

Europe and Asia united against COVID-19

#EUForeignPolicy #EEAS #TeamEurope

The wider EU response to COVID-19 includes the #Team Europe package of €46 billion to support partner countries. Of this, €34 billion had been disbursed as of April 2021, including €2.7 billion euros in Asia. Over €800 million has been mobilised specifically for the ASEAN region.

The 2020 EU-Japan Leaders online meeting affirmed a commitment to pooling efforts to tackle the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, while the joint EU-China 2020 Strategic Agenda for Cooperation addresses a number of challenges such as social welfare, social assistance, demographic ageing, as well as cross-country mobility. Many measures and initiatives have been adopted to provide access to vaccines and safe and accessible treatments, strengthen partner countries' healthcare systems and mitigate the immediate social and economic consequences of the crisis.

"The virus does not distinguish between continents, borders, nationalities or ethnicities."

First ASEM ministerial statement on COVID 19

Areas of cooperation



Corona virus
global
response



Keeping
health systems
functioning



Keeping supply
chains open



Humanitarian
funding



Commitment
to a sustainable
recovery

The COVAX's financing

The COVAX Facility – a partnership between CEPI, Gavi, UNICEF and WHO – is a historic step towards the equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines globally. The EU, its member states and the European Investment Bank (EIB) contribute to half of COVAX's financing.

500+ million COVAX vaccines shipped worldwide (as of November 2021)

COVAX supported countries: facts and figures



Humanitarian funding to fight the pandemic

In 2021, the EU provides €21 million to help people facing an unprecedented health and humanitarian crisis. In Asia humanitarian aid goes to Bangladesh, East Timor, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines and Sri Lanka. Support for emergencies is also channelled through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism to many countries in Asia, for example to Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, and Vietnam.

Team Europe support to ASEAN against coronavirus

Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam



ASEAN countries are strongly supported through the COVAX vaccine facility



EU Southeast Asia Health Pandemic Response and Preparedness Programme

Implemented by the WHO to strengthen the capacity of health systems in South-East Asia, with special attention given to vulnerable populations. Funds provided by Team Europe: €20 million

BIOSEC project

Under the EU Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence Initiative is working to improve biosecurity management systems, including for pandemics. Funds provided by Team Europe: €3 million

Horizon 2020

18 coronavirus-focused EU research

and innovation projects are open for cooperation with Third countries including ASEAN scientific organisations.

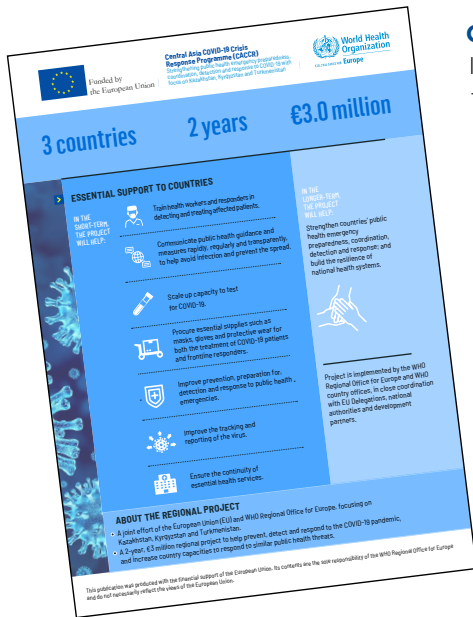
The Coronavirus Global Research and Innovation Portal.

A **digital hub** that offers collaboration opportunities and networking among researchers dealing with the socio-economic aspects of the Coronavirus pandemic."



Central Asia Covid-19 response

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan



CACCR programme

In Central Asia, the **COVID-19 Crisis Response Programme (CACCR)** strengthens public health and emergency preparedness.

Funds provided by Team Europe: €3.4 million

Central Asian countries are strongly supported through the COVAX vaccine facility



Looking ahead: HERA

The European Commission has launched a new authority **HERA** (European Health and Emergency Preparedness and response Authority), for rapid response to future health emergencies.

HERA International Dimension

- Address international supply-chain bottlenecks
- Reinforce global surveillance
- Facilitate international cooperation and support for medical countermeasures
- Support low- and middle-income countries to develop manufacturing and distribution capacities
- Support access to EU-funded medical countermeasures

This publication has been prepared by EU-Asia Fora. It does not represent the official view of the European Union.



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The EU-Asia Fora project promotes the EU's role in international fora. These include **ASEM** (Asia-Europe Meeting), the major political platform linking Asia and Europe since 1996, **ASEAN**, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and **ARF**, the ASEAN Regional Forum.