The use of Health Information technologies to strengthen Primary health care

• The integrated health networks demand a strong first level of care capable of acting as a gatekeeper for health system users;

• The use of health information systems is essential to support the strengthening of Primary health services;

• Solutions using health information systems contribute to expanding the access to health services, particularly in isolated regions facing scarcity of resources;

• Reliable, effective and easy to use information have the potential to impact positively the decision-making process in health.

• The country experiences of the region demonstrated the relevance of normative frameworks that encourage the strengthening and monitoring of the first level of care;

• National initiatives such as telemedicine in Peru, Electronic health record in Costa Rica, Program Management System in Brazil should be treated as regional public goods. In this regard, we recommend the mapping of valuable solutions developed in the Americas fostering the exchange of innovative experiences pursuing universal health.