

英國及德國政府承諾將以兩億八千萬美金根除小兒麻痺 British, German governments pledge US\$280 million to end polio

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非洲尼日一名幼兒施用小兒麻痺疫苗。

圖/Alyce Henson 攝/扶輪形象提供

A young child is inoculated for polio in Niger, Africa.

Photo by Rotary Images/Alyce Henson

英國和德國政府今天承諾一個總額兩億八千萬美金的新基金去抵抗小兒麻痺症等疾病，並鼓勵更多的捐獻人和國家領袖們共同參與這項積極的根除計劃。

這個宣告的同時，比爾及梅琳達基金會也增頒發了兩億五千五百萬美元的挑戰獎助金給扶輪，而扶輪同時也提出了在未來三年內將相對透過其社員去籌募款一億美金。英德兩國在未來五年內預計募集的款項將不計入目前扶輪的美金兩億元挑戰。

英國政府認捐的一億英鎊（一億五千萬美金）及德國政府認捐的一億歐元（一億三千萬美金）將會全數捐給「全球根除小兒麻痺症等疾病運動」。

扶輪在該運動中主要扮演一種募款、鼓吹和運動推廣和動員義工的先鋒夥伴的角色。這項宣告是本週三早上在美國加州聖地牙哥為下屆總監所舉辦的國際扶輪講習會中宣佈的。

The British and German governments today committed a total of \$280 million in new funds to fight polio, and urged additional donors and leaders of countries where polio still exists to join them in an aggressive push for eradication.

The announcement coincided with one by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation that it is awarding an additional \$255 million challenge grant to Rotary, which Rotary will match with \$100 million raised by its members over the next three years. The money from the United Kingdom and Germany during the next five years will not count toward what has now become Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge.

The United Kingdom committed £100 million (\$150 million) and Germany committed €100 million (\$130 million), both to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

Rotary's chief role as a [spearheading partner](#) in the initiative is fundraising, advocacy, and mobilizing volunteers. The announcements were made Wednesday morning during Rotary's International Assembly, the annual training event for incoming district governors held in San Diego, California, USA.

英國的國家發展秘書長道格拉斯·亞歷山大表示：「英國政府承諾的一億英鎊及其他合作伙伴們的捐款對於解救全世界免於小兒麻痺症的威脅是很重要的一劑強心針。我們已經顯著增加了高危險群施用疫苗，新的感染病人數也有大幅的下降。現在正是最終根除小兒麻痺的大好時機。這項投資能確保在開發中世界裡未來的世代的生命不再受到這種嚴重損壞身體的疾病的威脅。」

為了達到完全根除的目標，必須把根除小兒麻痺症等疾病運動目前所面臨的款項短缺給補起來。除了之前提到的英國的認捐數字，加拿大、俄國、美國政府及其他的捐獻人，使得2009到2010年的赤字減少到了三億四千萬美元，德國的款項進來之後這數字會再減少。

「八大高峰國一再宣示會盡一切所能完全根除小兒麻痺症等疾病的決心」德國的經濟合作與發展部長 **Heidmarie Wieczorek-Zeul** 表示：「德國對於以上的承諾貢獻良多。我們同時鼓吹其他的國家加入我們這個平衡赤字的行列，以確保醫護人員得到保護世上兒童免於小兒麻痺症等疾病侵害所需要的一切資源。」

“This £100 million pledge by the UK government, combined with the money from our other partners, is a massive boost in the battle to rid the world of the scourge of polio,” said UK International Development Secretary Douglas Alexander. “We have already significantly increased the number of vaccinations for those people most at risk, and there has been real progress in reducing the number of new infections. Now is the time to make the final push to eradicate polio. This investment will ensure future generations in the developing world will no longer have their lives blighted by this crippling disease.”

The polio eradication initiative faces an ongoing funding shortfall that must be closed if eradication is to be achieved. With these new investments -- along with contributions received from Canada, Russia, the United States, and other donors -- the shortfall for 2009-10 is \$340 million. The new funding from Germany will further reduce the gap.

“G-8 countries pledged repeatedly to take all necessary steps to eradicate polio,” said Heidmarie Wieczorek-Zeul, German minister for Economic Cooperation and Development. “Germany has contributed significantly to living up to this commitment. We urge other countries to join us in closing the funding gap and ensuring that health workers have the support they need to protect the world’s children from polio.”

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