

An update on
**The allocation of COVID-19
vaccines**

THE LATEST ON THE COVID-19 GLOBAL SITUATION
& GLOBAL VACCINE ALLOCATION

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Current global situation

As of 31 January 2021, 10:00AM CEST

- **> 102 million cases**
- 5 countries with highest cumulative number of cases



United States of America



India



Brazil



Russian Federation



The United Kingdom

- **> 2.2 million deaths**
- 5 countries with highest cumulative number of deaths



United States of America



Brazil



Mexico



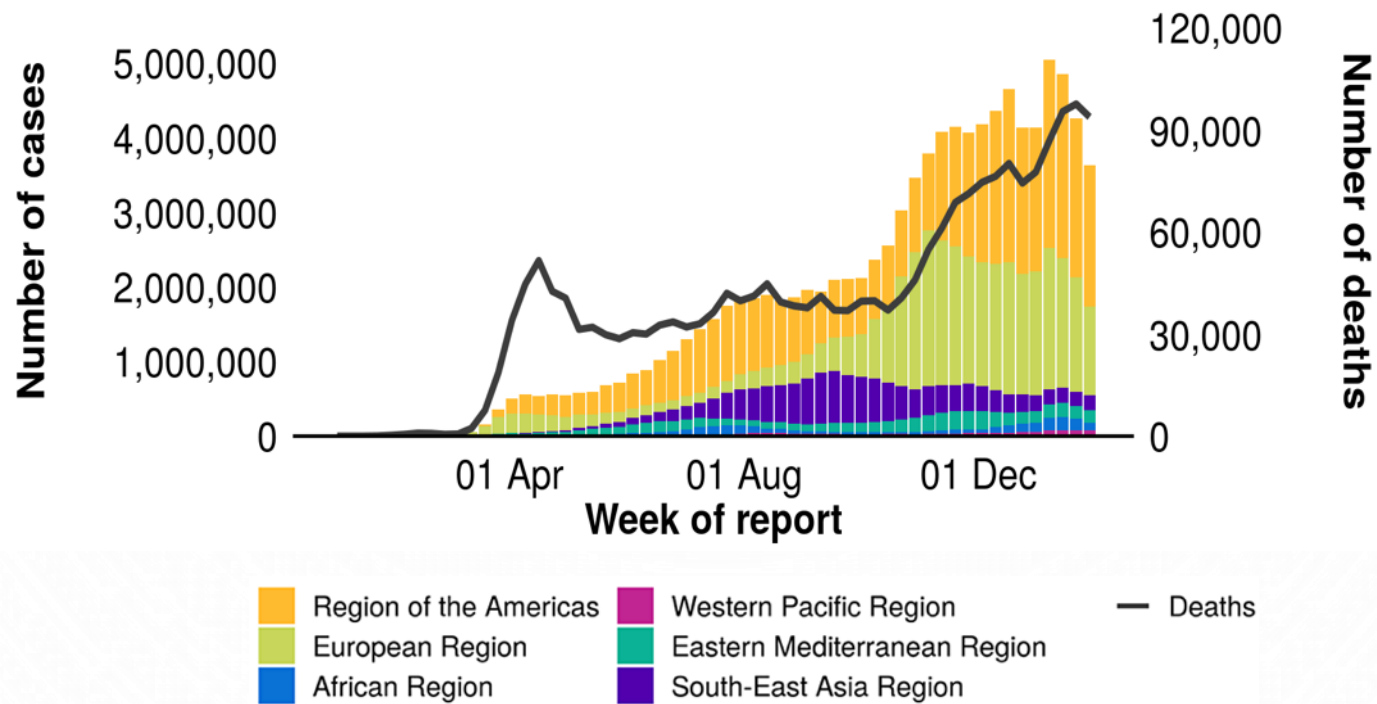
India



The United Kingdom

Current global situation

Cases reported to WHO as of 31 January 2021, 10:00AM CEST

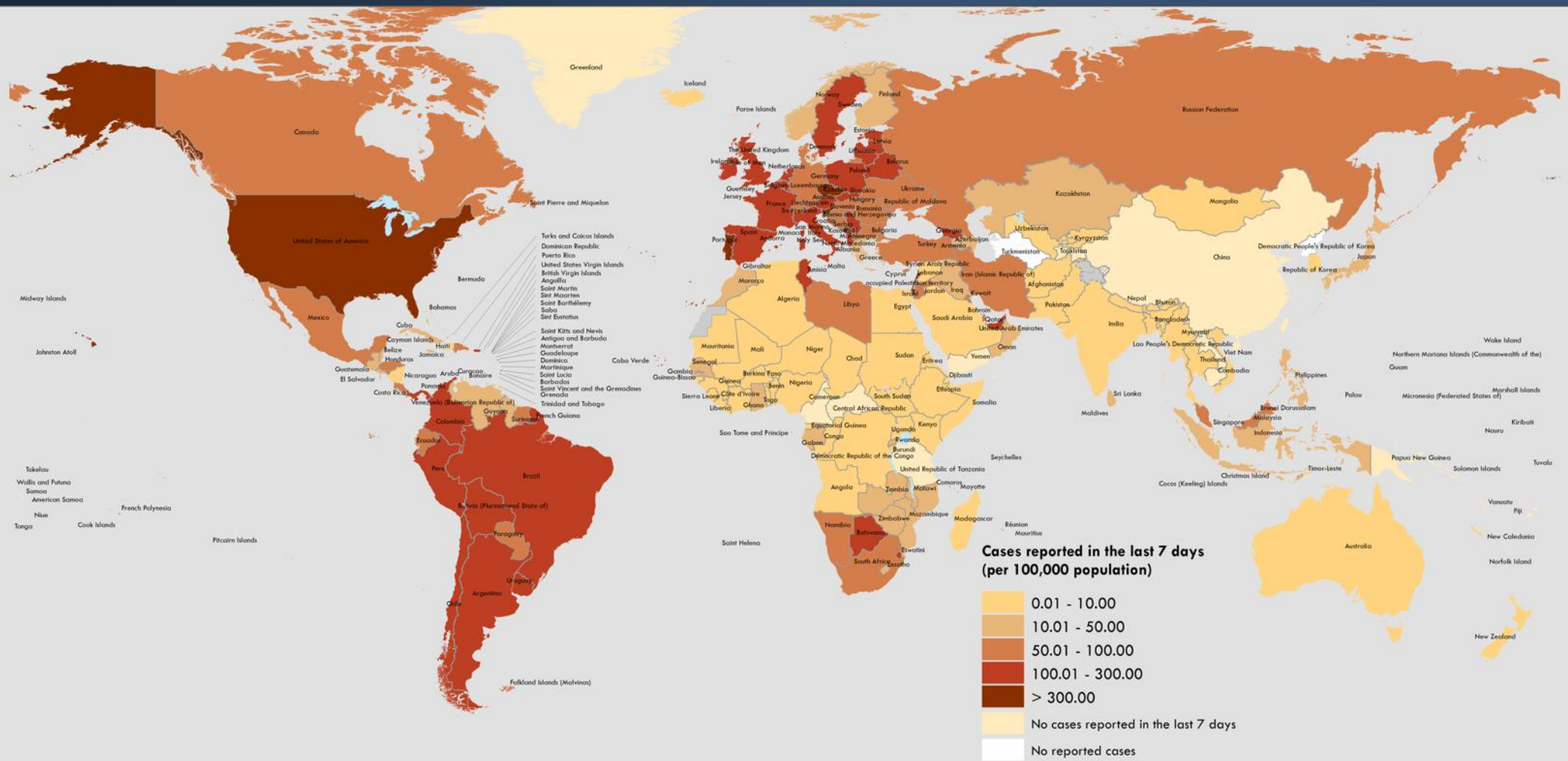


* Data are incomplete for the current week. Cases depicted by bars; deaths depicted by line

