



19 MAY 2020

Seventy (out of 73) Gavi-eligible countries have reported 257,996 confirmed cases and 7,547 deaths. These 70 countries account for a small proportion, about 5%, of global COVID-19 cases and 2% of global deaths. However, reports from countries such as Nigeria and Somalia – and the recent confirmation of COVID-19 cases in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh – indicate that the impact of the disease continues to intensify. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Kiribati and Solomon Islands have not yet reported any cases.



Gavi's flexibilities towards COVID-19 response are already beginning to see impact in countries. Last week, a social media post by the United Nations Myanmar noted: "The first plane landing today at the Yangon International Airport brought 10,000 #COVID19 test kits procured by the United Nations Children's Fund, UNICEF Myanmar, with support of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance."

In Malawi, more than two-thirds of Gavi's support was utilised towards procurement of personal protective equipment (PPE). The balance of funds was reallocated for:



Photo credit: United Nations Myanmar - Facebook



Community leaders Engagement and Sensitization Meetings in township of Lilongwe, Malawi. Photo credit: Malawi Ministry of Health

(i) renovation of infrastructure, such as point of entry isolation centres, biosafety laboratory and infectious disease treatment centres; (ii) disease surveillance and operational costs for isolation and treatment centres; (iii) health worker capacity building (a total of 420 health workers have been trained in contact tracing, while 320 laboratory technicians have been trained in handling COVID-19 samples and lab testing); and (iv) community engagement sessions with local leaders and a total of 490 community leaders in 20 suburbs of Lilongwe.

Through Gavi support and the existing immunisation infrastructure, Afghanistan put in place proactive measures to maintain routine immunisation (RI). This includes: (i) engaging religious and community leaders, as well as members of the community, to increase awareness around vaccination; (ii) training volunteers in vaccine-preventable disease (VPD) surveillance; and (iii) mobilising the national health team to develop and carry out the emergency response plan.



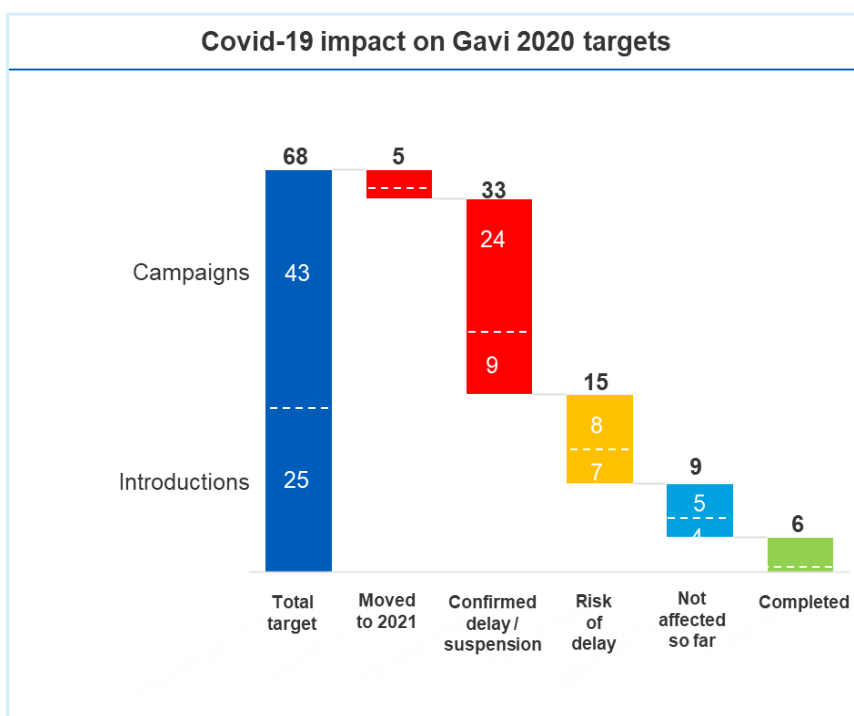
Health workers in Afghanistan deliver training in health care messaging and COVID-19 protection measures. Photo credit: UNICEF Afghanistan/2020

In Uganda, due to total lockdown and associated movement restrictions, the government has converted government cars into shuttles to drive care seekers and care givers to health facilities, to enable access to all health services including immunisation.

Impact on routine immunisation (RI)

Globally, 99 mass campaigns and outbreak responses have been affected by COVID-19, primarily polio and measles campaigns. AFRO¹ is the most affected region for polio immunisation², while PAHO³ is the most affected region for measles/measles-rubella immunisation.

Out of 68 Gavi-supported vaccine introductions for 2020, 48 have been impacted so far. About 10 Gavi-eligible countries (including the Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti and Pakistan) have reported shipment delays. Fortunately, UNICEF is indicating pre-crisis levels of shipments have been re-established; but there is a backlog to clear, and the situation is considered fluid and evolving on a country-by-country basis.



