



Annual Report

2021 / 2022



WFSA

WORLD FEDERATION OF SOCIETIES OF
ANAESTHESIOLOGISTS

President's Letter

The last two and a half years have been difficult but anaesthesiologists, WFSA and our partners have risen to the challenges thrown up by the COVID-19 pandemic. This review highlights just some of the ways we've been able to do that.

The WFSA is a federation, we are our member societies. We can achieve so much by working together. We value your commitment to

improving patient care and working with us to achieve our vision of universal access to safe anaesthesia.

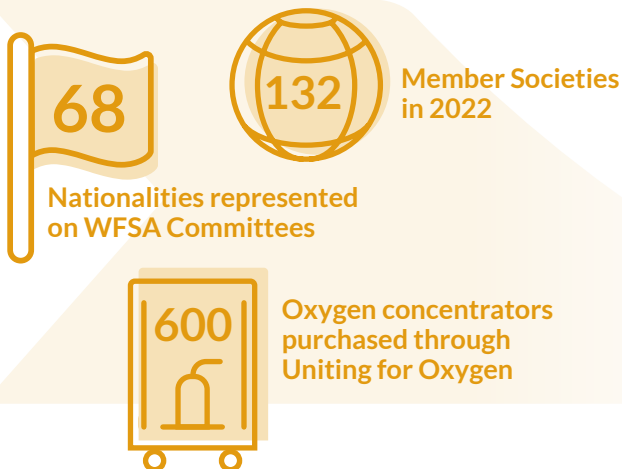


Dr Wayne Morriss,
WFSA President

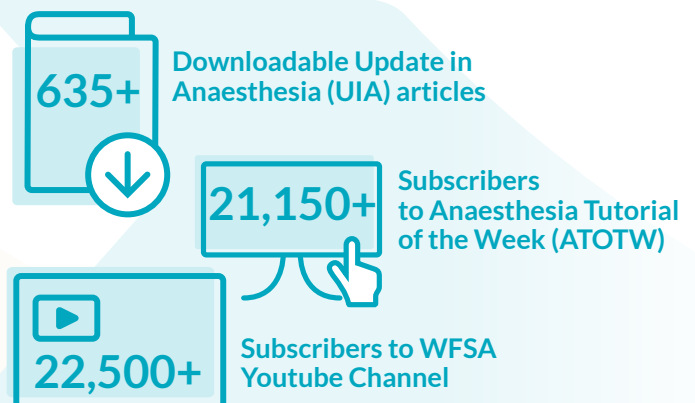
[Watch Video](#)

WFSA in numbers

A GLOBAL ANAESTHESIA FAMILY



CAPACITY BUILDING & TRAINING



GLOBAL ADVOCACY



CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION



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Education

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01 Education

WFSA's internationally renowned clinician-led training and education programmes are a proven means of improving the skills and competencies of thousands of anaesthesia professionals.

Led by in-country faculty and tailored to the local context, WFSA programmes provide practical training and knowledge to clinicians across a wide range of anaesthesia, perioperative and pain management specialities.

The pandemic has severely limited traditional face-to-face training programmes. Ensuring these valuable training opportunities are not lost has been at the centre of WFSA's efforts to create accessible and interactive e-learning programmes and re-establish in-person courses.

10 Years of SAFE



6,000+
Clinicians
trained

50+
Countries

Safer Anaesthesia From Education (SAFE)

The Safer Anaesthesia From Education (SAFE) programme provides obstetric or paediatric anaesthesia training to anaesthesia professionals working in low-resource settings.

SAFE is a practical, hands-on course employing skills sessions, discussion and low-fidelity simulation to develop the types of skills and knowledge needed by anaesthesia professionals working in low-resource settings.

In 2021 - 2022

In 2021, WFSA launched the [SAFE Online platform](#) and conducted successful pilots for SAFE Online Obstetrics in Uganda and SAFE Paediatrics in India, Cambodia and Japan. WFSA also partnered with Mercy Ships to deliver the first hybrid SAFE Obstetrics courses in Liberia, training over 70 anaesthesia professionals.

In the last year, WFSA and our partners introduced SAFE training in Somaliland and Japan and trained over 200 anaesthesia professionals globally.

2022 and beyond

With COVID restrictions lifting we'll be expanding the programme to new regions, piloting a new SAFE Paediatrics – Cleft course, launching SAFE Online Paediatrics and translating course materials into French and Spanish.



10 Years of SAFE

In 2021, the SAFE community celebrated the 10th anniversary of the first ever SAFE Obstetrics course. Since its launch in Uganda in 2011, SAFE has trained over 6000 clinicians and developed over 1000 clinical instructors across 50 countries.

