A microscopic view of several COVID-19 virus particles, which are spherical with a textured surface and numerous small, rounded protrusions (spikes) extending from them. The particles are shown in shades of blue and white against a dark background. The image is partially obscured by a blue and orange diagonal graphic element on the left side.

# Deployment of COVID-19 vaccine and vaccination in the WHO European Region

**WHO European Healthy Cities Network Meeting; 21 January 2021**

**Siddhartha Sankar Datta**

**Regional Adviser**

**Vaccine-preventable diseases and Immunization**

**WHO Regional Office for Europe**

**Safe and effective vaccine(s) will be a critical tool to help control the pandemic**

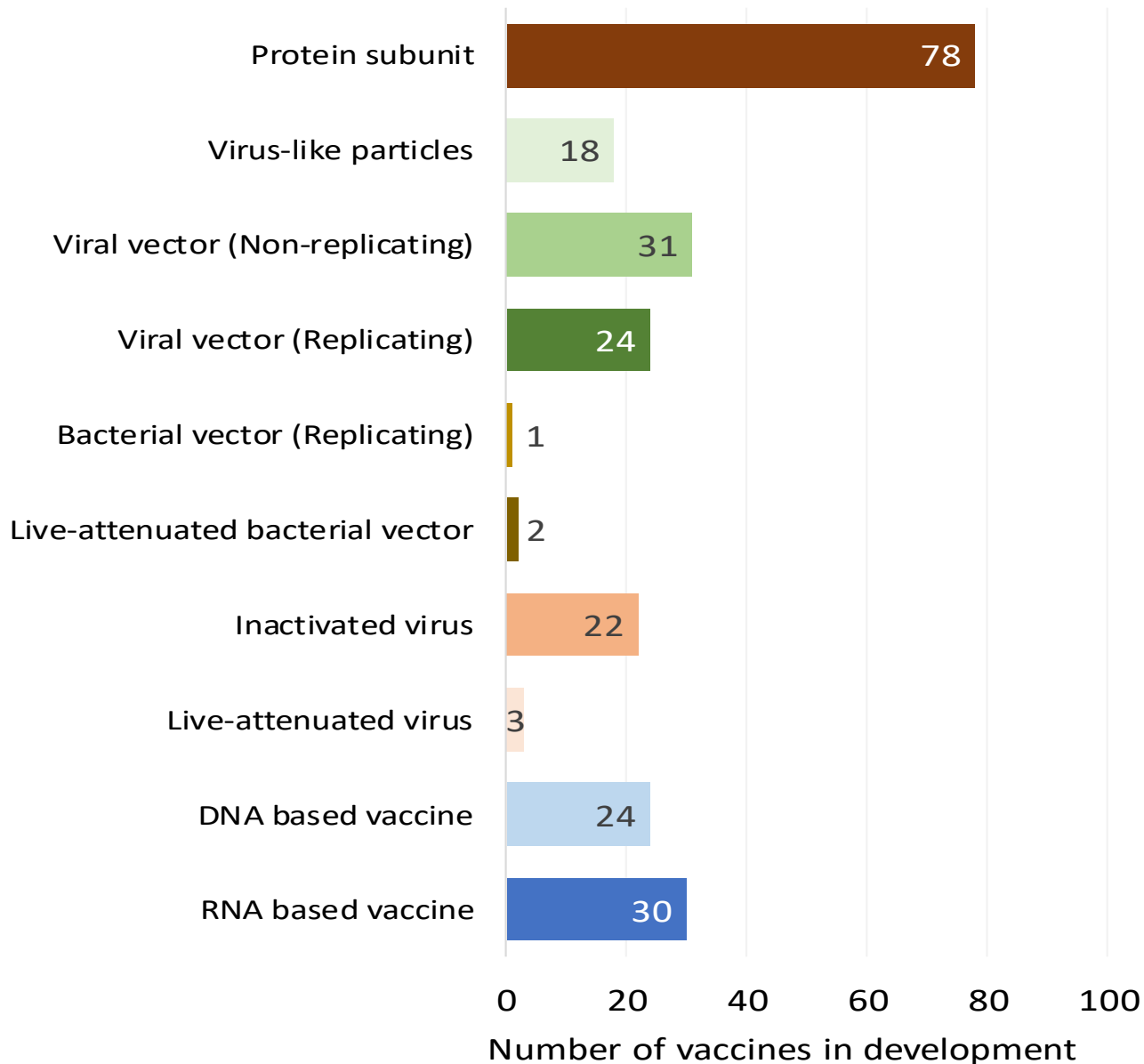
Picture courtesy: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ouN4ZGEwYws>



