

## Supplementary Tables

**Supplementary Table 1: Bacterial Strains and Plasmids Used in This Study**

Name	Relevant Features	Source/Reference
<b><u>Bacterial strains:</u></b>		
<b><u>Escherichia coli</u></b>		
DH5 $\alpha$	F <sup>-</sup> <i>endA1 glnV44 thi-1 recA1 relA1 gyrA96 deoR nupG purB20</i> $\phi$ 80d <i>lacZ</i> $\Delta$ M15 $\Delta$ ( <i>lacZYA-argF</i> )U169, <i>hsdR17</i> ( <i>r<sub>K</sub><sup>-</sup>m<sub>K</sub><sup>+</sup></i> ), $\lambda$ <sup>-</sup>	Laboratory collection
MG1655		
Top10	F- <i>mcrA</i> $\Delta$ ( <i>mrr-hsdRMS-mcrBC</i> ) $\Phi$ 80 <i>lacZ</i> $\Delta$ M15 $\Delta$ <i>lacX74 recA1</i> <i>araD139</i> $\Delta$ ( <i>ara-leu</i> )7697 <i>galU galK rpsL</i> (StrR) <i>endA1 nupG</i>	ThermoFisher
RFP	Top10 (pTOPO::rfp), strain 8186	Laboratory collection
XL2blue	<i>endA1 gyrA96</i> ( <i>nal</i> <sup>R</sup> ) <i>thi-1 recA1 relA1 lac glnV44</i> F'[::Tn10 proAB <sup>+</sup> <i>lacI</i> <sup>q</sup> $\Delta$ ( <i>lacZ</i> )M15 Amy Cm <sup>R</sup> ] <i>hsdR17</i> ( <i>r<sub>K</sub><sup>-</sup>m<sub>K</sub><sup>+</sup></i> )	Stratagene
SXT	HW220 (CAG18439 <i>pfrC</i> ::SXT)	V. Burrus
$\beta$ 3914	$\beta$ 2163 [(F <sup>-</sup> ) RP4-2-Tc::Mu $\Delta$ <i>dapA</i> ::( <i>erm-pir116</i> )] <i>gyrA462</i> <i>zei-298</i> ::Tn10	(1)
$\Pi$ 1	DH5 $\alpha$ $\Delta$ <i>thyA</i> ::( <i>erm-pir116</i> )	(2)
<b><u>Vibrio cholerae</u></b>		
<i>Vibrio cholerae</i> O1	<i>Vibrio cholerae</i> serotype O1 biotype El Tor strain N19691 (contains a frame shift into <i>lacZ</i> gene)	(3)
$\Delta$ <i>lacZ</i>	<i>Vibrio cholerae</i> O1- $\Delta$ <i>lacZ</i>	(4)
$\Delta$ <i>toxRS</i>	<i>Vibrio cholerae</i> O1- $\Delta$ <i>toxRS</i>	This study
O1-GFP	<i>Vibrio cholerae</i> O1- constitutive expression of <i>gfp</i>	Laboratory collection
O139	MO10 toxigenic 1992 clinical isolate from India, SXT <sup>MO10+</sup> , Su <sup>R</sup> Tm <sup>R</sup> Cm <sup>R</sup> Sm <sup>R</sup>	(5)
<b><u>Other strains</u></b>		
<i>Vibrio vulnificus</i>	WT	Laboratory collection
<i>Vibrio mimicus</i>	WT	Laboratory collection
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	WT	J.M. Ghigo
<i>Citrobacter rodentium</i>	WT	J.M. Ghigo
<b><u>Plasmids:</u></b>		
pBAD43	ori pSC101, Sp <sup>R</sup>	(6)
pBAD30	ori pACYC184, Carb <sup>R</sup>	(6)
pBAD24	ori pBR322, Carb <sup>R</sup>	(6)
pSU38	ori p15A, Kan <sup>R</sup>	(7)
pSW7848	suicide plasmid for allele exchange – <i>oriV<sub>R6K</sub></i> , <i>oriT<sub>RP4</sub></i> <i>araC-P<sub>BAD</sub>-ccdB</i>	(4)
pRFP	<i>rfp</i> gene cloned in pTOPO	Laboratory collection