[Find out more](#)



”

“With 30 anaesthesia providers from 15 different hospitals, the SAFE course participants accounted for around half the anaesthesia providers in Somaliland.”

– Dr Larissa Latif, SAFE Trainer, SAFE Obstetrics Somaliland 2022



WFSA Fellowship Programme

WFSA Fellowships offer anaesthesiologists from low-resource settings the opportunity to undergo sub-speciality anaesthesia training or non-clinical training at another medical institute.

Since its launch in 1996, the programme has trained over 400 fellows from over 60 countries. Fellowships encompass eight clinical sub-specialities as well as research, medical education and simulation-focused placements.

Alongside providing high quality training, the programme seeks to develop the next generation of anaesthesia leaders and educators. Upon returning home, WFSA fellows pass on their new expertise and learning to their colleagues and ultimately improve their local anaesthesia services.

2022 and beyond

The WFSA Fellowship Programme will be expanding back to a truly global programme following pandemic-related disruptions. An early example of this is the re-establishment of a Paediatric Anaesthesia Fellowship at BARTC in Bangkok, Thailand.

[Find out more](#)

WFSA Fellow Dr Adisa Šabanović, performing a caudal block with her Paediatric Fellowship Mentor Prof. Dušica Simić in Serbia in 2016.

Dr Šabanović was the first paediatric anaesthesiologist in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In 2022, Dr Šabanović established a Paediatric Anaesthesia Fellowship in her home country of Bosnia and Herzegovina.



”

“The things I learned during my fellowship has helped me improve not just as an anaesthesiologist, but also as a person.”

– Dr Jafer Lim, who is based in the Philippines, undertook a Thoracic Anaesthesia Fellowship in New Delhi, India.



WFSA Scholarship Programme

WFSA's scholarship programme provides vital opportunities for young anaesthesiologists from low- and middle-income countries. This means they can attend the international and regional congresses that would normally be out of reach to them.

Attendance at these congresses enables young anaesthesiologists to improve their knowledge and skills, build up their professional networks, and present research.

Since its launch in 2008, the programme has supported over 750 anaesthesiologists from WFSA member societies to attend international and regional congresses.

In 2021 - 2022

In 2021, 483 scholarships were awarded to anaesthesiologists from 69 Member Societies to attend the 17th World Congress of Anaesthesiologists (WCA). This represented both the largest number of WFSA Scholars and the greatest participation of colleagues from low-and-middle income countries at any single anaesthesia meeting.

Scholarships in numbers:



750

Anaesthesiologists
supported since 2008



483

Scholarships
awarded in 2021



60+

Nationalities
of scholars



At WCA 2021 scholars had the opportunity to attend live sessions and workshops, network with anaesthesia professionals across the globe, present virtual posters and watch lectures on demand.



“The WCA was an eye opener. The lectures were informative, evidence-based, topical and so relevant. Thank you for an amazing experience!”

– Dr Charme van Tonder, South Africa

Liberia Anaesthesia Capacity Development Programme

In 2018, Liberia - a country with a population of 5 million - had no home-grown physician anaesthesia professionals.

To address this chronic shortfall in anaesthesia provision, the Liberia Anaesthesia Capacity Development Programme was created to support Liberian physicians to complete the West African College of Surgeons (WACS) Diploma in Anaesthesia through training in Kano, Nigeria.

The project is a partnership with the Liberian Medical and Dental Association, the Nigerian Society of Anaesthetists and the Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital.

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, three physicians have received their WACS diplomas. Two of the physicians have so far returned to continue their practice in Liberia whilst one has stayed in Nigeria to continue training to complete the WACS membership qualifications.

In 2021 - 2022

The Liberia Anaesthesia Capacity Development Programme continues to be the only initiative that addresses the shortfall of physician anaesthesia professionals in Liberia. In 2022, the programme welcomed a new diploma candidate. WFSA continues to seek funding for more training opportunities.



Dr Maimie (right) with the then Head of Department, Dr. Salah, following a cochlear implant surgery.

”

“By specializing in anaesthesia, I shall endeavour along with my colleagues to ensure medical students in Liberia consider anaesthesia. I look forward to being able to build the capacity of our anaesthetist nurses. I want to increase the strength of the anaesthesia workforce within the country so that as many as patients as possible can benefit from safe anaesthesia.”

