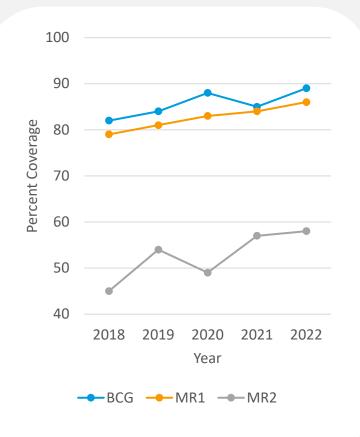
- 53 million population
- 8,000 vaccinating health facilities (incl public, private, NGO & FBO)

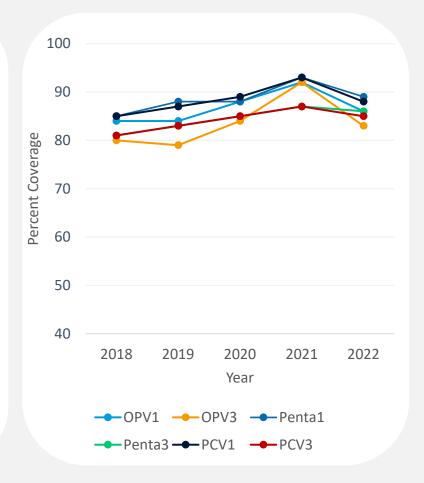
- Despite impact of COVID-19 maintained strong routine immunization services
- Continued RTS,S pilots in 8 counties (26 sub-counties)

COVID-19 Vaccination

- Started March 2021 targeting health care workers, teachers, security officers & people with comorbidity
- As of 1st Feb 2023, administered over 23 million doses

Resilient Country Immunization Programmes





Data from Kenya Immunization Programme, 13 February 2023



Yemen

- 21.6 million in need of humanitarian assistance (2/3rds population)
- 4.5 million people internally displaced
- 46% of all health facilities are nonor partially functioning

"Vaccines Are Neither Safe Nor Effective"

A symposium held **7 Jan 2023** in Sana'a with the participation of several senior officials

After which authorities suspended all outreach vaccination activities in northern Yemen

Fragile Country Immunization Programmes

Consequences of underfunding



1,000 health facilities are unsupported



10M persons have no access to health services



7.9M
children are in critical need of health services



2.9M
women of reproductive
age lack maternal, child
and reproductive services

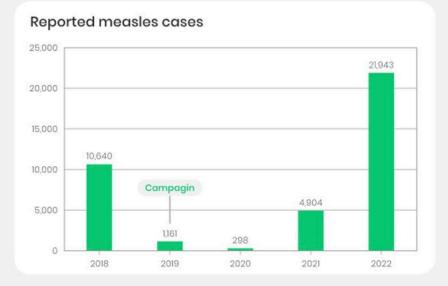


children with acute malnutrition face deteriorating health or death

Required funding to Yemen's health sector

*US\$392M

to reach 12.9 million people



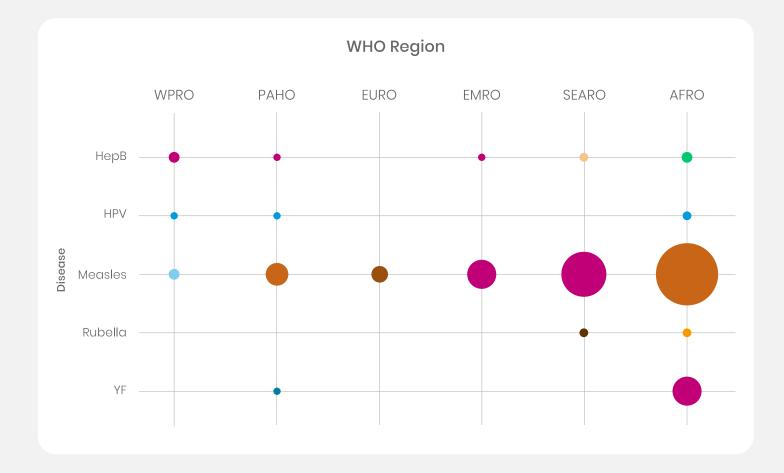
	2021	2022
Penta3 coverage (WHO-UNICEF estimate)	72%	
Measles 1 dose coverage (WHO-UNICEF estimate)	71%	
Reported measles cases (& deaths)	4,904 (137)	21,943
Reported diphtheria cases (& deaths)	1,496	1,206 (84)
Reported pertussis cases (& deaths)	3,714	8,193 (16)
Polio (cVDPV1&2)	69	161
Children aged 12-23 months not protected with vaccine	271,600	275,000



