

Access to Vaccination for Newly Arrived Migrants (NAM) - AcToVax4NAM

Improving vaccine literacy & access to vaccination for NAM



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Health Programme (2014-2020)

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LAUNCH OF ACTOVAX4NAM

Improving vaccine literacy & access to vaccination for
Newly Arrived Migrants (NAM).

The AcToVax4NAM project responds to the overarching strategy of the European Commission that aims to improve the vaccination uptake in the EU while reducing access inequities. The project responded to a specific call under 3rd EU Health Programme for "Increased access to vaccination for disadvantaged, isolated and difficult to reach groups of population".

The general objective of the AcToVax4NAM project is the improvement of Vaccination Literacy (VL) and access, thereby improving vaccination uptake for Newly Arrived Migrants (NAM) making access conditions more equitable and guaranteed. The project targets Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPDs), part of the National Immunization Plans and adopts a life-course approach, including COVID-19 vaccination.

KICK-OFF MEETING

In early June, we met online for our internal kick-off meeting where the consortium partners presented the key project activities that will ensure sustainability and long-term benefits.

During the kick-off meeting the consortium discussed the project tasks including the objectives and the research approaches to identify barriers and solutions to improve access to vaccination for NAM.

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CONSORTIUM FROM
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MALTA, POLAND, ROMANIA & SPAIN.**

**THE LAUNCH OF ACTOVAX4NAM
ALONGSIDE 3 OTHER PROJECTS WITH
AN OVERARCHING GOAL TO IMPROVE
VACCINATION UPTAKE AMONG
DISADVANTAGED AND DIFFICULT-TO-
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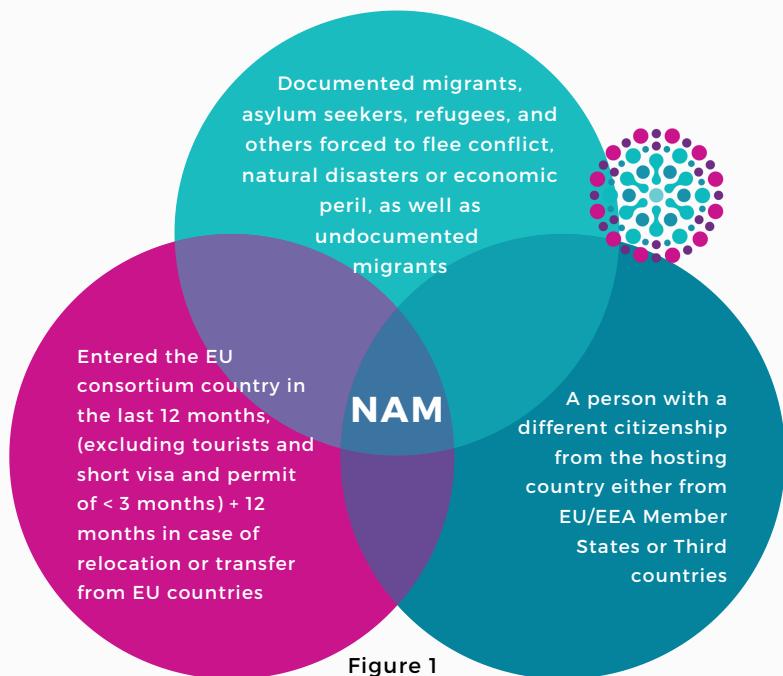
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The project partners also discussed and agreed on managerial procedures and evaluation strategy. Dissemination and communication strategies through the exploitation of digital means was extensively discussed and partners agreed on the means and the ways to increase visibility of the project and its results.

The project consortium has defined an operational definition on "Newly Arrived Migrants" (Figure 1) that will drive our downstream research and solution implementation, as well as effective communication to our target groups and stakeholders.

The target groups of the project are "all professionals FOR health" in areas related to migrants' health. These can be staff of public health institutions at national and local level, social workers, cultural mediators, NGOs etc.



OBJECTIVES & EXPECTED OUTCOMES

More specifically the AcToVax4NAM project will:

- Identify solutions for overcoming system barriers, also addressing the impact of political and cultural environments in each of the consortium countries.
- Address institutional or system-based Vaccination Literacy (VL) for health and social care professionals who work with NAM, including non-medical personnel, such as health mediators.
- Develop country specific action-oriented flow charts to overcome system barriers.
- Pilot interventions and different tools.
- Reinforce networking capacity to address VL and migrants-sensitivity of the health care system with respect to the immunization of NAM.



A JOINT LAUNCH OF EU PROJECTS

On the 25th of May 2021, the consortium partners of the AcToVax4NAM project attended a 2-day event organised by the European Health and Digital Agency (HaDEA) with the support of the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) and in collaboration with the Directorate-General Research & Innovation (DG RTD), with the scope of presenting 4 new projects including the AcToVax4NAM project. The other projects presented were: the RISE-Vac project (University of Pisa), the ImmuHubs project (The Vienna Vaccine Safety Initiative) and the RIVER-EU project (Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen). The event, that continued on the following day, enabled an open discussion and highlighted aspects of synergies and opportunities for collaboration among the projects.

OUR IMMEDIATE RESEARCH PLANS

Having started in May, the plans for this year are to conduct a non-systematic review and qualitative research at European and country level for guidance on immunization, system barriers and solutions for improving vaccine uptake. In addition, we will collect standardized information on the migrant reception system of each consortium country, as well as information on the vaccinations offered to NAM at the consortium country level.



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