

children in conjunction with primary environmental care. Meeting basic health needs goes hand in hand with the alleviation of poverty and should be seen as a contribution to it.

Objectives

5. Within the overall strategy to achieve health for all by the year 2000; to meet basic health needs *particularly of* ~~(of urban, peri-urban and)~~ rural populations; to provide necessary specialized environmental health services and coordinate involvement of citizens, the health sector, the health related sectors, and relevant non-health sectors (business, social, education and religious institutions) in solutions to health problems. As a matter of priority, health service coverage should be achieved for population groups in greatest need.

Activities

6. National Governments should, in the light of country specific conditions and needs, strengthen their health sector programmes to:

- (a) Build basic health infrastructures, monitoring and planning systems
 - (i) Develop primary health care that is practical, scientifically sound and appropriate to their needs and meet basic health needs of clean water, safe food and sanitation;
 - (ii) Support the use and strengthening of mechanisms which improve the coordination between health and related sectors at all appropriate levels of government;
 - (iii) Develop and implement rational and affordable approaches to the establishment and maintenance of health facilities;
 - (iv) Ensure and, where appropriate, increase provision of social services support;
 - (v) Develop strategies, including reliable health indicators, to monitor the progress and evaluate the effectiveness of health programmes;
 - (vi) Explore ways to finance the health system based on the assessment of the resources needed and identify the various financing alternatives;
 - (vii) Promote information exchange, technical support and training;
 - (viii) Support initiatives for self-management of services by vulnerable groups;
 - (ix) Integrate traditional knowledge and experience into national health systems, as appropriate.