– Dr Kpehe Jig Maimie, Liberia

Digital Learning Resources

Anaesthesia Tutorial of the Week (ATOTW)

ATOTW is a highly valued open-access web tutorial designed to support anaesthesia education across the globe. Published fortnightly to over 19,000 subscribers, the tutorials cover a range of anaesthesia specialities and are accompanied by a quiz to enable self-directed Continuous Medical Education.

Over 475 tutorials, published in English, Spanish, Portuguese, French and Chinese, are available to download from the ATOTW virtual library.

[Browse the ATOTW library](#)

Update in Anaesthesia (UIA)

Update in Anaesthesia (UIA) provides concise and clinically-relevant articles for anaesthesia professionals. UIA is freely available for download from the WFSA website. Volume 36 on Education and training in anaesthesia and COVID-19 was published in May 2022.

The library of over 600 downloadable UIA articles was accessed over 71,000 times during 2021/22.

[Browse the UIA library](#)

Anesthesia & Analgesia

Formed in 2014, the [Global Health Section of Anesthesia & Analgesia \(A&A\)](#) is the result of a collaboration between the WFSA and the International Anesthesia Research Society (IARS). This internationally respected peer-reviewed publication is published monthly and regularly features the latest global anaesthesia research.

In 2021, A&A published a range of open access global anaesthesia articles on issues as diverse as Anaesthetic-Related Critical Incidents from the South African Paediatric Surgical Outcomes Study to Caesarean Delivery and Neonatal Outcomes in China.

[Browse the WFSA's A&A Library](#)

WFSA YouTube Channel

With over 22,000 subscribers WFSA's YouTube Channel is an increasingly important anaesthesia educational resource. The site contains over 150 education and advocacy films in English, French and Spanish which are viewed an average of 130,000 times per month.

Following the success of the virtual World Congress of Anaesthesiologists in 2021, the 100 most popular WCA lectures and presentations have been uploaded into playlists organised by specialism. These films appear alongside the popular series of subtitled educational videos on adult and paediatric anaesthesia produced in partnership with Southampton Hospital.

[Browse the Youtube library](#)

02 Advocacy

WFSA engages with key decision-makers to advance the availability, safety and quality of anaesthesia and perioperative services worldwide.

We amplify the voices of anaesthesiologists at the local, national, regional and global levels to advocate for anaesthesiology and surgery as an essential element of global health.

As the only global federation of anaesthesiologists, WFSA is in official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO) and has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).



5 billion people
do not have access to safe,
affordable and timely
anaesthesia care

Source: The Lancet Commission on Global Surgery, 2015

Unity – Access – Safety

WFSA's advocacy efforts are guided by three pillars:



UNITY

WFSA uses its global standing to unify and amplify the voice of anaesthesiologists and perioperative care providers within the wider global health community and key decision-making fora.



ACCESS

WFSA works with its member societies to advocate for resources to address the gaps in the availability, accessibility, and quality of anaesthesia care at national and local levels.



SAFETY

It is essential that safe practices and standards are followed to ensure the best possible care. With a focus on safety, WFSA has lead on the development of international standards including [WHO-WFSA International Standards for a Safe Practice of Anesthesia](#), [Minimum Capnometer Specifications 2021](#) and a [Consensus statement on environmentally-sustainable anaesthesia](#).

Find out more

Advocating on the Global Stage

As a non-state actor in official relations with WHO and consultative status with ECOSOC, WFSA actively engages with UN bodies and their member states to advocate for policies and investments which will strengthen our members' ability to provide safe and accessible anaesthesia services. We represent our member societies and the wider anaesthesia community at WHO's regional and global meetings.



Dr Stephen Okelo, President, Kenya Society of Anaesthesiologists, with Matt Rothero, Partnerships Manager, WFSA, at the opening session of the 75th World Health Assembly.

In 2021/22, WFSA participated in seven WHO meetings, presenting 12 statements across a range of global health issues including:

- **Professional well-being**

WFSA continues to be a vocal champion of anaesthesiologists' professional well-being. At the 74th World Health Assembly and the 71st WHO Regional Committee for Europe, WFSA urged member states to develop and support the implementation of workplace programmes that promote mental health and occupational well-being. WFSA highlighted the importance of prioritising the well-being of health workers to ensure that they are mentally and physically able to continue to provide a high standard of patient care.

