

# **Strategic Priorities for Science and Policy 2025-2030**

**This document sets out the strategic priorities for WCRF International's science and policy work. It will be followed by a full strategy later this year.**

## **About the WCRF Network**

World Cancer Research Fund International is a leading authority on the links between diet, nutrition, body weight and physical activity and cancer. We are an international not-for-profit association that leads and unifies a network of cancer prevention charities, including the American Institute for Cancer Research, World Cancer Research Fund in the UK and Wereld Kanker Onderzoek Fonds in the Netherlands.

World Cancer Research Fund International is in official relations with the World Health Organization and is a member of the Union of International Cancer Control.

See here for our latest [Global Advocacy Report from the Union of International Cancer Control](#)

# Science & Research Strategic Priorities 2025-30

## Introduction

Our science programmes are fundamental to what we do across the WCRF network, informing and underpinning all aspects of our work. Through these programmes we are recognised as world leaders and influencers in the field. We partner with like-minded organisations at the highest levels, and take part in key national and international initiatives and collaborations to further our work, extend our reach and increase our impact. All our programmes are directed towards enabling us to achieve our network vision of living in a world where no one dies of a preventable cancer.

## Our science priorities are organised around 3 strategic pillars:

1. Discover – evidence generation and innovation
2. Translate – impactful application of scientific evidence
3. Influence and engage – expanding reach and impact to drive change

We will achieve these strategic objectives through a range of science programmes, with all our work is guided by strong underpinning approaches to ensure that we are funding and undertaking the highest quality, innovative science for maximum impact.

Our science and policy priorities are aligned around similar strategic pillars, supporting us to work towards a shared vision.

## For further information:

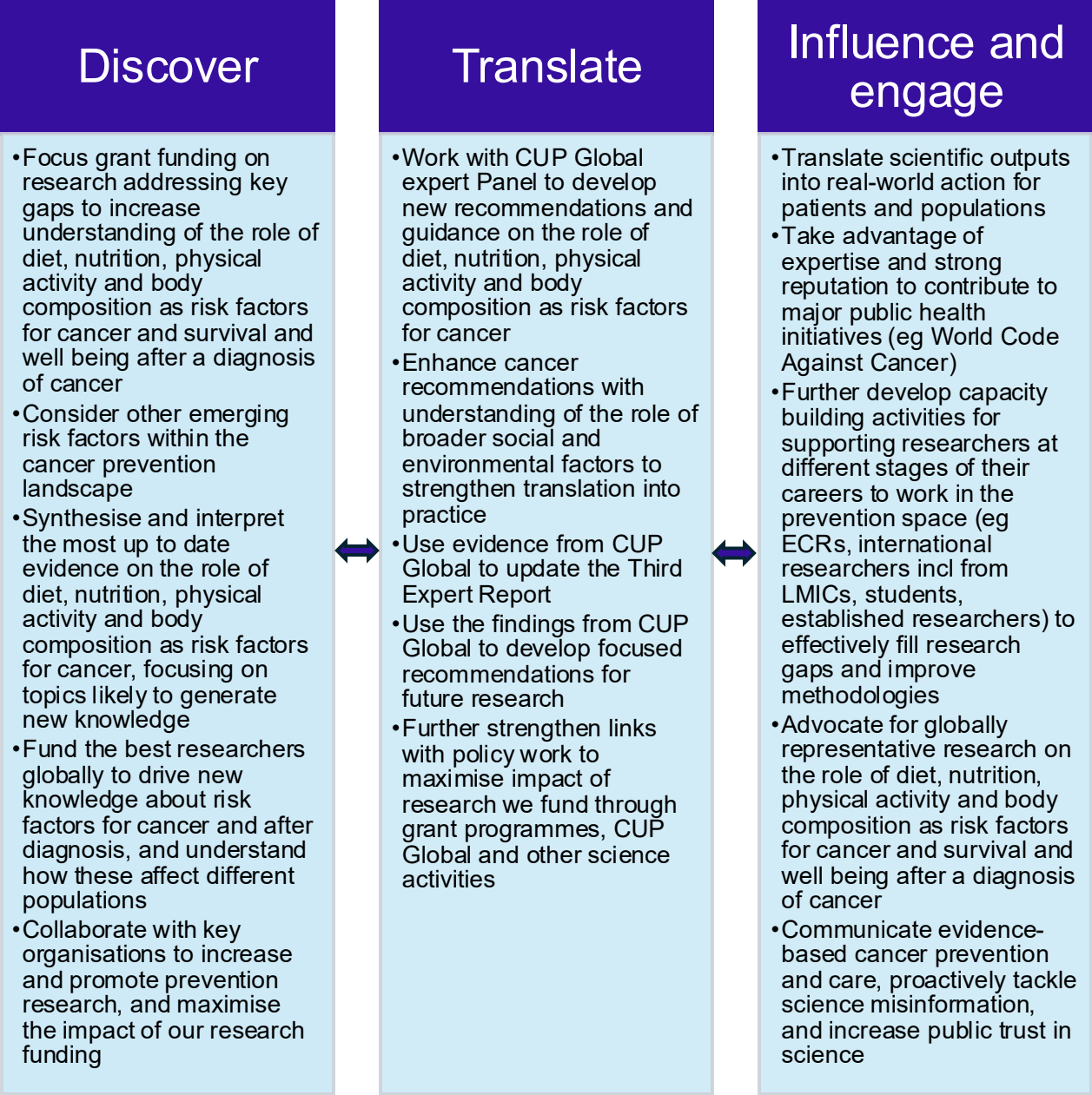
Grant programmes guidelines for [Regular Grant Programme](#) and [INSPIRE Research Challenge](#), and the [CUP Global strategy](#).

