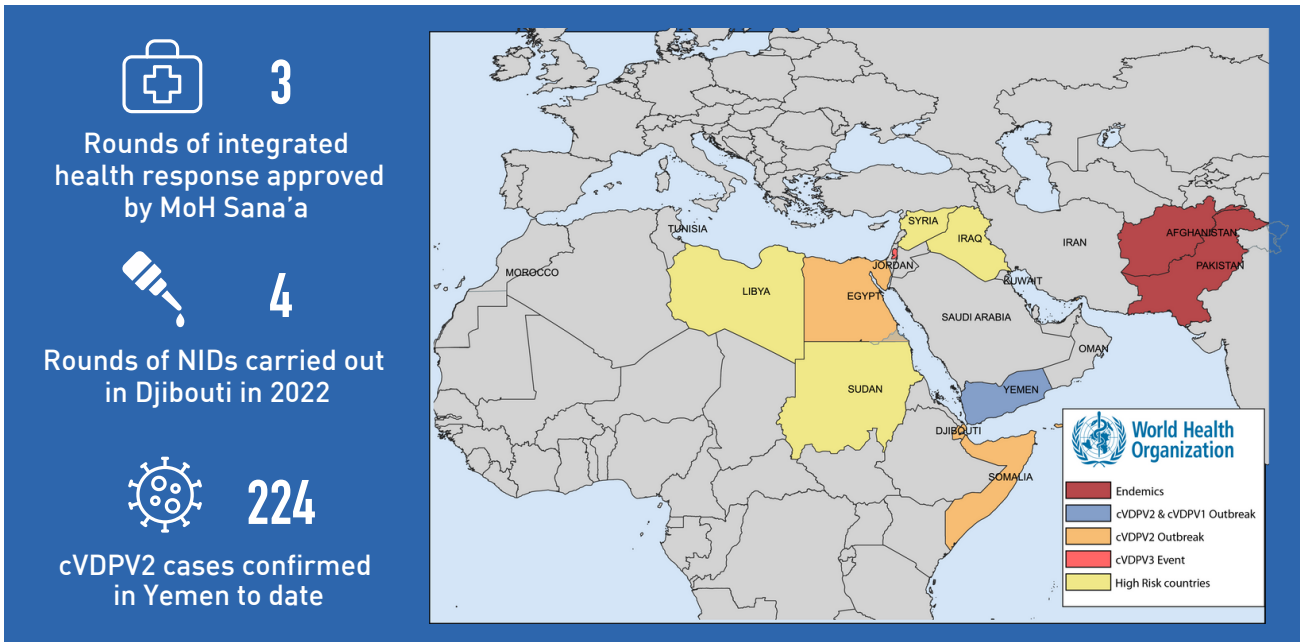


MENA EMR REGIONAL CVDPV OUTBREAKS

Issue #29 | Week 48 (ending 1 December 2022)



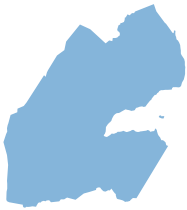
SITUATION UPDATE

- Following 11 months of multi-channel advocacy, on 17 November 2022 the polio programme received a letter from the Ministry of Health Sana'a approving three rounds of integrated health response in **Yemen** Yemen's northern governorates.
- **Somalia** has isolated PV2 in six AFP cases, eight contacts and two ES samples, all of which are pending sequencing.
- Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (VDPV2) isolates, 2022 to date:
 - Djibouti: 0 AFP; 12 ES.
 - Egypt: 0 AFP; 6 ES.
 - Somalia: 4 AFP; 3 ES.
 - Yemen: 158 AFP; 3 ES.



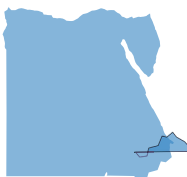
EPI AND SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

DJIBOUTI



- To date, all cVDPV2 isolates have been confirmed through environmental surveillance:
 - Since the first isolation in October 2021, 17 cVDPV2 isolates confirmed.
 - Five of these were confirmed in 2021 and 12 in 2022.
 - Samples are collected every two weeks from each of two sites.
 - Results since week 35 are pending (14 samples total).
- Seventeen AFP cases have been reported in 2022 to date, above the indicator of three AFP cases per 100,000 children below 15 years, but stool adequacy, at 65%, is still below benchmark (80%).
- Efforts are ongoing to boost surveillance capacity: national surveillance officers participated in an IFA training in Tunis, organized by the regional office; a round of formative supervision of all surveillance focal points and a meeting of the national expert and confinement committees will take place before end 2023.

