PAHO’s road map on air quality
Mainstreaming health in air quality management

Unit of Climate Change and Environmental Determinants of Health (CE)
What is air pollution?
What is the health impact of air pollution in the Americas?

Every year around 7 MILLION DEATHS globally are due to exposure to air pollution.
Air quality management in the Americas

- 21 countries have air quality standards but only 13 have laws, policies, or regulations.
- 20 countries have information on ground level outdoor air quality in at least one city but only nine have QA/QC procedures.
- Only seven countries have plans with specific actions to improve ambient air quality at the national level or in at least one city.
Air quality and the SDG agenda

Substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination

- Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution

Ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services

- Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology

Reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management

- Annual mean levels of PM10 and PM2.5 in cities (population weighted)
Specific global mandates

**WHA69.27.** Road map for an enhanced global response to the adverse health effects of air pollution (2016)

**UNEA 1/7.** Strengthening the role of the UNEP in promoting air quality (2014)
Air quality management and functions of health actors

- Set air quality goals
- Determine emission reductions
- Determine how to achieve reductions
- Implement reduction program
- Assess results

Air quality management process

- Training
- Research for decision-making
- Communication
- Diplomacy

Functions of health actors

- Goal setting
- Risk assessments
- Impact assessments
**Output 3.5.2:** countries enabled to develop and implement norms, standards, and guidelines for environmental health risks and benefits associated with air quality and chemical safety

*No. of countries and territories implementing WHO resolution*

**Output 3.5.5:** countries enabled to develop and implement national policies, plans, and programs to reduce the use of solid fuels for cooking

*No. of countries with active policies, plans of action, and programs to replace traditional cook-stoves and heaters with cleaner technologies and fuels...in compliance with WHO indoor air quality guidelines*
Context

- Collaborated with countries to strengthen air quality legislation and regulatory efforts.
- Built partnerships with UN Environment and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) in developing the BreatheLife Campaign.
- Developed the Household Energy Survey with WHO.
- Supported countries to develop programs to reduce household air pollution such as the Casas Maternas project in Nicaragua.
PAHO air quality program

Reduce the adverse health effects of air pollution in the Americas

Mainstreaming health in air quality management

Expanding the knowledge base  Monitoring and reporting  Leadership and coordination  Institutional capacity strengthening

Legislation  Planning  Risk analysis  Household energy  Urban planning  Health care providers

Governance
Thank you!