The Measles and Rubella Partnership (M&RP) is committed to ensuring that no child dies from measles or is born with birth defects caused by congenital rubella syndrome (CRS). M&RP helps regions and countries make plans and track progress in eliminating measles and rubella.

**WHAT IS MEASLES?**

- Measles is a respiratory virus that can be prevented with two doses of the measles vaccine.
- Measles can be very serious—**even deadly**—especially for children under five.
- Measles kills 373 people every day, mostly children **under five** years old.
- Measles is one of the **most contagious diseases**. It spreads so easily that if one person has it, up to 90% of the unprotected people close to them will also get sick.

**WHAT IS RUBELLA?**

- Rubella is a respiratory virus and can be prevented through vaccination.
- Rubella can cause serious birth defects when a pregnant person is infected.
- 90% of infants born to people infected with rubella early in pregnancy have congenital rubella syndrome (CRS)
- CRS is a leading cause of vaccine-preventable birth defects such as hearing impairment, heart defects, cataracts or glaucoma, and developmental delays.
M&RP has delivered more than 4 billion vaccine doses since 2001 that have saved millions of lives.

There’s so much more work to do.

The M&RP’s goal to eliminate measles and rubella is not simply a target; it is a promise to future generations. Together, we can make significant steps toward a world where every child has the chance to survive and thrive, free from the threat of measles and congenital rubella syndrome.

In 2022, more than 136,000 people died from measles.

Each year, 25% of the world’s children lack access to rubella vaccines and more than 30,000 infants are born with CRS.

83% of the world is vaccinated against measles up from 72% global coverage in 2000.

The number of children born with congenital rubella syndrome has decreased since 2000 by 70%.

In 2022, more than 21.9 million children missed their first dose of the measles vaccine.

M&RP’s measles vaccination efforts have saved more than 57 million lives.

90% of countries now include rubella vaccines as part of their national immunization programs.

In low-income countries where the risk of death is highest, measles vaccine coverage is only 66%.

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M&RP is a partnership between American Red Cross, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Gavi the Vaccine Alliance, UNICEF, the United Nations Foundation, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and World Health Organization (WHO).