



**Regional Platform**  
Latin America and the Caribbean

# LAC Regional ACT-A Webinar



March 2021

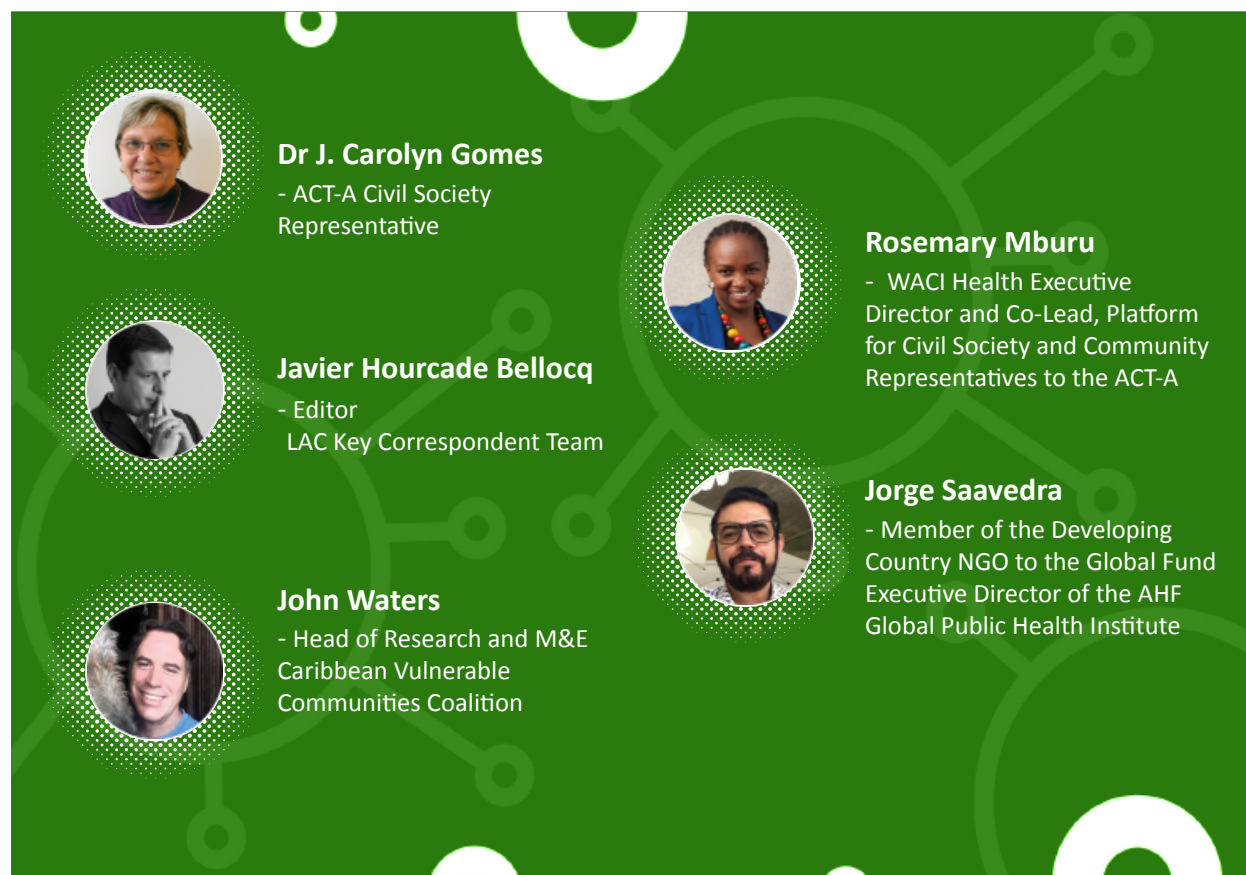
# LAC Regional ACT-A Webinar

The objectives of the webinar were

- To share information about the ACT-Accelerator Tools, its latest developments and key priorities
- To share updates from representatives of civil society and the ACT-A community, as well as
- To share experiences and perspectives on COVID-19 tools

## Participants:

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**Dr J. Carolyn Gomes**  
- ACT-A Civil Society Representative

