



Pharmaceuticals and Vaccines Value Chain Panel

Panel Title: Advancing Ghana's Pharmaceutical and Vaccine Future: Investment, Innovation, and Market Growth
Date: Tuesday, 20 May 2025 | 14:30 – 16:00
Venue: Accra, Ghana (Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast City)
Organized By: The EUD in Ghana, in collaboration with the EABF Facility

1 Event Overview

Ghana and the European Union can boast of a robust partnership that has been ongoing for some decades. A notable outcome of this cooperation is the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) signed in 2016 making the EU one of Ghana's main trade and investment partners. Ghana and the EU are also currently working towards the launching of negotiations on a new Sustainable Investment Facilitation Agreement (SIFA). The new administration's manifesto outlines key priorities that, when aligned with Ghana's broader national development agenda and the **EU's Global Gateway Strategy**, can drive a more **inclusive, resilient, and sustainable economy**. EU companies can expect expanded opportunities, particularly in the **pharmaceuticals and vaccines** sectors, fostering deeper economic cooperation and investment.

Under the EU Global Gateway strategy, pharmaceuticals and vaccines are priority sectors for EU investments. The pharmaceutical industry is one of Ghana's strategic anchor industries and can be a potent driver for economic transformation. At the GHEUBF last year, the EU launched the Ghana Component of the 'Special Measure' Team Europe Initiative on Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health technologies in Africa (MAV+). On Ghana's side, a new policy for the pharmaceutical sector has been under development, a vital component of which could be an incentive regime. With Ghana's increased ambitions but also capabilities (cf. recent Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) upgrade, now being able to test vaccines) to produce high-quality medicines and embarking on vaccine production, there are currently many opportunities for EU businesses to engage and invest in this sector. This will not only increase access to essential drugs and vaccines, but also create more decent jobs and generate greater domestic revenues.

The Ghana-EU Business Forum 2025 will serve as a pivotal platform for fostering partnerships, dialogue, and investment in Ghana's pharmaceutical and vaccine sectors. The forum aims to bring together key stakeholders, including government officials, regulatory bodies, industry leaders, investors, and international partners, to explore opportunities for sectoral growth and collaboration.

Key themes will include:

- Investment opportunities and financial incentives for pharmaceutical growth in Ghana (Market potential, EU investment opportunities, local partnerships, and financial incentives for sector growth).
- Technology transfer and workforce development to bridge talent gaps in the Pharmaceutical and Vaccine Sectors.
- Supply chain resilience and strategies for reducing import dependence.
- Regulatory frameworks and market access, addressing harmonization between Ghana, ECOWAS, and the EU

By fostering dialogue between Ghanaian and EU stakeholders, the session will contribute to strengthening **EU-Ghana economic cooperation**, enhancing local production capacity and improving public health outcomes across the region.

2 Event Objectives

The forum aims to enhance collaboration and investment in Ghana's pharmaceutical and vaccine sectors, ensuring sustainable growth and regional competitiveness.

Specifically, the event will:

- **Attract investment** by showcasing Ghana's potential as a pharmaceutical and vaccine manufacturing hub;
- **Promote technology transfer** and workforce development initiatives to bridge talent gaps;
- **Strengthen local manufacturing** by fostering strategic partnerships and financial incentives;
- **Enhance supply chain resilience** to reduce dependence on imports;
- **Align regulatory frameworks** with the African Medicines Agency and EU standards to facilitate market access;
- **Encourage EU-Ghana business partnerships** for sustainable sectoral development.

This panel will provide actionable insights for stakeholders and pave the way for long-term collaboration between Ghana and the EU.

3 Panel Discussion

3.1 Panel Objective:

This panel will explore investment opportunities, local manufacturing, and regulatory alignment to strengthen Ghana's pharmaceutical and vaccine sectors and to position Ghana as a regional pharmaceutical hub. Discussions will focus on EU investment and partnerships, technology transfer, supply chain resilience, workforce development, and market access, aiming to enhance industry growth, reduce import dependence, and foster a competitive, sustainable sector. The session aims to drive sustainable industry growth, reduce import dependence, and enhance EU-Ghana collaboration for a resilient, competitive healthcare sector particularly in the pharmaceuticals and vaccines sector.

3.2 Panel Title and Possible questions for discussion

“Advancing Ghana’s Pharmaceutical & Vaccine Future: Investment, Innovation, and Market Growth”

Below is a proposal for the flow of questions:

Unlocking Investment in Ghana’s Pharmaceutical and Vaccine Sectors

- Set the stage by providing background on Ghana’s current pharma and vaccine sector.
- Discuss how both regions can benefit from collaboration and expansion in this area.

4 Expected Outcomes

- **Increased Investment Interest:** Strengthened business engagement between Ghana and the EU, highlighting investment opportunities in pharmaceutical and vaccine manufacturing.
- **Stronger Local Production Capacity:** Identification of strategies to enhance domestic manufacturing through knowledge and technology transfer, workforce development, and infrastructure investment.
- **Improved Regulatory Frameworks:** Insights on streamlining regulations to facilitate market access, reduce barriers, and promote industry growth.
- **Enhanced Supply Chain Resilience:** Recommendations for improving logistics, digital solutions, and regional pharmaceutical hubs to ensure stable access to essential medicines and vaccines.
- **Expanded EU-Ghana Partnerships:** Encouragement of collaborations between Ghanaian and EU stakeholders to drive sectoral growth and innovation.
- **Actionable Policy and Industry Recommendations:** Key takeaways for policymakers and industry leaders to implement solutions that support long-term pharmaceutical sector development.

5 Target Audience

- Private Sector Leaders: EU and Ghanaian Pharmaceutical and Vaccine manufacturing companies and supply chain firms.
- Financial Institutions and Investors: Banks, DFIs, impact investors, and green investment funds.
- Government Representatives: Officials from Ghana’s Ministry of Health, Food & Drugs Authority (FDA), EU Delegation, EU Agencies, and regulatory bodies.
- Development Agencies: EU development programs, international NGOs, and organizations focused on pharmaceuticals and vaccines
- Technology and Innovation Experts
- Any other