

ACT-Accelerator and planning for uptake of safe and effective vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics against COVID-19

Briefing for Movement for Community-led Development

18 November 2020

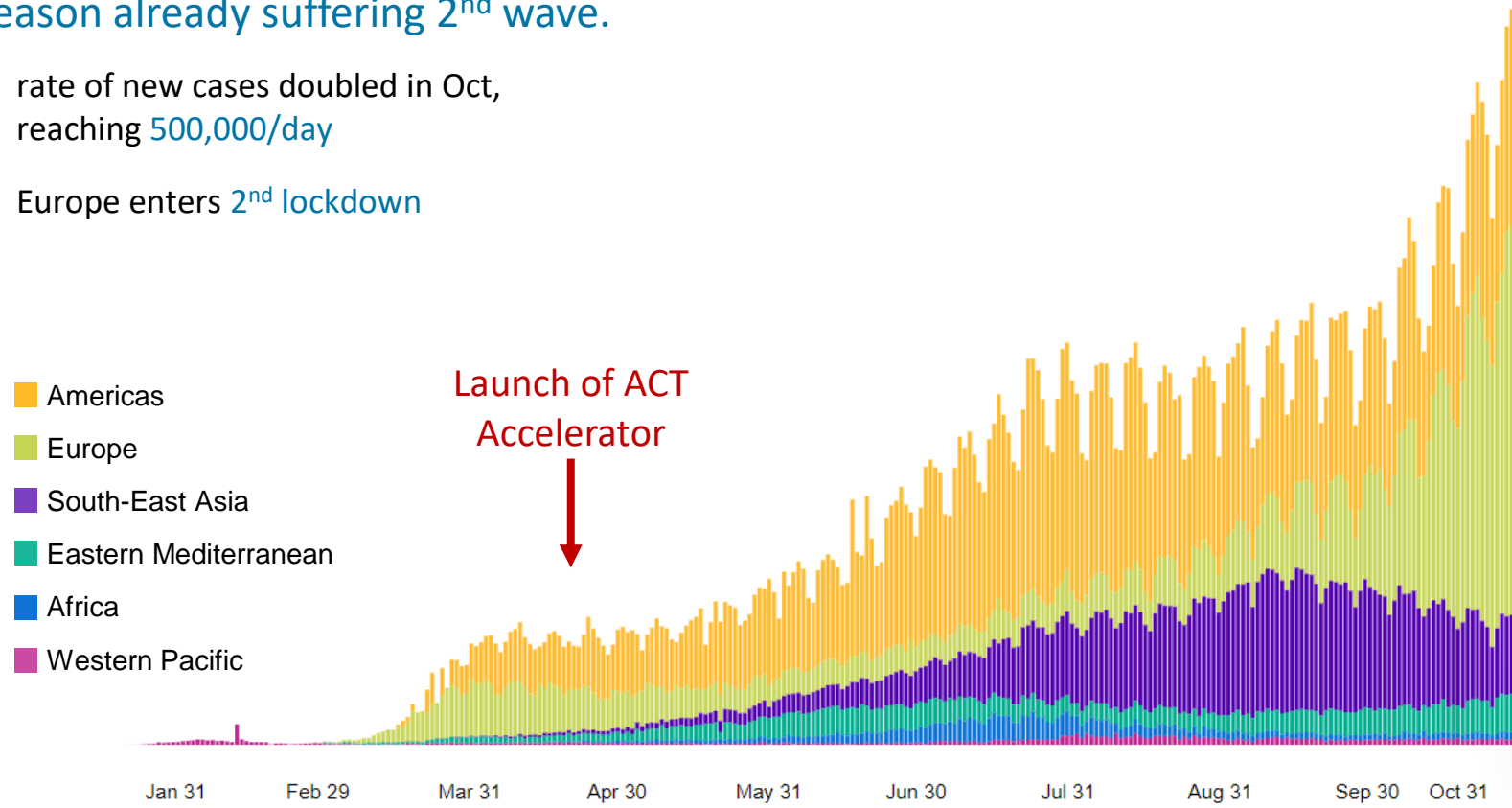
Andy Seale, Brian Tisdall, Lisa Menning

Context: only 10 months into the pandemic, **>46 M people known to have been infected & 1.2 M people have died**



Northern hemisphere enters flu season already suffering 2nd wave.

