

# PAHO



Pan American  
Health  
Organization



World Health  
Organization  
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE  
Americas



## CALL FOR EXPERIENCES AND LEARNING OF INTERSECTORAL ACTION FOR EQUITY IN HEALTH

**Deadline:** September 8th to October 8th 2023

### Background

The idea of working between sectors has a long history. In 1978, the Alma Ata Declaration at the Conference on Primary Health Care proposed a social approach to health, emphasizing the importance of intersectoral action. Likewise, in 1986, the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion stated that health promotion requires the coordinated effort of everyone involved.

Based on these fundamental milestones, there has been a growing recognition of the significance of intersectoral action to address social determinants and thus advance health equity globally and in the Americas region. The Jakarta Declaration of 1997 was crucial in this regard, as well as the final declaration of the International Health In All Policies (HIAP) in Adelaida (2010), which stressed that government objectives are best achieved when all sectors include health and well-being as a critical component in their development policies. Likewise, intersectoral action, along with social participation, is considered a cross-sectional axis in the strategy and action plan on health promotion in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) has championed intersectoral action for health in the Americas region. The PAHO has recognized the importance and need to develop intersectoral action models that adjust to the reality and priorities of the region's countries which are sustainable over time. On this basis, the organization has been constructing analytical approaches and tools to identify, explain, monitor, and evaluate intersectoral action processes.

However, to date, important knowledge gaps persist regarding how intersectoral action unfolds in the Americas region. The number of systematized and documented experiences is still insufficient and tends to focus on initiatives developed at the national level or around specific themes or problems.

This call aims at contributing to reducing this knowledge gap and thus achieving a greater understanding and clarity regarding the types of intersectoral actions feasible in different scenarios, its drivers, the type of intersectoral action that is needed to address the social determinants and reduce health inequities, what characteristics intersectoral actions must have to be sustainable over time, among other relevant aspects.

## **Call's objectives**

- Identify and learn about national, subnational, and local experiences of intersectoral action that have directly or indirectly contributed to equity in health.
- Identify and systematize learning for the Americas region regarding intersectoral action that contributes to equity in health.
- Identify a set of experiences to be presented in the Regional Meeting on Intersectoral Action and Equity in Health to be held in November 2023 in Havana – Cuba.

## **Experiences that can participate**

- ✓ Experiences of intersectoral action undertaken at the national, regional and/or local level. The experiences may have been led by any sector of public policy and/or level of government.
- ✓ The experiences may have been an initiative of the health sector or other sectors. It does not need to have been generated from the health sector but must have been involved in its design and/or implementation.
- ✓ The experiences can be under development or have been developed in the last five years.
- ✓ If it has not been a successful experience, explaining the learning associated with it is necessary.

## **Themes or contents that may be addressed in the experience of intersectoral action**

There is no restriction regarding the issues or problems addressed by the intersectoral experience itself, but the analysis should address in-depth the learning generated in a minimum of two and a maximum of three of the following areas:

- 1) The role of the health sector in intersectoral action to address social determinants and promote equity in health;
- 2) The role of other sectors, other than health in addressing social determinants to promote equity and its relationship with health.
- 3) Conditions that promote or facilitate intersectoral action to promote equity in health;
- 4) Predominant conceptions of health and health equity in the experience of intersectoral action;
- 5) Lessons learned and challenges related to the institutional conditions for intersectoral action;
- 6) Facilitators of the sustainability of intersectoral action;
- 7) The role and characteristics of social participation in the different stages of intersectoral action;
- 8) Challenges of monitoring and evaluation of intersectoral action;
- 9) Another area that is considered relevant by the authors/narrators of the intersectoral experience.

## **Proponents:**

The application is open to academic institutions; NGOs; community or civil society organizations; teams from Ministries, municipalities, and other levels of government, both from the health sector and from other sectors. In addition, proposals may be submitted jointly by more than one institution.

## **Products and incentives**

- ✓ To participate in the call, it is only necessary to complete the online application form.
- ✓ The authors of the selected experiences will be contacted to systematize and further develop the report on intersectoral action. For this, they will receive the necessary support from PAHO.
- ✓ A group of experiences will be selected and invited to present at the Regional Meeting on Intersectoral Action and Equity in Health in November 2023 in Havana - Cuba. PAHO will provide the necessary support for the face-to-face participation of the principal author of the proposal.

## **Content of the proposal**

Proponents must complete an online application form available at the following link:

<https://form.123formbuilder.com/6506980/llamado-de-experiencias-de-intersectorialidad-en-salud>

## **Selection of proposals**

A panel of PAHO/WHO experts will carry out the technical evaluation of the proposals, for which they will consider the following criteria:

- ✓ Meets the terms of reference
- ✓ Sustainability: number of years that the experience has been developed
- ✓ Promising: It has the potential effect of contributing to reducing health inequities and/or implementing solutions to act on social determinants of health.
- ✓ Innovation: It has contributions that have not been previously described.

## **Schedule**

1. Publication of the call: September 08 to October 08, 2023
2. Deadline for receipt of proposals: October 08, 2023
3. Selection of experiences: October 09 to 16, 2023
4. Publication of results: October 18, 2023
5. Presentation at the regional meeting: November 21 to 23, 2023