# Science & Research Strategic Priorities 2025-2030

**Vision:** A world where no one dies of a preventable cancer

**Mission:** Preventing cancer worldwide by working across all levels of prevention

**Goal:** To reduce the burden of preventable cancers worldwide through impact-led, outcome-focused, cutting-edge science and policy



**Key science programmes:**

- Grant programmes
- Research collaborations
- Global Cancer Update Programme
- Academy programme
- Conference programme
- Hong Kong presence
- Framework for communicating evidence-based cancer prevention and care

**Underpinning principles:**

- Strong user engagement and involvement (with public and patient representatives)
- Taking advantage of technological advances
- Strong integration of impact assessment
- Robust processes for how we fund, synthesise, interpret research
- Strong collaborations with scientists, and other charities and organisations with aligned values
- Strong integration of science and policy work

# Policy and Public Affairs Strategic Priorities 2025-2030

**At World Cancer Research Fund International, we drive global action to prevent cancer before it starts.** Our policy work is grounded in robust scientific evidence showing how diet, nutrition, physical activity, body weight, alcohol consumption, and breastfeeding affect cancer risk. We work with the World Health Organization, governments, and civil society to influence international frameworks and national policies that make it easier for people to live healthier lives. We support and amplify the policy priorities of our network of charities ensuring a united voice for change. We advocate for strong, science-informed policies and for cancer prevention to be a political priority for governments globally. By linking cancer prevention to other agendas—like sustainable development, climate action, and economic resilience—we help build the political will needed to create long-term, system-wide change.

**Vision:** Living in a world where no one dies of a preventable cancer.

**Mission:** Working to prevent cancer worldwide.

**Goal:** To reduce the burden of preventable cancers worldwide through impact-led, outcome-focused, cutting-edge science and policy.

| 1. Discover<br><i>Innovate &amp; Generate Evidence</i>  | 2. Advance<br><i>Turn Science into Action</i>   | 3. Influence and engage<br><i>Drive Policy Change</i>  |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen our policy science collaboration to provide a holistic approach to individual and population level recommendations</li> <li>• Develop and leverage WCRF evidence and NOURISHING and MOVING policy tools</li> <li>• Identify further policy co-benefits of NCD prevention strategies</li> <li>• Explore new policy research collaboration and funding opportunities</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advance the policy implementation of WCRF International's / AICR's 10 cancer prevention recommendations – with a specific focus on establishing and advancing our work in alcohol and breastfeeding, alongside diet and physical activity</li> <li>• Leverage cross-sector co-benefits of NCD prevention strategies - health inequalities, climate change</li> <li>• Establish and strengthen partnerships for policy impact and be the partner of choice for cancer prevention policy</li> <li>• Leverage WCRF expert groups (Policy Advisory Group, Cancer Update Programme, Advisory Group on Real-world Implementation and Dissemination to advance policy impact</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage governments &amp; civil society to ensure cancer prevention is a priority</li> <li>• Engage with cross-sectoral actors to leverage cancer prevention policy asks</li> <li>• Influence global policy through working with key intergovernmental organisations including WHO through our official relations status and the EU</li> <li>• Strengthen the influence of our network charities to meet their policy and public affairs objectives</li> <li>• Elevate and advance prevention on global health agenda</li> <li>• Ensure primary prevention is featured and costed in all national cancer control plans</li> <li>• Influence policy and financing to support sustainable and impactful prevention research</li> </ul> |

## Key principles

- **Partnership Working** - To be the partner of choice in global cancer prevention efforts.
- **Multi-Disciplinary Approach** - To maximise impact by integrating diverse disciplines and perspectives.
- **Responsible Technology and AI** - To harness technology and artificial intelligence to enhance our impact and improve efficiency.
- **Credibility and Authority** - To remain evidence-based and innovative, delivering trusted, cutting-edge insights.