

WHO's Health Technology Access Programme (HTAP)

Explained

HTAP advances global health security and equitable access to health products including vaccines, medicines, biologics and diagnostics, by expanding regional innovation and manufacturing capacity.

Core activities include identifying priority, multi-purpose technologies that can be used for both pandemic preparedness and public health priorities outside of emergencies, as well as coordinating partnerships to share know-how and technology transfer.



Why: Challenges addressed by HTAP

Concentrated production

A few manufacturers in high-income countries supply most of the world.

Limited resources

Many low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) lack manufacturing capacity, a skilled workforce and infrastructure.

Inequitable access

Fragile supply chains, long waits and prohibitive pricing stop LMICs from getting much-needed health products.

Who benefits and how



Technology holders

Enhanced reputation and expanded access to new markets, accounting for intellectual property.



Local manufacturers

Diversified portfolio, boosted knowledge, sustainable and expanded production capacity.



Governments

Strengthened health systems and health security, industrial and economic development.



Communities

Improved access to essential health products for those who need them most.

End-to-end support

Using WHO's expertise and convening power, HTAP coordinates across the value chain:

Scanning for priority needs

Securing access to technologies

Matching partners

Supporting product development & technology transfer

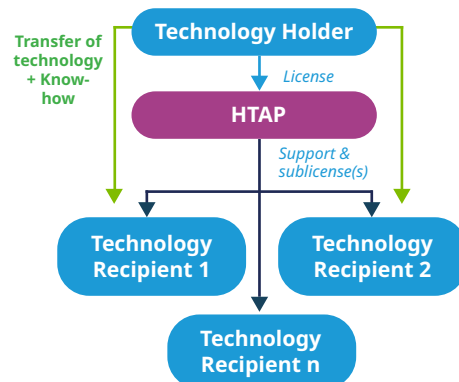
Providing training, manufacturing, regulatory & market access support

How HTAP works: Operating models

If the prioritized product is market authorized, HTAP uses the licensing model

to

Secure rights and know-how to support technology transfer and production, through Medicines Patent Pool-managed licensing agreements



Examples

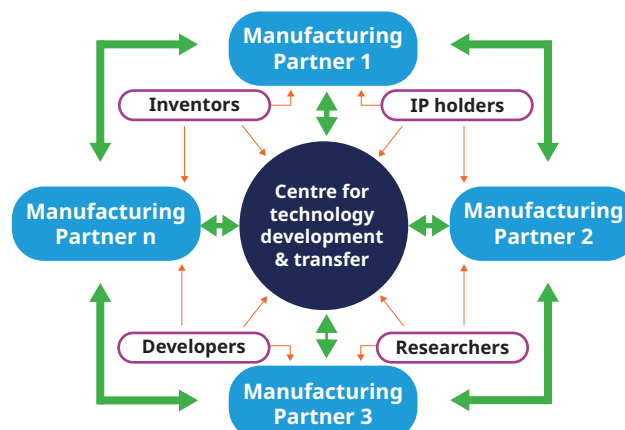
Technology transfer for tests: Supported the sharing of diagnostic technology and know-how by SD Biosensor, a global in-vitro diagnostic company, with Codix Bio, a Nigerian manufacturer, to produce malaria and HIV tests.

mRNA technology transfer using COVID-19 as proof of concept.

If the prioritized product is NOT market authorized, HTAP uses the R&D consortia model

to

Facilitate partnerships to develop technologies, through research and development (R&D) consortia



mRNA technology transfer programme: Works with selected LMIC manufacturers to establish sustainable, locally owned mRNA manufacturing capabilities.

Partnerships with public R&D institutes: Manages collaborations to link technology developers with manufacturing partners and facilitate technology transfer.

'Flemish model' for health technology entrepreneurs: Aims to pair small- to medium-sized biotech companies in high-income countries with their LMIC counterparts, to collaborate on product development and manufacturing.