



**Partnerships for Life – Alianzas por la vida  
IASP Suicide Prevention Network Program for The Americas**

**International Association for Suicide Prevention**

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## **Annual Report for 2025 & Annual Plan for 2026**

### **A message to our partners**

Dear partner,

Another year has come to a close and we are reflecting on the fantastic progress we have made with the support of your partnership. We now have 245 active partners from 29 countries in the Americas. In this letter, you will find information on the completed projects for this year 2025, as well as some ongoing activities that will carry into next year. The achievements accomplished this year would have not been possible without your support. The passion and amazing ideas have encouraged us to move forward with additional projects connecting and strengthening collaboration between partners.

This year concluded an amazing five-year journey in the initial implementation of the Partnerships for Life global initiative. We are happy to report that our project has been renewed for a new evaluation cycle, and this represents an opportunity to welcome new changes (both globally and regionally). These changes are highlighted below. We will continue to keep this initiative as accessible as possible to all in the region and would encourage you to direct us to others who may be interested in becoming involved. By thinking globally but acting locally, we believe we can be successful in our shared goal of fewer suicides across the Americas. We look forward to continuing our work together and growing our shared initiative in the upcoming year.

Wishing everyone a happy holiday season and a healthy and meaningful 2026!

Thank you!

¡Gracias!

Obrigado!

Merci!

Sincerely,

Dr. Mark Sinyor, Daniel Sanchez Morales & Emily Chan

## New cycle, new structure

Following the global project evaluation, we are happy to share that the Americas region was highlighted as a leader in the creation and facilitation of opportunities that align with national suicide prevention strategies. From webinars and knowledge exchange spaces to research collaborations, the Americas region demonstrated how unity, cooperation, and active engagement set the foundation that facilitates suicide prevention from a collaborative approach. We would like to highlight the following structural changes as result of this overall positive feedback:

1. Professor Stephen Platt of the University of Edinburgh has had a remarkable five-year term leading Partnerships for Life and growing it into a truly global initiative. We thank Professor Platt for all of his efforts and wish him the very best as he completes his term. We are pleased to announce that **Dr. Mark Sinyor** has been approved by the IASP board to be appointed as the new Global Lead of Partnerships for Life. Starting in January 2026, Dr. Sinyor has assumed oversight and is actively leading activities at the global scale while maintaining involvement with the Americas region.
2. We are thrilled to welcome **Elizabeth Seaward, Dr. Richard McKeon, and Dr. Karen Scavacini** as the new **Regional Leads** for the Americas. Their active commitment and engagement with the programme at the regional level with aid the process of scaling the number of activities for our region. All three leads will be actively involved in activities across the region; please note that each will also be the primary contact for members from specific countries as follows:
  - a. **MSc. Elizabeth Seaward (from Costa Rica)** will be leading the Central American and Caribbean subregion which includes the following countries: *Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and Puerto Rico; Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Curacao, Dominica, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sint Maarten, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos*

*Message: I am excited and deeply honoured to work alongside such dedicated partners in advancing suicide prevention across our region. I am confident that*

*our collective efforts- both regionally and throughout the Americas- will enable each of our countries to achieve our goals.*

- b. **Dr. Richard McKeon (from the US)** will be leading the North American region which includes the following countries: *Canada and the US.*
- c. **Dr. Karen Scavicini (from Brazil)** will be leading the South American subregion which includes the following countries: *Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.*

*Message: It is a privilege to join Partnerships for Life as the new Subregional Lead for South America. I would like to acknowledge and commend the substantial work carried out over the past five years, warmly welcome our partners across the region, and thank you for the commitment, experience, and knowledge you bring to this collective effort.*

*Building on this consolidated trajectory, the focus of the South America subregion in the coming cycle will be on supporting the systematic identification and reuse of existing initiatives, tools, and practices. Our work will be guided by a structured approach to understand what exists, what works, what is missing, and what can be scaled or adapted across different national and local contexts. Through coordinated mapping, peer exchange, and practical synthesis, we aim to strengthen regional coherence while respecting contextual diversity.*

*In the coming months, partners will be contacted to support this coordination and mapping process. I remain fully available for dialogue, clarification, and collaboration as needed, and look forward to working closely with partners and with the broader Americas coordination to advance evidence informed, context sensitive, and sustainable suicide prevention efforts across South America.*

- 3. Both Daniel Sanchez Morales and Emily Chan will continue supporting the whole Americas team, including direct support to Dr. Sinyor and Regional Leads.

