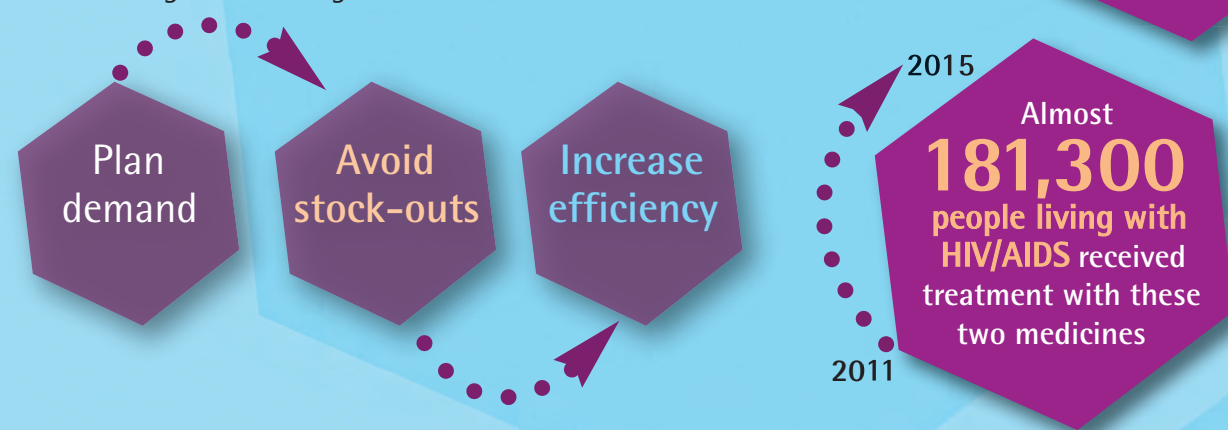


**Financial support** – In order to ensure a continuous supply and avoid product shortages, the Strategic Fund Capital Account provides interest-free credit to countries that may require it.

**Improved access to hard-to-find products** – Second-line treatments for tuberculosis, medicines for neglected diseases, and pediatric antiretroviral medicines that are limited in availability can be procured through the Strategic Fund.



## Financing

**Countries that purchase supplies** through the Strategic Fund must transfer monies to PAHO to cover the cost of the products being purchased.

Alternatively, they can access loans through the Fund's Capital Account.

Countries also pay an additional 3% to contribute towards funding the Capital Account. These funds are made available to countries in the form of interest-free loans to finance procurement, when required. Finally, a fee of 1.25% of the total price of the products purchased by countries is charged to countries to cover administrative costs.

Strategic Fund prices include freight, shipping, and insurance charges to the port of delivery.

**11** Interest-free loans provided by the Strategic Fund Capital Account, to 8 PAHO Member States in 2015



# PAHO STRATEGIC FUND

Access to quality medicines and health supplies for all in the Americas

## How to use it

**Steps for purchasing** through the Strategic Fund:

1. **Sign up:** Sign an agreement with the PAHO Strategic Fund.
2. **Plan:** Prepare a procurement plan based on your needs.
3. **Submit a request:** Submit an official purchase request for a specific number of units.
4. **Approve your order:** PAHO will send an estimate from the supplier that includes freight, shipping, and insurance charges to the port of delivery; the estimate must be approved by the country.
5. **Secure funding:** The country transfers funds to PAHO for the purchase or requests a loan from the Capital Account.
6. **Receive products:** The supplier delivers the products to the country.

**To find out more about the Strategic Fund**, to place an order, or to get help in estimating demand for the products you need, contact the PAHO office in your country or e-mail us at [strategicfund@paho.org](mailto:strategicfund@paho.org)

[www.paho.org/strategicfund](http://www.paho.org/strategicfund)



Pan American  
Health  
Organization



World Health  
Organization  
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE  
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## What is it?

