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July 2023



Dear friends of the Agency,

I am deeply honoured and grateful to have been re-elected as Director of IARC for a second term. I take this opportunity to thank all IARC personnel, who have contributed tremendously to the success of our organization. Together, we have made significant progress in advancing cancer research, prevention, and control, and I am proud of our collective achievements. As I embark on my second term as Director, I am committed to building on our successes and continuing to advance the mission of IARC.

IARC held an official inauguration ceremony for the new headquarters building on 12 May 2023, which was attended by the French Minister of Health and Prevention, local government officials, members of the IARC Governing Council, dignitaries from IARC Participating States, representatives from the World Health Organization (WHO), national and international collaborators, and the principal funders of the construction project.

With its iconic shape, the new IARC building embodies the Agency's vision for Open Science and international collaboration in cancer research. Comprising six floors of ultra-modern laboratories, offices, and collaborative workspaces, it can host up to 500 people. The internationally renowned IARC Biobank has the capacity for 10 million biological samples from all over the world. I am convinced that our new building will become a beacon for cancer research and a catalyst for strengthening collaboration between scientists, health professionals, and the general public.

The Sixty-Fifth Session of the IARC Governing Council, which was the first to be hosted in the new building, took place on 10-12 May 2023. IARC welcomed a Chinese delegation to their first in-person Governing Council session, and in keeping with the tradition for incoming Participating States, the flag of China was raised on its pole next to the flags of the other IARC Participating States.

Alongside the IARC Governing Council meeting, IARC and the National Cancer Center of China officially launched a Learning Centre to train researchers and practitioners and to foster collaborative cancer prevention research and activities across China and the region. Learning and capacity-building is a core part of IARC's mission, contributing to increased capacity in cancer research worldwide, as highlighted in this issue of the Newsletter.

Best regards,

**Dr Elisabete Weiderpass**  
IARC Director

• IARC News



Dr Elisabeth Weiderpass re-elected as IARC Director

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IARC and the National Cancer Center of China launch a regional Learning Centre

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World No Tobacco Day: It's never too late to quit smoking, even after a cancer diagnosis!

[Watch video](#)



IARC marks European Week Against Cancer by expanding multilingual learning programme

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Protection from a single dose of HPV vaccine: A major public health impact from IARC studies of vaccine efficacy

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The CanScreen-ECIS project: Making European cancer screening data available to all

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- Focus on Learning and Capacity-Building



### Strengthening biobank infrastructures

IARC leads the **Biobank and Cohort Building Network (BCNet)**, which is funded by the United States National Institutes of Health and aims to strengthen biobank infrastructure in low- and middle-income countries, create a research-ready network, and boost their competitiveness in applying for international funding. This includes projects such as Twinning for the Armenian Research Infrastructure on Cancer Research (**ARICE Armenia**), which aims to build the research capacity of Yerevan State Medical University, in particular for the collection, governance, and use of biological material. IARC hosted an **ARICE workshop** in Lyon at its new headquarters building and a second workshop in Yerevan, as part of the national paediatric oncology conference.

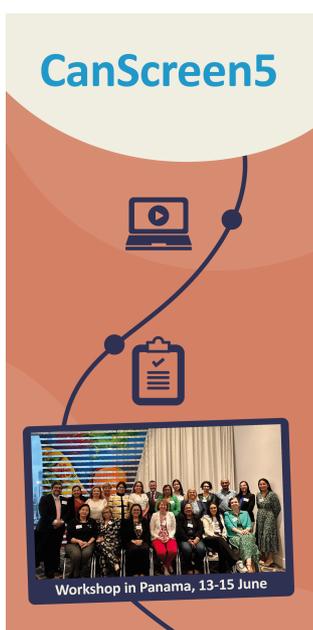
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### Making cancer data count

The Global Initiative for Cancer Registry Development (GICR) aims to save lives by increasing the coverage and quality of cancer registries in less developed settings. Training is organized via **six IARC Regional Hubs** and targets the skills needed to translate local cancer data into actionable insights for policy-makers, clinicians, and researchers. Since April, three Regional Hubs have held training courses in coordination with key institutions from Georgia, the Republic of Korea, and Argentina.

[Visit the GICR website](#)



### Training to improve the quality of cancer screening programmes

The IARC Cancer Screening in Five Continents (**CanScreen5**) project aims to build capacity and to motivate and support countries to collect and use cancer screening data for evaluation and quality improvement. In May and June, face-to-face workshops were held in Miami (USA) and Panama for collaborators from Caribbean and Latin American countries, respectively.

Collaborators had previously participated in an online training paired with live sessions, and submitted information on their cancer screening programmes and barriers to the cancer screening pathway. During the workshops, participants discussed governance and quality assurance of their screening programmes and worked on an action plan to overcome a prioritized barrier in their countries.

The self-paced learning programme on **“Improving the Quality of Cancer Screening”** is freely available in English, Spanish, and Russian - and soon in French!



### IARC Summer School 2023: Public Events Series

Are you interested in how socioeconomic factors contribute to the cancer burden, or how diet, alcohol, or tobacco affect cancer risk? No need to choose - all these subjects and more were covered in IARC's first Summer School Public Events Series. The recordings are now available online.

[Watch the video series](#)



### World Cancer Report Updates live webinar

During a live webinar on liquid biopsy-based biomarkers for cancer detection and monitoring, three expert speakers will review the evidence base and current and potential applications for this emerging technology.

Join us online on 12 July 2023 at 11:00 CEST.

[Register now](#)



### New interactive e-learning module on pollution

What proportion of cancers are due to environmental pollutants, according to scientific evidence? What are the gaps and opportunities for future research into pollution and cancer? Dive into the IARC interactive e-learning module "Introduction to Research on Pollution and Cancer" to find out.

[Enrol here](#)



The IARC Cross-Cutting Working Group on Cancer Prevention Knowledge Translation and Transfer produces the **Evidence Summary Briefs series** to call attention to scientific studies leading to cancer prevention.

[Click here to subscribe and receive future IARC Evidence Summary Briefs](#)

#cancerresearchthatmatters



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