
Subject **Evaluation Advisory Committee Chair Report**

Category **For Information**

Section A: Introduction

- This report provides the Board with an overview of the activities of, and guidance provided by, the Evaluation Advisory Committee (EAC) since the Committee Chair last reported to the Board in December 2022.
- At the in-person EAC meeting on 22-23 March 2023, the EAC provided guidance on: (i) the approach to assessing partners' roles across the Alliance Strategy in evaluations; (ii) the COVAX Facility and COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC) Formative Review and Baseline Study; (iii) the proposed scope, approach, and key questions of the next phase of the COVAX Facility and COVAX AMC evaluation; (iv) progress of the commissioned Gavi 5.1 centralised evaluations; (v) the Zero-Dose learning agenda and related ongoing evaluation; (vi) the operationalisation of the changes to the Gavi Evaluation Policy; and (vii) EAC engagement in Gavi 5.1 evaluations.
- **Overarching issues and guidance**
- As reported at previous Board meetings, the EAC continues to reflect on its Remit, Voice and Practice in supporting a Gavi evaluation portfolio of optimal Independence, Credibility and Utility. The Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN) assessment, a potential further independent assessment of the Evaluation function, and planning for Gavi 6.0 all offer opportunities to support this work.
- Recognising the importance of partnerships given the nature of Gavi as an Alliance, EAC members advised that Gavi Alliance partners should be considered within the scope of the evaluations where their roles, responsibilities and delivery contributes to the area of Gavi's work or Theory of Change (ToC) being evaluated, and the focus for evaluations should be on learning rather than accountability of specific partners. The discussion focused on: (i) developing and promoting an approach to enhanced engagement with partners on the scope and questions for evaluations, to promote shared ownership of findings and recommendations; and (ii) ensuring independent evaluators undertaking evaluations are well briefed on the Gavi Alliance model and on the assumptions related to the roles and responsibilities of partners within the ToC being evaluated. The EAC further advised that the latter should be conducted as part of the inception process - rather than as a condition of bidding - and validated by relevant Alliance stakeholders.
- The EAC reviewed findings from an After Action Review on the operationalisation of the changes to the Gavi Evaluation Policy which was revised in December 2021 to allow EAC members to join Evaluation Steering

Committees. The review did not surface any major issues and the Chair will report back that the change in the policy had been positive.

- On the subject of expanding Gavi's pool of evaluation suppliers, EAC members advised: (i) to consider whether language could be added to RFPs to clarify assessment criteria and encourage applications from those suppliers with understanding of local context, recognising the higher quality that would stem from that understanding; (ii) to use language that makes clear that proposals would always win on merit; and (iii) to use the next two evaluations as testing grounds to try out ideas – so that when the Gavi 6.0 workplan comes into effect there is a process to widen the supplier base. The EAC requested that the Secretariat revert at the next meeting against the actions agreed and guidance provided; and to continue collaboration with The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and the Global Financing Facility.
- **Specific guidance on centralised evaluation portfolio**
- With respect to the COVAX Facility and COVAX AMC Formative Review and Baseline Study, following a presentation from the evaluation supplier, ITAD, EAC members commended the evaluators for their good work on this evaluation.
- In relation to the next phase of the COVAX Facility and COVAX AMC evaluation, the EAC noted their previous guidance that (i) this next phase of the evaluation should evaluate the full ToC(s) and build upon the learnings from the first phase; and (ii) EAC members should not participate in the Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) given the need for independence but would refer individuals with relevant expertise. EAC members advised that any relevant work already commissioned by Gavi in relation to impact modelling should be brought into this next phase and further recommended the following: (i) naming potential case study countries in the evaluation Request for Proposal (RfP), provided that criteria are made clear for the selection of countries, which should include Self-Financing Participants, and that countries are meaningfully engaged from early in the process, and to plan for a larger number of countries for Phase 2; and (ii) seeking enhanced engagement with partners during this second phase, especially with focus country stakeholders, and should include reference in the RfP to how the scope of this evaluation complements the existing landscape of COVAX-related evaluations.
- With respect to the Zero-Dose evaluation and learning agenda, following a presentation from the evaluation supplier, IPSOS, and from Hope Johnson, Director of Measurement, Evaluation & Learning (MEL), on the Zero-Dose learning agenda portfolio, the EAC provided the following guidance: (i) that the MEL Department should work with the evaluators to ensure close collaboration between the Zero-Dose centralised evaluation and other relevant internal workstreams within the Zero-Dose learning agenda; (ii) that the evaluators select a framework for reporting on strength of evidence, being transparent about its strengths and weaknesses, and report back to the Steering Committee

