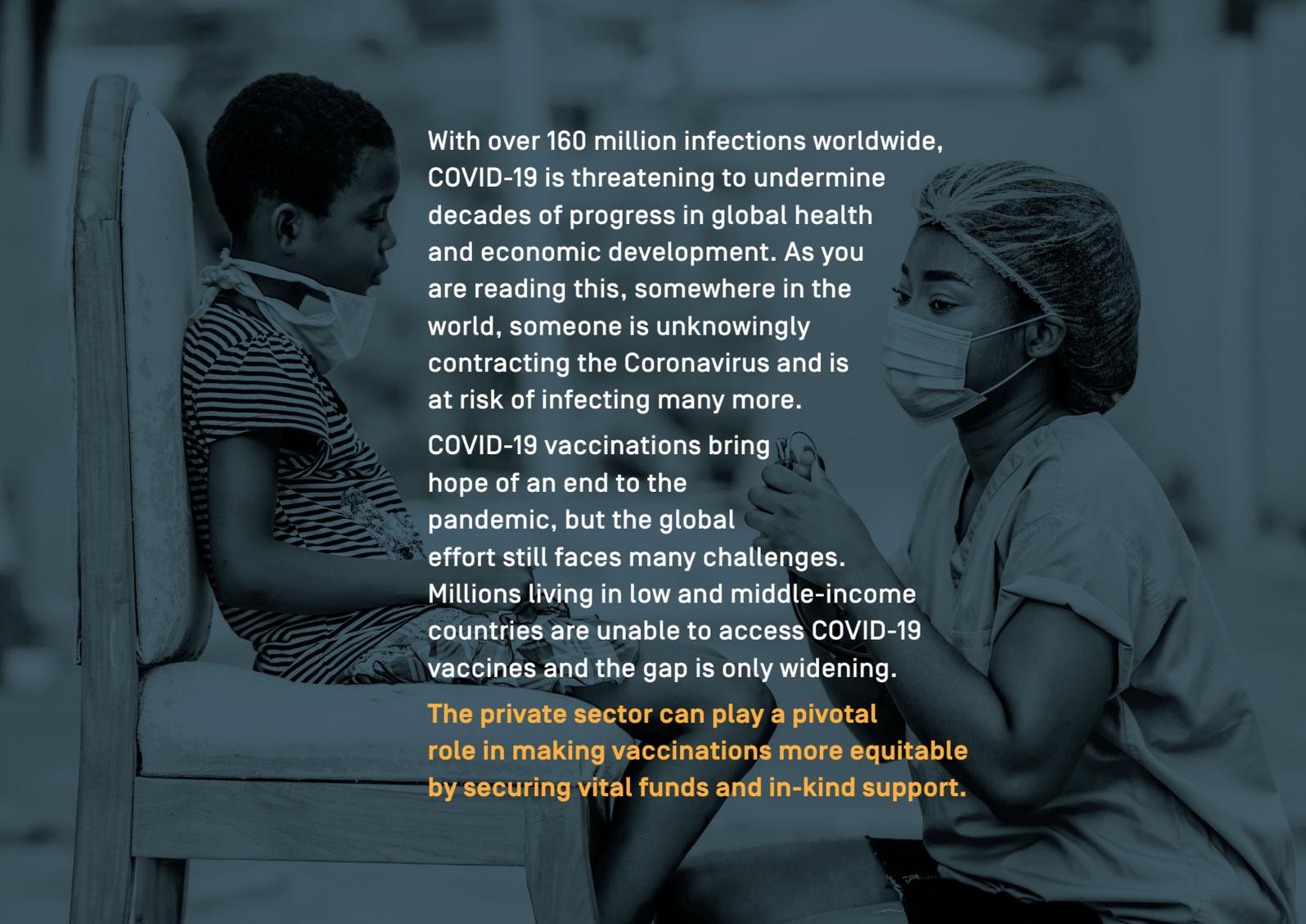




THE LAB TO JAB COVID RESPONSE FACILITY

The private sector: making COVID-19 vaccines and quality healthcare accessible for all



With over 160 million infections worldwide, COVID-19 is threatening to undermine decades of progress in global health and economic development. As you are reading this, somewhere in the world, someone is unknowingly contracting the Coronavirus and is at risk of infecting many more.