About nine Gavi-eligible countries are reporting low stocks or stocks below buffer (including Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Lesotho, South Sudan and Yemen). Nine⁴ countries have reported stock-outs at national level, while three countries have reported stock-outs at sub-national level. These countries include the Democratic Republic of the Congo reporting stock-outs at central level for BCG, measles and OPV⁵; however, for OPV, GPEI⁶ doses are being used in the interim. Pakistan was suffering from stock-out of pentavalent vaccine in certain parts of the country; however, this has now been resolved through a shipment of 2.7 million doses. The Alliance continues to closely monitor vaccine stock levels and vaccine supply, and to conduct a prioritisation exercise for vaccine shipments. Gavi has recently signed an agreement with UNICEF Supply Division to provide some advance funding to cover increased freight costs for delivery of vaccines, in light of the reduced number of commercial flights available for transport.

A. GAVI COUNTRY PROGRAMMES UPDATE ON COVID-19 RESPONSE

- > **Forty-six** reprogramming applications have been approved so far, of which **34** health system strengthening (HSS) reprogramming applications have been approved totalling **US\$ 57.1 million**. On average, countries are reprogramming about 59% of their potential reprogramming ceiling. Twelve (12) reprogrammings are for partners' engagement framework (PEF) Targeted Country Assistance (TCA) and post-transition engagement (PTE) reprogramming. An additional 33 are no-cost extensions.
- > Approximately **52%** of this allocation has been reprogrammed for personal protective equipment (PPE) and infection prevention and control (IPC) activities.
- > Countries may not be requesting the full amount available for reprogramming in order to safeguard current funds for RI recovery efforts.
- > Summary of reprogramming requests as of 19 May is below (*further details on approved requests are available in Annex 1*).

¹ WHO Regional Office for Africa

² Both inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) and oral polio vaccine (OPV)

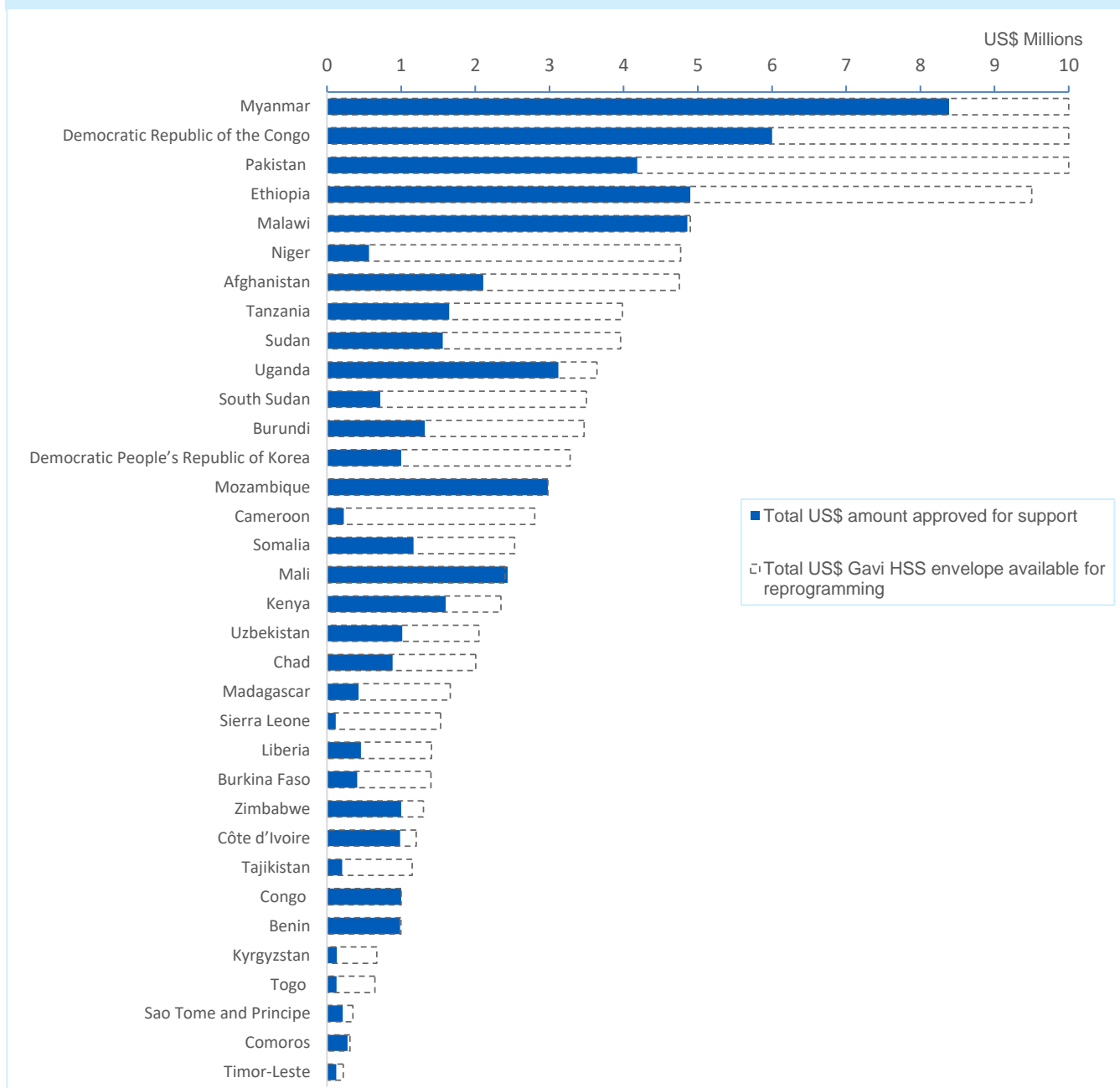
³ Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

