

VUCCnet

**Multidisciplinary Education and Training in
Cancer Control through a Virtual University
and Regional Networks in Africa**

World Cancer Congress 2012



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

Promoting an integrated approach

Prevent

**Detect
Early**

- ⇒ X-Rays
- ⇒ Mammography
- ⇒ CT Scan

**Diagnose
and Treat**

- ⇒ Nuclear medicine
- ⇒ Radiation diagnostics
- ⇒ Radiotherapy

**Palliative
Care**

- ⇒ Palliative radiotherapy

**WHO/IAEA
Joint Programme on
Cancer Control**

IAEA
Radiation
medicine for
cancer
management
+
Radiation
safety

**IAEA
+partners
- PACT -
Comprehensive
cancer control**

Promoting education and training

- **Training** for medical practitioners **in radiation medicine** (*IAEA Technical Cooperation [TC] and Division of Human Health [NAHU]*) and **high level regional information meetings /workshops on cancer control** (*IAEA TC, PACT, WHO, IARC, partners*)
- **Support** to development of **national and regional education and training programmes** and **training material** (for physicians, medical physicists and technicians for radiation medicine (*IAEA TC and NAHU*))
- **Establishment of Human Health Campus** as a **repository of information and education material** for health professionals in radiation medicine (*IAEA NAHU*)
- **Training** on cancer through **partnership** (*US-NCI, AMCC-INCTR...*)

>220 trainees and 305 training course participants /year

>50 trainees through partnership/year

Workforce Supply Challenge

- Limitation in number of **dedicated practitioners available** as well as in **planning of future needs** (ca. 3,000 health professionals needed in Africa in next 10 years)
- Limitation in **developed countries capacity to host** foreign trainees (potential political, cultural and language issues, brain drain)

To be promoted:

- ✓ *Improve local capacity* in education and training of health workers across entire spectrum of cancer control
- ✓ *Use existing infrastructure* (university, hospital)
- ✓ *Rely on existing expertise in the region*
- ✓ *Use of e-learning technology*

VUCCnet (Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Egypt & South Africa)

- Fostering cancer control knowledge development, education and training capacity through virtual university and regional network

Expected outcomes:

- ✓ Increased number of trained and certified regional cancer control practitioners
- ✓ Wider availability of WHO and IAEA supported programmes in capacity building for cancer control
- ✓ Network of physicians and practitioners able to mentor and support each other through regional network

**VUCCnet Africa pilot project
launched in 2010**



VUCCnet stakeholders

Roche
African Research Foundation

US State Department

IAEA

IAEA
WHO / AFRO
IARC
INCTR
UICC

AFRA
AORTIC
AFROG
AMREF
ASCO

Ministries:
Health, Education, Vocational

Health Workforce Regulatory
bodies

Academic Institutions

Vocational Institutions

Professional associations

Hospitals (Training sites)

System Components



Website

Administration
System



E-Learning
Platform

Curriculum
Faculty



Theoretical &
practical
Assessment

Graduation
Recognition
Employment



Content

CME/CPD

- Short training courses
- Communities of Practice
- Journal club/ case conferences
- Professional meetings

Informal Courses

- Learn at your own pace
- Certificate level
- Less pre-requisites
- Online delivery
- On-line Assessment only

Library

- Cancer Control materials
- Journal Access
- Links

Formal Courses

- Diploma, Degree, post-grad
- Pre-requisites
- Blended delivery
- Blended assessment



