

# Engaging the cancer community to reach the 90% target for HPV vaccination

## Landscape of civil society engagement in HPV vaccination



A MEMBERSHIP ORGANISATION  
FIGHTING CANCER TOGETHER

## Concept note – May 2023

### Background

As part of its focus on women's cancers, specifically in supporting the implementation of the WHO [Global Strategy to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer](#), UICC is engaging in a situational analysis of civil society organisations' (CSOs) role in increasing access to, and uptake of HPV vaccination. Leveraging its membership of 1200 cancer organisations in 172 countries, UICC will conduct a landscape of CSOs' engagement at the national, regional and global levels for the introduction and scale up of HPV vaccination, focusing on low- and middle-income countries.

Recent advances, such as the single-dose recommendation as well as global commitments, such as those by GAVI, have set a refreshed momentum for driving change in terms of access and scale-up of HPV vaccination. CSOs can play a critical role, particularly as advocates, for the availability, access and demand creation to reach the 90% target of girls vaccinated.

The landscaping, based on a mixed methods approach, aims to generate knowledge about current and potential engagement, including barriers and facilitators, for CSOs to act towards access to HPV vaccination. The findings will also serve to inform future action by UICC to support CSOs' engagement in HPV vaccination, by identifying key enablers to drive change in this context.

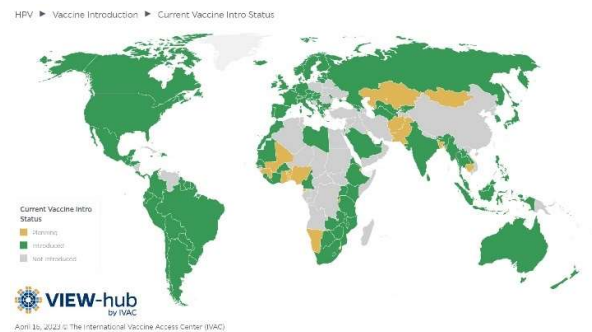
This mapping exercise, as well as key Virtual Dialogues to engage the cancer community will allow collective

reflection on current experience, and key actions that could further support CSOs in making a difference for women, girls and their families in their context.

### Context

#### Situation

WHO reports suboptimal levels of HPV vaccination coverage globally and few countries reaching the 90% target. Regions such as Eastern Mediterranean and Africa are showing the lowest rates of HPV vaccine introduction. In 2023, 42 countries (including 20 GAVI countries) are yet to introduce the vaccine and 21 countries are in the planning phase to introduce the vaccine. In many countries, such as Burkina Faso, cancer coalitions have played a critical role in driving change.



While the vaccine has been introduced in 131 countries as part of national immunisation programmes, coverage can be uneven, with a number of barriers from

the supply side (decentralisation, cost, programme delivery) to the demand side (hesitancy). In the latter, CSOs have a clear role in advocating for and facilitating the scale-up of the HPV vaccine.

## Objectives

The landscaping will aim to generate:

- Knowledge and understanding of the status and scope of CSOs engagement in HPV vaccination, from UICC's membership, with a focus on engagement in advocacy and impact for sustainable and scaled-up access to HPV vaccination.
- Evidence on the barriers and facilitators for CSO engagement, as well as needs and opportunities in terms of support for strengthening their impact, from UICC and other stakeholders.
- Engagement of stakeholders, from a multisectoral and integrated perspective, in targeted actions to support CSOs, and more widely, support the scale-up and accelerated access to HPV vaccination.

## Methodology

The landscaping study is based on a mixed method approach, through the collection and analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data, including the following:

**Desk review:** literature review, database of UICC members, database of national cancer control plans.

**Quantitative survey:** rapid survey with CSOs (UICC members) to assess engagement in dedicated activities, key barriers and facilitators as well as key needs to further engage.

**Qualitative interviews:** Semi-structured key informant interviews, following a purposive sampling approach, with geographic and organisational representation, of UICC members, to collect insights from representatives of CSOs as well as key stakeholders working with CSOs.

**Case studies:** Approximately five case studies to illustrate specific engagement and success factors in CSOs role in supporting the introduction and/or scale-up of HPV vaccination.

**Limitations:** Whilst UICC's membership is considerable, the landscaping will be limited by the engagement and activities of this target audience. It will however include insights regarding collaborations and activities of other CSOs who are also engaging in HPV vaccination.

## Timeline

The landscaping is to be conducted between May and September 2023, with the following key steps:

- June-July: rapid survey
- June-August: key informant interviews
- August-September: case studies and report drafting
- October: Launch of the report during a Virtual Dialogue

## How to participate?

UICC is keen to engage as many members as possible who are working in and engaged in the field of HPV vaccination in this landscaping exercise.

If you are interested to take part, please select one or more of the following options:

- Completing a rapid survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FQ6XQDN>
- Contact UICC to take part in a key informant interview or to contribute a case study (email: [samson@uicc.org](mailto:samson@uicc.org), with subject line as follows: 'landscape CSOs in HPV vaccination').