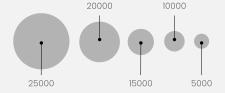
VIMC analysis: impact of disruptions for immunization (projections for 2020-2030)

Unless action taken:

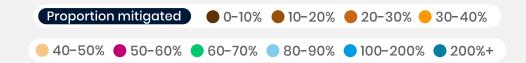
- 48,109 additional deaths in 112 countries, from disruption in measles, rubella, HPV, HepB, MenA and YF vaccination
- The vast majority of these are projected to be due to measles and occur in the WHO AFRO region.
- 18,521 of these deaths could be avoided by intensification of immunization
 - i.e. PIRIs; campaigns are not only approach, which are disruptive to routine immunization



Number of excess deaths



Number of additional deaths due to coverage disruptions between calendar years 2020 and 2030 (size of dots) and projected proportion of additional deaths that could be mitigated through catch-up activities (colour of dots).



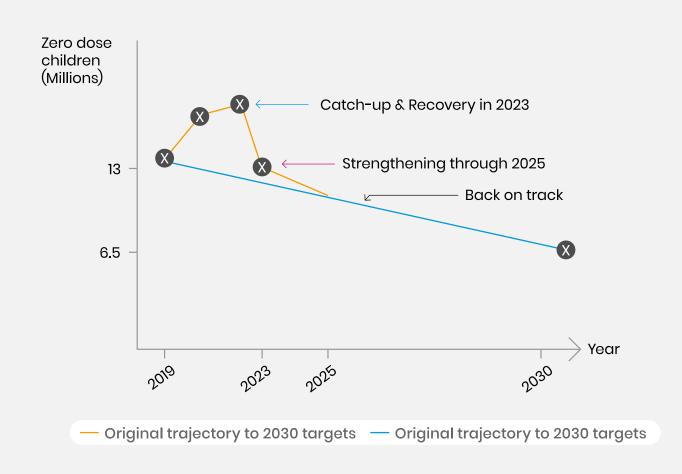


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Approx. 67 million children to be immunized globally in 2023–25 to be back on track

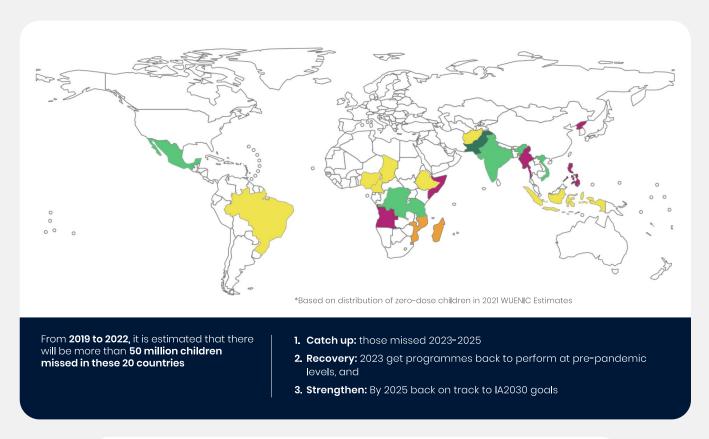








78%* of zero-dose children in 2021 lived in 20 countries – providing focus for intensified support efforts



WUENIC 2021: Coverage and Number of Zero-Dose Children

Coverage - 2021	Rank	Country	DTP1 (%)	Number zero - dose children	
	1	India	88	2,711,000 2,247,000	
	2	Nigeria	70		
	3	Indonesia	74	1,150,000	
	4	Ethiopia	70	1,134,000	
	5	Philippines	57	1,048,000	
	6	DR Congo	81	734,000	
	7	Brazil	74	710,000	
	8	Pakistan	90	611,000	
	9	Angola	57	553,000	
	10	Myanmar	45	492,000	
	11	Tanzania	82	402,000	
	12	Mozambique	67	372,000	
	13	Afghanistan	74	361,000	
	14	Somalia	52	338,000	
	15	Mexico	83	317,000	
	16	Madagascar	65	304,000	
	17	Cameroon	76	219,000	
	18	DPR Korea	42	197,000	
	19	Chad	73	191,000	
	20	Vietnam	87	187,000	
		Total	14.3 million		

