



MINISTERIO DE SALUD PÚBLICA



Organización Panamericana de la Salud



Organización Mundial de la Salud
REGIONAL PARA LAS AMÉRICAS

Country Cooperation Strategy

of the PAHO/WHO with Ecuador for the 2018/2022 period

World Health Organization
Organización Mundial de la Salud

PAHO WHO
Organización Mundial de la Salud

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Introduction

The Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) of the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) is the medium-term strategic vision to manage the cooperation actions with the countries in the context of the national priorities for health and of the regional and global commitments as well. The CCS also aims to achieve synergies and complementarity with other agencies of the United Nations System and other partners for development.

The PAHO/WHO Representation in Ecuador, in conjunction with the Ministry of Public Health (MOH), conducted a discussion process that involved the technical and strategic levels of the MOH and several players from the health sector, other related sectors, from academia and civil society. The outcome of this process is a set of Strategic Priorities and Scopes of Action in response to the national priorities expressed in the 2008 Constitution and the National Development Plan 2017-2021, which in turn are aligned with the regional health strategies featured in the Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2018-2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

The identified priorities are a response to the analysis of the country's public health situation, the recognition of progress made and of the challenges of the health system in order to address the causes of the problems against the determinants of health, strengthening the institutional capability and social participation for the achievement of goals with cross-cutting perspectives for the application of human rights, equity, gender, community and intercultural approaches.



Strategic Priorities and Scopes of Action

Strategic Priority 1

Contribute to strengthen the National Health System to achieve universal access and health coverage.

Scope of action 1: To strengthen the processes of stewardship and governance, normative legal frameworks and their implementation, so as to consolidate the health sector's transformation process and the generation of cross-sectoral strategic partnerships.

Scope of action 2: Contribute towards universal access to comprehensive and quality health services through the implementation of the Comprehensive Healthcare Model with a Family, Community and Intercultural approach based on Primary Health Care articulated by Comprehensive Health Services Networks.

Scope of action 3: Contribute in the development and implementation of financial sustainability mechanisms for the National Health System.

Scope of action 4: Support the formulation and implementation of policy and strategy for human talent specialized in health to achieve universal coverage.

Scope of action 5: Contribute towards the strengthening of the health information system and of the research processes thereof that allows the monitoring and compliance assessment of national and international health goals and strengthens decision making based on evidence.

Strategic Priority 2

Contribute to strengthen the National Health System in the prevention, control and elimination of communicable diseases, the approach to antimicrobial resistance, the application of International Health Regulations, and risk and disaster management.

Scope of action 1: Strengthen national capabilities to sustain achievements made in the prevention, monitoring and control of communicable diseases and to speed up efforts to, as a minimum, attain the elimination of two neglected diseases in strategic synergy with Academia, Scientific Societies and the United Nations System.

Scope of action 2: Strengthen the national immunization strategy to reach the goals in the immunization coverages, reinforce the surveillance system for monitoring the reintroduction of vaccine-preventable diseases, and certification of the eradication of polio.

Scope of action 3: Strengthen the capabilities of the Ministry of Public Health professionals to implement the National Antimicrobial Resistance Plan and improve practices in the prevention of healthcare-associated infections related with patient care quality and safety.

Scope of action 4: Contribute towards the development and maintenance of basic capabilities of the International Health Regulations and of the strengthening of the National Focal Point for the monitoring, assessment and notification of public health events of national and international significance.

Scope of action 5: Strengthen the health sector's capability to create a resilient health system to reduce the effects of emergencies, disasters and public health events.





Strategic Priority 3

Contribute to reduce the disease and premature mortality burden due to chronic non-communicable diseases (NCD) and mental health disorders.

Scope of action 1: Strengthen the epidemiological monitoring system and registration of chronic non-communicable and mental health disorders and embed tools for analysis, decision making and the periodic review of its prevalence and that of its environmental, behavioral and intermediate risk factors.

Scope of action 2: Consolidate and extend the problem-solving capability of the comprehensive health services networks, with emphasis on the first level of care, for the timely detection and control of chronic diseases with the highest burden in Ecuador, through the application of norms and care instruments, as well as to encourage self-care and self-control.

Scope of action 3: To foster policies and plans for chronic NCDs (Non-Communicable Diseases) as well as health and prevention best practices, towards the adoption of healthy living habits, self-care, development of healthy environments, family and community empowerment, intercultural and multi-sectoral action for health in dealing with issues such as nutrition and feeding, occupational health, road safety, violence, tobacco consumption, alcohol and psychoactive drugs, disabilities and environmental pollution.

Strategic Priority 4

Contribute to improve the health condition over the life course focused on priority groups and/or in situation of vulnerability with an approach based on rights, interculturality and gender, hinged on determinants of health and a multinational context.



Scope of action 1: Contribute to strengthen inter-sectoral and community action along with those with the different social partners to foster and encourage healthy surroundings and environments at all nationwide levels.

Scope of action 2: Strengthen institutional capabilities of public and private organizations, as well as civil society, for the design, implementation, follow up and assessment of effective and efficient interventions directed at reaching the proposed targets in priority issues such as teenage pregnancy, maternal and neonatal mortality, mother-to-child transmission of HIV and syphilis, double burden of malnutrition, sexual and reproductive health, older adults, prevention of all forms of violence, and prevention of drug use and abuse.



Scope of action 3: Contribute to the development, implementation, monitoring and assessment of preventive and promotional strategies embedded to the comprehensive health care model, centered on the individual, family and community, to encourage adoption of healthy practices and habits over the life course.

Scope of action 4: Strengthen the institutional capabilities to measure, monitor and intervene on inequities in health, with an approach based on rights, interculturality, gender and intergenerational.

Common lines of intervention

In the different Strategic Priorities common action lines are identified and call for a joint effort among players akin to the health subject. These are:

- Development of information systems to support decision-making based on evidence,
- Strengthen partnerships between decision makers of the health sector, academia, scientific societies, civil society organizations and the different ethnic groups,
- Planning, management and development of human talent for implementation of the care model at different levels of the system,
- Strengthening of processes for social and community participation, social oversight and accountability of policies and programs,
- Strengthening of the inter-sectoral, interinstitutional articulation and also between the different levels of government (local, regional and national),
- Development of processes for social communication, educational communication that encourage the promotion of health, disease prevention and integral health care.
- Strengthening of mechanisms and processes of inter-sectoral actions for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Conclusions

The current strategic note has been analyzed and executed by work teams of professionals and authorities from Ecuador's Ministry of Health and PAHO/WHO in consultation with different social players which allows for the signing of this essential guidance instrument for the PAHO/WHO Technical Cooperation Program with the country.

Country and PAHO/WHO authorities are hereby committed to working together to ensure the implementation and compliance of the Cooperation Strategy for the period 2018-2022. In faith whereof, they signed this strategic note in Quito, Ecuador, on the twelfth day of December in the year two thousand and seventeen.

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