EGYPT



- There are two cVDPV2 outbreaks, both confirmed through environmental surveillance:
 - The CHA-NDJ-01 emergence started on 10 January 2021 (most recent detection on 8 June 2021, 17 months ago).
 - The EGY-QEN-01 emergence started on 9 May 2021 (most recent detection on 9 March 2022, eight months ago).
- There are 2 cVDPV2 importation events:
 - YEM-TAI-1 was first isolated on 18 November 2021 (most recent detection on 30 March 2022).
 - NIE-ZAS-1 was first isolated on 28 April 2022 (most recent detection on 29 August 2022).

SOMALIA



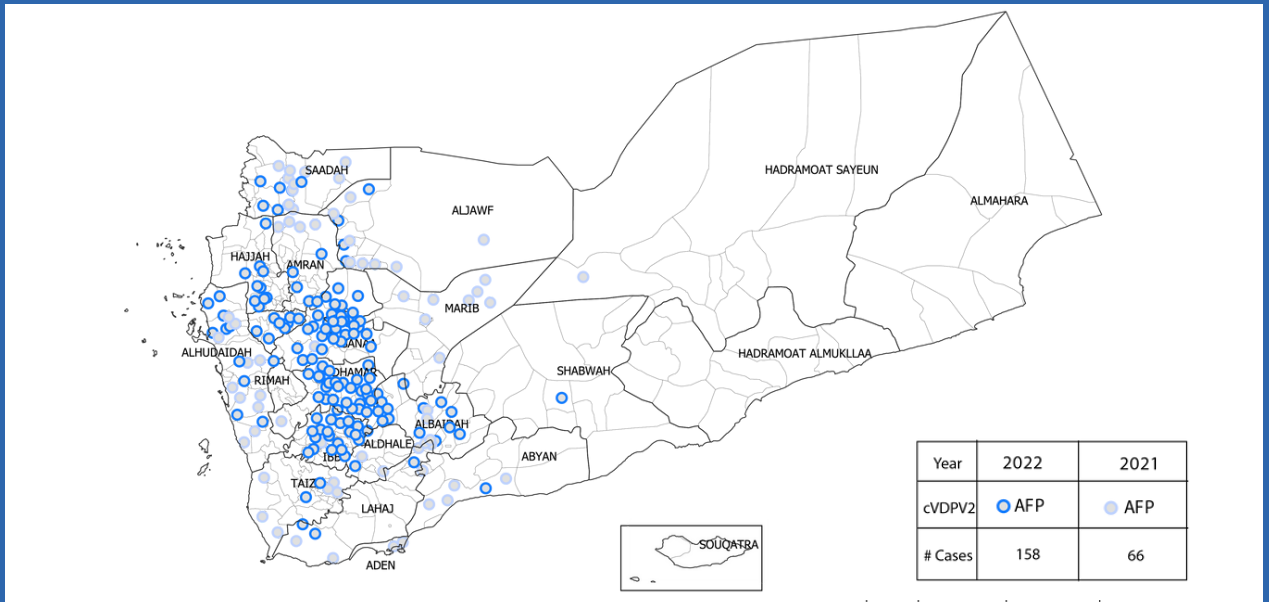
- In 2022 to date, seven cVDPV2 isolates have been confirmed (four AFP cases and three ES samples):
 - Date of onset of most recent cVDPV2 case: 16 July 2022.
 - Collection date of most recent cVDPV2-positive ES sample: 19 May 2022.
- Six AFP cases are pending PV2 sequencing:
 - Case from Qanaah Dere, Bay; date of onset 18 August 2022.
 - Case from Daynile, Banadir; date of onset 23 August 2022.
 - Case from Bulo Burti, Hiran; date of onset 23 August 2022.
 - Case from Balanbale, Galgadud; date of onset 1 September 2022.
 - Case from Mahaday, Middle Shabelle; date of onset 2 September 2022.
 - Case from Gardo, Bari; date of onset 1 November 2022.
- A training on environmental sampling in collaboration with KEMRI laboratory in Nairobi, **Kenya** is ongoing (28-30/11) in Garowe for sample collectors.

YEMEN



- A total of 224 cVDPV2 cases have been reported; samples from 170 AFP cases are pending testing.
- The circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1(cVDPV1) case count remains 35 cases in two governorates; the last case had onset of paralysis on 27 March 2021.
- Significant improvement achieved in slashing the time from the collection of stool samples to receipt of results, from 70 days in Q2 to 59 days at present. However, significant backlogs exist with the movement of environmental samples out of Yemen to laboratories for testing: at present, 16 samples are pending at the country levels, awaiting permission to be shipped.