COVID-19 vaccinations bring hope of an end to the pandemic, but the global effort still faces many challenges. Millions living in low and middle-income countries are unable to access COVID-19 vaccines and the gap is only widening.

The private sector can play a pivotal role in making vaccinations more equitable by securing vital funds and in-kind support.

Crown Agents has set up **The Lab to Jab COVID-19 Response Facility** to help make COVID-19 vaccines available and improve access to quality healthcare for all. By working with the private sector, **we can prevent millions from dying** and build back better.

A CASE FOR SUPPORT

THE CURRENT PROBLEM

COVID-19 has had an unprecedented impact on all aspects of life across the globe. Millions of people have died from Coronavirus, and the death toll continues to rise as successive waves grip countries.

The economic impact of the pandemic is unprecedented. COVID-19 has left national economies and businesses counting the costs as successive lockdown measures threaten recovery. The availability of different vaccines provides a glimmer of hope in the fight against the Coronavirus. **However, not everyone has access to the vaccines, and for some help may come too late or not at all.**

CHALLENGES FACED IN MAKING COVID-19 VACCINES ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

1 GLOBAL VACCINE DISTRIBUTION IS UNEVEN - AS DEMAND OUTSTRIPS SUPPLY, MANY COUNTRIES ARE PRICED OUT

The global vaccination race has meant that developed countries have secured large orders of the COVID-19 vaccines. Figures show **developed nations with only 13% of the world's population to have ordered 60% of the available vaccine supply.**

The World Bank estimates that 79% of vaccines will not be available until the second quarter of 2021, resulting in **delays for low-income countries at the back of the queue who will consequently pay in terms of higher prices, greater levels of infection and higher mortality rates.**

Even then, according to the Africa Centre for Disease Control (CDC), it will take two to three years to vaccinate 60% of Africa's population, undermining global vaccination successes by increasing the risk of new variants that could be resistant to existing vaccines.

2 WEAK HEALTH SYSTEMS HAVING TO COPE WITH ADDRESSING LONGSTANDING DISEASES, ALONGSIDE THE PANDEMIC

Many low-income countries are fighting ongoing battles against existing diseases such as malaria, pneumonia, and schistosomiasis.

With poor healthcare systems and limited capacity, they struggle to cope with the added pressure to health services caused by the pandemic.

Shortages of oxygen therapy and drugs, such as dexamethasone, that are a core part of the treatment of COVID-19 are further crippling stretched health systems in many countries and leading to further loss of life.

EVERY DAY WE DELAY
MAKING THE COVID-19
VACCINES ACCESSIBLE TO
ALL, WE PUT MILLIONS OF
LIVES AT RISK AND ARE
FURTHER AWAY FROM
ENDING THIS PANDEMIC.



Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, World Health Organization says there will be no end to this pandemic unless every single person is safe.

3 LIMITED CAPACITY, RESOURCES AND ON-THE-GROUND LOGISTICS TO ROLL OUT THE VACCINE

COVAX is the global initiative co-led by the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (GAVI), the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) and World Health Organisation (WHO).

It is accelerating the development and manufacture of COVID-19 vaccines, ensuring equitable access for all. **Unfortunately, of the 92 countries COVAX plans to support, only ten have the ultra-cold fridges required to transport the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine.**

With 25% of health care facilities in sub-Saharan Africa lacking electricity, transporting chilled vaccine is a huge challenge for many low-income countries. For example, South Sudan had to return 72,000 AstraZeneca COVID-19 doses to the COVAX Initiative after the country said it could not administer them before they expired.