COVID-19 cases reported in the last 7 days

Per million population

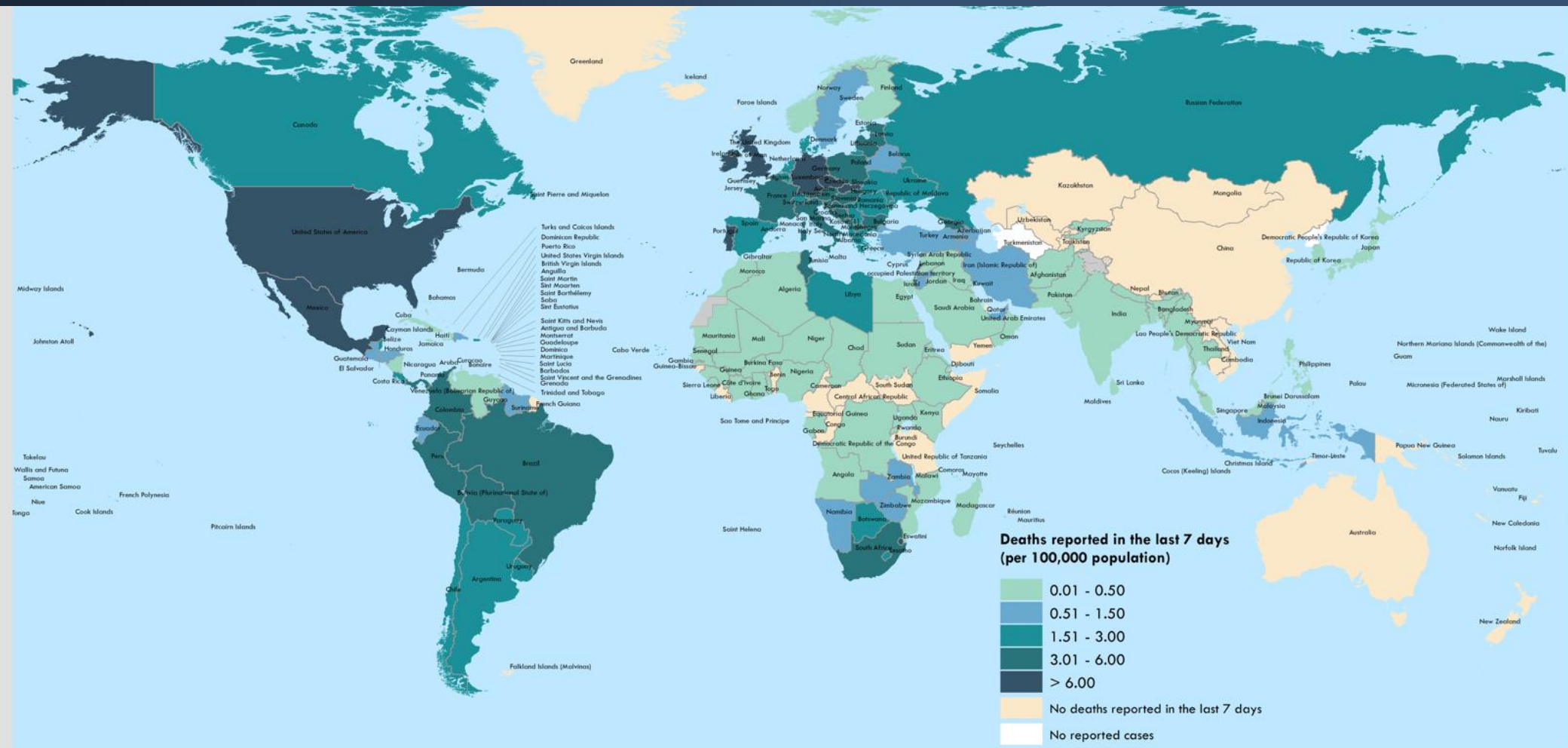
FROM 25 to 31 JANUARY 2021, 10:00 AM CEST



COVID-19 deaths reported in the last 7 days

Per million population

FROM 25 to 31 JANUARY 2021, 10:00 AM CEST



Data Source: World Health Organization, United Nations Population Division (population prospect 2020)
Map Production: WHO Health Emergencies Programme

Not applicable

0 2,500 5,000 km
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Global access to COVID-19 vaccines

- A year after the emergence of SARS-CoV-2, COVID-19 vaccine campaigns have started in more than 50 countries
- As of 7 February 2020, more than 120 million vaccine doses have already been administered¹
- However, **only one low income country has started vaccinating** some of its population



“

Just 25 doses have been given in one low-income country. **Not 25 million; not 25 thousand; just 25.**

...the world is on the brink of a **catastrophic moral failure** – and the price of this failure will be paid with lives and livelihoods in the world's poorest countries.