- **Pandemic preparedness and health emergency**

Reflecting anaesthesiologists' frontline role in the COVID response, WFSA advocates for the prioritisation of investments in anaesthesia services to enable health systems to adequately respond to current and future health emergencies. This focus formed the basis of a range of statements presented at the 149th WHO Executive Board Meeting, a Special Session of the World Health Assembly, the 72nd Regional Committee for the Western Pacific and the 75th World Health Assembly. [Watch Video.](#)



- **Global action on patient safety**

Embedding patient safety into clinical practice and standards remains a core WFSA advocacy focus. In statements to the WHO Executive Board and the 74th World Health Assembly addressing the Global Action on Patient Safety agenda, WFSA called on member states to prioritise healthcare workers' professional well-being and to implement the recommendations of the WHO-WFSA International Standards for a Safe Practice of Anaesthesia.

• National anaesthesia plans

Universal Health Coverage will only be possible if anaesthesia workforce shortages are addressed. A statement calling on UN member states to implement national anaesthesia plans that address chronic underinvestment in the anaesthesia workforce was presented at the 149th WHO Executive Board.

[Find out more](#)

• Global strategy for digital health

WFSA presented a statement to the WHO African Regional Committee calling for increased investment and improved access to digital technologies that could be used to strengthen training and health care provision.



”

“In the quest for equity and justice through health, WFSA stands tall. Its constant push for technical excellence, matched equally by the strength of its voice advocating for the most vulnerable.”

– Dr Ruben Ayala, G4 Alliance Permanent Council President

Safer C-Sections side event at WHA

A special side-event at the 75th World Health Assembly in May 2022, convened and hosted by the WFSA, brought together high-level leaders from member states, UN bodies, professional bodies, civil society, and industry to discuss how successful programmes to strengthen obstetric surgical services can be scaled up and replicated in similar low-resource settings.

Along with an expert panel, the meeting premiered a short film showing the impact of the Obstetric Safe Surgery Programme in Makeni County, Kenya. This is a joint initiative of Jhpiego and WFSA to develop the clinical and leadership capacity of obstetric surgical teams to provide safe, timely and respectful caesarean section services.

[Find out more](#)

WHA side-event invitation

Safer C-Sections

improving maternal health outcomes



Date
23 May 2022
12:30 – 2:00

Location
Geneva
Press Club



Find out more and register

What steps can we take to meet our SDG3 maternal mortality targets?

Join health leaders to discuss practical and innovative approaches to improving access to safe, quality and timely obstetric surgical and anaesthesia care.

This WHA side event is organised by the WFSA in association with:



The Global Anaesthesia Workforce Map

This internationally renowned research project maps the number, distribution, and training of anaesthesia professionals globally. With data obtained from 153 countries representing 97.5% of the world's population, the workforce map provides the most comprehensive dataset of the global anaesthesia workforce ever compiled.

The [WFSA Global Anaesthesia Workforce Map](#) evidences the acute shortage of anaesthesia professionals worldwide and highlights the gap between the rich and poor countries. Based on current population data, more than 136,000 additional physician anaesthesia professionals are needed immediately to achieve an interim target density of 5 per 100,000 population in all countries. [Research findings from the workforce map were published in Anesthesia & Analgesia](#). This article has been cited over 190 times.

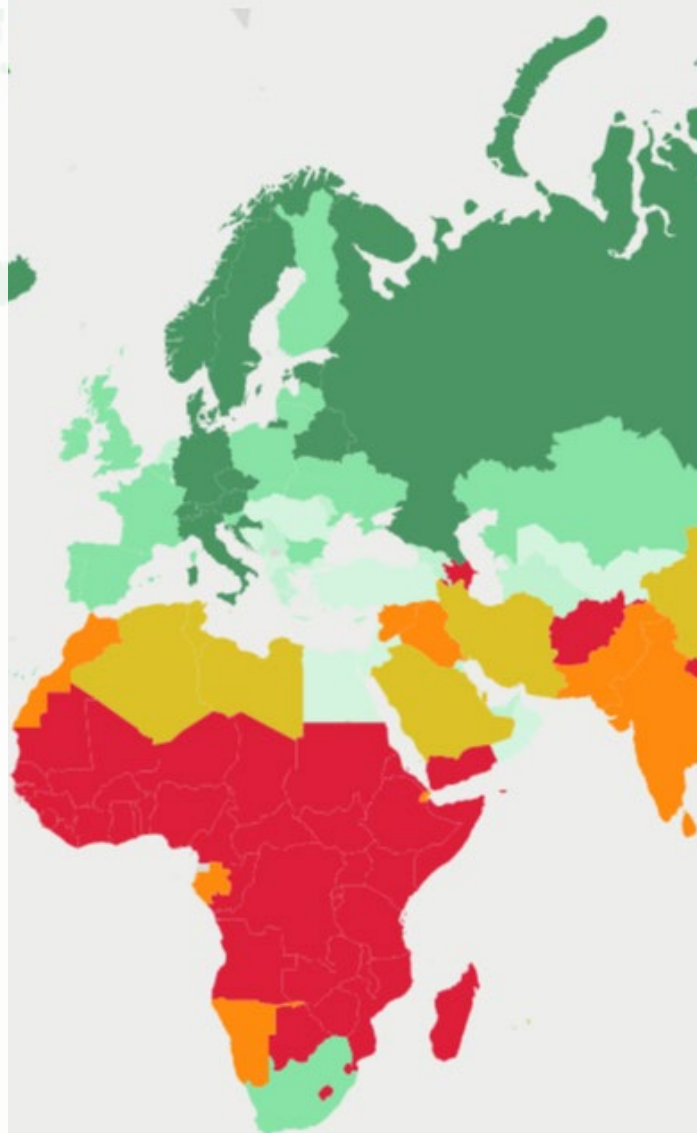
The survey is widely utilised by policymakers and public health practitioners to better understand the global anaesthesia workforce and to advocate for improved anaesthesia resourcing worldwide.

