

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 helping ensure countries around the world have equitable access to vaccines against COVID-19. The UAE has provided more than 2,250 tons of medical supplies to over 136 countries worldwide.



One of the first shipments of COVID-19 vaccines distributed by COVAX arrived in Ivory Coast on February 26, 2021.

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.
- As the supply chain crisis increases pressure on shipping and transport industries, the Abu Dhabi-based HOPE Consortium is providing UNICEF with additional logistics capacity to transport life-saving vaccines and supplies to countries battling COVID-19.



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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 focuses in particular on emerging markets, where populations have been hard hit by the pandemic and pharmaceutical transport and logistics are challenging.
- As of December 2021, Emirates SkyCargo had transported more than 600 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines to over 80 destinations. At one point in April 2021, one out of every 20 vaccine doses administered around the world had flown on an Emirates aircraft.

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 HOPE Consortium is partnering with Kenya-based cargo airline Astral Aviation to offer expanded vaccine distribution solutions across the African continent.
- The HOPE Consortium is working with international partners, including US companies UPS and FedEx Express, to expand the distribution range of the vaccine. In its first year of operations, the Consortium delivered more than 210 million vaccine doses to over 60 countries.

Testimonials

Etleva Kadilli, Director, UNICEF Supply Division

“Although the focus on COVID-19 vaccine doses is paramount, equally important are the ancillary supplies that make vaccine roll-out possible, and the transport of this critical cargo. The HOPE Consortium is broadening shipping options for UNICEF to deliver COVAX supplies to countries. Together, we can overcome supply chain challenges and find solutions to seemingly impossible scenarios.”

Mark Suzman, CEO, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

“The most important priority is to stop the loss of life and the economic scarring as soon as possible. And that means working together to deliver COVID-19 vaccines to all countries, not just the richest ones. The global community has never done anything like this before. It will be a test of our humanity and our ingenuity. But with leadership from countries like the UAE, we can succeed.”



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