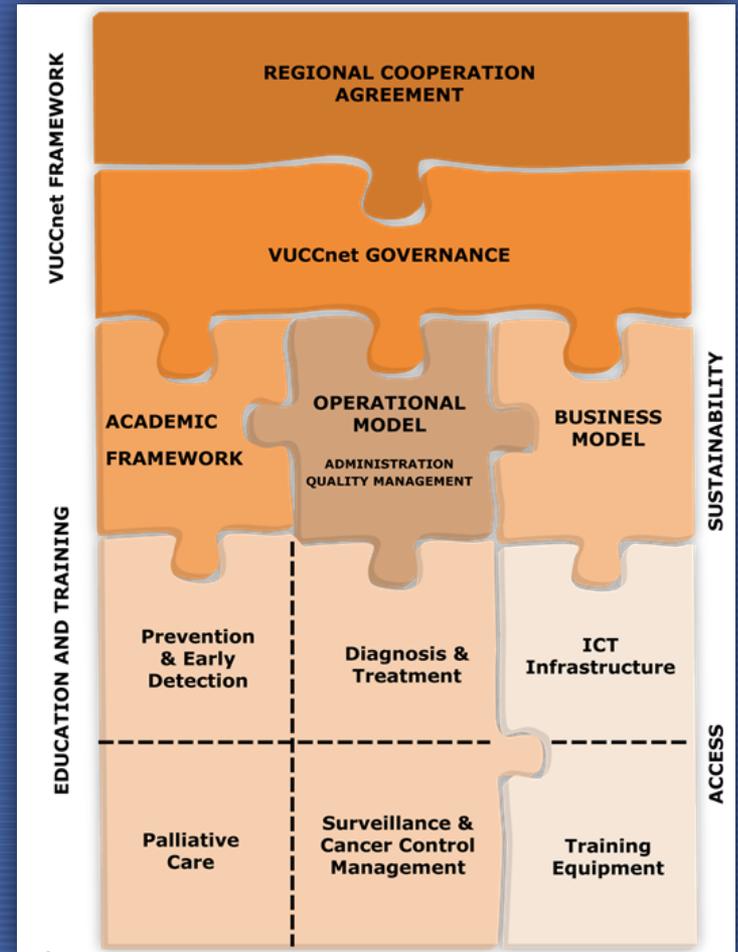
VUCCnet 10 priority workforce areas

	IN-SERVICE	PRE-SERVICE
PREVENTION	Community Health Workers (Cancer Skills Package)	
EARLY DETECTION	Screening Workers (Cervical Cancer: VIA)	← (Proof of Concept)
DIAGNOSIS & TREATMENT	Surgeons (Surgical Oncology Modules)	Pathologists Radiation Therapy Technicians Clinical Oncologists Oncology Nurses
PALLIATIVE CARE	Palliative Care practitioners (Short Courses)	
SURVEILLANCE	Cancer Information Workforce	

