

(1) ISSUES

- Lack of knowledge of disease management among people affected by Hansen's disease makes it difficult to receive treatment at an early stage and continue it.
- Knowledge about appropriate self-care is not well known.
- Access to appropriate care is limited.
- The management of leprosy in Colombia is inadequate.

Increasing cases of disability caused by the disease

- Low social inclusion for people with disabilities is also a major problem. The disease not only causes physical disability, but also a range of other problems, such as isolation from society.

(2) MEASURES

TRAINING FOR LEADERS

Ongoing training and advice on administrative processes and social projects are provided to the leaders of the associations.

EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES

Exchange of experiences at the municipal, departmental and international levels. It enables us to achieve greater control and to continue raising awareness in the community in general.



(3) MEASURES

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

- Provide opportunity for the development of social and productive capacities and skills for people with disabilities.

REGISTRATION

- Registration for the location and characterization of persons with disabilities.



(4) ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Greater knowledge on the part of the leaders and a timely, quality and affordable service, which provide people affected by Hansen' disease, an efficient response to the problem presented, and together with departmental and municipal offices establish strategies and actions to promote the welfare of patients.
- Institutional strengthening of organizations
- Contribute to provide opportunity for the development of social and productive capacities and skills for people with disabilities.
- Registration for the location and characterization of persons with disabilities.

(5) ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Prevention of disability
- Joint actions in community and social groups, such as awareness talks and life testimonies, to students from schools, colleges, universities, health professionals and organizations such as the National Army, Police and INPEC, in rural and urban areas, make people aware of the reality of leprosy, thus achieving a decrease in ignorance, discrimination and stigma.



(6) LESSONS LEARNT

- When the affected leaders expand their knowledge, share their testimony and life stories, which sow in them a seed of hope and create the opportunity to dream again, to build an inclusive and equitable future, in search of common welfare from a network of multipliers, whose objective is respect, where their opinions are heard, which will feed back into the social work.



(7) LESSONS LEARNT

- Specific health conditions are improved, thus achieving a better quality of life.
- Ensure comprehensive care for the disabled population and their caregivers, whose common goal is to improve the autonomy of the beneficiaries, each contributing their specific technical-practical knowledge to guide, monitor and evaluate actions that favor the social integration of people with disabilities.
- The members of the associations have been trained and empowered in concepts and practices that prevent disability in people affected by Hansen's disease, and in articulation with the different health professionals, they have been preparing themselves so that together they undertake actions to make known everything about the prevention of disabilities that can occur due to Hansen's disease.
- Articulation with the health entities in charge of certifying people with disabilities who require it, for the application of economic subsidies, productivity and social development offices in the municipalities.

(8) NEXT STEPS

- Promote joint actions with other social and institutional groups that lead to the strengthening and welfare of patients and people affected by Hansen's disease.
- Develop strategies to provide support to vulnerable people with disabilities.
- We intend to provide technical aids to strengthen the bank of support products (wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, canes, etc.), which seek to provide a tool to improve the quality of life of people with disabilities and their