- rate of new cases doubled in Oct, reaching 500,000/day
- Europe enters 2nd lockdown



Source: WHO Dashboard as of 1st Nov 2020

Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT)


2 over-riding objectives

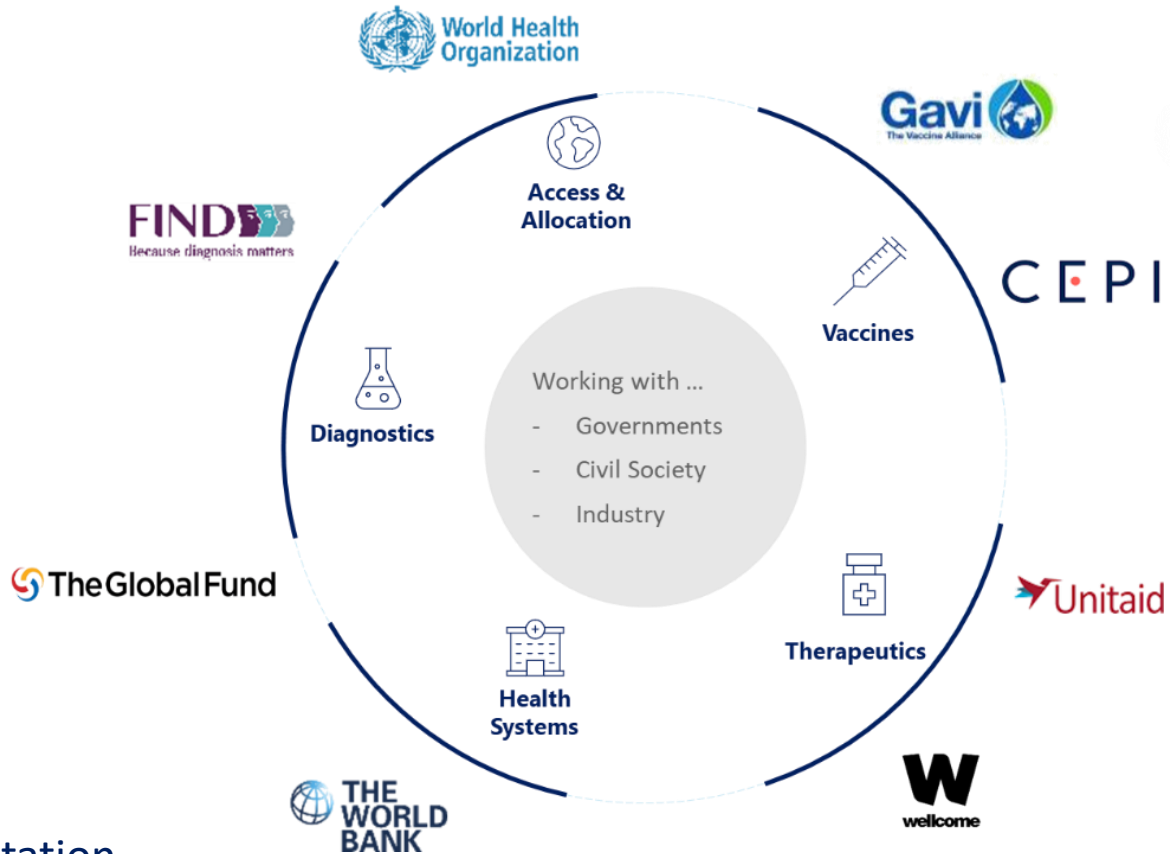
- accelerate development of new diagnostics, treatments & vaccines
- achieve equitable global access to *all* COVID-19 tools

ACT-A's bold structure is harnessing the international health architecture in an **unprecedented collaboration**



Deep engagement of Principals, integrated workplans & budgets, working with entire development system

 new partners, esp. UNICEF & NGOs are coming on board with a crucial role in implementation



ACT-A has already **achieved key landmarks**

(examples at 4 Nov 2020)



new Rapid Tests approved, with volume & price guarantees for LICs/LMICs (120m tests @ \$3-5/unit over 6 months)



1st life-saving therapy in rollout (Dexamethasone) with 3 M doses for LICs; **monoclonal antibodies** in evaluation for LICs



COVAX Facility ‘in business’ with 186+ economies (>90% of world population); dynamic vaccine portfolio

