

INTRODUCTION

The organization serves all countries and territories in the Region of the Americas. The biennial program budget (BPB) for the countries was prepared in full collaboration with the national authorities. The BPB includes the following information:

1. Analysis of the situation, covering:
 - Analysis of the relevant political, economic, and social context highlighting those economic or social development conditions, legislation and policies which tend to reduce or increase the inequities in health and related conditions and in health care.
 - Analysis of the observed epidemiological changes in the population and identifying major health related problems, emphasizing the distribution of selected indicators, at least, between geographical regions or jurisdictions and, where data was available, among population groups (differentiated by variables such as gender, income, ethnic group, schooling, access to services).
 - Analysis of the organization, distribution and management of the health systems and services, indicating recent or anticipated substantive changes, including coverage of services and identifying inequities in access.
2. Identification of National Priorities in Health as stated by the government or as determined jointly with national health authorities.
3. Identification of national priorities in health that require external support including technical cooperation.
4. Analysis of Contribution of Other Agencies providing technical cooperation, financial assistance or cooperation to the country including an analysis of the extent to which their programs are addressing the national priorities; and analysis of the country's role in international health and its own capacity to provide international cooperation.
5. Identification of national priorities in health that require technical cooperation from PAHO/WHO
6. Identification of technical cooperation projects in response to national priorities for PAHO TC. Each project has been designed with the *Logical Approach for Project Management in PAHO*.
7. A *technical cooperation strategy* which describes how the Country Office will execute the TC program, based on the national priorities for technical cooperation from PAHO/WHO and within the framework of the Strategic and Programmatic Orientations (SPOs).

The information included in this Official Document is a summary of the BPB. The summary includes:

- The national priorities in health, which provide the justification for the program of work.
- The project purpose, which identifies the changes that are expected to be achieved as a result of the execution of the project.
- The expected results, which identify the manageable interests (deliverables) of the Secretariat.

The detailed information for each individual country's BPB is available in each of the Country Offices and at the Regional Office for review by Member Countries and interested parties as needed.