[View Map](#)



“The WFSA Anaesthesia Workforce Survey is a key component in how we understand access to anaesthesia globally. Knowing where the people are, gives us a sense of where people need to be.”

– Dr Tyler Law, Workforce Study Coordinator,
University of California, San Francisco



In 2021/22

Stakeholders in 194 countries have been contacted to supply anaesthesia workforce data for an updated workforce survey. An analysis is currently being conducted which will be published in a peer-reviewed journal in 2023.

[Find out more](#)

Global Days of Action

WFSA works with its member societies and other global health stakeholders to provide a united global advocacy voice for anaesthesia.

World Anaesthesia Day

World Anaesthesia Day commemorates the birth of anaesthesia on 16 October 1846 when doctors demonstrated the use of ether for the first time on a patient.

Despite nearly 170 years having passed since that first anaesthetic procedure and the countless breakthroughs that have succeeded it, nearly 5 billion people around the world continue to lack access to safe anaesthesia.

Global awareness days like World Anaesthesia Day are a powerful advocacy tool to mobilise political will, educate the general public and highlight the achievements of the global anaesthesia community. Every year on 16 October WFSA supports anaesthesia professionals all over the world to celebrate their profession and have fun whilst doing it.



In 2021 - 2022

World Anaesthesia Day 2021 focused on the theme of 'Teamwork: Stronger team for better patient care'.

WFSA launched a #TeamAnaesthesia social media campaign to celebrate the multidisciplinary skills and attributes of clinical teams.

A campaign toolkit that included a photo booth, videos, flyers and training materials was developed and disseminated to member societies and the wider global anaesthesia community.

[Find out more](#)

World Patient Safety Day

As an active member of the World Patient Safety Network, WFSA celebrates World Patient Safety Day on 17 September by calling for global solidarity and concerted action by governments and international partners to improve patient safety.

In 2021 - 2022

World Patient Safety Day 2021 focused on the need to prioritize and address safety in maternal and newborn care, particularly around the time of childbirth. This topic aligned with WFSA's successful efforts to embed wording on anaesthesia into a Human Rights Council Resolution on Preventable Maternal Morbidity and Mortality.

[Find out more](#)



03 Safety & Quality

Safety and quality are essential components of improving anaesthesia care globally. WFSA works with its partners to share good practice, improve access to essential training and equipment, and build the evidence base to enable anaesthesia professionals to practice safe anaesthesia that meets the needs of patients the world over.

Utstein Surgical Indicators

In 2019, in partnership with the Laerdal Foundation, WFSA convened a meeting at Utstein Abbey in Norway to review and develop metrics and reporting criteria for surgery, anaesthesia and obstetrics (SOA). This was the first comprehensive review of the six indicators developed by [The Lancet Commission on Global Surgery](#).

The 36 invited global experts refined the existing indicators down to five - surgical volume; geospatial access; workforce; perioperative mortality; and catastrophic expenditure.

In 2021 - 2022

The consensus reached at the Utstein Conference, which included refined indicators, approaches to data collection and reporting criteria necessary for patient safety, was [published in PLoS Medicine](#).

Now in its implementation state, five multidisciplinary working groups are creating a 'How To' manual for practitioners and policy-makers to define data collection approaches for each of the five indicators.

2022 and beyond

A follow-up Utstein conference in September 2022 will plan for the piloting of the manual in 2023.

Next steps will be to integrate the indicators and manual into national and regional data collection processes, and to facilitate and encourage their use at national, regional, and global levels.



