

IANPHI and Santé publique France Sign New Agreement to Continue Hosting IANPHI's Secretariat for the Next Four Years (2022-2025)

On October 7, 2021, Prof. Duncan Selbie, president of IANPHI and former chief executive of Public Health England (2013-2020), and Prof. Geneviève Chêne, chief executive of Santé publique France, signed a new agreement between their two organizations. The agreement reaffirms the French public health agency's ongoing commitment and support of IANPHI for an additional four-year period, from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2025. It also outlines the terms of Santé publique France's contribution to IANPHI's secretariat and activities.

Santé publique France, an active IANPHI member since 2007

Santé publique France has been a very active member of IANPHI since 2007, and was first entrusted with hosting and supporting its secretariat in 2016. This support led to the creation of an independent legal entity for IANPHI in 2019 and the organization of IANPHI Annual Meetings and other activities.

The International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI) was formed in 2006 and currently has 110 members in 95 countries. Its mission is to collectively build public health capacity and capabilities by connecting, developing and strengthening national public health institutes (NPHIs) around the world.

Among its activities, IANPHI has developed a peer review process to assess the strategy of NPHIs, helping them develop their activities to meet public health challenges at the national and global level. Several institutes, including Santé publique France, have benefited from these peer reviews and capitalized on the recommendations made by the IANPHI peer review teams for the development of new strategies.

Santé publique France brings IANPHI its experience integrating several essential public functions (surveillance, protection, disease prevention, health promotion) to support public health decision-making. This experience allows it to contribute to the operational implementation of the IANPHI Strategy 2021-2025.

New activities contributing to public health today and tomorrow

Since 2020, under the leadership of Prof. Geneviève Chêne, Santé publique France has initiated within IANPHI:

- An information-sharing initiative on how NPHIs contributed to the COVID-19 pandemic response between throughout 2020;

- A reflection on the use of essential public health functions as defined by the World Health Organization to structure public health development at the national and global levels, to clarify the role of NPHIs in health systems, and to strengthen their operational and advisory role to policy makers to protect and improve the health of populations;
- A working group on climate change and health and the role of NPHIs as key actors in climate change mitigation and adaptation policies.

As part of their collaboration, IANPHI and Santé publique France will co-host an event in November 2021 at the [COP26 Health Pavilion](#) in Glasgow, and will co-organize a scientific seminar on climate change and health during the French Presidency of the European Union in 2022.

“Santé publique France is a leading member within the global family of public health institutes and IANPHI is honored by this agreement today,” said Prof. Duncan Selbie. “There cannot be a more important moment to recognize the critical contribution of national public health institutes to protecting and improving the health of our citizens.”

Climate change and health: IANPHI and Public Health France contribute to the debate

On October 7, 2021, IANPHI and Santé publique France participated in a special event organized by the UK Health Safety Agency on the role of NPHIs in climate change at the Conference on Climate Change and Public Health in Small Island Developing States: Focus on the Caribbean.

IANPHI and Santé publique France also organized two webinars on climate change and public health in 2020 and 2021: a webinar on the [impact of heat waves during the COVID-19 pandemic](#) and lessons learned by national agencies or institutes in the summer of 2020 (May 2021) and a webinar on the [challenges of public health and climate change](#) (October 2020).

Learn more about IANPHI: www.ianphi.org

Learn more about Santé publique France: santepubliquefrance.fr

Press contact

Santé publique France - presse@santepubliquefrance.fr

Vanessa Lemoine : 01 55 12 53 36 - Cynthia Bessarion : 01 71 80 15 66 - Stéphanie Champion : 01 41 79 67 48

Marie Delibéros : 01 41 79 69 61 - Charlène Charbuy : 01 41 79 68 64

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