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World Health Organization

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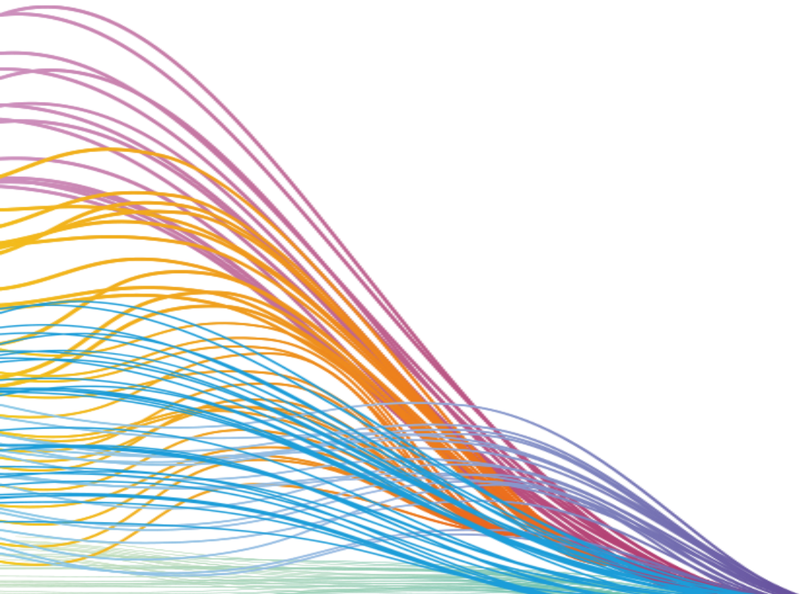
ACCESS TO COVID-19 TOOLS

Health Systems Connector

Country-level implementation

ACT now, ACT together to accelerate the end of the COVID-19 crisis



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In 2021, HSC's primary objective is to enable integrated delivery and effective deployment of COVID-19 tools

Ensure delivery of…

US$ 6.3 bn
worth of **PPE**[1]

Support delivery of…

900 mn
diagnostic tests

Existing therapeutics for up to 12 mn severe & critical patients and **new therapies** for up to 100 mn treatment courses

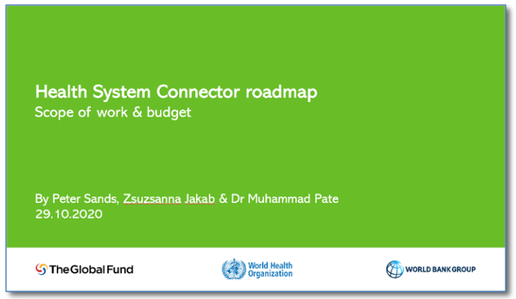
At least 2 bn
vaccine doses

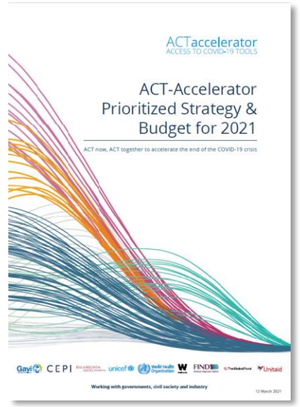
Objectives to be verified following country-level need assessment

1. US$ 2,895 mn for the procurement of PPE in Q1/Q2 2021 and US$ 3,450 mn for the procurement of PPE in Q3/Q4 2021

SOURCE: ACT-A prioritized strategy and budget for 2021

HSC aims to shift to a country-level approach





From…	To…
Developing global standards, tools and guidance to prepare for deployment of new tools	Real-time operational support at country level to increase uptake of new tools and support countries in accessing external financing
HSC work streams partially aligned with SPRP pillars	Full integration with the national preparedness and response plans through incident management teams at country level
Limited interaction between HSC and the Pillars	Integrated approach to Dx, Tx, and Vx Pillars with regular and frequent touchpoints
Incomplete visibility of availability and use of COVID-19 tools, incl. PPE	Transparency on COVID-19 tools (e.g. procurement, delivery, uptake etc.) at the country level
Identifying bottlenecks	Addressing bottlenecks at the country level

