Community Participation and Health Education for Dengue Control:

A Collaborative Project between PAHO and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

Background: In August 2002, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) signed an agreement involving shared financing for the development of the project for Community Participation and Health Education for Dengue Control.

Objective: To strengthen dengue prevention and control in Central American countries via the implementation of public-education and community-participation activities as well as consensus-building for the Central American Comprehensive Plan for Dengue Prevention and Control.

Progress: The Project has been underway since February 2003 within the framework of the Integrated Strategy for Dengue Management (Estrategia de Gestión Integrada de Dengue, or EGI). The workplans are being implemented in the countries, with the end goal of strengthening the Regional Plan for Dengue that RESSCAD/COMISCA is currently promoting.

Components

1. Identification of best practices in the area of social communication for dengue prevention and control, in four RESSCAD Member Countries: Belize, El Salvador, Honduras and Panama.

2. Implementation and evaluation of pilot experiences in the area of community participation in dengue prevention and control in four other RESSCAD Member Countries: Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic.

3. Elaboration of national plans and consolidation of a Subregional Strategy for Dengue Prevention and Control in the RESSCAD countries: Belize, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama.

Contact: Dr. José Luis San Martín, Regional Advisor on Dengue, PAHO - Panama.

Reference: IDB-Dengue-ATN/SF-7299-RG, Grant No. 09125, extrabudgetary project.