

HEALTH CANADA \$11.87 MILLION

The official development assistance²⁸ provided by Health Canada during 2012–2013 totalled \$11,869,615.

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) serves as the regional office for the Americas of the World Health Organization, as well as the technical health agency of the Organization of American States. PAHO's mission is to lead strategic collaborative efforts among member states and other partners to promote equity in health, combat disease, and improve the quality of life and lengthen the lifespan of peoples of the Americas. Canada's assessed contribution to PAHO supports this mission. Canada played a leadership role in advancing governance and program policy issues at PAHO, having been an active member since 1971. Through PAHO, Canada advances multilateral and bilateral relations in health, and provides technical cooperation and capacity building.

The Office of International Affairs for the Health Portfolio (OIA) is responsible for managing Canada's relationship with PAHO in consultation with other federal departments. Canada's technical cooperation in the region reflects shared principles and approaches, and uses joint expertise from Canada and PAHO member states to improve health conditions and reduce inequities throughout the Americas. Technical cooperation takes various forms. Canadian experts attend technical meetings, participate in technical advisory groups, and provide bilateral support/capacity building to PAHO country offices and Ministries of Health in the Region. Canada also hosts regional meetings to support and influence the PAHO agenda. Technical cooperation in the region is also carried out through the Canada-PAHO Biennial Work Plan, which is jointly managed by OIA and PAHO.

More information on Canada's cooperation with PAHO is available on the PAHO-Canada Portal website.²⁹

²⁸ The assistance reported meets the requirements of the *Official Development Assistance Accountability Act* and is consistent with the reporting guidelines for development assistance prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

²⁹ <http://www.paho.org/can/>