

Country Presentation: Pakistan

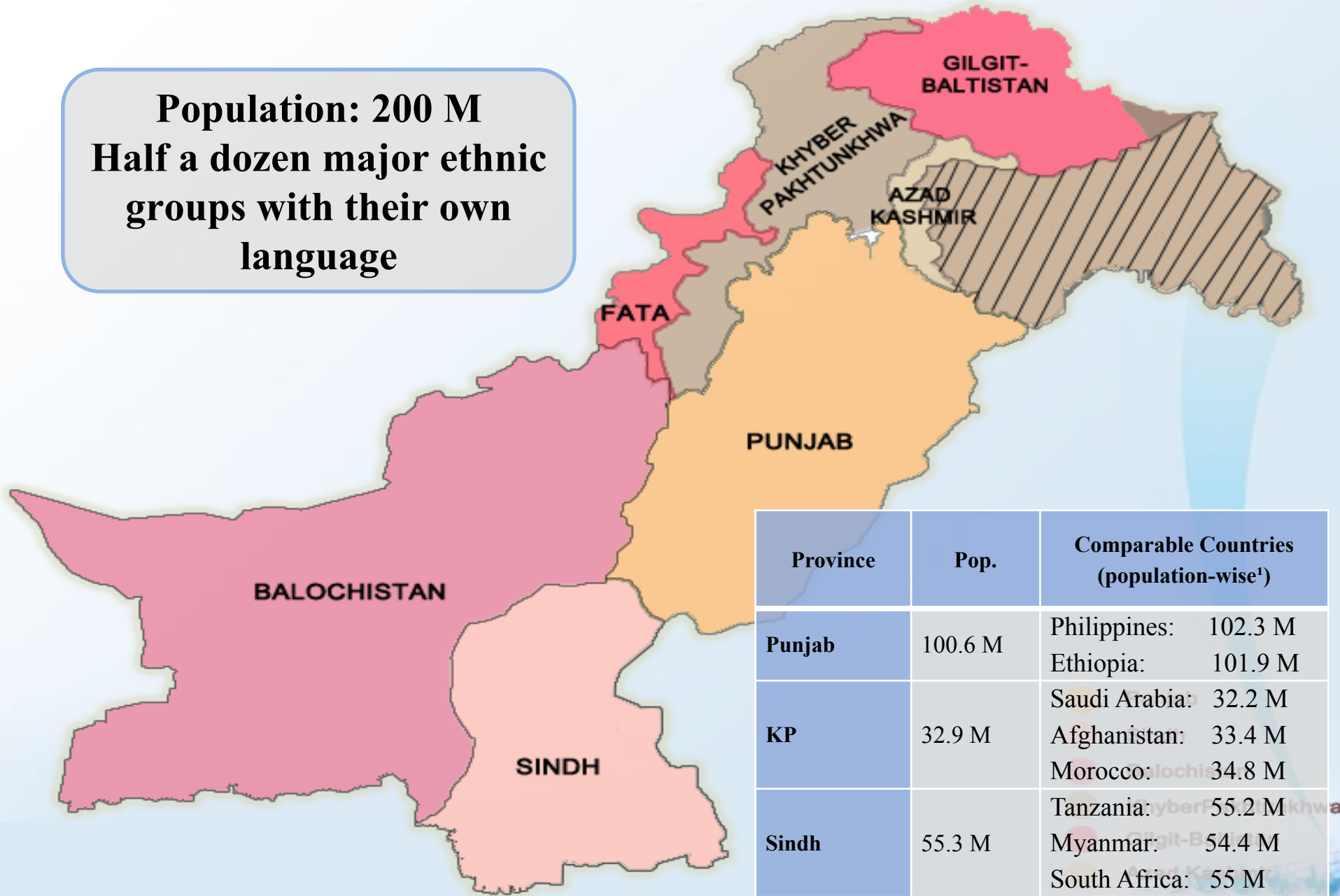
FUNCTIONS & COMPETENCIES, CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

