

Title: Regional HIV/AIDS Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean

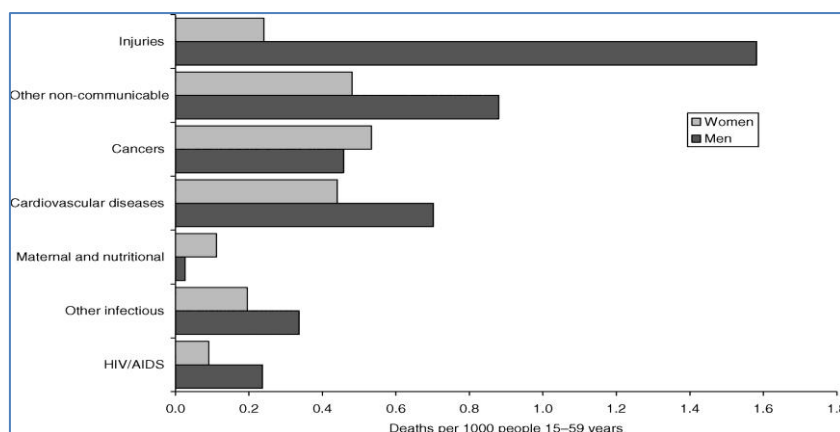
Current Projects: Men's Health

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Background of Men's Health in Latin America

In Latin America, Men's Health has been identified as an issue by national governments on the background of a reduced life expectancy of up to 7 years¹ compared to women. Since men of this age are often at the peak of their economic activities, their early death frequently leaves families and children without income, thereby reducing chances for education and development for these families. Men have an increased exposure to violence and accidents, tobacco/alcohol/substance abuse and suicide – these being the causal factors leading to an increased risk of death due to trauma, cardiovascular disease, cancer and chronic liver disease.

Table 1: Adult mortality among those aged 15–59 years in the low- and middle-income countries of the Americas by sex and major cause grouping, 2004.



[Mathers CD](#) et al. Global and regional causes of death, [Br Med Bull.](#) 2009;92:7-32

In Brazil, gender concepts have been integrated in the national health policy for Men's Health², with more than 600 million U.S. \$ been spent on the new policy in 2011.

Based on this experience, the Brazilian government, in collaboration with GIZ, on behalf of the German Government, is offering its knowledge in this field to other Latin American countries, with a first response from Chile and Ecuador to collaborate in the area of Men's Health.

Objectives

To develop locally adapted solutions in the participating countries with support from the Brazilian MoH, ABC and UNFPA.

Activities

Capacity building workshops are planned, with concurrent development of elements for national policies, according to the needs and demands of the participating countries.

¹ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, World Population Prospects, The 2010 Revision, http://esa.un.org/wpp/Excel-Data/DB01_Period_Indicators/WPP2010_DB1_F05_3_LIFE_EXPECTANCY_0_FEMALE.XLS and http://esa.un.org/wpp/Excel-Data/DB01_Period_Indicators/WPP2010_DB1_F05_2_LIFE_EXPECTANCY_0_MALE.XLS

² Política Nacional de Atenção integral a saúde do homem (2008), Ministério da Saúde, Secretaria de Atenção a Saúde, Departamento de Ações Programáticas estratégicas, Brasília, novembro de 2008, http://bvsms.saude.gov.br/bvs/publicacoes/politica_nacional_atencao_homem.pdf