

TECHNICAL CONSULTATION HEALTH SATELLITE ACCOUNTS IN THE AMERICAS¹

PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION (PAHO)
525 TWENTY THIRD STREET, N.W. – ROOM “C”
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20037

Background

In 2005 PAHO published a Manual on Health Satellite Accounts (HSA)². The preparation of this Manual was in response to requests from national account experts from national institutions and from the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), to develop aggregate economic and financial indicators of health care services related activities within the framework of country's system of national accounts (SNA).

From 2004 to 2008, PAHO, in cooperation with ECLAC and national institutions, organized a series of seminars and consultations on harmonization of health accounts and country's system of national accounts. By the end of 2009, several countries of the Americas have completed and published one or more HSA exercises. In most of these cases the adoption of a satellite approach was a result of country initiatives. Each of these exercises focus on different dimensions of economic and financial indicators to address different type of policy issues.

Objective

The main objective of this Technical Consultation is to promote an exchange among professionals with actual experience in the development of satellite accounts on the type of policy issues underlying the approaches taken; the conceptual and

1. This is an activity organized by the Public Policies and Research for Health Project of the Area of Health Systems Based on Primary Health Care (HSS/RF).

2. Manual de Cuentas Satélite de Salud (2005): <http://www.paho.org/spanish/dpm/shd/hp/ct6doc-creyes.pdf>
Health Satellite Accounts Manual (2005): <http://www.paho.org/spanish/ad/ge/chile06-background15.pdf>

methodological issues addressed in its implementation; and on issues that may have facilitated or prevented the use of satellite accounts results in policy making process. The lessons learnt from country experiences in the development of health satellite accounts, will be incorporated in a revised version of PAHO's Manual/Guidelines for the development and use of HSA on public policy for health and health systems development. Also, a revised version of the PAHO's Manual/Guidelines will incorporate the recommendations on health accounting included in the new version of the System of National Accounts (SNA 2008)³.

Sessions

Countries' presentations will tackle experiences and results of HSA exercises. Other sessions will present and discuss methodological issues related to: i) the conversion of health expenditure data into expenditure by diseases; ii) the construction of health price indexes based on treatment episodes; iii) the valuation of government production and government final consumption expenditures in health related goods and services; and iv) the valuation of the production and consumption by private providers and households. The meeting also includes presentations on satellite accounts extensions dealing with the integration of health and environmental economic accounts, and the measurement and valuation of non-market health care related services provided or the assessment of women "invisible/un-remunerated" contribution/burden to the provision of health care services - Household Sector Satellite Accounts.

Expected Outcomes

As a result of the discussions, we will gather recommendations on the type of issues to be addressed in a revised version of PAHO's 1995 Manual/Guidelines on HSA. We will also receive recommendations from the participants on the type of issues to be considered when incorporating other dimensions of health (e.g. epidemiologic profile, market and non-market prices, technological change, etc) to the HSA analysis. An Activity Report summarizing the presentation, discussions and recommendations of the Workshop will be produced.

Participants

International experts and professionals from the ministries of health and national institutions who are responsible for the implementation of the system of national accounts (Central Banks or national statistical offices) and with experience in the development of HSA.

³ In the new version of the System of National Accounts (SNA 2008) the OECD's System of Health Accounts (SHA) is seen as preliminary version of a health satellite account: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/sna2008.asp>, (See Chapter 29 on Satellite Accounts; numeral 29.87; page 531 to 542).

Venue

Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
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Language

English, Spanish and Portuguese simultaneous translation

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