DTPI Coverage (%) • <60 • <60-69 • <70-79 • <80-89 • <90-94

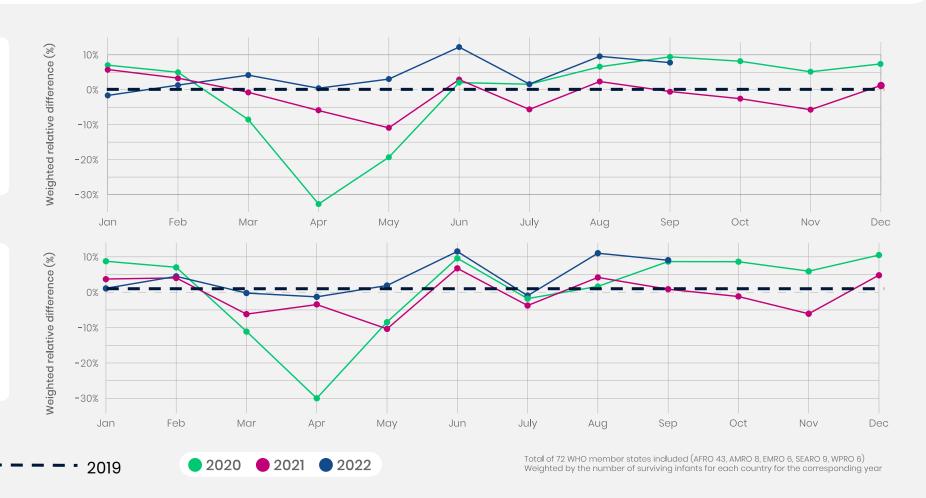
Source: WUENIC Estimates https://data.unicef.org/resources/immunization-coverage-estimates-data-visualization/



Many countries are restoring programme performance, some likely exceeding 2019 levels (WUENIC 2022, to be released mid-July)

Weighted relative difference in **DTPCV3** vaccinated in 2022, 2021 & 2020 compared to 2019

Weighted relative difference in **MCV1** vaccinated in 2022, 2021 & 2020 compared to 2019





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2023 Immunization intensification 3-prong approach:

Catch-up

Reaching children who missed vaccination during 2020-2022, some of which was due to the pandemic (this includes the 2019 zero-dose and under-immunized children as part of the accumulated susceptible cohort)

Restore immunization programmes

Restore vaccination coverage in 2023 back to at least 2019 coverage levels

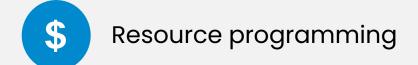
Strengthen immunization programmes

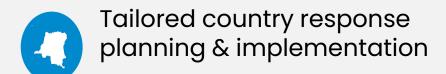
Strengthen immunization systems within Primary Health Care, to improve program resilience & resume the trajectory of the IA2030 goals & targets

Delivered through:









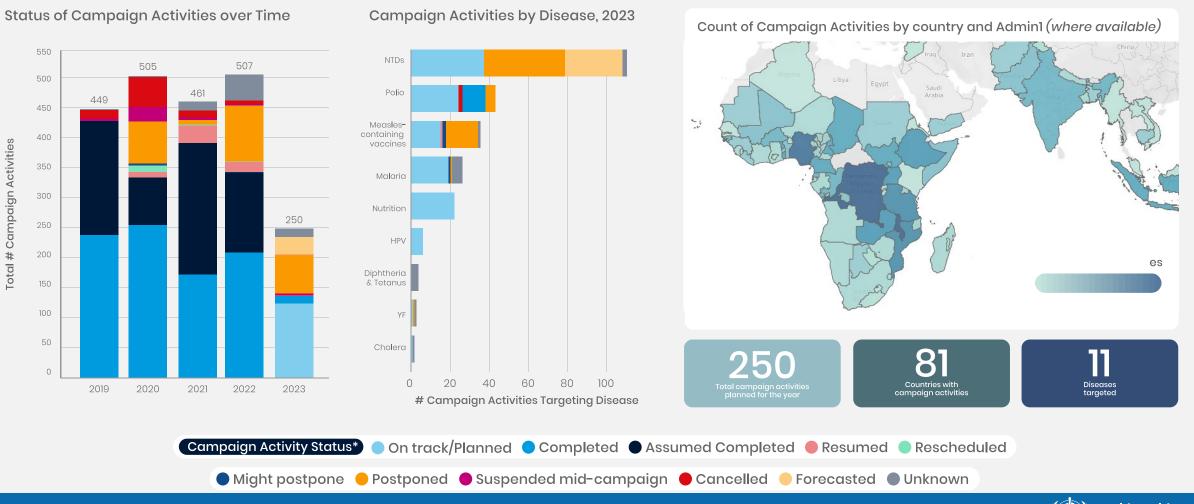






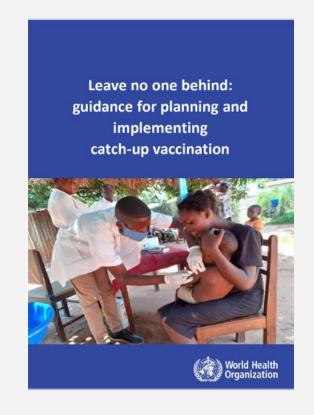
Health campaigns are a two-edged sword Health Campaign Effectiveness Coalition driving toward change

HCE Coalition source: Campaign Calendar-March 2023)





A robust catch-up vaccination strategy requires a whole system approach

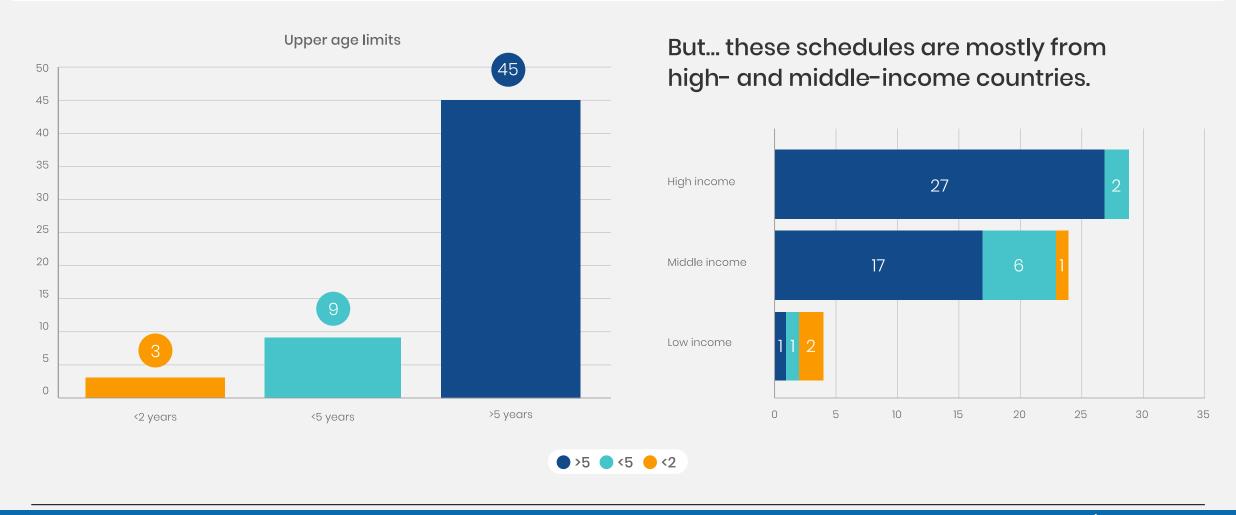




WHO Recommendations for Interrupted or Delayed Routine Immunization



Of the 57 catch-up schedules analyzed... 45 (79%) permitted catch-up with at least one childhood vaccine (excluding HPV) beyond 5 years of age.





