

Millennium Challenge Corporation Indonesia Immunization Project Activity

Winter 2008- 2009

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of the MCC Indonesia Immunization Project is to rapidly increase the routine immunization coverage rate among infants, thereby enabling Indonesia to score above the median on MCC's Immunization Coverage indicator.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

The MCC Indonesia Immunization Project consists of technical assistance provided through a contract with the Partnership for Child Health Care, Inc. (PCHC). The PCHC employs expatriate and local technical experts in the areas of immunization, community involvement, public outreach, logistics, and training in close collaboration with the Government of Indonesia Ministry of Health Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI).

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BACKGROUND

In the late 1980s, Indonesia's Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) recorded high routine immunization coverage levels and by 1990 Indonesia exceeded the international target of protecting at least 80% of all children with basic EPI vaccines before their first birthday. In 1997, Indonesia experienced the beginning of a turbulent period with the Asian Financial Crisis, the end of the Soeharto government, and the decentralization of key government services from the central level to more than 440 district governments. These changes impacted the immunization program as reflected in the rapid deterioration in the performance indicators.

By 2002, only 52% of children were immunized against the six major vaccine preventable diseases targeted by EPI. This decrease in routine immunization coverage rates led to increased cases of diphtheria, measles, pertussis and tetanus from 2001-2004. In 2005, a major wild polio virus outbreak reversed the gains earned over the past ten years. The formerly high-performing immunization program had fallen to dangerously low levels, leaving many infants and young children seriously exposed to risks of disease and death.

TOTAL PROJECT SIZE

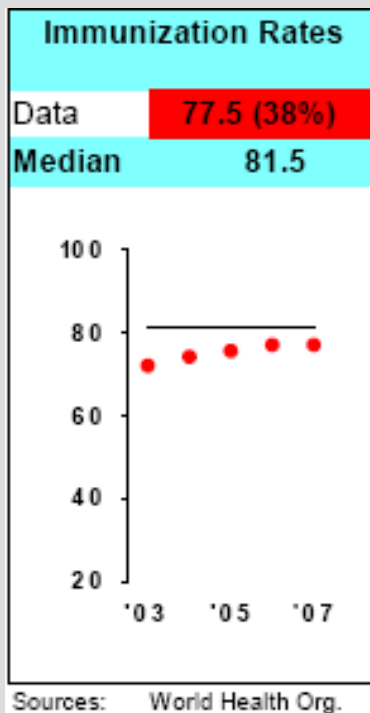
The MCC Indonesia Immunization Project comprises a two-year, US\$20 million contract providing technical assistance to the Government of Indonesia's EPI. Technical assistance is provided by the Partnership for Child Health Care, Inc. (PCHC).

PROJECT FOCUS

The IIP is a two-year project which must overcome challenges in an extremely short timeframe. During the first year, IIP implemented a solid foundation by focusing on establishing the basic Project components:

- Secured policymakers' commitment at all levels by conducting national, provincial and district level launch events.
- Engaged key implementing partners to support the Project and to mobilize communities and their leaders.
- Improved local and district health officers' service capacity through comprehensive training in routine immunization program management.
- Executed a national EPI cluster survey with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the University of Indonesia, and the Ministry of Health to capture valid immunization coverage data.

MCC Indicator Immunization Indonesia



MCC uses the simple average of the 2007 DTP3 coverage rate and the 2007 measles coverage rate to calculate FY09 country scores. Median is derived from a group of “peer” low-income countries.

In year two of the project, IIP will:

- Put in place measures to sustain immunization coverage into the future.
- Increasingly adopt the terminology of its health service partners to integrate Project priorities more effectively with the existing public health system (e.g., using Universal Childhood Immunization as a proxy for the Project’s target).
- Monitor and evaluate Project performance at all levels by introducing and implementing supportive supervision including effective technical mentoring and quarterly review meetings to involve the local government leaders.
- Enable health centers to reach the “un-reached” children through well planned sweeping activities.
- Build the national routine immunization program’s capacity to engage private sector partners, especially in urban sites, while continuing to work with NGO partners.
- Train village midwives and community volunteers in community education and services.
- Launch a comprehensive advocacy and communications campaign.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

The Partnership for Child Health Care, Inc. (PCHC) works with provincial and district health offices to rapidly increase DTP3 and measles immunization coverage in seven provinces (North Sumatra, West Java, East Java, Central Java, Banten, DKI Jakarta and South Sulawesi). These provinces account for over 62% of the country’s 4.9 million children under one year of age. The Project focuses on propelling the national MCC immunization indicator above 81% of children under 1 year of age immunized for DTP3 and measles. All Project work will be geared toward achieving this goal. At the same time, PCHC has committed to building Indonesia’s capacity to sustain routine immunization coverage well beyond the life of the Project.

PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Trained more than 9,300 health center staff in routine immunization program management.
- Involved six major NGO partners in program capacity building and/or community mobilization.
- Completed the national EPI cluster survey which showed a greater than 78% coverage rate for DTP3 and measles, providing the most reliable nationwide immunization coverage data since 2002.
- With government health teams, developed seven province work plans and implemented action plans in all 68 Project priority districts.
- Assisted in improving health centers’ utilization of LAM (local area monitoring) from 49% of centers to 86% (as of June 08).
- Launched a mass media campaign employing Public Service Announcements (PSA) providing immunization messages via three TV and 106 local radio stations.
- Enabled 3.4 million children to be immunized in priority provinces.