4 UNEQUAL ACCESS AND DISINFORMATION AFFECTING ACCEPTANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE VACCINES

In many countries, vulnerable groups such as refugees, and those in remote areas, struggle to receive health access. Countries sharing borders with differing vaccination strategies and capacity could lead to regional tensions and continued infections as people move across porous borders. Increasingly dissenting voices are discouraging people from taking the vaccine, citing a lack of trust or pushing the availability of alternative unproven and often dangerous cures. The effectiveness of vaccination depends on universal coverage, and any resistance to it puts people at risk.

THE SOLUTION

The reality is that global access to COVID-19 vaccines is not happening fast enough, and it is in everyone's interest that we get there sooner. The longer it takes to protect people most at risk, the longer the virus will continue to circulate, and the greater the risk of new and potentially more dangerous variants emerging.

Any delay will also prolong economic misery by ensuring that efforts to resume commerce, trade and travel continue to stall.

Crown Agents is committed to fair and equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccines for every person. No one should be left behind in the race to vaccinate the world, and Crown Agents is helping to make a difference in partnership with the private sector.



INTERVENTIONS TO HELP VACCINATE THE WORLD

1 PLANNING FOR ADULT VACCINATION PROGRAMMES

Given Crown Agents' presence on the ground and knowledge of the health sector across many countries, we have the experience and capacity to advise and support governments, right through from training health care workers, to quantifying the vaccines needed and mapping the critical supply chains. We also work closely with local partners to ensure the vaccination effort does not adversely affect existing health interventions against other diseases.

2 PROCUREMENT AGENT FOR VACCINES AND CONSUMABLES

Crown Agents are world-leading specialist procurement agents that have decades of experience working alongside governments to procure medical supplies. Throughout the pandemic, we delivered over 625,000 kgs of supplies across the globe, including 17 million emergency medicines to the remotest areas of South Sudan. We are also continuing our support for the Government of Ukraine as their procurement agent for the COVID-19 vaccine. Long standing relationships with manufactures make it possible for us to negotiate favourable terms to access these vaccines, as well as other important consumables like Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and the needles and syringes needed to administer the vaccine.

3 EARLY EDUCATION AND CREATING PUBLIC SUPPORT

To combat misinformation, scepticism and mistrust of vaccines, we plan to help low-income countries conduct publicity campaigns and community engagement initiatives to increase popular acceptance for vaccination against COVID-19. Our experience is demonstrated through the Health Pooled Fund (HPF) in South Sudan where Crown Agents has developed COVID-19 education communication materials in over 20 local languages with 19,000 copies placed in all the supported health facilities.

4 PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING THE VACCINE ROLLOUT

Our holistic capability to support, plan and execute the deployment of a successful vaccine programme makes us best suited to support even the most vulnerable countries. We support countries to set up extremely robust supply chains that transport and store the vaccine at the required temperature, and are already in contact with solar fridge manufacturers and refrigeration companies. On the ground, we can also help to recruit and train healthcare workers in handling and tracking the delivery of the vaccine to ensure successful implementation and reporting. As multiple winners of the 'Supply Chain Excellence Award for 'Extreme Logistics', Crown Agents are specialists in last mile delivery, and are ready to manage the supply chain and human resources challenges countries will face.

WORKING WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Increasingly, the private sector is involved in addressing the world's biggest challenges. Successful businesses like yours drive economic development, create jobs and pay the taxes that finance services and investment. In developing countries, the private sector generates 90 % of employment, funds 60% of all investments and provides more than 80% of government revenues.

Like all other aspects of our lives, the private sector had been greatly affected by COVID-19. Despite these challenges, we cannot successfully tackle COVID-19 and its effects without the support, partnership and involvement of the private sector. Businesses have significant and extensive tools, resources and skills that can save millions of lives and get the world on course to economic recovery.

