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

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

Friday, 24 March 2023
Agenda

1. 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
3. Getting back on track through 2023 Immunization intensification
   3-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 vaccine-preventable 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
1.3 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

3.1 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

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


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

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

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

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

7. 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.

8. 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** introduced COVID-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

"The new next"
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

5m additional children without MCV-1 per year since 2019 (+26%)
Large and Disruptive Measles Outbreak (12M period) 1/2022 – 12/2022
Measles Incidence Rate per Million

Notes: Based on data received 2023-02 - Surveillance data from 2022-01 to 2022-12 - Incidence: Number of cases / population * 1,000,000 - Population data: World population prospects, 2019 revision

Map production: World Health Organization, 2023. All rights reserved
Data source: NDBase

Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.
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**

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 non- or partially functioning

“A 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
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
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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

From 2019 to 2022, it is estimated that there will be more than 50 million children missed in these 20 countries

1. **Catch up**: those missed 2023–2025
2. **Recovery**: 2023 get programmes back to perform at pre-pandemic levels, and
3. **Strengthen**: By 2025 back on track to IA2030 goals

### WUENIC 2021: Coverage and Number of Zero-Dose Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>DTP1 (%)</th>
<th>Number zero-dose children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>2,770,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>2,247,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>1,150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>1,134,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>1,048,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>DRCongo</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>734,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>710,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>681,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>553,000</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>45</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>402,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>372,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>381,000</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>52</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>317,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Madagascar</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>304,000</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>279,000</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>DPR Korea</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>177,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>167,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>137,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total** | **14.3 million**

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

Total of 72 WHO member states included (AFRO 43, AMRO 8, EMRO 5, SEARO 9, WPRO 6)
Weighted by the number of surviving infants for each country for the corresponding year
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2023 Immunization intensification
3-prong approach:

1. **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)

2. **Restore** immunization programmes
   Restore vaccination coverage in 2023 back to at least 2019 coverage levels

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

**Delivered through:**

- Political leadership
- Advocacy and partnerships
- Resource programming
- Tailored country response planning & implementation
- Responsive technical assistance
- Monitoring and learning
Health campaigns are a two-edged sword
Health Campaign Effectiveness Coalition driving toward change

HCE Coalition source: Campaign Calendar–March 2023

Campaign Activities by Disease, 2023

- NTDs
- Polio
- Measles containing vaccines
- Malaria
- Nutrition
- HPV
- Diphtheria & Tetanus

Status of Campaign Activities over Time
A robust catch-up vaccination strategy requires a whole system approach
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.

But... these schedules are mostly from high- and middle-income countries.
**Immunization through the life course, integrated through PHC**

**Addressing demand & vaccine misinformation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Immunization*</th>
<th>Pregnant women</th>
<th>New born (24 hours)</th>
<th>Infant (1 year)</th>
<th>Second year of life (2-3 years)</th>
<th>Child (2-4 years)</th>
<th>Adolescent (10-19 years)</th>
<th>Adult (20-60 years)</th>
<th>Older person (&gt;60 years)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vaccines recommended by WHO for all immunization programmes</td>
<td>Tetanus toxoid containing vaccine (TTcv)</td>
<td>BCG</td>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
<td>DTP/PCV (Hib)</td>
<td>Measles/PCV</td>
<td>Rubella/PCV</td>
<td>Polio</td>
<td>DTP/PCV booster (PCV3 &amp; 2nd Hib dose)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccines recommended by WHO for certain regions high risk populations/immunization programmes with certain characteristics</td>
<td>Seasonal influenza</td>
<td>Japanese Encephalitis</td>
<td>Meningococcal</td>
<td>Hibbies</td>
<td>Seasonal influenza</td>
<td>Typhoid</td>
<td>Yellow Fever</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>Growth monitoring/ nutritional counselling</td>
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<td>Vitamin A supplementation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malaria</td>
<td>Distribution of long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLIN)</td>
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<td>Intermittent preventive treatment of malaria in infants (IPTi)</td>
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<td>Seasonal malaria chemoprevention (SMC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neglected tropical diseases</td>
<td>Deworming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reproductive &amp; maternal health services</td>
<td>Family planning services</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>HIV services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Male circumcision for HIV prevention</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wash</td>
<td>Hygiene kit distribution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health education</td>
<td>Health counselling</td>
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</table>

*Complete WHO immunization recommendations can be found in the Vaccine Position Papers and Summary Tables available at www.who.int/immunization/publications/.

** 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.

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 – 30 April 2023
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 Vaccines and immunization (who.int) 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q1 2023</th>
<th>Q2 2023</th>
<th>Q3 2023</th>
<th>Q4 2023</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>January</strong></td>
<td><strong>April</strong></td>
<td><strong>July</strong></td>
<td><strong>November</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• New Year Resolution on</td>
<td>• Launch: Big Catch-up</td>
<td>• WUENIC Annual</td>
<td>• WHO Measles Mortality-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunization</td>
<td>World Immunization Week</td>
<td>Immunization Figures</td>
<td>special report on progress</td>
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<td><strong>December</strong></td>
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<td>• Segue next phase into EPI</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>May</strong></td>
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<td>• United Nations High Level Meeting (IA2030 event)</td>
<td>at 50 celebration of countries in 2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>• World Health Assembly</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

### National consultations on ‘big catch-up’ constraints & solutions
## 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)**
https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240016614

**WHO Recommendations for interrupted or delayed vaccination (EN,FR)**
https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/sihathea-3-who-recommendations-for-routine-immunization

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

**Administering catch-up vaccination**

**Managing multiple injections**

**How to record and report catch-up vaccination**

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**Technical Resources for Improving Immunization Coverage and Equity**

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**Guiding principles for recovering, building resiliency, and strengthening of immunization in 2022 and beyond (FR)**

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

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**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)

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