HONDURAS PAHO/WHO COUNTRY COOPERATION STRATEGY 2025-2030



INTRODUCTION

The PAHO/WHO Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) is the medium-term strategic framework for PAHO/WHO's collaboration with a Member State, in support of the country's National Health Development Policy, Strategy, and Plan. The PAHO/WHO Honduras Country Cooperation Strategy (2025-2030) was developed through extensive consultations with the Ministry of Health, other relevant government ministries, the United Nations system, academia, development partners, and civil society to identify priority health challenges and define strategic directions for PAHO/WHO technical cooperation.

The three strategic priorities of the PAHO/WHO Honduras CCS (2025-2030) reflect PAHO/WHO's comparative advantages and align with the Ministry of Health Institutional Strategic Plan (2026-2030), the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2022-2026 / 2027-2030), the PAHO Strategic Plan (2026-2031), and WHO's General Programme of Work (GPW).

ABOUT US

The PAHO/WHO Country Office is in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. As of 2026, the office has 14 staff members, including one CPCP staff member.

In the 2024-2025 biennium, the Country Office received US$17.3 million in funding, with a utilization rate of 100%.

PARTNERSHIP ENVIRONMENT

PAHO/WHO collaborates actively with the Ministry of Health, other government institutions, humanitarian and development partners, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), academic institutions, and civil society organizations. The PAHO/WHO Country Office also coordinates the Health Sector within the humanitarian coordination architecture, supporting joint preparedness and response to health emergencies.

COUNTRY CONTEXT

Honduras comprises 18 departments and 298 municipalities, with a projected population of 10.2 million (2026), 56% urban. As a lower-middle-income country, 60.1% of households are living in poverty (2025). Life expectancy is 73 years (2024). Public health expenditure represents 3.44% of GDP, while out-of-pocket payments account for 51.7% of health expenditure (2021). Health services are provided by the Ministry of Health (SESAL), the Honduran Social Security Institute (IHSS), and the private sector. Honduras is committed to achieving the SDGs and advancing universal health.

PROGRESS ON HEALTH OUTCOMES

Honduras has made measurable progress in health outcomes. Infant mortality declined by 50% between 2000 and 2022, while maternal mortality decreased by 41.5% between 2023 and 2025, reaching 38 deaths per 100,000 live births. The country has sustained the elimination of measles and rubella and advanced efforts to eliminate malaria and other communicable diseases. Routine immunization coverage has improved, although gaps remain. Continued progress will require sustained attention to maternal and neonatal health, chronic child malnutrition, dengue outbreaks, and the growing burden of noncommunicable diseases. Honduras also faces considerable health risks associated with climate change, natural disasters, and other emergencies.

KEY CHALLENGES

Key health challenges in Honduras include limited access to quality, integrated health services, resulting in unmet health needs and preventable morbidity and mortality. Out-of-pocket expenditure remains high, creating significant financial barriers to care. Fragmented service delivery, limited health workforce availability, and governance challenges undermine effective implementation of health policies and programs. Gaps in coordination within the health sector and across sectors, alongside persistent social and territorial inequalities, have slowed progress toward the health-related SDGs.

For more information, visit: https://www.paho.org/es/honduras

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES & DELIVERABLES



Strengthen health stewardship and governance 01

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Strengthened health stewardship, regulation, accountability, and evidence-based policymaking, aligned with essential public health functions.
- Strengthened intersectoral coordination, social participation, transparency, and accountability at national and subnational levels.
- Enhanced capacities for health diplomacy, strategic partnerships, South-South cooperation, and international resource mobilization.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- More effective, transparent, and accountable health system governance.
- Better coordinated health policies, partnerships, and resources aligned with national priorities.

Promote equitable access to integrated, quality health services 02

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Strengthened PHC-based integrated health service networks, including laboratory services, logistics, and rational use of medicines and technologies.
- Improved health service oversight, monitoring, evaluation, and results-based management of resources.
- Strengthened health workforce planning, training, retention, and equitable distribution.
- Advanced digital health transformation through electronic health records, telemedicine, interoperable systems, and digital infrastructure.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Reduced inequalities in access to timely, integrated, quality health services.
- Improved continuity of care, service responsiveness, and efficient use of health resources.

Strengthen disease prevention, surveillance, and health emergency preparedness and response 03

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Improved immunization coverage, disease surveillance, rapid response, and efforts to achieve and sustain disease elimination.
- Strengthened disease surveillance and analysis, including implementation and assessment of the International Health Regulations (IHR).
- Strengthened national and subnational governance, risk assessment, coordination, and all-hazards emergency preparedness and response.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Reduced vulnerability to vaccine-preventable and other communicable diseases.
- More timely detection and response to health threats, with stronger health system resilience and early recovery.



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