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47 **Supplementary Table 1: (continuation)**

	Name	Relevant Features	Source/Reference
48	pTox	pBAD43-ccdB (between EcoRI-XbaI)	This study
49	pToxInt	pBAD43-ccdB/intein operon (between EcoRI-XbaI)	This study
50	pN	pBAD43-ccdB/intein N-terminal fusion (between EcoRI-XbaI)	This study
51	pCcdB-Int C	pSU38-ccdB/intein C-terminal fusion (between EcoRI-XbaI)	This study
52	pParE2-Int N	pBAD43-parE2/intein N-terminal fusion (between EcoRI-XbaI)	This study
53	pParE2-Int C	pSU38-parE2/intein C-terminal fusion (between EcoRI-XbaI)	This study
54	pHigB2-Int N	pBAD43-higB2/intein N-terminal fusion (between EcoRI-XbaI)	This study
55	pHigB2-Int C	pSU38-higB2/intein C-terminal fusion (between EcoRI-XbaI)	This study
56	pRelE4-Int N-1	pBAD43-relE4/intein N-terminal-1 fusion (between EcoRI-XbaI)	This study
57	pRelE4-Int C-1	pSU38-relE4/intein C-terminal-1 fusion (between EcoRI-XbaI)	This study
58	pRelE4-Int N-2	pBAD43-relE4/intein N-terminal-2 fusion (between EcoRI-XbaI)	This study
59	pRelE4-Int C-2	pSU38-RelE4/intein C-terminal-2 fusion (between EcoRI-XbaI)	This study
60	pCcdB-Int n*	pN with a mutation that blocks intein splicing	This study
61	pParE2-Int n*	pParE2-Int N with a mutation that blocks intein splicing	This study
62	pHigB2-Int n*	pHigB2-Int N with a mutation that blocks intein splicing	This study
63	pRelE4-Int n*-1	pRelE4-Int N-1 with a mutation that blocks intein splicing	This study
64	pRelE4-Int n*-2	pRelE4-Int N-2 with a mutation that blocks intein splicing	This study
65	pU-BAD	pBAD43-ccdB/int N-fusion ( <i>ompU-1</i> promoter),	This study
66		C-fusion under P <sub>BAD</sub>	
67	pRS	<i>toxRS</i> operon from <i>V. cholerae</i> cloned into pBAD30 (SacI-XbaI)	This study
68		keeping natural RBS sequence of <i>toxR</i>	
69	pN <sub>ctrl</sub>	ori pSC101, Sp <sup>R</sup> , ccdB-Int N-terminal fusion ( <i>P<sub>ompU</sub></i> ), <i>oriT<sub>RP4</sub></i>	This study
70	ptox <sub>ctrl</sub>	ori pSC101, Sp <sup>R</sup> , ccdB-Int N- and C-fusion (operon- P <sub>BAD</sub> ), <i>oriT<sub>RP4</sub></i>	This study
71	pPW	ori pSC101, Sp <sup>R</sup> , ccdB-Int N- and C-fusion (operon- <i>ompU-1</i> promoter)	This study
72		<i>oriT<sub>RP4</sub></i>	
73	ptoxRS-UP-DOW	pSW7848-500bp upstream and downstream of <i>toxRS</i> operon	This study
74	pccdA	ori pBR322, Carb <sup>R</sup> , ccdA antitoxin (P <sub>BAD</sub> )	This study
75			
76	pPW(RBS)	pPW with canonical RBS sequence	This study
77			
78	pPLA	pCcdBInt, <i>ccdA</i> (PL promoter)	This study
79	pABRW	pCcdBInt, <i>ccdA</i> (PL promoter), <i>oriT<sub>RP4</sub></i>	This study
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81	pFW	pFW1, canonical RBS in <i>ompU-1</i> promoter, extra operator	This study
82		O1-sequence into PL promoter	
83	pPW-R6K	pPW with an R6K replication origin	This study
84	pN <sub>ctrl</sub> -R6K	pN <sub>ctrl</sub> with an R6K replication origin	This study
85	pFW-R6K	pDW with an R6K replication origin	This study

