

# Interconnectedness and Competition in the Global Health System

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# COVID and Beyond

- Importance of health and health systems
- Changes to national and global contexts
- Strategies for health development cooperation need to adapt to the changed context

# An Interconnected World

- Developments in transportation sector facilitated spread of the virus and mutations
- Developments in information systems made rapid diffusion of information on the virus and counter-measures possible
- Developments in social media influenced popular understandings of the pandemic

**Continuing investment in infrastructure will intensify inter-connectedness**

# Mixed nature of global health

- Sustainable Development Goals state the international consensus that many aspects of health services should be regarded as **public goods**
- The health sector accounts for around 10 percent of global GDP and there is competition for shares of present and future **markets**
- There is increased concern about access to essential drugs and vaccines as an element of **national resilience**

# Competition for health-related markets

- Lower cost of drugs and diagnostic equipment especially in low- and middle-income countries
- Mechanisms are needed to ensure quality and effectiveness (responsibility of exporting and importing countries)
- Desire of importing countries to build national and regional production

# Development of strategic technologies

- Major investments by several countries to develop leading technologies in life-sciences (vaccines, drugs, diagnostics, digital health, artificial intelligence)
- Competition for global leadership in markets of the future
- Demands by other countries to build their capacity for research and development of new health technologies
- Create new international partnerships in these strategic sectors
- Measures to foster trust and begin development of global norms and standards

# National resilience

- Effective strategies to address disease outbreaks and resistance to antibiotics needs participation by countries at all levels of development
- Measures are needed to build trust and agree rules essential to support effective responses to future crises
- It will be important to share information and build scientific collaboration on the management of infectious disease

# Sustaining basic health services

- Adequate funding of basic services in all countries is essential to global health (including in contexts of debt renegotiation)
- It is important to coordinate support for health system strengthening



# Building Global Health Governance

- Create opportunities for exchanges of ideas between technical experts (from countries of all levels of development) to identify priority areas for future cooperation
- Test new partnerships for health development in single countries, regions and/or focusing on key development challenges
- Ensure systematic learning from these experiences and create opportunities for mutual learning
- Use the lessons from these experiences in negotiating norms and standards