⁴ Burkina Faso, Sao Tome and Principe, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Togo, Haiti, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia

⁵ Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine, oral polio vaccine (OPV)

⁶ Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI)

34 Gavi-eligible countries with HSS funds reprogrammed for COVID-19 response



- > A joint statement from WHO and UNICEF has been released on the use of Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) fridges to store other temperature-sensitive health products. This will help countries to meet the cold chain equipment needs for COVID-19 related products in the short run and plan their cold chain needs more holistically going forward.
- > In acknowledging that the COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to have a substantial negative affect on countries' economic and fiscal situations, the Gavi Board supported preserving countries' eligibility status and co-financing at 2020 levels for 2021. The Board further granted the CEO the authority to offer flexibilities to countries' 2020 co-financing obligations where well-justified and based on individual country context. These decisions help address the possible negative effects of the pandemic, but it is important that countries continue to prioritise domestic public funds for immunisation, including co-financed vaccines, to protect the significant gains achieved over the last years in strengthening the sustainability of their immunisation programmes. Gavi and Alliance partners stand ready to work with them to find appropriate solutions.
- > The Alliance will be leading on the cold chain initiative as part of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, a global collaboration of global health organisations, in an unprecedented effort to accelerate the development, production and equitable access to new COVID-19 technologies.

ANNEX 1: FURTHER DETAILS ON REPROGRAMMING APPLICATIONS APPROVED

Country	Total US\$ amount approved for support	Total US\$ Gavi HSS envelope available for reprogramming	Main components of reprogrammed support
HSIS reprogramming applications approved			
Myanmar	8,387,053	10,000,000	Disease surveillance, infection prevention and control (IPC), laboratory readiness, coordination, community engagement and risk communication
Democratic Republic of the Congo	6,001,751	10,000,000	Logistics, IPC, coordination, risk communication and community engagement
Ethiopia	4,897,012	9,500,000	Infection control supplies; risk and behavioural communication; community, civil society and media engagement
Malawi	4,859,000	4,900,000	Immediate infection prevention efforts, including protection of health workers; strengthening screening and diagnostic efforts; and coordination
Pakistan	4,184,219	10,000,000	PPE equipment for frontline immunisation workers for six months
Uganda	3,120,539	3,642,000	IPC supplies, laboratory supplies, risk communication
Mozambique	2,980,000	2,980,000	PPE for health workers; development and production of communication materials aimed at the public to encourage the adoption of preventive behaviours and to inform of the continuity of essential programmes
Mali	2,435,754	2,400,000	Disease surveillance equipment, sanitisation materials, lab equipment and PPE
Afghanistan	2,106,722	4,750,000	Diagnostic capacity, IPC and hygiene, infection and laboratory supplies
Tanzania	1,646,534	3,984,622	PPE
Kenya	1,599,206	2,346,000	Capacity building on COVID-19 case management; coordination (national and county); PPE procurement; communication support; IT to support coordination
Sudan	1,560,519	3,960,000	Hygiene and infection control training for health workers, infection control supplies, disease surveillance activities (including community-based surveillance), support to the establishment of isolation centres, supervision activities
Burundi	1,317,918	3,468,205	PPE, lab equipment, IPC, logistics support, communication activities and disease surveillance training
Somalia	1,166,095	2,530,000	PPE, risk communication, disease surveillance, case management, IPC