### **Outreach strategy and current active regions**

This year we focused on strengthening connections and collaborations with our already active base group of stakeholders. Simultaneously, we continued carrying our outreaching



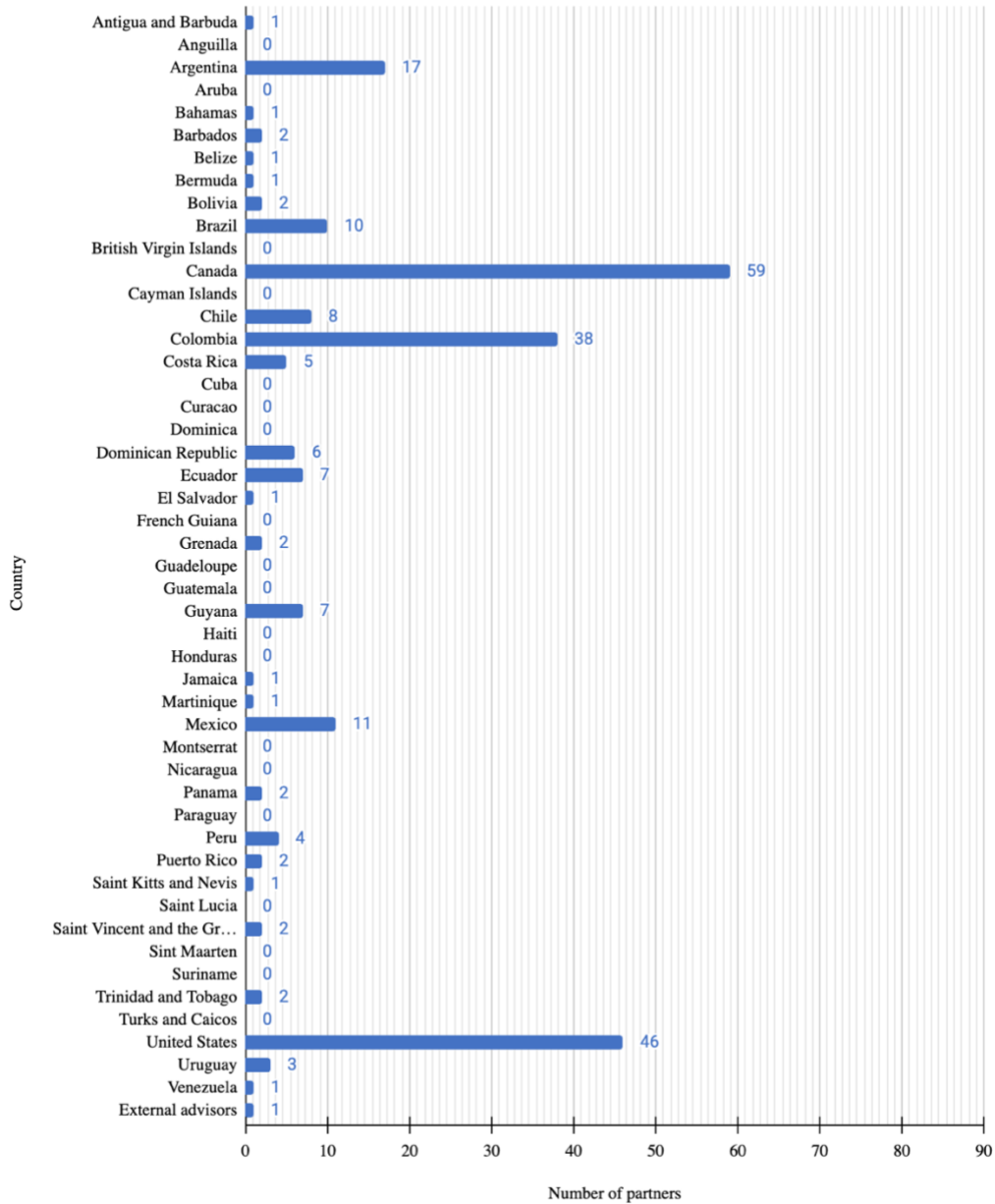
efforts and attempted to connect with countries we had not been successful before. We are excited to welcome Antigua and Barbuda to our country partners. Today, we have an active partnership base of 245 suicide prevention stakeholders coming from 29 different countries.

