Engaging civil society and communities and other entry points for addressing the impact of COVID-19 on Indigenous populations and Afrodescendants in the Americas

Dr. Anna Coates

Webinar: Health inequities and racial and ethnicity-based discrimination: what COVID-19 is teaching us
Current attention to racial and ethnic inequities and structural discrimination highlights urgency of increasing commitments to working with indigenous and Afro-descendant populations.
Intercultural, differentiated targeted approaches and knowledge dialogues to account for diversity, address discrimination and advance equity

Differences within and between groups, countries and subregions:

• **Living conditions** (rural vs urban; Indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation, etc)
• **Unequal advances for Indigenous peoples and afro-descendants**
• **Differential vulnerability and exposure within communities** (intersections with gender and other inequalities)
Culturally adequate COVID-19 responses

- Work with leaders
- Cultural adaptation
- Traditional plants
- Antiseptics
- Handwashing

- Mexico
- Guatemala
- Peru
- Argentina
- Brazil
- Costa Rica
- Panama

- Cultural adaptation
- Communication materials in Indigenous languages
- Indigenous territories COVID-19 management
- Special Indigenous Health Districts capacity
- Afrodescendant risk communications
- Response capacity
- Cross-border
- World-views
- Mapping Perceptions

- Afghanistan
- Brazil
- Colombia
- Mexico
- Peru
- Panama
- Argentina
- Guatemala
- Costa Rica
- Panama

- Brazil
- Colombia
- Mexico
- Peru
- Panama
- Argentina
- Guatemala
- Costa Rica
- Panama
Participation and engagement for equitable, culturally sensitive responses

Three **subregional consultations** and two **High Level Meetings** with Indigenous and Afrodescendant leaders identified thematic priorities for action:

- equitable access to quality, culturally responsive health services;
- underlying conditions affecting the health of Indigenous and Afrodescendant populations
- information and data systems to identify the priorities of indigenous peoples and monitor actions
- dialogue and participation
THANK YOU