”

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director-General, World Health Organization
18 January 2021

¹ <https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/covid-vaccine-tracker-global-distribution/>

COVID-19 vaccines

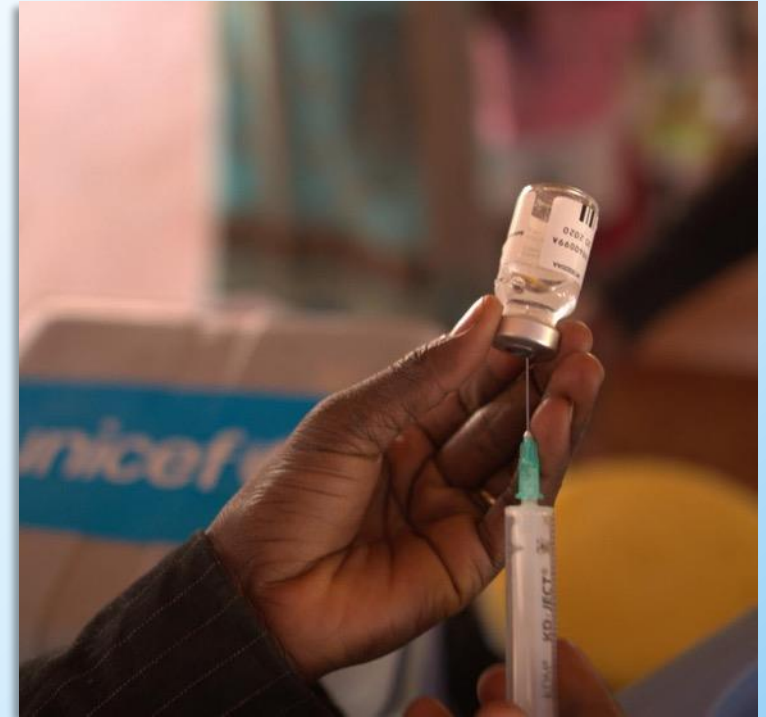
- Currently, COVID-19 vaccine supply is limited due to insufficient manufacturing capacity and extraordinarily high demand
- While efforts to accelerate the development and production of vaccines are underway, a coordinated response is essential to ensure the fair distribution of vaccines to all countries
- The WHO Emergency Use Listing Procedure (EUL) is a risk-based procedure for assessing and listing unlicensed vaccines, therapeutics and in vitro diagnostics with the ultimate aim of expediting the availability of these products to people affected by a public health emergency
- As of end January 2021, two COVID 19 vaccines have already undergone the EUL procedure

<https://www.who.int/teams/regulation-prequalification/eul>



Why global access to COVID-19 vaccines is important

- Our interconnected world means that SARS-CoV-2 transmission will continue between countries and regions until we are all protected
- It is our moral imperative to provide vaccines to all
- Equitable global access will not only mitigate the **public health impact** but also the **economic impact** of the pandemic as shown by a study of the International Chamber of Commerce Research Foundation
 - The study shows that if some countries vaccinate all their citizens, while in other countries infection continues to spread, the global economy could lose as much as \$9.2 trillion²