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88 **Supplementary Table 2.** Conjugation efficiency in the different conditions and strains used.  
 89 Conjugation efficiency is calculated as the number of transconjugants divided by the total  
 90 bacteria and multiplied by 100 to obtain the percentage (%). We have also analyzed the  
 91 conjugation of the pFW plasmid in MG1655 bacteria using a donor:recipient ratio of 1:1 and  
 92 obtaining more than 70% of conjugation efficiency.

Donor	Recipient	Figure	Donor::recipient, conditions	Total CFU/ml	Transconjugants (CFU/ml)	Efficiency (%)
$\beta$ 3914-pN <sub>control</sub>	<i>V. cholerae</i> O139	-	1:1, without DAP	$3.4 \cdot 10^8$	$2.4 \cdot 10^7$	7 %
$\beta$ 3914-pN <sub>control</sub>	<i>V. cholerae</i> O139	-	1:1, with DAP	$2.9 \cdot 10^8$	$2.7 \cdot 10^7$	9.3 %
$\beta$ 3914-pN <sub>control</sub>	<i>V. cholerae</i> O139	-	10:1, water	$1.8 \cdot 10^6$	$5.6 \cdot 10^2$	0.03 %
$\beta$ 3914-pN <sub>control</sub>	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1	-	1:1	$1.3 \cdot 10^8$	$8.2 \cdot 10^6$	6.3 %
$\beta$ 3914-pN <sub>control</sub>	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1	-	2:1	$1.3 \cdot 10^8$	$5.4 \cdot 10^6$	4.2 %
$\beta$ 3914-pN <sub>control</sub>	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1	-	3:1	$1.2 \cdot 10^8$	$3.8 \cdot 10^6$	3.16 %
$\beta$ 3914-pN <sub>control</sub>	<i>V. cholerae</i> O139	-	1:1	$1.8 \cdot 10^8$	$7.8 \cdot 10^6$	4.3 %
$\beta$ 3914-pN <sub>control</sub>	<i>V. cholerae</i> O139	-	2:1	$1.3 \cdot 10^8$	$8.1 \cdot 10^6$	6.2 %
$\beta$ 3914-pN <sub>control</sub>	<i>V. cholerae</i> O139	-	(3:1)	$0.9 \cdot 10^8$	$8.5 \cdot 10^6$	9.4%
$\beta$ 3914-pN <sub>control</sub>	<i>V. cholerae</i> O139	Fig. 4a	1000:1, zebrafish	$8 \cdot 10^5$	57.5	0.0071 %
$\beta$ 3914-pN <sub>control</sub>	<i>V. cholerae</i> O139+O1	Fig. 4a	10:1, zebrafish	$7 \cdot 10^5$	200	0.025 %
$\beta$ 3914-pN <sub>control</sub>	<i>V. cholerae</i> O139	Fig. 4b	1:1, <i>Artemia</i>	$16.5 \cdot 10^6$	2170	0.013 %
$\beta$ 3914-pN <sub>control</sub>	<i>V. cholerae</i> O139+O1	Fig. 4b	1:1, <i>Artemia</i>	$16.7 \cdot 10^6$	3465	0.020 %
$\beta$ 3914-pFW	MG1655	-	1:1	$20 \cdot 10^6$	$14.7 \cdot 10^6$	72.26 %
$\beta$ 3914-pABRW	MG1655	-	10:1	$3.2 \cdot 10^6$	$2.8 \cdot 10^6$	89.58 %

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99 **Supplementary Table 3. Escape mutants obtained after the conjugation of the genetic**

100 **weapon plasmids in this study.** We performed conjugation with the weapon plasmids in

101 the targeted bacteria. After conjugation, bacteria were spread in the presence of

102 spectinomycin in order to detect transconjugants that are able to survive after the acquisition

103 of the plasmid weapon. Numbers on the table indicate the CFU/ml of transconjugants that

104 are named: escape mutants, for each weapon plasmid/strain in comparison with the total

105 bacteria after conjugation.