Country	Total US\$ amount approved for support	Total US\$ Gavi HSS envelope available for reprogramming	Main components of reprogrammed support
Uzbekistan	1,016,560	2,050,000	PPE, health worker training and communication
Zimbabwe	1,000,000	1,300,000	Rapid test kits, PPE, test kits
Congo	1,000,000	1,000,000	Diagnostic devices, PPE, medical equipment and treatment, laboratory consumables
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	1,000,000	3,280,000	Training of trainers and refresher training of laboratory personnel; laboratory procurement and installation of diagnostic machines; procurement of lab reagent and supplies; IPC and sample collection kits for laboratory and rapid response team (RRT) staff; and joint monitoring with WHO and Ministry of Public Health
Côte d'Ivoire	987,833	1,204,674	Communication and community mobilisation activities
Benin	986,438	998,000	IPC measures in health facilities and communities; supply and management of PPE; community engagement; social and behavioural change communication (SBCC); disease surveillance
Chad	884,721	2,007,342	IPC, PPE, disease surveillance and communication
South Sudan	720,410	3,500,000	Disease surveillance, training, contact tracing, rapid response teams, IPC and case management
Niger	568,153	4,770,000	PPE; support to epidemiological surveillance, monitoring and risk assessment; community communication activities; and support for equipment and facilities for remote working
Liberia	459,221	1,410,000	Communication to address rumours that impact routine immunisation
Madagascar	425,907	1,664,000	PPE; strengthening hygiene and sanitation measures; risk prevention and community engagement; coordination; screening; and disease surveillance
Burkina Faso	407,933	1,401,000	Procurement of PPE for health workers; social mobilisation through communication; laboratory supplies; disease surveillance
Comoros	277,704	308,560	Procurement of PPE; strengthening hygiene and sanitation measures; IPC; communication for risk prevention and community engagement; capacity building for COVID-19 patient care; coordination, screening (laboratory) and disease surveillance
Cameroon	226,188	2,800,000	Risk communication and community engagement

Country	Total US\$ amount approved for support	Total US\$ Gavi HSS envelope available for reprogramming	Main components of reprogrammed support
Sao Tome and Principe	212,600	350,000	PPE
Tajikistan	205,046	1,150,000	Social mobilisation and communication
Kyrgyzstan	134,000	670,000	Disease surveillance, training, communication, PPE
Togo	129,000	645,000	Expansion of testing capacity to sub-national level
Timor-Leste	124,580	219,056	Training, operational costs and transportation
Sierra Leone	118,997	1,534,000	Health worker capacity strengthening, training, procurement, social mobilisation and disease surveillance
Total	57,147,614	106,722,459	
Partners' engagement framework (PEF) Targeted Country Assistance (TCA)/post-transition engagement (PTE) reprogramming applications approved			
Timor-Leste	336,275	No ceiling applicable	PTE support reallocated for operational, training and communication support; and cold chain improvements
Congo	160,040	No ceiling applicable	Training of health workers, patient tracking; supervision
Guinea-Bissau	134,000	No ceiling applicable	Communication strategy, disease surveillance, supervision, infection control and training
Madagascar	523,254	No ceiling applicable	Roll-out of communication activities in 9 priority regions; training of health workers on COVID-19; documenting CSOs' role in COVID-19 response
Liberia	320,126	No ceiling applicable	Disease surveillance: support contact tracers' training and conduct contact tracing
Bhutan	50,041	No ceiling applicable	Procurement of cold boxes and vaccine carriers, training of student nurses, monitoring and demand generation
Cambodia	36,030	No ceiling applicable	Reallocation of funding and no-cost extension
Uzbekistan	32,500	No ceiling applicable	Safety training for health care workers, communication strategy

Country	Total US\$ amount approved for support	Total US\$ Gavi HSS envelope available for reprogramming	Main components of reprogrammed support
Zimbabwe	19,696	No ceiling applicable	Finalise and roll out trainings (if possible, virtual) for community health workers on COVID-19 prevention, case identification and referrals – aligned with village health worker trainings; training for 2,000 community health workers in 23 districts
Congo	160,040	No ceiling applicable	Training of health workers, patient tracking
Senegal	50,000	No ceiling applicable	Disease surveillance, patient tracking
South Sudan	45,000	No ceiling applicable	Contact tracing, reporting
Bangladesh	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Burkina Faso	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Congo	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Central African Republic	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Vietnam	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Uganda	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Senegal	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Sierra Leone	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Niger	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Nigeria	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Ethiopia	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Ghana	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Afghanistan	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Haiti	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Pakistan	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Sudan	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Nepal	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Nicaragua	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Papua New Guinea	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Liberia	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
South Sudan	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Uganda	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Sierra Leone	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Lao PDR	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Myanmar	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Tanzania	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Kenya	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Malawi	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Syria	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension

Country	Total US\$ amount approved for support	Total US\$ Gavi HSS envelope available for reprogramming	Main components of reprogrammed support
Solomon Islands	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Djibouti	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
Yemen	Not applicable	No ceiling applicable	No-cost extension
University of Oslo	115,000	No ceiling applicable	Support countries that have expressed the need to install the new DHIS2 COVID-19 surveillance packages aligned with WHO recommendation
Total:	1,982,002		