Timor-Leste has met the criteria for measles elimination and control of rubella and congenital rubella syndrome. To sustain these achievements, it is important to implement the post-elimination sustainability plan, including the outbreak preparedness and response plan; enhance capacity to strengthen outbreak investigation and response; further strengthen routine immunization for MCV1 and MCV2; enhance local capacity to strengthen VPD surveillance with focus on measles and rubella; strengthen cross-border initiatives; strengthen and ensure functioning of surveillance and laboratory system.

What made Timor-Leste successful in eliminating measles and controlling rubella?

- Strong political commitment
- Functioning health system
- Strengthened routine immunization coverage
- Enhanced surveillance
- Regular review of programme implementation at national and subnational levels
- Intersectoral collaboration
- Motivated workforce
- Community participation
- Strengthened laboratory networks
- Strong technical assistance
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In August 2018, Timor-Leste was verified by the regional Verification Commission, an independent regional body of experts, for eliminating measles and congenital rubella syndrome, two years ahead of the target year 2020. No cases of indigenous virus were reported for more than three years. This has been possible due to self-financing of immunization programme, supplementary immunization activities, improved routine immunization coverage, enhanced surveillance and strengthened laboratory networks.

In 2015, National Measles Elimination Verification Committee formed; rubella vaccine introduced; MR/OPV catch-up immunization campaign conducted.

In 2018, Verification that Timor-Leste has met both goals; endemic measles eliminated and rubella controlled.

Timor-Leste: An overview

**1 National Referral Hospital**

**1,261,405** Total population

**65 Sub-districts**

**68 Community health centres at the sub-district level**

**13 Municipalities**

**5 Regional referral hospitals**

**442 Villages (luruk)**

**317 Health posts at the village level**

**Legend:** To understand the map, please refer to the axes and labels of the graphs.
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Immunization coverage at subnational level, 2017

Flow chart of immunization service delivery system

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