EUROPEAN UNION

Improving equity in access to early diagnosis of cancer: implementation research in different healthcare systems of Latin America (EquityCancer-LA)

30 September 2026



5 years Cancer Mission:
Stronger Through Connection

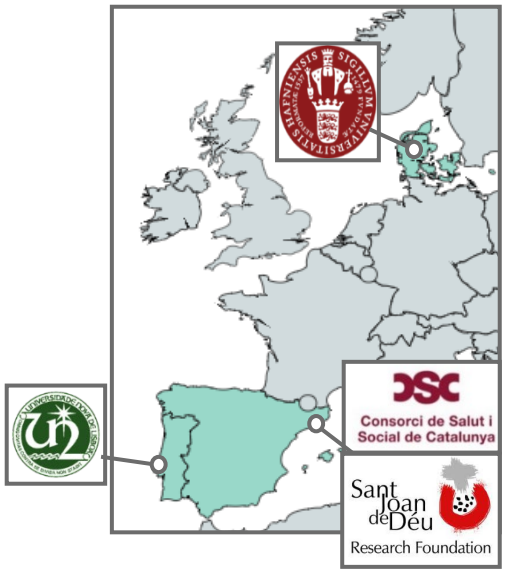
BRUSSELS
29 SEPTEMBER – 01 OCTOBER



EquityCancer-LA

Equity Cancer LA







Context



Healthcare systems organized as networks of public health services based on primary care, with a strong presence of private medical services

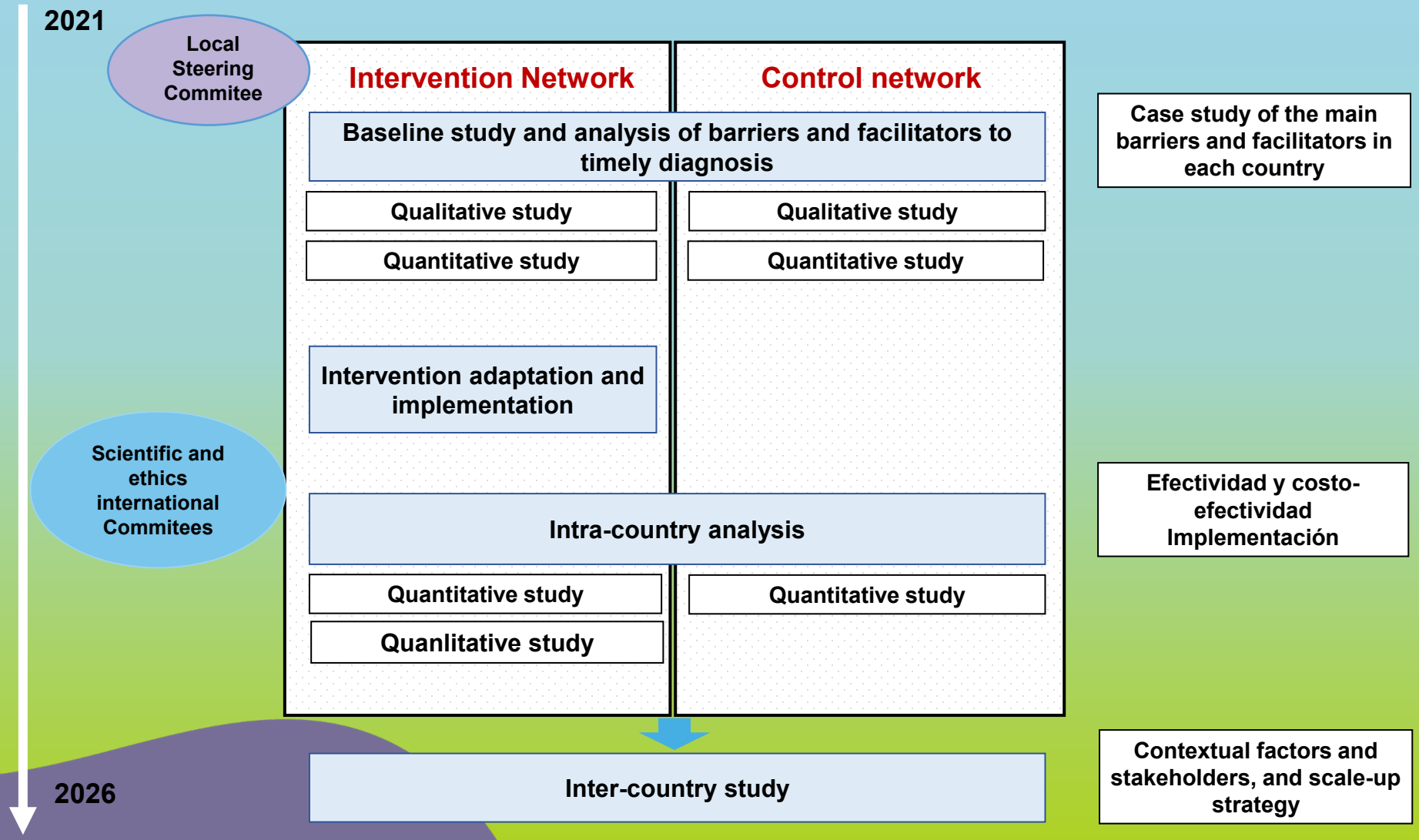
- **Colombia**
- **Chile**
- **Ecuador**



