



PACT: PARTNERSHIP TO ACCELERATE COVID-19 TESTING IN AFRICA

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The Partnerships for Accelerated COVID-19 Testing (PACT) initiative aims to ensure at least 10 million tests are conducted in Africa in the next 4 months

Partnership for

Accelerated

COVID-19

Testing



GOALS

1. Conduct **1M** tests in 1 month; **10M** in 4 months
2. Establish Africa-wide **pooled procurement**
3. Establish Africa-wide storage & **distribution hubs**
4. Deploy **1M** **health workers** for contact tracing
5. Standardize and deploy **new technologies for surveillance** to help reopen economies

WHY PACT: Scaling-up testing capacity is an extremely important way to help contain the COVID-19 outbreak as evidenced by learnings from other affected countries

Scaled-up testing...



...Helps **identify and isolate cases** especially those that have mild symptoms



...Enables **robust contact tracing** especially as countries remove lockdowns



...Uncovers **areas of concentration of cases**, to implement targeted measures, limiting economic and social harm



...Allows for **better insights into spread** of the disease

Lessons from other countries



South Korea ramped up testing capacity to 15K tests / day last Feb, following massive # of cases in Daegu – case growth is now flat



Iceland has tested 10%+ of its people – it has 1,770 cases, and only has 9 deaths (*testing regime should be aimed at identifying cases*)



Hokkaido, had to reinstate the shutdown after 130+ cases with unknown links – Japan has one of the lowest tests / capita