Crown Agents have the established global presence, networks and world-leading expertise that enables Crown Agents to supply and distribute the COVID-19 vaccine to the most vulnerable communities in low-income, fragile countries affected by conflict. But we cannot do this without the private sector. Your support will make a massive difference to the lives of millions when they are struggling to get the help they urgently need.

HOW CAN BUSINESS HELP?

1 PROVIDE CRUCIAL FUNDING SUPPORT

Many Low and Middle-Income countries are finding the cost of vaccinating their populations against COVID-19 prohibitive. Wealthier countries are still focusing on inoculating their populations, and help is not coming fast enough. To bridge this funding gap, the private sector will play a crucial role in joining forces with existing initiatives and supply the additional financial support to purchase COVID-19 vaccinations. With the help of Crown Agents as a trusted partner, the private sector can use its funds to purchase vaccines for their employees, supply chain and markets and donate doses to governments to vaccinate those at most risk.

2 MOBILISE OTHER FUNDERS BY AGGREGATING FUNDING

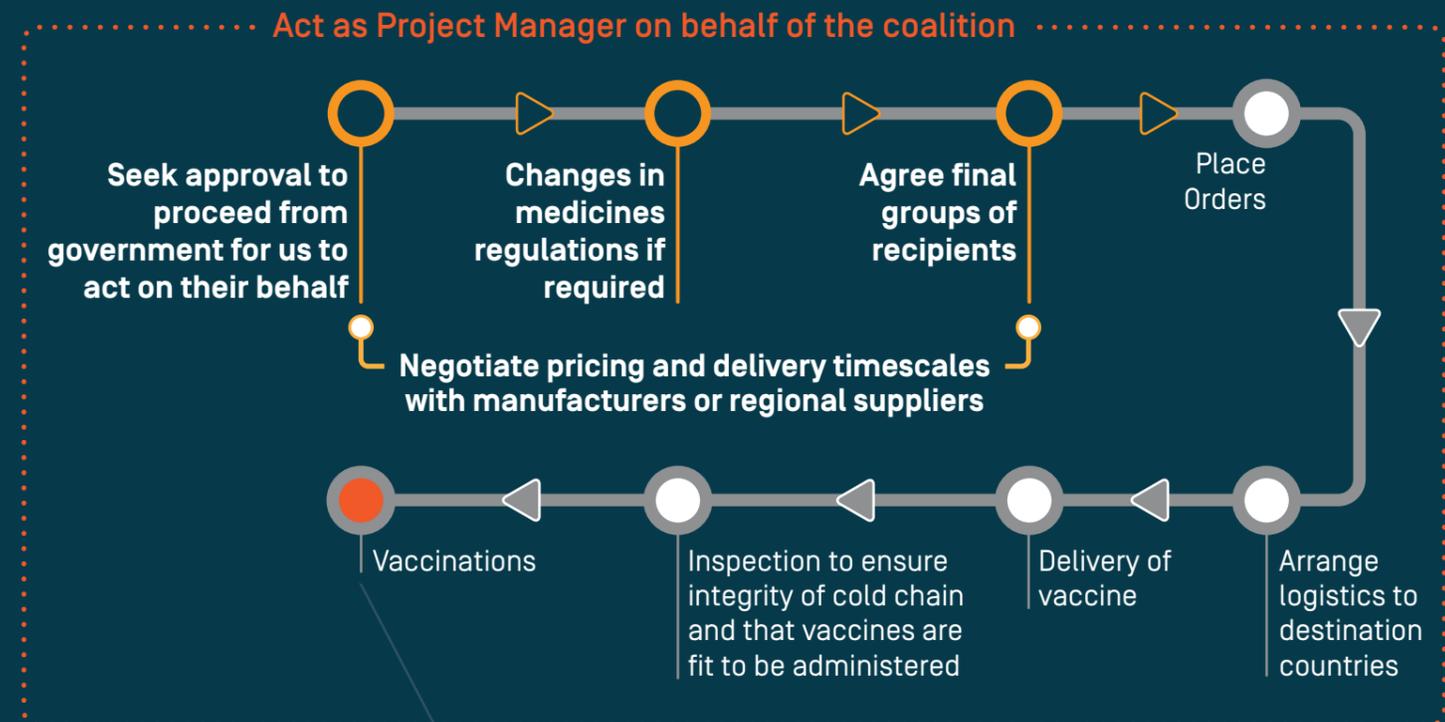
Experience has shown that manufacturers are more likely to consider larger orders over smaller ones with increasing global demand for COVID-19 vaccines. Many small-sized private actors may find it difficult to know how to best support the vaccine roll-out. Because of the urgency and magnitude of the funding gaps, Crown Agents uses a coordinated approach that brings together the support of several private sector donors. By aggregating funding through a pooled fund or matching commitments, the private sector mobilises more and bigger donations to enable a truly significant order of COVID-19 vaccines for maximum impact.

