Since the launch of C/Can 2025 in Davos in January 2017, with the support of our partners, we have implemented localised action in four cities that will improve access to and quality of cancer treatment and care for over 25 million people.

Many milestones have been achieved, and through the outstanding engagement of the first C/Can 2025 cities, we have learned how to accelerate progress and increase the scope of impact.

Based on lessons learned in the four Key Learning Cities and the feedback from those who have undertaken the assessments, the C/Can 2025 methodology from the needs assessment through to prioritisation, planning, and financing is being refined and documented to create an effective model that can deliver results and impact on a larger scale.

International public and private organisations have been mobilised as C/Can 2025 partners to deliver technical assistance to the cities, and are now working on the ground in the Key Learning Cities.

To date, progress and achievements have been made in five key streams of work which are critical to the long-term success and sustainability of the C/Can 2025 initiative.

1. City-led improvement of quality infrastructure and services for cancer treatment and care
   - Activities are underway in four ‘Key Learning Cities’ as part of a first phase of learning how best to work with cities, particularly those in low- and middle-income countries. Asunción, Paraguay and Cali, Colombia joined in early 2017, followed mid-year by Yangon, Myanmar and Kumasi, Ghana in early 2018.
   - City Executive Committees have been established in every Key Learning City, representing a total of 75 high-level local and national decision-makers, from both the public and private sector, leading C/Can 2025 activities in their respective cities.
   - Three cities have completed the needs assessment process, produced comprehensive situation analysis reports, and are now focused on prioritisation and activity planning. One city is currently finalising the needs assessment.
   - Over 1,000 health professionals and 800 patients have been directly involved in the city-wide needs assessments.
   - City Managers have been appointed in each Key Learning City to support city-level implementation by providing on-site administrative and logistical support to key city stakeholders.
   - As part of the scale-up of support to a wider network of cities in every region, three ‘Challenge Cities’ have been selected to join following a call to action in late 2017: Kigali, Rwanda, Porto Alegre, Brazil and Tbilisi, Georgia.
   - A rigorous application process was developed to ensure that the selection of Challenge Cities is evidence-based and equitable, including pre-defined criteria of merit, and due diligence visits.

Immediate Next Steps
An additional Challenge City will be announced in Q3/4 of 2018, and a new targeted call for applications will be launched in October 2018 to identify the next set of Challenge Cities.
2. Technical assistance to enhance capacity of healthcare professionals and key stakeholders

- Over 50 international public and private organisations have been mobilised as C/Can 2025 partners to deliver technical assistance to the cities. This includes government agencies, UN agencies, professional associations and private companies.
- Three organisations have started working on the ground in Key Learning Cities providing technical assistance (ASCP, ASCO, and IAEA).
- Four capacity building workshops in communications and messaging have been run supported by Access Accelerated and Weber Shandwick to strengthen the skills of city, regional and global C/Can 2025 teams and key stakeholders.
- Two guidance documents on stakeholder management and the needs assessment process have been developed to support incoming Challenge Cities.

Immediate Next Steps
Methodology for the provision of on-site technical assistance is being developed and will be tested in Yangon and Kumasi. We will continue to develop tools and resources for Challenge Cities, including capacity building workshops and an operational guide for C/Can 2025.

3. Coordinated engagement and collaboration of multisectoral stakeholders

- National and regional Ministers of Health in the four Key Learning Cities have demonstrated their commitment to C/Can 2025 through signed MoUs. The Heads of State of each country are also informed and committed to the initiative, and open to exploring the potential to scale up nationally.
- City-to-city collaborations have been fostered, including experts from the National Cancer Institute in Cali providing technical support to the city of Asunción in their implementation of the C/Can 2025 process.
- Local representatives of pharmaceutical and radiotherapy companies have proven to be essential to encourage local level engagement of stakeholders, including within government, and mobilising the media.
- The UN Secretary General highlighted C/Can 2025 as an example of successful public-private partnerships in his preparatory report for the 2018 UN High Level Meeting on Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs).
- Engagement of the President of Uruguay as a C/Can 2025 Ambassador.

Immediate Next Steps
Continued efforts to develop and scale-up models for city-to-city learning and collaboration using a regional approach.

4. Sustainable financing solutions for cancer treatment and care

All cities to date have highlighted the need to secure financing to address specific gaps identified through the needs assessment process. In response to this identified need, the C/Can 2025 team has conducted the following activities:

- Commissioned a comprehensive market assessment to analyse the need for and opportunity to advance sustainable financing for NCD infrastructure in low- and middle-income countries through impact investing.
- A City Health Financing Lab (CHFL) was launched in March 2018 to support cities in low- and middle-income countries with the technical assistance required to access new and innovative financing solutions for their cancer priorities. CHFL delivers technical assistance through a series of consultations to help secure blended financing and cultivate a pipeline of impactful deals to attract new financing for cancer and other NCDs.
- 30 sustainable financing experts are now engaged in the CHFL network.
- Two cities (Cali and Asunción) are working closely with the CHFL team to select and address 2-3 priority areas where sustainable financing is the major implementation barrier.
- A regional meeting on 'Financing Sustainable Cancer Control Solutions in Latin America' was hosted by C/Can 2025 and the Presidency of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, bringing together over 30 international global health and health finance experts.

Immediate Next Steps
The CHFL will continue to provide technical assistance to Key Learning Cities to identify sustainable and innovative financing solutions for their most challenging cancer priorities. Simultaneously, the team will be developing the CHFL model into a scalable offer for the incoming Challenge Cities.

“Through C/Can 2025, the city of Kigali has the opportunity to deliver a more effective cancer treatment solution leveraging existing infrastructure at different levels of the healthcare system in the city, as well as a good partnership with stakeholders, particularly civil society, implementing cancer and NCD related activities.”

Patricia Muhongerwa, Vice Mayor in charge of Social Affairs, City of Kigali
The next 12 months

It is still early days for C/Can 2025 and we have learned much from the first Key Learning Cities on how best to mobilise action to address cancer treatment and care. Nonetheless progress has been excellent with all cities fully engaged in assessing their needs, identifying gaps and engaging local and international organisations to support them.

In the next 12 months we will:

1. Expand the number of Challenge Cities working with C/Can 2025.
2. Implement a monitoring and evaluation framework which will allow us to report progress and impact achieved in each city and globally.
3. Accelerate the way in which we assist cities identify and secure the funding required to implement their plans.
4. Transition C/Can 2025 to a new organisational model which supports the ambitions of the initiative and gives scope for stakeholders to play a more active role in the governance.

Immediate Next Steps

Roll-out of MEL framework and generation of quantitative and qualitative data from a network of cities that contributes to an evidence base for delivering sustainable, quality, equitable cancer care in cities. In the next 12 months we anticipate being able to report a set of high level metrics to show progress which will include:

- Number of people supported through C/Can 2025 technical assistance activities.
- Number of tools (guidance, standards, systems) developed for cancer care as result of C/Can 2025 technical assistance.
- Number of actions under development or developed and implemented through city stakeholder collaborations with a demonstrable contribution of C/Can 2025.
- Percentage of C/Can 2025 cities collaborating with other cities to improve cancer treatment and care.
- Number of case studies on processes and results of city-to-city collaboration shared with partners.
- Number of philanthropic grants committed.
- Total amount of new dollars (financial resources from newly identified or engaged sources) committed or forecast to be committed.
- Number of people actively using data/information produced by C/Can 2025.
- Improvements in access to and quality of cancer care in C/Can 2025 cities based on a core set of indicators covering health workforce, evidence-based protocols and multidisciplinary care, data acquisition and management, safety and occupational hazards and care pathway.