



VACCINE ACCESS TEST

Score Summary: South Africa

The world is racing to find safe and effective vaccines against COVID-19. And when we do, these vaccines must be made available to everyone who needs them regardless of nationality or wealth. This is the fastest way to end the pandemic. So we want to know: **do world leaders' actions move us closer to, or further from, an equitable outcome?** The Vaccine Access Test provides a framework to answer this question based on the following metrics:

- **Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A):** Has this country provided financial support to the ACT-A?
- **Multilateral Leadership:** Has this country advanced multilateral cooperation to advance equity?
- **Policies:** Will this country's policies help ensure COVID-19 vaccines are accessible to all on a global scale?

Each metric is worth up to 3 points with a possible 9 points total. Here's how South Africa stacks up.

METRIC	SCORE	RATIONALE
ACT-A 	0	South Africa signed off on an agreement with COVAX and the Solidarity Fund made the initial payment of R283 million to the facility.
Multilateral Leadership 	3	South Africa officially joined the COVAX Facility. President Ramaphosa said South Africa is using its position as chair of the African Union to advocate for equitable access across the globe so that no country should be left behind. South Africa co-hosted a virtual event during UNGA with the UK, UN, and WHO to make a case for multilateral collaboration on vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics through the ACT-A. In November, President Ramaphosa, as a Chairperson of the African Union, established the COVID-19 African Vaccine Acquisition Task Team to work with African Centres for Disease Control and Prevention to acquire and fund a vaccine for the African continent. South Africa has also been appointed as a co-chair of the global ACT-A initiative that is facilitating access to innovative interventions – including vaccines – for all countries.
Policies 	2	South Africa endorsed the WHO's Solidarity Call to Action for the COVID-19 Technology Access Pool. The country published national guidance on priority distribution of a vaccine to prioritize front-line health care workers and the most vulnerable.
Deal Score (average)	4	South Africa has completed 1 deal with a pharmaceutical company to secure a COVID-19 vaccine, with a Deal Score of 4.

Total Score: 9 out of 15

The actions of South Africa so far have proven some dedication to equitable outcomes, but have not gone far enough. South Africa has shown its commitment by pledging financially to international partnerships advancing equity, like the ACT-A, expressing interest in joining on to the COVAX Facility, and endorsing the WHO's Solidarity Call to Action.

South Africa can improve its score by ensuring domestic COVID-19 allocation guidelines prioritize most at-risk populations.



▲ Impeding Equity

Advancing Equity ▲