CVDPV2 CASES IN YEMEN





OUTBREAK RESPONSE UPDATE

DJIBOUTI

- Round 2 of the planned post-breakthrough NID is planned for 3-7 December 2022, following two postponements:
 - Target: 156,194 children under age five.
 - To improve campaign quality and given the population distribution within the country, planning and partner monitoring efforts are focused on the capital.
 - Door pre-marking by the community relays enabled the programme to identify areas not covered in the last round; these areas will get special focus from the doctor in charge of the zone and increased partner or independent monitoring.
 - Sufficient doses of nOPV2 are available, and all trainings have been conducted (from national supervisors and vaccine monitors to teams).
 - Funds are in country and digital payment will be used.

EGYPT

- SNIDs in Cairo and Giza were completed on 13 October 2022:
 - LQAs reporting showed 50 lots passed at >90%, 13 lots passed at 80-90%, and no lots failed.
 - Administrative coverage showed 97% with a 40% increase in coverage of non-Egyptian children compared to the last NIDs in Cairo and Giza.
- An NID is planned to be implemented from 11 December 2022 for four days:
 - Training of governorate and district levels completed on 28 November 2022.
 - High-priority cluster micro-plan review started on 29 November 2022 and will continue for five days.
 - Training of non-Egyptian mobilizers will start on 7 December 2022 for two days.

SOMALIA

- U10 SNIDs-R2:
 - Six-day mOPV2 campaign ran 22-27 October 2022.
 - In this round a total of 4,754,176 children under 10 were targeted in 79 districts across 11 regions; 4,428,635 children were vaccinated (93% administrative coverage), 18,958 of whom (0.43%) were zero dose for OPV by any strategy.
- The integrated measles and polio vaccination campaign was completed in FMS and Puntland.
 - 2,608,051 children (95%) received tOPV; 2,309,273 (94%) received MCV.
 - 19,941 children (0.8%) were zero dose for OPV.
 - 2,001,035 children (81%) received vitamin A.
 - 1,819,925 children (92%) received deworming tablets.
- NID-2 is still pending in Somaliland for political and administrative issues.
- During the meeting in Amman (13-14 November 2022), the Somalia Emergency Action Plan 2023 was discussed and will be finalized by mid-December. Three SNIDs and two NIDs are planned.

YEMEN

- Three rounds of integrated health outreach have been greenlit by the Ministry of Health, Sana'a; the rounds are 18 days each, consisting of 6 days of health facility-based vaccination, for people living within 5km of health facilities, followed by 12 days of outreach for people who cannot access health facilities. The target is 8.8m children under age 10.
- The first round is scheduled to start on 7 January, with both private and public health facilities opening their doors from 8am to 5pm.
- The service offering includes IMCI, vaccines including tOPV, nutrition screening and micronutrient supplementation for children, deworming tablets and vitamin A, and supplements for pregnant and lactating mothers with the possibility of adding further elements in subsequent rounds; each round is budgeted at around \$9.5m USD.
- The operating environment in Yemen's northern governorates remains complex, with limitations on communication and outreach; anti-vaccine propaganda is rife. The programme is waiting on the MoH to finalize its own health communication strategy before finalizing a social mobilization / SBCC plan. Similarly, monitoring mechanisms remain unconfirmed.
- MoH Sana'a has set up an Emergency Operations Centre and is holding daily meetings; technical teams on the ground are staffing up and working around the clock to deliver the level of preparation required – from training to microplanning, surveillance to supply – to deliver a coordinated and effective round in January 2023.