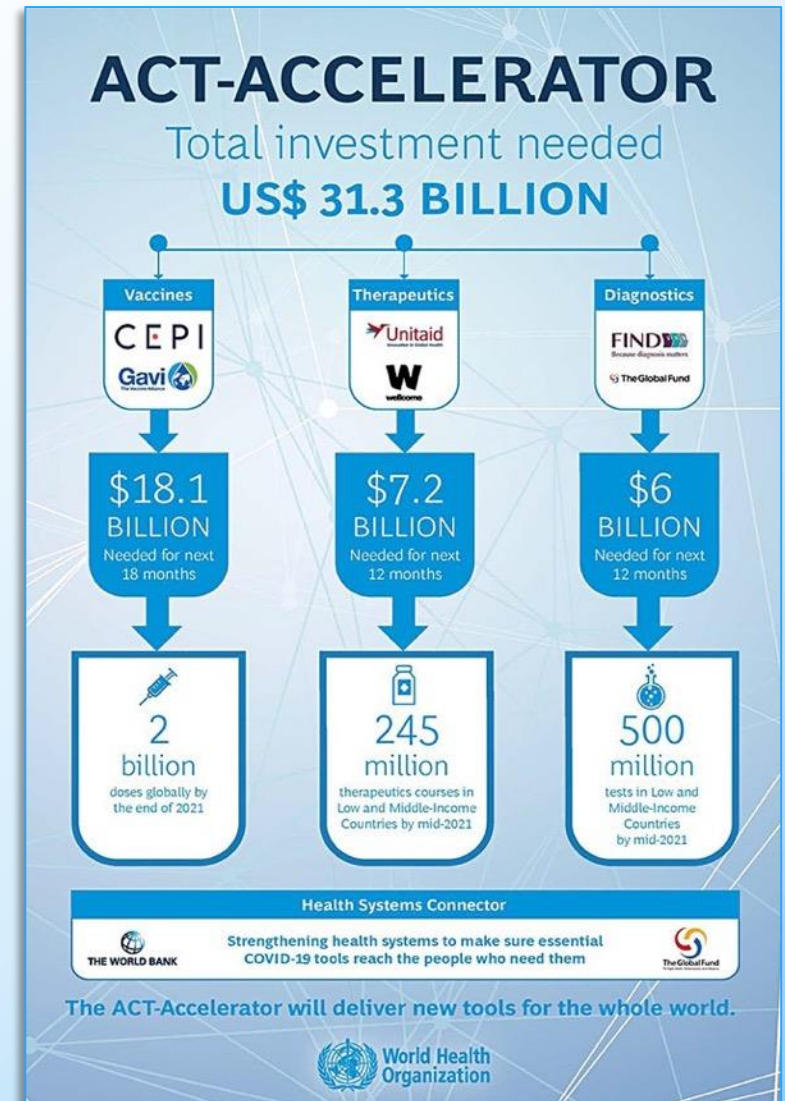
© UNICEF/UN023959/Clark

<https://iccwbo.org/publication/the-economic-case-for-global-vaccinations/>

Working together to end the acute phase of the pandemic

- The ACT-Accelerator* is a global collaboration to:
 - **accelerate** development, production, and access to COVID-19 vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics
 - **distribute** COVID-19 vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics fairly around the world
- **ACT-A brings together** governments, scientists, businesses, civil society, philanthropists and global health organizations
- **ACT-A aims to deliver 2 billion doses of vaccine globally by the end of 2021**

<https://www.who.int/initiatives/act-accelerator>



The COVAX Facility is part of the ACT-A vaccines pillar

- The aim of the COVAX Facility is that all participating countries, regardless of income levels, will have access to COVID-19 vaccines
- 190 countries have signed up to the COVAX Facility, self-financing countries as well as 92 funded countries
- These 92 countries are eligible for financial support through the COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC)*



* <https://www.gavi.org/vaccineswork/gavi-covax-amc-explained>

Overarching principles to ensure equitable access to health products in the context of COVID-19



Solidarity: Joining forces to confront this unique challenge together and overcome this pandemic



Accountability: Clearly defined roles and responsibilities to ensure procedural justice



Transparency: To build and maintain trust



Responsiveness to public health needs: Health products are carefully selected and allocated to address the public health need



Equity and fairness: to inform the allocation process together with public health needs



Affordability: Consideration is given to pricing and procurement strategies to improve affordability of health products



Collaboration: Collaborative efforts amongst relevant global and national stakeholders is enhanced to accelerate and scale-up the response



Regulatory and procurement efficiency: Agile and comprehensive regulatory and procurement approaches are incorporated to improve timely access to safe, efficacious and quality health products for all countries in need

<https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/fair-allocation-mechanism-for-covid-19-vaccines-through-the-covax-facility>

Global COVID-19 vaccine allocation

- The allocation of COVID-19 vaccines is guided by public health objectives. For the initial phase these objectives are:
 - Reduce mortality
 - Protect health systems
- To maximise the public health impact of a **limited supply of COVID-19 vaccines**, the global vaccines allocation mechanism targets:
 - **high risk groups** (people over the age of 65, people with cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease or obese) **to reduce severe disease and mortality**
 - **health workers to protect the health system**
- These groups correspond to 20% of the global population
- Therefore, the first phase of COVID-19 vaccines allocation will be up to 20% of a country's population