**Timely and effective non-pharmaceutical interventions should be implemented** to reduce the burden of disease and to protect the most vulnerable populations, minimize the societal costs and expand the health-care capacity

# Landscape of COVID-19 candidate vaccines\*

## Types of vaccines tested



**As of \*19 January 2021, 237 potential vaccine candidates: 64 in clinical evaluation and 173 in the pre-clinical phase**

- WHO has approved the emergency use listing for Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine
- Plans are underway for Moderna and AstraZeneca/Oxford vaccines

# COVID-19 vaccines; emergency use listing from WHO

## December 2020

- Pfizer/BioNTech

## Estimated end of February 2021

- Moderna
- AstraZeneca/Oxford University (SK BIO)
- Covishield (Serum Institute India)

## Estimated early March 2021

- Sinopharm/BIBP
- Sinovac

## May-June 2021

- Janssen/Johnson & Johnson

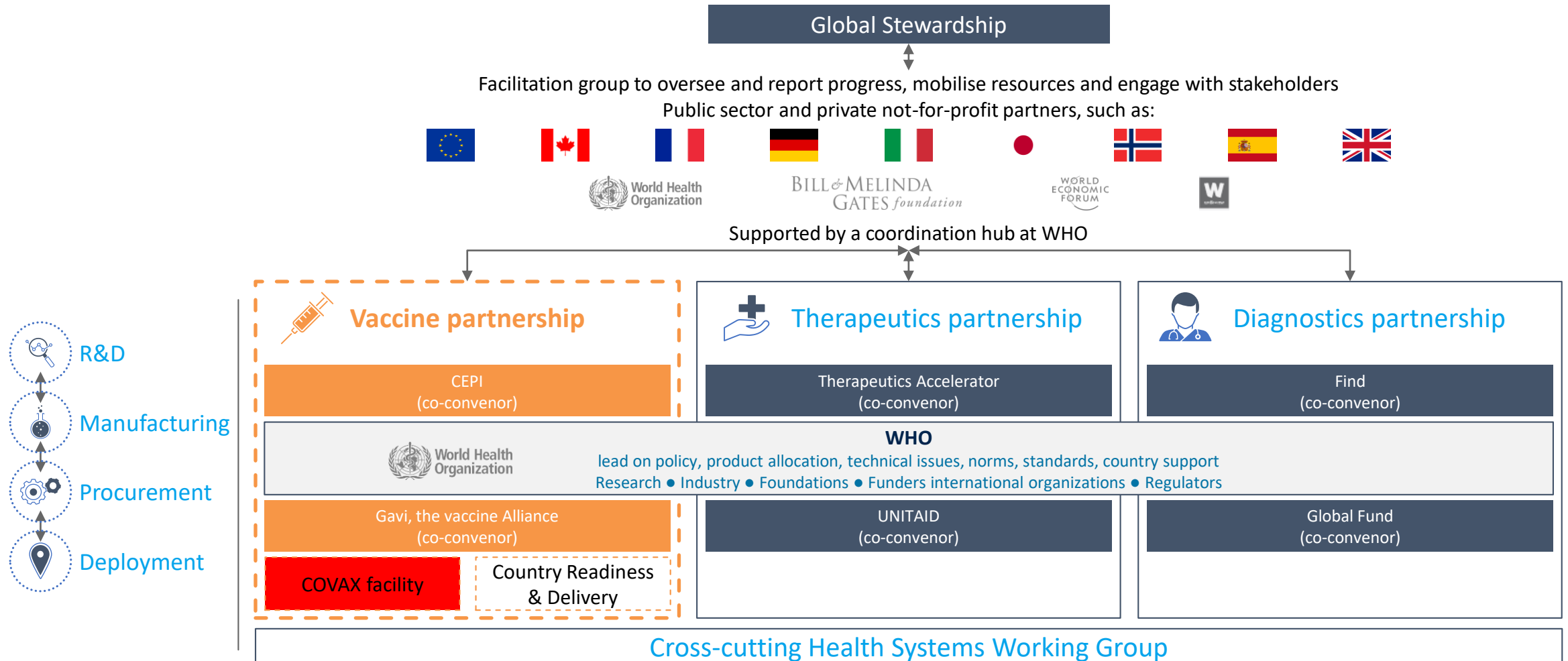
## Others in pipeline

- Sputnik V
- EpiVacCorona
- CanSinoBIO

[https://extranet.who.int/pqweb/sites/default/files/documents/Status\\_COVID\\_VAX\\_20Jan2021.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/pqweb/sites/default/files/documents/Status_COVID_VAX_20Jan2021.pdf)

**Note:** WHO developed the Emergency Use Assessment and Listing mechanism in response to the 2014 – 2016 Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak. The EUAL is a risk-based procedure for assessing and listing unlicensed vaccines, therapeutics and in vitro diagnostics for use primarily during public health emergencies of international concern (PHEIC) but also in other public health emergencies if appropriate

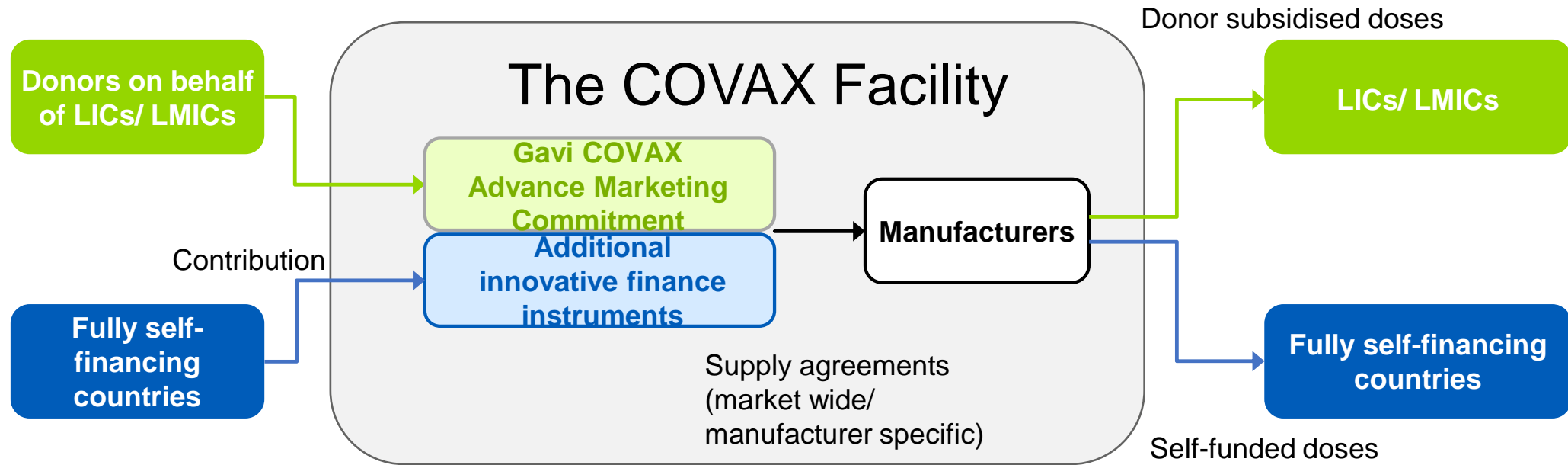
# ACT-Accelerator structures COVID-19 global response efforts in a collaborative framework across three partnerships





# COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Facility enables global collaboration and equitable access to vaccines

The COVAX Facility is administered by the Gavi Secretariat and implemented in partnership with ACT Accelerator actors

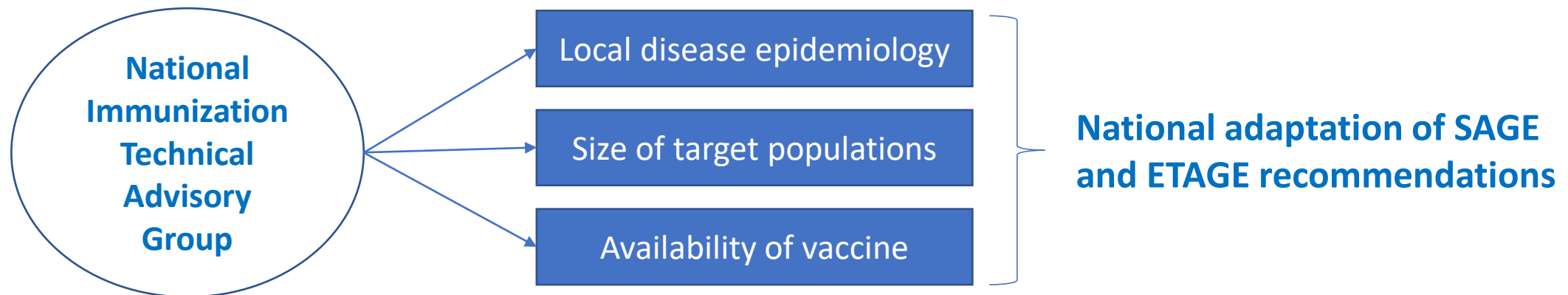


- Agreements with manufacturers would be unified across full scope of countries participating in the Facility, but ODA funding will only be used to support LICs and LMICs
- Financing for procurement incremental to contribution
- COVAX Facility offers dedicated streams of engagement for both financially supported countries (the AMC countries) and for fully self-financing (FSF) countries.

# European Immunization Technical Advisory Groups of Experts; prioritization of target groups for vaccination against COVID-19

**Public health strategy:** direct reduction of morbidity and mortality; maintenance of most critical essential services; reciprocity