and EAC Focal Points; and (iii) that the evaluators should provide a more detailed data analysis plan to be reviewed by the Steering Committee and EAC Focal Points.

- The EAC Chair report is attached in the form of a presentation as Annex A and the EAC meeting guidance is attached as Annex B.

Annexes

Annex A: EAC Chair Report

Annex B: EAC Meeting Guidance, 22-23 March 2023

EVALUATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT

BOARD MEETING
James Hargreaves
26-27 June 2023, Geneva, Switzerland



Overview: Gavi 5.1 multi-year evaluation workplan

EVALUATION	YEAR				
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
COVAX Facility and COVAX AMC formative and baseline Study		◆	◆		
Evaluation of Gavi's initial response to COVID-19	◆	◆			
Evaluation of Gavi's contribution to reaching zero-dose children and missed communities		◆	◆	◆	◆
Evaluation of the operationalisation of Gavi's strategy through Gavi's policies, programmatic guidance and use of funding levers		◆	◆		
Mid Term Evaluation (MTE) of Gavi's 2021-2025 Strategy		◆	◆	◆	◆
Gavi's contribution to sustainability of coverage post-transition				◆	◆
COVAX Facility and COVAX AMC multi-stage evaluation					

	Evaluation commissioning period
	Evaluation implementation and delivery period
◆	Deliverable that needs to be seen by the EAC

Progress update – Zero-Dose Evaluation

Evaluation	Guidance	Progress Update
<p>Evaluation of Gavi’s contribution to reaching zero-dose children and missed communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure close collaboration between the Zero-Dose Evaluation team and other relevant internal workstreams, e.g. the Zero-Dose Learning agenda, and provide an update to the Steering Committee • With respect to the question of how to reflect strength of evidence, select a framework and be transparent about its strengths and weaknesses, and report back to the Steering Committee and EAC Focal Points • Evaluators to come back with a detailed data analysis plan to be reviewed by the Steering Committee and EAC Focal Points as soon as feasible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Inception report submitted in Q1 2023 and reviewed by relevant stakeholders • Data collection underway • Emerging observations (analytical output reports) available late June and early August • First draft report and updated draft report are to be available late September/mid-October • Validation workshop with stakeholders to take place late November

Progress update - Mid-Term Evaluation

Evaluation	Guidance	Progress Update
<p>Mid Term Evaluation (MTE) of Gavi's 2021-2025 Strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement a plan to engage with the Gavi Alliance Board as the primary audience of the evaluation; and to list some of the strategies that would be used (including sense checking on thematic case studies) • EHG – the independent evaluators – to clarify their methodological approach to synthesis including justifying the criteria for the thematic studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final inception report submitted in Q1 2023 • Document review and KIIs underway • Draft interim report due mid-Q3 2023 following publication of WUENIC data