**Dr. Syed Saqlain Ahmad Gilani,
National Program Manager- EPI
Pakistan**



**Expanded Program
on Immunization**
Government of Pakistan

Population: 200 M
Half a dozen major ethnic
groups with their own
language



Province	Pop.	Comparable Countries (population-wise ¹)
Punjab	100.6 M	Philippines: 102.3 M Ethiopia: 101.9 M
KP	32.9 M	Saudi Arabia: 32.2 M Afghanistan: 33.4 M Morocco: 34.8 M
Sindh	55.3 M	Tanzania: 55.2 M Myanmar: 54.4 M South Africa: 55 M
Balochistan	14.2 M	Cambodia: 15.8 M Senegal: 15.6 M

2011: 18th Constitutional Amendment

Devolution: implementation/execution delegated to provinces

Before devolution

- **Direct involvement in the implementation**
- Federal government: coordination, monitoring & supervision of the provinces & areas
- Coordination with donors and partners
- Role of National EPI programme team was limited to tackling managerial issues

Immediately after devolution

- **Lack of clarity** in roles and responsibilities
- **Lack of coherence** : national goals and policies not aligned with provincial plans and strategies
- **Coordination issues** with provinces, donors and partners
- **Lack of leadership/guidance**
- **Weak programme capacities** (federal and provincial level)