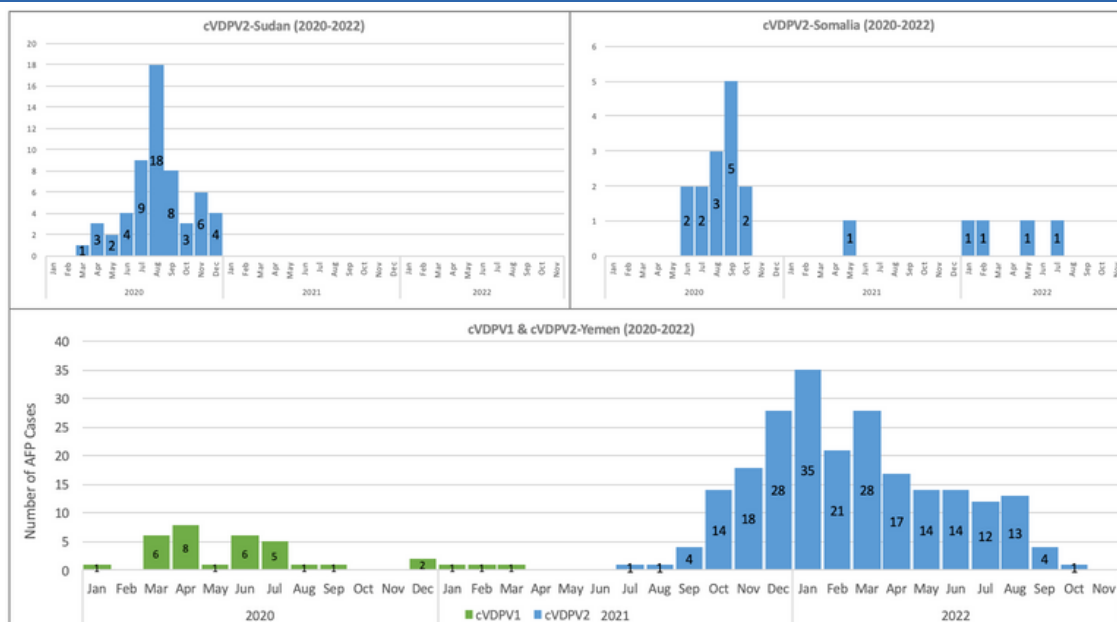


REGIONAL COORDINATION

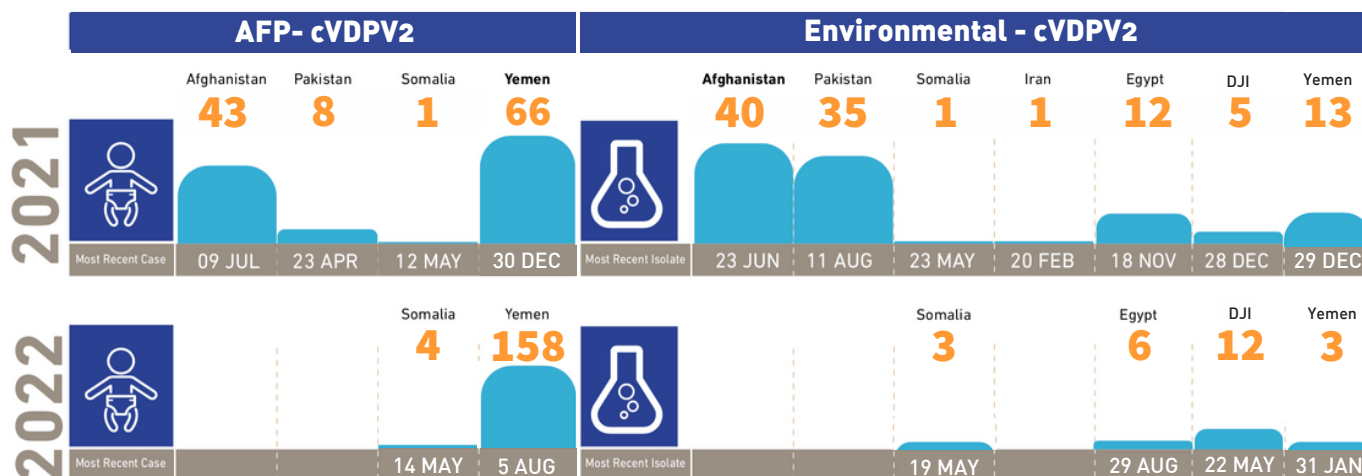
- Regular coordination continues with weekly Incident Management Support Team (IMST) and Outbreak Response Preparedness Group (ORPG) meetings, and the Regional Incident Managers (RIMs) continue to lead coordination between country and regional levels.
- IMST held a meeting over 13-14 November 2022 in Amman, **Jordan**, focused on outbreaks in Yemen and Somalia – the region's consequential geographies. Participants – from GPEI partner agency HQs (BMGF, CDC, Gavi, UNICEF, WHO), EMRO Polio and UNICEF MENA, UNICEF ESA, and WHO and UNICEF Polio focal points from Somalia and Yemen – agreed clear plans and timeframes for submitting Emergency Action Plans and corresponding budgets for 2023.
- Following the last meeting between the ORPG and the IMST in June 2022 in London, a one-day meeting was held on 15 November 2022 in Amman, **Jordan** to review progress and challenges in 2022 and priorities in 2023 for polio outbreak response and preparedness, and to discuss capacity-building plans and the advocacy framework.



OUTBREAK EPI CURVES



ALL cVDPV2 OUTBREAKS IN THE EMR



Send questions to:

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UNICEF:

Regional Polio Coordinator: atsega@unicef.org
 Regional Chief of Communications: jtouma@unicef.org

Relevant links:

- [Global Polio Eradication Initiative \(GPEI\) website](#)
- [Polio Eradication Strategy 2022–2026](#)
- [Regional Subcommittee on Polio Eradication](#)
- [GPEI factsheet—VDPV](#)
- [Vaccine-derived polioviruses animation](#)