**Javier Hourcade Bellocq**  
- Editor  
LAC Key Correspondent Team

**John Waters**  
- Head of Research and M&E  
Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition

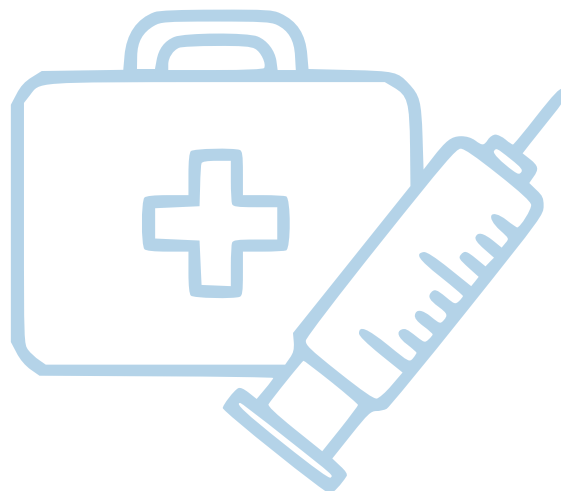
**Rosemary Mburu**  
- WACI Health Executive Director and Co-Lead, Platform for Civil Society and Community Representatives to the ACT-A

**Jorge Saavedra**  
- Member of the Developing Country NGO to the Global Fund  
Executive Director of the AHF Global Public Health Institute



## Background and goals for the creation of ACT-A

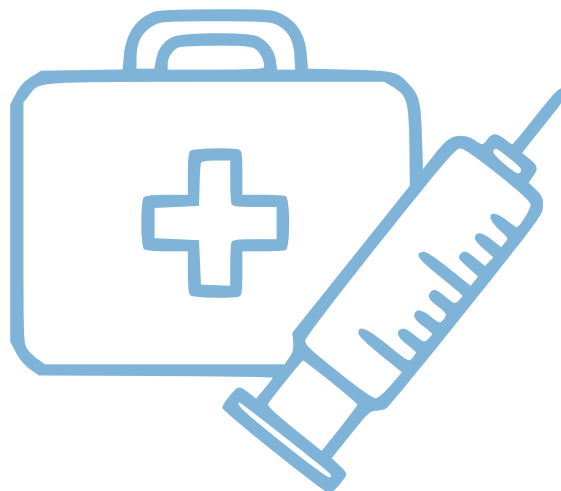
- Community society does what it always does, step up and step in, community members were the ones making sure that other communities had food, water and medicine
- The international communities stepped up, with the formation of access to covid tools accelerator in April of 2020
- The ACT-A partnership was formed to ensure equity in access to COVID-19 tools that subside the pandemic, like diagnostic, therapeutic, vaccines, and health system connector to link country action to multiple actions





## Presentation of the platform of community and civil society representatives in the ACT-A

- **Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator**
  - ACT-A has four main pillars of work: diagnostics, therapeutics, vaccines and health system connectors
  - Its goal is to accelerate development, equitable allocation & scaled up delivery of vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics
- **Facilitation council**
  - Aim to provide high-level advice and guidance to ACT Accelerator pillars, principals and partners, and to provide global leadership and advocacy for the initiative
- **Civil Society**
  - Civil society and communities should be meaningfully engaged and empowered to effectively represent their constituencies in development and governance at all levels of the TFCA-A, including but not limited to the TFCA-A Facilitation Group and through the three pillar coordination mechanisms to ensure equitable access





