



METRO MANILA CENTER FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



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Lessons Learned / Challenges from the COVID-19 Vaccination Rollout

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PRESIDENT'S GUIDANCE

**Safe, Effective,
and Free vaccines
for all Filipinos**

THE PHILIPPINE COVID-19 VACCINE DEPLOYMENT AND VACCINATION PROGRAM



WHOLE-OF-SOCIETY APPROACH

Where all sectors in the society contribute to the vaccination implementation, (national government, LGUs, private sectors, CSOs)

PROTECT THE POPULATION

To vaccinate around **70 million** eligible population or administer around **148 million doses** in 2021 and early part of 2022

What made the COVID-19 vaccination rollout successful?

According to the World Health Organization, the strengths of the Philippines in its implementation are:

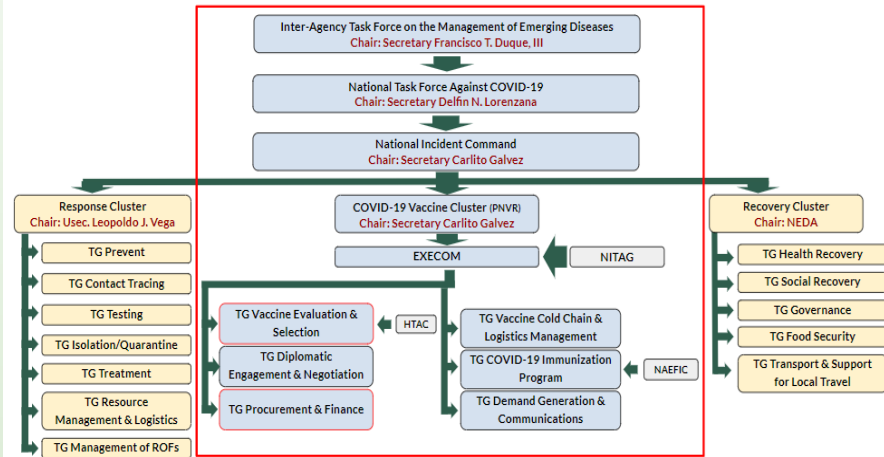
1. **Strong** political commitment and leadership; **well-established** structure for COVID-19 vaccination; **successful collaboration and coordination** between stakeholders.
2. **Consistent adherence** to policies, strategies, and guidelines at all levels.
3. **Mobilization** of funds, human resources and **commitment** to secure vaccines for the country.
4. **Highly innovative and tailored** strategies to reach all segments of the population.
5. **Strict adherence** to national guidance on vaccine delivery and safety.
6. **Nimble and cross-trained** workforce that can respond to changing needs.



The Philippines created a **well-represented organizational structure that enabled** national and local governments, vaccine experts, societies, academe, civil organizations and private sector, among others, **to participate**

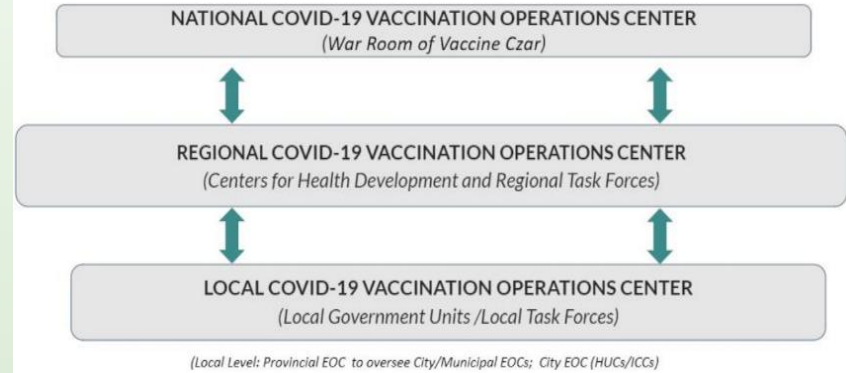
*The Philippines established a **unified command, control, coordination, communication, and cooperation structure and mechanism** to ensure the implementation of COVID-19 vaccine trials, procurement and deployment/distribution of COVID-19 vaccines and vaccination implementation*

