

A new hemispheric health agenda

The Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2018-2030 (SHAA2030) is a framework that reflects the highest level of strategic planning and policy for health in the Americas. It is a call for collective action to achieve higher levels of health and well-being within the new regional and global context. The Agenda is approved by the Pan American Sanitary Conference, the highest authority of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), representing all the countries of the Western Hemisphere.

The SHAA2030 represents the health sector response to commitments made by the countries in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, unfinished business from the Millennium Development Goals and the Health Agenda for the Americas 2008-2017, as well as future and emerging regional public health challenges. It will be implemented through the PAHO strategic plans and strategies, as well as through subregional and national health plans.

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History of the agenda

PAHO Member States decided to develop SHAA2030 at a special event at the 55th Directing Council in September 2016. A Countries Working Group (CWG) was formed the following month, and it has collaborated closely with the Secretariat to develop the document. The CWG was composed of high-level representatives of 16 Member States from all PAHO subregions: North America (the United States and Mexico), the Caribbean (Antigua and Barbuda and Barbados), Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama), and South America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay). The CWG was chaired by Ecuador, and Barbados and Panama served as vice-chairs. To develop the Agenda, CWG and the Secretariat examined the health situation in the Region and progress made in implementing the Health Agenda for the Americas 2008-2017 and other regional and global commitments agreed by Member States. The development of the Agenda was a consultative process that obtained input from all countries of the Americas through PAHO's Governing Bodies, three face-to-face CWG meetings, and two regionwide consultations with all countries.

“ I am confident that this high-level political Agenda can help us to keep our ‘eyes on the prize’ as we collectively work towards the health goals contained herein. Between now and 2030, political parties may change, economic circumstances may be more or less favorable to investing in health, and yet we can stay focused on the long-term targets that have been set.

Please join me in celebrating the labor, vision, and commitment of the countries that have resulted in this Sustainable Health Agenda. At the same time, we must recognize that the hard part starts now: working daily on the myriad initiatives and actions that will ultimately realize our vision of equitable health and well-being for all peoples of the Americas. ”

Dr. Carissa F. Etienne
Director
Pan American Health Organization

More information on the SHAA2030 is available at:
<http://www.paho.org/health-agenda-americas>

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THE SUSTAINABLE HEALTH AGENDA FOR THE AMERICAS 2030



A call to action for health and well-being in our hemisphere



