



**Final Report on IDRC's Participation in the
11th World Congress on Public Health/ 8th Brazilian Congress on
Collective Health, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, August 21st – 25th, 2006**

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International Development
Research Centre



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This report was prepared by the project consultant, Lucy Gray-Donald but circulated, corrected and discussed among IDRC staff and LACRO's regional director. Some of the inputs used in the preparation of the report include the evaluation tools for the event, IDRC staff travel reports, and the project website (http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-99236-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html).

Executive Summary

From August 21st to 25th, the 11th World Congress on Public Health/8th Brazilian Congress on Public Health took place in Rio de Janeiro with the theme of *Public Health in a Globalized World: breaking down social, economic and political barriers*.

IDRC's participation in the Congress had 5 objectives, which are listed below:

- I. To raise the ecological dimensions of human health and present the Ecohealth approach
- II. To raise the governance and equity dimensions of health systems and present the GEH approach
- III. To bring together Ecohealth and GEH researchers to further exchange and partnerships with key national and international organizations to promote a fruitful interaction and build a joint perspective on participatory intersectoral approaches linking public health and sustainable development
- IV. To increase awareness and consolidate collective thinking on policy influence issues.
- V. To strengthen the Ecohealth and GEH and research partners' capacities to influence policy, maximize the potential of knowledge utilization and discuss the main factors affecting knowledge utilization and policy influence in selected research projects.

IDRC organized 8 panel sessions as part of the Congress program, launched an Ecohealth Call for Concept Notes on Communicable Diseases, and co-hosted a Canadian Reception. Additionally, on the two days leading up to the Congress, IDRC organized a workshop on "Research to Policy in Public Health: Analytical Frameworks for Action." IDRC also supported a workshop organized by the Network for Health Systems and Services Research in the Southern Cone on the 21st of August.

The main outcomes of the event were:

- 1) Increased visibility of the Ecohealth program
- 2) Increased visibility of the GEH program
- 3) Greater interaction between Ecohealth and GEH partners
- 4) Awareness of policy influence raised
- 5) Capacity building on policy influence achieved & main factors affecting knowledge utilization discussed
- 6) Team-building between IDRC Staff
- 7) Existing networks reinforced, new networks built

Lessons were also learned from IDRC's participation in the events such as the importance of holding satellite events, the advantages and disadvantages of participating in such large events, the need for early team planning, and the desire on the part of participants to follow-up their participation with continued communication with their colleagues, to name a few.

Results from the evaluation of the event, and communication with partners and IDRC staff indicate that IDRC's participation in the Congress was a success, and one worth repeating. An evaluation report with the full results of the evaluation is also available.

1 - Background & Objectives

The 11th World Congress on Public Health/8th Brazilian Congress on Public Health (WPHC), organized by Brazilian Association of Post Graduates in Public Health (ABRASCO), a member of the World Federation of Public Health Associations, was a historical event since it was the first time the World Congress was held in South America. The theme of the Congress was *Public Health in a Globalized World: breaking down social, economic and political barriers*. The aim of the Congress was to discuss and better understand why in an age of technological advances in treating and preventing disease, and when socio-economic contexts are improving in many countries, poverty, hunger, violence and preventable diseases continue to affect the large majority of the world's population. The Congress also served as an opportunity for the World Federation and ABRASCO to showcase their work in the development of social policy to overcome inequalities.

The Congress expected to gather together approximately 10,000 participants, including health managers, teachers, researchers, practitioners, government representatives and leaders such as Ministers of Health from the region and beyond. The final numbers for the event, obtained from ABRASCO, were 9180 participants of which 755 were non-Brazilians.

IDRC's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (LACRO) saw the first WPHC in South America as a unique opportunity to showcase the work of IDRC in health especially among key regional public audiences and to present the Ecosystem Approaches to Human Health (Ecohealth) and Governance, Equity and Health (GEH) program initiatives. The event was also seen as an opportunity to demonstrate the very relevant work being done in the health field with respect to research to policy linkages. Since its creation in 1970, IDRC has funded more than 840 projects on health issues for a total of CAD 200 million. Currently, IDRC is supporting 145 research projects on health issues, which represents an investment of approximately CAD 49 million towards finding solutions to improve people's health in the developing world.

IDRC's participation in the Congress had 5 objectives, which are listed below:

- VI. To raise the ecological dimensions of human health and present the Ecohealth approach at the 11th World Congress on Public Health / 8th Brazilian Congress on Collective Health –ABRASCO- (Rio de Janeiro, August 21-25, 2006)
- VII. To raise the governance and equity dimensions of health systems and present the GEH approach at the 11th World Congress on Public Health / 8th Brazilian Congress on Collective Health –ABRASCO- (Rio de Janeiro, August 21-25, 2006)
- VIII. To bring together Ecohealth and GEH researchers to further exchange and partnerships with key national and international organizations to promote a fruitful interaction and build a joint perspective on participatory intersectoral approaches linking public health and sustainable development (Rio de Janeiro, August 19-20, 2006)
- IX. To increase awareness and consolidate collective thinking on policy influence issues.

- X. To strengthen the Ecohealth and GEH and research partners' capacities to influence policy, maximize the potential of knowledge utilization and discuss the main factors affecting knowledge utilization and policy influence in selected research projects.

This document provides a brief description of the process leading up to the WPHC (Section 2), a description of the activities sponsored at and around the Congress (Section 3), a discussion of the outcomes of IDRC's participation (Section 4), and a reflection on the lessons learned from participation in the event (Section 5). Further information on the invited partners, the activities and the results of the evaluation of the activities is available in the Annexes of this document. (A full evaluation report is also available.)

2 - Planning and Preparations

Internal Planning

The original idea to participate in the WCPH came from LACRO's Director, Federico Burone. The idea was further developed with Roberto Bazzani, who was responsible for making contact with ABRASCO about IDRC's institutional participation at the event. A GEH partner in Rio de Janeiro, Celia Almedia from the Sergio Arauca National School of Public Health (ENSP), was very helpful in this process and also assisted in developing and proposing the GEH panels to the organizing committee. The Ecohealth panel proposals were discussed among the Ecohealth team and then proposed to ABRASCO.

In February 2006, Roberto Bazzani (Ecohealth – LACRO) put together the funding proposal for IDRC's participation in the Congress and also to carry out two simultaneous studies – one on urban exploration in LAC and a policy influence study in Mexico and Ecuador. The rationale of the two studies was to provide inputs to the Congress-related activities outcomes. The timing of the urban exploration did not allow for its results to be used as inputs in the Congress activities, however the initial results of the policy influence study were presented at the workshop by the consultant, Roberto Birceño-Leon.

Project (103695) was approved on February 25th, 2006, with 152,400 CAD dedicated to the workshop and congress costs, participant travel, workshop consultants and coordinators fee. Lucy Gray-Donald, a consultant based in Montevideo, was hired to coordinate IDRC's participation in Rio de Janeiro, and started her work in February. The overall coordination of the event fell under this project.