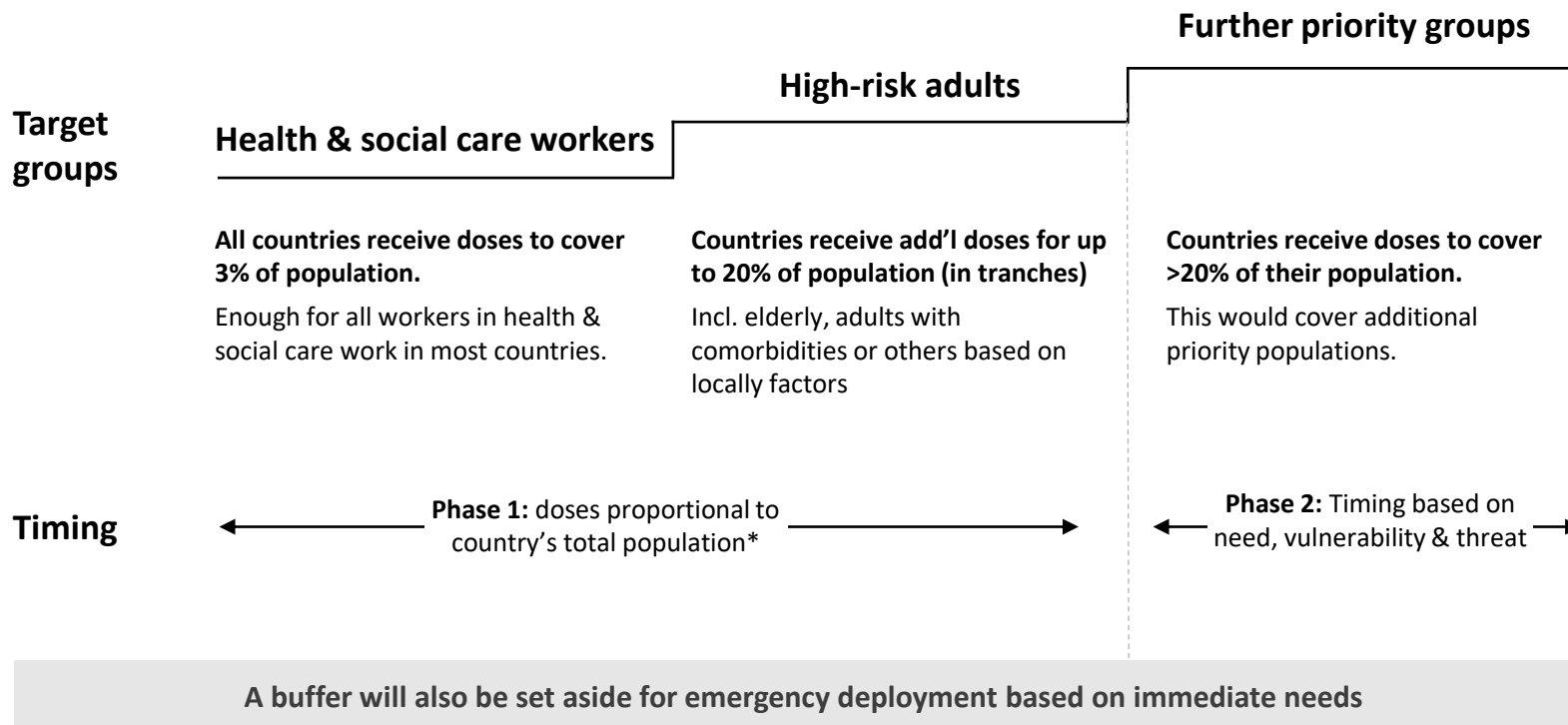


Equitable Allocation Framework & COVAX Allocation Mechanism established

Political support is crucial for the **Equitable Allocation Framework & COVAX Mechanism** to deploy vaccines...