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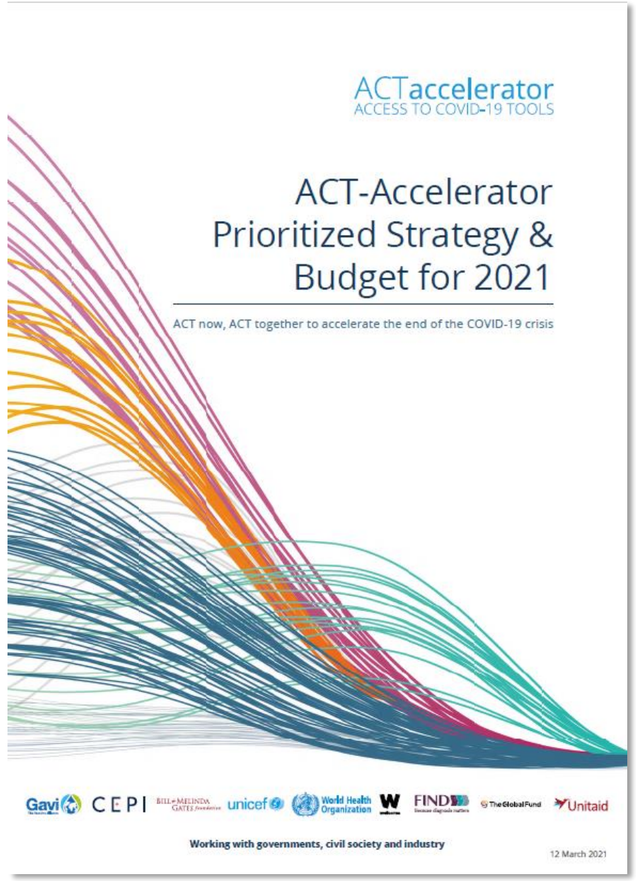
To achieve this objective, HSC's key priorities for 2021 are



1. Fully integrate the work and products of the Pillars with a **strengthened, ongoing COVID-19 response**

2. Rapidly identify and address **country-specific health systems bottlenecks** to ensure readiness and rapid scale up and delivery of COVID-19 tools

3. Accelerate **availability and use of PPE** as a crucial tool for protecting health workers and ensuring the resilience of the health system

4. Manage linkages and synergies with complementary activities for the **delivery of essential health services and strengthening of health systems**

SOURCE: ACT-A prioritized strategy and budget for 2021

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Deep dive: HSC Key Priorities 1 and 2

Integrate with response and rapidly address bottlenecks at country level

	Activities
Critical needs and gaps monitored and addressed through updated preparedness and response plans	Continuous needs assessment for COVID-19 tools at country level
	Continuous identification of health system gaps/bottlenecks
	Addressing of gaps/bottlenecks to increase uptake of COVID-19 tools at the country level
	Integrated country plans for roll-out of COVID-19 tools
	Allocation and prioritization of COVID-19 tools, incl. PPEs based on continuous need assessment
Supply chains	Strengthening of in-country supply chains
Community engagement	Enablement of community-led response through community engagement at the national and global level
	Private sector engagement
Data for decision-making (M&E), incl. dashboard	Integrated data management to allow evidence-based global strategic decision-making
	Real-time information (e.g. COVID-19 commodities dashboard)

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Deep dive – HSC Key Priority 3: Rethinking PPE

Focus areas	Key activities
Innovation, evidence and development	**Identification of user needs not being met by currently available PPE** including acceptability, comfort and compatibility
	Stimulation of research & innovation targeting unmet needs expressed by users, as well as affordability and protection performance
	Reinforcement of scientific evidence to guide innovation priorities and corresponding specifications and standards
Manufacturing, procurement and supply	**Determination of how to build and sustain surge capacity**, while improving equitable access and resilience
	Evaluation of lessons learnt on PPE procurement and buyer behaviors, and suggestion of potential best practices
	Design of processes to ensure quality assurance, and benchmarking / harmonization of standards
Deployment, utilization and disposal	**Ensuring of timely training and guidance** for health care workers and communities based on the latest evidence
	Analysis of pain points related to usage and deployment, including gap between normative guidance and real usage in countries
	Support for safe disposal / reprocessing of PPE
Investment case	**Evaluation of infections averted/lives saved per $ spent on PPE** and cost-effectiveness compared to other interventions

Deep dive: HSC Key Priority 4

Complementary activities

	Activities
Coordination with broader COVID-19 response	Coordination with the ongoing efforts to support a comprehensive COVID-19 response and address the secondary health crisis
Health systems strengthening for UHC	Coordination with the broader complementary health systems work, including the UHC2030 and the UHC partnership
Health systems protecting	Increase of capacity of existing health systems and prevention of disruption, draining or redirecting of limited resources to the pandemic response

HSC priority actions to drive country impact

Use existing coordination mechanisms and platforms

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2. Review & prioritize country response plans to identify critical gaps based on national context

1. Develop evidence-based guidelines & knowledge platforms to address critical health system gaps

3. Ensure uptake & alignment of country level financial instruments to address critical gaps and accelerate implementation of new tools

Support countries in accessing available domestic & bilateral financing

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4. Monitor access to and uptake of new tools and share lessons via HSC common knowledge platform