Immunization through the life course, integrated through PHC Addressing demand & vaccine misinformation

		Pregnant women	New born (24 hours)	Infant (1 year)	Second year of life (12–23 months)	Child (2–4 years)	Adolescent (9-19 years)	Adult (25–60 years)	Older person (+61 years)
Immunization*	Vaccines recommended by WHO for all immunization programmes	Tetanus toxoid containing vaccine (TTCV)	BCG Hep B-BD	DTPCV Measles Rubella HepB PCV Rotavirus Hib Polio	DTPCV booster Measles PCV3 (if 2+1 schedule)	Diphtheria booster Tetanus booster	Diphtheria booster HPV Tetanus booster	-	-
	Vaccines recommended by WHO for certain regions high risk populations/ immunization programmes with certain characteristics	Seasonal influenza		Japanese Encephalitis Meningococcal Rabies Seasonal Influenza Typhoid Yellow Fever	Cholera Typhoid Hepatitis A Varicella Meningococcal Mumps Rabies Seasonal Influenza	Cholera Rabies Seasonal Influenza Typhoid	Cholera Dengue Rabies Seasonal Influenza Typhoid	Cholera Dengue Rabies Seasonal Influenza	Cholera Rabies Seasonal Influenza
Nutrition	Growth monitoring/ nutritional counselling	•			•	•			
	Vitamin A supplementation			•	•				
Malaria	Distribution of long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLNs)	•			•		•	•	•
	Intermittent preventive treatment of malaria in infants (IPTi)			•					
	Seasonal malaria chemoprevention (SMC)				•				
Neglected tropical diseases	Deworming	•				•	•		•
Reproductive & maternal health services	Family planning services		**	**	**	**	•	•	
HIV	HIV services	•			•		•	•	•
	Male circumcision for HIV prevention						•	•	
Wash	Hygiene kit distribution	•			•		•	•	
Health education	Health counselling	•	•	•	•		•	•	
	*Complete WHO immunization recommendations can be found in the Vaccine Position Papers and Summary Tables available at www.who.int/immunization/policy/en/ **For caregiver								



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Highest Priorities for 2023 - 2025



Zero dose child agenda & RI Strengthening (Catch-up, Recovery & Strengthening)



- Measles
- Polio
- Diphtheria
- Yellow Fever
- Health
 Emergency
 Preparedness &
 Response



HPV Revitalization



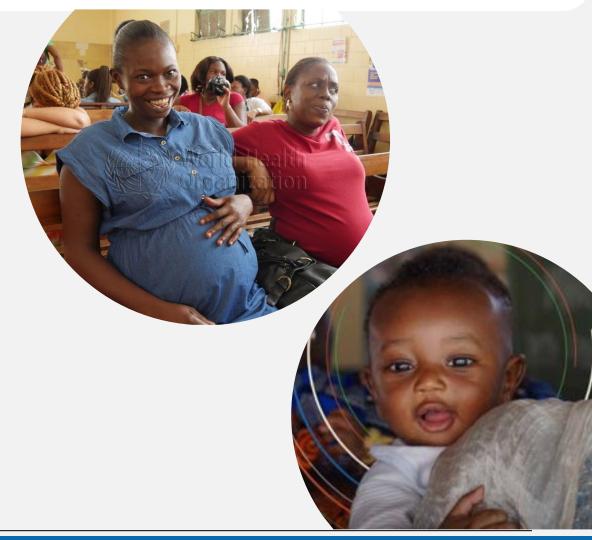
COVID-19 integration



Malaria introductions (regional)

IA2030: Working in partnership

- Partners are collaborating on operation Big Catch
 Up in 20 priority countries with highest numbers of zero-dose children
- A target of **50 million** [TBC] additional children for vaccination
- The Big Catch Up incorporates response to several recommendations made in the 2022
 Technical Progress Report (TPR), reviewed by SAGE in October 2022





Overview: The 'Big Catch-up"

In 2023, WHO will join with partners, at all three levels, to drive a communications and advocacy push to complement the technical intensification of immunization activities.

World Immunization Week: 24 – 30 April 2023





The **big catch-up** communications push means catching up on:

- Children missed during the pandemic
- Restore immunization to get back to at least 2019 coverage
- Strengthening immunization to achieve the 2030 trajectory

World Immunization Week: 24 to 30 April 2023







WIW will unite partners and people behind a focused global campaign to **highlight the life-saving importance of vaccines**.

WIW platform to **highlight successes from countries** from the last few years, as well as what can be done to scale up vaccinations. *e.g.* malaria vaccination introductions, cholera outbreak responses

WIW is an opportunity to **elevate specific asks for priority countries** and highlight the barriers to vaccination including conflict and emergencies.

We need action everywhere but especially in the **20 countries** where over three-quarters of children who missed vaccinations live.