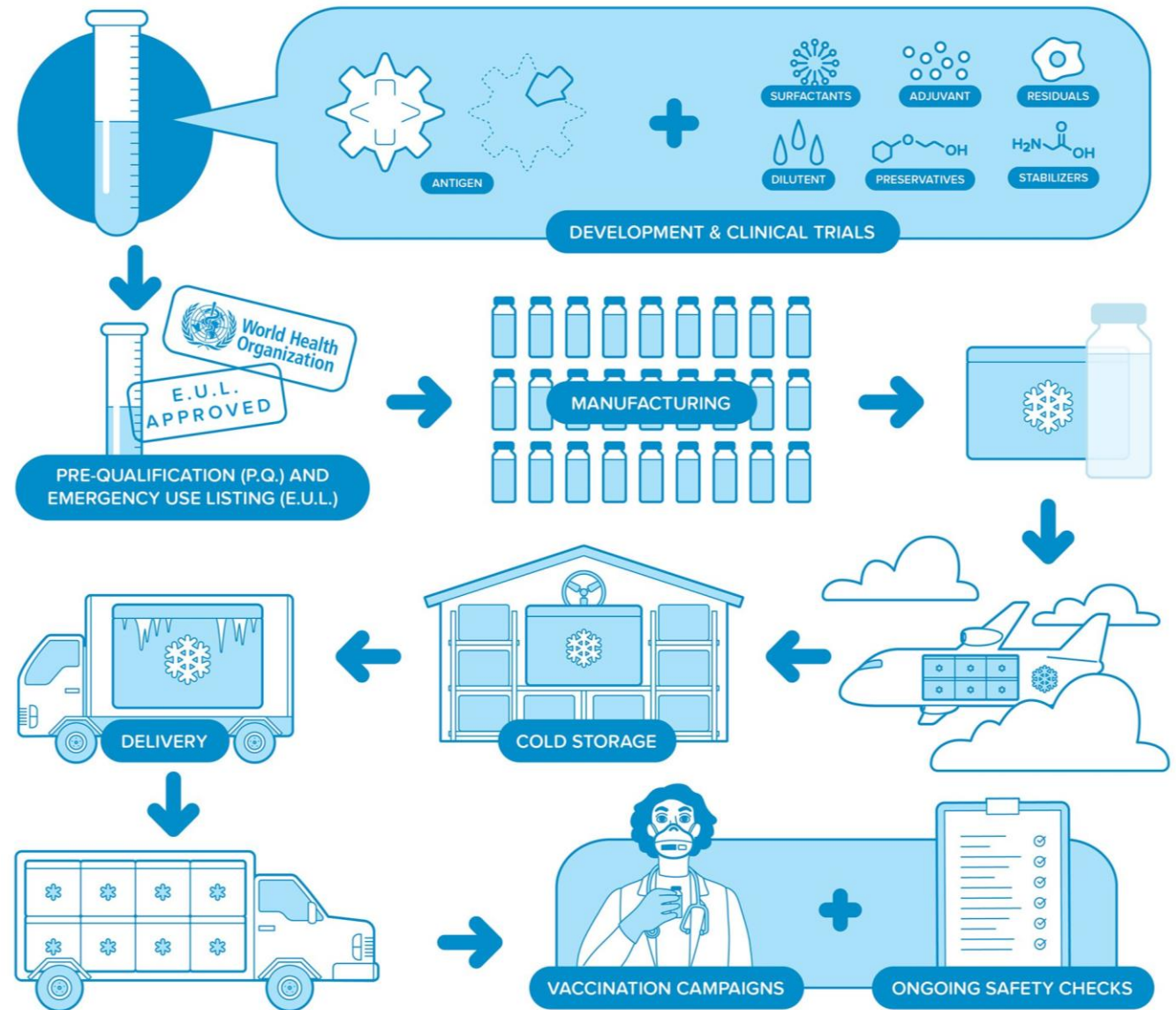
Stage I: very limited vaccines (1-10%)	Stage II: limited vaccines (11-20%)	Stage III: moderate vaccines (21-50%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Health workers at high to very high risk</b> of acquiring and transmitting infection</li><li>• Older adults <math>\geq 60</math> years of age</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Individuals with <b>comorbidities</b> or health states at higher risk of severe disease or death</li><li>• <b>Sociodemographic groups</b> at high risk</li><li>• <b>Health workers</b> engaged in immunization</li><li>• High priority teachers and school staff</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Remaining teachers and school staff</b></li><li>• Other essential workers</li><li>• Pregnant Women</li><li>• Health workers at low to moderate risk</li><li>• Personnel needed for vaccine production and other high-risk lab staff</li><li>• Social/employment groups at elevated risk</li></ul>



## National COVID-19 Vaccination preparedness monitoring

- Management structure, advocacy and resources
- Evidence-informed and ethical values-based national vaccination strategy
- Legal and regulatory framework facilitating vaccine deployment
- Immunization Service delivery modalities
- Vaccine and supply chain management
- Human resources and security
- Vaccination data and information management
- Vaccine safety monitoring
- Safe injections and waste management
- Demand generation, community engagement and communications

