



THE FIRST HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES (HiAP) TRAINING

PARAMARIBO, SURINAME 5-6 MAY 2015

DR. GUILLERMO TROYA
PAHO/WHO REPRESENTATIVE IN SURINAME

Background

On the 5th and 6th of May 2015, we were proud to host the first Health in All Policies (HiAP) training in Paramaribo, Suriname. This training was attended by approximately 65 participants – ministerial technical staff, policy advisors and actors from Non-Governmental agencies – representing various sectors throughout the Caribbean sub-region. HiAP focuses on the social and environmental determinants of health, which are often better addressed through policies, interventions and actions outside the health sector. The focus of this training was to train the participants in a Health in All Policies approach.

Process

The training was well attended and it was truly remarkable to have different sectors and disciplines represented. It is clear that a HiAP approach is really necessary: from the first presentation onwards the crowd was interactive, willing to learn and engaged the trainers critically and constructively.

Highlights and Outcomes

Key highlights of the workshop were the rewarding process, the commitment of the participants and the main outcomes:

- 1 Creation of a Caribbean HiAP Network, coordinated by and with PAHO/WHO's technical cooperation;
- 2 Creation and follow-up of HiAP training opportunities for capacity building in coordination with Durham University and the University of Suriname; as well as other Universities
- 3 Integration of HiAP into the Caribbean curricula (i.e. MPH Programs should have a HiAP module);
- 4 Dissemination of best practices on intersectoral approaches in Suriname and the Caribbean (a working group will be initiated led by Durham University to document a HiAP case study on Suriname);
- 5 Integration of a HiAP approach into the formulation / implementation of the next UNDAF and UNDAF;
- 6 Suriname's participation in the Urban Forum/HiAP High Level Meeting in Medellin, Colombia during the third week in October, 2015.

in the Caribbean, such as the West Indies University with the campuses in Jamaica, Barbados and Trinidad & Tobago, the St. George's University in Grenada for the EEC Countries, and the University of Guyana;



I highly recommend organizing a HiAP workshop as it not only builds capacity in the country and region but is also a best practice to bring together government sectors for the benefit of the public's health.

Dr. Guillermo Troya
PAHO/WHO Representative in Suriname



Resonance with Ministries and PAHO/WHO collaboration

Besides the outputs from the training, I recommend PWRs and country offices that will embark on organizing a HiAP workshop to build on its momentum and success. In Suriname, we found HiAP to be an entry point to an inter-ministerial platform for integrated action. To further capitalize on the momentum we held a meeting after the training ended with all ministries and a delegation from PAHO/WHO and Durham University. Under the guidance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Health, we received full commitment from all ministries to start a quick scan on equity and social determinants of health. We were able to use HiAP and the outcome of the trainings to bring together several line ministries and the UNCT. As such, I highly recommend organizing a HiAP workshop as it not only builds capacity in the country and region but is also a best practice to bring together government sectors for the benefit of the public's health.