



On April 24, Ms. Diane MacDonald joined the PAHO Bahamas and Turks & Caicos Country Office. She is the second of three epidemiologists from the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) to bring epidemiological support to this region of the Caribbean over the course of the year. She has 17 years of public health experience in Canada and internationally. Her areas of expertise include communicable disease surveillance, outbreak response, and training.

While in the region, Ms. MacDonald is providing technical assistance in the area of epidemiologic core capacity to the Ministry of Health (MOH) in the Bahamas, as well as Turks and Caicos Islands. She recently provided support to the MOH in the Turks and Caicos Islands during their gastroenteritis illness outbreak investigation. Ms. MacDonald will continue to support the MOH's work towards achieving Millennium Development Goals #4 and #5 through a review of infant and maternal mortality. Over the next few months she will be contributing to capacity building activities to strengthen data management and epidemiological competencies.