# Gavi Middle Income Countries Approach

Concept Note for New Vaccine Introductions: Technical Assistance Support, One-off support for Vaccine Introduction Costs, and Vaccine Catalytic Financing

Countries are invited to submit the following completed Concept Note to request new Vaccine Introduction support from Gavi for **Technical Assistance, One-off support for vaccine introduction costs, and Vaccine Catalytic Financing support** for New Vaccine Introductions.

Please refer to the accompanying guidance document for more details and information on how to complete this concept note.

1. Basic Information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Country name** |  |
| **Vaccines concerned and introduction date targeted (if known)** | **PCV** [ Yes / No ]Target introduction date: (mm/yyyy)………………………. | **Rotavirus** [ Yes / No ]Target introduction date: (mm/yyyy)………………………. | **HPV** [ Yes / No ]Target introduction date: (mm/yyyy)………………………. |
| **Application focal point** | Name |  |
| Position |  |
| Email address |  |
| Phone number |  |

1. Background to the support request

Please describe **what progress the country has already made towards introducing the vaccines identified** for a new introduction. You may wish to mention if any of the following steps have taken place, where relevant, e.g.;

* If the country has a National Immunisation Strategy (NIS)[[1]](#footnote-2) which makes reference to the introduction of these vaccines
* If any studies have been completed to support the new vaccine introduction, e.g. a cost-effectiveness analysis
* If the NITAG has already met to discuss the new vaccine introduction and if a recommendation has been made
* If the Ministry of Health has already decided to introduce the vaccine and if budget has been identified
* If any required legislative changes, e.g. to introduce new vaccines into the national immunisation schedule, have already been undertaken
* If a specific vaccine presentation has already been selected, and if yes, how this selection has been done. If the country has confirmed availability of the selected vaccine presentation.
* If the selected vaccine presentation is registered in the country or if the process is already underway, what steps have been taken and when it is expected to be completed
* If the procurement modality[[2]](#footnote-3) has been decided, e.g., self-procurement, through UNICEF Supply Division or PAHO Revolving Fund, or other. If yes, what is the status of the procurement?
* If a (costed) New Vaccine Introduction plan has already been developed
* etc.

Please note that several of these steps are pre-requisites for applications for One-Off Support and Vaccine Catalytic Financing. Please see the guidance for details.

*Please also provide any relevant supporting documentation as attachments. If the country is requesting One-off support for vaccine introduction costs and/or Vaccine Catalytic Financing, evidence must be submitted to confirm that the prerequisites have been met.*

1. Challenges or barriers faced, and request for Technical Assistance and/or One-off support for

vaccine introduction costs

Please describe:

1. **what challenges or barriers** the country is currently facing to proceed with, and ensure a successful and sustainable, new vaccine introduction,
2. **what support (technical assistance and/or one-off support for vaccine introduction costs) is requested** to help overcome these challenges or barriers,
3. **how the requested support will help to address these**, and
4. **which implementing partner** (i.e. the MoH or specific partner) is best placed to implement the proposed activity **and why**. Countries are strongly encouraged to consider a broad set of partners, including national partners, when identifying who is best placed to support the country with the new vaccine introduction

Please be specific. Please consider whether any activities are required to address challenges that disproportionately impact marginalized or vulnerable subgroups and/or gender-related barriers.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Vaccine concerned** *(Please indicate as appropriate)* | **Challenge or barrier faced** | **Support requested (Activity)** | **How the support requested will address the challenge / barrier / need identified** | **Proposed implementing partner**  | **Justification for selection of proposed implementing partner** |
| PCV / RV / HPV |  |  |  |  |  |
| PCV / RV / HPV |  |  |  |  |  |
| PCV / RV / HPV |  |  |  |  |  |
| PCV / RV / HPV |  |  |  |  |  |
| PCV / RV / HPV |  |  |  |  |  |
| PCV / RV / HPV |  |  |  |  |  |
| PCV / RV / HPV |  |  |  |  |  |
| PCV / RV / HPV |  |  |  |  |  |

*[Add more rows as needed]*

1. Complementary Activities and Support

Gavi recognises that new vaccine introductions are complex and require support from many different sources if they are to be successful. To help Gavi to understand what this wider ecosystem of support looks like, please describe any **complementary activities by the Government and/or partners** which are, or will be, taking place in country to support this/these new vaccine introductions.

Please also include information about **other sources of funding aside from the funds requested of Gavi,** i.e. from other donors and/or domestic resources, the amount and timelines of this funding and what activities it is supporting.

1. Opportunities to leverage new vaccine introductions to strengthen the immunisation programme

Research has shown that in some instances it is possible to leverage the process of introducing a new vaccine to also strengthen the overall immunisation programme, i.e. to improve coverage and/or equity of existing programmes. For example, new vaccine introductions can present the opportunity to more broadly:

* Improve competencies and motivation of the health workforce;
* Identify and reach hard-to-reach populations;
* Strengthen surveillance systems and health information management systems;
* Improve coordination between the Ministry of health and other government ministries (e.g., Ministry of Education).