We are still in the process of connecting with more partners from the region. We would appreciate you support connecting with stakeholders from the following countries:

1. Anguilla
2. Aruba
3. British Virgin Islands
4. Cayman Islands
5. Cuba
6. Curaçao
7. Dominica
8. French Guiana
9. Guadeloupe
10. Guatemala
11. Haiti
12. Honduras
13. Montserrat
14. Nicaragua
15. Saint Lucia
16. Sint Marteen
17. Suriname
18. Turks and Caicos



Counts of Partners per Country as of December 2025



If you know of any stakeholders, please direct us to them (or them to us).

## Knowledge dissemination activities

One of our main goals is to disseminate and facilitate knowledge exchange. We are also working to navigate the circumstance of having partners who do not all speak the same languages and are trying to ensure accessibility to all. Here is a summary of our progress in 2025:

Activity	Type	Details
Situational Analysis	Journal publication ( <i>in preparation – Expected publication: March 2026</i> )	The purpose of this document is to have contextual information regarding suicide and suicide prevention strategies in each of the countries in the Americas. It has been disseminated for first revisions. We aim to complete and submit the document in early 2026.
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) & the University of Toronto collaboration webinar series - <b>"Fostering Life Skills in Young People to Prevent Suicide: Challenges and Opportunities"</b>	Virtual Webinar – March 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Third collaboration webinar with PAHO. This webinar focused on the development, review, and implementation prevention strategies with a youth focus. To access the webinar, please follow <a href="#">the link</a> .
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) & the University of Toronto collaboration webinar series - <b>" Shaping responsible communications to raise awareness on suicide prevention in the Americas "</b>	Virtual Webinar – November 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2024	This was the fourth collaboration webinar with PAHO. This webinar presented the creation, execution, and evaluation of suicide awareness campaigns, as well as how social media can be harnessed to promote suicide prevention, while addressing the risks of harmful content and misinformation. To access

		the webinar, please follow <a href="#">the link</a> .
<p><b>“One call at a time: Updates and challenges of a collaborative partnership between suicide prevention experts in Ecuador, Costa Rica and Canada”</b> Presentation at the IASP 33<sup>rd</sup> World Congress, Vienna, Austria.</p>	Oral Presentation – June, 2025	This oral presentation aimed to provide some updates on the ongoing situational analysis about the Americas region.

### Advocacy and research activities

With respect to our goals of advancing national suicide prevention strategies and related efforts, we have made the following progress in 2025:

Activity	Type	Details
Partnership collaboration between Ecuador, Costa Rica, and Canada: training for crisis line workers	Training intervention and research project – Pilot project	This project aimed to strengthen international collaboration among partners. We delivered crisis intervention training to a group of helpline workers in Quito, Ecuador. Publication of results is under way.

### **Objectives and goals for the upcoming year (2026)**

We will continue building on the substantial progress we have been able to achieve in the past three years and establish a solid basis for the new programme's cycle. This includes both general and specific subregional goals. Outreach and dissemination activities will continue on an on-going basis. Partners coming from all places in the Americas are welcome to come forward and propose additional feasible goals that incentivize international collaborations, but that respond to local needs.

We propose the following overarching specific goals for the upcoming year:

- To complete all in-progress knowledge dissemination activities listed in the table above.
- To continue working on previously proposed goals for each of the subregions.
- To reactivate our channels of communication to maintain constant and active interactions. This includes additional meetings with stakeholders and reactivation of WhatsApp groups.
- To maintain knowledge dissemination and capacity building efforts by providing accessible spaces of participation such as workshops, webinars and/or training.

The new appointed subregional leads will communicate specific subregional goals during the first semester of 2026. We encourage you to remain engaged to learn more about future collaboration opportunities.