

## Access and innovation for health: A regional platform

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) works actively to promote innovation for health in the Americas. Improving access to essential medicines, biological and biotechnological products, and diagnostics is one of PAHO/WHO's critical functions. To better achieve this goal, we are developing a Regional Platform for Access and Innovation for Health.

### GOAL

The Platform offers a series of virtual tools that will promote and support innovation, access, rational use and governance in the area of essential medicines, diagnostics and biologicals from a public health perspective and to serve Regional health priorities

### SCOPE

- Access to essential medicines, biologicals and diagnostics.
- Intellectual property and public health.
- R&D and technological innovation for health.
- Rational use of medicines and health technologies.
- Pharmaceutical and Technological Innovation policies and regulations.

The Platform and its relationship with the Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property (WHA61.21) and the Regional Perspective (CD48.15)(GSPoA)

The work plan for the implementation of the GSPoA in the Region, considers three critical elements under which PAHO's technical cooperation activities are:

- Access to medicines and health technologies.
- Technological innovation for health.
- Intellectual property rights, policies and management from a public health perspective.

The Regional Platform for Access and Innovation for Health will serve as an instrument to facilitate these building blocks.

### EXPECTED RESULTS

- Strengthen National Health Authorities in regulatory and governance functions for the pharmaceutical and innovation for health sectors.
- Promote access to essential medicines and health technologies and improve the rational use of these products based on the best available evidence.
- Promote innovation and technology transfer to serve Regional health priorities.
- Facilitate the exchange and transparency of information.



Medicines and Technologies (HSS/MT)  
Health Systems based on  
Primary Health Care (HSS)

# Regional platform for access and innovation for health

## Innovation for health: A new perspective

The cycle of innovation for health is complex and depends on the establishment of effective linkages between an array of stakeholders and processes. The Americas possess all the necessary components to establish innovation cycles but these elements do not always interlink effectively and efficiently. PAHO expects the platform to facilitate the interaction between stakeholders within the innovation for health systems. These linkages should expand beyond institutional, country and sector boundaries.

The Platform will also serve as an instrument to channel reliable information for the development of health products that constitute a priority for the Region.

Initially, the platform will be constructed around innovation needs for Chagas and other neglected diseases. Soon after, it will incorporate biotechnological products. Eventually, the Platform will encompass a broad spectrum of essential medicines, biologicals and diagnostics.

