JAMAICA PAHO/WHO COUNTRY COOPERATION STRATEGY 2024-2029





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 2024-2029 CCS outlines a comprehensive, medium-term vision for PAHO/WHO's technical cooperation with Jamaica. It identifies key areas where resources will be concentrated, emphasizing the importance of multi-sectoral collaboration and alignment with the broader United Nations framework.

The five strategic priorities of the PAHO/WHO Jamaica CCS (2024-2029) are based on WHO's comparative advantage and are aligned to the WHO's General Programme of Work (GPW 13), the United Nations Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean (MSDCF), the Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas (SHAA2030), and the Caribbean Cooperation in Health IV (CCH).

ABOUT US

The PAHO/WHO Country Office in Jamaica. The office belongs to CPCP typology C.
As of 2024, the office has eight staff. Of these, one is a CPCP staff.
In the past biennium the total funding received by the country office was US$ 10.7 M and the utilization rate was 92%

PARTNERSHIP ENVIRONMENT

PAHO/WHO collaborates actively with a range of development partners, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), and the 20 partners convened by the PAHO/WHO-led international partners in the health sector.

COUNTRY CONTEXT

Jamaica has 14 parishes and 3 counties. It has a population of 2.82 million, with about 21 % of the population aged 14 years or younger. Jamaica is classified as an upper-middle-income country by the World Bank. The Jamaican economy has seen challenges with low growth, high public debt, and many external shocks in the past several decades, averaging less than 1% growth annually over the past 30 years. However, after implementing economic reforms, economic stability was established, and Jamaica has achieved 16 consecutive quarters of growth. Jamaica has a GINI index of 36.7% in 2019, and a lower inequality rate than most nations in Latin America.

PROGRESS ON HEALTH OUTCOMES

Jamaica has an ageing population, with estimates from 2019 showing that approximately 380,000 people were age 60 or older, which represents 14.9% of the overall population. The life expectancy at birth is 74.2 years, an increase from 72.2 in 2002. Vaccination coverage has consistently been above 90% for the antigens used in the routine immunization programme. In 2022, coverage was 100% for BCG, 95% for Polio, 89% for DPT + Hep B + Pentavalent. In 2024, Jamaica was certified by the WHO for the Elimination of the mother-to-child transmission (EMTCT) of HIV and Syphilis.

KEY CHALLENGES

Some main challenges include the ongoing threat of emerging and re-emerging diseases; the prevalence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and premature deaths; poor lifestyle choices that negatively impact quality of life; fragmented responses to cross-cutting issues like violence (including gender-based violence), climate change, and environmental health; the need for improved healthcare systems to better diagnose, treat, and care for both NCDs and communicable diseases; and the continued demand for strong public health leadership to ensure accountability and effectively address the evolving needs of public health.

For more information visit the link: www.paho.org/en/jamaica

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES & DELIVERABLES



Accelerate primary health care reform

01

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Integrated and patient-centred health service delivery networks reinforced with a strengthened referral system.
- Improved national strategies and programmes to enhance access and rational use of health technologies.
- Reinforcement of national health information systems.
- Strengthened programmes throughout the life course with emphasis on the integration of health care services.

Increase the capacity of human resources for health to achieve resilient health systems.

02

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Human resources for health policy and implementation plan reinforced and aligned to the model of care.
- Human resources for health planning and management information systems enhanced according to health labour market needs.
- HRH policies that support the strengthening of regulatory bodies to ensure that training aligns with required standards and health system needs.

Strengthen prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases and conditions, and their risk factors.

03

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Improved surveillance systems for noncommunicable diseases and mental health.
- Strengthened institutional capacities, policies, regulatory frameworks, and programmes to prevention and control NCDs.
- Strategies and institutional capacities strengthened to address mental health conditions, including suicide prevention and substance misuse, through a community-based approach.

Promote intersectoral action and health promotion to address social determinants of health

04

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- The implementation of Health in All Policies (HiAP) and One Health approach.
- Social participation enhanced by strengthening health promotion programmes and initiatives.
- National capacity and intersectoral collaboration strengthened to address communicable diseases, including vector borne disease, vaccine preventable diseases and related risk factors.

Strengthened health emergency preparedness for a disaster-resilient health sector

05

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Increased capacities for all-hazards health emergency and disaster risk management, including the International Health Regulations (IHR) core capacities.
- Strengthened national preparedness and response to address the impact of pandemics, climate change and health threats, in accordance with the PAHO/WHO approach.

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