Welcome to Need to Know, a digital newsletter for countries and partners delivering the latest on Gavi policies, guidance, and other programmatic updates.

In this first newsletter, you will find updates on funding and application flexibilities due to COVID-19, PEF Partners progress reporting, how to request Gavi IPV second dose support, and renewal information for Yellow Fever diagnostic support. Look for future editions of Need to Know in your inbox to keep you up-to-date.

Exceptional measures to support countries mitigate the fiscal impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on immunisation

In recognition of the unprecedented circumstances brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Gavi Board approved several exceptional measures to provide temporary support to Gavi countries as they navigate the pandemic’s impact on immunisation programmes and national economies.

As a result, in 2021 countries will remain in their current (2020) eligibility phase. In addition, their co-financing level in 2021 will be maintained at the current (2020) level.* Please note that changes in the quantity of vaccines or new vaccine introductions may imply a difference in total co-financing amounts between 2020 and 2021. The 2021 co-financing obligation will be formally communicated through Decision Letters that countries will receive later this year.

While these measures will provide important support to countries at this unprecedented moment, it is critical for all countries to continue
prioritizing domestic public resources for immunisation services, including co-financed vaccines.

Additional details can be obtained through your Senior Country Manager.

* These measures do not apply to countries that are fully self-financing or benefit from tailored country strategies approved by Gavi.

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**Requirement Waived for Countries with Expiring Comprehensive Multi-Year Plans**

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, Gavi is waiving the requirement that all countries have a valid comprehensive multi-year plan (cMYP) to apply for or renew Gavi support. This flexibility is available for the remainder of 2020 and applies only to countries whose cMYP expires in 2020 or 2021. Countries that have a new or updated cMYP in place should still submit them.

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**Targeted Country Assistance Flexibility**

Partners may reallocate Targeted Country Assistance (TCA) for activities cancelled or delayed due to the pandemic to maintain routine immunisation and support COVID-19 response and preparedness activities.

Reallocations should be made in consultation with the country’s EPI Manager, other partners and the Gavi Senior Country Manager (SCM) for that country, including a written approval by the EPI Manager and the SCM.

Plans must conform with [WHO guidance on COVID-19](https://www.who.int) preparedness and response, follow countries’ National Preparedness and Response Plans, and align with other support to avoid duplication.

**Find more information about reallocating TCA support:**
[English](#) | [Español](#) | [Français](#) | [Русский](#)

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**PEF Partners Progress Reporting on Strategic Focus Focus Areas (SFA), Targeted Country**
Assistance (TCA), and Post Transition Engagement in Partner Portal

Partners may now provide progress updates by 30 June via the Partner Portal for Strategic Focus Areas (SFA), Targeted Country Assistance (TCA), and Post Transition Engagement.

Guidance for PEF progress reporting is available: English | Español | Français | Русский

Should you require additional assistance, please reach out to the Partner Engagement Framework team at pef@gavi.org

Inactivated Poliovirus Vaccine Second Dose Requests Due 15 July

Starting in 2021, Gavi will support two doses of IPV in all countries that have not yet introduced a second dose, both of which are exempt from co-financing requirements. Requests for support can be made using the IPV switch form. Request submitted by 15 July 2020 are considered together with the 2021 vaccine renewal.

Funds are available to offset some introduction costs through switch grants by submitting a switch budget together with the request.

Gavi may need to prioritise approval of support to align with country risk assessments from WHO based on continued supply limitations. Second dose introductions are targeted between 2021 and 2023; however, this timeline may be affected based on uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. Further information can be found in FAQ on introduction of IPV second dose published by WHO.

2021 Yellow Fever Diagnostic Support Renewals

For the twenty countries* approved to receive yellow fever diagnostic support through Gavi, renewals for 2021 will be based on the reagents and consumable supplies approved in the 2020 application, eliminating the need for a separate renewal request. No additional equipment will be included in the renewals. The same amounts of reagents and consumable supplies will be approved for 2021 as were approved for 2020, unless a country requests more reagents or consumable supplies and can provide a justification. Countries should submit any requests for an increase in allotted
reagents and consumable supplies for 2021 to their Gavi Senior Country Manager (SCM) by 14 August 2020.

* Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Senegal, South Sudan, Sudan, Togo, Uganda

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Do you have requests for content you’d like to see in **Need to Know** Gavi Country Updates?

This is the first installment of **Need to Know**. More information on COVID-19 and flexibilities are coming soon. Please feel free to forward this communication to others. They can also sign up to receive these updates by emailing needtoknow@gavi.org

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