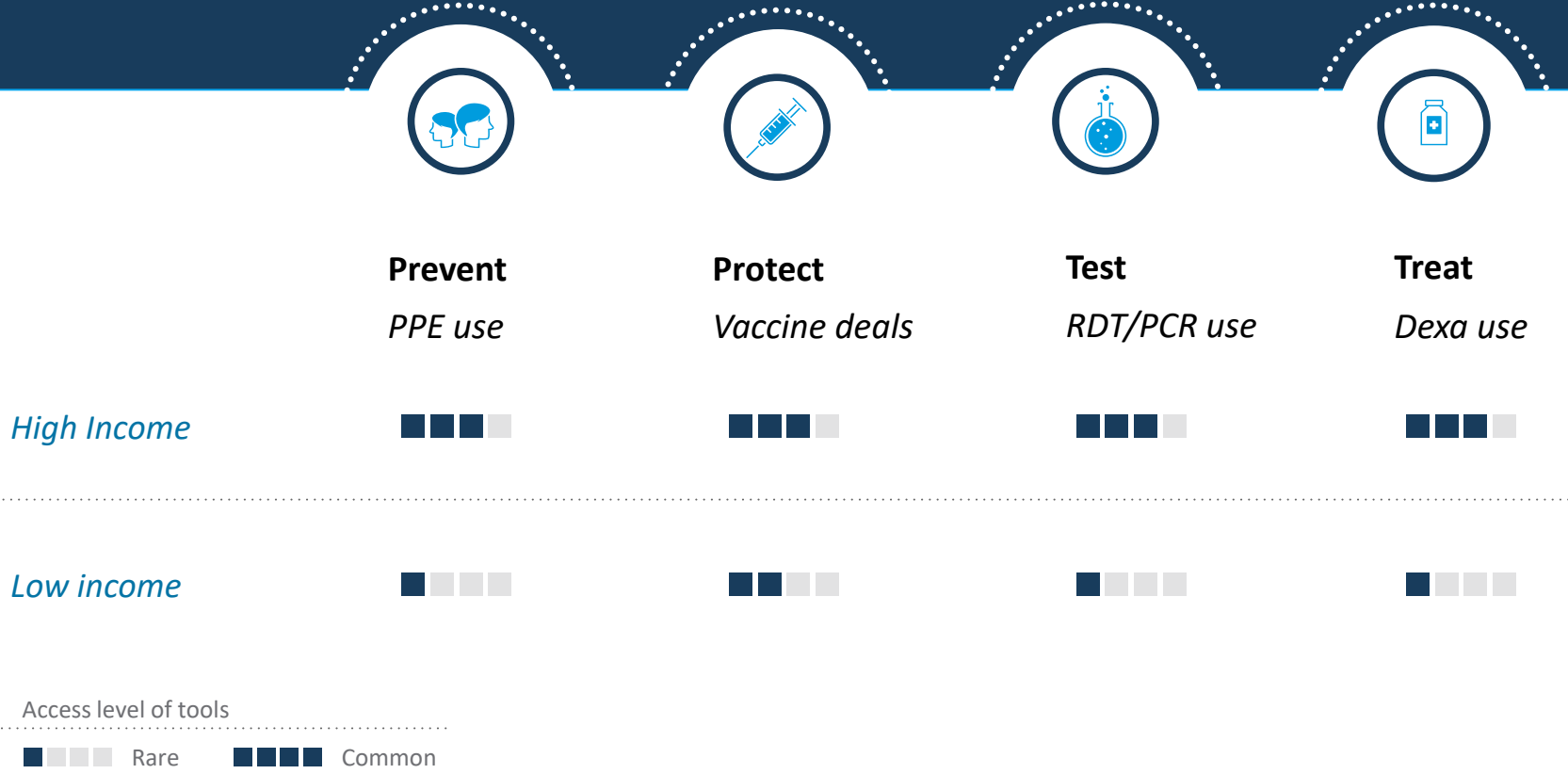
Goal

Protect public health & minimize societal & economic impact by reducing COVID-19 mortality



*The fundamental principle applies that all countries receive doses at the same rate to the extent possible, notwithstanding likely practical limitations to be further worked out (e.g. minimum delivery volumes)

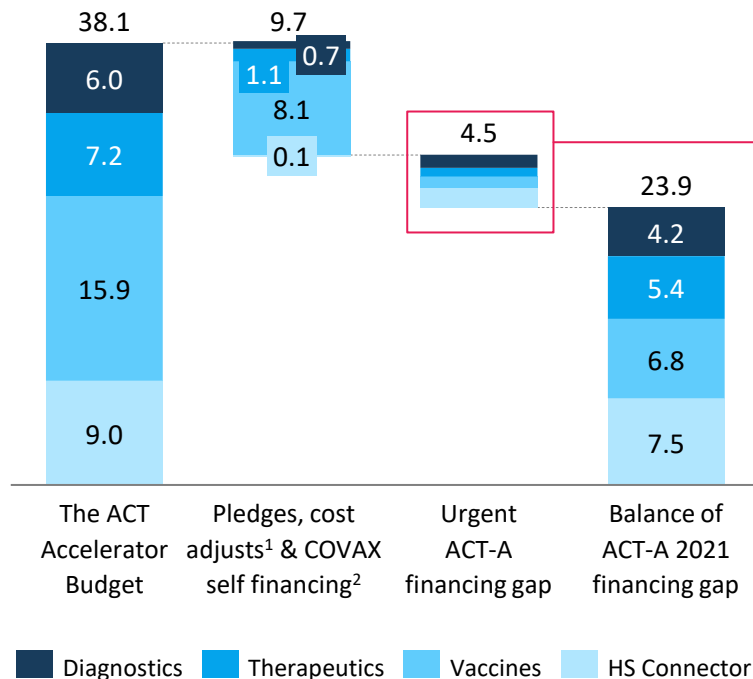
But access to these critical tools differs widely across countries & could worsen without urgent financial & political action



