BOLIVIA PAHO/WHO COUNTRY COOPERATION STRATEGY 2023-2027



INTRODUCTION

The WHO Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) is the medium-term strategic framework for WHO's collaboration with a Member State, in support of the country's National Health Development Policy, Strategy, and Plan. The WHO-Bolivia Country Cooperation Strategy (2023-2027) was developed through extensive consultations with the Ministry of Health and Sports, other health-related line ministries, the UNCT, the private sector, development partners, academies, civil society, etc., to objectively identify factors hindering effective health service delivery and recommend solutions.

The five strategic priorities of the WHO-Bolivia CCS (2023-2027) are based on WHO's comparative advantage and are aligned with the Sectoral Plan for Integrated Health Development (2021-2025), the Economic and Social Development Plan (2021-2025), the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2023-2027) and WHO's General Program of Work (GPW).

ABOUT US

Bolivia falls under the Operations Coordinator category in the CPCP typology. Bolivia focuses on coordinating health operations and emergency responses, managing health crises, and operational activities to address the country's specific health needs. As of 2024, the office has 47 staff, of which 8 are international staff (Two are CPCP funded staff) and 38 are local staff. In the past biennium 2022-2023 the total funding received by the country office was implemented: US$ 11.824.000.

PARTNERSHIP ENVIRONMENT

WHO is actively collaborating with various development partners, the United Nations Country Team and international health cooperation partners that make up the Bolivia Health Development Partners Group (GruS Salud) coordinated by WHO since 2022. Actually, we are implementing various projects with Canada's funds.

COUNTRY CONTEXT

The Country Bolivia has nine departments, 112 provinces and 340 municipalities. According to the official results of the 2024 Population Census, Bolivia has 11.312.620 inhabitants. Bolivia is a lower-middle-income country with abundant supply of natural, hydrocarbons, mineral, metals, and human resources. In 2023, its GDP per capita was US$ 3.736. In the year 2023, the public investment in health was 6.48% and the expenditure in relation to current public health spending allocated by level of government, was 93,52% (US$ 2.321.597.200). Bolivia is committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and contributing to the WHO's GPW Targets.

PROGRESS ON HEALTH OUTCOMES

The country had made some measured progress in health outcomes. Life expectancy has increased from 69,3 years in 2012 to 74,4 years in 2022. The country remains free of polio, measles, rubella, congenital rubella syndrome and neonatal tetanus. Bolivia has adopted the SAGE recommendation for the HPV vaccination schedule. The infant mortality rate went from 32,40 x 1000 in 2012 to 20,44 in 2024. Maternal mortality rate went from 160 per 100,000 live births in 2011 to an estimate of 145 in 2021. Reduction of out-of-pocket spending on health from 30% in 2014 to 22,74% in 2021. The Unified Health System (SUS) that protects people who do not have contributory health insurance, increased its coverage reaching 7 million Bolivians in the first quarter of 2023.

KEY CHALLENGES

Some key health challenges in the country include limited access to quality, integrated health services resulting in high preventable morbidity and mortality. Health disparities affect vulnerable, excluded, discriminated population groups. The health system is segmented and fragmented, due to a weak steering role at the national and departmental levels. There is an insufficient number and quality of HRH and unequal distribution in urban and rural areas. Limited intra- and inter-sectoral collaboration for health, at all levels, has impeded accelerated progress towards the health-related SDGs.

For more information visit the link: https://www.paho.org/bol

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES & DELIVERABLES



Strengthen health promotion and disease prevention through a life course based on health determinants with an intersectoral, intercultural, gender and rights-based approach

01

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Support the development of public policies for health promotion and disease prevention, prioritizing populations living in vulnerable situations, to improve the quality of life of people.
- Promote healthy environments by addressing the determinants to protect health, including occupational health, through intersectoral strategies that link the subnational level (governors' offices, municipalities and community organizations) with social participation and control.
- Strengthen institutional capacity in the use of strategic communication to promote healthy lifestyles.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Bolivia's Depatrialization and Decolonization Agenda.
- Network of mayors created for the implementation of a health promotion strategy. 18 municipal laws elaborated for the implementation of friendly cities for the elderly. 12 municipal laws elaborated for the implementation of healthy municipalities for the wellbeing of the elderly. 1 departmental law elaborated for the implementation of healthy municipalities in Cochabamba. Support for the creation of 6 elderly care centers.
- Healthy municipalities strategy implemented in 28 municipalities in the country.
- 28 municipal health promotion plans developed.
- Communication materials developed to prevent lead poisoning.

