



International Geneva
Directory of Geneva Global Health Actors

Global Polio Eradication Initiative | GPEI

<http://polioeradication.org/>

World Health Organization Avenue Appia 20 - 1211 Geneva 27

BACKGROUND AND MISSION

The goal of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative is to complete the eradication and containment of all wild, vaccine-related and Sabin polioviruses, such that no child ever again suffers paralytic poliomyelitis. Launched in 1988 after the World Health Assembly passed a resolution to eradicate polio, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, along with its partners, has helped countries to make huge progress in protecting the global population from this debilitating disease. As a result, global incidence of polio has decreased by 99.9% since GPEI's foundation. An estimated 16 million people today are walking who would otherwise have been paralysed by the disease, and more than 1.5 million people are alive, whose lives would otherwise have been lost. Now the task remains to tackle polio in its last few strongholds and get rid of the final 0.1% of polio cases.

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Polio eradication
- Communicable diseases
- Children health and rights
- Vaccinations

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

The GPEI Polio Endgame Strategy 2019-2023 lays out the roadmap to achieving and sustaining a world free of all polioviruses. It focuses on three key pillars: Eradication, Integration, and Containment + Certification, as well as critical enabling factors such as gender, research and preparing for Post-Certification Strategy (PCS) implementation. It builds on and optimises use of the proven lessons and tools of the GPEI Polio Eradication and Endgame Strategic Plan 2013-2018, which has brought the world to the threshold of being polio-free and outlines new strategies and innovations that will help ensure we cross the finish line.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

The World Health Assembly (WHA), which is the primary decision-making body of WHO, provides the highest level of governance for the GPEI. The Assembly issues the resolutions that determine the scope and direction for the GPEI globally, and secures the commitment of WHO Member States to support the work of the initiative. Detailed deliberations of WHO Regional Committees and the WHO Executive Board inform the polio related discussions of the Assembly at its annual meeting.

Advisory, monitoring and technical groups inform the decision-making of the WHO governing bodies and provide oversight for the GPEI's managing bodies. The Strategy Committee of the GPEI is an executive committee set up by the POB to oversee the management and execution of the Polio Endgame Plan. It is accountable for the achievement of programmatic objectives. Six Management Groups report to the Strategy Committee on different aspects of the programme, with representatives from all of the partners of the GPEI.

FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) is financed by a wide range of public and private donors, who help meet the costs of the Initiative's eradication activities implemented by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in partnership with countries and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Between 1988 and 2018, over US\$16 billion has been provided by over 100 public and private sector donors.

PUBLICATIONS

Relevant documents are available at <http://polioeradication.org/tools/>

Expenditures and annual reports are linked in specific pages in the website.

Last update: 20.08.2019