



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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Agenda Item: D1\_3.5

## **Vaccine Spotlight Report: A Review of Initiative to Improve Vaccine Acceptance and Uptake in the APEC Region**

Purpose: Information  
Submitted by: Canada



**Second Health Working Group  
Meeting  
Seattle, United States  
3-5 August 2023**

# Vaccine Spotlight Report: A Review of Initiatives to Improve Vaccine Acceptance and Uptake in the APEC Region

**Presented by Salina Wilson**  
**Policy Analyst, Office of International Affairs for the Health Portfolio**  
**Government of Canada**

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# Vaccine Spotlight Report

## WHAT IS THE VACCINE SPOTLIGHT REPORT?

As part of the Vaccine Program of Work endorsed in 2020, the APEC HWG's SWG on Vaccination spearheaded a report capturing policies and programs across the APEC region that address vaccine hesitancy. The report includes **strategies** adopted by the member economies to address **the factors that drive vaccine hesitancy**, and **challenges** and **lessons learned**.

## OBJECTIVES

- Share **successful policies and programs** that have been implemented **across the APEC region** to encourage knowledge-sharing and collaboration, and address challenges in **increasing vaccine uptake and acceptance**.
- Develop a **greater understanding of how vaccine hesitancy is manifesting** in and impacting other member economies in the APEC region.

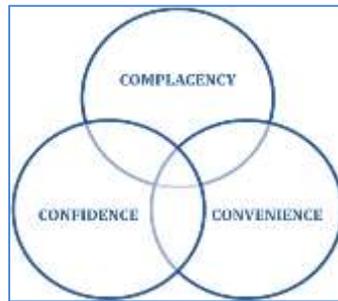


# Methodology

Eight APEC Member Economies shared survey responses that captured projects and initiatives implemented to improve vaccine acceptance and uptake.



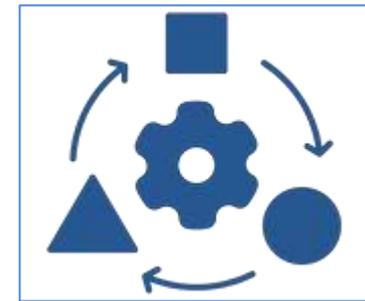
Description of initiatives



Drivers of vaccine hesitancy



Program cost and investment



Adaptability



Evaluation



Challenges



Lessons learned

## APEC Member Economy Submissions

	Confidence	Complacency	Convenience
Australia	✓	✓	✓
Canada	✓	✓	✓
Hong Kong, China	✓		
Malaysia	✓		
Republic of the Philippines	✓	✓	✓
Singapore	✓		✓
Thailand	✓		✓
USA	✓		

# Common strategies to Address Vaccine Hesitancy

## Evidence-based information-sharing and communication strategy

- **Australia:** Sharing Knowledge About Immunisation (SKAI) project and MumBubVax program
- **Republic of the Philippines:** COVID-19 Communication Campaign
- **U.S.:** Insights Unit of the U.S. CDC's Vaccine Task Force

## Use of digital platforms such as social media to counter the spread of misinformation

- **Malaysia:** COVID-19 Strategic Communication Committee
- **Republic of the Philippines:** COVID-19 Communication Campaign

## Adapting the programs and initiatives based on the context and complexity

- **Canada:** Adopted an [equity-lens](#) and [community-based model](#) to reach populations in positions of vulnerability.
- **Australia:** Adapted to reach priority groups such as [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people](#).
- **Hong Kong, China:** Adapted to priority groups, such as the [elderly](#).

# Challenges and Lessons Learned

## Challenges

- Time Limitations
- Organizational capacity and human resource needs
- Scale of Dissemination
- Scope of programs
- Availability of Data

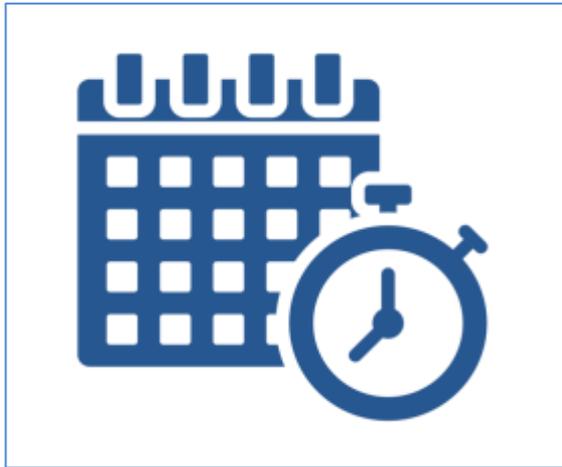


## Lessons Learned

- Community-based programming
- Understanding the complex needs of diverse populations for adaptability and wider reach
- Building trust between the government and the public



## Next Steps for VSR



APEC member economies may submit their survey responses by **August 30, 2023**.



The final VSR will be made publicly available on the APEC HWG site

# THANK YOU!

**For any questions, please contact Office of International Affairs for the Health Portfolio (OIA), Government of Canada APEC HWG Leads**

**Amrita Paul:** [amrita.paul@phac-aspc.gc.ca](mailto:amrita.paul@phac-aspc.gc.ca)

**Carly Hayes:** [carly.hayes@phac-aspc.gc.ca](mailto:carly.hayes@phac-aspc.gc.ca)

**Salina Wilson:** [salina.wilson@phac-aspc.gc.ca](mailto:salina.wilson@phac-aspc.gc.ca)