Lifebox

WFSA is a co-founder and partner of Lifebox, a global non-profit organisation working to improve the safety of surgery and anaesthesia in low- and middle-income countries. Lifebox looks to improve anaesthesia safety, reduce surgical infection rates, and strengthen surgical teamwork through tools, training, and partnerships.

Working in partnership with anaesthesia professionals across the globe, Lifebox has distributed more than 32,000 pulse oximeters, supported by 280 workshops.

2022 and beyond

“Capnography for Cleft” is a new joint programme with Smile Train which is building on the work of WFSA’s [Minimum Capnometer Specifications](#) to develop a robust, affordable capnography device suitable for low-resource settings.

[Find out more](#)

Since its founding in 2011, Lifebox has:



Worked in over
116
countries



Trained
11,000+
healthcare
providers



Made surgery safer for
60 million
patients

Lifebox Pulse Oximeter being used in a COVID Treatment Centre Gbessia Guinea Night Shift. Patient.
Images courtesy of Lifebox.



”

“The impact of Lifebox has been that we no longer provide anaesthesia without a pulse oximeter, we have understood that without it, anaesthesia is very dangerous.”

– Professor Eugene Zoumenou, Chief of Anaesthesia at the Hospital for Mothers and Children, Cotonou, Benin, and Director of Anaesthesia Education, University of Abomey-Calavi.



Anaesthesia Innovation Awards

The WFSA Fresenius Kabi Anaesthesia Innovation Awards programme identifies and supports the development of innovations that have the potential to transform the field of anaesthesia and improve patient safety worldwide.

Launched in 2017, awards have been presented to:

2017

Caroline Corbett and Nick Nevin for SmartBlade, a laryngoscopy which harnesses smartphone technology to facilitate endotracheal intubation.

2018

Maziar Mohsen Nourian and Michael Lipnick for RevoCap, a low cost and robust capnography device for use in low- and middle-income countries.

2019

Paul Barton and team for the Screenless Anaesthesia Monitor (SAM), a lightweight battery-powered hospital-grade device and smartphone app to monitor a patient's vital signs.



Winners screened promotional films about their innovations at special sessions of the World Congress of Anaesthesiologists 2021.



Winners received up to \$25,000 to develop their product and an opportunity to produce a promotional film to be screened at a special session of the World Congress of Anaesthesiologists in 2021.

”

“Our primary vision is to save lives in operating theatres worldwide. This award provided us with much needed funds for critical product development, specifically in the areas of optimizing sensor accuracy, refinement of the app and its user interface, and shrinking the device footprint”

– 2019 Innovation Award winner, Dr Paul Barton



The Screenless Anaesthesia Monitor (SAM)

WFSA are delighted that Fresenius Kabi are supporting a second round of the Anaesthesia Innovation Awards.



**FRESENIUS
KABI**

caring for life

Three prizes of US\$ 20,000; US\$ 25,000; and US\$ 30,000 will be awarded to innovations in areas of:

A.
Environmental /
Eco friendly anaesthesia

B.
Safer Medication
Management

C.
Clinical Nutrition in the
perioperative setting

Winners will also receive business mentoring to support the development of innovations. Innovations will be showcased at the World Congress of Anaesthesiologists 2024 in Singapore.

04 Working Together

A Global Federation

Our members are our strength. As the foremost global network of anaesthesiologists, we draw together the expertise and knowledge of hundreds of thousands of anaesthesiologists in our **133 member societies in over 140 countries**.

Our members' diversity and global reach makes WFSA a unique organisation, leading the way in promoting safe anaesthesia and perioperative care on a global scale.

Through our programmes, WFSA works for and on behalf of our members to share their expertise, facilitate their leadership and strengthen their efforts to improve anaesthesia provision.

[View Interactive Map](#)



133

Member Societies



140+

Countries

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Zambia

Society of Anaesthetists of Zambia



Member Information

Unit 2, Brentwood Court Stand, No.6458
Los Angeles Boulevard
Lusaka

Email: anaesthesiazambia@gmail.com
Phone: +260 977748829

President: Dr Abel Mwale
Secretary: Dr Sompwe L. Mwansa
Treasurer: Dr Arthur Polela

