

Integration mapping tool

Frequently Asked Questions

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1 Context and background

1.1 What is the purpose of the mapping tool?

The integration mapping tool enables countries to conduct a situational analysis and assess the current state of COVID-19 vaccination integration at a given point in time – this can be used to facilitate in-country discussions on integration

1.2 Who has been involved in developing the mapping tool?

WHO, UNICEF, and Gavi have led the development of this mapping tool in collaboration with multiple partner agencies (incl. BMGF, USAID, JSI, CHAI and others)

1.3 Who is the intended user of the mapping tool?

The intended users of this tool are in-country stakeholders, incl. the Ministry of Health and WHO/UNICEF Country Offices that have oversight over immunization, primary healthcare, and other non-immunization programmes

1.4 Is the mapping tool compulsory?

No, the use of the integration mapping tool is optional. When using the mapping tool, countries are encouraged to share the results of their assessment with their WHO/UNICEF regional offices to facilitate discussions on support needs

1.5 If a country has already started integration activities, should they still complete the mapping tool?

Completing the mapping tool is not required but highly recommended if a country believes they will benefit from conducting a situational analysis. The mapping tool can thereby be filled at any point during a country's integration journey even if integration has already commenced

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1.6 What are the potential benefits for using the mapping tool?

Countries can identify priorities / focus areas for integration based on current assessment from the mapping exercise

The tool can provide input into developing an integration implementation roadmap / plan based on identified priorities

The dashboard from the tool may serve as a means for enabling political advocacy on COVID-19 integration with high-level stakeholders

2 Linkages with other materials

2.1 How does the mapping tool fit in with the WHO-UNICEF guidelines?

The mapping tool is not included in WHO-UNICEF guidelines (i.e., Considerations for integrating COVID-19 vaccination into immunization programmes and PHC for 2022 and beyond) but can be used to complement Steps 1 and 2 (strategy initiation and planning) of COVID-19 integration. The mapping tool follows the guidelines and is structured along the WHO Health System Building Blocks

2.2 What is the difference between the mapping tool and readiness assessment checklist in the WHO-UNICEF guidelines?

Purpose of documents: The mapping tool enables countries to conduct a situational analysis and assess the current state of COVID-19 vaccination integration at a given point in time while the readiness assessment checklist supports countries in identifying specific technical actions which should be incorporated into the integration implementation plan

Timing of use: Mapping tool results serve as input into developing integration implementation plan based on identified priority areas while the checklist supports with detailing of technical actions for the focus areas in integration implementation plan

Primary users: Mapping tool is geared for use by high-level stakeholders in MoH, WHO/UNICEF Country Offices that have oversight of immunization, primary healthcare, and other non-immunization programmes while the checklist is primarily for technical focal points in MoH, WHO/UNICEF Country Offices that have detailed insights into immunization, primary healthcare, and other non-immunization programmes

Post-completion outcomes: Mapping tool provides heatmap and visualization output of current state that can be used to identify priorities for additional attention and for advocacy while the checklist provides a comprehensive list of technical actions

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that should be incorporated into national integration strategy, including actions / investments needed for implementation

2.3 Should a country use both the mapping tool and the readiness assessment checklist? If so, in which order should the different materials be used?

Countries can use both the mapping tool and the readiness assessment checklist based on what suits their specific contexts

If using both materials, it is recommended to use the mapping tool first to identify integration priorities, then the checklist to find specific actions to address those identified priorities

2.4 If a country has already completed the readiness assessment checklist, can that country still use the mapping tool?

Yes, the mapping tool can also be used after the readiness assessment checklist

2.5 How does the mapping tool connect with other operational tools for planning and implementing integration activities?

The mapping tool forms part of the integration support package which also includes operational tools for planning and implementing integration activities

The mapping tool supports with national integration planning; operational tools are useful for national and subnational implementation

The mapping tool provides overview across all health system building blocks, while the operational tools may focus on select dimensions (e.g., framework on demand)

2.6 How does the mapping tool link with CDS3 and other sources of funding?

The mapping tool is not directly linked with CDS3 or any other sources of funding, but Gavi SCMs should be engaged in discussions on the mapping tool as potential focus areas for implementing CDS3 funding may be identified. If needed, the Gavi SCM will also be able to provide information on possible CDS3 reprogramming

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3 Usage of the tool

3.1 Who should complete the mapping tool on behalf of a country?

Stakeholders that have oversight over immunization, primary healthcare, and other non-immunization programmes in the Ministry of Health in collaboration with WHO/UNICEF Country Offices

3.2 What process should a country follow to maximize adoption of the mapping tool?

Step 1: Engage in-country stakeholders and organize working session for joint discussions on the mapping tool

Step 2: Jointly complete the mapping tool over discussions from various perspectives

Step 3: Validate mapping results with different immunization and non-immunization programmes

Step 4: Develop integration roadmap, leveraging checklist and other support materials

3.3 What are the steps for filling in and completing the mapping tool?

Step 1: Complete preparation sheet with details on target population groups and target health services for COVID-19 integration

Step 2: Complete assessment sheet with mapping of current COVID-19 vaccine integration status along all dimensions and key actions based on 5pt scale

Step 3 (Optional): Leverage planning template in developing path forward in COVID-19 integration

Step 4 (Optional): Share filled mapping tool with UNICEF / WHO Regional Offices

Additional information required can be found in the tool guide [\(pending link\)](#)

3.4 How long does it take to complete the tool?

It could take between 2 to 4 hours to fill the tool depending on the level of detailed discussions

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3.5 If a country has further questions on completing the mapping tool, who is available for support?

Country stakeholders can reach out to the WHO / UNICEF Country Offices and Regional Offices for further questions / support

4 After completing the tool

4.1 How can the mapping tool be used to inform the development of integration plans?

The mapping tool can be used to develop integration plans from 2 perspectives – WHO building blocks and the target population / health services (countries may use either perspective, depending on their context and approach to integration)

By identifying target population groups and health services for integration in the tool, a planning template will be generated in the 'Planning Template' tab. This can be used to identify priority actions to reach each target population through interfacing health services.

Should countries wish to develop priority actions for each building block, this can be done on a separate planning sheet ([pending link](#)). In this template, countries can use the Readiness Assessment Checklist and Operational Framework for Primary Health Care to identify those actions that have already been undertaken, and prioritize remaining actions that have not yet been completed

4.2 How can the mapping tool be used for advocacy within a country?

Visual outputs (heatmap and graphs) can be circulated to key decision-makers to highlight potential focus areas by clicking the button that says 'Click here to email workbook' at the top of the OUTPUT – Summary tab

4.3 What are some key next steps that countries can undertake after completing the mapping tool?

Complete planning templates with next steps towards COVID-19 integration (structured by HS building block or target population/health service)

Align country stakeholders on identified integration priorities

Develop implementation roadmap to address priority areas for integration

Engage partners to mobilize funding and / or technical assistance required



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4.4 Do results from the mapping tool need to be shared? If so, with who?

It is not mandatory to share mapping results, but it is highly recommended to share them with WHO/UNICEF Country Offices and Gavi Senior Country Managers to ease the process of mobilizing funding or technical assistance