

# ADVANCING EARLY DETECTION IN CANCER

## Stakeholders Insights & Final Recommendations

1

**Request:** Ensure ring-fence EU and national budgets for population-based screening

**Policy needs:** Ensure adequate and stable funding for screening programmes across Member States and move away from opportunistic approaches.

**Available Solutions:** Secure sustainable, dedicated funding for structured, non-opportunistic screening programmes in all Member States.

2

**Request:** Establish an EU-Led Observatory on Screening Literacy and Access

**Policy needs:** Reduce the wide disparity in citizens' access to screening and understanding of its benefits, and close health literacy gaps.

**Available Solutions:** Launch a central mechanism to monitor screening access, literacy rates, and regional disparities to inform evidence-based policymaking.

3

**Request:** Align National Practices with Recognised Medical Guidelines

**Policy needs:** Reduce fragmentation in national guidelines and uneven implementation across Member States that undermine effectiveness and quality of care.

**Available Solutions:** Promote the implementation of the EU Beating Cancer Plan at the Member States level and the adoption of harmonised protocols for detection & diagnosis.

4

**Request:** Mobilise EU Funds to Support Innovation in Screening Technologies

**Policy needs:** Reduce reimbursement hurdles and fragmented procurement practices that limit the uptake of promising robotic- and digitally assisted medical devices, AI-based screening, and multi-omic data.

**Available Solutions:** Promote access to innovative screening methods (e.g. AI diagnostics, robotic and digital tools, multi-omic data) through targeted funding from the European Competitiveness Fund, Horizon Europe, and structural funds.

5

**Request:** Launch an EU-Wide Awareness Campaign Led by Public Figures and Champions

**Policy needs:** Ensure inclusion of socially and economically disadvantaged populations in formal screening pathways.

**Available Solutions:** Support inclusive participation through a European-wide campaign in partnership with trusted community leaders and influencers.

6

**Request:** Create National Multi-Stakeholder Platforms to Support Implementation & Incorporate new diagnostic technologies in the standards of the European Comprehensive Cancer Network (EUnetCCC)

**Policy needs:** Tackle overlooked disparities in Member States' screening uptake and programme status that hinder more targeted public health strategies.

**Available Solutions:** Foster collaboration between government, clinicians, industry, and patients to facilitate implementation of EU recommendations at national level & encourage the harmonised integration of digital pathology across Member States.