

HEALTH SECTOR COOPERATION BETWEEN MEXICO & DENMARK, Annual report for 2018



Project description

The SSC project focuses on strengthening primary healthcare by supporting the implementation of a new healthcare model in Mexico. The first phase of the project was finalised in 2018.

In order to strengthen primary healthcare in Mexico, Danish knowledge and solutions in IT-systems, communication, telemedicine and evaluation are shared with the Mexican authorities. Moreover, Danish models of cooperation with civil society and models for public collaboration between state, regions and municipalities are applied as inspiration for further development of the Mexican healthcare system.

Some of the main results from the first phase of the SSC project are:

- Establishing a very close and broad relation between Mexican and Danish public servants and experts – leading also to joint research projects and other cooperation activities beyond the scope of the SSC project.
- The use of health data and indicators e.g. on diabetes, and in the implementation of clinical guidelines in primary healthcare.
- Development of national recommendations in telemedicine, including evaluation models.
- Implementation of telepsychiatry in the state of Durango.

Key activities in 2018

In April 2018, a technical delegation consisting of representatives from the three most important health institutions in Mexico visited Denmark.

This broadening of participants secures cooperation between all healthcare actors in Mexico and was a very important goal for the project. The visit paved the way for new ways of sharing solutions between the Mexican institutions. The visit focused on telemedicine and the use of data and led to a new joint sectorial cooperation in developing indicators in primary healthcare in Mexico.

In October 2018, Danish experts presented at the National Quality Forum in Mexico, focusing on Danish experiences in areas such as primary healthcare, the role of civil society in the healthcare sector and mental health.

A key activity in 2018 was the presentation of results from the first phase of the SSC to the secretary for health in Mexico. The members of the project's steering committee presented results of the project to the secretary, including the impacts of the cooperation in the health sectors of both countries. Moreover, a thorough joint report on possible activities for the second phase of the project was produced and presented to the vice secretary for health.

More than 80 key participants in and around the project have visited Denmark on scholarships during 2018, and an alumni network has been established by the SSC Counsellor in collaboration with the SSC partners in agriculture. In total, this network now consists of 140 participants and has a very active steering committee.

Main achievements and lessons learned in 2018

Effectively incorporating all of the most important health institutions actively in the SSC project has led to a high degree of diffusion of results.

When launching the cooperation in health, an important objective of the project was that results should be substantial and concrete. The first phase of the project has effectively produced concrete results that affect the healthcare sector of Mexico. This was also recognised by the Mexican secretary for health. Generally, there has been an ongoing exchange of knowledge between Denmark and Mexico in the area of health.

Planned activities in 2019

The objective of the activities planned for 2019 is to concretise the second phase of the SSC project.

Status: Project ending phase one and preparing phase two.

Partners: Secretariat of Health in Mexico (SALUD) and Danish Ministry of Health, Centre for Health Economics

Contact information:

Anna Hemmingsen ankh@sum.dk, The Danish Ministry of Health, Copenhagen.

SSC Counsellor Anne Mette Vega Brondbjerg anmbro@um.dk, The Danish Embassy in Mexico City.