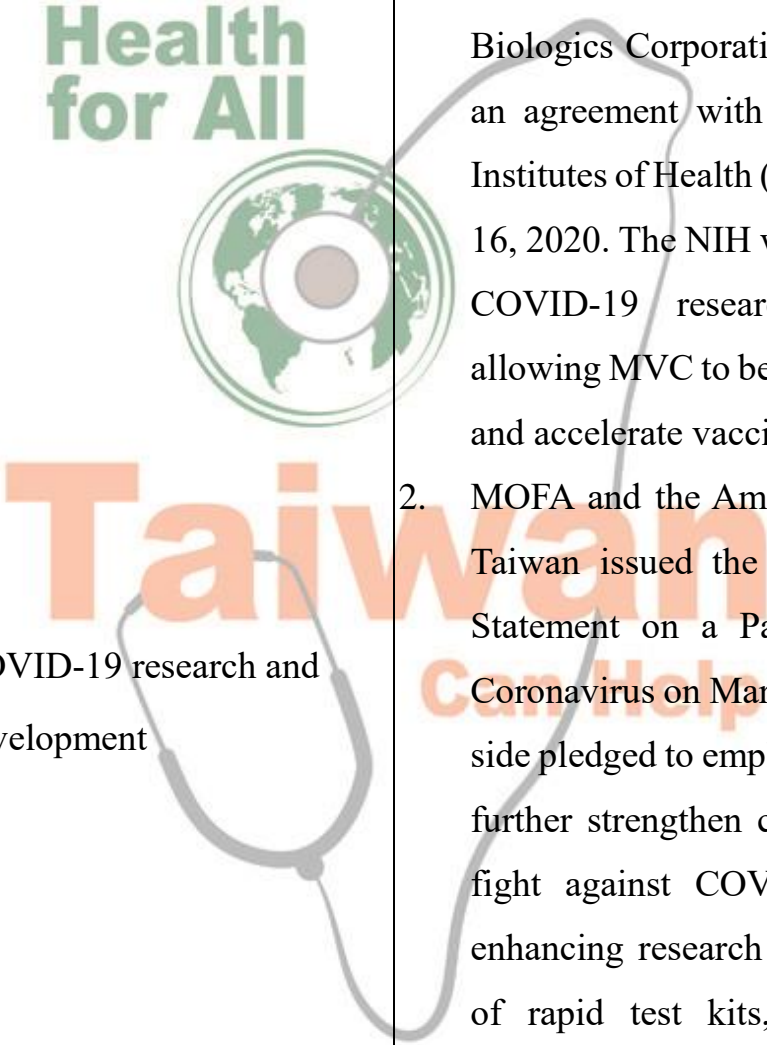


# Taiwan and North America

## Cooperation and assistance to combat COVID-19

Compiled by MOFA  
Updated February 2021

Country	Cooperation/assistance	Details
United States	 <p>COVID-19 research and development</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="794 555 1442 1048">1. Taiwan-based Medigen Vaccine Biologics Corporation (MVC) signed an agreement with the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) on February 16, 2020. The NIH will share its latest COVID-19 research with MVC, allowing MVC to begin animal testing and accelerate vaccine development.</li><li data-bbox="794 1070 1442 1686">2. MOFA and the American Institute in Taiwan issued the Taiwan-US Joint Statement on a Partnership against Coronavirus on March 18, 2020. Each side pledged to employ its expertise to further strengthen cooperation in the fight against COVID-19, including enhancing research and development of rapid test kits, medicines, and vaccines.</li><li data-bbox="794 1709 1442 2011">3. Taiwan has partnered with US biotechnology company Gilead Sciences to conduct the third phase of remdesivir clinical trials in three hospitals in northern, central, and</li></ol>

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Cooperation and exchanges  
regarding medical personal  
protective equipment and  
supplies

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southern Taiwan to assess the drug's efficacy.

4. On August 10, 2020, Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung and US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar jointly witnessed the signing of a health cooperation memorandum of understanding between Taiwan and the United States. The MOU will strengthen bilateral medical and health cooperation.

1. Under the Taiwan-US Partnership against Coronavirus, Taiwan is supplying the US with 100,000 surgical masks per week, while the US is reserving the raw material for 300,000 protective gowns for Taiwan. Taiwan shipped 500,000 masks in March and 400,000 masks per month between April and June to the US government for use across the nation.

