Covering Email:

Dear Colleagues:

We hope this note finds you well during these uncertain times. Everyone is being affected by the coronavirus pandemic and we all find ourselves readjusting, adapting and looking for ways to continue our important cancer control work, while helping our colleagues and communities with challenges that we’ve never encountered.

Our continued efforts to assist countries with implementing their national cancer control plans takes on an even more meaningful purpose when we are confronted with stressed health care systems, an overburdened health care workforce, and the need to maintain quality patient care while allocating scarce resources to fight the epidemic. Situations like this highlight the importance of planning and investing in health systems to be ready to address the burden of disease. Although cancer control planning has specific requirements, there are several cross-cutting components that are useful across the board, such as strengthening data systems for disease surveillance and pathology and epidemiology, or training the health care workforce.

It is with this background and grounding in the current reality that the International Cancer Control Partnership (ICCP) announces the call for applications for the ICCP Cancer Control ECHO Program. The ICCP ECHO Program seeks to support National Cancer Control Plan implementation in low- and middle-income countries through development of a virtual community of practice using the Project ECHO technology-enabled collaborative learning model. We believe more than ever that this community of practice will be a helpful and supportive initiative as we learn and hear about new and innovative ways to address these new challenges.

The application is now open for individuals and teams who are actively implementing a National Cancer Control Plan in their countries. Given the current pandemic and associated shifting priorities, the application will remain open on a rolling basis to give interested parties plenty of time to apply.

See the attached flyer for details about the program and the application process, and please circulate within your networks. Also, please see the ICCP portal for several resources related to cancer and COVID-19.

Send any questions or inquires to mishka.cira@nih.gov.

Best regards,
Mishka
Overview
The International Cancer Control Partnership (ICCP) ECHO Program seeks to support national cancer control plan implementation through development of a virtual community of practice using the Project ECHO technology-enabled collaborative learning model. The ICCP ECHO Program will convene countries in the implementation stage of their national cancer control plan, bringing together country-level participants and global cancer control experts in a bi-directional learning environment through monthly hour-long ECHO sessions. The curriculum will be developed based on topics identified by participants as key areas of technical need in cancer control plan implementation (e.g., scaling up evidence-based cancer prevention and control interventions, costing the national cancer control plan, strategies for prioritizing cancer prevention and control activities, etc.). Each session will include a case presentation by one of the participating countries, a didactic presentation by an expert on a technical topic, and a group discussion. Program outcomes will be measured through a pre-post survey method, which will also assist in tracking knowledge acquisition and responding to changing participant/country needs over the course of the ICCP ECHO Program. The ICCP ECHO Program is tentatively slated to launch in October 2020.

Call for Applications
The ICCP ECHO Program is currently accepting applications from individuals and teams who are active in national cancer control planning in their countries. The eligibility criteria for participation are as follows:

1. Participation in the ICCP ECHO Program is open to individuals and teams from a low- and middle-income country (as defined by the World Bank country classification) who are actively implementing a National Cancer Control Plan (NCCP) in their country.
2. Priority will be given to applicants from LMIC countries with a current National Cancer Control Plan (NCCP), with plans in place for implementation of the NCCP.
3. Applicants will confirm via letter of support that they have institutional commitment, including time permission, for participation in the ECHO through the ICCP ECHO Program Statement of Collaboration**.
4. Applicants will confirm via letter of support that they have that they have government/Ministry of Health support for involvement in the ICCP ECHO.
5. Applicants will commit to a minimum of one-year (12 sessions) participation in the ECHO.

Application Process
The ICCP welcomes all eligible applicants and applicant teams to follow this link to complete the online application form for the ICCP ECHO Program. The questions in this form are not intended to be a merit assessment. They are intended to help the ICCP ECHO planning team become familiar with in-country cancer control plan implementation activities to best design the curriculum to suit participants’ current situations. The ICCP ECHO planning team will review all applications, follow up with any questions, and will notify applicants and applicant teams of acceptance. Upon acceptance into the ICCP ECHO, applicants will receive a Statement of Collaboration** to sign and return, indicating confirmation of
enrollment into the ECHO program (each individual will be asked to sign a Statement Collaboration, whether joining as an individual or as part of a team). Prior to the start of the ICCP ECHO Program, participants will receive the curriculum documents, session schedule, participant list, and invitation to complete the baseline evaluation survey (each individual will be invited to complete the survey, whether joining as an individual or as part of a team).

**Application Link:** Click [here](#).

**Application submissions:** Accepted on a rolling basis

**Program start date (tentative):** October 2020

**Questions/Inquiries**
Contact Mishka K. Cira, mishka.cira@nih.gov.

**Statement of Collaboration includes commitment to participate for a minimum of one year (12 sessions), willingness to give a case presentation, agreement to complete program evaluation (baseline, midpoint, and endpoint survey).**