**Results-based budgeting programmes for maternal and child health in Peru**

Maternal and child health have deserved particular emphasis in Peru since the 2007, when two cross-sectoral results-based budgeting programmes were introduced by the Ministry of Economy and Finance, in coordination with other sectors namely the Ministry of Health and The Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion. They included the Strategic Maternal-Neonatal Programme, aimed at reducing maternal and neonatal mortality, and the Articulate Nutrition Programme, aimed at reducing the prevalence of under-five stunting prevalence. Both were based on previous identification of evidence-based interventions, followed by their inclusion within each programme and its ulterior implementation at scale, with priority given to the poorest regions of the country. Budget is allocated to these programmes at regional level on the basis of performance evaluation in terms of progress made in coverage and impact indicators previously agreed and officially incorporated within each programme. The implementation is followed through a monitoring and evaluation system that collects data on a periodic basis and through the information provided by the Demographic and Health Surveys, to ensure that regional goals are achieved.

Each programme has a defined budget line that is allocated to each region (department), and includes per capita costing for each service provided at health facility level, taking into account specific needs in terms of health workforce, equipment, supplies, training, and supervision.

In this way, both programmes aim at increasing the efficiency and the equity in the coverage of the interventions.

Importantly, the advocacy of the civil society has been critical for ensuring political commitment across the governments, and has paved the way for an an effective implementation of the programmes across the country.

Both results-based budgeting programmes have been implemented within a broader context of economic growth, out-of-health sector and health sector changes. Out-of-health sector changes included the implementation of anti-poverty programmes such as the conditional cash transfer programme (JUNTOS) introduced in 2005 and scaled-up shortly afterwards. Within the health sector, the Health Insurance System (SIS) was implemented by the Ministry of Health since 2002 and was aimed at providing preventative and curative health care to poorest segments of the population, with particular focus on children and pregnant women.

Of note, an integrated approach to maternal and child health is a key component of both programmes, and includes promotional, preventative and curative interventions for mothers and children alike.

This innovative cross-sectoral approach to the child of mothers and children has surely been instrumental in the remarkable reduction of maternal, neonatal and under-five mortality and in the reduction of under-five stunting achieved in Peru, although a formal impact evaluation with a rigorous design is still a pending issue.

Interventions included in the Strategic Maternal-Neonatal Programme:

Community informed on sexual and reproductive health and on family planning methods

Adolescents with access to pregnancy prevention health services

**Antenatal care with rights-based approach**

Healthy municipalities that promote sexual and reproductive health

Healthy communities that promote sexual and reproductive health

Healthy educational institutions that promote sexual and reproductive health

**Community with access to family planning methods**

Community with access to counselling services on sexual and reproductive health

Health care of pregnant women with complications

**Health care of normal delivery**

Health care of non-surgical complicated delivery

Health care of surgical complicated delivery

Postnatal health care

Complicated postnatal health care

Obstetric care at intensive care unit

Access to institutional referral care system

**Care of normal newborn**

Care of newborn with complications

Care of newborn with complications requiring neonatal intensive care unit services

Healthy families informed on their sexual and reproductive health

**\*Priority interventions.**

Interventions included in the Articulate Nutrition Programme:

Day care services with nutritional quality control of food

Access to safe drinking water

Community informed about infant care and about health practices to prevent anaemia and child stunting

Health municipalities that promote adequate infant care and feeding

Healthy communities that promote adequate infant care and feeding

Healthy educational institutions that promote adequate infant care and feeding

**Healthy families with knowledge to provide adequate infant care, exclusive breastfeeding and adequate feeding and protection of children younger than 3 years’ old\***

**Children with complete vaccination\***

**Children with complete growth and development monitoring according to their age\***

**Children with iron and vitamin A supplementation\***

Adequate management of acute respiratory infections

Adequate management of acute diarrhoeal diseases

Adequate management of complicated acute respiratory infections

Adequate management of complicated acute diarrhoeal diseases

Adequate management of other prevalent childhood illnesses

Pregnant women with iron and folic acid supplementation

Management of children with intestinal parasitosis

**\*Priority interventions.**