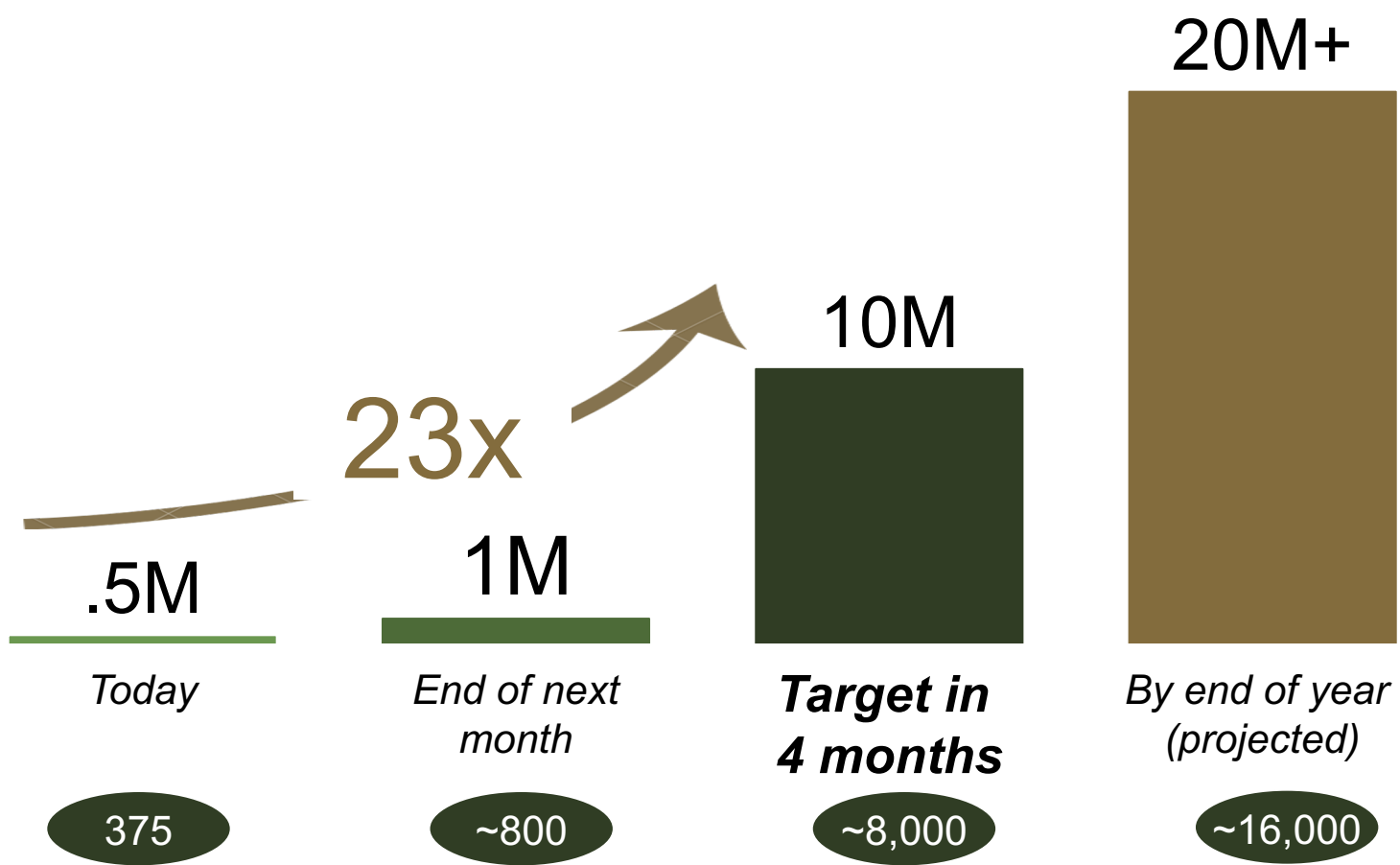


USA was very slow to rollout testing – today it is now the epicenter of the outbreak

TARGET: PACT aims to dramatically accelerate the number of tests in Africa to take advantage of the capacity that exists on the continent already

XX Tests per 1 million population

Tests conducted in Africa



Based on current capacity, Africa can conduct **~20M tests** (~16K tests / 1M population) but this number could **increase if countries scale up testing using the different platforms**

Tests / 1M population to date:
Italy = ~21,000, **US** = ~12,000,
South Korea = ~11,000

1 Likely does not capture all testing but is the latest figures reported to Africa CDC

HOW: PACT will scale up Africa's COVID-19 testing capacity in three ways

✓ Completed ✓ In-progress

1. Test kit supply

- ✓ Distribution of **initial supply of 78,000 test kits** to 42 Member States
- ✓ Distribution of **~1M test kits** from Jack Ma foundation
- ✓ Distribution of **additional ~1M test kits** (500K from Germany, 500K from Jack Ma foundation)
- ✓ Set up of an **Africa-wide pooled procurement** system, including full distribution to all member states

2. Capability building

- ✓ Training of **42 Member States** on PCR diagnostics
- ✓ Develop **guidance on testing strategies and create awareness**
- ✓ **Deployment of laboratory experts** to provide targeted technical support
- ✓ **Virtual training sessions** for laboratory technicians in-country to improve their practices

3. Private sector engagement

- ✓ Engagement with the private sector for **alternative testing platforms** e.g., Cepheid for GeneXpert testing, serological tests
- ✓ Engagement with **private labs to scale up testing capacity** in the continent

TRACING APPROACH: PACT's recommended testing approach aims to help countries better trace chains of transmission for the outbreak

If no known / limited community transmission (Phase 0-2)

- Anyone with **fever and acute respiratory symptoms** who have been in a place in the last 14 days where COVID-19 is transmitting, and who is currently in a location without local transmission.
- All **symptomatic contacts of a confirmed or probable cases** of COVID-19.
- All SARI cases presenting to hospital in place where potential circulation of COVID-19 case is suspected.
- **Healthcare workers** with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 disease regardless of exposure.

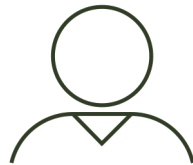
If widespread community transmission (Phase 3-4)

- **All severe acute respiratory infections** (including those presenting to hospitals)
- **Healthcare workers** with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 disease regardless of exposure.
- Additional testing in areas with **high likelihood for rapid acceleration in transmission** (e.g., densely packed communities, areas with poor sanitation)

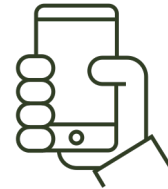
TRACING INITIATIVES: To complement its testing efforts, PACT will also rollout initiatives to strengthen the continent's capacity for identifying and isolating cases

PACT initiatives on identification and isolation of cases¹

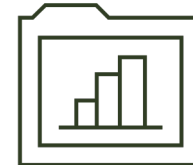
In addition to massive testing, **robust contact tracing is key to containing an outbreak**



Deployment and training of **community health workers** (aiming for 1M+) to support MSs on active case search, contact tracing, and isolation



Engagement with technology companies to support the deployment of **tracing technologies** e.g., mobile apps



Set up of **surveillance data systems at MSs' Emergency Operations Centers** by deploying technical experts

PARTNERSHIP: PACT plans to engage the private sector in FOUR main ways

1. Engage **private sector labs** to supplement government testing capacity
2. Provide support on **logistics of sample collection and transport** (e.g., mobile collection centers)
3. Scale-up capacity for **local manufacturing** of key commodities
4. Deploy and scale **technology applications to support contact tracing**