Contribute to the strengthening of the Single (National) Universal and Free Health System (SUS), resilient and based on the SAFCI (PHC)

02

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Strengthen the leadership and stewardship of the MSyD, governance and social participation in the health system, articulating all levels of government (National, Departmental, Municipal and Indigenous, Native and Peasant), the SSCP and the social structure in health.
- Improve regulatory capacities, availability and access to essential medicines, medical equipment and other health technologies.
- Strengthen planning, development and integrated management of the RHUS.
- Support the development and implementation of a sustainable SUS financing strategy with a focus on equity, efficiency and financial protection to reduce/eliminate out-of-pocket spending

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Evaluation of the FESP at the National level and Strengthening Plan available.
- New SUS regulations to improve its operation available.
- AGEMED's Institutional Development Plan through GBT self-assessment prepared.
- HRH Development Policy for Health in Bolivia and Implementation Plan elaborated
- National Health Accounts Studies 2024-2027 available.
- Financial Management Strategy for SUS available.
- Online and integrated SUIS applications with weekly information availability.
- SNIS situation room for the analysis of maternal and infant information implemented. Updated SNIS maternal and child indicators document. Updated national CAI standard. Analysis of ROBSON indicators for the reduction of cesarean section. Updated maternal death notification form.

Strengthen access to and quality of integrated, comprehensive and quality health services that respond to the health needs of the individual, the family and the community based on the SAFCI that consider the life course and incorporate the rights, gender and intercultural approach

03

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Strengthen the quality and integrated management of health service networks based on the SAFCI policy, considering the life course, improving the resolution capacity of the first level of care to reduce hospitalizations for disorders that are sensitive to outpatient management.
- Strengthen management and service provision capacities in the health sector, including those provided by civil society, for the implementation of interventions that reduce adolescent pregnancies, maternal and neonatal mortality, promote SRH, and promote healthy aging.
- Promote the articulation of traditional medicine in the health services network.

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OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES & DELIVERABLES



EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- RISS National Standard Approved.
- RISS Implementation Guide Available.
- National Policy on Quality in Health and Patient Safety available.
- National Health Facility Qualification Standard available.
- COSONASA and COSODESA (Social Organization) work plans prepared
- Report of Five RISS strengthened to contribute to the Maternal, Perinatal and Neonatal Deaths Reduction Plan.
- 35 trained physical education facilitators, who are implementing the healthy aging strategy in the prioritized municipalities. 30 trained facilitators who are implementing the long-term care of the elderly. 6 competence development centers for maternal and neonatal issues implemented. 898 facilitators in obstetric and neonatal emergencies, AIPEO and midwives trained at the national level. 22 hospitals working with SIP plus to improve the quality of care.
- National Standard of Characterization with adequacy in Traditional Medicine available.
- Intercultural Childbirth, Intercultural Maternal and Neonatal Care and Medicinal Plants Guides available.

Strengthen the preparedness, response, and early recovery capacity of the national health system for health emergencies and disasters with community participation

04

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Strengthen the preparedness, response, and early recovery capacity of the national health system for health emergencies and disasters with community participation.
- Develop tool and mechanisms to improve the coordination of preparedness, response, and early recovery from sector emergencies to ensure continuity in the provision of essential health services within the framework of the International Health Regulations (IHR).
- Contribute to the development and formation of rapid response teams with a multidisciplinary and multi-threat approach, including emergency medical teams.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- EDAN Health implemented in the country.
- Emergency and Disaster Coordination and Response Guide Available.
- Rapid Response Team Operational Guide Available.

Strengthen the country's capacity to move towards the control and elimination of communicable diseases and the control of non-communicable diseases

05

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Maintain and accelerate progress towards the elimination of priority communicable diseases and prevent the reintroduction of eliminated diseases.
- Strengthen institutional capacities for epidemiological surveillance, laboratory management and treatment for the control of communicable diseases, including vaccine-preventable diseases.
- Strengthen institutional and health personnel capacities to ensure a rapid response to outbreaks and epidemics by applying the ONE Health approach.
- Contribute to strengthening the capacity of the health system for the reduction of disability and premature mortality due to NCDs, injuries, violence, and the prevention and treatment of mental health disorders.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Survey for certification of fasciola elimination implemented.
- Annual reports documenting the sustainability of measles, rubella, congenital rubella syndrome and polio elimination in accordance with regional guidelines.
- National strategy for the elimination of Chagas disease available.
- Report on the results of epidemiological and laboratory surveillance indicators of VSEs available.
- Zero cases of dog-transmitted human rabies reported in the country.
- *Guía De Diagnóstico Oportuno del Cáncer en la Niñez y la Adolescencia* available.
- National Road Safety Plan.
- 2025, National Plan to Address Cancer and Non-Communicable Diseases Plan elaborated.

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