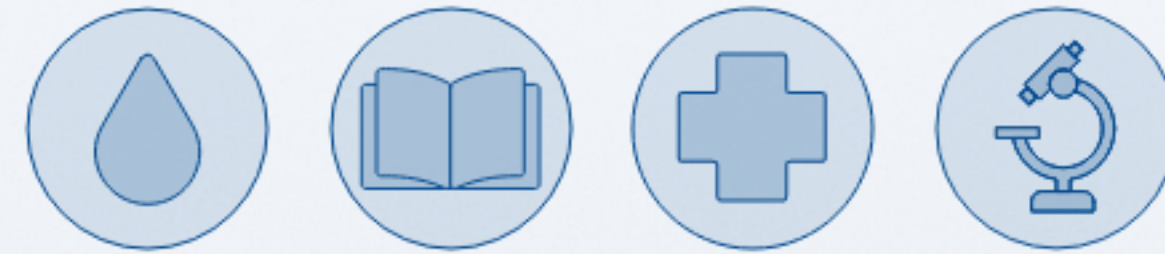


Intersectoral coordination and community empowerment for *Ae. aegypti* control in Cuba



A study was conducted in Havana City, Cuba, to determine the effectiveness of a community approach to prevent dengue fever, by strengthening intersectoral coordination. The control methods involved eliminating unusable containers in and around houses, covering tanks and cleaning public and inhabited areas.

Three years later, a complementary strategy for community empowerment was added. This included the formation of community working groups in five participatory processes:

1. Capacity-building
2. Community dengue surveillance
3. Social communication
4. Behavioural change
5. Participatory evaluation

Municipal health authorities also organised short courses for family doctors and epidemiologists.

Who did the programme involve?



- Local government authorities
- Public services
- Education sector
- Cultural sector
- Health sector
- Community organisations
- External experts

What were the key elements for success?



- A strategy for **community empowerment**
- **Intersectoral interventions** in sanitation, collection of recyclable material and social communication
- **Training for local healthcare practitioners** on dengue prevention, intersectoral coordination, community participation and strategic planning