COVID-19 Vaccine Cluster Organizational Structure

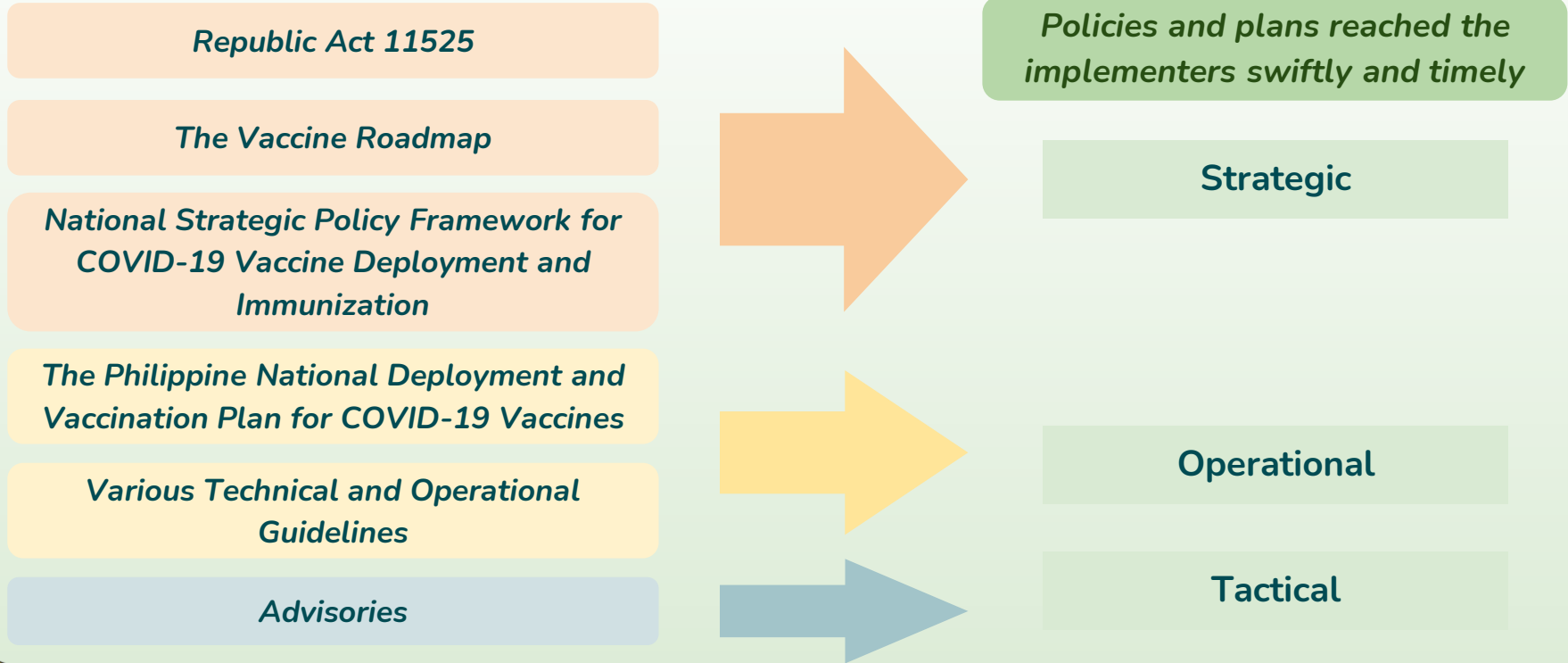


Complemented with the activation of the Incident Command System at all levels

Establishing the COVID-19 Vaccination Operations Center



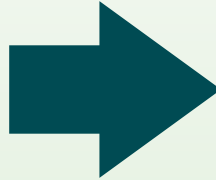
Presence of plans and policies provided clear guidance and enabled decision-makers and implementers at all levels to standardize implementation



Challenge #1: The lingering trauma caused by the Dengvaxia controversy

Implications of the Dengvaxia Controversy in the implementation

- Hesitancy among decision-makers and health professionals
- Excessively cautious implementation causing hesitation to streamline processes
- Vaccine hesitancy even among health and other professionals



