SMALL STEPS, E THE IAEA HELPS MEMBE



'Unless we take urgent action, by 2030 over 13 million people will die from cancer every year. The majority of these deaths will occur in developing countries.'

— IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano



2 Over 50% of cancer patients need radiotherapy during the course of their treatment. Sadly, in the developing world, only 20% of patients who need radiotherapy have access. One radiotherapy machine can treat about 500 cancer patients every year.



3 In 2009 the IAEA challenged manufacturers to make radiotherapy more affordable by creating machines less susceptible to heat and fluctuating electricity supply. The Advisory Group on increasing Access to Radiotherapy Technology in developing countries (AGaRT) was formed to realize this goal.



4 With Africa's shortage of trained medical personnel in cancer control, the IAEA and its international partners developed the distance learning programmes – the Virtual University for Cancer Control and Regional Training Network (VUCCnet).

BIG DIFFERENCE R STATES FIGHT CANCER



5 VUCCnet also promotes the establishment of cancer control workforce training hubs in Africa to encourage the harmonization of regional policies regarding health care credentials.



6 Fighting cancer requires more than greater access to radiotherapy, and much more than the IAEA's efforts. It requires collaboration among local and international organisations, governments and NGOs to ensure that radiotherapy is integrated into a sustainable and effective cancer control system.



7 The IAEA's Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT) offers comprehensive assessments of Member States' cancer control capacities and needs, identifying strengths and weaknesses. Since these imPACT reviews began in 2005, 55 countries have been assessed.



 Countries that meld good cancer control strategy, adequate funding and multi-sector collaboration are known as PACT Model Demonstration Sites (PMDS). The IAEA helps these eight countries (Albania, Ghana, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Vietnam, Yemen) find funding, and design, implement and evaluate national cancer control plans.

Text: Sasha Henriques / IAEA Division of Public Information; Photos: IAEA/PACT