



# VRSA

## Assessing and increasing vaccine readiness in sub-Saharan Africa

### Context

Despite significant progress in immunisation coverage in recent decades, the objectives of many Global Vaccine Action Plans have not been met. For many countries, the COVID-19 pandemic was a further impediment to achieving their target vaccination coverage, as they had to shift their focus to the introduction of COVID-19 vaccines, which negatively impacted the delivery of other, equally needed vaccines. Readiness to introduce vaccines is key to reducing the burden of communicable diseases on health systems – during public health emergencies, but also in general. The whole population benefits when a country is prepared for and capable of introducing new vaccines. Focusing on Guinea, due to its needs and established collaboration structures, the project aims to accelerate the country's vaccine readiness and uptake of new vaccines for future health crises such as epidemics.

### Objective

Increasing the readiness to be vaccinated and the use of new vaccines in Guinea.

### Key facts

**Duration**

1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025

**Budget**

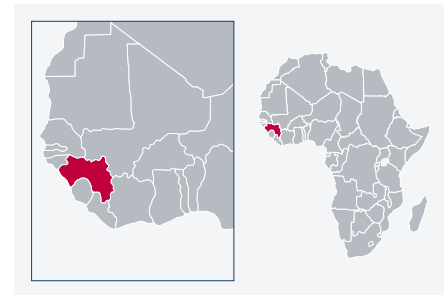
~ EUR 1.5 million

**Partner countries**

Guinea

**Region**

Western Africa

**Implemented by**

Robert Koch Institute (RKI)

**Commissioning party**

German Federal Ministry of Health  
(BMG)

### Thematic focus

Strengthening of public health systems

Marketing authorisation and safety of medicinal products

## Activities



### RESEARCH AND PROVISION OF EVIDENCE

Identifying factors that inhibit or promote vaccination readiness during health crises; identifying challenges to maintaining routine immunisation and introducing new vaccines from the COVID-19 pandemic; surveying current readiness to introduce new vaccines for future health crises at national and community levels



### NETWORKING AND COOPERATION

Deriving recommendations for strengthening national immunisation programmes and introducing new vaccines in health crises in partner countries, using evidence collaboratively with partner countries and international stakeholders

## In cooperation with

- Institut National de Santé Publique (INSP) de la Guinée, Guinea
- Programme Élargi de Vaccination (PEV) de la Guinée, Guinea
- Centre d'Excellence en Afrique pour la prévention et le contrôle des maladies transmissibles (CEA-PCMT) and Université Gamal Abdel Nasser (UGANC), Guinea

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**GHPP, the Global Health Protection Programme** of the German Federal Ministry of Health, promotes networking, exchange and cooperation between specialized German and international public health actors. By reducing health risks and strengthening health systems at the national, regional and international level, in particular relating to pandemic and epidemic preparedness and response, the GHPP fosters public health protection – worldwide.

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