



This document was produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. Its content is the sole responsibility of the author(s). The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Union.

The project is funded by the European Union via the Technical Support Instrument, managed by the European Commission Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support.

This report has been delivered in June 2023, under the EC Contract No. REFORM/2021/OP/0006. It has been delivered as part of the project “Strategic Reserve of essential and strategic resources based on Industrial Capabilities (RECAPI)”.

© European Union, 2025



The Commission's reuse policy is implemented by Commission Decision 2011/833/EU of 12 December 2011 on the reuse of Commission documents (OJ L 330, 14.12.2011, p. 39 – <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec/2011/833/oj>).

Unless otherwise noted, the reuse of this document is authorised under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) licence (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>). This means that reuse is allowed, provided that appropriate credit is given and any changes are indicated.

**Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support**

REFORM@ec.europa.eu  
+32 2 299 11 11 (Commission switchboard)  
European Commission  
Rue de la Loi 170 / Wetstraat 170  
1049 Brussels, Belgium

# 1. Overview – EU FAB

## Context

EU FAB is an EU mechanism created to ensure that **manufacturing capacities for vaccines** are operational and can be **activated quickly** in case of a **public health emergency**

Based on the **experience** of the **COVID-19 pandemic**, it was created to **better prepare Europe** for future **health emergencies**

EU FAB is created as part of **HERA** and was published with an overall budget of **160 M€** for **700 million doses** annually

## Objectives



1. Reserve manufacturing capacities

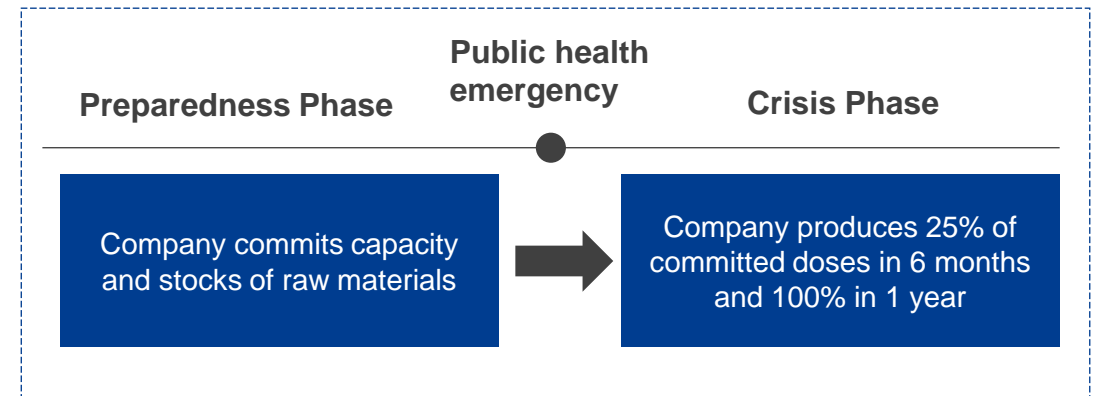


2. Obtain a priority right for manufacturing of vaccines in case of a future public health emergency

DRAFT - PRELIMINARY

 Detailed next

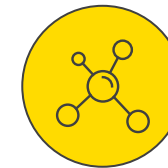
## How does it work?



