
DR. PRISCILLA RIVAS-LORÍA

REGIONAL ADVISOR, HEALTH SECTOR REFORM
PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION/WORLD
HEALTH ORGANIZATION (PAHO/WHO)

Professional Biography

Dr. Rivas-Loría has 23 years experience in international health. She is currently the Regional Advisor in Health Sector Reform at the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) in Washington D.C.

Dr. Rivas-Loría is an expert in health systems planning and health sector reform. She worked in Costa Rica as the Central America Coordinator for the project: "Promotion of Women, Health and Development Research"; a joint endeavor between The University of Iowa and PAHO. Dr. Rivas-Loría also worked in Honduras as the Health and Nutrition Sector specialist of the Regional Unit for Technical Assistance of the social sectors (RUTA Social); a joint project between PAHO/World Bank/IADB/UNDP.

She has been the recipient of multiple awards, such as the Robert S. McNamara Fellowship, The World Bank; Fulbright Faculty Research Grant, Central American Republics; the Social Science Research Council/FORD Foundation Post-Doctoral Research Grant; and the Fulbright Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant.

For the last four and a half years she has been working as the Regional Advisor in Health Sector Reform and manager of the PAHO-USAID Health Sector Reform grant where she has played an instrumental role in forging a strong PAHO-USAID working relationship, and in developing Health Systems conceptual frameworks, methodologies, and tools. She was recently appointed as the new PAHO/WHO Representative to El Salvador, a new challenge she will begin in mid-April.

She holds a Ph.D degree in International Health and Nutrition Planning from Cornell University; and a Bachelors in Science degree in Clinical Nutrition from the University of Puerto Rico.