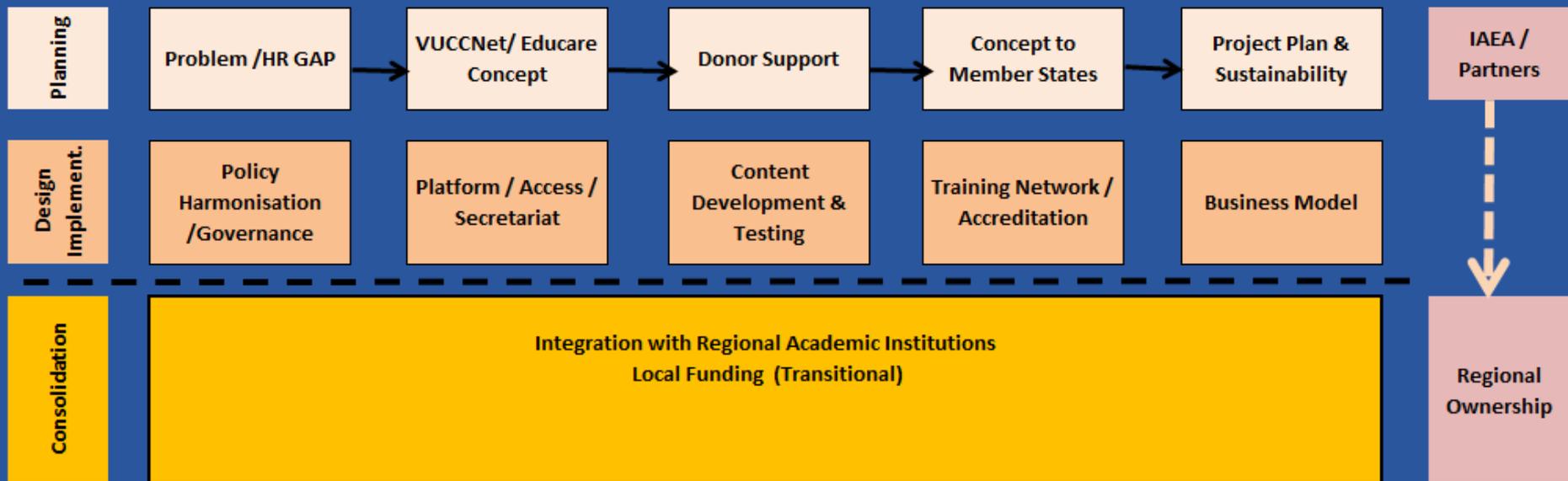


Project Components

1. Regional Cooperation
2. Policy Harmonisation Framework
3. VUCCnet Governance
4. Operating Model
5. Infrastructure
6. Curriculum design and development, delivery & testing
7. Regional Training Network (Clinical Practice)
8. Business Model



Sustainability



Consortium Approach

- ✓ An agree Governance Framework
 - ✓ An agreed Curriculum Design, development & delivery framework
 - ✓ An Agreed Administrative Framework
 - ✓ An Agreed Collaboration Framework
 - ✓ An agreed Quality Assurance Plan & implementation Strategy
 - ✓ An agreed Action plan (Consortium & Country level)
 - ✓ An agreed Access Plan (IT infrastructure & administration support)
 - ✓ An agreed Financial Model
- Commence early 2012

VUCCnet Governance model

General Assembly (Country Members)

- Elect Board Members
- Review / amend Constitution
- Review Annual reports & financials

VUCCnet Board

- Oversee the financial; management / human resources and harmonise activities of VUCCnet
- Approve the Strategic Plan
- Oversee the Secretariat

The Hosting Institution

- Host the central Registry
- Coordinate distance and eLearning infrastructure
- Coordinate the operating model across countries
- Coordinate Quality Assurance
- Provide Technical support on eLearning
- Develop Strategic Plan – implement
- Annual Reports
- Financial reporting

Member Country Teams

VUCCnet General Assembly

Consortia Countries

Strategic Partners

Medical education experts
E-learning experts, Donors,
IAEA, WHO, INCTR,
IARC, etc.

VUCCnet Board

Host Institution/ Secretariat

The **IAEA** facilitates the implementation of the VUCCnet project while taking active roles in the development and management of the radiation medicine aspects of the programmes.

The IAEA has a seat on the VUCCnet Board

Consortium Programme Model

VUCCnet CONSORTIUM PROGRAMME

- Policy & Curriculum Conceptualization
- Capacity Enhancement
- Curriculum Design
- Content Development
- Content Production
- Content Review
- Quality Assurance
- Accreditation
- Programme Delivery
- Community of Practice



CONTENT PRODUCTION

Online Format
DVDs
Print

Open Educational Resources (OERs)

