



# LEADERS IN INTERNATIONAL HEALTH PROGRAM 2009



PREPARING LEADERS TO MEET EVOLVING HEALTH  
CHALLENGES AND TO PROMOTE EQUITY IN A  
GLOBALIZED WORLD



# LEADERS IN INTERNATIONAL HEALTH PROGRAM 2008

## EVOLVING HEALTH CHALLENGES IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) recognizes that health systems of the 21st century must confront new challenges to achieve national and international health goals in the face of a globalized world. The *Health Agenda for the Americas 2008-2017*, launched in 2007 by the ministries and health secretariats of the Region, as well as the Millennium Development Goals, establish an ambitious set of priorities and commitments which require intersectoral and international action for their equitable and collective achievement.

The right to health, human security in health, the introduction of new technologies, the opening of borders to trade, the growing migration of populations, and the expansion of regional and subregional integration processes have created new and urgent demands on States. Health leaders are increasingly required to formulate and implement actions that take into account bilateral, subregional, regional and global treaties and agreements. More than ever, health leaders must also act across sectors in order to achieve balance between economic growth and social development in today's market economy. The challenge of equity is an imperative for leaders, which necessitates an understanding of the social determinants of health and requires that countries collaborate to design and implement intersectoral public policies to face common problems. Simultaneously, the emergence of new actors, alliances, and structures has altered the dynamics in the definition of the global health agenda and poses new challenges for international cooperation and for the countries who must reconcile the interests of these actors with their own national priorities.

## A NEED FOR LEADERSHIP

This international scenario requires the training of human resources – in public health and in international relations, as well as in other fields – so that they are not only technically prepared, but they also have a more profound understanding of international forces and their impact on health, thereby enabling them to effectively analyze, define, advocate and project their national health interests within this complex global context.

## PROGRAM PURPOSE

To contribute to the development of the *Health Agenda for the Americas 2008-2017* by strengthening the capacity of countries in the Region to understand, act upon and positively influence the international determinants of health, to promote their national interests, and to achieve health agreements in intersectoral and international environments, at all times guided by the principle of greater global equity in health.

## GENERAL OBJECTIVE

Professionals in positions of leadership with greater capacity to:

- Analyze global risks and international health determinants
- Formulate policy and influence decision-making in international health
- Negotiate and advocate for international health
- Manage cooperation projects and activities in international health
- Generate and disseminate knowledge in International health
- Promote an informed and active public opinion in international health

## PRINCIPAL CHARACTERISTICS

- Problem-based learning modules
- Decentralized operational model
- Virtual and face-to-face learning experiences
- Learning communities within and between countries
- Relationship with relevant partners in international health
- Integration of learning and practice
- Utilization of new information and communication technologies through the Virtual Campus for Public Health

## PROGRAM BENEFITS

The program will provide transportation costs, a stipend and accident insurance for the participant only during the initial and closing phases of training, which will take place outside their country of city of residence. Participants are responsible for securing their own health insurance and visas.

## DIRECTED TO

Managers and decision-makers in positions of leadership in the areas of health, international relations, and public policy with actions and impact on the municipal/state, national, sub-regional, regional or international level. The program is open to qualified individuals from all PAHO/WHO Member Countries.

## BENEFITS FOR THE COUNTRY

Country capacity will be strengthened to....

- ...**negotiate** supra-national treaties and agreements
- ...**dialogue** with multilateral and bilateral cooperation institutions
- ...**define and advocate for** their national health interests
- ...**influence** the global health agenda
- ...**formulate and implement** healthy public policy
- ...**exercise** intersectoral and international actions
- ...**make decisions** based on critical international analysis
- ...**communicate** effectively regarding situations that affect their population

## INSTITUTIONAL COMMITMENT

The participant's home institution agrees to:

- Maintain their post and salary
- Free the participant for up to 5 weeks to participate in activities during the initial and closing phases of the Program
- Ensure the availability of the participant to devote 50% of his/her working hours to the Program
- Support the implementation of an international situation room in the country
- Identify and facilitate relevant activities and opportunities

## IMPORTANT DATES 2009

4 February:	Application deadline
25 February:	Notification of selected participants
23 March – 8 May:	Initial phase (PAHO/WHO Country Office)
11 – 22 May:	Training in Washington, DC
May – November:	Work in participant's countries
1 – 4 December:	Closing and transitional phase (Country TBD)

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Master's degree in public health, international relations, or related fields
- Minimum of three years' work experience at the managerial or directive level in public health, international relations, or related fields
- Current employment at the managerial or directive level in public health, development, international relations or a related field in an institution within Latin America or the Caribbean
- Citizen or resident of one a PAHO/WHO Member Country
- Excellent knowledge of either Spanish or English, with the ability to understand and read the other language.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY:

Contact the PAHO/WHO Country Office in your country or:

Pan American Health Organization | 525 Twenty-Third Street, NW. | Washington, DC 20037-2895  
Telephone: (202) 974-3592 | Fax: (202) 974-3612 | [INTLHLTH@paho.org](mailto:INTLHLTH@paho.org)  
<http://www.paho.org/spanish/DPM/SHD/HR/pfsiabout.htm>