



# EU support to Eastern Partnership countries in tackling COVID-19

#strongertogether

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#WeCare #SafeVaccines #TeamEurope

## Overview of EU support

The EU mobilised

over **€2.5 billion**

to support Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine



in tackling the coronavirus health crisis



and socio-economic recovery.

## Coronavirus health crisis

### Response at regional level

- Joint EU and WHO regional programmes to respond to the immediate emergency needs of the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuring a rapid and safe deployment of COVID-19 vaccines.
- EU-WHO **Solidarity for Health Initiative (€35 million)**, addressing the COVID-19 pandemic in the Eastern Partnership:
  - ✓ Over **12 million pieces** of personal protective equipment delivered
  - ✓ Over **48,000** test kits delivered
  - ✓ Hospitals assessed and capacitated for COVID-19 case management capacity including through delivery of key medical equipment

- EU-WHO action to **support deployment of COVID-19 vaccines and vaccination** in the Eastern Partnership (**€40 million**) - Development, updating and support in implementation of national vaccine deployment plans:
  - ✓ **644** vaccine refrigerators delivered
  - ✓ **102** vaccine freezers delivered
  - ✓ Over **26,000** health care workers trained (capacity and raising awareness/fighting disinformation about COVID-19 vaccination)
- **Sharing of European Medicines Agency approved vaccines** by Member States to Eastern Partnership countries, facilitated through a Team Europe approach mechanism coordinated by Poland (**€35 million**).
- Bilateral donations of vaccines from EU Member States facilitated by the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

## Socio-economic recovery at regional level:

Working closely with International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and financing institutions from EU Member States to provide a coordinated European response as TEAM EUROPE:

**€100 million** support programme to help **SMEs**, including self-employed and others to **easily access credit** and **boost their businesses** after the crisis.

Over **€200 million** of existing **credit lines** and grants to **SMEs** in local currency through the **EU4Business** Initiative.

**€500 million** available for the EU's Neighbourhood through the EU's major de-risking instrument, the **European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD)** to rapidly provide liquidity across the region.

The EU is providing **€1.45 billion** in **Macro-Financial Assistance** to support governments that requested help with balancing the payment crisis

# EU support to each partner country

## Armenia

### Examples of support:

- Over 3,000 vulnerable households, with elderly people and people with disabilities and large families in Shirak, Tavush and Lori regions are receiving humanitarian aid packages.
- 30 medical refrigerators to store COVID-19 vaccines have been delivered as part of EU support to vaccination efforts.

## Azerbaijan

### Examples of support:

- The Vocational Education Schools (Ganja, Mingachevir, Jalilabad, Gaxh and Ismaelly regions) are purchasing equipment to produce personal protection garments for medical staff.
- Over 1,600 doctors and nurses have participated in basic life support and advanced life support training sessions.



## Belarus

### Examples of support:

- EU cross-border cooperation projects linking communities in Belarus, Ukraine and Poland, have made available emergency medical services such as ambulances and respirators in hospitals to help doctors fight the coronavirus pandemic.
- Over 850 specialists from hygiene and epidemiology centres in Belarus have attended online training sessions on communicating with patients and other health-care workers about COVID-19 vaccination.

## Georgia

### Examples of support:

- In the Adjara region, EU grants for 48 agricultural and rural development projects are helping to diversify the local economy, improve living and working conditions and enhance the competitiveness and sustainability of agriculture.
- 300 medical refrigerators and a specialized vaccine-carrier vehicle delivered to Georgia as part of EU support to vaccination efforts.

## Moldova

### Examples of support:

- A Virtual Entrepreneur Academy supporting SMEs in rural areas is about to be launched and a new ICT Innovation Centre in Cahul for innovative SMEs and a seed-fund for innovative companies are being set up.
- Over 300 pharmacists have attended training sessions on COVID-19, vaccines, tackling hesitancy and debunking myths related to COVID-19.

## Ukraine

### Examples of support:

- Personal protective equipment, medical equipment and training have been provided to health care staff. Vulnerable families have received necessary food and medicines packages. The EU also supports Eastern Ukraine on both sides of the contact line with essential medical goods, personal protective equipment and emergency livelihood support to affected households.
- 22 healthcare workers have received training to become trainers themselves to pass on knowledge on COVID-19 vaccines to their peers.