- Online Delivery
- Face-to-Face

Blended Mode delivery



PROGRAMME DELIVERY

- VUCCnet Consortium Programmes
- Participating Countries Programmes

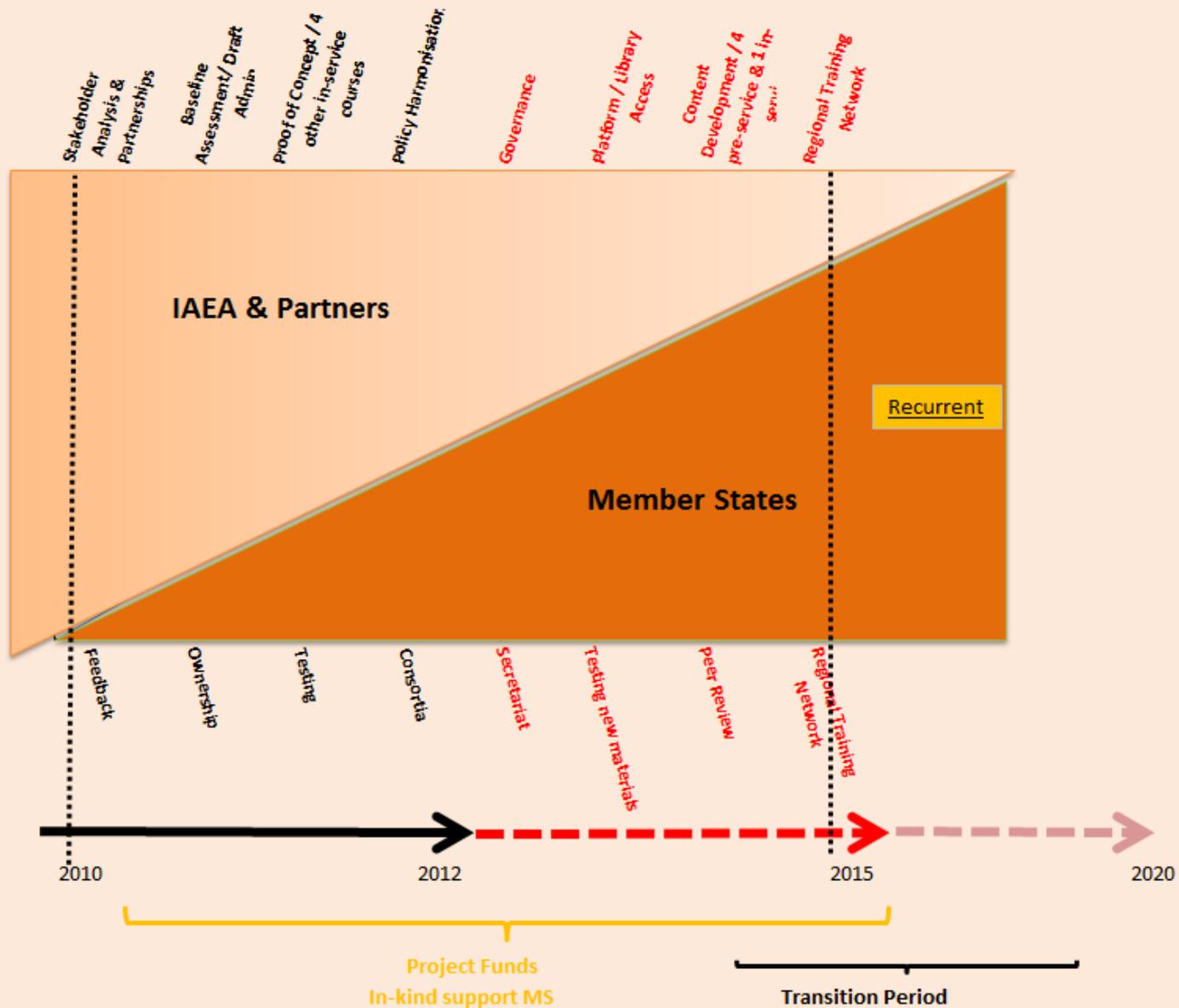
Degrees › Diplomas › Certificates › CPD



SUPPORT TO DELIVERY

- eLearning Centres in countries
- Virtual Classrooms online – Secretariat of VUCCnet
- Participating Countries physical Classrooms

Next Steps



For more information

Visit us:

<http://cancer.iaea.org>

Or write to:

pact@iaea.org

Thank you!