## JOURNEY OF A VACCINE – THE ‘COLD CHAIN’





# Partners represented in the Regional COVID-19 Coordination Group



World Health  
Organization



Directorate-General for Health  
and Food Safety (DG SANTE)



ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK



# Entities part of the COVID-19 technical focus groups

ROBERT KOCH INSTITUT



UNIVERSITÄT  
ERFURT

Paul-Ehrlich-Institut



federal public service  
HEALTH, FOOD CHAIN SAFETY  
AND ENVIRONMENT



Imperial College  
London



agencia española de  
medicamentos y  
productos sanitarios



LÄKEMEDELSVERKET  
SWEDISH MEDICAL PRODUCTS AGENCY

C B G  
M E B

MEDICINES  
EVALUATION  
BOARD



Public Health  
England

Public Health  
Scotland



LONDON  
SCHOOL of  
HYGIENE  
& TROPICAL  
MEDICINE



National Institute for Public Health  
and the Environment  
Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport



# Monitoring national preparedness for COVID-19 vaccine deployment and vaccination: European regional mechanism

**Objective: Use preparedness information to guide development of vaccine deployment and vaccination plan**

Aligned to COVID-19  
strategic  
preparedness &  
response

Aligned to global guidelines &  
readiness tools

Guided by the 10  
strategic impetus  
areas identified by  
the European  
Technical Advisory  
Group of experts

Indicator-based WHO  
EURO regional  
mechanism to monitor  
COVID-19 vaccine  
deployment and  
vaccination is part of  
wider Regional  
Monitoring & Evaluation  
framework

**WHO/UNICEF COVID-19  
Vaccine Introduction Readiness  
Assessment Tool (VIRAT)**

**World Bank COVID-19 Vaccine  
Readiness Assessment  
Framework (VRAF)**

**Global monitoring indicators**



**Strategic considerations  
in preparing for deployment of  
COVID-19 vaccine and vaccination  
in the WHO European Region**

