

UAE Global Impact: COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

The UAE is playing a critical role to facilitate and accelerate the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines to developing countries, and help combat the coronavirus pandemic. With its logistics networks, storage capacity, and central geographic location, the UAE is well-positioned to help ensure countries around the world have equitable access to vaccines against COVID-19.



A shipment of COVID-19 vaccines distributed by the COVAX Facility arrived in Ivory Coast on February 26.

UAE Support for COVAX Initiative and Global Partners

- Emirates SkyCargo, Etihad Cargo, and DP World are working with the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to support its Humanitarian Airfreight Initiative and accelerate the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines in low and lower-middle-income countries.
- The initiative brings together UAE and other global carriers that cover routes to more than 100 countries in support of the WHO's COVAX Facility – a global effort aimed at equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines. COVAX aims to ship 2 billion doses to developing countries in 2021.
- In February 2021, Ghana and Ivory Coast became the first two countries to receive COVID-19 vaccines through the COVAX initiative. Emirates flights carried 600,000 doses to Ghana and 504,000 doses to Ivory Coast.



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Dubai Vaccines Logistics Alliance

- The Dubai Vaccines Logistics Alliance combines the expertise and global reach of Emirates Airline with DP World's worldwide network of ports and logistics operations, along with the infrastructure of Dubai Airports and International Humanitarian City (IHC) to distribute vaccines worldwide.
- The alliance will focus in particular on emerging markets, where populations have been hard hit by the pandemic and pharmaceutical transport and logistics are challenging.
- Emirates has already delivered millions of doses to South Africa, Egypt, and throughout Latin America from major manufacturing hubs in India and elsewhere.

Abu Dhabi Hope Consortium

- The Department of Health - Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi Ports, Etihad, and other partners formed the Hope Consortium, a COVID-19 vaccine storage and delivery hub based in Abu Dhabi.
- The public-private partnership represents a complete supply chain solution providing transport, storage, handling, sourcing, and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines throughout the world.
- The Hope Consortium is working with international partners, including US companies UPS and FedEx Express, to expand the distribution range of the vaccine. The Consortium aims to deliver 18 billion doses in 2021.

Testimonials

Mounir Bouazar, Global Logistics Lead on COVID-19 Vaccines, UNICEF

“We utilized the potential of our partners under the UNICEF Humanitarian Airfreight Initiative and identified the target airline to transport this shipment. Within 15 minutes, Emirates managed to divert the flight that was supposed to go from Shanghai to Dubai, for instance, to make a technical stop in Mumbai to pick up the vaccines and then to Dubai, from where syringes and related-devices were loaded and sent to Ghana.”

Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, Group Chairman and CEO, DP World

“Humanity will only defeat coronavirus if vaccines can be distributed everywhere. Dubai's position as a global hub means we have a responsibility to combine our infrastructure and capabilities for this common goal.”



For more information about the UAE's global vaccine distribution, visit <https://www.uae-embassy.org/>