

COSTA RICA

NATIONAL PRIORITIES FOR PAHO TECHNICAL COOPERATION

- > Strengthen and improve interventions aimed at sustaining or increasing gains in reducing infant mortality, maternal mortality, communicable diseases, and nutritional deficiencies.
- > Promote construction of a culture of health, with emphasis on health promotion and promotion of healthy lifestyles in individuals and the population at large.
- > Prevent and treat noncommunicable diseases and address their risk factors.
- > Promote mental health using a comprehensive approach, with emphasis on social violence.
- > Improve equity, access, quality, and ethical standards in the health services, with emphasis on primary care.
- > Improve environmental health, with emphasis on basic sanitation and integrated water resources management.
- > Promote actions aimed at reducing vulnerability to disasters.
- > Consolidate health sector structure and operations.
- > Manage investment, expenditure, and financing according to health sector policies and priorities.
- > Consolidate the National Health Surveillance System.

PROJECTS

MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION

PURPOSE

To provide effective, high-quality technical cooperation.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- PAHO technical cooperation programs and projects, formulated, directed, and implemented under the Strategic Plan of the Organization, based on the situation in the country.
- Operations of the Representative Office guaranteed through efficient, effective management of administrative procedures to support technical cooperation.
- Management information systems and staff development in the Representative Office implemented and strengthened.

DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC POLICIES AND INFORMATION IN THE HEALTH SECTOR

PURPOSE

To contribute to the strengthening of national capacity to use and analyze health information for the policy-making and evaluation and decision-making in the public health management process.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- National Health Surveillance System linked to information systems that strengthen capacity for health situation analysis.
- Plans strengthened for the development of health sector analysis components on standards, regulations, functions, strategies, and procedures.
- Coordination between institutions and national and regional teams strengthened for the formulation, implementation, and evaluation of sectoral policies within the framework of sectoral analysis.

HEALTH SYSTEMS AND SERVICES

PURPOSE

To strengthen the sectoral steering role for exercise of the essential public health functions, ensuring universal access to quality health services, financial management, and the regulation of personal and population-based health service delivery.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- The functions, strategies, and procedures needed to exercise the sectoral steering role will have been validated, including the essential public health functions, defined in a participatory manner by the pertinent governmental agencies and applied at the national, regional, and local levels.
- Mechanisms and procedures to ensure access to health care for the excluded population defined and applied in the cantons with a lower social development index.
- Available information on financing, expenditure, and investments in health updated and used in the sector, based on the criteria of equity and quality.
- Measures for continuous improvement of the quality of care incorporated at various levels of the health system, with emphasis on common reasons for consultations or high morbidity.

POPULATION AND FAMILY HEALTH

PURPOSE

To implement policies and strategies for health promotion, and protection from the standpoint of human development.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Strategies for health promotion and protection aimed at improving family health strengthened within the framework of sectoral programs and projects and the healthy spaces and settings initiative, with emphasis on priority areas and cantons.
- Policies and strategies aimed at strengthening the Nutrition and Food Security Project implemented, with emphasis on priority areas and cantons.
- Policies, strategies, plans, programs, and sectoral projects developed for preventing and addressing violence, (including domestic violence) and the use of tobacco and other drugs, with emphasis on priority areas and cantons.

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE AND NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES

PURPOSE

To increase national capacity for the prevention and control of priority communicable and noncommunicable diseases in the country.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Capacity for management, prevention, and control of priority communicable and noncommunicable diseases increased at different levels of the system.
- Plans for developing the components of sectoral health analysis strengthened with respect to standards, regulations, functions, strategies, and procedures.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT

PURPOSE

To contribute to development, sustainability, and accessibility of drinking water and sanitation services and to the reduction of environmental risks to health as an essential action for sustainable human development.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Reform of the drinking water and sanitation sector, proposed in the PHC sectoral analysis, supported, and the technical capacity of institutions in the environmental protection and development sector strengthened.
- Assistance provided in strengthening health and environment programs and healthy spaces initiatives, with citizen participation, at the different levels of institutional action in the sector.
- The preparation of technical proposals and programs to reduce the vulnerability of the health sector infrastructure fostered and strengthened.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

PURPOSE

To reduce the disaster vulnerability of the health sector in Central America.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Disaster preparedness in the health sector improved, in coordination with other sectors. Mitigation of the impact of disasters on the health sector promoted.
- Health sector response to disasters improved.

WOMEN, HEALTH, AND DEVELOPMENT (SUBREGIONAL)

PURPOSE

To strengthen the subregional capacity to analyze the health situation and its determinants, with the aim of reducing gender inequities.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- The capacity of ministries of health and statistical offices strengthened, incorporating the gender approach into collection, analysis, and use of health data.
- Strengthened capacity of various actors for monitoring and promoting the gender equity approach in health policies and programs, within the context of health sector reform.
- The comprehensive model for addressing gender violence consolidated and the model also used to address gender and mental health issues.
- Processes to produce and disseminate information, education, and communication on gender and health designed and facilitated, for raising awareness and training.
- Technical cooperation for incorporating the gender equity approach in the programs and policies of PAHO, regional and national offices, and Member States facilitated.

RESOURCES (US\$)

		Regular budget	Other sources	All funds
Total 2002-2003		2,993,800	2,649,900	5,643,700
Total 2004-2005		3,024,500	3,300	3,027,500
Percentage of estimated expenditure	Country program support	35%	100%	36%
	Intersectoral action and sustainable Development	14%	-	14%
	Health information and technology	11%	-	11%
	Universal access to health	13%	-	13%
	Disease control and risk management	13%	-	12%
	Family and community health	14%	-	14%