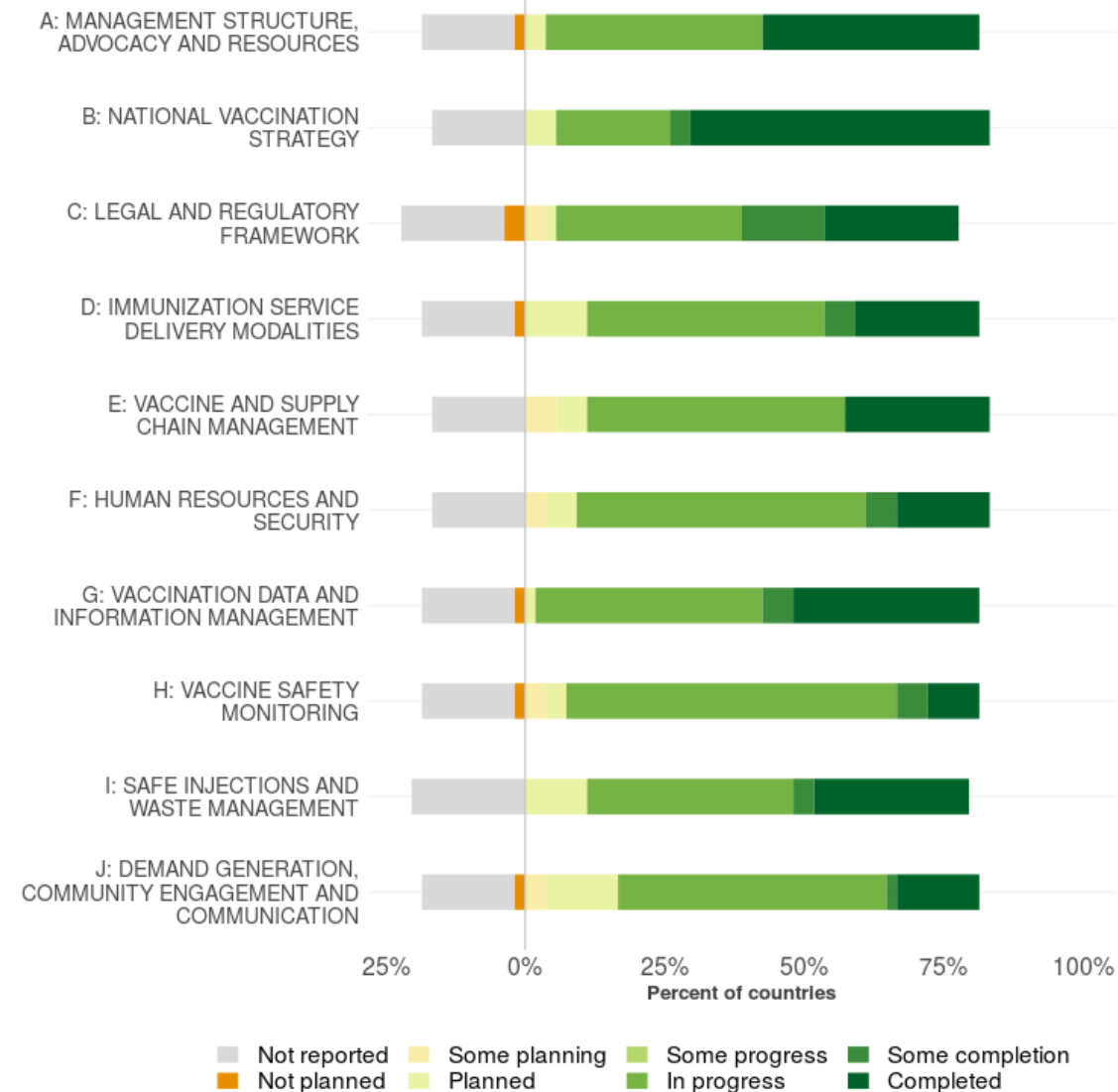
9 October 2020

COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness and Response (SPRP)  
**Monitoring and Evaluation  
Framework**

# Regional mechanism for monitoring COVID-19 preparedness used to identify programmatic areas to strengthen

- Applicable to all 53 Members States
- Aligned to impetus areas of “Regional Strategic considerations”
  - 15 critical indicators for all countries
  - Specific process indicators for priority countries
- Monthly monitoring
- Reported by Ministries of Health in coordination with the in-country partners
- Online platform for easy data collection and analysis