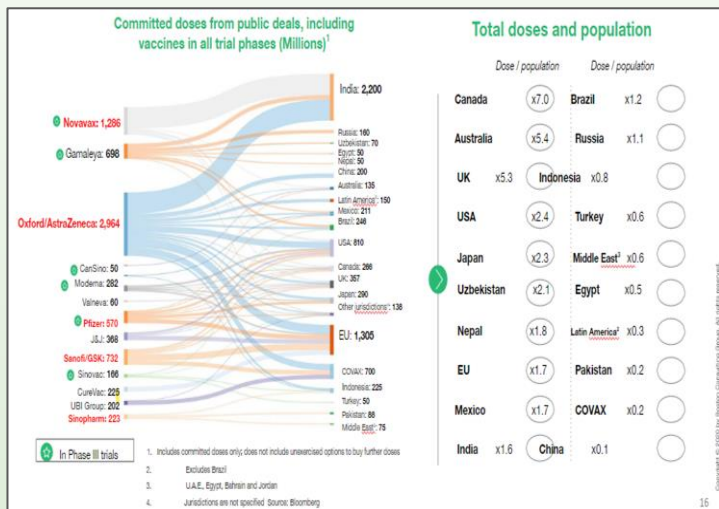
Revisiting the Dengvaxia Controversy, allowed implementers to improve on the following

- Well established organizational structure and chain of command (NVOC, RVOCs, LVOCs)
- Standardized vaccination process across the country, with standardized forms
- Strict implementation of consent forms
- Regularly conducted supportive supervision and monitoring mechanisms
- Implementation of a centralized data reporting



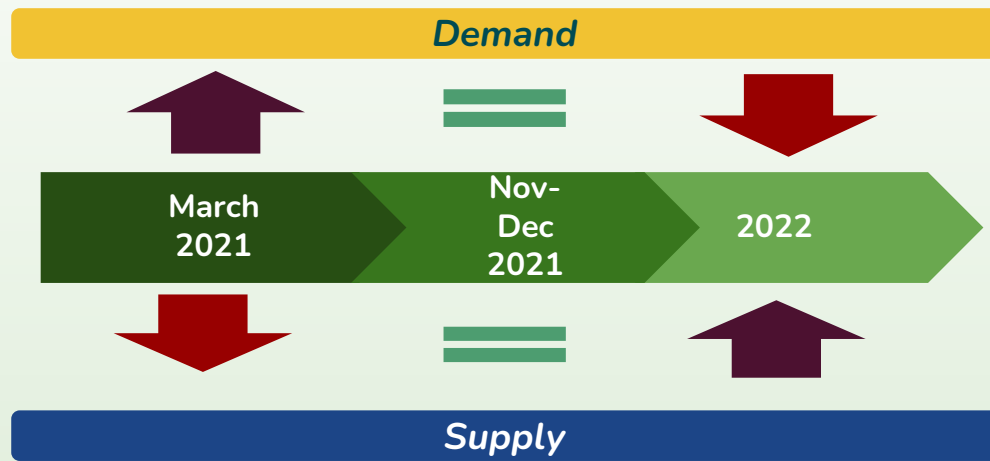
Challenge #2: The complexities of the global vaccine demand and supply

As of December 2020, **80%** of the global supply was reserved for rich countries



Contingencies:
Detailed prioritization; reliance on donation from the COVAX Facility and other countries; procurement by LGUs and private sector

Contingencies:
Use of contextualized and varied vaccination strategies (from fixed points to house-to-house); redistribution of vaccines



Competition for vaccines among stakeholders; intense clamor and unease of constituents; flooded vaccination sites

Late delivery of private and LGU sector vaccines leading to non-utilization; increasing vaccine hesitancy and refusal; population complacency

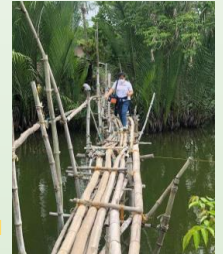
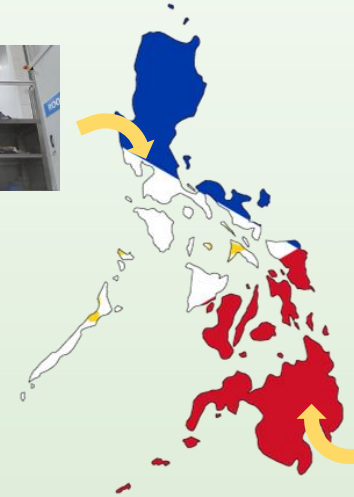


Challenge #3: Geography, vaccine portfolio, varied temperature storage requirements and storage capacity implications on cold chain management

The Philippines has **nine (9)** vaccine brands in its portfolio with varied cold chain requirements, presentations and shelf-lives