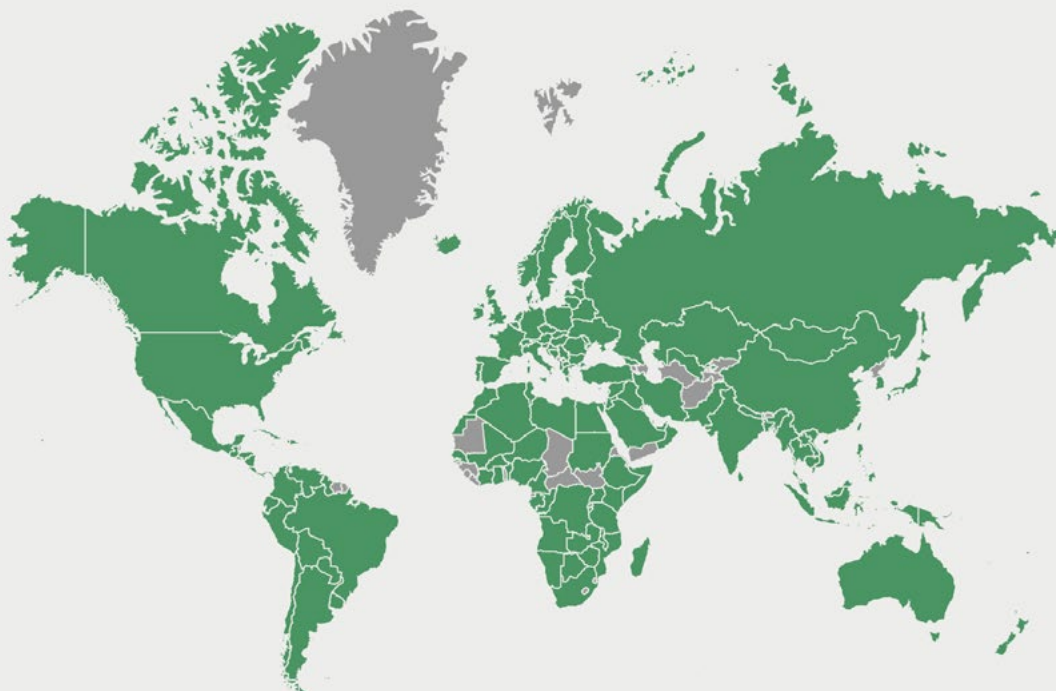
Members: 34
Preferred Language: English
Year Joined: 1972
Region: ARS

Anaesthesia Workforce Data

- PAP Density: 0.49
- Population: 16,212,000
- Physicians: 2,399
- Physician anaesthesia providers: 79
- Surgeons: 86
- Nurse anaesthesia providers: 2
- Other anaesthesia providers: 113
- No. of physician providers that have an anaesthetic qualification: 21
- Minimum duration of training (years) for physician anaesthesia providers: 4
- Typical duration of training (years) for nurse anaesthesia providers: 1
- Typical duration of training (years) for non physician / non-nurse anaesthesia providers: 2

[Workforce Map](#)

132 WFSA Member Societies



Filter by Name

Albania

Albanian Society of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care

Argentina

Federación Argentina de Asociaciones de Anestesia, Analgesia y Reanimación

Bangladesh

Bangladesh Society of Anaesthesiologists, Critical Care and Pain Physicians

Belgium

Society for Anesthesia and Resuscitation of Belgium

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Association of Anaesthesiologists and Reanimatologists of FBiH