3 LEVERAGE PRIVATE SECTOR CAPABILITIES TO PROVIDE IN-KIND SUPPORT

Companies across the world are exploring how they can use their services, infrastructure and expertise to support the vaccine roll-out. Crown Agents is looking out to work with corporate partners who can use their extensive communication channels to share positive and supportive messaging on vaccination. Many businesses have extensive supply chains that can assist with vaccine distribution, are able to use their stores as vaccination centres and provide in-kind support to health and frontline workers.

ACCESSING COVID-19 VACCINES

COALITION FOR EQUITABLE VACCINE ACCESS – CROWN AGENTS' SERVICE PROVISION



“ Getting hold of the vaccine is only the half of the story. We know from our experience supplying emergency medicines to conflict zones and shipping millions of items of PPE around the world during this pandemic, that procuring it is one thing, but getting it to the beneficiaries is another story entirely with many other risks.”

Fergus Drake, CEO of Crown Agents

WHY CROWN AGENTS

Crown Agents is a leading not-for-profit international development organisation with 187 years of history. We work across 64 countries and reach 36 million people annually, focusing on the most marginalised that often reside in the hardest to reach places. For decades, we have been trusted by governments across the world to work alongside them to support sustainable growth and deliver highly impactful projects in health, trade and renewable energy, as well as to strengthen good governance.

Crown Agents has also been on the frontline of major emergencies for the past 25 years, including the 2014 Ebola epidemic. Now, we are playing a key role responding to coronavirus in Africa, the Middle East and Asia. When COVID-19 first hit, we supported over 50 countries to achieve timely supply of quality assured PPE, diagnostic tests and other items. **It is this long and diverse experience that makes Crown Agents best placed and a reliable partner in ensuring COVID-19 vaccines reach the last mile.**



\$3m

entrusted to us by the Caribbean Development Bank to procure & ship PPE to 14 Caribbean countries

\$81m

managed by Crown Agents Japan as one of the Japanese Government's nominated procurement agents for their Official Overseas Development Assistance response to COVID-19

\$45m

saved through value for money audits for the Government of Ghana in the last 18 months

\$62m

saved through procurement of medical products for the Ukrainian Ministry of Health

£560m

managed across 5 key programme funds

SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF THE PANDEMIC WE HAVE SUPPLIED:



13 separate COVID-19 vaccine shipments to hard to reach regions in the last month alone
609 shipments and procurements handled, including 625,000 kgs of medical supplies



4.5million items of personal protection equipment [PPE] procured



84,000 COVID-19 test kits supplied



2,861,710 COVID-19 commodities shipped to 10 Overseas territories as part of the UK Governments response



CROWN AGENTS

ACCELERATING SELF-SUFFICIENCY & PROSPERITY

GET IN TOUCH

Keith Kibirango, Director of Philanthropy and Private Sector Engagement

Phone: +44 7827826586

Email: Keith.Kibirango@crownagents.co.uk