PPE = Personal Protective Equipment, PCR = Polymerase Chain Reaction, Dexa = Dexamethasone, RDT = Rapid Diagnostic Test, mAbs = Monoclonal Antibodies

...and as ACT-A works to close the urgent US\$4.5 B financing gap for this near-term scale-up and impact

Evolution of ACT-A funding need –\$US B

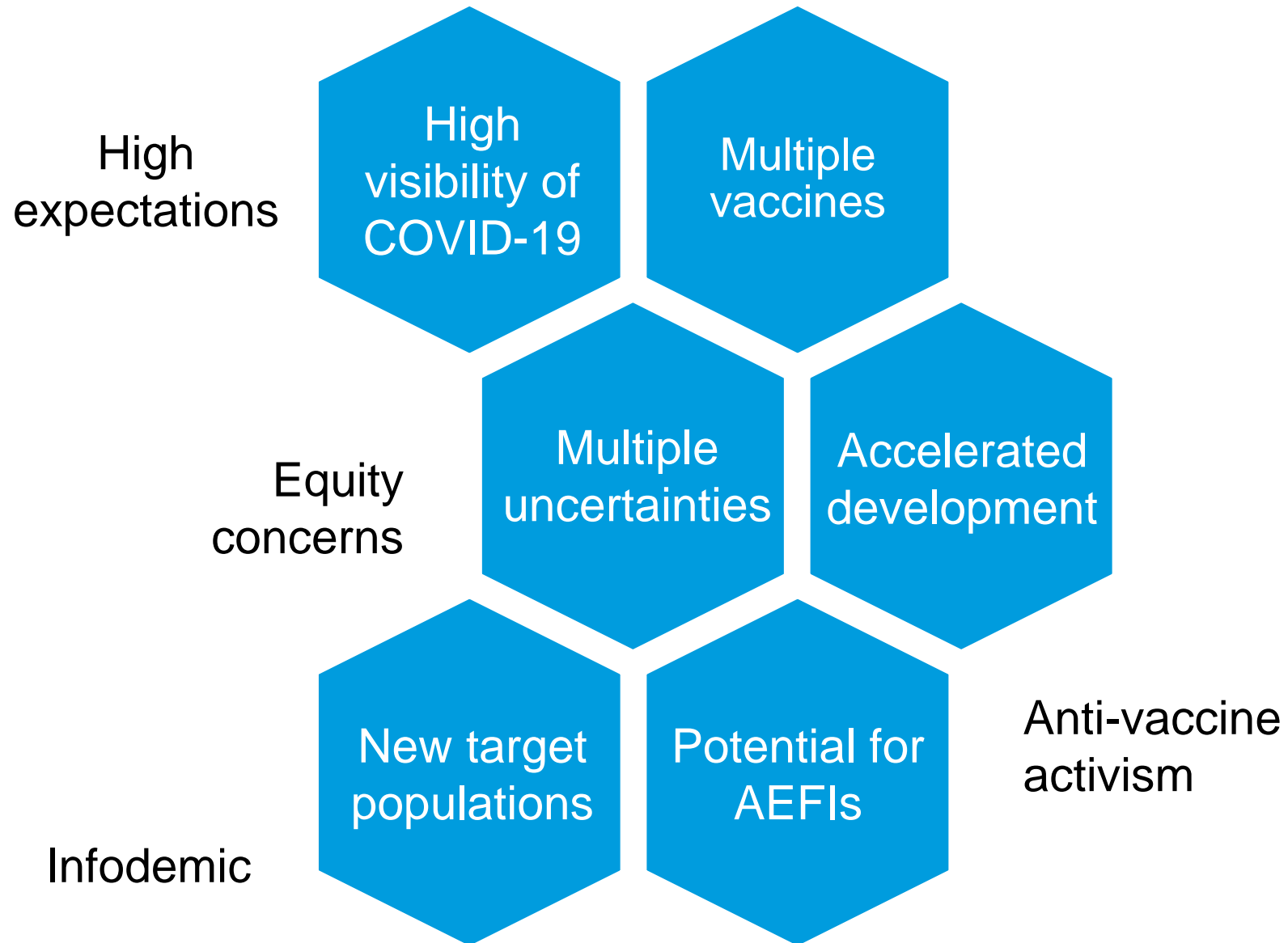


