

The **network development component** seeks to

- Promote and support cost-effective interventions for NCD prevention
- Obtain the support of policy-makers and legislators
- Promote and support community participation in NCD prevention initiatives
- Promote a regional agenda for tackling the NCD epidemic

And is rooted in the following lines of action:

- Research
- Capacity-building
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Advocacy

The **CARMEN Network** promotes and supports technical cooperation aimed at the prevention and reduction of risk factors associated with NCDs.



Conjunto de
Acciones para la
Redución
Multifactorial de
Enfermedades
No transmisibles

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Joining
C A R M E N

Integrated Prevention
of Noncommunicable Diseases
in the Americas



The **CARMEN Initiative**

CARMEN is an initiative of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

The aim of the CARMEN Initiative is to improve the health status of populations in the Americas by reducing risk factors associated with noncommunicable diseases (NCDs).

This is achieved through the development, implementation, and evaluation of

- Public health policies
- Community-based interventions
- Epidemiological surveillance of NCDs and their risk factors
- Preventive health care services

The CARMEN Initiative has two components:

1. Risk reduction
2. Network development

The risk-reduction component applies three strategies to achieve its objectives:

1. Integrated prevention and health promotion
2. Establishment of demonstration areas
3. Promotion of health equity

<http://www.paho.org>

... because the risk factors of today are the diseases of tomorrow.

Advantages of joining the CARMEN Network

- Through participation in strategic projects, and in the CARMEN Network, communities and countries can gain instant access to innovative designs, implementation, and evaluation tools.
- The CARMEN Network facilitates the exchange of experiences and information on technical and management issues, plans cooperative ventures, and launches new activities.
- The CARMEN Network is an arena where continuous improvements in integrated NCD prevention can be achieved.

Networking achieves what individual countries may not be able to do alone.

- Country initiatives gain peer recognition and international credibility.
- Countries can pursue common goals as a unified group.

The CARMEN Network seeks to collaborate and share resources and information to prevent NCDs in the Americas.

The CARMEN Network is based on the principle that all countries in the Americas can benefit from CARMEN programs and similar programs in other regions of the world.



CARMEN is a network of networks, functioning as a superhighway for global, regional, national, and local communication.

The CARMEN Network collaborates with the other five WHO Regional Networks and with the Global Forum on NCD Prevention and Control.

Joining the CARMEN Network can be done in four steps.

1. The prospective country writes a letter to the Director of PAHO describing its interest to enter the CARMEN Network.
2. The PAHO country office provides the required technical support for the development of prevention and control initiatives in the country.
3. The Ministry of Health prepares a National Plan for integrated NCD prevention and control, observing the methodology adopted by the CARMEN Network.
4. The Ministry of Health presents its plan to the CARMEN Network Directing Board for official membership.