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Strains	Weapons		Plasmids	
	pPW	pPW <sub>(RBS)</sub>	pABRW	pFW
<i>V. cholerae</i> O1	6-log <sub>10</sub> (n=4)	7-8-log <sub>10</sub> (n=6)	-	-
<i>V. cholerae</i> O139	6-log <sub>10</sub> (n=4)	7-8-log <sub>10</sub> (n=6)	6-log <sub>10</sub> (n=5)	6-log <sub>10</sub> (n=7)
<i>E. coli</i> - SXT	-	-	5-log <sub>10</sub> (n=7)	-

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109 **Supplementary Table 4. Escape mutants analyzed in this study.** We analyzed by PCR  
 110 the *V. cholerae* escape mutants that survived plasmid acquisition through conjugation.  
 111 Plasmids used are indicated in parentheses and numbers indicate the number of analyzed  
 112 clones. The inactivating insertion sequence identified by sequencing as *V. cholerae* DNA  
 113 116-17a plasmid seq. ID: LN831185. PCR products which size corresponds with the control  
 114 fragment (toxin-intein amplification) were sent for sequencing and point mutations avoiding  
 115 the correct translation of the toxin were detected for pPW clones. However for pFW clones,  
 116 no mutations were detected after sequencing. We then transformed *V. cholerae* serogroups  
 117 O1 and O139 with these plasmids that looks as pFW. The result showed that transformants  
 118 were only obtained in O1 serogroup. Then these plasmids are still toxic for *V. cholerae* O139  
 119 and fully able to be transferred in O1 serogroup. In order to know why these *V. cholerae*  
 120 O139 clones are able to tolerate the conjugation of pFW we performed PCR to analyze the  
 121 presence of *toxRS* and *setR*. After this analysis *toxRS* was correctly amplified but not *setR*.  
 122 Then we demonstrated that they have lost the SXT element (see suppl. Table 4).

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Clones	<i>V. cholerae</i> O1 (pPW)	<i>V. cholerae</i> O139 (pPW)	<i>V. cholerae</i> O139 (pFW)	Frequency (%)
Correct toxin amplification	5	6	11	47.8 %
<i>Vibrio's</i> Insertion Sequence	6	10	5	46.67 %
No amplification	3	0	0	6.67 %
Total	14	16	16	100 %

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145 **Supplementary Table 5. Escape mutants that lost SXT element.** Number indicated clones

146 analyzed in MH media containing trimethoprim, which is one of the antibiotic resistant, genes

147 encoded into SXT element.

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Clones	<i>E. coli</i> –SXT (pABRW)	Frequency (%)	<i>V. choerae</i> O139 (pFW)	Frequency (%)
Containing SXT	8	37 %	4	10 %
Lost of SXT	15	63 %	36	90 %
Total	23	100 %	40	100 %

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153 **Supplementary Table 6: Primers used in this study**