2. On April 1, 2020, MOFA announced Taiwan's first wave of international humanitarian assistance to combat COVID-19, donating two million surgical masks to US disease-prevention and medical personnel. Of these, one million masks were donated

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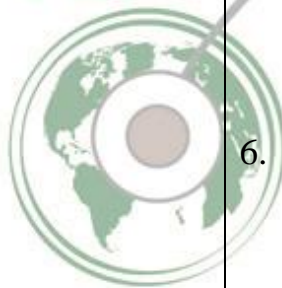
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to the US federal government and the other million to US states with the most urgent need.

3. On April 9, 2020, MOFA announced a second wave of international humanitarian aid, donating one million surgical masks to frontline medical personnel in US states severely affected by COVID-19, including Massachusetts, Michigan, and Pennsylvania.
4. On May 5, 2020, MOFA announced a third wave of international humanitarian assistance. Taiwan, in line with the Taiwan-US Joint Statement on a Partnership against Coronavirus, donated 400,000 masks to the US federal government in May and 1.88 million masks to the hardest hit US states, for a total donation of 2.28 million masks. Taiwan also donated 15,000 forehead thermometers and 150 autonomous temperature measurement stations.
5. On May 18, 2020, MOFA announced a fourth wave of international humanitarian assistance. Taiwan donated 1.05 million surgical masks to the Department of Veterans Affairs and

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related organizations. Through the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS, Taiwan donated 100,000 surgical masks for use by refugees and medical personnel in Sinjar, Iraq, through Nadia's Initiative, an international NGO established by Nobel Peace Prize winner Nadia Murad. As of February 3, 2021, Taiwan had donated a total of 12.655 million surgical masks to the United States.

6. At the reception for the reopening of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Guam, a video of Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu was played announcing a donation of four infrared thermal imaging cameras to the government, legislature, and local hospitals of Guam. This further demonstrated the friendship between Taiwan and Guam as well as Taiwan's efforts to help the Guam government contain COVID-19.

7. On January 11, 2021, the United Chinese Association of Guam arranged for a China Airlines humanitarian charter flight from Guam to Taiwan. Among the passengers were five seriously ill patients seeking treatment

		<p>in Taiwan and their family members. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Guam provided administrative assistance and coordinated with the Guamanian government on related matters.</p>
	<p>Health for All</p>  <p>Taiwan Can Help</p> <p>Antipandemic knowledge sharing</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On April 27, Minister of Health and Welfare Chen Shih-chung spoke via telephone with US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar on a variety of topics, including antipandemic strategies, global health security, and Taiwan’s comprehensive participation in the World Health Organization.</li> <li>2. On April 29, 2020, MOFA, the American Institute in Taiwan, and the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association jointly held the Global Cooperation and Training Framework online workshop entitled “Combating COVID-19 Disinformation.” The more than 80 participants included representatives from six Indo-Pacific nations, officials in related fields, NGO representatives, and other experts. Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Szu-chien Hsu also participated and gave the opening remarks.</li> </ol>

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3. On May 6 and June 3, 2020, MOFA and Taiwan Adventist Hospital held a multilateral videoconference. Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Szu-chien Hsu, Taiwan Adventist Hospital President Hui-ting Huang, Governor of Guam Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands Ralph DLG. Torres, General Conference Adventist Health Ministries Department Director Peter Landless, and Mississippi Secretary of State Michael Watson also participated and gave opening remarks. The more than 170 participants included officials from US state health departments, as well as experts from US and Canadian health care organizations.
4. On May 27, 2020, Rotary International's Chicago headquarters held a videoconference entitled "Taiwan's COVID-19 Prevention Experience Sharing Virtual Seminar." Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare Ho Chi-kung was invited to deliver the opening remarks.
5. On June 10, 2020, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Health and Welfare, and MOFA held a joint

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videoconference with the National Association of Attorneys General. Representatives from Taiwan shared antipandemic experience with attorneys general from various US states as well as members of the International Association of Prosecutors.

6. On June 24, 2020, MOFA and the Taiwan Centers for Disease Control, together with the American Institute in Taiwan's Taipei Office, the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association's Taipei Office, and the Australian Office Taipei jointly held an online workshop under the Global Cooperation and Training Framework, entitled "COVID-19: Preparing for the Second Wave." More than 70 public health officials and scholars from 16 countries in the Indo-Pacific region participated in this session.

