



The Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator - Supplies Financing Facility (ACT-A SFF)

An opportunity to join UNICEF in the largest health and logistics operation the world has ever seen.

The Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) is a global collaboration to accelerate the development, production, and equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments, and vaccines. Since April 2020, the ACT-A partnership has supported the fastest, most coordinated and successful global effort in history to develop tools to fight a disease.

UNICEF is a key cross-cutting partner and leading procurer in all three of the official ACT-A commodity pillars (vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics) and supports the end-to-end supply chain for these commodities.

UNICEF has been appointed as the [COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility \(COVAX\) Procurement Coordinator](#) and one of its procurement agents. In this role, UNICEF leads the end-to-end supply chain engagement spanning procurement, international freight, logistics, and supports country readiness as well as in-country delivery. UNICEF is also leading efforts to assess and establish country and programmatic readiness for the future receipt and deployment of COVID-19 vaccines.

UNICEF is the largest vaccine procurer in the world and annually manages the procurement and delivery of 2.5 billion doses. UNICEF's unparalleled expertise includes the coordination of thousands of shipments with various cold chain requirements, making UNICEF the leader in supply chain management of biological and temperature-controlled products-know-how that is especially needed during this historic undertaking.

UNICEF is also one of the leading agencies in the procurement of in vitro diagnostics. It has secured the availability of nearly 7 million COVID-19 diagnostic tests from suppliers for low- and middle-income countries (LICs and MICs) as of 2 December 2020, ahead of country orders. Of this secured availability, UNICEF has already delivered or scheduled deliveries for 5.4 million COVID-19 tests to 63 countries. Similar to vaccines, diagnostics require strong expertise in the supply chain management of temperature-controlled products. UNICEF will continue to collaborate with countries, suppliers, donors, and development partners to relieve the global shortage of critical COVID-19 diagnostics, as well as to accelerate the market entry of new quality-assured tests suitable for decentralized settings.

UNICEF is a major procurer of essential medicines for health programmes and emergency response. It has expertise in the supply and supply chain management of biotherapeutics and medicines, as well as in engaging with LICs and MICs, including for supplies requiring temperature control within a secure cold chain. As part of the COVID-19 response, UNICEF has already secured 2.9 million treatment courses of Dexamethasone. UNICEF is engaged with industry, partners, donors, and development partners to support early and equitable access to new and repurposed therapeutics used for COVID-19 treatment.

An undertaking of this magnitude requires immediate support, which is why UNICEF has established the ACT-A Supplies Financing Facility (ACT-A SFF).

ACT-A SFF

As part of its contribution to the work of the ACT-A, UNICEF has established contracts with manufacturers of ACT-A supplies and will continue to establish contracts for novel and emerging COVID-19 supplies as they become available.

UNICEF has launched the ACT-A SFF to receive funds dedicated to support LICs and MICs to access, purchase, and receive the delivery of key COVID-19 supplies via [UNICEF Procurement Services](#).

Additionally, UNICEF will use the funds to reserve supply capacity in bulk to assure that countries have equitable access to supplies for their populations, as country plans are implemented, and as demand is mobilized and materializes.



The ACT-A SFF:

- Is a dedicated, pooled funding structure that has been specifically designed to address the scale of the COVID-19 pandemic response supply requirements;
- Supports the equitable supply and delivery of COVID-19 supplies to LICs and MICs;
- Supports the procurement of immunization-related supplies not covered by the COVAX Facility, such as country cost-sharing and support for self-financing participants' vaccine and delivery costs, syringes, cold chain, and PPE for frontline workers; Supports the procurement of existing and novel therapeutics and diagnostics;
- Focuses on supply and supply-related expenses (freight, in-country logistics, insurance, etc.).

Financing contributions to the ACT-A SFF can be directed toward the following three specific, dedicated envelopes: Immunization (including syringes, cold chain, PPE, freight and in-country logistics), Laboratory and Diagnostics, and Therapeutics (including antivirals).

ACT-A SFF supplies categories and initial targets

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| <p>Immunization</p> <p>Vaccines and other immunization supplies</p> <p>Target: USD 1 billion</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vaccine costs for 50-100 million doses of vaccines for countries who are self-financing or cost sharing• Procurement of 500 million syringes, 10,000 refrigerators, and accompanying PPE for frontline workers• Freight and in-country delivery costs for receiving countries | <p>Laboratory and diagnostics</p> <p>Rapid diagnostic tests ("RDTs") and other diagnostics</p> <p>Target: USD 1 billion</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 100-200 million diagnostic tests• Freight costs for shipment to countries | <p>Therapeutics</p> <p>Monoclonal antibodies ("mAbs") and other therapeutics</p> <p>Target: USD 500 million</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Procurement cost for 10-30 million courses of recommended COVID-19 therapeutics• Freight and in-country delivery costs for receiving countries |

Contributions to UNICEF ACT-A SFF will directly assist efforts to secure equitable access to the necessary COVID-19 supplies and health products, bringing the world closer to the global (across all partners) ACT-A goal of providing low- and middle-income countries with: 500 million tests; 245 million treatment courses; and 2 billion doses of vaccines during 2021. The [current needs in the ACT-A are substantial](#), but UNICEF stands ready to lead this effort in collaboration with our development partners.

Please contact us at ACT-A-SFF@unicef.org to learn how to contribute.