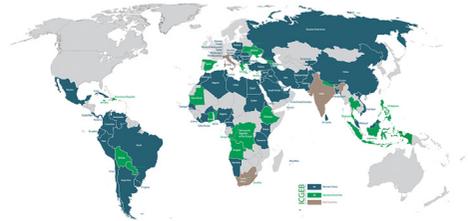




Who we are

ICGEB is an **international organisation** operating since 1987 within the **United Nations** Common System. Established as a Centre of excellence for **research** and **training** in molecular biology and genetics for the benefit of developing countries and economies in transition, it contributes to solving some of the major problems affecting health, nutrition, agriculture and industrial development in the field of biotechnology.

ICGEB is supported by **over 60 Member States** (shown in blue on the map). Its main laboratories are located in **Trieste** (Italy), **New Delhi** (India), **Cape Town**, (South Africa) with a network of over 40 Affiliated Centres in its Member States. The Headquarters of the Centre is in Trieste, Italy.



Governance

The activities of ICGEB are headed by a **Board** of representatives of its Member States. An international **Scientific Council**, comprising fifteen acclaimed scientists including Nobel Prize laureates, sustains its scientific activities.

How we operate

According to its mandate, the ICGEB:

- Conducts **advanced research** in the laboratories in Trieste, New Delhi, and Cape Town
- Awards Fellowships for PhD students and researchers to participate in research activities
- Organises over **20 annual meetings** and workshops on cutting-edge topics
- Supports research in Member States by **funding** projects of excellence
- Transfers technology** and know-how to biotech companies
- Cooperates with governments to define policies for the regulation of **genetically modified organisms**

Some results in numbers

Some of the results of its activities are:

- >**2800** publications in highly acclaimed scientific journals, including Nature, Science, Cell, Nature Reviews Cancer, Nature Medicine, to name a few
- >**800** fellowships of 3-4 years' duration to young scientists
- >**1200** participants in meetings and courses each year
- >**420** research projects funded in developing countries (for over 17 million Euro)
- >**70** active patents
- >**80** technology transfer agreements to industry

Areas of research

The ICGEB laboratories offer a scientific environment of the **highest international standard** and are equipped to carry out the most advanced experimental research in molecular and cellular biology.

In **Trieste** 18 research groups, 200 people representing over 25 nationalities, pursue biomedical research including projects on **cardiovascular**, **neurodegenerative** and infectious diseases, **immunology** and **human genetics**, and the development of new treatments based on **gene** and **stem cell therapy** and the production of **biopharmaceuticals**. In **New Delhi**, 25 research groups conduct research in mammalian and plant biology, focusing on the development of diagnostic and vaccine candidates for malaria, **hepatitis** and **dengue**, along with advanced research on **plant biotechnology** and **biofuels**. In **Cape Town**, more than 60 researchers investigate infectious (**HIV/AIDS** and **malaria**) and non communicable diseases (**cancer**).





Technology Transfer

One of the key objectives of ICGEB is the international **transfer of technologies to biotech companies**. Two research groups, one in Trieste and one in New Delhi, are specifically dedicated to these activities. To date, the Centre has concluded over **80 agreements** with **industrial partners** in Argentina, Brazil, China, Cuba, Egypt, UAE, India, Iran, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Uruguay, USA and Venezuela, predominantly to produce **pharmaceuticals obtained through genetic engineering** (insulin, erythropoietin, interferon and different growth factors), diagnostic kits (celiac disease) and biopesticides.

Funding

The Centre is funded by the governments of **over 60 countries**. The main contribution is provided by the Government of **Italy** through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, followed by the Governments of **India** and **South Africa**, the three countries that host the Centre's laboratories.

Other Member countries include the BRICS group and the majority of countries with economies in transition in Asia, South America and Africa.

Besides the core budget for institutional activities, the ICGEB receives **additional funding for research** through grants from government agencies, charities, non-profit foundations and the private sector.

The Bill&Melinda Gates Foundation has funded research activities at ICGEB Trieste, New Delhi and Cape Town, as well as a major ICGEB project on GMOs in Africa.

At all three ICGEB locations **specific research projects** have been awarded funding from the European Commission (including the European Research Council); the Wellcome Trust, the Royal Society and the AICR, UK; the JDRF, the NIH, and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, USA; the Canadian Grand Challenges Scheme, Canada, the AXA Foundation and AFM, France.

Funds for the ICGEB laboratories are also provided by **national government bodies, charities and foundations**, including the MIUR, Telethon, AIRC, ISS and various banking Foundations in Trieste; the Department of Biotechnology of the Indian Government in New Delhi, and the National Research Foundation and Medical Research Council of South Africa in Cape Town.

Additional information

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Biosafety

The Centre is active in providing advisory services and technical assistance to government officials and their experts in Member States, helping them to devise and implement effective biosafety policies, legislation and administrative systems governing the **safe and sustainable use of modern biotechnology** and its products. Current projects are **active in sub-Saharan Africa and the Latin America and Caribbean Region**, and are funded by major philanthropic foundations and multilateral organisations.

Fellowships, Meetings and Courses

ICGEB offers postgraduate and postdoctoral **Fellowships** to scientists from its Member States; **an international PhD Course** is run by all three ICGEB Components in collaboration with prestigious academic institutions. Over 20 practical and theoretical **Courses** are organized every year on subjects at the forefront of biomedical research and biotechnology applications, with over **1200 researchers** participating in the ICGEB Meetings and Courses programme each year.

Outreach

Lessons, meetings, courses and seminars organised by ICGEB are distributed freely through podcasts and on **iTunes U**, Apple's digital platform. Collections cover topics from research on cancer to stem cells, from basic molecular biology to cardiovascular diseases.

Each month, over 11,000 users preview and download ICGEB's scientific Films in over 80 countries worldwide. Scientists in all the ICGEB laboratories are actively involved in scientific dissemination events for the lay public.

