

WHO Costing, Budgeting, Financing and Delivery of COVID-19 Vaccines

Q&A for Session 01: How to apply for Gavi CDS Funding through the Partners Platform

Wednesday, July 13, 2021

Thank you for attending the above webinar session. Many questions were submitted by participants during the webinar. In this document, we share the answers from presenters to each question that wasn't answered verbally during the corresponding Q&A session.

Links to the session recordings in all languages and presentations can be found on the [TechNet-21 website](#).

More information on COVID-19 vaccine introduction can be found in the resources listed below.

- COVID-19 vaccine introduction toolkit in [English](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [French](#), [Russian](#), and [Spanish](#).
- [Guidance on developing a national deployment and vaccination plan for COVID-19 vaccines](#)
- [TechNet-21 – The Technical Network for Strengthening Immunization Services](#)

Webinar-related resources can be found in the following links:

- Online course: [Learning how to use the COVID-19 Vaccine Introduction and deployment Costing \(CVIC\) tool](#)
- [Partners Platform](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccine Delivery Support \(CDS\) Programme Funding Guidelines](#)

In addition, TechNet-21 manages three Telegram channels supporting the webinar series participants. In these spaces you will be able to share your experiences, discuss key questions, and connect with experts from around the world. We'll also share new information and global guidance as it becomes available.

Join us today:

- [WHO Costing, Budgeting, Financing and Delivery of COVID-19 Vaccines](#) (EN)
- [OMS - calcul des coûts, budgétisation, financement et livraison des vaccins COVID-19](#) (FR)
- [OMS - Coste, presupuesto, financiación y suministro de las vacunas COVID-19](#) (SP)

Will this update of the national vaccination plans require another review of the regional review teams?

No, there will not be another RRC review.

How is vaccine safety (AEFI monitoring, causality assessment etc...) funded?

We included the costs of pharmacovigilance in the AMC92 global costing. We did this by looking at studies estimating the costs of AEFI surveillance for infant vaccination and during campaigns. We also included the activities that need to take place at global level. I don't know a lot about how these activities are being funded at the moment. But the activities should of course be included in the overall budget and should be funded alongside all the other activities.

Could you please describe the cost-sharing framework agreement and what it means to countries who sign this agreement? Also, what happens if an AMC country does not sign this agreement with Gavi?

This is outside of the CDS window of support. In short, beyond the initial 20% of doses, there is a question and desire for countries to cost share (Gavi eligible countries do co-financing RI for paediatric vaccines).

If funds are not requested via early access, can they be carried over and requested under the core CDS application?

Yes. Equity of access is important.

Reviewing the NDVP and its costing is not mandatory, but is there any built-in incentive for updating the NDVP and its costing?

For the Early Access Window, you are correct. However, we anticipate a costed NDVP with a clear identification of funding gaps will form an essential part of the request. Thus, we are encouraging everyone to update their NDVPs and ensure that the funding gaps are clearly articulated.

It appears that COVID-19 AEFI surveillance and other resulting activities are costing substantially more than it used to for infant vaccination, resulting in funding issues. Hopefully that will be factored in for the next windows?

If this is a question about whether AEFI surveillance activities are eligible for support from the CDS window, the answer is yes.

What is the expected timeline for updating the NDVPs?

There is no specific timeline, but we are encouraging countries to do so now in anticipation of the ramp-up of doses expected to be available through the COVAX Facility in Q4 2021.

What strategy is put in place to assure coherence in the revised NDVP and country asked through CDS?

I am not sure I fully understand the question, but the full CDS window is expected to be grounded in the NDVP and identified funding gaps.

When would the portal for Gavi transition countries (31 countries supported through UNICEF) be opened?

UNICEF is managing 'only' 30 countries now, as Marshall Islands opted out of COVAX. The application process for these countries is planned to open on Monday 19 July. Please get in touch if there are any specific questions on this: ugriffiths@unicef.org

The Platform is open to receive all applications including the UNICEF-managed ones.

How can innovations on vaccine hesitancy/confidence be funded?

UNICEF has a considerable funding envelope available for social mobilization/C4D. The implementation has not started yet, but it will soon.

Regarding the portal format for submission, is it limited to three recipients per country? Does this then limit the number of partners that could receive TA support through this funding?

For the Early Access Window, we have limited the fund recipients to three that Gavi will disburse to (who need to be existing Fund Recipients). This does not limit further sub-contracting of work beyond the initial fund recipients.

When is the deadline for submission of Early Window?

The Early Access Window is open through August. We encourage applications as early as possible in that timeframe.

Is it possible for the funding to be managed by only MoH without involvement of partners such as NGOs?

Live answered at 1:07:49 - <https://youtu.be/t9QkUMiSGwU?t=4069>

Any existing Gavi fund recipient can be a recipient of the CDS early access. If only MoH - will be specific to each country context.

Is the funding available for all countries receiving COVID-19 vaccines through COVAX or only countries eligible for Gavi immunization funding?

Only the 92 AMC countries are eligible. Out of these 92 countries, 30 are not Gavi eligible, which is why UNICEF will manage the CDS support to these countries.

Who will have admin access to upload the application (MOH/CO WHO UNICEF/SCMs/RO/HQ)?

Live answered at 1:10:27 - <https://youtu.be/t9QkUMiSGwU?t=4227>

Could you expand on the allocation of the ceiling envelope for Early Access? Would this be the same process for the second tranche/core CDS?

Live answered at 1:11:37 - <https://youtu.be/t9QkUMiSGwU?t=4297>

Ceilings were calculated using a modified HSS formula, and we also made modifications for the COVID-19 context (taking into account population figures etc...). At a high level that is how it's been done in a way to ensure equity (floor and ceiling has been developed). For the second tranche - the idea is to emphasize how important it is to have a strong NDVP with a clear funding gap articulated and costed (the upcoming webinars are quite essential regarding in terms of how to do costing and budgeting). The goal is to support and fill the gaps in country needs.

Can humanitarian agencies apply through this platform? Or is it for governments only?

Live answered at 1:14:36 - <https://youtu.be/t9QkUMiSGwU?t=4476>

For the Gavi managed CDS, only current recipients of Gavi funds can apply. So, yes, you can be part of the application and get funds from the Gavi existing recipient

Is it possible that we also include vaccination performance in the request? For example, vaccines delivered vs vaccines administered from the previous allocation.

Live answered at 1:16:15 - <https://youtu.be/t9QkUMiSGwU?t=4575>

For the core CDS application, will it use the same platform?

Yes.

Even for UNICEF supported countries, would WHO be the vaccine country admin?

For those countries, UNICEF will likely be the vaccine country admin. This is because the funds will be transferred to the UNICEF country office who will then distribute to WHO and the government according to the agreement in the application.

Who can I contact for help with any troubleshooting during submission?

You can contact whestl@who.int

Can countries have access to the review checklist as a way of doing their self assessment before submitting their application?

Live answered at 1:18:38 - <https://youtu.be/t9QkUMiSGwU?t=4718>

There are 5 high level questions. The key thing to ensure is to have a clear idea of what activities you want funding for, and that those are eligible for funding. It's a short 2-page application.

How will the supply chain for vaccines be maintained? Some people have taken first jab, but due to the short expiry date of vaccines they may not be able to get second jab within 8-16 weeks, will this vacuum have an impact on the vaccine effectiveness?

Live answered at 1:20:40 - <https://youtu.be/t9QkUMiSGwU?t=4840>

How can we get the forms if not registered in partners platform, as the registration and access approval take time?

It takes no time to get access to the Partners Platform - please visit the website and request access in the upper right.