## What is included?



mRNA-based vaccines



vector-based vaccines

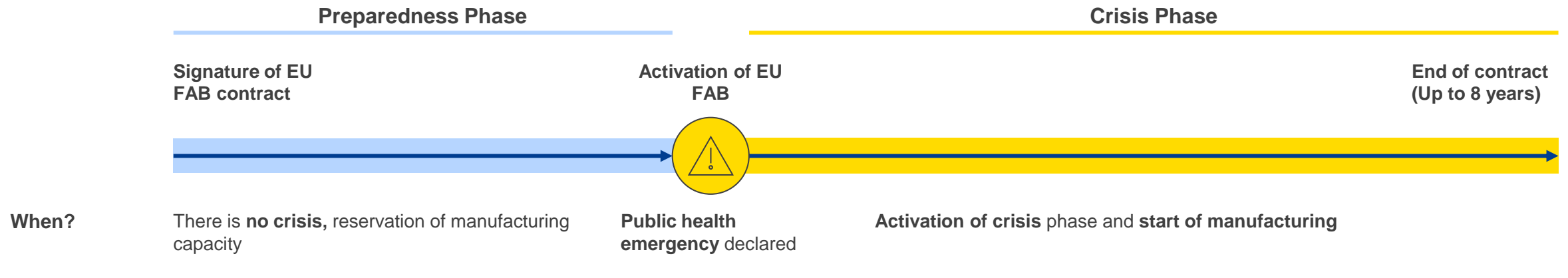


protein-based vaccines

## 2. How it works – 2 phase approach

DRAFT - PRELIMINARY

### Functioning of EU FAB:



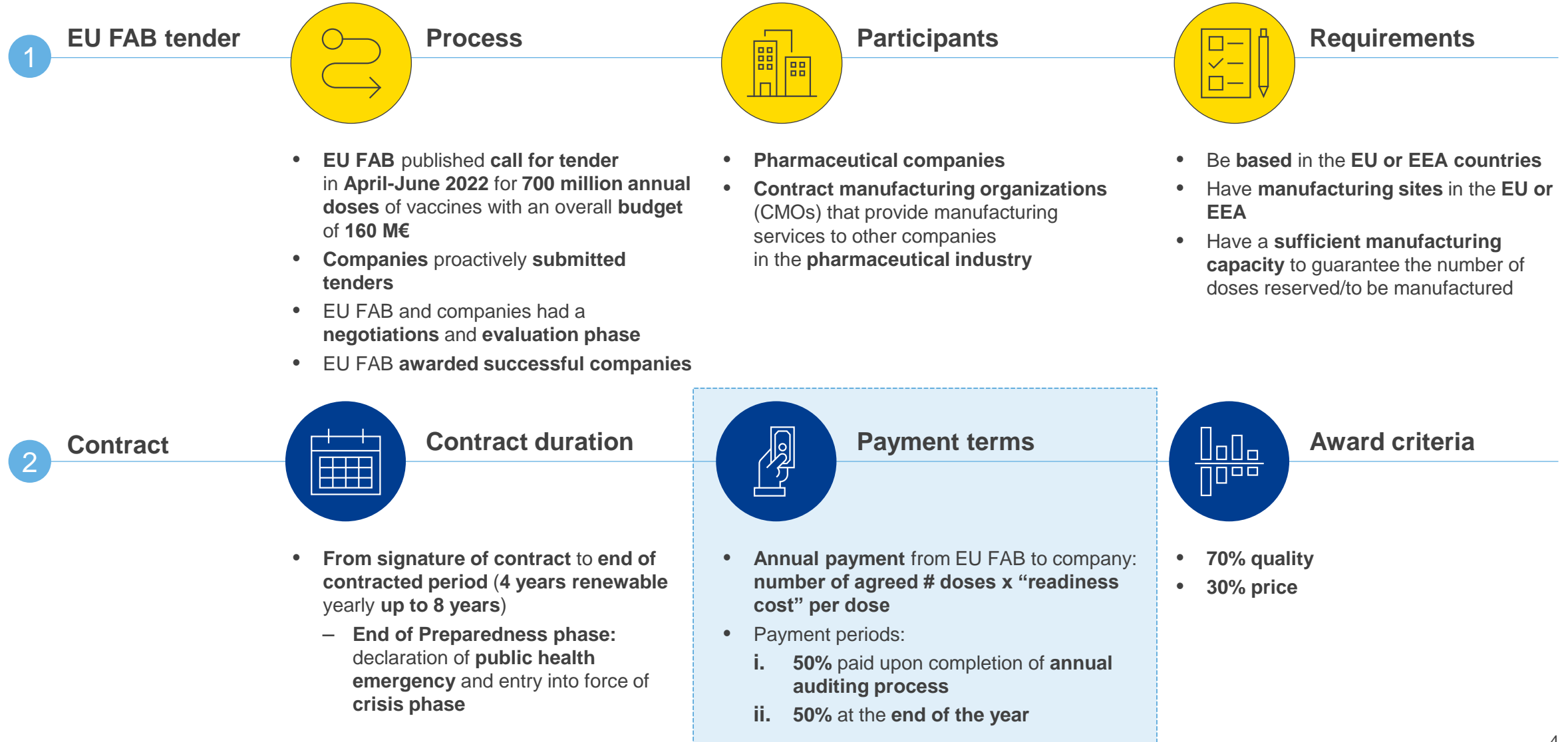
- Actions by participating company**
- Alternatives
- 1. Ensure **sufficient stock** of necessary **raw materials** and **vials** to **ramp-up capacity** to produce 25% of committed # of doses in 6 months
  - 2. Have **preferential supply agreements** with **suppliers in the EU** or that have stocks in the EU
  - 3. Conduct a **monitoring process** to detect **possible shortages** in time
  - 4. **Train personnel** in the **manufacture** of this **type of vaccines**
  - 5. Submit to an **auditing process** in the **first 4 months of the contract**

- 1. **Produce 25%** of the committed capacity in **6 months**
- 2. **Produce 100%** of the committed capacity in **1 year**

# 3. Contracting mechanisms – key features

DRAFT - PRELIMINARY

 Cost structure included in back-up



# 4. Main lessons from EU FAB experience

DRAFT - PRELIMINARY



## Clear mechanism

The EU FAB established a mechanism with two clear phases (preparedness & crisis)



## Established commitments

The commitments and expectations from all parties are well established in all phases