At the same time, the importance of involving GEH researchers in the event required the dedication of funds to this end. Two sources of funds were earmarked for this purpose:

- 102107-005 -- CAP -- Extending Social Protection in Health in LAC - Bridging Research and Practice (Phase II) – 25,000 CAD
- 103388-001 - GEH Conference and Workshop Support: FY 2006 – 22,000 CAD

In May 2006 IDRC was approached by the Network for Health Systems and Services Research in the Southern Cone (REDE), working out of Fiocruz¹ in Rio de Janeiro about the possibility of receiving funding for a workshop called “Health Systems and Services Research: Building Strategies to Strengthen Networks.” Funds for this proposal were awarded through project 103860- “Support to the Network for Health Systems and Services Research in the Southern Cone”.

Andrea Puppo from LACRO undertook communications planning and execution in collaboration with Communications in Ottawa. Andrea Puppo was responsible for the development of the website dedicated to IDRC’s participation; the design and production of folders, pamphlets, and posters used at the Congress; and the development of the press releases for the event. (Please see Annex 1 for copies of the 2 press releases prepared for the Congress.)

Team meetings of IDRC staff attending WCPH were held every 2 weeks starting in July, while continual communication of the event took place between the coordinator and IDRC staff involved due to the coordinator’s presence in LACRO.

External planning

IDRC’s external planning for the Congress began through its contact with Alvaro Matida, Executive Secretary from ABRASCO. Contact was made originally by Roberto Bazzani with the help of Celia Almeida, with the proposed panels being selected in early 2006, before the official selection date in February. Lucy Gray-Donald followed up with ABRASCO, during two visits to Rio in April and June and also by phone and email with both Alvaro Matida and Jacqueline Thompson from the ABRASCO Congress Secretariat.

Although IDRC presented the abstracts for the panels directly to ABRASCO’s scientific committee, many IDRC partners also presented their abstracts directly which resulted in some confusion. Coordination with ABRASCO was necessary to ensure that panel presentations were not duplicated and that partner’s participation the IDRC-sponsored panels did not interfere with their other proposed presentations by IDRC partners. Close contact with ABRASCO also made it possible to organize the launch of the Call for Concept Notes — Communicable Diseases in Latin America and the Caribbean: Ecohealth Research for Policy and Action.

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and REDE were invited to co-host the *Workshop on Research to Policy in Public Health*, with REDE helping coordinate many of the on-site details of both the Workshop and IDRC’s participation in the Congress.

The Canadian Embassy in Brazil contacted IDRC in June about the possibility of co-hosting a Canadian at the Congress. This reception, which also included the involvement of the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA), took place on August 22, from 18:30 to 20:30 in the VIP room of Pavilion 5 at the Rio Centro. Through the planning of this reception, IDRC became aware of Canadian participation in the Congress since a list of all Canadian

¹ The Oswaldo Cruz Foundation in Rio de Janeiro is a prominent science and technology health institution linked to the Brazilian Ministry of Health.

participants was obtained from ABRASCO for this purpose. The Institute of Population and Public Health, and the Canadian Public Health Association were identified as the other Canadian institutions, which would be present at the Congress.²

3 - IDRC Activities at and around the Congress

IDRC supported the participation of 50 partners in the events and activities mentioned below. Most of these partners, from 5 continents, 17 countries and 2 program initiatives participated in the Workshop and the Congress, although some others were only able to or invited to specific activities. (Please see Annex 2 for complete list of participants and the activities they participated in.) Additionally, 9 IDRC delegates attended the activities in Rio de Janeiro.

- **Workshop - Research to Policy in Public Health: Analytical Frameworks for Action**

On August 19th and 20th, IDRC hosted a workshop in collaboration with PAHO and REDE on “Research to Policy in Public Health: Analytical Frameworks for Action.” Of the 62 researchers, decision-makers and partners who were invited 58 attended the activity that took place in the Intercontinental Hotel in Rio de Janeiro. These participants, originating from 16 countries, gathered together to strengthen the capacities of scientists and policymakers to build bridges between research, policy and practice in public health and sustainable development.

The specific objectives of the activity were:

- To promote an in-depth reflection on research to policy influence in public health and sustainable development, discuss and suggest appropriate mechanisms and strategies for linking academics, decision makers and civil society.
- To contribute to the development of networking linkages between public health stakeholders and those of other key development sectors.
- To encourage the development of communities of practice in the fields of ecohealth research (and related health and sustainable development thematic areas) and governance, equity and health research (and related health policies and systems thematic areas), and promote cross-fertilization exchanges between both communities.
- To discuss research to policy conceptual frameworks and lessons learned from a diverse set of experiences.

The 1.5-day Workshop began with presentations on the conceptual research to policy frameworks, presented case studies from both Ecohealth and GEH, included a working groups session, and considerable discussion time. (Please see Annex 3 for the Workshop Agenda.)

² Additionally, Canadian delegates at the Congress came from various universities such as McMaster, Dalhousie, University of Ottawa, Simon Fraser, University of Western Ontario, University of Alberta, St. Francis Xavier, University of Montreal, Université de Laval, Brock, University of Toronto, University of Calgary, McGill, York, UBC, UQAM, etc.

- **REDE Workshop on Health Systems and Services Research: Building Strategies for Strengthening Networks**

On the morning of Monday, August 21st the Network for Health Systems and Services Research in the Southern Cone (REDE) held a half day workshop on “Building Strategies for Strengthening Networks” at the Hotel Royalty Barra. This activity was funded by IDRC, and 17 GEH partners were invited to participate in the event, which gathered network members from the Southern Cone region. The workshop’s main objective was “to discuss and propose strategies to strengthen the role of articulation, divulgation and insertion of research networks in policy-making and health systems with the aim of strengthening the response of public health systems to guarantee the universal right to health”.

- **Eight IDRC-sponsored congress panels**

More details on these panels can be found in Annex 4.

PANEL 1: An Ecosystem Approach to Environmental Pollution and Public Health in Rural Areas. Research to Policy Linkages

This panel took place on Tuesday, August 22 from 9:30 - 11:00 am in Room C of Pavilion 5 of the Rio Centre. Approximately 58 people attended this session.

Panelists analyzed strategies implemented to bridge research into policy and practice in the context of ecosystem-based research projects on environmental pollution in developing countries. Presentations addressed the challenges for a better understanding of social, ecological and health determinants enabling the implementation of evidence-based integrated policies and strategies for better ecosystem management, linking researchers, decision-makers and civil society.

Four panelists from 3 different countries presented their work in this panel, which was coordinated by the Director of IDRC’s Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, Federico Burone.

PANEL 2: Use of Research Results in Policy Decision-making, Formulation, and Implementation in the Health Sector. Extension of Social Protection in Health.

This panel took place in Room E of Pavilion 5 of the Rio Centre between 3 and 4:30 pm on August 22nd.

The objective of this panel was to discuss the use of research results in the formulation and implementation of health policies, with the view to induce the incorporation of proven scientific evidence in the creation of policies, which are more effective in overcoming inequalities and reaching greater levels of equity in health services.

Celia Almeida from the Sergio Arauca National School of Public Health (ENSP) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, coordinated the four panelists who originated from Canada, Brazil and the United States. An estimated 175 people attended this activity.

PANEL 3: Globalization, Urban Challenges and Public Health: Research to Policy Linkages

This panel was held in Room E of Pavilion 5 on Wednesday, August 23rd from 9:30 to 11:00 am and was attended by approximately 100 people.

The panel focused on urban environments where the environmental and human health challenges posed by human activities and uneven development are at its most acute. Not only are slums vulnerable places, but they also house vulnerable people - children, the aged, the handicapped, women and the socially disadvantaged - with a predisposition or sensitivity to be stressed by events, leading to illness, harm or other negative outcomes. Using international case studies, panelists discussed some of the complex linkages between globalization, urbanization and human health, and some of the challenges in linking participatory research, decision- making and policy influence.

Three panelists from different corners of the world – Africa, Asia and South America – shared their expert on the subject, with coordination by Ana Boischio, Ecohealth Senior Program Specialist, IDRC.

PANEL 4: Extending Social Protection in Health in LAC: five case studies

On Wednesday, August 23rd from 3 to 4:30 pm in Pavilion 5, Room E five case studies on extending social protection in health in LAC were presented.

The panelists presented the results of five research projects, funded by IDRC or PAHO, directed towards the discussion of problems related to social exclusion in health services and the formulation and implementation of proposals that aim to overcome this unequal situation.

The case studies originated from 4 different countries in the region and Ernesto Báscolo from the Juan Lazarte Institute in Rosario, Argentina, not only presented his case study but also acted as coordinator of the panel. Over 70 people were in the audience.

PANEL 5: Ecosystems Approaches to Communicable and Emerging Diseases

This Ecohealth panel took place in the auditorium of Pavilion 4 on the morning of Thursday, August 24th from 9:30 to 11 am.

The panel explained that Ecosystem Approaches to Human Health (Ecohealth) are encouraged to promote a holistic view of human health, social determinants and environmental sustainability. The framework relies on methodologies that are participatory, transdisciplinary, and that integrate social and gender concerns to generate a better understanding of ecosystem determinants of human health. Findings can then be used to identify sustainable, preventive interventions to improve human health, the ecosystem, to monitor environmental sustainability and, thereby complement conventional health activities. The panel discussed lessons learned from research projects using this framework in the prevention and control of communicable diseases.

The research projects presented were from LAC, Asia and Africa. Roberto Bazzani, Ecohealth Senior Program Specialist, IDRC, coordinated the session which approximately 100 people attended.

PANEL 6: Extension of social protection in health and universal access to healthcare: challenges for policy-makers

This session, coordinated by Christina Zarowsky - Team Leader from the GEH program initiative - took place on Thursday August 24th from 3 to 4:30 pm in Room E of Pavilion 5. The four panelists originating from 3 different countries discussed the issue of extension of social protection in health in the framework of universality of healthcare. It focused fundamentally on the challenges faced by decision-makers in the implementation of policies with this perspective - these challenges being caused by the innumerable restrictions related to political-ideological, financial or technical problems, which exist in the current Latin American context.

Approximately 40 people attended the panel.

PANEL 7: The Ecosystem Approach, a Heralded Complexity for Public Health

On Friday, August 25th at 9:30 am, the last Ecohealth panel was held in Room D8 of Pavilion 5, with approximately 41 people in the audience.

This was a joint panel with the Brazilian Association of Post-Graduate in Collective Health (ABRASCO), held with the purpose of discussing the use of the Ecohealth approach in public health research and projects. Three of the four panelists presented on projects in Brazil, while the remaining panelist – an IDRC partner – presented on the Community of Practice on Ecosystem Health Approaches to Reduce Toxics in Latin America and the Caribbean and Improve Collective Health (CoPEH-TLAC).

PANEL 8: Governance in Health - A conceptual and analytical approach to research in health policy

This final GEH-sponsored panel also took place on Friday, August 25th from 9:30 to 11:00 am but in Room E of Pavilion 5.

The purpose of this panel was to clear up the confusion around the concepts and uses of the term governance when used in the analysis of the political processes linked to the health sector. In Latin America there is notable conceptual confusion caused by the indiscriminate use of different words or phrases as equivalents to the word "governance" in English. For our purposes, governance is applied as an analytical research tool in the thematic area of policy and health systems. The use of an analytical governance framework in research projects was discussed, in contrast to its normative use promoted by various international agencies. Examples of its application to health policy were presented which allowed the panel to describe, explain and understand the interactions of actors, processes and rules linked to behaviour and decision-making in society.

The panel was coordinated by Luiza Heimann from the Institute of Health in Sao Paulo, Brazil and included presentations from four panelists from Latin America and Europe. There were approximately 45 people in the audience.

- **Launch of the Ecohealth Call for Concept Notes on Communicable Diseases**

IDRC took the opportunity of opening the Call for Concept Notes on Communicable Diseases in Latin America and the Caribbean: Eco-Health Research for Policy and Action at the WPHC. The launch took place between 12:30 and 1:30 pm on August 23rd in Room 6 of Pavilion 4.

IDRC's partners in the 1 million dollar (CAD) call, from the Organization of American States³ (OAS) and PAHO⁴ were in attendance.⁵ Immediately following the announcement, the Steering Committee of the Call, with representation from the organizations listed above, held a meeting.

The dissemination of the Call at the Congress was carried out through the distribution on material on the Call at the IDRC booth, during the Workshop, to audience members in the IDRC panels, as well as to the public exiting other non-IDRC but relevant panels (e.g. "Outbreaks and the Control of Vector-Borne Diseases").

- **Canadian Reception**

On August 22nd at 6:30 pm, over 100 people gathered in the VIP Room of Pavilion 5 of the Rio Centro at a reception jointly hosted by IDRC, the CPHA, and the Canadian Embassy in Brasilia.

The international audience of researchers, decision-makers and health practitioners at the event had the opportunity to network with others in their field. They were welcomed by the Canadian Ambassador to Brazil, Guillermo E. Rishchynski, who provided a summary of Canadian-supported projects in Brazil and made note of IDRC's current work on health issues in the country. Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. David Butler-Jones also spoke to the guests, and underlined Canada's commitment to public health issues in Canada and internationally.

Participants were also joined by Mr Steven Fletcher, Member of Parliament for Charleswood – St. James and Assiniboia, in Manitoba and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health. Mr. Fletcher attended the WCPH as the Canadian government's official representative, participated as a panelist in Congress session and visited the IDRC booth.

- **IDRC Booth at Congress Exhibition**

³ Scott Vaughan represented the OAS.

⁴ Luiz Augusto Galvao presented PAHO.

⁵ The Inter-American Development Bank was unable to attend.

Additionally, IDRC hosted a small booth in the Congress exhibition. The continuously staffed booth was a source of IDRC materials for the public in the Congress and also served as a meeting point for both IDRC staff and partners. Three short documentaries were also aired in the booth. The booth was also equipped with an internet connection to help IDRC staff help the visitors find the specific information they were after.

The booth served as IDRC's interface with the Congress' large public

4 - Outcomes

Taking the objectives of IDRC's participation into account, it is possible to conclude that the WPHC was a success for the Centre.

1) Increased visibility of the Ecohealth program

Over 300 people attended the four Ecohealth panels over the course of the Congress. Many respondents to the audience questionnaires, when asked about what key message they were taking away from the panel commented on "the relationship between health and environment" or "the link between ecosystems and well-being" which suggests that they understood what the program is about at its simplest level. Not only did the panels raise the visibility of the Ecohealth program but also of IDRC since only 23% of audience members had heard of IDRC before the activity.

The Ecohealth Call for Concept Notes on Communicable Diseases was successfully launched, with information about the Call being widely distributed through the booth and at the Ecohealth panels themselves.

2) Increased visibility of the GEH program

Over 330 people attended the 4 GEH panels during the Congress, of which approximately half had not heard of IDRC before the panel.

The key messages taken away included "governance is not a linear concept", "participatory management" and "the challenges of social protection in the globalized world", indicating that panels served as a good introduction to the central issues of the program.

3) Greater interaction between Ecohealth and GEH partners

Through their participation in Rio, IDRC partners had the opportunity to meet other researchers from different regions and different research areas. This was most obvious at the *Workshop on Research to Policy in Public Health: Analytical Frameworks for Action* where 23 Ecohealth and 25 GEH partners exchanged ideas and experiences before the start of the WCPH.

There was also some "cross-fertilization" between the panels, with Ecohealth partners attending GEH panels and vice versa. This was also the case for some IDRC staff who became more familiar with the work being done outside their program.

In the workshop and general participation surveys and post congress interviews, participants commented on the interchange between groups. Partners were pleased that the two groups were brought together in the Workshop and hoped that the event was just the start of future work together.

4) Awareness of policy influence raised

The topic of policy influence was addressed not only in the Workshop where evaluation results confirm that participants received new information related to the importance and strategies for using research results in policy formulation but it also was an underlying theme in the 8 panels presented in the Congress. In panels where research to policy was a central issue and in panels where it was an underlying theme, audience members took away key messages reflecting that the issue of policy influence was successfully raised. For example, one audience member commented on “the need for a transdisciplinary approach to link research to policy” while another commented on “the importance of how to translate knowledge to practice.”

5) Capacity building on policy influence achieved & main factors affecting knowledge utilization discussed

The Workshop was where research partner’s capacities to influence policy were strengthened by bringing researchers and decision-makers together to learn from each other’s experiences. Also, at the Workshop decision-makers discussed some of the challenges of knowledge utilization in their work, which as one participant put it “brought the assumptions of researchers back down to Earth”.

6) Other outcomes

Some of the outcomes are not directly related to an objective but deserve to be mentioned.

i) Team-building among IDRC Staff

The organization of IDRC’s participation in the Congress was centred out of LACRO in Montevideo, however throughout the planning process and at the event itself, IDRC staff from Ottawa were in close communication with the LACRO team. In Rio, IDRC team members from both GEH and Ecohealth, as well as Communications, and Partnerships and Business Development Division (PBDD) came together and worked together to make the activities successful.

ii) Existing networks reinforced & new networks built

IDRC invited partners were also afforded the opportunity to meet fellow researchers and decision-makers. When partner invitees were asked if they benefited by making new contacts and networks, two-thirds responded that they had greatly benefited with the remaining respondents said they had somewhat benefited.

5 - Lessons Learned

General learning

- **Satellite activities are invaluable**

At large events such as the WPHC, it is important and fruitful to organize smaller satellite activities where partners can come together to share their work and knowledge with the IDRC group. These activities offer an important venue for networking and partnership building that is highly valued by partners. Partners invited to Rio highly valued the Workshop on “Research to Policy in Public Health.”

- **Partners can feel lost at large events**

Many partners commented on the enormous size of the Congress and how it was difficult to meet up with the group. Therefore it is important to hold smaller events such as the Workshop mentioned above, or to look at participating in smaller events in the future where IDRC can have a larger presence. Large congresses may be a good place to “market IDRC” but make for difficult venues for discussion, returning once again to the importance of holding satellite events such as the Workshop.

- **Piggy-backing works up until a point**

Several partners when asked about what they liked least about the Workshop commented on “using up Saturday and Sunday” or “working on Sunday” or the “lack of leisure time” while at the same time expressing their satisfaction with the content of and interaction at the event.

There were seven such comments on the evaluations, which is roughly the number of researchers and decision-makers who also attended a project meeting in the three days prior to the Workshop, and who also stayed on for the Congress. This project meeting was scheduled before the Workshop and Congress to piggyback those events, however, participants involved in all three meetings found the schedule gruelling. The number of events piggy-backed to future congresses should be considered, or a rest day should be scheduled, in order to allow avoid overwhelming invited partners and to let them participate fully in all events.

- **Social events are important networking activities**

Although there was a toast and dinner organized during the Workshop, it is necessary to organize social events throughout the duration of the event. Some partners were unable to attend the Workshop and arrived for the Congress once the organized social events were over. Many commented on how it would have been nice to have had a reception for all invitees. Others who had attended the Workshop felt that once the Congress started, the group lost some of its cohesion.

- **Booth size is a networking investment**

Since the IDRC booth at these congresses serves as meeting place for staff and partners, it is worth investing in a space, which allows for people to sit and talk. The cost of the extra space is compensated for in stronger links and partnerships built between researchers and other partners⁶.

- **A more formalized planning team may facilitate information transfer in future events**

Although a team formed around organizing and planning for the Congress with time, it might have been useful to name a team earlier in the planning process. With 1.5 months to go, the Consultant who had been working on the coordination for several months, suddenly needed to rapidly transfer information to those who were going to the Congress at a time when demands from invitees and the logistical details were at a peak. Getting all team members involved earlier on may help the flow and circulation of information among the team and facilitate preparations.

- **Partners want to keep working with their new contacts**

Several participants voiced their interest in continuing to work with the group of researchers and partners who gathered in Rio de Janeiro. They suggested future workshops and electronic forums as two possible ways of doing so.

Workshop learning

- **Workshops are a good way to introduce partners from different disciplines and programs, and to lay the groundwork for future collaboration**

The large majority of the Workshop participants commented on the success of bringing researchers and decision-makers from both the Ecohealth and GEH programs together, commenting on the new perspectives this combination added to the discussion. Many also expressed their interest in working further with partners outside of their program.

- **The importance of a facilitator**

Several participants at the Workshop commented that more control was needed in the workshop to regulate presentation and discussion times. Likewise, some respondents commented on a lack of a reflection exercise among the group and poor working group dynamics. These issues could be addressed in the future through the use of a facilitator.

- **Workshop should not be rushed in order to allow for more discussion time**

⁶ The costs of space in the expo was 300 USD/m². Upgrading from a 9m² booth to a 12m² booth, which would have allowed space for a table and chairs where participants could meet, would have cost 900 USD more for the space and 70 USD in extra furniture costs, increasing the booth budget by approximately 16%.

Although 18 workshop survey respondents said that what they liked most about the workshop was the exchange and discussion between participants, nine respondents also commented on the lack of discussion time or an overabundance of presentation time that restricted discussion time. In a future activity a full 2-day workshop or 2.5 day workshop should be considered.

- **Work towards a tangible product**

Although the Workshop was considered a success all round, some participants did mention their frustration that there was no tangible product output from the workshop. Working towards such a product or towards a future work plan may help provide continuity to activities organized with the same researchers over time.

Panel learning

- **Panels need to be well marketed to reach the Congress public**

Although a poster was prepared with the entire IDRC panel schedule, and an extensive website was created, a paper handout would also have been useful in spreading the word among the congress public. With such a large public, and 19 simultaneous panels, competition for audience members was fierce. Efforts should be made to advertise IDRC panels before the Congress to its target audience. In the case of the WPHC, most audience members in the IDRC panels were from the field of public health practice, researchers or policy-makers. In future events, the IDRC agenda of activities could be circulated beforehand at local universities and public health offices. Over 80% of audience members in the IDRC panels had heard of the event through either the Congress website or program, which suggests that IDRC could play a larger role in marketing its own events.

- **Less panelists, more discussion**

Having four panelists and a coordinator in a 1.5-hour session is too crowded. When prior panels went overtime, as they often did, or when each presentation went a few minutes over – which they often did - there was no time left for discussion at the end of the panel which left some audience and panel members frustrated. In future events with a similar format, no more than 3 panelists should present.

- **Close coordination of panel scheduling with Congress organizers**

In the case of one IDRC panel, there was another panel scheduled at the same time with a very similar theme. Efforts should be made to avoid this situation so that the interested audience is not split in two.

- **Rehearsals may feel silly but they are useful**

Although many IDRC partners are experienced speakers, a little practice does not hurt and can result in more professional and fluid panel presentations.

- **Simultaneous translation services makes IDRC panels attractive to international congress delegates.**

The Congress had 92% Brazilian delegation, and 8% foreign participation. Seventy-eight percent (78%) of the audience in IDRC panels was Brazilian with foreign participation at 22%. This suggests that foreign participants sought IDRC panels out. One possible explanation, which was also observed first hand at the event, was that foreigners sought out panels with simultaneous translation. This service should be marketed at future large events to attract foreign delegates.

Logistics Learning

- **Participants delayed in sending banking information and did not receive per diems before travelling**

To avoid this problem, an alternative system of paying per diems on site should be explored.

Proceedings Learning

- **Although participants are busy BEFORE the event, they are even busier AFTERWARDS**

Request all materials for the proceedings of future events before the congress or conference since it is much more difficult to do so afterwards.

- **Invest in recording workshop and congress sessions**

Since coordinating note-taking is a time-consuming task, which does not guarantee a conformity in the quality of notes for the purpose of publishing proceedings, IDRC should invest in recording (either audio or video) panel and workshop sessions. This way, a consultant after the event could transfer these recordings to text format for publication.

- **Evaluation activities are a major task**

What was considered a simple task before the Congress proved itself to be a major undertaking. The development of the evaluation strategy and forms, their distribution and collection, and their processing is a major task, which should be considered as such. A summary of the evaluation report is found in Annex 5.

6 - Final Remarks

IDRC's participation in the 11th World Congress on Public Health was a positive experience for both IDRC partners and staff involved. It not only provided networking opportunities for researchers and decision-makers from LAC and beyond, but it raised IDRC's profile in

the global and Brazilian public health community. Additionally, it informed a large public about the work being done in the Ecohealth and GEH programs and allowed for a rich exchange of knowledge between researchers and partners working in different disciplines and programs.

IDRC's participation in the Congress and organization of satellite events was a major investment of financial and human resources however, the benefits of IDRC's participation are multiple and diverse – from the exchange of knowledge and networking mentioned above to the invaluable institutional learning of participating in such a large event. The success of IDRC's participation can also be measured by the interest of partners in attending similar events in the future and continuing dialogue with their newly acquainted colleagues from LAC and beyond.

IDRC should consider participating in future similar well targeted international events since the benefits of doing so are considerable and will only increase if the learning from this and other previous events is considered in planning for the next.

Annex 1 – Press Releases

Canada's IDRC at the 11th World Congress on Public Health

Ottawa, Canada, 21 August 2006 – Public health leaders and practitioners from around the world will gather in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from August 21st to 25th to address the major global health challenges affecting the lives of millions of people. Participants at the 11th World Congress on Public Health will look at programs and policies needed to alleviate poverty - the basic cause of much of the global burden of disease - prevent emerging epidemics of non-communicable disease, address global environmental change, natural, and man-made disasters, and provide for sustainable health development.

Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) supports research on health to meet all these challenges. First, it seeks to reduce the burden of disease by focusing on the links between health, governance, and equity. Second, it focuses on the potential to improve human health by better managing ecosystems, an innovative framework known as ecosystem approaches to human health. Third, its research results influence research and policy agendas.

IDRC and its research partners are making a real difference in the lives of people. The research we support has contributed to:

- a drop of two-thirds in malaria cases in Mexico between 1998 and 2001, without the use of DDT to control mosquitoes;
- a 40% reduction in toxic mercury levels on the banks of the Tapajos River in Brazil's Amazon Basin;
- a body of evidence for the Jamaican government that increasing tobacco taxes from their current level of 52% of the market price to around 72% would both increase government revenue from tobacco by roughly 50% and decrease demand by nearly 40% — a “win-win” situation with both positive public health and economic effects; and
- a drop of more than 40% in child mortality in two districts of Tanzania, Rufiji and Morogoro, and a reduction in adult mortality of more than 20% in Rufiji.

Newer programs continue the Centre's focus on evidence-based health care programming:

- a network of Latin American, Caribbean and Canadian researchers working toward reducing exposure to toxic environmental poisons and improving collective human health in the Latin America and Caribbean region;
- new research to prevent and control vector-borne communicable diseases such as malaria, Chagas' disease, and dengue fever in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- an initiative to build an evidence-based primary health system in Nigeria;

- an initiative in Free State, South Africa, that enables local researchers to set up an ongoing monitoring and evaluating system for the South African government's anti-retroviral treatment program for people infected with AIDS; and
- new grants supporting teams of Canadian and low- and middle-income country (LMIC) researchers and research users (e.g., policymakers, practitioners, civil society organizations, and community members), interested in developing innovative programs based on applied research, knowledge, and capacity building to solve pressing health problems in LMICs. The Teasdale-Corti Team Grants are part of a new collaborative program of health work developed by the Global Health Research Initiative, a partnership between Health Canada, the Canadian International Development Agency, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and IDRC.

At the 11th World Congress on Public Health, IDRC and its research partners will present their research results, share the knowledge they have amassed, and learn from others' experiences by participating in eight panel sessions. They will also launch a new program to prevent communicable diseases such as malaria, dengue and Chagas' disease in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC); announce the release of a special edition of the well-known Brazilian public health publication *Cadernos de Saúde Pública*, titled "Extension of Social Protection in Health in Latin America and the Caribbean: Bridging Research and Practices" and showcase its work at the exhibition held parallel to the Congress from August 22nd to 25th. IDRC staff and research partners will be on hand to exchange with participants and present their work via short documentaries.

For a full list of IDRC activities at the Congress and their location, visit http://www.idrc.ca/ev_en.php?ID=100586_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC. Public health development experts and practitioners associated with IDRC will also be available for interviews.

About IDRC

Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is one of the world's leading institutions in the generation and application of new knowledge to meet the challenges of international development. For more than 35 years, IDRC has worked in close collaboration with researchers from the developing world to build healthier, more equitable and more prosperous societies.

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IDRC Announces New Research Program on Communicable Diseases in Latin America and the Caribbean

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, 23 August 2006 — Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is dedicating CA \$1 million to new research to prevent and control vector-borne communicable diseases in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). Vector-borne diseases are caused by parasites, viruses, or bacteria that insects or other carriers transmit from an infected person to an uninfected one.

IDRC and its partners, the InterAmerican Development Bank, the Organization of American States, and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), are inviting research proposals that target three communicable diseases: malaria, dengue, and Chagas' disease.

Chagas' disease is a chronic disease that devastates the health of millions of people among the lower-income rural populations of the LAC region. It is estimated that approximately 15 to 18 million people in the region are infected and that 3 million of them may already suffer from chronic complications.

Dengue is an endemic disease that is increasing in urban areas across the region. In 1980, some 66 000 cases were reported. That number rose to one million cases by 2002 and half a million new cases were reported in 2005 only. As for malaria, the past decade has witnessed a steady increase in cases among the countries of the Amazon Basin region (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, French Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela).

This project will involve citizens, governments, and other interested organizations in affected areas, including them in the design and implementation of multidisciplinary research to better understand the factors in the ecosystem — social, cultural, and gender causes, for example — that allow vector-borne disease to spread. The knowledge will equip them to start changing policies and behaviours that facilitate disease transmission.

Proposals must be received by 31 October 2006. Approximately CA \$220 000 will be allocated to four successful teams.

"This effort takes an innovative approach to filling critical gaps in public health policies in the Latin American and Caribbean region. More importantly, it offers the region's poorest people help in confronting the huge burden caused by these diseases," said Federico Burone, IDRC's Regional Director for LAC.

The announcement was made at the 11th World Congress on Public Health in Rio de Janeiro on 23 August.

More details on the Call for Proposals can be found at <http://www.idrc.ca/ecohealth/>

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Annex 2 – List of Participants in IDRC Activities at WCPH

| Name | Program | Country | IDRC Panel presentation | Other presentation in congress | Workshop | Canadian reception | REDE Workshop |
|----------------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|--------------------|---------------|
| AGUDELO, Carlos | GEH | Colombia | | X | X | X | X |
| AGUIRRE, Jannette | Ecohealth | Brazil | | | X | | |
| ALMEIDA, Celia | GEH | Brazil | X | X | X | X | X |
| ARROYO, Ruth | Ecohealth | Peru | | X | X | | |
| BAILEY, Wilma | GEH | Jamaica | X | | X | | |
| BARRAZA, Douglas | Ecohealth | Costa Rica | | X | X | | |
| BASCOLO, Ernesto | GEH | Argentina | X | | X | | X |
| BERTOLOTTO, Fernando | GEH | Uruguay | | | X | | |
| BONET, Mariano | Ecohealth | Cuba | X | | X | | |
| BREILH, Jaime | Ecohealth | Ecuador | X | X | X | | |
| CARDONA, Alvaro | GEH | Colombia | X | | X | | X |
| DORA, Carlos | Ecohealth | Switzerland | | | X | X | |
| ESTRADA, Gustavo | GEH | Guatemala | | | X | | X |
| FINCHAM, Robert | Ecohealth | South Africa | X | | X | X | |
| FLORES, Walter | GEH | Guatemala | | | X | | X |
| GORDAN-STRACHAN, Georgiana | GEH | Jamaica | | | X | | |
| GUIMARAES, Jean Remy | Ecohealth | Brazil | | | X | | |
| HARETCHE, Alvaro | GEH | Uruguay | | | X | | X |
| HEIMANN, Luiza | GEH | Canada | X | | X | | X |
| HERNANDEZ, Amparo | GEH | Colombia | X | X | X | | X |
| HUFTY, Marc | GEH | Switzerland | X | | | X | X |
| JOSHI, Durga Datt | Ecohealth | Nepal | X | | X | X | |
| KORC, Marcelo | Ecohealth | Venezuela | X | | X | | |
| KUSCHNIR, Rosana | GEH | Brazil | | | X | | X |
| MENDEZ, Jorge | Ecohealth | Mexico | | | X | X | |
| MERGLER, Donna | Ecohealth | Canada | X | | X | X | |
| MERTENS, Frédéric | Ecohealth | Brazil | X | | X | X | |
| MONROY, Carlota | Ecohealth | Guatemala | X | | X | | |
| MOTA, Eduardo | Ecohealth | Brazil | | | X | | |
| MURPHY, Linda | GEH | Canada | X | | | X | |
| MUTERO, Clifford | Ecohealth | South Africa | X | | X | X | |
| NEUFELD, Vic | GEH | Canada | X | | | X | X |
| OROZCO, Fadya | Ecohealth | Ecuador | X | | X | | |
| PITTMAN, Patricia | GEH | USA | X | | | | |
| RIOJAS, Horacio | Ecohealth | Mexico | X | | X | | |
| SANCHEZ, Luz Helena | GEH | Colombia | X | | X | | X |
| SCHWEIGMANN, Nicolás | Ecohealth | Argentina | | | X | | |
| SHARMA, Minu | Ecohealth | Nepal | | | X | X | |
| SLOWING, Karin | GEH | Guatemala | | | X | | X |
| SOLLAZO, Ana | GEH | Uruguay | | | X | | X |
| SOMMERFELD, Johannes | Ecohealth | Switzerland | X | | | X | |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|
| STOLKINER, Alicia | GEH | Argentina | | | | | |
| VEGA, Román | GEH | Colombia | X | | X | | X |
| VÉLEZ-CASTAÑO, Sergio | GEH | Colombia | | | X | X | |
| VIANA, Ana Luiza | GEH | Brazil | X | X | X | | |
| VOUCHKOV, Mitko | Ecohealth | Jamaica | X | | X | | |
| YEPES, Francisco | GEH | Colombia | | X | X | | X |
| YOKOO, Edna | Ecohealth | Brazil | | | X | | |
| ZAMBRANO, Hector | GEH | Colombia | | | X | | |

Annex 3 – Workshop Agenda

RESEARCH TO POLICY IN PUBLIC HEALTH: ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORKS FOR ACTION

RIO DE JANEIRO, INTERCONTINENTAL
HOTEL



IDRC
International Development
Research Centre



CRDI
Centre de recherches pour le
développement international



**Pan American
Health
Organization**

Regional Office of the
World Health Organization

Saturday August 19th

08:30 - 08:45 **WELCOMING REMARKS**

Federico Burone, Regional Director, Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
Eduardo Levcovitz, Unit Chief, Health Policies and Systems Development, Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
Ligia Giovanella, Executive Secretary, Network for Health Systems and Services Research in the Southern Cone (REDE)

08:45 - 09:00 **OBJECTIVES AND AGENDA** - *Roberto Bazzani & Lucy Gray-Donald*, IDRC

09:00 - 10:30 **RESEARCH TO POLICY FRAMEWORKS** - Coordinator: *Roberto Bazzani*, IDRC (30 minute presentation + 15 minutes for discussion for each presentation)

09:00 - 09:45 **Roberto Briceño-León** - Laboratorio de Ciencias Sociales (LACSO), Venezuela - *A research to policy conceptual framework for Ecohealth projects*

09:45 - 10:30 **Celia Almeida**, Escola Nacional de Saúde Pública Sergio Arauca - *Bridging Research to Policy in Health Services Research*

10:30 - 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 - 12:30 **PANEL ON CASE STUDIES** - Coordinator: *Ligia Giovanella*, REDE

