About UICC Regional Dialogues

As part of its regional focus, UICC regularly works with its members to bring together the cancer community through interactive workshops named UICC Regional Dialogues to initiate and foster peer-to-peer learning and networking amongst UICC members, with participation of representatives of partners and networks regarding key themes for the region.

These regional gatherings of UICC members resumed in-person in 2022, with the launch of a series on women’s cancers. The two first Regional Dialogues were held for Africa in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire in July 2022 and in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in November 2022 for Latin America.

Overview of the Asia-Pacific Regional Dialogue in 2023

As the third Dialogue in this series on women’s cancers, the Asia-Pacific Regional Dialogue will be adapted to the specificities of the region, including current projects/programmes currently implemented in the region as well as the audience, in order to maximise impact.

Objectives

The Asia-Pacific Regional Dialogue titled Women’s cancers: sharing experience, strengthening regional networks aims to offer a platform to:

- Provide UICC members, primarily civil society, cancer centres, governmental agencies and technical partners, with a space to connect with each other and exchange views and experience on common challenges, success stories and opportunities in the region on a specific relevant theme.
- Foster regional thematic collaborations, maximise existing ones and shared learning at the regional level on women’s cancers from a multistakeholder perspective, including the private sector, as well as UN agencies, technical and financial partners from relevant global health areas.

The overall expected impact is to harness the expertise and experience across members and other key stakeholders in the region, and encourage a self-supporting community of peers, which will help catalyse collaborations within and for the region in the longer term.

Thematic focus: Women’s cancers

In line with the global momentum and existing strategies, specifically the WHO Global Strategy to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer and the Global Breast Cancer Initiative, the thematic focus for this Dialogue will be on women’s cancers. This specific focus also reflects UICC engagement in support of
these global commitments through key actions on cervical cancer, including as a partner in the SUCCESS project (Scale-up Cervical Cancer Elimination with Secondary prevention Strategy) as well as through UICC’s Breast Cancer Programme.

While the region is characterised by large disparities, there are opportunities for further collaborations across sectors and stakeholders to leverage health systems and integrated approaches to generate an impact on the burden of women’s cancers in the region.

The Regional Dialogue will offer a platform for UICC members and networks to share experiences and to reflect on potential collective action to address key barriers and leverage opportunities, including technical assistance and key evidence on both cervical and breast cancer as well as the added value of integrated approaches in the region.

**Audience: UICC members and network from 27 countries**

With a view to ensure optimal interaction, a maximum of 70 participants is recommended.

In the Asia-Pacific region, UICC’s member organisations, represent patient groups (50%), cancer societies (22%), cancer centres (20%) based in 27 countries (total of 394 members in the region). Members will be invited to apply to participate in the Dialogue. Provided the limitations in terms of the number of participants, a selection of one person per member organisation will be made based on focus on women’s cancers, balance in terms of countries and types of organisation represented, as well as engagement in UICC programmes and as part of the SUCCESS regional engagement strategy.

A limited number of travel grants will be made available for UICC member representatives.

Key technical and financial partners, including from United Nations agencies, other global health stakeholders and private sector partners, will be invited to join the meeting to share their expertise and experience.

**Countries in Asia-Pacific represented in UICC membership:**

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**Format: Interactive workshop**

Two-day workshop focusing on new formats increasing interactions and identification of common key solutions by participants (please note that the structure and titles below are preliminary – a detailed agenda will be developed in the coming weeks):

| Day 1 – 10 May 2023
|-------------------------------|
| Introductory panel – A key momentum for women’s cancers: Building a collective experience  
Presentations  
Tour de table: Status of CSO engagement in women’s cancers in the region  
Interactive Open Forum  
SESSION I. Elimination of cervical cancer in the region: sharing experiences  
Storytelling lab & Group discussions  
SESSION II. Multisectoral Dialogue: Universal Health Coverage for women’s cancers – towards integrated approaches - World Café & Fishbowl  
Social event

| DAY 2 – 11 May 2023
|-------------------------------|
| SESSION III: Towards global targets for breast cancer  
Storytelling lab & Group discussions  
SESSION IV. Nothing about her without her: Patients’ voices in public policies  
Storytelling lab & Group discussions  
SESSION V. Matching needs & opportunities for technical assistance - Marketplace  
CONCLUSIONS: Participants’ commitments for next steps - Each participant comes with an action