7. On July 2, 2020, Digital Minister Audrey Tang, at the request of the Hawaiian nongovernmental organization Transform Hawaii Government, gave remarks at a videoconference on Taiwan's successful response to COVID-19 using digital social innovation.

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8. On October 21, officials from Taiwan Ministry of Health and Welfare Centers for Disease Control and the City Council of Yorba Linda, California, including Deputy Attorney General and City Council Member Peggy Huang, held a videoconference to discuss Taiwan's successful experience of combating COVID-19.
9. On October 28, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice Investigation Bureau, American Institute in Taiwan, Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association and Australian Office Taipei held a Global Cooperation and Training Framework virtual workshop on combating COVID-19-related crimes. The workshop was attended by over 300 law enforcement personnel and experts from 31 countries, including the United States, Japan, Australia, Tuvalu, Guatemala, and Paraguay. Minister of Justice Tsai Ching-hsiang, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Tien Chung-kwang, and Investigation Bureau Director General Leu Weng-jong attended the opening ceremony and gave remarks during the event.

<p>Canada</p>	<p>COVID-19 research and development</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Academia Sinica President James Liao met with Canadian Trade Office in Taipei Executive Director Jordan Reeves on March 27, 2020. They discussed combating COVID-19, including potential cooperation on rapid test kit development, as well as research on COVID-19 pathology and epidemiology.</li> <li>2. On March 30, 2020, Taiwan AI Labs founder Ethan Tu and Executive Director Jordan Reeves met to discuss how AI could be employed to combat COVID-19.</li> </ol>
	<p>Donations of medical personal protective equipment (PPE) and supplies</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On April 28, 2020, MOFA announced a donation of 500,000 masks to Canada, including 400,000 to the federal government, 50,000 to Ontario, 25,000 to Alberta, and 25,000 to British Columbia to assist Canadian frontline medical personnel. Since the beginning of June 2020, Taiwan has further donated one million surgical masks, 100,000 N95 masks, 80,000 isolation gowns, and 20,000 protective gowns.</li> </ol>

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2. On June 16, 2020, the Tamsui District Office in New Taipei City donated 10,000 surgical masks to Oxford County, Ontario, a sister city of New Taipei City, and also the birthplace of Presbyterian missionary George Leslie Mackay. On June 18, Taiwan's Mackay Memorial Hospital donated another 150,000 surgical masks to medical facilities in Ontario.
3. On October 21, 2020, Logan Kanapathi, Member of the Ontario Provincial Parliament, issued a statement thanking Kuo Hua Trading Company for its October 6 donation of 60,000 surgical masks to Ontario school district boards.
4. On October 22, 2020, Taiwan Representative Winston Wen-yi Chen called on Jim Watson, Mayor of Canada's capital, Ottawa, to donate 20,000 surgical masks.

Antipandemic knowledge  
sharing

1. On May 12, 2020, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Canada held a webinar entitled "New Challenge of COVID-19 for New Normal." Deputy

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Minister of Science and Technology Shieh Dar-bin gave the opening remarks at the webinar, which was attended by 60 experts and scholars from Taiwan and Canada.

2. On May 27, 2020, Taiwan Representative Winston Wen-yi Chen was a panelist at a videoconference held by the Pearson Centre for Progressive Policy, an Ottawa think tank, where he shared Taiwan's experience combatting COVID-19. The videoconference was moderated by Member of Parliament Michael Levitt, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Commons.
3. On June 23, 2020, Representative Chen was invited to give an opening statement to the Standing Committee on Health, House of Commons, at a hearing on the COVID-19 pandemic.
4. On October 7 (Taipei time), Digital Minister Audrey Tang delivered the talk "Digital Democracy and a Global Pandemic: Lessons from Taiwan's

		COVID-19 Response” at the invitation of Joseph Wang, Univeristy of Toronto Vice President, International. The videoconferece was watched live by 300 people.
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- ※ Note: For information regarding Taiwan government officials who participated in videoconferences or interviews, refer to the “Videoconferences and interviews” section of the official MOFA webpage entitled “The Taiwan Model for Combating COVID-19.”

