

<b>PWR:</b> Belize	<b>TCC PROJECT FINAL REPORT</b> <b>INFORME FINAL DE PROYECTO CTP</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Date:</b> 1 April 2008 <b>Fecha:</b>
<b>Pan American Health Organization/Organización Panamericana de la Salud</b> <b>TCC FINAL REPORT / INFORME FINAL DE PROYECTO CTP</b> <b>SUMMARY SHEET / RESUMEN</b>			
			<b>Report Date / Fecha del Reporte:</b> 2008-02-21
<b>1. GENERAL INFORMATION / INFORMACIÓN GENERAL</b>			
<b>Project title/ Título del proyecto:</b> Sharing of Knowledge and Experiences regarding the Health of (and Provision of Health Services to) Older Persons between Belize and Jamaica		<b>Country Leading / País Líder:</b> Belize	
<b>Participating countries/ Países participantes</b> <b>Belize and Jamaica</b>		<b>Start date / Fecha de inicio:</b> November 8, 2007	
		<b>End date / Fecha de finalización</b> December 12, 2007	
<b>2. PROJECT BACKGROUND AND ORIGIN / ANTECEDENTES Y ORIGEN DEL PROYECTO</b>			
<b>a) Context/ Contexto</b>			
<p>Jamaica has a well advanced program to address the needs of ageing populations while this area remains underdeveloped in Belize. In 1976 in Jamaica, the National Council for Senior Citizens was established with the primary objective of advising the Ministry on issues impacting on the welfare of the Jamaican Senior Citizen, and continues to meet the challenges of a growing, healthier, and more active senior citizens' population through the implementation of the National Policy for Senior Citizens (approved in 1997), in the priority areas of 1) education, 2) health, 3) income security, and 4) national infrastructure.</p> <p>The National Council on Ageing (NCA) in Belize was established in February 2003 with a primary function to ensure the promotion, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the National Policy for Older Persons, which had been adopted a year earlier. One of the programme areas within the Policy deals with Health and Nutrition and emphasizes the need for health care services for older persons as a part of the integrated primary health care system. It further states that health and nutrition activities will be directed at ensuring that older persons are enabled to live worthwhile lives through the provision of health maintenance programmes, and physical, mental, and pastoral care.</p> <p>As a result the two countries decided to engage in a technical cooperation among countries project in order to learn from each other's experiences in addressing the needs of their steadily ageing populations and how to strengthen their respective health programs for older persons.</p>			
<b>b) Purpose/ Propósito</b>			
Programs for older persons in both Belize and Jamaica enhanced			
<b>c) Expected results/ Resultados esperados</b>			
Expected Result 1. Package of care for older persons reviewed and further defined Expected Result 2. System for access of medications for older persons developed			
<b>3. PROJECT EXECUTION / EJECUCIÓN DEL PROYECTO</b>			

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<p><b>a) Achievement of the expected results / Logros de los resultados esperados</b> Expected Result 1. Package of care for older persons reviewed and further defined</p>			
<p>A team from Jamaica representing the Jamaica National Health Fund; the National Council for Senior Citizens; the Mona Ageing and Wellness Center and the Ministry of Health and Environment visited Belize during the period, November 8-10, 2007. They visited the Ministry of Health where presentations were made on the MOH, the National Health Insurance (NHI), the system for procurement of drugs and the Belize Health Information System. They also visited the Belize Social Security Board, where they received an overview of the NHI from the board's perspective. The team also visited the Pharmacy Department of the national referral hospital - the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital - and the Mercy Care Center, an NGO which provides clinical, educational and social support services to older persons in Belize City.</p>			
<p>A team from Belize representing the Ministry of Health, the Mercy Care Center and the National Council on Ageing made a reciprocal visit to Jamaica during the period December 10-12, 2007. They were provided with information on the network of service providers engaged in delivering services to Jamaica's elderly population, including the Mona Ageing &amp; Wellness Center and the National Health Fund. Site visits were made to: Cathedral Senior Day Activity Center, St. Catherine Community Development Agency, Senior Citizens, Intergenerational Project in Sligoville, Montamill Senior Citizens Home and an Income-Generating Project managed by Senior Citizens, all within the scope of the Jamaica Council for Senior Citizens.</p>			
<p>Initial steps of reviewing the package of care for older persons were started and are continuing. The process of defining the package of care for older persons is underway and involves a comprehensive primary health care approach, including a health education/health promotion component as well as proper management at the secondary level with adequate provisions for referrals to tertiary care.</p>			
<p>Expected Result 2: System for access of medications for older persons developed.</p>			
<p>Jamaica currently has the Jamaica Drugs for the Elderly Program (JADEP), which is run by the National Health Fund. There is the potential for a similar project in Belize which could provide medications for diabetes and hypertension through the National Health Insurance Scheme.</p>			
<p><b>b) Specific products / Productos específicos</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The sharing of information between the two countries.</li> <li>2. Stronger relations between sister organizations in both countries.</li> <li>3. Networking and sharing of resources between the two countries.</li> <li>4. Opportunity to access training for Belize through the Mona Ageing and Wellness Centre.</li> </ol>			
<p><b>c) Additional achievements / Logros adicionales</b> Participants from Belize and Jamaica agreed to maintain contact and to conduct a joint research project through the Ministries of Health that would investigate the impact of a holistic approach to the management of diabetes and hypertension.</p>			
<p><b>d) Limitations / Limitaciones</b> The delayed finalization and approval of the project resulted in late implementation towards the end of 2007. Consequently activities were rushed and there was limited time for analysis of results during the year of implementation.</p>			
<p><b>e) Total budget and amount spent / Presupuesto total y ejecutado</b> Total budget: Belize: \$5,700.00 -Amount executed:\$5,623.00 Total budget: Jamaica: \$11,000.00- Amount executed: \$7,415.00</p>			
<p><b>4. STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED, E.G. MINISTRIES, INSTITUTES, FOUNDATIONS, NGOS / ACTORES INVOLUCRADOS, EJ: MINISTERIOS, INSTITUTOS, FUNDACIONES, ONGS.</b></p>			
<p>Belize: The National Council on Ageing, the Ministry of Health, Mercy Care Center Jamaica: The National Council for Senior Citizens, the Ministry of Health and Environment, the National Health Fund</p>			

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<b>5. LESSONS LEARNED / LECCIONES APRENDIDAS</b>			
<p>1. There is a need to secure an early approval of TCC projects to ensure that the maximum benefits are derived from the project</p> <p>2. The health information system used by Belize for patients tracking and drug supply management can be replicated in Jamaica.</p> <p>3. Standards and regulations for elderly nursing homes in use in Jamaica will help Belize in developing its own.</p> <p>4. Partnership with non-government organizations provides a good opportunity for expanding government services and programmes for elderly care. The Mercy Care Center experience in resource mobilization will greatly assist Jamaican NGOs such as FISH in improving their financial sustainability.</p> <p>5. Government financing mechanisms for elderly care in Jamaica and Belize are good models which can be adapted by other countries in the Caribbean region.</p>			
<b>6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS / CONCLUSIONES Y RECOMENDACIONES</b>			
<p>This project was an excellent opportunity for sharing of experiences between the two countries. Both Belize and Jamaica should continue to introduce and strengthen programs which will focus on preventive health care that encourages and supports active ageing and the promotion of healthy lifestyles.</p>			