Important dates*

15 February 2017: Application deadline
End of March: Notification of selected participants
Mid-April: Orientation to virtual learning
Late April: Commencement of Program
December: Finalization of virtual modules
31 January 2018: Submission of final projects

*Proposed dates. Actual dates may vary.

More information

For more please contact the PAHO/WHO Country Office in your country of residence or INTLHLTH@paho.org or this address:

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http://www.paho.org/leaders-international-health
What is the LIHP?
The Edmundo Granda Ugalde Leaders in International Health Program (LIHP) is a training program developed by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) designed to contribute to strengthening country capacity in international health. The 9-month program is based within PAHO’s Virtual Campus for Public Health (VCPH) and includes both virtual and face-to-face components.

Why participate?
The need for leaders who are equipped to address the current complex global environment is critical. The Strategy for Universal Access to Health and Universal Health Coverage, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other regional and global agreements establish an ambitious set of priorities and commitments that require intersectoral and international action for their equitable and collective attainment. At the same time, the development of new technologies, expansion of trade, growing migration of populations, and emerging and re-emerging diseases have placed new and urgent demands on States. Leaders are increasingly required to formulate and implement actions that take into account bilateral and multilateral treaties and agreements, and to comply with regional and global mandates in an environment comprised of new actors, alliances, and structures. Leaders must be able to act across sectors and borders to achieve balance between economic growth, social development and the right to health and to develop public policies that address these challenges while contributing to greater global equity.

The LIHP collaborates with PAHO Member Countries in addressing this need by developing capacity in six key competency areas: situational analysis; policy design and decision-making; negotiation and advocacy; project management and cooperation; generation and exchange of knowledge; and communication.

Target audience
Mid- to high-level managers and directors from PAHO Member Countries with decision-making capacity within:
- Ministries of health, development, foreign affairs, finance, agriculture, trade and others
- Multilateral and bilateral agencies
- Regional and sub-regional integration blocs
- Academic and research institutions
- Non-governmental organizations
- Civil society organizations
- Other entities dedicated to the public good

Objective
Contribute to the attainment of regional and global mandates by strengthening the capacity of countries in the Americas to understand, act upon and positively influence the international determinants of health, to promote their national interests, and to achieve intersectoral health agreements in international environments, at all times guided by the principle of greater global equity in health.

Key components
- Virtual learning modules that address a variety of topics, including: health diplomacy, international cooperation, universal access to health and universal health coverage, sustainable development, migration, border health, tensions and conflicts, climate change, access to medicines and non-communicable diseases, among others.
- Development of an international health project on a national, sub-regional or regional priority in coordination with PAHO/WHO, national government authorities and other entities.
- Engagement with PAHO/WHO Country Offices and other actors on other relevant activities.
- Face-to-face meeting with LIHP colleagues and core educational team focusing on the development of projects and competencies.
- Virtual expert seminars and panel discussions on cutting-edge topics.

Application requirements
- Be a graduate of a university-level degree program that is of at least eight (8) semesters duration and approved by the national ministry of education in the issuing country;
- Possess at least three years’ work experience at the managerial or directive level in public health, development, international relations, or related fields in the area of services, teaching or research;
- Be currently employed at the managerial or directive level in public health, development, international relations or a related field in an institution dedicated to the public good within a PAHO/WHO Member State;
- Be a citizen or resident of a PAHO/WHO Member State;
- Possess excellent knowledge of either Spanish or English, with a basic ability to understand and read the other language.
- Be able to dedicate approximately 20 hours per week to the Program, including 2 to 4 hours per week for synchronous virtual sessions.
- Have access to Internet (minimum speed 64K) and audio.

Benefits
- Continuous integration of learning into participants’ institutional and national context
- Collective development of learning based on participants’ knowledge and experiences
- Development of national and international networks and partnerships with key professionals across sectors and disciplines
- Exposure to the technical, diplomatic and political dimensions of international cooperation through interaction with PAHO/WHO Country Offices and other key actors
- Development of competencies in key areas

How to apply
- Download application form from LIHP website: http://www.paho.org/leaders-international-health
- Send completed form and attachments to PAHO/WHO Country Office in country of residence
- Only top applicants in each country will be invited for an in-country interview