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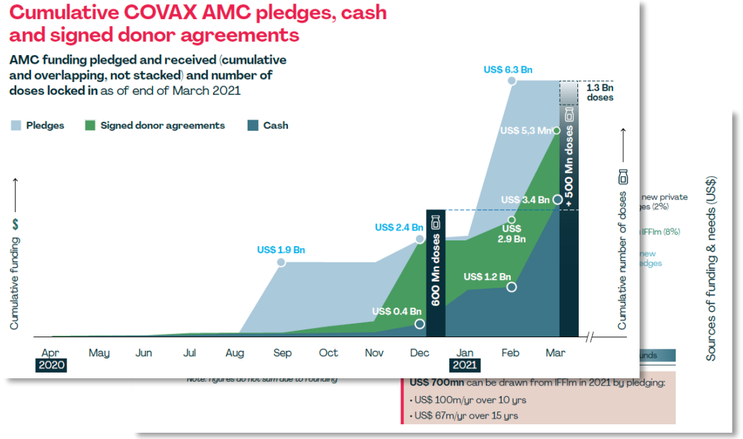
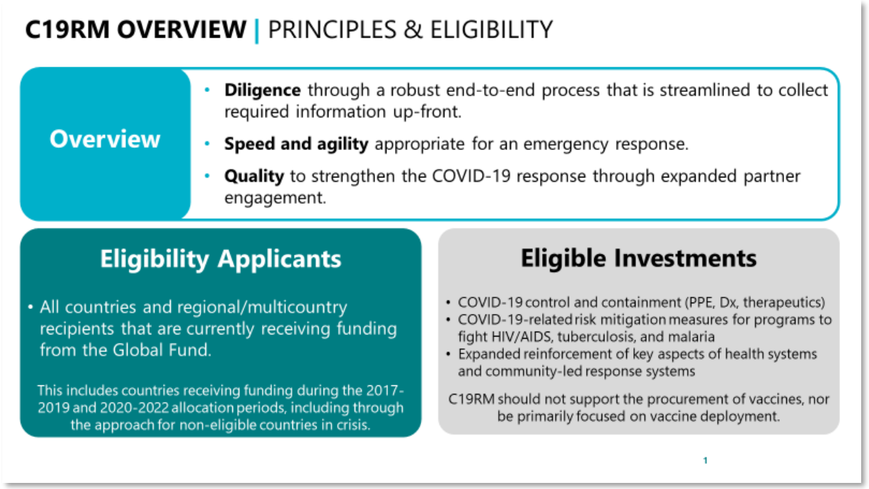
Countries can leverage a number of funding sources

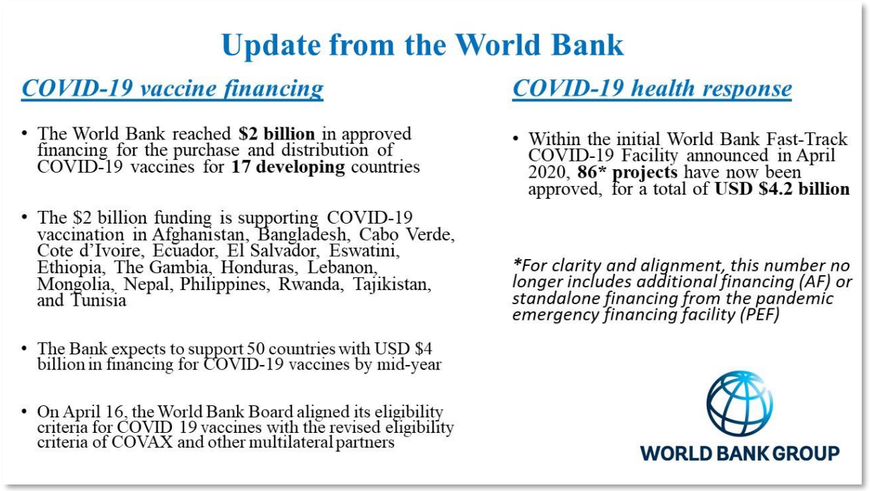
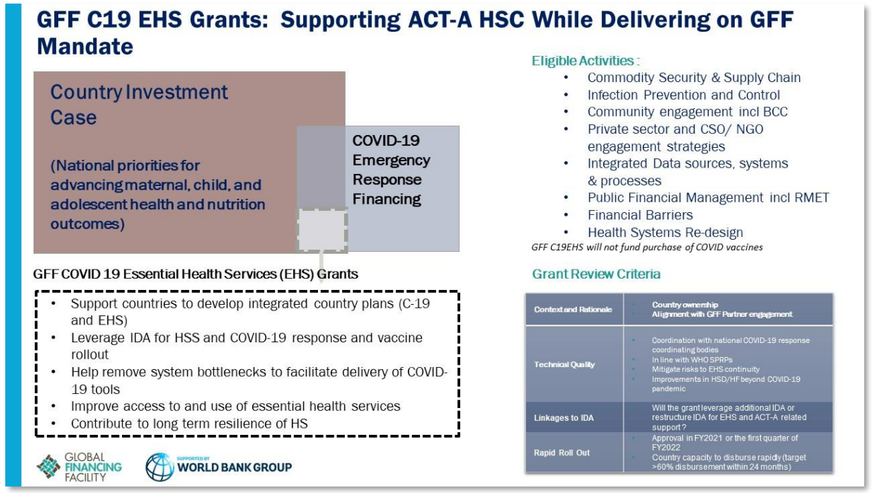
COVAX AMC



C19RM



MPA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