<https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/fair-allocation-mechanism-for-covid-19-vaccines-through-the-covax-facility>
<https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/allocation-mechanism-for-covax-facility-vaccines-explainer>

Allocation of vaccines within individual countries

- The COVAX distribution mechanism **does not decide for countries which populations should be prioritized for immunization**
- Individual countries can use their allocated doses based upon their own situation and guidance from national policy makers
- Countries may consider the [recommendations regarding prioritizing groups](#) issued by WHO Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) to maximise public health impact when vaccine supplies are limited



<https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/who-sage-roadmap-for-prioritizing-uses-of-covid-19-vaccines-in-the-context-of-limited-supply>
https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/334299/WHO-2019-nCoV-SAGE_Framework-Allocation_and_prioritization-2020.1-eng.pdf?ua=1

How will COVID-19 vaccines secured through the COVAX Facility be allocated?

The allocation of vaccines to COVAX countries is based on the Global Allocation Framework and occurs through phases

PHASE 1

Proportional distribution up to 20% of the population of a country

- COVAX countries receive doses for 20% of their population
- Once all countries have reached 20% coverage, the allocation moves on to phase 2



PHASE 2

Weighted distribution beyond 20% of the population of a country

- Countries receive vaccines to expand coverage requested for their population
- If supply constraints persist, a weighted allocation approach would be adopted, taking into account a country's COVID-19 threat and vulnerability

<https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/fair-allocation-mechanism-for-covid-19-vaccines-through-the-covax-facility>
<https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/allocation-mechanism-for-covax-facility-vaccines-explainer>

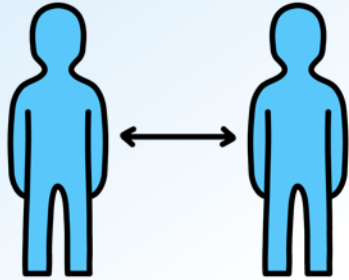
What is the humanitarian buffer?

- The humanitarian buffer is meant to overcome any further equity gaps in access and allocation
- It represents **up to 5 % of the total number of available vaccine doses supplied by the COVAX Facility, and reserved for vulnerable populations** such as:
 - refugees and displaced populations
 - migrants
 - asylum seekers
- The humanitarian buffer aims to serve as a provider of last resort to reach certain populations



COVID-19 protective measures

Protect yourself & others



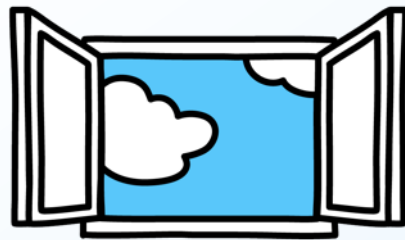
Keep your distance



Wash your hands frequently



Cough & sneeze into your elbow



Ventilate or open windows



Wear a mask

Resources

- **Fair allocation mechanism for COVID-19 vaccines through the COVAX Facility**
<https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/fair-allocation-mechanism-for-covid-19-vaccines-through-the-covax-facility>
<https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/allocation-mechanism-for-covax-facility-vaccines-explainer>
- **WHO SAGE values framework for the allocation and prioritization of COVID-19**
https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/334299/WHO-2019-nCoV-SAGE_Framework-Allocation_and_prioritization-2020.1-eng.pdf?ua=1
- **COVAX Advance Market Commitment explained**
<https://www.gavi.org/vaccineswork/gavi-covax-amc-explained>
<https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/allocation-mechanism-for-covax-facility-vaccines-explainer>
- **Vaccine tracker**
<https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/covid-vaccine-tracker-global-distribution/>
- **COVID-19 vaccine country readiness and delivery**
<https://www.who.int/initiatives/act-accelerator/covax/covid-19-vaccine-country-readiness-and-delivery>
- **WHO SAGE Roadmap For Prioritizing Uses Of COVID-19 Vaccines In The Context Of Limited Supply**
<https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/who-sage-roadmap-for-prioritizing-uses-of-covid-19-vaccines-in-the-context-of-limited-supply>



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