WIW will also play a **key role in a year-long push to catch, up, restore and strengthen immunization programmes** to surpass pre-pandemic levels.

WIW platforms:

- 1. WHO website <u>Vaccines and immunization (who.int)</u> linking to assets & regional content, as well as an external
- 2. WIW microsite https://www.worldimmunizationweek.org/ to showcase WHO & partner activities.



Key advocacy opportunities 2023

Q1 2023

January

 New Year Resolution on **Immunization**

Q2 2023

April

Launch: Big Catch-up World Immunization Week

May

World Health Assembly

Q3 2023

July

WUENIC Annual Immunization Figures

September

United Nations High Level Meeting (IA2030 event)

Q4 2023

November

 WHO Measles Mortality special report on progress

December

• Segue next phase into EPI at 50 celebration of countries in 2024

WHO Regional Committees Events and updates on catch-up and recovery

National consultations on 'big catch-up' constraints & solutions



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Examples of Strategic Actions by Partners to Date

Political alignment & leadership

- Africa Union declaration "Building momentum for routine immunization recovery in Africa" Heads of State Summit
- Unicef State of the World's Children
 Report release in April, prior to WIW focus
 on Immunization and Recovery
- Immunization Demand Hub convened
- Regional and National Immunization
 Technical Advisory Groups convenings
 with countries for policy review
- Activation of National Public Health
 Agencies leadership voice
 for advocacy immunization intensification

Country Focused support

- Note Verbale and Technical FAQ from WHO,
 UNICEF and Gavi to country and regional immunization staff
- Country-led recovery plans developed with technical support by WHO and partners
- USAID in the 20 priority country briefings for country offices completed
- Regional Immunization Working Groups jointly convened by WHO and Unicef
- Vaccine Impact Modeling Consortium (WHO and IA2030 strategy) modelled data on the possible deaths averted if the recovery plan is realized

Resource Programming

- Operational acceleration of Gavi funds underway, with policy and strategic input from WHO and UNICEF
- Gavi Sec. letter to MOHs on resources available for country implementation
- World Bank is assessing opportunities for enhanced programming to countries.
- US CDC pivoting field staff priorities and funding with a special focus on consequential geographies.
- Unicef Supply Division conducted a market study concluding no supply constraints for this effort



Resources on catch-up and immunization recovery



Catch-up vaccination landing page

https://www.who.int/teams/immunization-vaccines-and-biologicals/essential-programme-on-immunization/implementation/catch-up-vaccination



Leave No One Behind: Guidance for planning and implementing catch-up vaccination (EN,FR,PT)

 $\underline{https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240016514}$



WHO Recommendations for interrupted or delayed vaccination (EN,FR)

https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/table-3-who-recommendations-for-routine-immunization

Catch-up vaccination videos (EN,FR coming soon):



Administering catch-up vaccination

https://watch.immunizationacademy.com/en/videos/8/807



Managing multiple injections

https://watch.immunizationacademy.com/en/videos/805



How to record and report catch-up vaccination

https://watch.immunizationacademy.com/en/videos/806



Technical Resources for Improving Immunization Coverage and Equity

https://www.technet-21.org/en/library/main/7095-technical-resources-for-improving-immunization-coverage-and-equity



Immunization as an essential health service: guiding principles for immunization activities during the COVID-19 pandemic and other times of severe disruption (EN)

www.who.int/publications/i/litem/immunization-as-an-essential-health-service-guiding-principles-for-immunization-activities-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-and-other-times-of-severedisruption



Guiding principles for recovering, building resiliency, and strengthening of immunization in 2022 and beyond

(FR) www.technet-21.org/en/library/main/7946-principes-directeurs-de-la-reprise,-de-la-promotion-de-la-résilience-et-du-renforcement-de-la-vaccination-en-2022-et-au-delà



Missed Opportunities for Vaccination resource guides (EN,FR)

www.who.int/teams/immunization-vaccines-and-biologicals/essential-programme-on-immunization/implementation/reducing-missed-opportunities-for-vaccination-(mov)



Vaccination in the second year of life (2YL) guides and resources (EN,FR,PT)

www.who.int/teams/immunization-vaccines-and-biologicals/essential-programme-on-immunization/integration/vaccination-in-the-second-year-of-life-(2yt)

