CORE GROUP POLIO PROJECT (CGPP)

The CORE Group Polio Project is a multi-country, multi-partner initiative providing financial support and on-the-ground technical guidance and support to strengthen host country efforts to eradicate polio. A U.S secretariat serves as a global partnership liaison and provides overall technical assistance and financial management in each country to maximize and harmonize resources and coordinate collaboration among partners. CORE Group members form and staff an in-country secretariat- a small team of neutral, technical advisors, independent from any one implementing partner. The Secretariat team facilitates communication, coordination, and transparent decision-making among all partners-unifying the community-level expertise of iNGOs and local NGOs with the international knowledge and strategies of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) partners.

CGPP INDIA SECRETARIAT

Formed in 1999 in Uttar Pradesh, CGPP’s India Secretariat is located in Delhi and consists of a team of 4 consultant advisors, which operates through three CORE Group members (Project Concern International, Adventist Development and Relief Agency India, and Catholic Relief Services) and 11 national NGO partners. The project is implemented via an extensive network of Community Mobilization Coordinators (CMCs) who conduct social mobilization activities in high-risk areas to promote acceptance of the oral polio vaccine (OPV). CGPP CMCs also partner with UNICEF CMCs to make up the Social Mobilization Network (SM Net) that works with underserved communities in high-risk areas in coordination with district governments, NPSP (National Polio Surveillance Project) and other polio partners.

A three-tier network of CGPP mobilizers effectively sustains the changed behavior of the target audience.

1. Community Mobilization Coordinators (CMCs)
   There are 1325 salaried CMCs. Each CMC is responsible for mobilizing about 500 households, including holding community meetings, bringing local influential people to home visits, and holding health camps. Each CMC maintains immunization status records for all of the under five children in their assigned areas and for those participating in vaccination campaigns.

2. Block Mobilization Coordinators (BMCs)
   There are 97 BMCs. Each BMC is responsible for social mobilization activities at the block level and overseeing and leading the CMCs.

3. District Mobilization Coordinators (DMCs)
   There are 14 DMCs. Each DMC is responsible for supervising the BMCs and conducting social mobilization activities throughout the district.

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WHO Declares India ONE YEAR POLIO-FREE in 2012!

This incredible achievement is the result of years of relentless efforts by every partner working to fight polio in India. As a valuable partner, CGPP India has contributed significantly to the polio-eradication efforts by targeting high-risk and hard-to-reach populations, including disabled families, Muslim communities, seasonal workers, and migrant groups.

CGPP works in 56 Blocks of 11 high-risk districts in Uttar Pradesh, reaching annually more than 21 million under 15 years old.

KEY CGPP SOCIAL MOBILIZATION OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Built Effective Partnerships Among Agencies
Worked with WHO, UNICEF, USAID, Rotary, the Maternal and Child Health Integrated Program (MCHIP), Gates Foundation, Clinton Foundation, the government of India, the Social Mobilization Network, and the NGO community to increase coordination and collaboration on polio-eradication strategies and activities.

Supported National and Regional Implementation of Supplemental Polio Immunization Activities (SIAs)
Worked with partners, local communities, community leaders and religious and political leaders to promote SIAs.

Strengthened National and Regional Immunization Systems
Worked with MOH staff at the district and block levels to improve local planning of routine immunization activities.

Hosted week-long SIA campaigns and facilitated mobilization prior to and during SAI campaigns by hosting school rallies, encouraging announcements at temples and mosques and deploying Bulawwa Toiles (groups of 8-10 children visiting houses to bring younger children to the booths during the campaign).

Supported Efforts to Strengthen Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) Case Detection and Reporting
Reported cases to the national AFP surveillance program of the MOH.

Supported Timely Documentation and Use of Information
Monitored and evaluated project activities each month, focusing on data on immunization coverage, household participation in SIAs, pregnancies and births and provided training to all NGO partners on the use of the monitoring system.

Provided ongoing supervision, support and on-the-job training for CMCs to promote active learning and social mobilization and interpersonal communication skills.

Applied Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) to improve strategic decisions for improving the reach and quality of social mobilization interventions.

For more information, visit www.coregroup.org/CGPP India or contact CGPP Director, Frank Conlon at FConlon@worldvision.