

COVID-19 Vaccination: Building Global Capacity

Q&A for Session 13: Private Sector Engagement

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

Thank you for attending the above session for National, regional and global stakeholders. Many questions were submitted by participants, either in the Zoom chat during the session itself, or in the two Telegram channels managed by Technet-21 supporting regions, countries, and partners in preparing for COVID-19 vaccine introduction. In this document, we share the answers from presenters to each question.

Links to the session recordings in all languages and presentations can be found on the [Project ECHO website](#).

More information on COVID-19 vaccine introduction can be found in the resources listed below.

- [General questions regarding the COVID-19 vaccines](#)
- [Preparing for COVID-19 vaccination](#)
- [WHO Coronavirus disease \(COVID-2019\) technical guidance](#)
- [TechNet-21 – The Technical Network for Strengthening Immunization Services](#)
- OpenWHO COVID-19 vaccine trainings:
 - [Orientation to national deployment and vaccination planning for COVID-19 vaccines](#)

In addition, TechNet-21 manages two Telegram channels supporting regions, countries, and partners in preparing for COVID-19 vaccine introduction. In these two spaces - one anglophone and one francophone - you will be able to share your experiences, discuss key questions, and connect with experts from around the world. We'll also share new information and global guidance as it becomes available. Join us today:

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Introduction – TechNet-21 \(English\)](#)
- [Introduction des vaccins contre la Covid-19 – TechNet-21 \(Français\)](#)

How to motivate the private sector to be part of the COVID-19 vaccine introduction?

We would expect that some countries would contract PS providers.

Should the country allow the private sector to buy their own vaccine, or use a vaccine not yet recommended by WHO?

South Africa's approach has been for government to procure vaccines. Our understanding is that it would currently be very difficult for the private sector to procure vaccines directly from the manufacturers. In SA no-one can use any vaccine that has not been approved by our regulatory body.

Regarding the unified system in South Africa, was this developed in partnership with the technology sector?

The National Department of Health led the development of the system in collaboration with the Council for Science and Industrial Research. Subject and technology expertise from a range of partners and local and international fora were leveraged to distill best practice.

How to manage vaccine demand and cold chain at private hospitals? Has any monitoring or supervision checklist been developed ?

WHO has developed a supportive supervision checklist for COVID-19 vaccination which is available here: <https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/supportive-supervision-for-covid-19-vaccination>

Resources for vaccine acceptance and uptake are available here: <https://www.who.int/initiatives/act-accelerator/covax/covid-19-vaccine-country-readiness-and-delivery/acceptance-and-demand>

Resources for cold chain are available here: <https://www.who.int/tools/covid-19-vaccine-introduction-toolkit#Supply%20and%20logistics>