

CGPP Takes a Lead on the First Ever Vaccinology course in Ethiopia



The CORE Group Polio Project Secretariat in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health of Ethiopia (FMoH), Unicef & WHO country offices and East Africa Center for Vaccines & immunization (ECAVI): organized the first ever vaccinology course in Ethiopia. There were 21 participants from CGPP secretariat

and partner staffs, EPI team from FMoH, WHO & Unicef. The course was a five days course conducted from December 4 to 8, 2018 . The purpose of the training was for participants to master the basics of immunization and address current immunization challenges in country. It was also aimed for participants to acquire knowledge and competencies to advise and use their newly acquired knowledge for capacity building activities at the grass-root level.



Dr. Filimona Bistrat delivering remark at the opening of the Vaccinology Course

The course was divided into 19 sessions, including the history of vaccines, basic immunology and epidemiology, data management & statistics for vaccines; surveillance, vaccines pharmacovigilance, regulatory requirements, safety, vaccines development, vaccine introduction, vaccine logistics, vaccine preventable diseases and new ways of effectively reaching the community with vaccines were discussed. A wide range of topics were taught during each session, followed by group discussions, case studies and group works.

The sessions were presented by experts from CORE Group, Universities, Research Institutions, Unicef, WHO and NGOs. The program is financially supported by CORE Group, CCRDA Civil Society Health Forum and Unicef.

At the end of the course, participants strongly recommended the course to continue to reach the wider immunization workforce and build capacity to improve vaccine coverage and data quality and promote community participation. The ministry has requested that the next session be conducted within the coming six months. The CORE Group team agreed to do so provided financial support for the training is available.



Participants discussing case studies at the group exercises