

Cancer

where IAEA is involved

With its vast experience and knowledge of radiation medicine and technology, the IAEA plays a pivotal role helping low-resource countries fight the growing cancer crisis.

Technical Cooperation Projects Related to Cancer or Oncology Currently Ongoing Worldwide

Radioisotope and Radiation Treatment	87 projects
Nuclear Medicine Imaging	39 projects
Radiation Metrology and Dosimetry	17 projects
Radiation Medicine and Health	5 projects
Diagnostic Radiology	4 projects
Preparation of Labelled Compounds	2 projects

LATIN AMERICA

New Cancer Cases: 991,423/year
Deaths: 576,571/year
Population/Radiotherapy Unit: 815,687
IAEA Projects: 34

PMDS: Nicaragua

Population: 5.7 million
New Cancer cases: 5,000/year

With the support of IAEA/PACT, WHO and international partners, a National Cancer Control Programme has been finalized and submitted to the Minister of Health for approval.

An MDS Nordion/Best Theratronics radiotherapy unit, recently donated through PACT, will significantly increase Nicaragua's cancer treatment capacity by providing treatment for up to 180 patients a day.

EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA

New Cancer Cases: 3,013,665/year
Deaths: 1,821,378/year
Population/Radiotherapy Unit: 346,723
IAEA Projects: 44



PMDS: Albania

Population: 3.6 million
Cancer cases: 6,000/year

IAEA/PACT is working with WHO and international partners to help the Albanian government further develop cancer control activities.

The government has developed a new model for raising awareness and improving early detection of breast cancer.

AFRICA

New Cancer Cases: 764,259/year
Deaths: 595,758/year
Population/Radiotherapy Unit: 4,772,565
IAEA Projects: 41



PMDS: Tanzania

Population: 38 million
Cancer cases: 35000/year

IAEA/PACT is working with WHO and international partners to help build national cancer strategies and action plans.

The Ocean Road Cancer Institute, Tanzania's only cancer treatment and radiotherapy centre, inaugurated an MDS Nordion/Best Theratronics radiotherapy unit (donated through PACT) in May 2008. The unit effectively doubles the treatment capacity in Tanzania, where services are already severely overstretched.

PMDS: Yemen

Population: 22 million
Cancer cases: 11,000/year

IAEA/PACT, WHO and international partners are supporting government efforts to expand cancer services nationwide, including radiotherapy treatment and nuclear medicine diagnostic services, and to design and implement strategies focused on all areas of cancer care and control.

The government hosted the Fourth Gulf Cooperation Council Conference on Fighting Cancer in February 2009. Over US\$1 million was raised for the treatment of Yemeni cancer patients from officials, corporations and others.

ASIA & THE PACIFIC

New Cancer Cases: 5,737,035/year
Deaths: 3,934,024/year
Population/ Radiotherapy Unit: 979,818
IAEA Projects: 25



PMDS: Sri Lanka

Population: 21 million
Cancer cases: 18,000/year

With the support of IAEA/PACT, WHO and international partners, Sri Lanka is making steady progress in all areas of cancer control.

A comprehensive National Cancer Control Programme for Sri Lanka is now close to completion and implementation.

PMDS: Vietnam

Population: 84 million
Cancer cases: 75,000/year

IAEA/PACT is working with WHO, international partners and Vietnamese stakeholders to strengthen areas including cancer registration, prevention, diagnostics and treatment.

The Ministry of Health inaugurated its National Cancer Control Programme in January 2008. Among other objectives, the Programme aims to reduce the rate of advanced stage cancer sufferers seeking consultation and treatment at specialized health facilities from 80% in 2000 to 50% in 2010.

Note: Deaths from Cancer and New Cancer Cases are 2008 projections. (source: WHO);
Population/Radiotherapy Unit ratio refers to the number of people per unit. [source: IAEA Directory of Radiotherapy Centres (DIRAC)];
IAEA projects refers to active technical cooperation projects related to cancer or oncology (source: IAEA);
PMDS: PACT (Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy) Model Demonstration Site in the region.

Text: Angela Leuker • Design: Ritu Kenn • Photos: P.Pavlicek and A.Leuker/IAEA