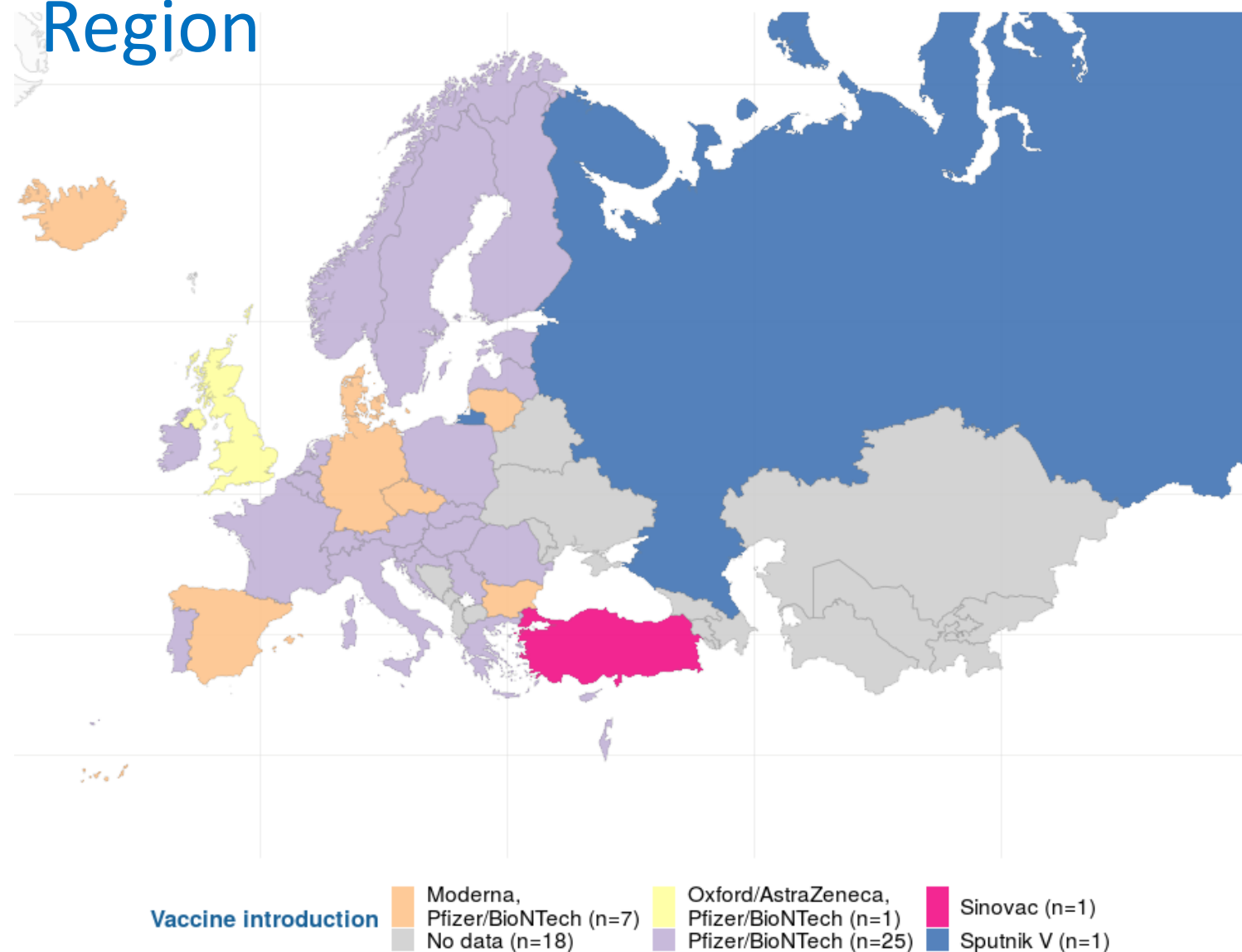
## Preparedness status of 45 countries & territories



**Data source:** Data submitted by the Ministries of Health in the Regional monitoring mechanism as of 20 January 2021

# COVID-19 vaccine implementation in the WHO European Region

- In the WHO European Region, 35 Member States have rolled-out COVID-19 vaccination
  - ~ 16.8 million doses have been delivered, as of 20 Jan 2021
- Systems (data collection & dashboard) are put together jointly by WHO Europe & ECDC to collect weekly coverage data



**Data source:** Official data submitted by the Ministry of Health and unofficial data published by the Public Health Institutes

# Useful references

- Strategic considerations in preparing for deployment of COVID-19 vaccine and vaccination in the WHO European Region:  
<https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/335940/WHO-EURO2020-1148-40894-55356-eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>
- COVID-19 vaccines and vaccination in WHO European Region:  
<https://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/disease-prevention/vaccines-and-immunization/covid-19-vaccines-and-vaccination>
- 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the European Technical Advisory Group of Experts on immunization (2020): <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/338559/WHO-EURO-2021-1808-41559-56715-eng.pdf>
- Vaccines and immunization, WHO Regional Office for Europe:  
<https://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/disease-prevention/vaccines-and-immunization>
- COVAX; WHO HQ: <https://www.who.int/initiatives/act-accelerator/covax>
- COVID-19 pandemic; WHO HQ: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>