Roles & responsibilities

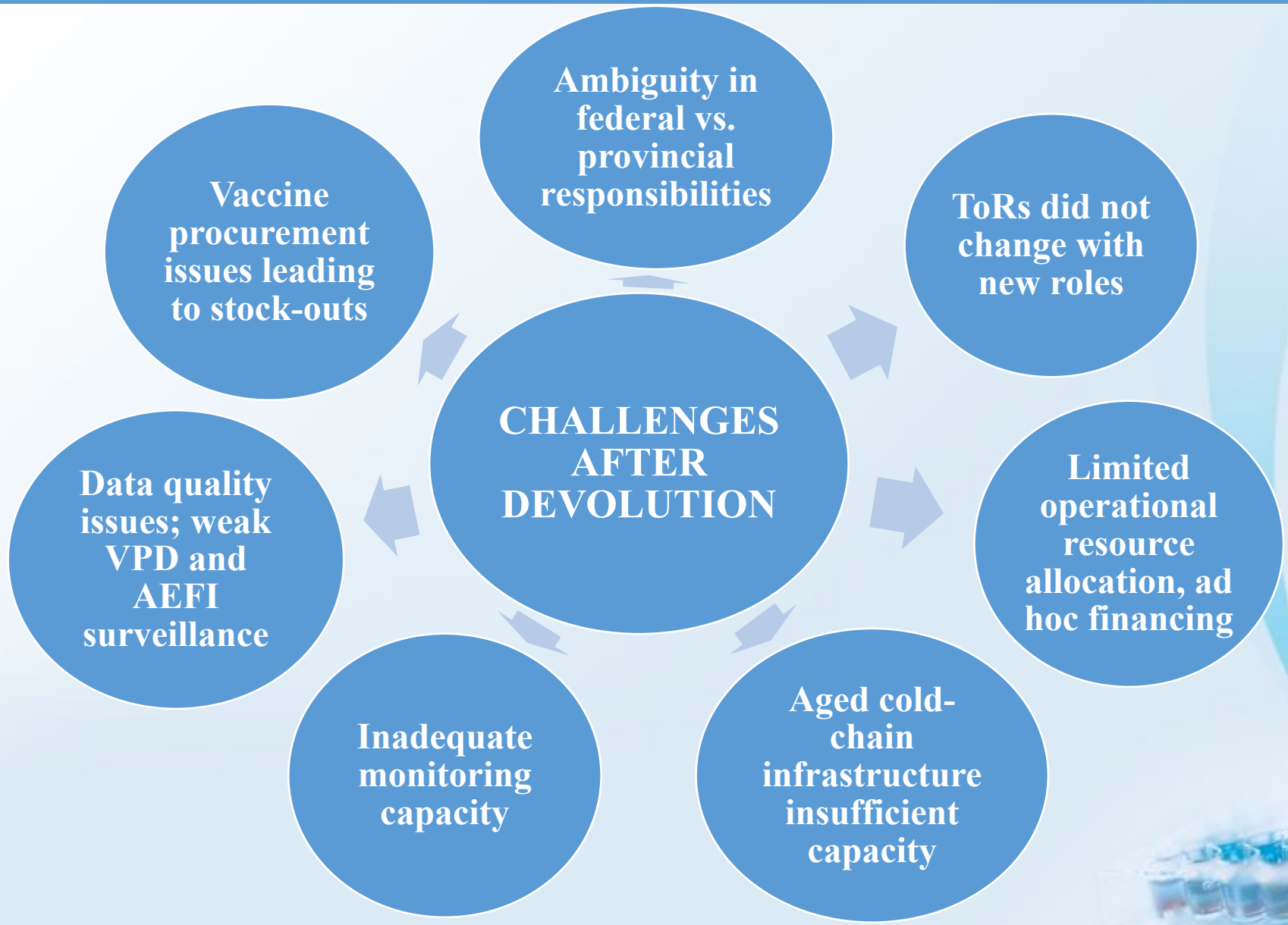
Federal

- National planning and strategies
- Technical guidance and support
- Donor/partner coordination
- Compliance to global/ regional targets and agreements
- Surveillance, monitoring & evaluation
- Purchase and supply of vaccines/ syringes and logistics
- Training of trainers

Provincial/District

- Provincial/district planning
- Implementation and execution
- Financing operations
- Surveillance & response
- Supervision, monitoring and reporting to federal EPI
- Storage and distribution of vaccines /other supplies
- Repair and maintenance of cold chain equipment
- Regular capacity building of staff

Challenges for the EPI programme after devolution



Improvements in EPI programme since 2015

- Change in roles at federal level: greater focus on management, leadership and donor coordination
- Federal EPI responsible for decisions on new vaccines for the entire country (*PCV10, IPV, tOPV-bOPV switch, Rota*)
- New mechanisms for donor funds evolved
- New procurement mechanisms particularly for Gavi co-financed vaccines (pool procurement, single source exemption; UNICEF)
- Use of technology for programme performance monitoring
- Uniform reporting mechanisms and improved data quality
- Approved applications to Gavi (Measles SIA, HSS, CCEOP)



Current functions for the National EPI team

Expanded Role of National EPI:

From Leadership to Technical guidance and Policy making

Main functions at federal level are:

- Vaccine and cold chain procurement
- Result based disbursement to provinces
by Verification of Performance through Third Party
- Co-ordination with provinces & international donors
- Monitoring data quality, training & supportive supervision
- VPD and AEFI Surveillance

**Annual budget of EPI is
~USD 160M, including
vaccine procurement on
behalf of the provinces**



Main capacities needed

Capacity / Skills Needed

- Leadership with right qualifications & technical skills
- Coordination with different Ministries, Department of Health, provincial programmes, Donors/partners
- Capacity for financial management and funds utilization
- Vaccine and supply chain management: Forecasting and procurement
- M&E, Using data for policy making and surveillance



Remaining challenges and gaps

- Inadequate technical capacity in surveillance and M&E
- Financial sustainability
- Sustaining the surveillance system
- Capacity of HR particularly at Provincial level
- Quality data
- Service delivery mostly outreach based, Demand promotion and trust of the community
- Implementation of the CCT



Country level support needed

- Developing the programme capacity in the line with recent strategic/functional review supported by GAVI
- Comprehensive HR review to assess need/scope
- Strengthening ICC for better coordination
- To continue the support for the sustainability to strengthening VPD and AEFI surveillance
- Support in developing EPI dashboard for data from district to provincial and federal level for strategic decision making.

Summary

- The Year 2011 devolution initially led to a great deal of confusion
- The roles at different levels in the system were clarified
- There is now better coordination and collaboration between provinces and the national level
- Since 2015 several new improvements have been implemented

Advice for countries undergoing restructuring

1. Clear functions and capacities at every level
2. Good coordination and communication between the levels

Right person in the right job

BEFORE AND NOW



USE OF TECHNOLOGY



**MONITORING OF COLD AND DRY STORE
(24-HOUR CCTV)**

VLMIS CONTROL ROOM



THANK YOU