Urgent ACT-A financing gap per Pillar –\$US B

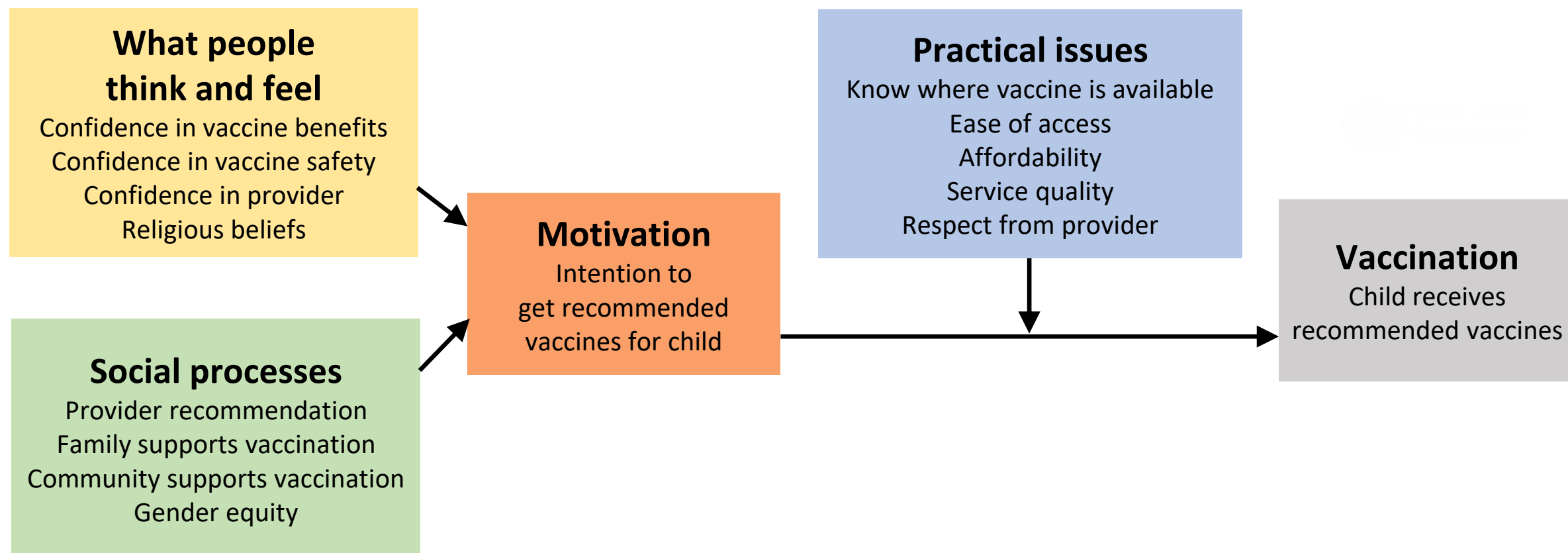
Pillar	Gap (US\$ B)
Diagnostics	1.1
Therapeutics	0.75
Vaccines	1.0
HS Connector	1.7
TOTAL	4.5

1. incl. US\$ 0.1 B by Gavi for Vaccine Procurement/Delivery; 2. COVAX Facility manufacturing & procurement costs financed by self-financing participants (SFP) [List of SFPs](#)