1	Sinovac	1-dose vial; 2-dose vial	-2°C to +8°C
2	Sinopharm	1-dose vial; 2-dose vial	-2°C to +8°C
3	AstraZeneca	8-dose vial; 10-dose vial	-2°C to +8°C
4	Gamaleya	1-dose ampule; 2-dose ampule	Not exceeding -18°C
5	Gamaleya Light	1-dose ampule; 2-dose ampule	Not exceeding -18°C
6	Pfizer-BioNTech (Purple Cap)	6-dose vial	-90°C to -60°C; +2°C to +8°C
7	Pfizer-BioNTech (Orange Cap)	10-dose vial	-90°C to -60°C; -25°C to -15°C; +2°C to +8°C
8	Moderna	10-dose vial; 14-dose vial	-25°C to -15°C; +2°C to +8°C
9	Janssen	5-dose vial	-25°C to -15°C; +2°C to +8°C

The Philippines is composed of **7,000+ islands**, with metropolitan areas, as well as, Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas (GIDA)



To address this concerns, the National Government and/or LGUs,

1. **Consulted other countries**, specifically Israel, for cold chain management.
2. Invested on the **procurement of cold chain storage equipments**, especially **ultra-low freezers**.
3. **Establishment of a command structure** from the national down to the vaccination site.
4. **Prioritized the NCR +8 Areas or the metropolitan areas (highly dense areas)** for vaccine distribution, while considering prioritization.
5. **Establishment of the Vaccine Security Team**, under the Vaccine Cluster.
6. **Tapped the private sector and cold chain companies** in the storage and delivery of vaccines (e.g. *Pharmaserve, Orca, Zuellig, Namphareil, among others*).
7. **Used the assets of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippines National Police**.
8. **Rolled-out a flexible delivery system**.
9. **Utilized varied deployment strategies**, such as on-time delivery, hubs and spokes, direct delivery, among others.
10. **Contextualized distribution based on the cold chain requirements** (e.g. *Gamaleya and Pfizer deployed in urban and fixed point vaccination sites; Sinovac, Sinopharm, Janssen were utilized for house-to-house and remote areas*).
11. **Established a monitoring and data management system for daily tracking of inventory and monitoring** (use of days-to-last, and the deployment of the Vaccination Operations Reporting System).
12. **Daily handholding sessions** between the National Vaccination Operations Center and the LGUs.



Challenge #4: Vaccination rollout and deployment strategies was highly dictated by a variety of factors and fast-evolving elements

Fast-evolving science on COVID-19 vaccines

Timing and quantity of arriving vaccines

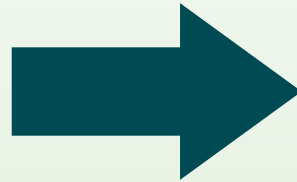
Vaccine brands available

Geographical location

Phase of Implementation

Utilization rate of vaccines

Resources and capacities of the Local Government Unit and stakeholders



Philippine Vaccination Strategy

Therefore, there was a need to be:

- Flexible and agile
- Contextualize and localize
- Thorough (good microplanning)
- Fast yet equitable
- Innovative





PHILIPPINE VACCINATION STRATEGY

Operational Objective: To utilize multiple strategies and various vaccination models to roll-out the vaccination as fast as possible

VACCINATION STRATEGY

FIXED SITE

TEMPORARY POST

MOBILE/ OUTREACH



SITE

MEGA VACCINATION SITES

REGULAR VACCINATION SITES

TEMPORARY PRE-IDENTIFIED POSTS

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE / FACILITY-TO-FACILITY

EXAMPLES

Coliseums, Arenas, Malls, Cinemas, Parks, Gyms, Schools/Universities, HEIs

Regular Fixed Sites, RHUs/CHOs, Hospitals, Classrooms, Clinics, Pharmacies, any building facility

Deploy Teams to Barangays & Closed-setting Facilities: Nursing Homes, Jails, TRCs, MHIs, TB DOTS Centers, HIV Treatment Hubs, Company Clinics, Schools, NGAs, Workplaces

Deploy teams to homes/facilities/stalls (esp. bedridden/PDLs/PWDs & A2)

