

Health in All Policies | The Role of Government

Session 2.2. HiAP Workshop, 19 June

By Kira Fortune

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Agenda: The Role of Government in HiAP

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Setting the Scene	Role of Government: Applying HiAP	Structure and Mechanisms for HiAP	Group Work: Review of Case Studies	Conclusion				
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Learning Objectives



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- Describe the role of government in the HiAP approach
- Explain some of the barriers to closer intersectoral collaboration
- Describe conditions conducive to the HiAP approach
- List and appraise different structures and mechanisms for intersectoral collaboration and HiAP

Reflections on Regional Progress

At the close of the Millennium Development Goals, remarkable progress was achieved regionally, particularly in terms of health related outcomes:

- Reduction in child mortality
 Combating infectious diseases
 Increased access to improved water and sanitation
- Decrease in extreme poverty
- Increased access to schooling and infrastructure
- An increase in overall life expectancy



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Inequity at a Glance

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- 2.2 billion people world-wide live on less than \$2 per day
- Recent evidence demonstrates that more than 1 in 4 residents of the Region lives in moderate poverty (on less than US \$4 a day)
- More than 130 million people in Latin America are chronically poor
- There is a 32-year-gap in average female life expectancy between Mozambique and Japan
- Life expectancy in Dominican Republic is 73 whereas in Haiti it is 62 (a gap of 11 years within the same island)

The Red Line between Washington, D.C. and Shady Grove, Md. has 17 metro stops spanning 30 miles and an estimated nine-year difference in life span



Moving Beyond the Health Sector

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Addressing the Social Determinants of Health: An Essential Factor in Breaking the Cycle of Inequity

In 2008 The Commission on the Social Determinants of Health launched Closing the Gap in a Generation, putting equity firmly on the global agenda



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Through public consultation, Member States identified Five Key Pillars:



Health in All Policies

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"An approach to public policies across sectors that systematically takes into account the health implications of decisions, seeks synergies, and avoids harmful health impacts in order to improve population health and health equity" 2013 Helsinki Statement on Health in All Polices



Key tool to implement the Rio Political Declaration: social and environmental determinants of health

- Often better addressed through policies, interventions and *actions outside the health sector*
- Building partnerships and *finding common ground* between the health sector and other sectors of government, civil society and the private sector is essential

The SDGs & Equity

Equity is the defining principle of the SDGs.



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The SDGs and the Application of Health in all Policies

The approaches and principles of Health in All Policies mirror those of the SDGs

- HiAP acts as an **enabler for achieving health equity** and a collaborative strategy for the effective incorporation of health considerations into decision-making.
- Seeks to ensure that people have **equal opportunities** to achieve the highest level of health
- Maintains a focus on comprehensive, **intersectoral action** to address underlying social, economic, environmental and political causes of population health



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Implementing the Vision: Health in All Policies



Region of the Americas is a global leader in driving forward this initiative, being the *first WHO Region to establish a Plan of Action on HiAP*

- **1.** White Paper: options and opportunities
- 2. More than 26 Case studies documented on the 'how to'
- 3. Task Force and Working Group on HiAP in the SDGs
- 4. Capacity building: training being rolled out by PAHO across the Americas
- 5. Virtual Course on HiAP

Implementing the Vision: Regional Review of Health Inequalities



Goal of the Commission:

•Build on existing evidence and generate deeper understandings of key drivers of health inequities

Support strategies to promote equity and health equality with high-quality evidence
Document actions taken by governments, regions and communities to address inequities
Make actionable recommendations at local, national and global levels

Composed of Regional leaders in health, gender, ethnicity, equity, human rights and the social determinants of health

Role of Government



Governments have a responsibility for the health of their peoples:

- Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, not merely the absence of disease or infirmity
- Health is an individual right and social justice issue
- Health is a public good

Important Functions of Government in HiAP Approach

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•Commissioning research

•Engaging stakeholders within and beyond government

•Formulating and implementing intersectoral policies

•Evaluating impact of intersectoral policies

Implementing the Vision: Progress at the Country Level

1 Brazil	2 Chile	3 Colombia	4 Cuba

Bolsa Família: The conditional cash transfer programme *Bolsa Família* was established in 2003 to ensure access to social rights for health care thereby expanding access to health and education for families in poverty and extreme poverty, and to reduce poverty and income inequities.

Chile Crece Contigo: is a system of protection for early childhood development, with a mission to monitor, protect, and uphold the rights of all children and their families by providing programmes and services, which enable special support for the poorest households that account for most vulnerable families.