## Defined timeline

The duration of the mechanism and timeline of the commitments is well defined



## Committed budget

EU HERA dedicated a specific budget to the EU FAB mechanism



# 5. Potential areas to strengthen and proposed approach

DRAFT - PRELIMINARY

Most pronounced in pharmaceutical industry – potentially not applicable to other sectors/ products

| Area to strengthen   | Description  | Proposed approach   |
|--|--|---|
| 1 Ensure specificity in documentation/requirements             | Clearly define the list of <b>supporting documentation</b> and <b>requirements</b> in the application to the capacity reservation contract, as it is a <b>time-intensive</b> application process and may be <b>difficult to navigate</b> for first-time applicants           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a <b>detailed list of required documents</b> complemented by <b>templates/examples</b></li> <li>• Establish a <b>point of contact to guide companies</b> during the <b>application process</b></li> </ul>  |
| 2 Reduce uncertainty about purpose of capabilities             | Provide visibility to participating <b>companies</b> on the <b>purpose/ conditions</b> – technology, context, use, price – under which they <b>commit capacity</b> . A lack of clarity may lead to <b>reluctance</b> to adhere to a <b>legally binding contract</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain a <b>partnership approach</b> rather than a “procurement contract” approach</li> <li>• Maintain <b>open dialogue / communication channel to engage with companies</b> both <b>before the tender</b> and <b>during the contractual relationship</b></li> </ul> |
| 3 Increase flexibility in ramp-up conditions given uncertainty | Participating <b>companies</b> need to meet <b>ramp-up timings</b> <b>regardless</b> of other parts of the <b>productive process</b> on which <b>they have no control</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include <b>risk sharing</b> provisions in the contract with participating companies to <b>define responsibilities during crises</b></li> </ul>   |
| 4 Increase visibility on commercial terms during crisis phase  | Provide <b>clarity</b> on the expected <b>final sale price</b> or <b>price structure</b> of the <b>vaccines</b> in the <b>crisis phase</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a <b>clear/ specific price structure</b> in the contract that is <b>foreseeable</b> and <b>set in advance</b> as much as possible, e.g. price is at market value, fixed % profit margin, etc.</li> </ul>   |
| 5 Reduce uncertainty on intellectual property                  | Define <b>mechanism</b> by which one of the parties– participating companies or RECAPI – will <b>negotiate</b> and <b>obtain</b> the <b>IP rights to manufacture</b> the committed capacity  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a <b>clear framework/process for negotiating and obtaining the IP rights</b> in the contract with the participating companies</li> </ul>   |
| 6 Address protection against takeovers                         | Define mechanism in case of <b>takeover by a company outside EU/EEA</b> to avoid <b>control of production being relocated</b> outside EU and jeopardizing the <b>validity of the contract</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include a <b>legal provision</b> on this situation in the contract; or</li> <li>• <b>Include companies</b> in <b>RECAPI scheme</b> as <b>strategic</b> to be <b>protected</b> under <b>FDI Screening Mechanism regulations</b></li> </ul>                              |
| 7 Define crisis declaration process and conditions             | Define specifics of the <b>conditions under which the crisis phase may be triggered</b> , incl. <b>responsible party</b> , <b>conditions</b> to be met, etc.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include a <b>provision</b> in the <b>contract</b> to <b>define the requirements and conditions</b> for a public health emergency declaration</li> </ul>  |
| 8 Leverage diversification of participating companies          | <b>Prioritize diversification</b> of participating companies in RECAPI to: i) achieve <b>geographical distribution</b> as a <b>mitigant to localized crises</b> and ii) <b>minimize dependence</b> on a small number of “controlling” companies for <b>supply and prices</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During <b>tender selection process</b>, aim to achieve <b>wide distribution of awards</b> to participating companies</li> </ul>  |

# Back-up – Cost structure of contract

DRAFT - PRELIMINARY



| Suppliers in EU FAB scheme | # of committed doses | Readiness cost, € / dose | Total cost                    |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Supplier 1                 | N of doses 1         | x € / dose 1             | = Total cost supplier 1       |
|                            |                      |                          | +                             |
| Supplier 2                 | N of doses 2         | x € / dose 2             | = Total cost supplier 2       |
|                            |                      |                          | +                             |
| Supplier 3                 | N of doses 3         | x € / dose 3             | = Total cost supplier 3       |
|                            |                      |                          | +                             |
| Supplier 4                 | N of doses 4         | x € / dose 4             | = Total cost supplier 4       |
|                            |                      |                          | +                             |
| Supplier 5                 | N of doses 5         | x € / dose 5             | = Total cost supplier 5       |
|                            |                      |                          | =                             |
| <b>Total suppliers</b>     |                      |                          | <b>Total cost of contract</b> |

## Example: vaccines (based on EU FAB)

### EU FAB

Total # of doses **700 M**

Total budget **160 M€**

Estimated “readiness cost” per dose<sup>1</sup> **0,23 €**

### Spain – RECAPI

Total estimated # of doses<sup>2</sup> **74 M**

Estimated “readiness cost” per dose (EU FAB) **0,23 €**

Total estimated budget<sup>3</sup> **17 M€**

1. Estimate of unitary cost for 160M€ budget dedicated to readiness effort for 700 million doses
2. Estimate of # of doses based on EU FAB dose/population ratio (700M doses/ 447 M population) applied to Spanish population (47 M population)
3. Estimate based on EU FAB estimated unitary cost applied to estimated # of doses in Spain





**Funded by  
the European Union**

Visit our website:



Find out more  
about the Technical  
Support Instrument:

