

# Regional Workshop

NEW GUIDELINES FOR INDOOR AIR QUALITY.  
HOUSEHOLD FUEL COMBUSTION



*Clean air, Healthy Life*

Tegucigalpa, Honduras | 16-18 June 2015



Pan American  
Health  
Organization



World Health  
Organization

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE Americas

## Introduction

The use of solid fuels for cooking is a public health problem in the Americas and the main environmental risk, affecting nearly 90 million people. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimated 81,424 deaths in the Americas in 2012 as a result of the use of solid fuels (USF) for cooking and heating, and more than 2.5 million years of disability-adjusted life (DALYs by its acronym ) (WHO, 2015).

The Who Guidelines for Indoor Air Quality –Household fuel combustion warns of the danger of USF and set goals to reduce emissions of harmful pollutants to health from open fires, stoves and lamps for domestic use. In its recommendations the need to improve access of households to cleaner energy sources such as liquefied petroleum gas, biogas, natural gas and electricity is underlined. The recommendations focus on reducing emissions of pollutants as much as possible and on the importance of proper ventilation, recognizing the need for intermediate measures adapted to rural households and lower income who depend on solid fuels.

The guidelines include goals for reducing emissions of carbon monoxide (CO) and fine particulate matter (PM2.5) of the different types of household appliances. These goals are based on the assessment of the health consequences of exposure to PM2.5 and CO and the maximum permissible levels of these compounds in the air inside homes for a healthy environment.

Meeting these goals would achieve in 90% of the houses the values relative to PM2.5 (average annual rate) and CO (average rate within 24 hours) set in the WHO guidelines for air quality, which are 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for PM2.5, and 7 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for CO. In practice, this could only be achieved virtually eliminating the use of solid fuels for cooking in the home.

The guidelines are addressed to policy makers and public health specialists working in the fields of energy and environment, to develop and implement a policy to reduce the adverse health effects of burning solid fuels in the homes.

The Pan American Health Organization has set in its 2015-2019 strategic plan, the goal of supporting Member States to reduce by 5% the percentage of the population dependent on solid fuels for cooking in countries with more 10% of population of UCS.

## Objectives/goals

1. To raise awareness of the health impacts from household air pollution.
2. To introduce the new WHO guidelines for indoor air quality: household fuel combustion and the available evidence for key interventions.
3. To develop the role of the Health Sector in addressing household fuel combustion and the resulting household air pollution in the Pan-American region.
4. To identify the need and opportunities to strengthen multi-sectorial action to improve air quality in Pan-American countries.
5. To understand country situations and take the initial steps towards developing national action plans, policies and local research needs.
6. To plan for follow-up actions and support to countries, including plans for M&E and testing.

## Expected participants (audience)

- WHO (Geneva)
- PAHO HQ
- PAHO country offices: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Peru.
- Country Representatives from Ministry of Health: Bolivia, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, and Peru
- Country representatives from the Ministry of Hydrocarbons of Bolivia, the Ministry of Energy and Minas of Guatemala, The Ministry of Social Development of Mexico, the Ministry of Environment of Paraguay, the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Social Development and Inclusion of Peru.
- Researchers from NIEHS, University of California Berkeley, University of California San Francisco, John Hopkins, Mexican Institute of Public Health, University of , Universidad del Valle, Guatemala, Center for the prevention and Control of Diseases (CDC) and Escuela Agrícola El Zamorano.
- Inter- American Development Bank, German cooperation Agency (GIZ), Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, Practical Action.
- Other experts

**Language: Spanish with simultaneous translation to English.**

## Program

| DAY 1 – Tuesday, June 16th |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| 8:00 - 9:00<br>Register    | <p><b>Inaugural Session:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome: <b>Ana Treasure</b>, PAHO/WHO Representative, Honduras</li> </ul>   |
| 0900 – 1030                | <p>The Honduras commitment to promote clean cooking– <b>Ana García Carías</b> First Lady, Honduras</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The perspective of Health in All Policies in Honduras, <b>Edna Yolani Batres</b> Ministry of Health of Honduras</li> <li>Keynote address 1: New paradigms for action on household and ambient air pollution – World Health Assembly Resolution on Air Pollution and Health – <b>Carlos Dora</b>, WHO</li> <li>Introduction of Workshop objectives: A regional perspective: tackling health inequities <b>Agnes Soares</b>, PAHO/WHO</li> <li>Group photograph</li> </ul> |
| 1030 – 11.00               | <b>TEA / COFFEE</b>  |
| 1100 – 1230                | <p><b>Opening Plenary: Evidence of impacts of household air pollution on health. WHO Air Quality Guidelines – context, scope and application</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household air pollution exposures: Global and regional profiles. Direct health effects attributable to household air pollution – <b>Kirk Smith</b></li> <li>New WHO Guidelines for Indoor Air Quality (Household Fuel Consumption): <b>Nigel Bruce</b></li> </ul> <p>Discussion</p>  |
| 1230- 1300                 | Country Presentations: Mexico and Peru   |
| 1300 – 1400                | <b>LUNCH</b>   |
| 1400 – 1500                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keynote address 2: Making the Clean Available– <b>Kirk Smith</b></li> </ul> <p>Discussion</p>   |
| 1500 - 1600                | <b>Country Presentations: Bolivia, Colombia, Panama and Paraguay</b>   |

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| 1600 – 1615  | <b>TE / CAFÉ</b>  |
| 1615-1730<br>Fortaleciendo la colaboración inter institucional | <p><b>“Speed dating”</b> – Strengthening intersectoral collaboration<br/><b>5 tables, 1 question per table</b></p> <p><b>1 coordinator and 1 rapporteur per group, everyone else rotate in discussions every 15 minutes</b></p> <p><b>Table 1</b> What are the challenges / barriers for the participation of the health sector in the high level formulation of public policies on Household Air Pollution (HAP)? Coordinator: <b>Horacio Riojas</b>;</p> <p><b>Table 2</b> What are the strengths of the health sector that would add value to the formulation of policies and the implementation of solutions for HAP? What are the weaknesses?<br/>Coordinator: <b>Ana Moreno</b></p> <p><b>Table 3</b> What actions need to be taken to improve the evidence base to support an informed decision making in every level? (National, regional, and local level)<br/>Coordinator: <b>Alicia Castro</b></p> <p><b>Table 4</b> What would be the role for local governments and community participation in the decision making process, and in the implementation of programs to reduce exposure to HAP?<br/>Coordinator: <b>Carlos Dora</b></p> |
| 1730-1800  | <b>Wrap-up of the 1st day –</b>   |
| 1900 – 2100  | <b>RECEPTION</b>  |

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| <b>DAY – 2, Wednesday June 17th</b> |  |
| 0900 – 1030                         | <p><b>Thematic Plenary: Measuring the impact of implementation projects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measuring dose-response in intervention studies – the case of Peru. <b>William Checkley</b>, John Hopkins</li> <li>• Indicators for the study of health impact of interventions to replace traditional with cleaner cookstoves in Mexico. <b>Horacio Riojas</b>, Public Health Institute</li> <li>• Geographical distribution of the burden of disease due to household air pollution in Guatemala. <b>Laura Grajeda</b>. Universidad del Valle CES Guatemala</li> <li>• The RESPIRE stove intervention trial—what we learned along the way. <b>Lisa Thompson</b>, University of California, San Francisco)</li> <li>• Ecuador transition to electricity (TBC)</li> </ul> <p><b>Q &amp; A</b></p> |
| 1030 – 1045                         | <b>TEA / COFFEE</b>  |
| 1045 – 1145                         | <b>Country Presentations: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Nicaragua</b>  |

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| 1145 – 1300  | <p><b>Thematic Plenary: Opportunities for collaboration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inter- American Development Bank <b>Carlos Alberto Jacome</b></li> <li>• German International Cooperation GIZ <b>Ana Moreno</b></li> <li>• Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves/Climate and Clean Air Coalition <b>Donee Alexander</b></li> <li>• NIH - Opportunities on research and capacity building on household air pollution – <b>Josh Rosenthal</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Q &amp; A</b></p>  |
| 1300 – 1400  | <b>LUNCH</b>  |
| 1400 – 1500  | <b>Country Presentations: Haiti, Guyana, Jamaica and Suriname</b>   |
| 1500 – 1615  | <p><b>Thematic plenary: Guidelines implementation: proposals for the development of a toolkit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health in all Policies. <b>Agnes Soares</b></li> <li>• Exposure levels and health risks. <b>Nigel Bruce</b></li> <li>• HAPIT, ISO processes and GACC catalogue <b>Donee Alexander</b></li> <li>• Country feedback on framework for Healthy Home Energy Planning Tool. Practical Action. <b>Kavita Rai</b> and <b>Olivier Lefebvre</b></li> </ul>   |
| 1615 – 1630  | <b>TEA / COFFEE</b>   |
| 1630 – 1745<br>Strengthening capacity of the health sector | <p>National Action Planning Session introduction: <b>Agnes Soares</b></p> <p><b>Strengthening capacity of the health sector</b></p> <p>Questions to be addressed by countries (in groups of 3 or 4 countries)</p> <p><b>Quest 1</b> Which health indicators could be used to measure the impact of the interventions on HAP? What are the challenges to implement them in your country? Which potential links are there with other national health programs? And with the proposed Sustainable Development Goals?</p> <p><b>Quest 2</b> What are the main challenges for the Health Sector in your country to incorporate the HAP as a public health priority in their agenda? What would facilitate this process?</p> <p><b>Quest 3</b> How to incorporate the health inequities lens in the policy-making and in the implementation of solutions for HAP? Which are the major groups of concern? What would be the first steps? (First actions?)</p> <p><b>Quest 4</b> What are the possible strategies and opportunities to obtain financial resources for securing a greater contribution from the health sector to the policy-making and policy implementation? Are there other key drivers to their contribution, e.g. addressing priority health issues? What type of actions/ projects could have the most and immediate benefits?</p> <p><b>Quest 5</b> What is the specific role of the health sector in improving the health impacts of the ongoing cookstoves programs? What type of training/ tools is needed for the health sector? (policy-decision makers, managers, health workers in general etc)</p> |
| 1745- 1800   | <b>Wrap-up session–</b>   |

## DAY – 3, Thursday June 18th

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| 0900 – 1045 | <b>Country planning - brief refresher of purpose, questions and expectations – Agnes Soares</b><br><i>Continue group work</i><br>WHO staff will be roaming/circulating for answering questions, supporting planning etc.  |
| 1045 - 1100 | <b>TEA / COFFEE</b>   |
| 1100 – 1230 | <b>Final plenary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Groups presentations and discussion<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o current and upcoming challenges</li><li>o knowledge needs/ gaps</li><li>o what works – experiences from the field</li><li>o Monitoring &amp; Evaluation (feedback for tools and methodologies proposed)</li><li>o Capacity building: support needed from PAHO/WHO for the implementation of the IAQ Guidelines</li></ul></li><li>– Countries’ commitments</li></ul> <p>Closing remarks: the way forward. Agnes Soares</p> |
| 1300 – 1400 | <b>ALMUERZO</b>   |
| 1400 – 1800 | <b>Trip to visit the Escuela Agrícola El Zamorano</b><br><b>The Zamorano University hosts a Center ISO (International Organization for Standardization) for the certification of improved cookstoves (CCEM) in the region. The visit will be an opportunity to get to know the different types of cookstoves available in the region and the process of testing for the ISO classification.</b>   |