HIAs from a Human Security Approach Perspective in Latin America and the Caribbean

Dr. Marcelo Korc
Regional Advisor, PAHO/WHO
Outline

1. Demographics of the LAC Region
2. Relationship between global and regional mandates and HIA
   - The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
   - The Health in All Policies strategy
   - The Human Security approach
3. Past HIA efforts and practitioner views in LAC
4. Opportunities
   - HIA of youth violence prevention plans in Central America
Demographics

- 582 million inhabitants
- 45 million indigenous
- 79% of population urban
- 93% literacy with marked differences in rural areas and low resource countries
- 40% of population living in poverty
- High levels of social inequality (Gini coefficient between 0.38 and 0.55)

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2013
Transforming Our World

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Equity is the defining principle of the SDGs
Our responsibility is to become more compelling advocates for health in and beyond SDG 3

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all

- Target 1.3: Implement social protection systems for all
- Target 6.1: achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water
- Target 5.2: End all forms of violence against all women and girls ….

Other goals and targets e.g. 10 (inequality), 11 (cities), 13 (climate change)

- Target 16.1: reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere
- Target 2.2: End malnutrition, achieve targets for reductions child stunting and wasting
- Target 4.2: ensure access to early childhood development, care and pre-primary education
Health in All Policies (HiAP)

“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 Policies

Focus on reducing health inequities using multi-sectorial approaches and identifying win-win situations with other sectors.

HIA

• One of the most structured approaches for HiAP

• A systematic approach to addressing determinants

Organización Panamericana de la Salud
Organización Mundial de la Salud Américas
The Human Security approach

An approach to identify and address widespread and cross-cutting challenges to the survival, livelihood and dignity of the people.

It strengthens community resilience through a good governance process.
Past HIA efforts in LAC

- PAHO HIA trainings, 2000 & 2011
- WHO-PAHO, health and environment HIA agreement, 2000
- EHIA legislation, 2009
- PAHO health impact of wastewater reuse, 2013
- EHIA Law, 2009
- UMAZ, IRDC EHIA and Mining 1999
- Private sector HIA gold/bauxite mining, 2012
- HIA network and MoH engagement, 2012
- Interest in HIA for the mining sector, 2013

Source: Drury, J., PAHO (2014)
Practitioner views in LAC

- Nonexistent in most countries
- Some integration into mining and water resource management
- Limited advances including health in EIAs
- Limited number of examples that respect published HIA guidelines
- Only multinationals in extractive industries developing internal guidelines for their companies
- Case of Brazil increasing participation of Ministry of Health in large EIA projects

Source: Drury J., PAHO (2014)
Opportunities

- Assessment of national youth violence prevention plans using a human security lens in Central America.
  - Systematic engagement of health and public security sectors.
  - Training on the human security approach.
  - Network of HIA practitioners using a human security lens.
  - Systematic assessments of national plans and in selected communities.
Why youth violence prevention?

Homicide is the leading cause of death in persons aged 10–29 years in LAC.

The consequences and treatment of non-fatal injuries resulting from youth violence constitutes a major burden on health systems.
Direct and indirect impacts on health

Proposed Strategy

Community strategies provided (hotspots and community policing, reducing access to alcoholic beverages)

Safer settings (e.g., schools, public spaces)

Change in Conditions

Intermediate Outcome

Improved Access to:

- Health services
- Education
- Activities after school hours
- Jobs/goods

Addressing conditions On:

- Health care
- Access to health information
- Risky behaviors
- Skilled workforce
- Social networks
- Physical activity
- Quality of life
- Living conditions
HIA from a human security approach perspective

Five core indicators:

To what extent the youth violence prevention plan is:

- People-centered
- Context-specific
- Promotion/prevention oriented
- Comprehensive, and
  addresses good governance (protection-promotion framework)?
Thank you!