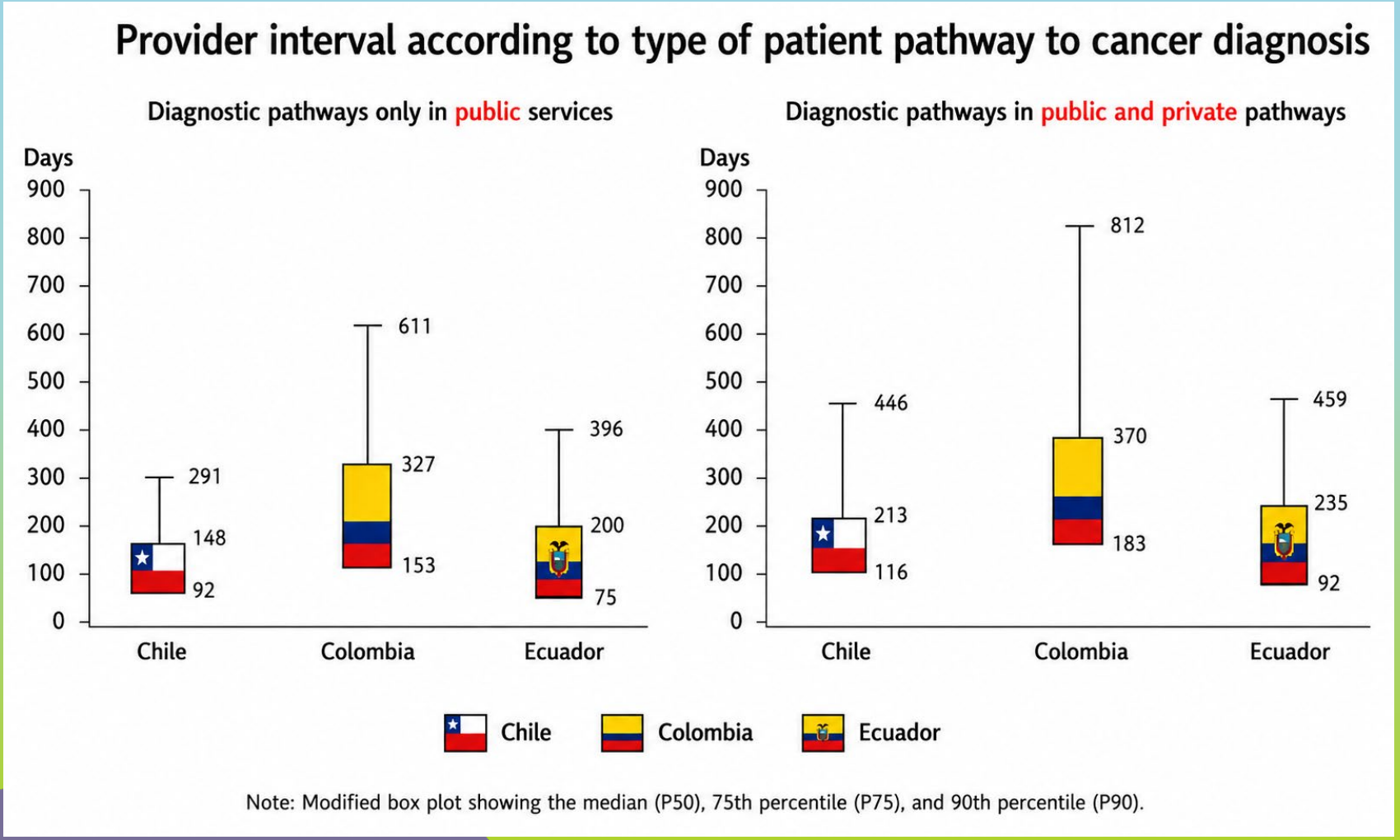
AIM

To assess the effectiveness of a participatory implemented integrated care intervention in improving early cancer diagnosis across health service networks within different healthcare systems in Latin America.