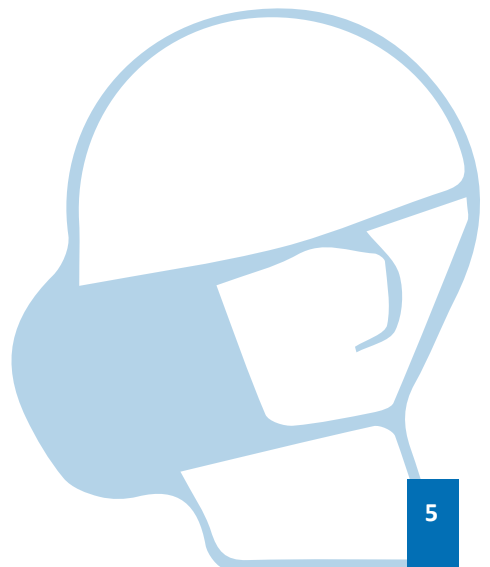
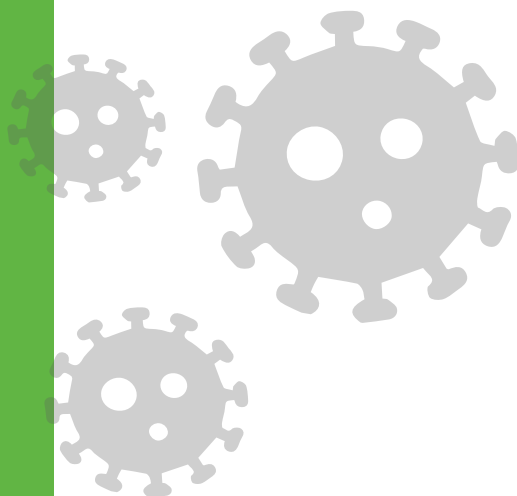
The challenges and inequalities in Latin American countries in accessing protective/vaccination supplies and the inputs needed to scale up the response to COVID-19 are very great

- **Inequities**

- The purchase of vaccines from rich countries is immoral, governments are demanding the private sector not to export vaccines, even though many of our countries loaned tens of thousands of volunteers in phase 3 with promises of a percentage of access to the vaccine

- **Vaccine**

- 85 poor countries in the world will not have access to the vaccine until 2022, some until 2023
- Canada has reached 500% coverage for its population, the United States has 200% coverage, while Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia and Panama are below 50%.
- In poor countries 9 out of 10 people will not be vaccinated during 2021, while richer nations have purchased enough doses to vaccinate their entire population 3 times by 2021.





## Current situation of the countries in the region with respect to the COVID-19 epidemic

- **Vaccines**

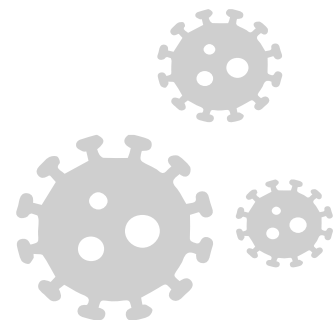
- As of February 18, 2021, there are at least seven different vaccines that countries have begun administering on three platforms, with priority given in all cases to vulnerable people
- However, the COVAX mechanism is far from being "fast, fair and equitable"

- **Comparative data**

- 14% of the world's population has bought 53% of all the most promising vaccines so far
- Latin America has 46% of the cases in the continent, but has 60% of the deaths

- **ACT-A and the Global Fund**

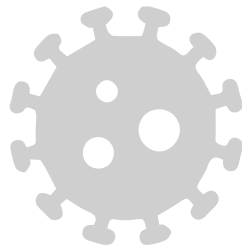
- It is in Latin America's interest for the Global Fund to be involved in COVID-19 issues, because the impact of the pandemic in the region is similar to the impact that HIV has had on Africa
- The Global Fund's participation in the ACT-A mechanism is fundamental, because it is also one of the few international organizations that has representatives of civil society and communities at all levels, from planning and implementation to the Board of Directors with voice and vote





Case studies on the impact of COVID 19 in its programs throughout the Caribbean and adaptations that have been made to ensure that people have access to services.

- **CVC Academy**
  - A learning management system is a software application for the administration, documentation, tracking, reporting, automation and delivery of educational courses, training programs or learning and development programs
  - It seeks to overcome some of the region's capacity building challenges arising from poor digital access, digital illiteracy and lack of electronic devices
- **Importance of community**
  - Approach to education that combines online educational materials and opportunities for interaction, with traditional face-to-face, place-based methods
  - One of the things that we found very useful is that it allows us to give something that sometimes the community asks us to do, to give some kind of recognition for the community work that they do





## Conclusion

- The challenge for civil society and communities in ACT-A is how to share intelligence to achieve a more equitable and meaningful participation by regions, as well as to find the tipping points for when representatives should convene their bases to take to the streets and put pressure from activism
- Demand greater involvement of the Global Fund in COVID-19, especially from the LAC region and greater civil society participation in COVAX from the most affected areas of the world, which in this case is Latin America
- Put pressure on our governments from civil society to have not ministries specialized in COVID-19, but Integral Health Systems

