International Cancer Control Partnership ECHO Program

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SESSION TOPIC: National Coordination of Cancer Control Efforts and Partners

PRESENTATION DATE: JANUARY 13TH, 2021





Introduction

- Country context:
- The population of Cameroon was estimated at 26,545,864 (2020).
- The population growth rate at 2.6%.
- This population is unevenly distributed over the country: the cities of Douala and Yaoundé alone have about 20% of the national population.
- The health care system in Cameroon involves three sub-sectors: public, private and confessional (faith based organizations and/or traditional medicine).
- The system is also structured in three levels: Central, Intermediate and Peripheral.
- Structures of care are represented by primary, secondary and tertiary care.





National cancer control plan (NCCP) information

- The NCCP of Cameroon, presents the priority strategies and action plan over the next five years (2020 2024).
- These actions are grouped into three strategic components: primary, secondary and tertiary prevention.
- The objective of this strategic plan is to reduce morbidity and mortality due to cancer by at least 10% in Cameroon by 2024.
- It has a vision of making holistic management of cancer to be available in Cameroon by 2035.
- The implementation of this plan is coordinated by the NCCC, headed by an Executive Secretary, with a staff capacity of 15 personnel.
- NCCC works in collaboration with some other government ministries, international organizations, CSOs, private and confessional sectors.





Coordination of stakeholders and partners involved in National Cancer Control activities by the NCCC.

- In 2002, the MOH put in place the NCCC as the umbrella body to coordinate cancer control efforts and partners in Cameroon.
- This Committee is made up of 15 personnel with a permanent secretary as committee leader who provides guidance and direction.
- The Committee personnel are assigned clear and focused areas of action from the strategic plan which range from:
- The development and implementation of policies and strategies on cancer control; from prevention, diagnosis, treatment to palliative care.
- > Data collection, storage, analysis, interpretation and publishing its results.
- > Cancer research and Fund mobilization for cancer control activities.
- The committee is also in charge of engaging stakeholders and partners in the implementation of these priorities stated in NCCP.





Faciltators related to the implementation strategy

The main interventions of this plan are focused on:

- Strengthening primary and secondary prevention.
- Improving care by raising the platform of tertiary hospitals.
- Improving governance through better coordination and integration of interventions, mobilizing resources and strengthening information and research.
- Provides possibilities of efforts to be made in collaboration with the institutions concerned.



Barriers

- Absence of a guide or criteria to identify and get key stakeholders and partners on board for implementation of the plan;
- Inadequate general and specific communications strategies to get stakeholders involved in the plan implementation;
- Limited financial resources for implementation of the strategic plan;
- Social crises (situation in the South-West and North-West, the Bokoharam sect, and the situation of refugees in East Cameroon);
- Impact of major Health Crisis (COVID-19);
- Non involvement of the community.





Steps to actively engage stakeholders in the implementation plan priorities

- STEP 1: Identifying the baseline status of cancer control stakeholder activity to guide the implementation of the National Cancer Control strategic Plan.
- **STEP2**: Identifying these stakeholders and have a better understanding of who is available to support on the implementation process; and what skills and approaches they can bring to the table.
- STEP3: Communicating the selected priorities and goals for engaging the stakeholders. This involves setting out specific tasks, the approaches to take, who is responsible for each task and the timelines and how to handle feedback
- **STEP 4**: Lobbying for the resources needed and resource allocation to successfully implement these priorities and track progress on the implementation.





Question for Discussion

Are there other comprehensive guidelines to get stakeholders and partners fully engaged in the National cancer control plan implementation strategies? If yes, how can we get it?





THANK YOU! MERCI!

TEAM CAMEROON (Sona Mukete, Eve Mayaah and Manjuh Florence)