Name	Sequence (5' → 3')
154	
155	F-CcdB-EcoRI GGAATTCATGTCTCAATTTACGCTATATAAAA
156	R-CcdB-XbaI GCTCTAGAGCAAGCGTTAAATGCCAGTGATTA
157	F-Int/dB TAAGAAATGTTAAGCTATGAAACGGAAATA
158	R-dB/Int CTAAACATTTCTTATCAAGTAGTTCGATTGG
159	R-Int-XbaI GCTCTAGATCAATTCGGCAAATTATCAACC
160	F-Int-EcoRI GGAATTCGTAAGGAGGTAACATATGATCAAAATAGCCACACGTAAA
161	R-Int C/ccdB-2 CTTGGTGCATTGAAACAATTAGAAGCTATGA
162	F-CcdB-C/Int 2 TTTCAATGCACCAAGTCACCTTTGTCTTAC
163	F-ParE2-EcoRI GGAATTCATGAAACCATTTAATCTTACCGTCGC
164	R-ParE2-XbaI GCTCTAGATTATGCGCCGAATATTTGGGTTACATC
165	F-ParE2/Int-1 TTTCAATATTTGGTAAATCATGCGATGAAATCCGAG
166	R-ParE2/Int-1 CTAAACAGTCGGGATTTTCCGCTAAAAGCCA
167	F-Int/ParE2-1 ATCCCGACTGTTAAGCTATGAAACGGAAATA
168	R-Int/ParE2-1 TTACCAATATTGAAACAATTAGAAGCTATGAAGC
169	F-HigB2-EcoRI GGAATTCGATGAAAAGTGTATTTGTGGAATCAAC
170	R-HigB2/Int-1 CTAAACACTTTTCATCGAGAAAGTAATAG
171	F-HigB2/Int-1 TTTCAATAGCGTTTCTATTTGCTAACC
172	R-HigB2-XbaI GCTCTAGATATCACGATTGCTCATTGCGCCACGCCTCC
173	F-Int/HigB2-1 GATGAAAAGTGTAAAGCTATGAAACGGAAATA
174	R-Int/HigB2-1 GAAACGCCTATTGAAACAATTAGAAGCTATGAAGC
175	F-RelE4-EcoRI GGAATTCGATGATTTTCTGGGAAGAAGCATCTCTCAATG
176	R-RelE4/Int-1 CTAAACAATCACGCTGAACACCGATTAG
177	F-RelE4/Int-1 TTTCAATGGCATTAGAGGCAGATTGC
178	R-RelE4-XbaI GCTCTAGATCAGTCGTTTGGAAATTTTGTCTGATGTAG
179	F-Int/RelE4-1 CAGCGTGATTGTTAAGCTATGAAACGGAAATA
180	R-Int/RelE4-1 CTAATGCCATTGAAACAATTAGAAGCTATGAAGC
181	R-RelE4/Int-2 CTAAACAATCAACCAATACGAAACAATC
182	F-RelE4/Int-2 TTTCAATGGTTCTAAAATTCGAATAATGCGTG
183	F-Int/RelE4-2 GGGTTGATTGTTAAGCTATGAAACGGAAATA
184	R-Int/RelE4-2 TAGAACCATTGAAACAATTAGAAGCTATGAAGC
185	
186	R-Int/dB N mut CCTTTCCCATTTCTTATCAAGTAGTTCGATTGG
187	F-Int/dB N mut TAAGAAATGGGAAAGGTATGAAACGGAAATA
188	F-Int/E4-1 N mut GCGTGATTGGGAAAGGTATGAAACGGAAATA
189	F-Int/E4-2 N mut GGGTTGATTGGGAAAGGTATGAAACGGAAATA
190	R-Int/E4-1 N mut CCTTTCCCAATCACGCTGAACACCGATTAG
191	R-Int/E4-2 N mut CCTTTCCCAATCAACCAATACGAAACAATCATTG
192	F-Int/B2 N mut GATGAAAAGTGGGAAAGGTATGAAACGGAAATA
193	F-Int/E2 N mut AATCCCGACTGGGAAAGGTATGAAACGGAAATA
194	R-Int/B2 N mut CCTTTCCCCTTTTCATCGAGAAAGTAATAG
195	R-Int/E2 N mut CCTTTCCCAGTCGGGATTTTCCGCTAAAAGCC
196	
197	R-BAD43-BAD18 CGCCACAGGCAAGGCGATTAAGTTGGGTAACGCCAGG
198	F-BAD43-BAD18 CAACTATGGATTTCGATAAGCAGCATCGCCTGTTTC
199	R-BAD18-BAD43 ATCGAATCCATAGTTGCCTGACTCCCCGTCGTGTAG
200	F-BAD18-BAD43 ATCGCCTTGCTGTGGCGCCGGTGTGCGGCCACG
201	4216 TATCAGGGACTGAAAATCAGAGGGCAGGAAGTCTG
202	4217 TCCAGTCCCTGATATAGGCGCCAGCAACCGCACC
203	
204	R-Int-N/Int-C ACCTCCTTATCAATTCGGCAAATTATCAACCCGCATC
205	F-Int-C/Int-N CCGAATTGATAAGGAGGTAACATATGATCAAAATAGCCACAC
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211 **Supplementary Table 6: (continuation)**