Please describe **how the country, through this/these new vaccine introductions, sees and plans to realise the potential to strengthen routine immunisation programmes**, and possibly even wider primary health care systems.

1. Looking ahead

**Please describe the next steps in the process towards introducing this/these new vaccine(s) and anticipated timelines** (if known), e.g., a review of the proposed introduction by the NITAG, the development of a New Vaccine Introduction plan, the development and implementation of a communication campaign, the completion of a Post-Introduction Evaluation.

1. Risks and mitigation

Please describe **the risks** foreseen in the implementation of the requested support, the **level of risk**, and **planned mitigations.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Risk** | **Level of risk** *(Please select as appropriate)* | **Mitigation**  |
|  | [Low / Medium / High] |  |
|  | [Low / Medium / High] |  |
|  | [Low / Medium / High] |  |
|  | [Low / Medium / High] |  |
|  | [Low / Medium / High] |  |
|  | [Low / Medium / High] |  |

*[Add more rows as needed]*

1. Monitoring, reporting and learning

Please describe **how the implementation of the requested support will be monitored by all partners involved**, and **how any needed course-corrections will be decided and actioned.** E.g., how will you use the information you collect as part of the Accountability Framework to adjust and improve program implementation? How frequently will the data be reviewed and used? Who is responsible to ensure that review and use occurs? Who will be involved in making decisions to amend the planned activities and who will be responsible for ensuring these changes are made?

**If relevant, how does the proposed activities build on any previous similar activities and learnings from that experience?**

1. Building country capacity through Technical Assistance support

Gavi-funded Technical Assistance via partners provides technical expertise to support the Government in its objectives. Thus partners, through the provision of this technical assistance, have a key role to play in helping to build the capacity of country governments (e.g., within EPI and in other key departments, including at subnational level) on the issues concerned. **Please describe how the country and partners will work together to realise this opportunity to build government capacity in the areas where technical assistance support is being requested.**

1. Sustainability of new vaccine introductions

Gavi’s Vaccine Catalytic Financing is provided to countries with the understanding that the country will continue to sustain the vaccine introduction with domestic resourcing. **Please describe how the country will ensure the financial sustainability of this new vaccine introduction and provide any supporting evidence**.

1. Supplementary documents

Please include in your submission:

* Any other supplementary documents that would support the information contained in this concept note, e.g.: country strategy on health/immunisation which makes reference to new vaccine introductions, any studies already undertaken, minutes of decision-making committees, records of decisions taken by the Minister of Health, information about complementary activities and/or sources of funding etc.
* Please note, if One-off support for vaccine introduction costs and/or Vaccine Catalytic Financing if requested, evidence must be submitted to confirm that the prerequisites have been met (please see the guidance for details).

Please list the file names of the supporting documents provided and their relevance.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **File name** | **Relevance of document** | **Link** *(if available)* |
|  | e.g. New Vaccine Introduction Plan for PCV |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

*[Add more rows as needed]*

1. Signatures

*Please note that Gavi will not review the application without the signature of the Minister of Health or their delegated authority, as well as the signature of any and all implementing partners involved in the delivery of the activities outlined in this Concept Note and accompanying Support Request detail.*

*Implementing partner signatures can be substituted by formal meeting minutes, e.g. official ICC meeting minutes to document when it was discussed with partners*

The Government of [Please insert country name] hereby requests Gavi support for the introduction of [PCV, rotavirus and/or HPV] vaccines and specifically requests that Gavi and its partners contribute financial and/or technical assistance to support the objectives set out in this Concept Note and the accompanying Support Request detail.

We, the undersigned, affirm that the objectives and activities in this request are fully aligned with the national health and immunisation strategic plans (or equivalent) and that funds for implementing any relevant complementary activities, including domestic funds, will be included in the annual budget of the Ministry of Health. We also affirm the country’s commitment to the long-term sustainability of this new vaccine introduction(s).

We, the undersigned, further affirm that the requested funding does not duplicate funding from other sources (e.g. from other donors).

**Ministry of Health:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Position** |  |
| **Representing** | Ministry of Health, [Country] |
| **Date and place** |  |
| **Signature** |  |

**If relevant:**

**Ministry of Education[[3]](#footnote-4)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Position** |  |
| **Representing** | Ministry of Education, [Country] |
| **Date and place** |  |
| **Signature** |  |

**Implementing Partners:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Position** |  |
| **Representing** | [Name of Implementing Partner] |
| **Date and place** |  |
| **Signature** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Position** |  |
| **Representing** | [Name of Implementing Partner] |
| **Date and place** |  |
| **Signature** |  |

*[Please add as required]*

1. <https://www.who.int/teams/immunization-vaccines-and-biologicals/vaccine-access/planning-and-financing/nis> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Vaccine Catalytic Financing is only available through a Gavi-approved pooled procurement mechanism [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. E.g. in the case of cross-departmental working on HPV [↑](#footnote-ref-4)