EL SALVADOR PAHO/WHO COUNTRY COOPERATION STRATEGY 2023-2027





INTRODUCTION

The Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) has five strategic priorities and their corresponding areas of action to develop PAHO/WHO cooperation in El Salvador and thus contribute to health and well-being in the perspective of sustainable development in the country.

The ECP was developed from December 2022 to July 2023 with the Ministry of Health (MINSAL), institutions of the National Integrated Health System (SNIS), national and international organizations, academia, civil society and the United Nations System (UNS).

ABOUT US

As of 2024, the office has 32 staff. Of these, eight staff members are international staff and three staff members are CPCP staff.

In the past biennium, the total funding received (for activities and salaries) by the country office was US$2,859,297 and the implementation rate was 99.80%

PARTNERSHIP ENVIRONMENT

El Salvador actively collaborates with the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and participates in projects funded by Canada and USAID.

COUNTRY CONTEXT

El Salvador is a presidential and centralized democratic republic. The president is elected every five years. In June 2023, lawmakers approved an amendment to the electoral code to reduce the number of deputies from 84 to 60.
The Country has an area of 21,040 km2 and, for administrative purposes, is divided into 14 departments geographically grouped into three zones: Eastern, Central and Western. At present, there are 44 municipalities, in accordance with the new political division approved through the Special Law on Municipal Restructuring.

PROGRESS ON HEALTH OUTCOMES

The country had made some measured progress in health outcomes. Life expectancy has increased from 46.5 years in 2000 to 55.44 years in 2022. The country became wild-polio free in 2020. Routine immunization coverage increased from 33% in 2016 to 62% in 2022 while malaria prevalence decreased from 42% in 2010 to 22% in 2021. In addition, there has been declining trend in the prevalence of HIV. However, the level of maternal, neonatal, and child deaths remain extremely high. Latest figures show a maternal mortality rate of 320 per 100,000 live births.

KEY CHALLENGES

Some key health challenges in the country include limited access to quality, integrated health services resulting in high preventable morbidity and mortality. Out-of-pocket expenditure remains. Weak governance and accountability mechanisms undermine effective implementation of health policies and programs. 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/slv

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES & DELIVERABLES



Transformation of the national health system

01

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Strengthening of health institutions, stewardship and governance through the development of the Essential Public Health Functions (FESP) and Primary Health Care (PHC) for the achievement of universal health.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Develop the Essential Functions of Public Health by strengthening stewardship, governance, strategic planning and the efficient use of health resources. Strengthen the integrated network of health services based on Primary Health Care (PHC) within the framework of the current Care Model.
- Promote the financial sustainability of the National Integrated Health System (SNIS), with efficiency, equity, and prioritization of the first level of care. Promote the regulation, availability and equitable access to essential medicines, vaccines and other health technologies.

Promoting Comprehensive Care for Life

02

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Strengthening of comprehensive quality care with a life-course approach, with equity and a rights, gender and ethnicity perspective, based on Primary Health Care (PHC).

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Promote initiatives that promote health, the quality of health services, and the comprehensive well-being of women, men, girls, boys and adolescents, adults, the elderly, families, and communities.
- Expand access to services for the prevention and control of communicable and non-communicable diseases, mental health and injuries of external causes. Strengthen access to comprehensive health and social services for the population and groups in vulnerable situations. Develop actions for the prevention and comprehensive approach to disability, palliative care, and the strengthening of habilitation and rehabilitation during the life course.

Promotion of health and well-being based on an approach to their social and environmental determinants with the creation of strategic alliances, intersectorality and from the "One Health" approach

03

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Promotion of intersectoral actions and strategic alliances that contribute to health and well-being, the elimination of communicable and non-communicable diseases and that have an impact on the promotion of health in all policies, human security and inclusive, sustainable and inclusive well-being.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Promote the One Health approach and related cross-sectoral partnerships.
- Promote health promotion, education and surveillance in the various scenarios.
- Ensure the sustainability of public health achievements with the support of institutional mechanisms and intersectoral actions.
- Promote comprehensive territorial development initiatives that strengthen primary care and community response.

Strengthening disaster risk management with a multi-hazard approach and the capacities of the International Health Regulations (IHR)

04

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- Strengthening health disaster risk management and IHR essential capacities (26) to prevent, mitigate, monitor and detect public health emergencies, as well as to prepare for, respond to and recover from such emergencies.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Strengthen the stewardship, coordination, integration, and effective communication of the SNIS and its collaborators in order to maintain essential health services for the population and groups in situations of vulnerability to health emergencies and disasters.
- Support the basic capacities for the implementation of the IHR.
- Promote initiatives to have safe, resilient, inclusive, and adapted health services in the face of climate change, with a multi-threat approach to health. Strengthen knowledge capacities on risk, prevention, preparedness, response and recovery with a multi-hazard and "One Health" approach.

Development of national capacities for innovation, ethical research, scientific evidence, incorporation of technology and digital transformation in health

05

STRATEGIC DELIVERABLES

- National capacity development to generate, translate, transfer and use evidence and knowledge in health, promoting change management, research and development, digital transformation and technology to face challenges and obtain better health outcomes.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Strengthen ethical research to generate evidence to improve health and reduce inequalities.
- Promote technical and strategic management for the development of technological and digital capacities of the national health system in partnership with higher education institutions and other cooperating partners.
- Strengthen the strategic monitoring and evaluation system, based on the use of available and advanced technologies.
- To promote the management and translation of knowledge for decision-making in public health informed by scientific evidence.
- Strengthen the institutionalization of health technology assessment to support decision-making on the incorporation of medicines and other technologies, optimize resource allocation, and contribute to the sustainability of the system.

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