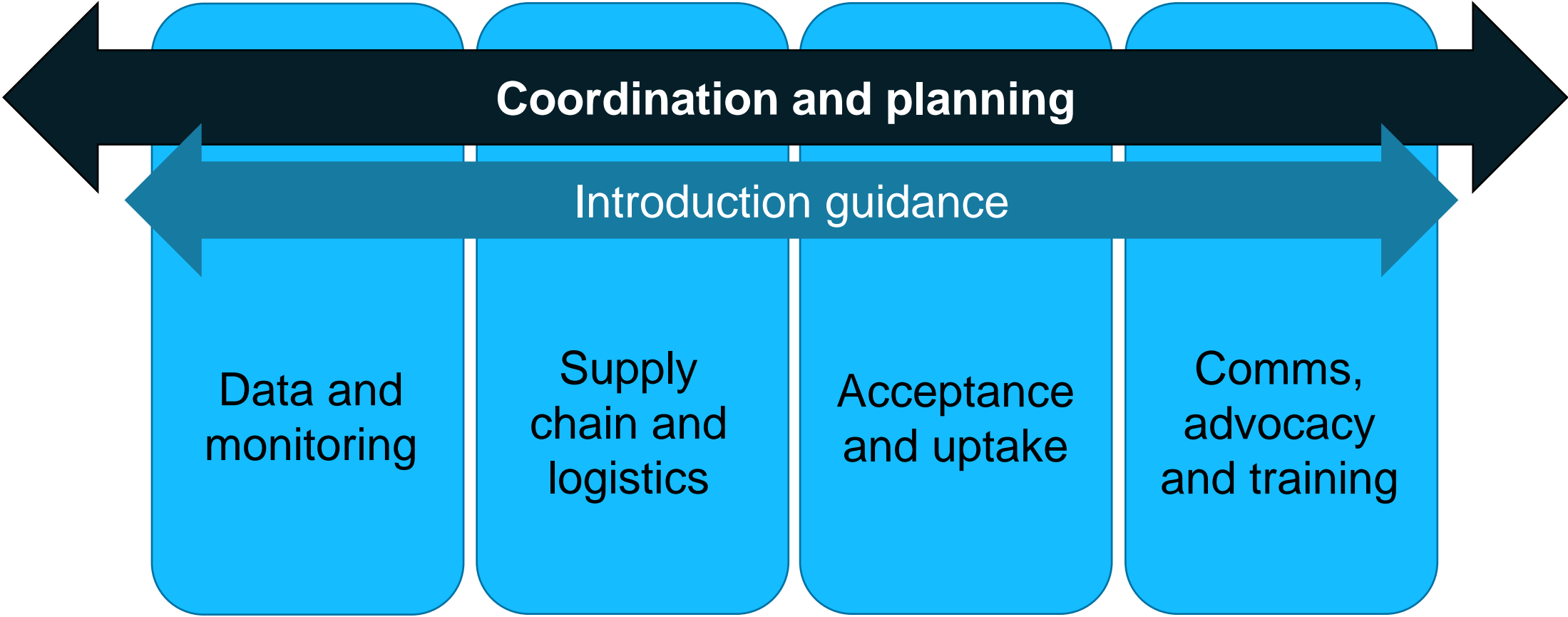
Contextual factors shaping COVID-19 vaccine uptake



What drives vaccination?



