



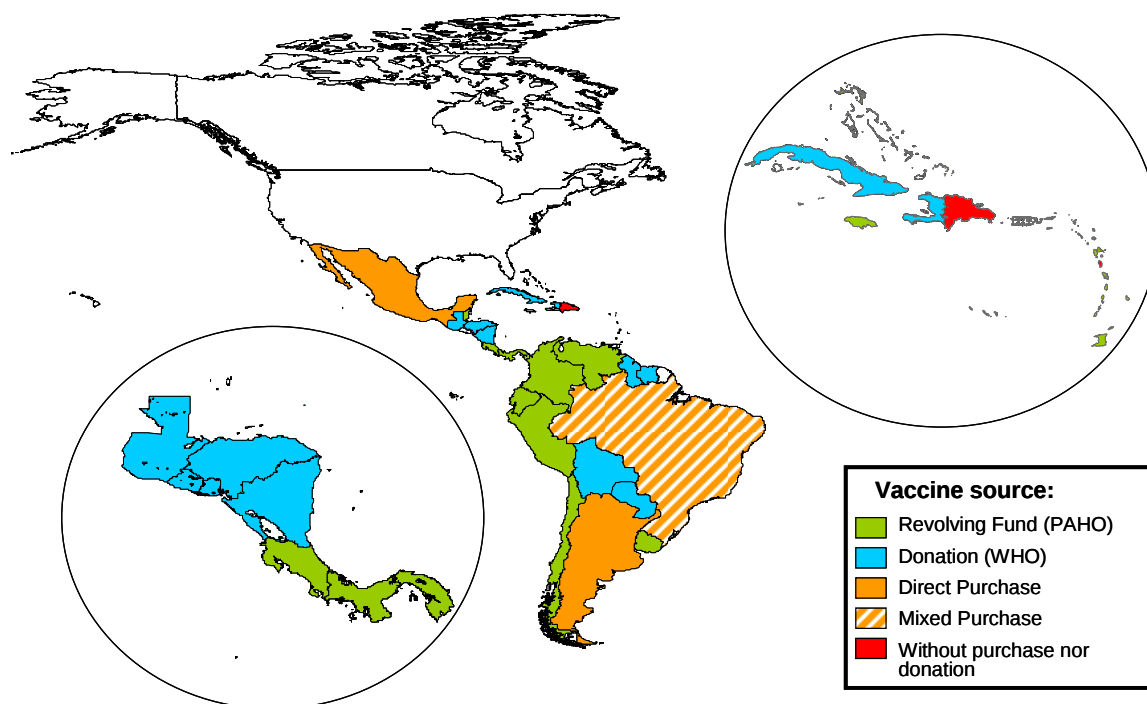
Report on the progress of the A H1N1 Influenza Vaccination in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) 18 March 2010

Countries and territories in the Region have several mechanisms for acquiring the influenza A H1N1 vaccine:

- direct purchase of the vaccine through the Revolving Fund (23 countries)
- vaccine donations from WHO (10 countries)
- direct purchase from the suppliers (2 countries)
- mixed purchases (direct purchase from the suppliers and also from the RF - 1 country)

It is estimated that countries and territories in LAC will have access to approximately 140 million doses of influenza A H1N1 vaccine. However, there are countries such as the Dominican Republic and Dominica that have not purchased or received donated vaccines against pandemic influenza.

Influenza A (H1N1) Vaccine Access in Latin America and the Caribbean





1) Procurement of the vaccine through the Revolving Fund:

- To date 22 countries have already received vaccine against pandemic influenza in Latin America and the Caribbean and 1 additional country will receive it by March at the latest.
- Some countries have diminished the quantities of dose to be purchased, probably due to the cost of the vaccine.

2) WHO vaccines donations:

Ten countries in the region have been selected to receive 6,974,000 doses of donated pandemic vaccine through the WHO. As of March 17th, countries have received 1,234,000 doses of the vaccine, with Nicaragua receiving the first shipment (consisting of 110,000 doses) on March 3rd, and Cuba receiving 1,124,000 doses on March 17th. Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Guyana are scheduled to receive vaccine on March 18, 21, 25 and 25, respectively.

3) Reports of vaccination advances

Thirteen countries in the Region have initiated the vaccination of risk groups including: Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Brazil, Costa Rica, Mexico, Montserrat, Panama, Peru, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago, with approximately 13 million doses administered as of March 17.

With regards to events supposedly attributable to vaccination or immunization (ESAVI), there have been 227 reported events, nine of which were classified as serious events: Bahamas (2), Mexico (6) and Suriname (1). To date none of these events have been associated with the vaccine against pandemic influenza.

4) The technical documents and advances in vaccination made by countries will be updated in the PAHO Immunization website:

http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2461&Itemid=569&lang=en