

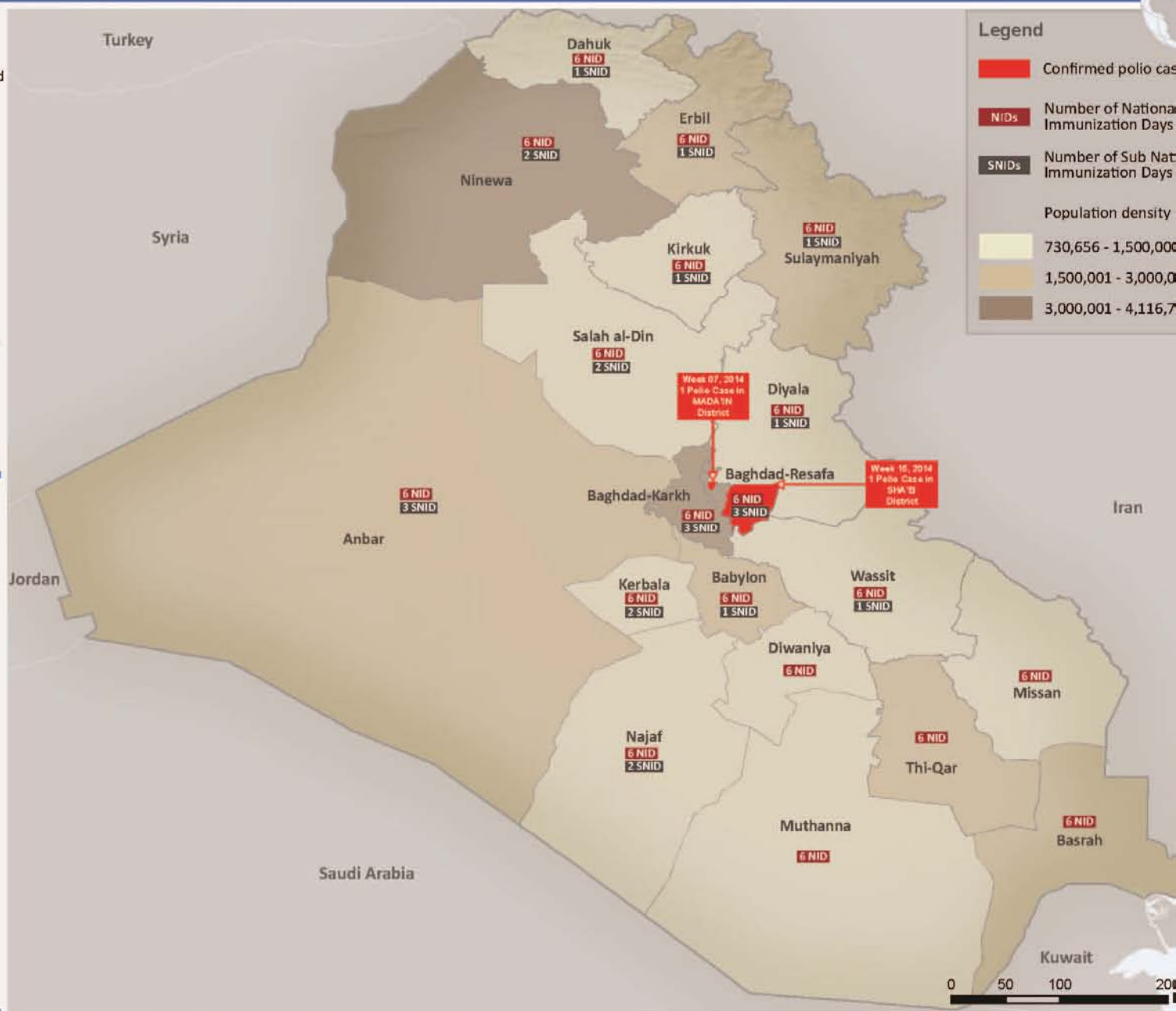
NEW
 of the highest risk countries for polio eradication in the Middle East due to populations living in multiple governorates. These include internally displaced persons, refugees, and communities dwelling in slums and vast portions of the country where insecurity hinders health outreach activities.

an outbreak of wild poliovirus in Syria in October 2013, the Government of Iraq, with the support of WHO and UNICEF, embarked on a series of national and sub-national supplementary immunization activities (SIAs) to counter gaps in routine immunization services. A total of 13 SIAs have been conducted since 2014 to ensure all children under five years of age living in Iraq are vaccinated against polio.

cases were reported in Iraq in March and April 2014. So far, there have been no confirmed polio cases since April 2014.

Displacement, movement, damage to health facilities and a shortage of health workers have created hurdles in reaching every child under five with oral polio vaccine. Through strong collaboration between the Ministry of Health, WHO and UNICEF, and support from donors, vaccination teams have been able to consistently reach over 5 million children under five in the last nine campaigns since April 2014.

To keep Iraq polio free, immunization campaigns will need to continue due to above mentioned significant risks. The Iraq Ministry of Health estimates a funding gap of US\$ 45.5 million for vaccination campaigns planned in 2015 and 2016.



13 POLIO CAMPAIGNS



7 SUB NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION DAYS (SNIDs)

6 NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION DAYS (NIDs)

5.8 MILLION TARGETED CHILDREN Under five years of age

45.5 MILLION USD FUNDING GAP (for 2015 and 2016 years)

