

NEW EXPLOITATION STRATEGY OF IP IN THE POST COVID-19 ERA EGYPT

IP Collegium

March 10, 2022

Online Meeting





Ms. Noha Afifii
Manger-Center of Innovative
Technology (CINTECH)
Egypt-Japan University of
Science and technology
(E-JUST)





General information

Location North Africa..

Area 1,020,000 km2

Population 120 Millions

Official language Arabic

Currency: Egyptian Pound (EGP)



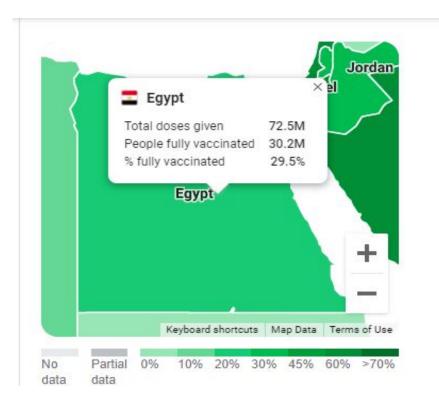




Egypt-Covid-19 Overview

- The virus was confirmed to have reached Egypt on 14 February 2020.
- There have been 490,969 infections and 24,197 coronavirus-related deaths reported in the country since the pandemic began.
- COVID-19 infections are decreasing in Egypt, with 1,245 new infections reported on average each day.

 Egypt has started COVID-19 vaccine rollouts in March 2021



Almost 30% of the population are fully vaccinated, Another 10 % received 1st doset

Recently introduced state measures concerning public life

- Egypt imposes a vaccine mandate for all government workers and university students.
- From Dec. 1, 2021 the proof-of-vaccination requirement is also extend to anyone seeking to enter a government building to access government services.



Enough vaccine for this measure?





Estimate Overview of Vaccine Availability in Egypt

Date	Country	Sinopharm	AstraZeneca	Pfizer-BioNTech	
10 December 2020	CHINA	50,000 doses			A
31 January 2021.	EU		50,000 doses		AstraZeneca 2
6 August 2021	Romania		525,000 doses		Oronaviral Coronaviral Coronav
October 2021	USA			8.25 million doses	
25 December 2021	USA			1.5 million doses	
30 December 2021	CHINA	347,460 doses			
1 January 2022	USA			1.5 million doses	

- Egypt has been allocated a total of 4.5 million doses of AstraZeneca vaccine through the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX).

Can we and should we survive on Donations?

Egypt's Trial to Vaccine Availability

1. Chinese Technology Transfer

Egypt working with China's Sinovac to boost vaccine production in region

- Egypt has held talks with Chinese company Sinovac on boosting local production and development of vaccines, and the transfer of manufacturing technology.
- Egypt has been producing the Chinese Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine since summer 2021 at its VACSERA factory for domestic use as well as export to Africa.
- VACSERA is the Egyptian holding company for biological products & vaccines and is the only producer of vaccines & sera in Egypt, is one of the main blood banks.it is the oldest manufacturer of vaccines in Africa and the middle east.
- Sinovac and VACSERA already have a cooperation agreement for joint vaccine production signed in April last year, according to which the Sinovac vaccines are locally manufactured in VACSERA's factory in Egypt, with the final product carrying the VACSERA-Sinovac label.

Egypt working with Chinas Sinovac to boost vaccine production in region- Cont.

- The vaccine agreement between China and Egypt covers the transfer of production and manufacturing technology to enable Egypt to produce Covid-19 vaccine from start to finish locally.
- This involves a delegation of Chinese experts working with VACSERA in Egypt for three weeks to produce the first batch of the vaccine.
- Egypt started mass production of Sinovac/VACSERA in August 2021.
- Egypt's private sector company Minapharm also signed an agreement in 2021 with Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) to locally produce Russia's Sputnik V coronavirus vaccine.

2.WHO & Medicine Patent Pool Technology Transfer

The mRNA vaccine Technology Transfer Hub

- The *mRNA vaccine Technology Transfer Hub* was established in response of the flagrant inequities in access to COVID-19 vaccines in low- and middle-income countries, especially in Africa.
- Six African countries Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa and Tunisia had been chosen to produce mRNA vaccines (which is used in manufacturing Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna Covid-19 vaccines) after receiving the technology from the WHO's global mRNA vaccine hub.
- Formally established in July 2021, the purpose of the hub is to increase access to mRNA vaccines made closer to home by establishing manufacturing capacity using a technology transfer hub model to ensure sustainable vaccine security in future pandemics, ensuring that they have all the necessary operating procedures and know-how to manufacture mRNA vaccines at scale and according to international standards.

The mRNA vaccine Technology Transfer Hub -Cont.

- It was established primarily to address the COVID-19 emergency, but the hub intends to expand the manufacture of other vaccines for other priority diseases as malaria, tuberculosis and HIV
- The technology transfer hub is benefitting from MPP's experience of intellectual property management and issuing of voluntary licences. Medicine Patent Pool ((MPP) also assists WHO in negotiating with technical partners and in the governance of the Hub.

What do we actually Need

- Temporary abandonment of intellectual property protections for vaccines in the fight against the pandemic vs Voluntary licensing is the best way to ensure the necessary technology transfer.
- rejection of patents related to COVID-19 medical tools.
- Patent-holding companies should refrain from seeking or enforcing patents on COVID-19 medical tools and should share their technologies to enable increased manufacturing and greater access.





