

# Breaking the Silence

Advocacy  
Sheet  
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Preventing HIV/AIDS in Latin American and Caribbean Adolescents and Youth

## Millennium Development Goals and Adolescents

In September 2000, heads of state and government met at the UN to approve the Millennium Declaration. This Declaration outlined eight goals to improve the health and well-being of people throughout the world. The Pan American Health Organization's Child and Adolescent Health Unit is supporting the countries of the Region in achieving these goals, where the comprehensive health of adolescents plays a key role, which are described below. **For more information go to <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/> or <http://www.paho.org>**

### Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases (Goal 6, Objective 7)



#### Objectives and Indicators:

**Halt and reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS by the year 2015**

- HIV prevalence among pregnant women aged 15-24
- Condom-use rate among people who use contraception

#### PAHO Support of the Goals:

➤ Regional projects in HIV/AIDS/STI and pregnancy prevention are being implemented in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, and HIV/AIDS prevention has been given priority in projects underway in Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Panama, Peru and Dominican Republic; in Haiti, a joint UN team has identified the needs of Haitian youth

### Improve maternal health (Goal 5, Objective 6)



#### Objectives and Indicators:

**Reduce maternal mortality by three fourths between 1990 and 2015**

- Maternal mortality rate
- Percentage of births assisted by specialized health personnel

#### PAHO Support of the Goals:

➤ Maternal mortality in women under age 15 is 4 times greater than in other age groups (Conde-Agudelo, A., 2000). The countries will receive technical support in identifying best practices in adolescent unplanned pregnancy prevention, with emphasis on second pregnancies, and the promotion of healthy behaviors and safe sex among adolescents to prevent HIV/AIDS/STI/pregnancy

### Reduce child mortality (Goal 4, Objective 5)



#### Objectives and Indicators:

**Reduce mortality of children under age five by two thirds between 1990 and 2015**

- Mortality rate for children under five
- Infant mortality rate
- Percentage of children age 12 months who have been vaccinated against measles

#### PAHO Support of the Goals:

➤ Neonatal mortality rises as the pregnant adolescent's age decreases. PAHO will help countries improve the quality of care for pregnant adolescents in health services, promoting key family practices such as improving access and quality of prenatal control, as well as hospital care during birth and postnatal care, and preventing unplanned first and second pregnancies

# One Team, One Goal: PAHO's Commitment to Millennium Goals

The Pan American Health Organization has joined the World Health Organization and other international agencies in taking on the Millennium Development Goals as a challenge and a commitment. Covering the needs of countries affected by poverty, deficient health conditions and unequal access to opportunities is key to help improve the quality of life of the people of the Region, including adolescents.

Dr. Mirta Roses, PAHO director, says that the organization's priorities within the Millennium Goals will be working with countries to contain the HIV/AIDS epidemic, particularly in the Caribbean, and improve the health conditions of priority countries, especially Haiti. These commitments, together with PAHO and WHO's current projects focused on the comprehensive health of adolescents and youth, will help build a promising future for Latin America and the Caribbean.

"The Declaration of the Millennium Goals reflects an unprecedented political consensus on the state of the world and its vision for the future, setting measurable goals and specific timetables for human progress. These goals will be attainable if we can make them the standard, the dream, the aspiration, and the demand of individual people, groups, families, communities and nations."

*Dr. Mirta Roses' inaugural speech, Washington, DC, January 31, 2003*



Dr. Mirta Roses

## PAHO: Supporting Adolescents in the Region

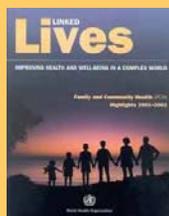


PAHO's Child and Adolescent Health and HIV/AIDS units have joined forces in working towards the UN Millennium Goals, prioritizing countries and specific work areas. Currently, the units are coordinating two projects in partnership with the Swedish and Norwegian international cooperation agencies to fight HIV/AIDS and pregnancy in adolescents in the Region. Child and Adolescent Health is also developing and implementing other projects in the countries that will help improve the health and development this age group:

- **Integrated Management of Adolescent Needs (IMAN):** Will provide countries with a comprehensive management package of interventions for satisfying adolescent health and development needs in services, families, communities and schools specializing in human resource development
- **Adolescents and Soccer: Where Masculinity is in Play:** Will provide a manual and a curriculum to promote gender equity and the development of a healthy masculinity in preadolescent males in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Venezuela and Uruguay
- **Strong Families: Family Orientation to Prevent Risk Behavior among Youth:** Will provide a training module for parents and adolescents in strengthening family ties and preventing risk behaviors

## WHO: Linked Lives

[www.who.int/fch/linked/en](http://www.who.int/fch/linked/en)



The World Health Organization's (WHO) Family and Community Health Area has analyzed how to improve global health and well-being in an increasingly complex world in its new publication, "Linked Lives." Emphasis is placed on the "3 S's" of HIV/AIDS prevention in adolescents and youth:

- **Services**
- **Strategic Information**
- **Supportive Policy Environment**