

FACT SHEET – IMMUNIZATION

- In Indonesia, a baby dies every three minutes, with 460 dying everyday including from vaccine preventable diseases.
- Close to five million babies need routine vaccination (or the Complete Five– Lima Lengkap in Indonesian) for tuberculosis (TB), polio, DPT (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis or whooping cough), hepatitis B and measles each year.
- WHO-UNICEF best estimates now rank Indonesia fourth globally for un-immunised children, after India, China, and Nigeria. Concern remains that despite significant progress in the past, the country could regress.
- RISKESDAS 2007 survey reports that approximately half a million children in Indonesia receive no immunisation by the time they reach one year of age, a recent government survey said, while another 2.4 million children are only partially immunised.
- Close to one in two children are not fully immunised by the time they reach their first birthday, the survey notes. Striking disparities exist in coverage across the archipelago. Only one in four Papuan children receive full basic immunization, while in Yogyakarta, Central Java, up to 96 per cent of children will receive this vital protection.
- While more than 87 per cent of infants are vaccinated against TB - the first vaccine given to infants - only 46 per cent are fully immunized with all vaccines by the end the first year, the survey reported. Measles, the last vaccine to be given to children in the routine programme, continues to kill thousands of children each year while the reemergence of other vaccine preventable diseases like diphtheria and tetanus are a serious cause for concern.
- Delays in vaccine procurement, a lack of operational funding at the district government level, and fears and rumors about side-effects of the vaccines have seen vaccination figures stagnate in recent years, allowing these diseases to reemerge again.
- Following the outbreak of polio in 2005, UNICEF and the Government of Indonesia launched a series of national immunization days which aimed to protect every child under five against polio, measles and other deadly diseases. UNICEF assisted with the timely availability of vaccines and materials, communications, advocacy and social mobilization. Because of UNICEF's extensive field presence, teams were able to go door-to-door in some very remote areas to ensure no child was left unimmunized.