De Cero a Siempre is the National Strategy for Comprehensive Care in Early Childhood in Colombia. The strategy aims to unify the efforts of the public and private sectors, civil society organisations, and international cooperation to improve the experience and outcomes of early childhood in Colombia

Dengue Prevention Programme and Eradication of Aedes aegypti is a comprehensive set of intersectoral interventions aimed at elimination and control of Aedes aegypti mosquito (and other vectors) through environmental sanitation, hygiene, and collective household action

The Role of Government: The Case of Chile's CreceContigo



<u>Commissioning research</u>: Presidential Advisory Council assessed scientific literature and case studies from around the world, expert opinions, and feedback from Chilean adults and children to develop the CCC policy

Engaging stakeholders within and beyond government:Thousands of Chileans attended public consultation events or submitted feedback online during its development

<u>Formulating and implementing intersectoral policies:</u> All relevant government agencies (in education, health and social development) highly engaged and collaborating to ensure the success of CCC

Evaluating impact of intersectoral policies CCC collects data about its participants and uses this to evaluate impact and inform policy, and this has been in place from the outset

Group Activity: Conditions that Promote or Hinder Intersectoral Collaboration

HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES

With your partner, list conditions or situations that promote or hinder working across sectors and levels of government

Each group will present their lists for group discussion

Lessons Learnt Successes:

- Government supports and encourages intersectoral action
- Sectors have shared interests
- Issue has high political importance and requires urgent action
- Proposed policy has public support
- Strong, effective leaders in the bureaucracy (policy champions/entrepreneurs)
- Intersectoral action is well planned with clear objectives, roles and responsibilities;
- Sufficient resources are available;
- There are plans to monitor and sustain outcomes

Barriers:

- Distracted or unstable leadership
- Conflicting personalities
- Fragmented government functions
- Sub-national geographical and government jurisdiction divisions
- Sectors appearing to have competing interests
- Limited and misuse of resources (staff, funding, etc.)













Health in All Policies: Context Matters

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Our responsibility is to become more compelling advocates for Health in and beyond SDG 3 and encourage global, regional, national and local actors to use multi-sectoral approaches.



Every SDG Requires Multi-sectoral Collaboration



Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all











Structure and Mechanisms for Inter-sectoral Action

HiAP



	Agenda setting		Policy formation		Policy implementation		Policy review				
	ldentify problem	Research	Set agenda	Develop options and strategies	Negotiate	Formulate policy/ guidance	Implement policy	Enforce policy	Monitor	Evaluate	Report
1. Cabinet committees and secretariats											
2. Parliamentary committees											
3. Interdepartmental committees and units											
4. Mega-ministries and merges											
5. Joint budgeting											
6. Intersectoral policy-making procedures											
7. Non-government stakeholder engagement											

Source: based on analysis in McQueen DV et al. (2012) Intersectoral Governance for Health in All Policies. WHO.

Forum of the Countries of LAC on **Sustainable Development**

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Regional Progress: SDGs Agenda

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Fuente: Instituto Latinoamericano y del Caribe de Planificación Económica y Social (ILPES), sobre la base de información de los países.

Group Exercise

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In small groups, review the case studies and consider the following questions:

1. What role, if any, did high-level government support for HiAP approaches play in these case studies?

2. Which sectors and non-governmental stakeholders are the most likely collaborators for the Ministries of Health in both countries to tackle the issues identified? What might some of the barriers be to implementing such collaborations? Do these differ between the two case studies?

3. In what ways might actors in the Ministries of Health in Mexico and Suriname benefit from understanding the incentives and modes of working of other sectors? Does this differ in the two examples given? Can you identify incentives of other actors that might actually be in conflict with those of the health sector in either case study

Each group will present their lists for group discussion

Lessons Learnt:

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- High-level government support is fundamental to the success of a HiAP approach
- Strong, effective leaders in the bureaucracy are important personalities matter
- Need to identify networks, contacts and "gatekeepers" in other government sectors to establish more direct and effective lines of communication
- Crucial to understand the goals, languages and processes of other government sectors
- Successful engagement of other government sectors requires the development of trust and the establishment of a consensus on shared goals and policies



Conclusions

The SDGs provide <u>unprecedented opportunities</u> to engage with stakeholders across the spectrum of sustainable human development using a HiAP approach

The region has taken critical steps to actively participate in this new cycle of global commitment by translating the <u>agenda into</u> <u>practice</u> and <u>develop concrete actions – build on our successes</u> <u>whilst recognizing challenges</u>

Closing the equity gap is the smart thing to do: Make the investment case

Demonstrate the 'how-to': Document and disseminate good practices at the local, national, regional and global level

Only by monitoring inequalities will it be possible to verify the impact of pro-equity policies and progress toward keeping the promise of ensuring that <u>no one is left behind</u>





Pan American Health Organization