To save lives and stem the rising tide of cancer across Latin America and Caribbean countries, PAHO Foundation and IFPMA have entered into a pioneering partnership to strengthen prevention capacity focused on the biggest women killers – breast and cervical cancer – as well as on supporting national cancer policies and planning with improved collection of reliable data.

Many Latin America and Caribbean countries’ health systems lack prevention and early detection capacities and quality data to develop effective national cancer policies.

In the Americas cancer is the 2nd leading cause of death. Each year 400,000 women are diagnosed with breast and cervical cancer.

Estimates indicate an increase of 62% in the cancer incidence for women by 2030.

Women suffer from largely preventable and treatable cancers. Prevention and early detection capacities can significantly reduce cancer fatalities.

Health systems lack quality data to develop effective national cancer policies. Cancer registries provide reliable data to understand the burden of cancer and allocate resources where it matters most.

The partnership between PAHO Foundation and IFPMA is helping countries:

- Disseminating education messages to raise awareness and empower women to seek screening and early detection services.
- Strengthening existing national cervical cancer screening programs focusing on HPV test based strategies to improve screening coverage and pre-cancer treatment rate.
- Building capacities of health providers in primary care settings in early detection of breast and cervical cancers.
- Building capacity for cancer registration by organizing training courses and learning sessions through interchanges in regional cancer registries to improve quality cancer registration procedures.
- Assisting countries with cancer data quality assurance, statistical analysis and presentation of data in cancer report, and in the dissemination of results to inform cancer control plans.

To empower women and healthcare professionals to improve prevention, screening and treatment rates of breast and cervical cancers.

To improve the quality and completeness of cancer data and reporting to inform cancer control plans.

Cancers kill 1.3 million people in the Americas every year, with breast and cervical cancer taking the biggest toll among women.

120,000 women die from cancers, with 92,000 from breast cancer and 36,000 from cervical cancer.