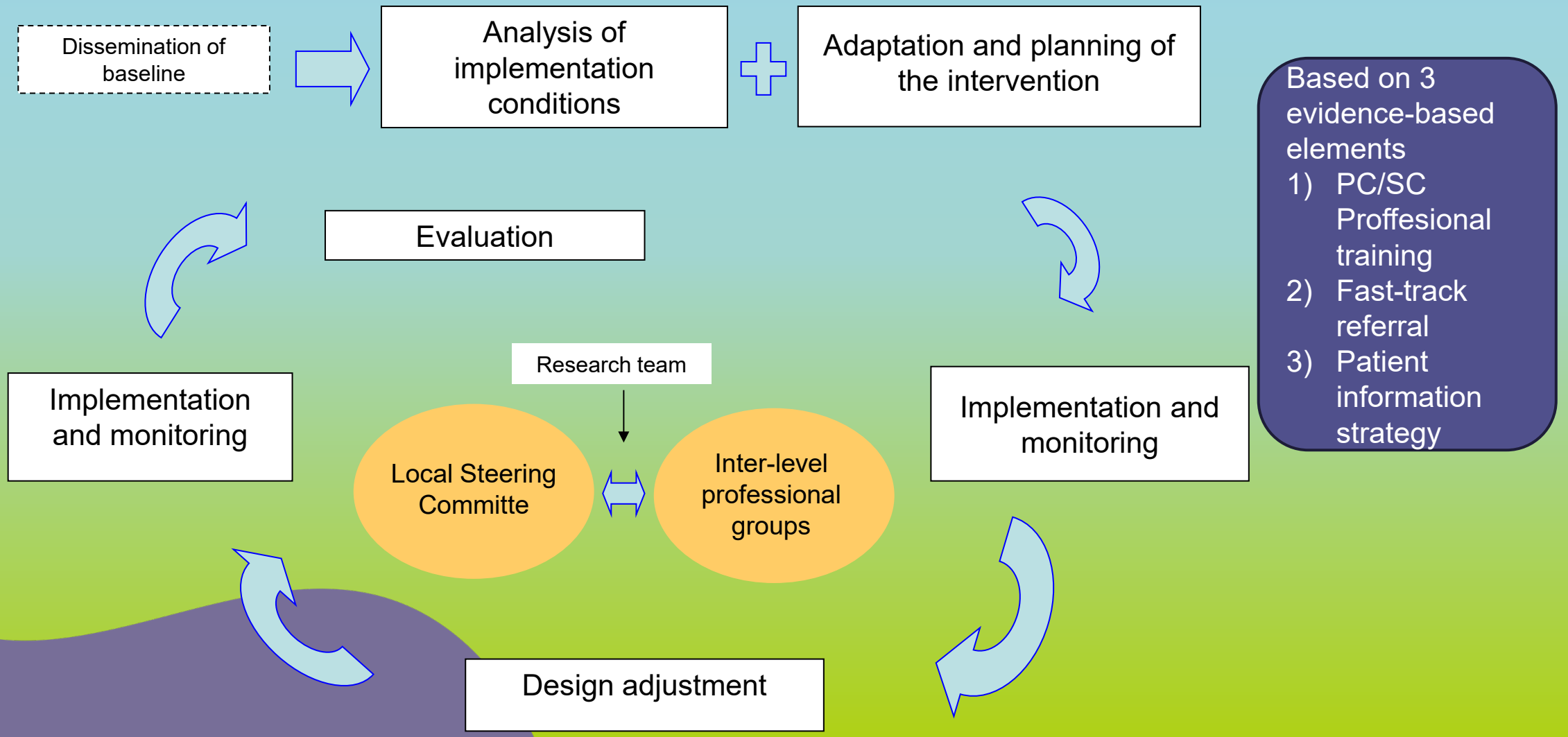
Project timeline



Baseline study



Intervention adaptation



Adapted interventions

Ecuador

a) Cross-level training: 3 introductory + 7 cancer (5)
b) Guidelines
c) Fast-track pathways









Colombia

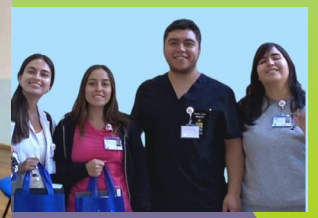
a)Cross-level training: Cancer (7) + 8 cross-cutting
b)Navigation strategy: professionals and patients associations
c)Fast-track

Chile

a) Cross-level training in most common cancers
b) Fast-track pathways
c) User information













Some final points

- Improvement of PC doctors' capacity for diagnostic suspicion (training) and coordination with secondary/tertiary level for rapid referral ➔mechanisms for direct communication and mutual knowledge
- Participatory, bottom-up process for adapting and implementing interventions, key to improve effectiveness and sustainability (professionals, managers and policy-makers)
- Evidence-based intervention ➔ validated strategy for large-scale implementation in LA and other LMIC countries.
- Impact on policies and practice ➔ co-creation and dissemination of evidence-based results to incorporate them into policy and practice on a sustainable basis.

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