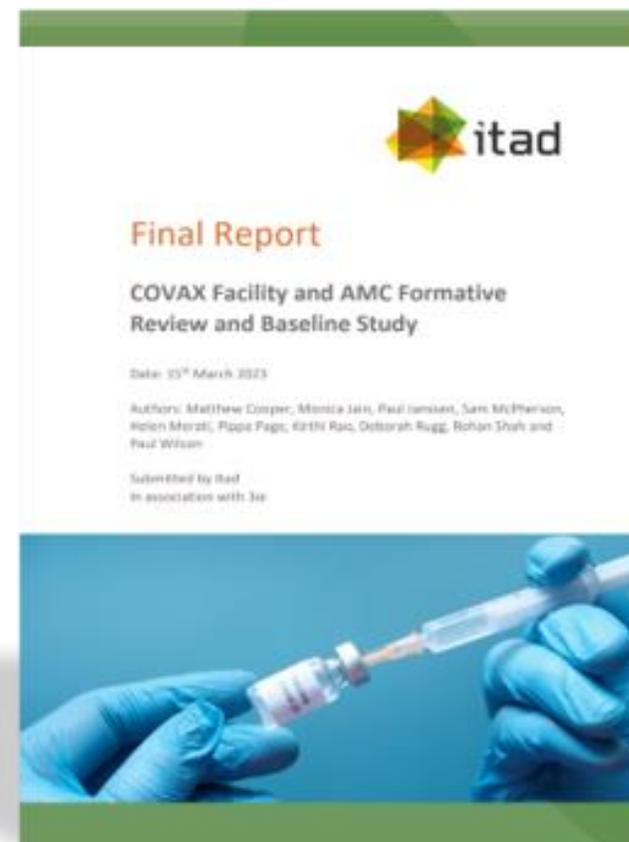
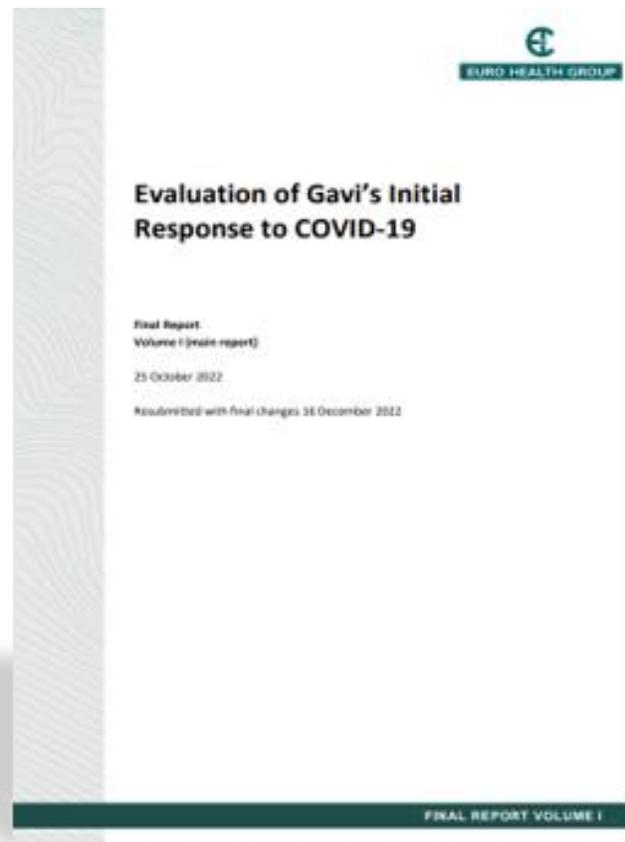
Progress update - Other evaluations

Evaluation	Progress Update
<p>Evaluation of the operationalisation of Gavi's strategy through Gavi's policies, programmatic guidance and use of funding levers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft report submitted in early Q2 2023 and reviewed by relevant stakeholders • Stakeholders engagement expected in June 2023 and final report due in early Q3 2023
<p>Gavi's contribution to sustainability of coverage post-transition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timeline TBC – for discussion with EAC in October 2023
<p>COVAX Facility and COVAX AMC multi-stage evaluation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluability Assessment and Evaluation Design Study phase completed in Q1 2022 • Formative review and baseline study completed in Q1 2023 • Terms of Reference and Request for Proposal for the next evaluation phase currently being developed and finalized, with RFP launch expected by end of Q2 2023

EAC practice

Session	Guidance
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Revised Evaluation Policy Operationalisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">On the ongoing work on expanding the supplier base, the EAC requested that the Secretariat revert at the next meeting against actions agreed and guidance provided; and to continue collaboration with The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and the Global Financing Facility

Reminder: Availability of evaluation materials



Final evaluation reports along with Evaluation Management Responses (EMRs) and EAC assessments published online on [Gavi's evaluation webpage](#).

