# Progress, Challenges, and Lessons Learned in Achieving Measles and Rubella goals 

Workshop 4: How to Optimize Immunization Coverage?

GVIRF, 5 March 2014, Dr Thomas Cherian , WHO/IVB

## Measles global annual reported cases and MCV1 coverage*, 1980-2012



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## Measles and Rubella Targets

Global targets by 2015:
Measles mortality reduction of $95 \%$ vs. 2000
Measles reported incidence $<5$ cases per million
Measles vaccination coverage $\geq 90 \%$ national and $\geq 80 \%$ district
Regional targets:
Measles Elimination goals:
2000 AMRO
2012 WPRO
2015 EURO, EMRO
2020 AFRO, SEARO
Rubella Elimination goals:

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2010 \text { - AMRO, } 2015 \text { - EURO }
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Global Vaccine Action Plan (GVAP):
2020 Measles and rubella elimination in 5 WHO regions

77\% Reduction in Global Measles Incidence, 2000-2012


MEASLES

- \&RUBELLA
+ Ammicann CDC
unicef (3)
\&united nations
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## Measles control: the canary in the mine?

- Measles control highlights the importance of many of the goals and objectives of the GVAP
- Population immunity of $>93-95 \%$ is needed to prevent large outbreaks, requiring homogeneous coverage $\geq 95 \%$ with 2 doses
- A variety of demand side and supply side factors responsible for immunity gaps and consequent outbreaks
- Data quality is important for monitoring coverage, detecting immunity gaps and taking corrective actions
- These can serve as the basis for operational research questions


## Country Experiences

- Ecuador
- France
- UK
- Malawi
- Cambodia


## The Americas

Measles vaccination coverage among children <1 year of age* and reported measles and rubella cases, 1970-2012

*MR in children aged 1 year as countries introduced measles-rubella containing vaccines Source: Country reports to FCH-IM/PAHO.

## Adolescent and Adult Rubella Vaccination ("Speed-up") Campaigns , The Americas*



Source: Country reports to $\mathrm{FCH} / \mathrm{IM}$.

* Includes rubella and measles cases reported to PAHO as of epidemiological week 47/2010.
**Countries that implemented "speed-up" campaigns (1 $1^{\text {st }}$ phase) in women only.


## Reported measles cases and measles vaccination coverage, 1990-2012, Ecuador



Data source:
measles cases - reported by national authorities to WHO annually
measles vaccination coverage - WHO/UNICEF immunization coverage estimates 1990-2010, as of August 2011;
SIA activities: WHO/EPI supplementary immunization activities database

## Distribution of confirmed measles cases by province, Ecuador, 2011-2012* ( $\mathrm{N}=329$ )


-Tungurahua

Pichincha
Pastaza - MoronaS

Chimborazo
-Sto. Dominao

## Measles cases by age and vaccination status, Ecuador, 2012



Source: Immunization Program, Ministry of Health in Ecuador

* Prelimininary data as of EW12/2012


Recent measles outbreaks suggest that overestimation of routine and SIAs coverage may have occurred?

## Measles Vaccination Strategy in France

- 1983 - measles vaccine introduced
- 1986 - MMR at 12 m
- 1996 - MMR2 at 3-6 y
- 2005 elimination strategy:
- MMR1 at 12 m and MMR2 at 1-2 y
- Catch-up 1d for 1980-91 birth cohorts
- Catch-up 2d for all cohorts since 1991
- Vaccination for health care workers recommended
- 2008 birth cohort by 2 years of age:

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\begin{aligned}
& \text { MMR1 }=89 \% \\
& \text { MMR2 }=61 \%
\end{aligned}
$$

- 1994-1997 birth cohort:
- MMR1 coverage $96 \%$ by 11 years
- MMR2 coverage 85\% by 15 years


## Measles Outbreak in France, 2008-2011



## Distribution of MMR 1 coverage and measles cases, France



MMR1 Coverage at 24 months, 2003-2008


Measles cases and incidence, 2010

## Reasons for the French outbreak

- Historically and currently low coverage
- MCV1 and MCV2 <90\%
- Some parents choose not to vaccinate
- Not lack of access for financial or socio-cultural reasons
- Catch-up vaccination not fully implemented
- Bad reputation from Hepatitis B school-based catch-up
- Controversy around H1N1 influenza programme
- Health care workers resistant to vaccination


Source: Public Health England

MMR coverage at two and five years of age, England 1997/8-2011/12


## Annual confirmed cases of measles England and Wales 1996 to 2012

Measles re-established


## Distribution of confirmed measles cases in England by year of birth, Q1 2013



## Reported measles cases and measles vaccination coverage, 1996-2013*, Malawi



## Confirmed measles cases by age, Malawi, 2010 ( $\mathrm{N}=131,725$ )



Adapted from Minetti, Emerg Infect Dis 2013; 19(2):202-9 Elimination in Cambodia
I. Defining unreached/High Risk Communities (HRC)

- EPI review 2010
II. Mapping HRC \& assessing true coverage/risk through card checking
- Measles SIAs - 2011
III. Targeting HRC for routine EPI improvements
- Linked to introduction of MCV2-2012


## 1. Defining High Risk Communities - 2010

- Unimmunized infants concentrated in specific high risk communities *
- Remote, mobile, ethnic \& urban poor
- Poorly identified by admin coverage
- Community status needs assessment by immunization card checks
- HRC represent a risk for measles elimination \& all other immunization goals



## 2. Mapping HRC during Measles SIA - 2011

- HRC identified in Health Centre SIA micro plans
- Based on socio economic status (not coverage)
- Include estimate of community health service access
- During SIA - card check of infants 0-23 mths in HRC
- 32,500 infants in 2,200 villages checked
- Classified as: up-to-date, not up -to-date, no immunization
- Comprehensive list of 1,600 high risk communities across Cambodia


## 3. Using MCV2 to improve HRC coverage




## Impact - No measles cases* since late 2011

2012 National discard rate $=6.9 / 100,000$ population


## Summary

- Prevention of measles outbreaks demands homogeneous very high coverage
- Measles outbreaks highlight gaps in coverage
- Pursuit of measles elimination drives service delivery towards universal access


[^0]:    * MCV1 coverage: coverage with first dose of measles-containing vaccine as estimated by WHO and UNICEF