Name	Sequence (5' → 3')
212	
213	F-toxR-SacI GGGAGCTCGTCTCTCAAAGAGATATCGATGAGTCATATTGG
214	R-toxS-XbaI GCTCTAGACCTTAAGAATTACTGAACAGTACGGTAGAACCATGAC
215	
216	R-BAD-PU1 GATTTAGGTTGGTAACGAATCAGACAATTGACGGC
217	F-PompU-1 TACCAACCTAAATCGGGTCGGGTTAGGGTTGAACCATTT
218	R-PompU-dB TTGAGACATAAATTTGATTTTTGTGCGACGTAAGCC
219	F-dB-PompU CAAATTTATGTCTCAATTTACGCTATATAAAAAAC
220	
221	F-ccdA-EcoRI GGAATTCACCATGAGAAATCAATATAATACACAAGCGGTAAAGAAAAGC
222	R-ccdA-XbaI GCTCTAGATTAAAATACTCGGTATGAATCAGAAAAAAGACCGTG
223	
224	F-toxRup-p7 CTGCGAGGCTGGCCGGCGTCCGTTATCCGAAATGGTCAACGTATTTTTGTCT
225	R-toxRups CTCAGTCAGGCGATATCTCTTTTGAGTTGTGTCTTAATCC
226	F-toxSdow GAGATATCGCCTGACTGAGCGTAGAATAGGACATAAC
227	R-toxSdow-p7 CAAGCTTATCGATACCGTCGAGTATGCCGCGAGCTATGGCGTGCTGGAAGGCGATAC
228	
229	F-BAD-pSW GGTACCCCGCCGGTGATGCCGGCCACGATG
230	F-pSW23-BAD ACCGGCGGGGTACCAGCGCTTTTCCGCTGC
231	R-BAD43-oriT CTGGCCGGCGGCTCACTGCCCGCTTTCCAGTCGGG
232	R-OriT-BAD43 CAGTGAGCCGCGGCCAGCCTCGCAGAGCA
233	
234	R-PL-ccdA GATTTCTCATAACCGTCTCCTGTTACAATAATAACTGTTAC
235	F-PL-plasmid CTGTTTCAAGCCCGTATTCTACAAATAAACTGTAGCC
236	F-ccdA-PL GACGGTATGAGAAATCAATATAATACACAAGCGGTAAAG
237	R-ccdA-plasmid CAGCCTTTAAAATACTCGGTATGAATCAGAAAAAAGACCGTG
238	F-plasmid-dA gtatTTTaaAGGCTGTCTATGTGTGACTGTTGAGC
239	R-plasmid-PL gggcttGAAACAGGCGATGCTGCTTATCGAATC
240	
241	F-ccdB-SD-OK CACAAAGGAGGTATTCCATGTCTCAATTTACGCTATATAAAAAAC
242	R-PU-SD-OK CATGGAATACCTCCTTTGTGCGACGTAAGCCACGTCAATCG
243	F-PL-O1-B GCTACAGTTTAAACTGTAACAGGAGACGGTATGAGAAATCAATATAATACAC
244	R-PL-O1 CTCCTGTTACAGTTTAAACTgtAGcaagattgaatggttacagtttaaacTG
245	F-PL-SD-T CAGTTATTATTGTAACAgTagacggatgAGAAATCAATATAATACAC
246	R-PL-SD-T GATTTCTCATAACCGTCTACTGTTACAATAATAACTgtttacaag
247	
248	F-R6K-weapon CAAGAGCCATCAATTTCCATGTCTCAGCCGTTAAGTG
249	R-R6K-weapon GTAATACTGCGGCGTAGAGGATCTGAAGATCAGCAGTTC
250	F-weapon-R6K GATCCTCTACGCCGAGTATTACAAAAGGATGTGCGCAAACGCTG
251	R-weapon-R6K GGGAAATTGATGCTCTTGTATCTATCAGTGAAGCATC
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