Thank you

EAC Guidance

EVALUATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

22-23 March 2023, Virtual Meeting

Item 3 – Panel on Partnerships

The EAC provided the following formal guidance:

1. Recognising that Gavi is an Alliance and that partnerships at all levels are central to the Theory of Change for the Alliance, Gavi's Centralised Evaluation Team (CET) should develop and promote an approach to enhanced engagement with partners on the scope and questions for evaluations, in order to promote shared ownership of findings and recommendations.
2. Partners should be considered within the scope of the evaluations where their roles, responsibilities and delivery contributes to the area of Gavi's work or Theory of Change (ToC) being evaluated. With guidance from EAC Focal Points, Requests for Proposals should be made clear on how partnerships will be assessed within the scope of the evaluation.
3. Partnership functioning should be considered within scope for all evaluations where the functioning of such partnerships is relevant to the theory of change under assessment. The Gavi EAC advises that the focus for evaluations should be on learning rather than accountability of specific partners.
4. Independent evaluators undertaking evaluations should be well briefed on the Gavi Alliance model and on the assumptions related to the roles and responsibilities of partners within the ToC being evaluated. This should be conducted as part of the inception process rather than as a condition of bidding and validated by relevant Alliance stakeholders.

Item 5 – COVAX Evaluation – Phase 2

The EAC provided the following formal guidance on scope and commissioning of the Phase 2 evaluation, in particular:

1. To proceed with naming potential case study countries in the evaluation RfP, provided that criteria are made clear for the selection of the countries and that countries are meaningfully engaged from early in the process, and to plan for a larger number of countries for Phase 2.
2. That Gavi CET should seek enhanced engagement with partners during the next phase of the COVAX Evaluation, especially with focus country stakeholders, and should include reference in the Request for Proposal to how the scope of this evaluation complements the existing landscape of COVAX-related evaluations, both completed and ongoing.

Item 6 – Gavi 5.1 Evaluation Update and Workplan

The EAC provided the following formal guidance with regard to the Mid Term Evaluation:

1. The EAC requested that the Secretariat in consultation with EAC Focal points develop and implement a plan to engage with the Gavi Alliance Board as the primary audience of the evaluation; and to list some of the strategies that would be used (including sense checking on thematic case studies).
2. The EAC requested that the evaluators should clarify their methodological approach to synthesis including justifying the criteria for the thematic studies.

Item 8 – Update on Zero-Dose Evaluation

The EAC provided the following formal guidance:

1. That the evaluators and the Secretariat ensure close collaboration between the Zero-Dose Evaluation team and other relevant internal workstreams, e.g. the Zero-Dose Learning agenda, and provide an update to the Steering Committee;
2. With respect to the question of how to reflect strength of evidence, the EAC advised that the evaluators should select a framework and be transparent about its strengths and weaknesses, and report back to the Steering Committee and EAC Focal Points;
3. Reaffirming the need for evaluators to come back with a detailed data analysis plan to be reviewed by the Steering Committee and EAC Focal Points as soon as feasible.

Item 9 – Evaluation Policy Operationalisation

The EAC provided the following formal guidance:

- On the ongoing work on expanding the supplier base, the EAC requested that the Secretariat revert at the next meeting against actions agreed and guidance provided; and to continue collaboration with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and the Global Financing Facility.

Thank you