11:00 - 11:20 **Francisco Yepes**, ASSALUD - *Participatory Evidence-based Health Policy Formulation, Governability & Decision-Making in Colombia*

11:20 - 11:40 **Carlos Dora** - Health and Environmental Linkages (HELI), WHO - *A Twofold Challenge: Linking Research and Policy, Integrating Health and Environment*

11:40 - 12:00 **Robert Fincham**, Centre for Environment, Agriculture and Development, South Africa - *Integrative Framework for Policy Formulation: the case of health and housing in South Africa*

12:00 - 12:30 Questions and Discussion

12:30 - 14:00 Buffet Lunch

14:00 - 15:30 **ROUNDTABLE: THE DECISION-MAKER'S PERSPECTIVE** - Coordinator: *Héctor Zambrano*, Secretary of Health, Bogotá, Colombia

14:00 - 14:30 *Sergio Vélez Castaño*, Sub-Secretary of Health, Municipality of Medellín, Colombia

14:30 - 15:00 *Jorge Méndez*, Director Vector-Borne Diseases, CENAVECE, Secretary of Health, Mexico

15:00 - 15:30 Questions and Discussion

Saturday August 19th

15:30 - 15:45 **INTRODUCTION TO WORKING GROUPS**
Ana Boischio & Roberto Bazzani, IDRC

15:45 - 16:00 Coffee break

16:00 - 18:30 **WORKING GROUPS ON CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RESEARCH PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION**
The group will split into 4 working groups of 10-15 people.

19:00 Toast with workshop participants followed by a buffet dinner

Sunday August 20th

08:30 - 10:30 **ROUNDTABLE: LESSONS LEARNED IN RESEARCH TO POLICY**
Coordinator: *Carlos Agudelo*, Andean and Caribbean Health Policy and System Research Network

Health Systems Research

08:30 - 09:00 *Celia Almeida*, ENSP-FIOCRUZ & *Eduardo Levkovitz*, PAHO
Research to Policy in Social Protection in Health

09:00 - 09:15 Discussant: *Román Vega*, Universidad Javeriana, Colombia

09:15 - 09:30 Questions and Discussion

Ecohealth

09:30 - 10:00 *Roberto Briceño-Leon*, LACSO & *Jean Remy Guimarães*,
Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro - *Research to Policy Findings in Ecohealth projects in LAC*

10:00 - 10:15 Discussant: *Donna Mergler*, University of Quebec at Montreal,
Canada

10:15 - 10:30 Questions and Discussion

10:30 - 10:45 Coffee break

10:45 - 11:45 **PRESENTATION OF WORKING GROUP RESULTS**

Moderator: **Ana Boischio**, IDRC

Each working group will have 10 minutes to present the results of their group work from the day before. This will be followed by 5 minutes for questions.

10:45 - 11:00 Group 1

11:00 - 11:15 Group 2

11:15 - 11:30 Group 3

11:30 - 11:45 Group 4

11:45 - 12:45 **PLENARY DISCUSSION** (45 minutes) **& SUMMARY** (15 minutes)

Commentator: **Roberto Bazzani**, IDRC

12:45 - 13:00 **CLOSING REMARKS**

Federico Burone, IDRC & **Eduardo Levcovitz**, PAHO

13:00 - 14:00 Buffet lunch

Annex 4 -Agenda of IDRC sponsored panels at the World Congress on Public Health & Panelist Information

Tuesday, August 22

09:30 – 11:00 - Pavilion 5, Room C

PANEL 1 - An Ecosystem Approach to Environmental Pollution and Public Health in Rural Areas. Research to Policy Linkages

Coordinator: Federico Burone, International Development Research Centre (IDRC),
Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, Montevideo, Uruguay

Panelists:

Fadya Orozco, Centro Internacional de la Papa, Ecuador

Human health and changes in potato production technology in the Andean region of
Ecuador

Jaime Breilh, Centro de Estudios y Asesoría en Salud (CEAS), Ecuador

Methodological Innovation, Intercultural Knowledge-Building and Empowerment: Research
and the Struggle to Include Ecosystems and the Health in the Agro Industrial Floricultural
Region

Horacio Riojas, Instituto Nacional de Salud Publica de México, México

Design of a management plan based on the results of an ecohealth study in a manganese
basin in Hidalgo, Mexico

Mitko Vutchkov, University of West Indies (UWI), Kingston, Jamaica

Ecohealth of Lead and Cadmium in Jamaica 15:00-16:30 - Pavillion 5, Room E

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Tuesday, August 22

15:00– 16:30 - Pavilion 5, Room E

PANEL 2 - Use of Research Results in Policy Decision-making, Formulation, and Implementation in the Health Sector. Extension of Social Protection in Health

Coordinator: Celia Almeida, ENSP/FIOCRUZ - Escola Nacional de Saúde Pública

Sergio Arauca Fundação Oswaldo Cruz, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Use of Research Results in Policy Decision-Making, Formulation and Implementation:
A Literature Review

Panelists:

Eduardo Levcovitz, Pan American Health Organization, Washington, D.C., USA

Vic Neufeld, Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research, Ottawa, Canada
Promoting the use of research results: the experience of The Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research

Linda Murphy, Canadian Health Services Research Foundation CHSRF
One Funder's Experience with the Challenges and Opportunities of Increasing Research Use in the Canadian Health System: Our "Push" and "Pull" Strategies

Patricia Pittman, AcademyHealth, USA
Translation of Research into Policy and Practice: Trade-offs in the Design of Knowledge Transfer Strategies

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Wednesday, August 23
09:30-11:00 - Pavillion 5, Room E

PANEL 3 -Globalization, Urban Challenges and Public Health: Research to Policy Linkages

Coordinator: Ana Boischio, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Ottawa, Canada

Panelists:

Robert Fincham, Centre for Environment, Agriculture and Development, University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa

An Integrative Framework for Policy Formulation at the Local Level: The Case of Health and Housing in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

Durga Datt Joshi, National Zoonoses and Food Hygiene Research Centre, Kathmandu, Nepal

An Urban Ecosystem Health Approach to Make a City and Better Health in Kathmandu, Nepal

Marcelo Korc, Organización Panamericana de la Salud. OPS-OMS –PWR, Caracas, Venezuela

Urban Ecological Challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Healthy Housing Initiative: Linking Research to Policy

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Wednesday, August 23
15:00-16:30 - Pavillion 5, Room E

PANEL 4 -Extending Social Protection in Health in LAC: five case studies

Coordinator: Ernesto Báscolo, Instituto Juan Lazarte, Rosario Argentina
Study of the implementation of public health insurance in the Province of Buenos Aires

Panelists:

Ana Luiza Viana, Depto. de Medicina Preventiva, Faculdade de Medicina, USP/SP, Brasil

Universal Health System and Territorial Dimensions: Analysis and subsidies for the development of a regional policy for Legal Amazon

Wilma Bailey, University of West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica

The Impact of User Fees For Preventative Care on the Health Seeking and Coping Behaviour of Patients in Jamaica

Amparo Hernández, Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Colombia

Improvement of the effectiveness of social protection policy in health for a population forcibly displaced by Violence in Bogotá, Colombia

Alvaro Cardona, Escuela de Salud Pública, Medellin, Antioquia, Colombia

Development strategy for a Reimbursable Subsidy and Credit Fund to expand the health insurance scheme and help protect the cultural heritage of unemployed workers in Colombia

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Thursday, August 24
09:30-11 - Pavillion 4, Auditorium

PANEL 5 - Ecosystems Approaches to Communicable and Emerging Diseases

Coordinator: Roberto Bazzani, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, Montevideo, Uruguay

Panelists:

Clifford Mutero, International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Pretoria, South Africa

Ecosystem Approach to Malaria Research and Control: Perspectives from Pioneering Projects in Sub-Saharan Africa

Johannes Sommerfeld, Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland

Eco-Bio-Social Research on Dengue: TDR/IDRC Research Initiatives in Latin America and Asia

Carlota Monroy, Universidad San Carlos de Guatemala, Guatemala

Ecosystem and housing risk factors for the control of *Triatoma dimidiata* in Guatemala

Mariano Bonet, Instituto de Higiene y Epidemiología de Cuba (INHEM), La Habana, Cuba

An ecohealth approach for the prevention of Dengue at a local level.