Supporting countries for readiness and delivery

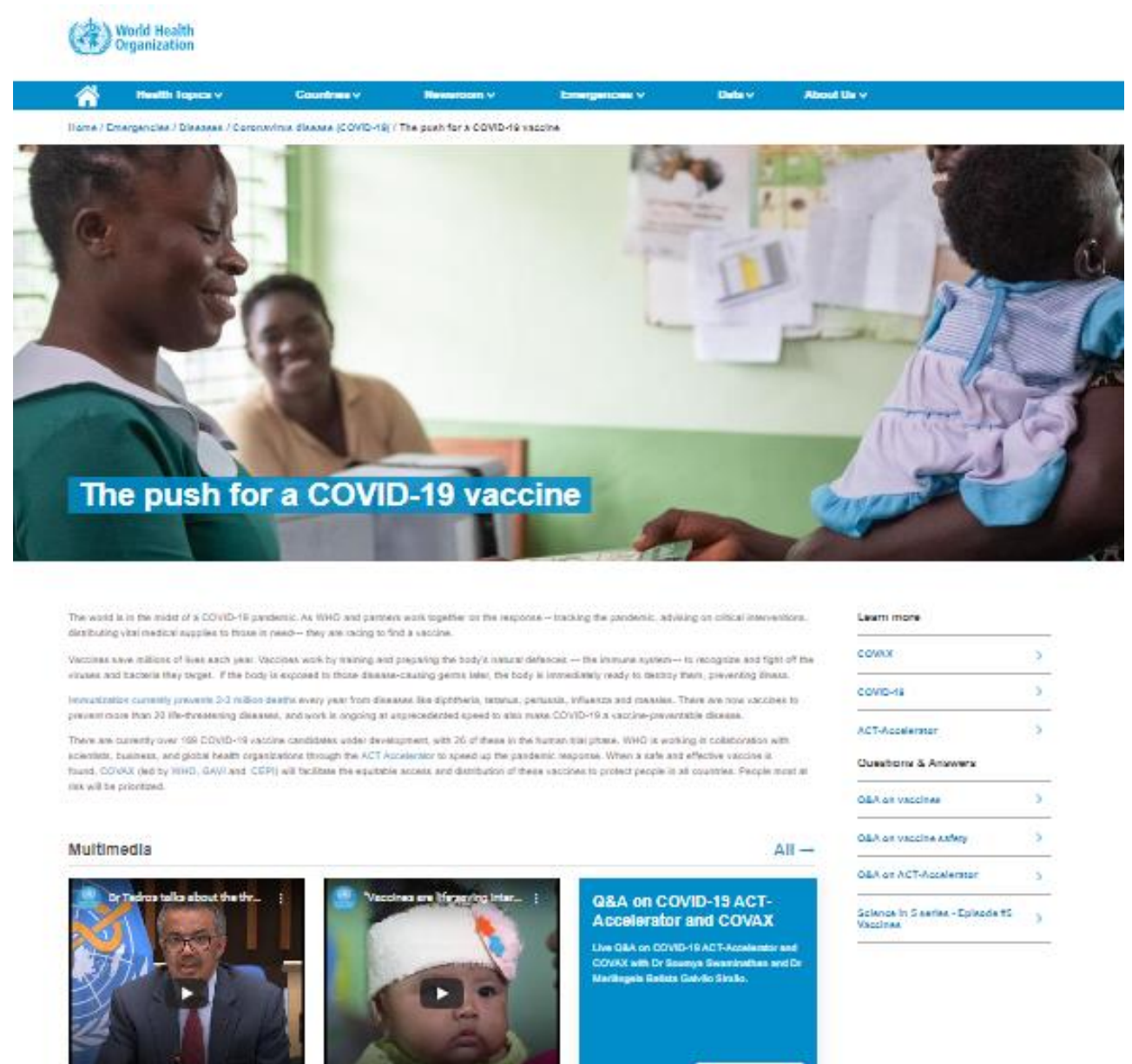


Summary

- We know more about the drivers of vaccination uptake in children under 5 years of age than we do for adults
- **A new pandemic, a new vaccine, and a new adult-focused platform** for COVID-19 vaccines means adapting tactics
- A range of challenges exist: accelerated vaccine R&D, multiple vaccines, multiple doses, anti-vaccine activism, and the infodemic...
- We need to reshape service delivery, demand strategies and communications for the new target populations
- **Driving and sustaining acceptance and uptake will require context-specific and data-driven behavioural interventions, working at multiple levels**

All eventual guidance and materials will be published from this WHO web page:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/covid-19-vaccines>



The screenshot shows the WHO website's navigation bar with links for Home, Health Topics, Countries, Newsroom, Emergencies, Data, and About Us. The main content area features a large image of a healthcare worker in a green uniform talking to a woman holding a child. A blue banner at the bottom of the image reads "The push for a COVID-19 vaccine".

The world is in the midst of a COVID-19 pandemic. As WHO and partners work together on the response—tracking the pandemic, advising on critical interventions, distributing vital medical supplies to those in need—they are racing to find a vaccine.

Vaccines save millions of lives each year. Vaccines work by training and preparing the body's natural defenses—the immune system—to recognize and fight off the viruses and bacteria they target. If the body is exposed to those disease-causing germs later, the body is immediately ready to destroy them, preventing illness.

Immunization currently prevents 2-3 million deaths every year from diseases like diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, influenza and measles. There are now vaccines to prevent more than 20 life-threatening diseases, and work is ongoing at unprecedented speed to also make COVID-19 a vaccine-preventable disease.

There are currently over 100 COVID-19 vaccine candidates under development, with 20 of these in the human trial phase. WHO is working in collaboration with scientists, business, and global health organizations through the ACT Accelerator to speed up the pandemic response. When a safe and effective vaccine is found, COVAX (led by WHO, GAVI and CEPI) will facilitate the equitable access and distribution of these vaccines to protect people in all countries. People most at risk will be prioritized.

Learn more

- COVAX >
- COVID-19 >
- ACT-Accelerator >
- Questions & Answers
- O&A on vaccine >
- O&A on vaccine safety >
- O&A on ACT-Accelerator >
- Science in 5 series - Episode #5 Vaccines >

Multimedia All —

- Dr Tedros talks about the thr... >
- Vaccines are life-saving inter... >
- Q&A on COVID-19 ACT-Accelerator and COVAX**
Live Q&A on COVID-19 ACT-Accelerator and COVAX with Dr Soumya Swaminathan and Dr Mariângela Rautava Galvão Szabo. >

Thank you