TARGETS

1000 - 2000 doses daily

300 - 450 doses daily

100 - 150 doses daily per team

50 doses daily per team

MANAGEMENT

LGU - led w/ stakeholders' participation

LGU - led, LGU or stakeholder-managed

LGU - led, facility coordinated

LGU-led

PURPOSE

To augment vaccination roll out of LGUs & to expand existing capacity

To roll vaccination to the general public as fast as possible

To reach barangays and specific population groups

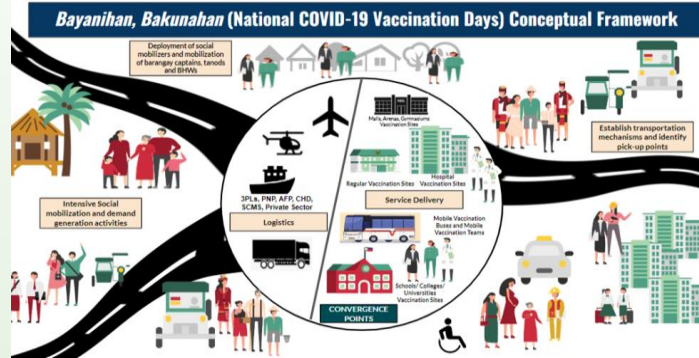
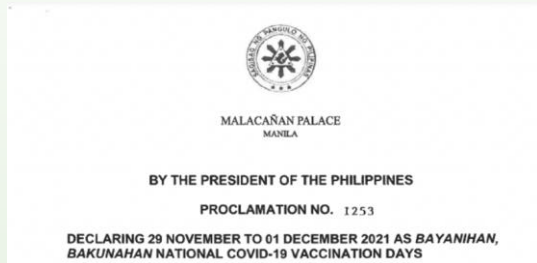
To reach vulnerable populations

Best Practices

Enabling policies and protocols
(Presidential proclamation, DOLE, DILG, DepEd, CSC vaccination promotive policies)

National Vaccination Days and Special Vaccination Days

Whole-of-Society and Bayanihan Spirit in the implementation



Best Practices

Enabling environment and conditions: Free transportation; incentives,



Tutok A2: Senior Citizens + Pamilyang Bakunado, Protektado



Innovative strategies, such as use of mega vaccination sites, drive-thrus, bus vaccination vaccination in, pharmacies, food establishments, workplaces, among others



Utilization of other health-related professionals as vaccinators, such as pharmacies, medical technologists, medical and nursing interns/clerks; and all cadre and health services, private or public



Bringing vaccines closer to homes and workplaces



Making vaccination visits playful and fun for children



Challenge #5: Delay in the development of a unified information system resulting to deployment and utilization of multiple and unlinked information systems

No nationwide ID system

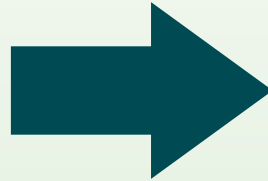
Erratic internet connection in rural and isolated areas

Use of conventional methods in recording (e.g. pen and paper)