Municipality of Havana, Cuba

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Thursday, August 24th

15:00-16:30 - Pavillion 5, Room E

PANEL 6 - Extension of social protection in health and universal access to healthcare: challenges for policy-makers

Coordinator: Christina Zarowsky, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Ottawa, Canada

Panelists:

Roman Vega Romero, Ex-Secretario de Salud de Bogotá; Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Colombia

Challenges and implementation of PHC strategy in the context of social security in health in Bogotá, Colombia

Débora Ferandini, Municipalidad de Rosario, Argentina

Celia Almeida, ENSP/FIOCRUZ - Escola Nacional de Saúde Pública Sergio Arauca Fundação Oswaldo Cruz, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Extension of social protection in health in Latin America and the Caribbean: the challenge of universality

Eduardo Levcovitz, Pan American Health Organization, Washington, D.C., USA

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Friday, August 25

09:30-11:00 - Pavillion 5, Room D8

PANEL 7 - Ecosystem Approach, the Heralded Complexity for Public Health

Coordinator: Ary Carvalho de Miranda** – FIOCRUZ

Panelists:

Donna Mergler, University of Quebec in Montreal, Canada

Community of Practice on Ecosystem Health Approaches to Reduce Toxics in Latin America and the Caribbean and Improve Collective Health (CoPEH-TLAC)

Frédéric Mertens, Centro de Desenvolvimento Sustentável - Universidade de Brasília, Brasil

Community networks and Solution building to reduce mercury exposure in the Brazilian Amazon 09:30-11:00 - Pavillion 5, Room E

Rodrigo Victor, Instituto Florestal de Sao Paulo – Brazil**

Lia Giraldo da Silva Augusto – FIOCRUZ – Brazil**

Ecosystem Approach in Health in the Araripe Bioregion

** ABRASCO Participants

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Friday, August 25

09:30-11:00 - Pavillion 5, Room E

PANEL 8 - Governance in Health. A conceptual and analytical approach to research to policy

Coordinator: Luiza Heimann NISIS, Insituto de Saude, Sao Paulo, Brasil

Panelists:

Roberto Bazzani, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, Montevideo, Uruguay

Analytical Proposal for Governance in Health Research in Latin America and the Caribbean

Marc Hufty, Instituto Universitario de Estudios de Desarrollo, Ginebra, Suiza

The conceptual and analytical framework of Governance

Ernesto Báscolo, Instituto Juan Lazarte, Rosario Argentina

Application of the analytical perspective of governance in public health insurance research in the Province of Buenos Aires

Luz Helena Sánchez, Asociación Colombiana de la Salud (ASSALUD), Bogotá, Colombia

Governance and research on public health

Annex 5 – Executive Summary of Evaluation Results

Leading up to the WCPH in Rio de Janeiro, IDRC developed a monitoring and evaluation strategy with 2 objectives:

- 1) to systematically monitor and collect data that will inform key outcomes of IDRC performance at the 11th World Congress on Public Health / 8th Brazilian Congress on Collective Health, ABRASCO
- 2) to help design more effective participation in similar events in the future by
 - a. Assessing workshop content and relevance
 - b. Studying the level of interest in panel presentations
 - c. Evaluating the logistics of activities.

The data were collected using 5 tools:

- 1) workshop participant surveys
- 2) Panel audience surveys
- 3) Participants surveys
- 4) Post-event interviews
- 5) Panel monitoring fact sheets.

The results from these tools show that IDRC successfully met with its five objectives for participating in the Congress. A summary of the evaluation results, which allow this conclusion to be made, can be found below.

Ecohealth Panels

| Name of panel | Level of interest | Usefulness for my work |
|--|---|--|
| An Ecosystem Approach to Environmental Pollution and Public Health in Rural Areas. Research to Policy Linkages | 65% very interesting 20% somewhat interesting | 36% very useful 31% somewhat useful |
| An Ecohealth Approach: Globalization, Urban Challenges and Public Health. Research to Policy Linkages | 50% very interesting 36% somewhat interesting | 43% very useful 21% somewhat useful |
| Ecosystems Approaches to Communicable and Emerging Diseases | 69% very interesting 16% somewhat interesting | 58% very useful 27% somewhat interesting |
| The Ecosystem Approach, a Heralded Complexity for Public Health | 54% very interesting 23% somewhat interesting | 46% no answer 38% very useful |



GEH Panels

| Name of panel | Level of interest | Usefulness for my work |
|---|--|--|
| Use of Research Results in Policy Decision-Making, Formulation, Implementation in the Health Sector. Extension of Social Protection in Health | 50% very interesting 31% no answer | 44% Somewhat useful 31% no answer |
| Extension of Social Protection in Health in Latin America and the Caribbean: 5 Case Studies | 50% Very interesting 30% Somewhat interesting | 50% Somewhat useful 50% no answer |
| Extension of Social Protection in Health and Universal Access to Healthcare: Challenges for Policy-makers | 83% somewhat interesting 17% very interesting/no answer | 67% somewhat useful 17% very useful |
| Governance in Health. A Conceptual and Analytical Approach to Research in Health Policy | 62% very interesting 31% Somewhat interesting | 54% Very useful 23% Somewhat useful/no answer |

On the 37 completed surveys, the **interaction among researchers from different disciplines** and the engagement of both Ecohealth and GEH researchers received a score of **8.3 out of 10**.

Workshop participants were asked to if their **participation in the workshop allowed them to become more familiar with the conceptual and strategic frameworks linking research to policy** in the context of the Ecohealth and/or Governance, Equity and Health approaches. The grand majority – **95%- respondents said that it had**.

When asked if they received **new information related to the importance and strategies for using research results in policy formulation from the discussion at the workshop**, only 14% (5 participants) said that they had received little new information while **86% of respondents said they had received new information**.

When partner invitees were asked if they **benefited by making new contacts and networks** 2/3rds responded that they had greatly benefited with the remaining respondents said they had somewhat benefited.

The **logistics of the workshop** received a score of **9.2 out of 10** while **IDRC's coordination and logistical support** received a **9.5 out of 10**. In the survey completed by partner invitees to Rio, **IDRC's coordination and logistical support** received a similar score of **9.37**.