



MAV+ Overview

Last reviewed: May 2025

The challenge

Every year, over 10 million people, primarily in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), die needlessly due to lack of access to essential medicines. In 2011, a HAI/WHO report revealed that **over half of Africa's population lacks access to essential medicines** due to availability issues, and in 2015 alone, **approximately 1.6 million Africans died from diseases that are preventable or treatable with timely access to health products** such as malaria, tuberculosis and HIV-related illnesses.

Africa currently imports over 99% of the vaccines and 94% of the medicines it uses. As the COVID-19 pandemic made clear, this dependence on imports contributes to inequitable access to health products and to adverse health outcomes.

The response

In response to the call from African leaders to produce 60% of vaccines in Africa by 2040, the Team Europe Initiative on Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies in Africa (MAV+) was launched in 2021.

MAV+ is a comprehensive support package tackling barriers to manufacturing and access to health products and technologies in Africa that is tightly aligned with African strategies and priorities.

The objective of MAV+

The overall objective of MAV+ is to facilitate access to quality, safe, effective and affordable health products as outlined in the UN's Sustainable Development Goal Target 3.8.

MAV+

€1.9* billion

108+ projects

47+ implementors

*includes €590 million to Gavi to support the African Vaccines Manufacturing Accelerator (AVMA)

Global Health Initiatives

More than €13 billion*

*includes The Global Fund (€6.5 billion for 2023-2025) and Gavi (€6.6 billion for 2021-2025 not including AVMA)

The Team Europe approach

Team Europe is a broad and inclusive consortium of European actors, including the European Commission, EU Member States, the European Investment Bank, the European Medicines Agency, development agencies, top-ranking universities, dynamic research centres and an active, independent private sector, including biotech and pharma companies.

MAV+ focuses on:

3 dimensions:

- Supply
- Demand
- Enabling environment

Across 6 workstreams:

- Industrial development, supply chains and private sector
- Market shaping, demand, and trade facilitation
- Regulatory strengthening
- Technology transfer and intellectual property management
- Access to finance
- R&D, higher education, and skills

MAV+ is aligned with the EU's Global Health Strategy and Global Gateway strategy as well as the Framework for Action from the Africa CDC's Platform for Harmonized African Health Products Manufacturing, and it complements other Team Europe Initiatives working on health and social protection in Africa.

Team Europe funders

MAV+ is funded by the European Commission, Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the European Investment Bank.

Partners

MAV+ partners include African Union agencies (e.g., Africa CDC, AUDA-NEPAD), African Union Member State National Regulatory Authorities, Regional Economic Communities, African universities and training programs and pharmaceutical manufacturing plants.

Additional Team Europe and international stakeholders

AFD, Afreximbank, Africa CDC, Akagera Medicines Ltd, AMRH, AUDA-NEPAD, BfArM, BIO (Belgian Investment Company for Developing Countries) Biovac, Consortium, DEG, DEK, DKT International, DNDi, EIB, EC, EMA, Emzor Pharmaceutical, Industries Ltd, Enabel, Expertise France, GAVI, GIZ, IFC, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, IoMT, GIZ, ITC, KfW, Kina Foundation, Ministry of Health of Senegal, MPP, National Vaccine Institute (NVI), NIPRD - National Institute of Pharmaceutical, Research and Development, NRA, PEI, Proparco, PTB, SIDA, UNECA, UNICEF, UNIDO, WHO and Women scientists and African Scientific Institutions.



Key activities

Continental highlights

- Support to Africa CDC's Platform for Harmonized African Health Products Manufacturing (PHAHM) with embedded experts
- Support to the operationalization of the African Medicines Agency (AMA) through twinning with European Medicines Agency (EMA), embedded experts and funding to AUDA-NEPAD (the Africa Union development agency) and WHO Establishment of an mRNA technology transfer programme with a hub in South Africa
- Product development partnerships and clinical trials grants, through EDCTP and other funding sources

Country highlights

Senegal

Support of the MADIBA and Africamaril vaccine production projects, support to the coordination of the national plan for the pharmaceutical sector with the Ministry of Health and strengthening the new regulatory agency

Ghana

Setting up of a local vaccine production site (DEK) and FDA strengthening for vaccine oversight

Nigeria

Support the production of pharmaceutical ingredients, technical assistance to the government and digitalisation in the supply chain and regulatory functions



Egypt

Support for research and development and regulatory strengthening

Rwanda

Support the enabling environment for the launch of an mRNA vaccine factory, strengthening Rwanda FDA through twinning with European counterparts, support for a new master's degree in biotechnology at University of Rwanda, skills development (including in TVET for the pharmaceutical sector) and support to SMEs

South Africa

Support to Biovac and Aspen, funding fundamental and clinical research, supporting the digitalization in production facilities and supply chain and providing technical assistance on the establishment of the new National Regulatory Agency