Complex and not user friendly information system

Difficulty in rolling out and training manpower on the information systems

Lack of manpower dedicated for data management

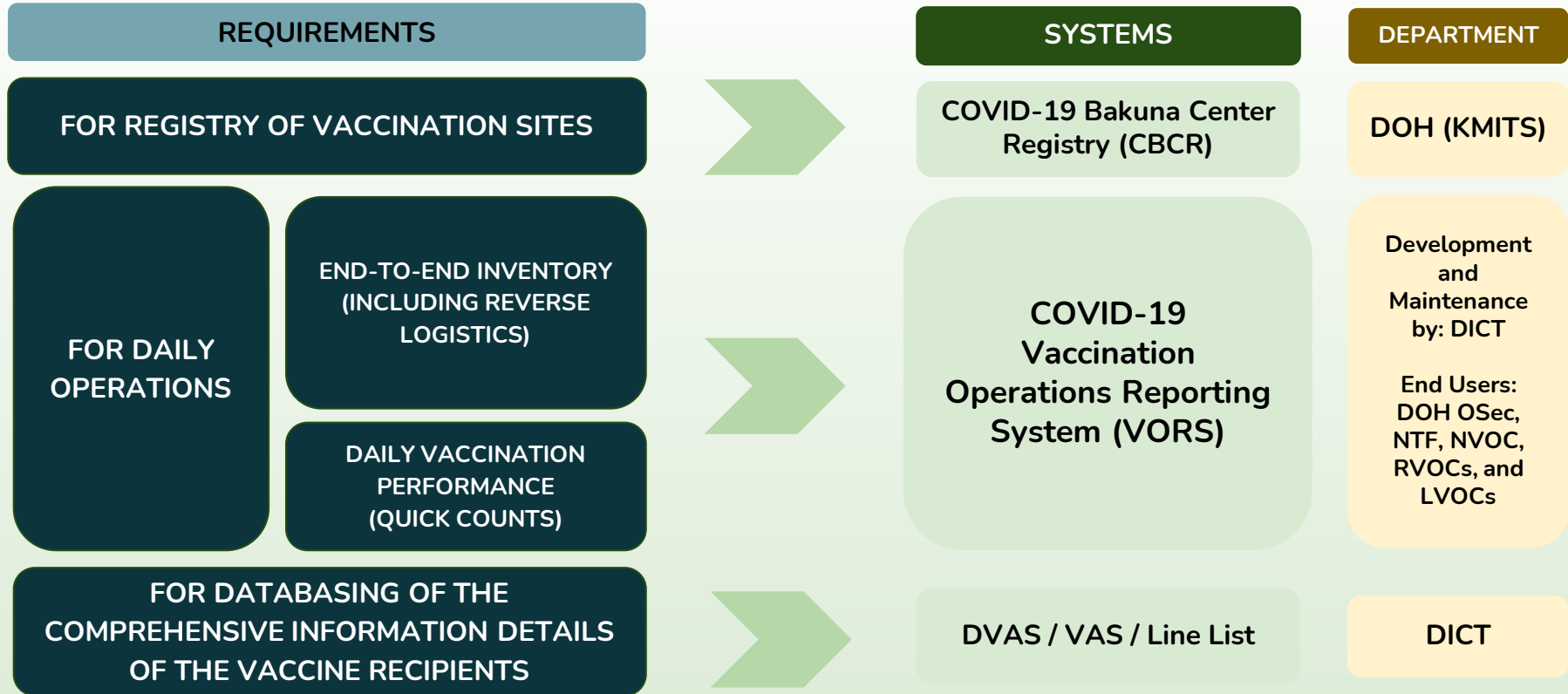


Hastened deployment of the Vaccine Information System, Vaccine Administration System, Vaccination Operations Reporting System and COVID-19 Bakuna Center Registry

There is a need to create a unified and interoperable system that will link all databases with other databases related to health and other stakeholders



Reporting/Registry Systems



The Philippines reached its initial vaccination target under the Duterte administration

As of June 29, 2022,



245,382,600
total vaccine
doses received



154,800,553
total doses
administered



70,537,686
individuals
fully vaccinated



December 1, 2021: The Philippines administered the **highest recorded number of** jobs in the country in a single day; and the **4th highest number of jobs globally**

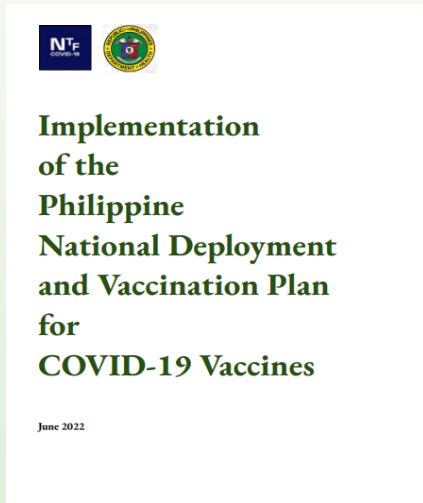
Bayanihan, Bakunahan
(National COVID-19
Vaccination Days, Part I)



2,884,659
vaccine recipients



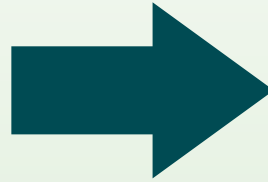
The **COVID-19 Vaccine Cluster** fully endorsed the **National COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment and Vaccination Program** to the next administration, with the following recommendations:



1. **Streamline** the National COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment and Vaccination Program to the **National Immunization Program**, and **institutionalize it as part of the regular services of health units/centers**.
2. **Address key research, policy, safety and regulatory issues** and that will **optimize vaccine/vaccination impact**, including effective supply generation, dosing and vaccination schedules, mixing and matching of products, protection against variants, timeliness of policies in parallel with demand and supply, among others.
3. **Strengthen supply chain and management** with utilization of technology, especially forecasting and inventory.
4. **Improve vaccine confidence** and empower communities to address misinformation and disinformation.
5. Elaborate that the COVID-19 pandemic response and the National COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment and Vaccination Program **IS encapsulated in the framework of Universal Health Care**.



The Department of Health continues to rollout the COVID-19 vaccination program under the leadership of President Marcos,





Maraming Salamat!