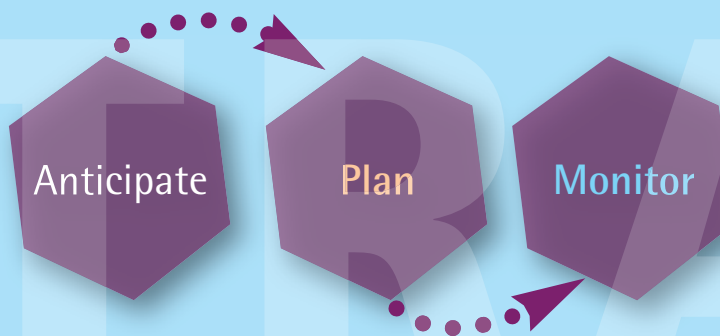
**The Strategic Fund** of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is a mechanism for the pooled procurement of essential medicines and strategic health supplies that save lives. As such, the Fund constitutes an important element of PAHO's strategy to further progress towards universal health.

The Fund provides technical cooperation to countries in the Americas to strengthen supply management systems, improve demand planning, promote rational use, and minimize product shortages.

This support aims to ensure that affordable quality medicines are available at all times in a country, in the required presentation and the quantities needed.

The products purchased through the Fund meet international standards in safety, efficacy and quality. Plus, by pooling demand and purchasing for numerous countries at the same time, the Fund is able to achieve economies of scale and offer products at highly competitive prices. In many cases, the Fund is able to secure prices that offer significant savings for countries when compared with prices on the national market.

Since its creation in 2000, the Fund has contributed to the strengthening and sustainability of health systems, positioning itself as the regional mechanism for the procurement of priority public health medicines.



The **Strategic Fund** is a Regional mechanism that negotiates with suppliers on behalf of the countries of the Americas

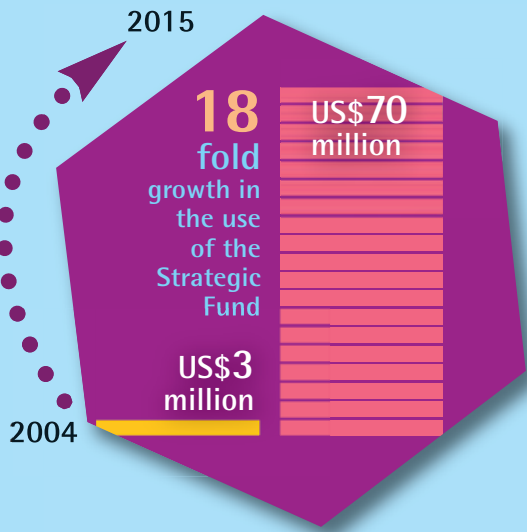
## Who can use it?

**All PAHO Member States** can purchase medicines and supplies through the **Strategic Fund**. As of March 2016, **27 Latin American** and Caribbean countries have signed agreements with PAHO to use the Fund.

In 2015, countries made over 400 requests to purchase over US\$70 million worth of goods through the Strategic Fund.

## What products can be purchased?

**More than 150 products** can be purchased through the **Strategic Fund**, including medicines for HIV, tuberculosis and malaria; medical devices and equipment; and supplies such as insecticides, mosquito nets, and diagnostic kits.



**32,000+ treatments** made available for three neglected infectious diseases through the distribution center in Panama

Since 2013, the Fund has offered medicines for the treatment of chronic cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, cancer, and diabetes. Medical devices and equipment, supplies such as insecticides and mosquito nets for vector control, and diagnostic kits are also available through the Fund.

These products are selected from the World Health Organization (WHO) list of essential medicines; in addition the products are considered strategic for the Region as they are either costly, limited in availability, or difficult to procure in some national markets.

To view the complete list of medicines and supplies that can be purchased through the Strategic Fund, along with reference prices and information on ordering procedures, go to [www.paho.org/strategicfund](http://www.paho.org/strategicfund).

**75+ suppliers** offering products through the Strategic Fund

## Why use it?

**Some benefits** to using the **Strategic Fund**:

**Economies of scale, competitive prices** – The Strategic Fund pools demand from multiple countries and uses international competitive bidding to purchase products, promoting competition between suppliers. The Fund is thus able to procure large quantities of quality-assured products at lower prices.

**Assured quality** – The Strategic Fund is able to offer products of guaranteed quality through an integrated approach based on WHO prequalification standards, collaboration with national drug regulatory authorities in the Region, and internal quality-assurance processes.

