



Serbian Association for Cancer Research (SDIR) is a scientific association established to achieve objectives in the field of oncology - to increase knowledge transfer, improve conditions for cancer research in Serbia, and enhance scientific excellence. SDIR currently has 204 members, basic and translational cancer researchers, and medical doctors, working at Serbian and international scientific institutions. One of the main missions of SDIR is to facilitate and support scientific cooperation among cancer researchers through disseminating calls for collaboration, creating an interactive member network, and establishing close collaboration with other scientific societies in Serbia, EACR, and Affiliated National Societies.

The first **SDIR Scientific Days** event was held on September 20, 2022, at the State University of Novi Pazar, Serbia, and streamed online. This new initiative of the Executive Committee of SDIR is envisioned to become traditional and enable the promotion of SDIR activities and strengthening of cooperation among cancer research centers in Serbia. The meeting was very successful and has sparked a vivid interest among members in various cities in Serbia to host the next event in 2023. The meeting announcements, as well as the in-person interaction between SDIR Executive Committee members and cancer researchers led to an increase in new SDIR membership applications and their active involvement in the future development of SDIR.

The inaugural SDIR Scientific Days started with presentations of SDIR activities and initiatives, as well as EACR's mission to support Affiliated National Societies, as kindly outlined by EACR's President Elect Professor Yardena Samuels. Ongoing research was presented by Prof. Tanja Soldatović, Prof. Nataša Đorđević, and Prof. Milan Dekić from the State University of Novi Pazar, Serbia. During the second part of the event, SDIR Executive Committee members got familiarized with the personnel and infrastructural resources for cancer research at the State University of Novi Pazar. While reviewing research capacities, various possibilities for cooperation with other cancer research centers and laboratories in Serbia were discussed. Specific plans for a more active involvement of new and long lasting SDIR members are expected to yield first results in 2023, when the traditional biannual SDIR-6 Congress is also expected.

Photographs from the meeting are available at:

<https://www.sdir.ac.rs/en/sdir-naucni-dani/>