Botswana

Botswana Society of Anaesthetists

Bulgaria

Bulgarian Society of Anaesthesiologists

Burkina Faso

Société d'Anesthésie, de Réanimation et de Médecine d'Urgence du Burkina

Cameroon

Société Camerounaise d'Anesthésie Réanimation

Canada

Canadian Anaesthesiologists' Society

Chinese Taipei

Taiwan Society of Anaesthesiologists

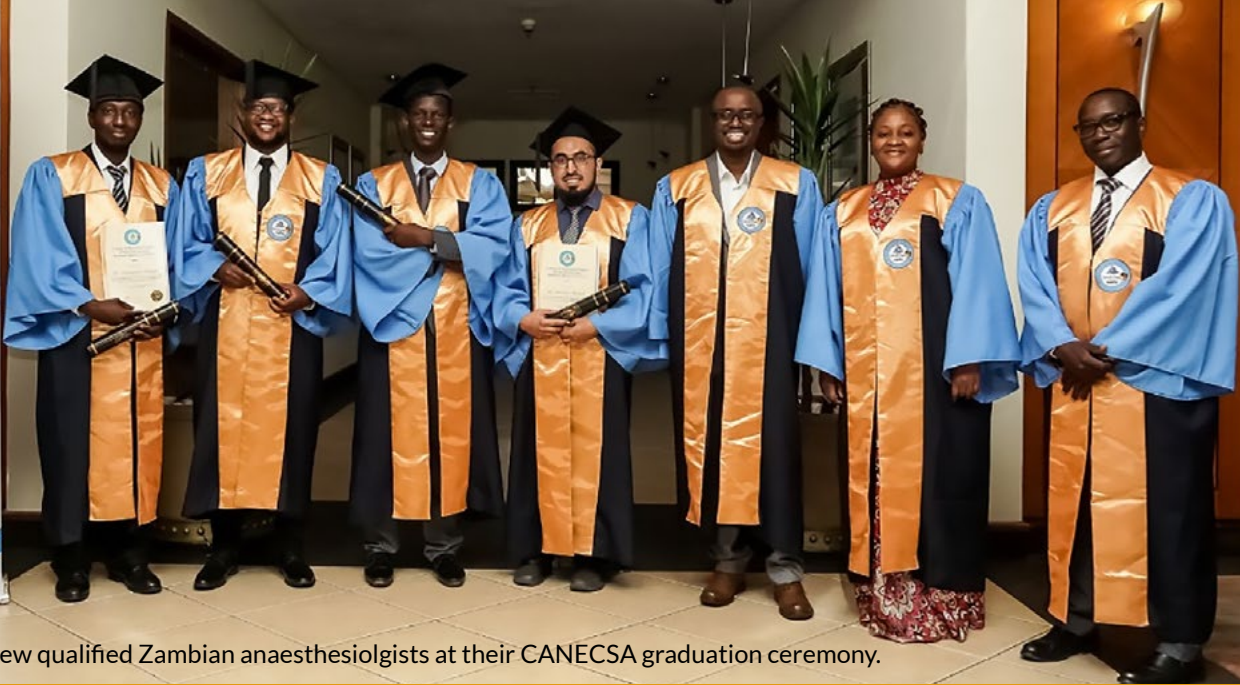
Colombia

Sociedad Colombiana de Anestesiología y Reanimación (SCARE)



VISION
To be the desired international institution for training and development of anaesthesiologists for anaesthesia and critical care practice of the highest level in the region.

MISSION
To develop a uniform training program for anaesthesia, critical care and pain medicine across the region and maintain the highest standards of practice for the safety of the patients through training (education programs), service (quality patient care), examinations and research.



New qualified Zambian anaesthesiologists at their CANECSA graduation ceremony.



“Through our collaboration with WFSA, the society has been able to achieve so much more, not only for its members, but also for health care workers within our borders and within the region.

Without the support of WFSA, we would not, as a small Society, have had the opportunity to conduct training in Zambia, Uganda, Malawi and other places and our impact on health care workers and their practice would not have been as far-reaching as it has been. Access not only to funds, but to expertise and teaching materials has greatly assisted us in our many tasks and we are excited to continue being a part of the WFSA as our society grows.”

– Dr Abel Mwale, President of the Society of Anaesthesiologists of Zambia



WFSA
WORLD FEDERATION OF SOCIETIES OF
ANAESTHESIOLOGISTS

8 WAYS

WFSA unites
anaesthesiologists
to improve access
to safe anaesthesia
and perioperative
medicine

The foremost global alliance of
anaesthesiologists with 132
member societies representing
over 140 countries



World Congress of Anaesthesiologists

Dubbed the 'Olympics of Anaesthesia', the World Congress of Anaesthesiologists (WCA) is the pre-eminent international congress for anaesthesiologists.

In 2021/ 2022

The 17th WCA took place from 1 - 5 September 2021 and was attended by 6557 delegates from 152 countries. Originally planned to be hosted in Prague, Czech Republic, COVID-19 restrictions forced the congress to become the first fully virtual WCA.

WCA2021 realised an ambitious scientific programme that featured 504 different presenters giving 643 presentations over 200 sessions. To ensure this learning isn't lost, the 100 most popular sessions and seminars are now available on the WFSA

[Find out more](#)

Bringing together thousands of specialists from around the world, the WCA provides an extraordinary opportunity for the promotion of science, education, training, networking, and the exchange of experience across the spectrum of anaesthesiology.

Alongside the 25-track scientific programme, a series of interactive Meet the Expert sessions and Problem-Based Learning Discussions (PBLD) enabled delegates to discuss clinical scenarios based on 10 different specialty areas.

Over 1400 abstracts were accepted and presented during the live event. This wealth of new research is available in a special [WCA 2021 Abstract Book published in Anesthesia & Analgesia](#).

In keeping with WFSA's role of uniting anaesthesiologists worldwide, WCA2021 enabled delegates to build their own personal and professional networks through a range of interactive platforms, including a Global Anaesthesia Village, SpatialChat, and Prague City Square.



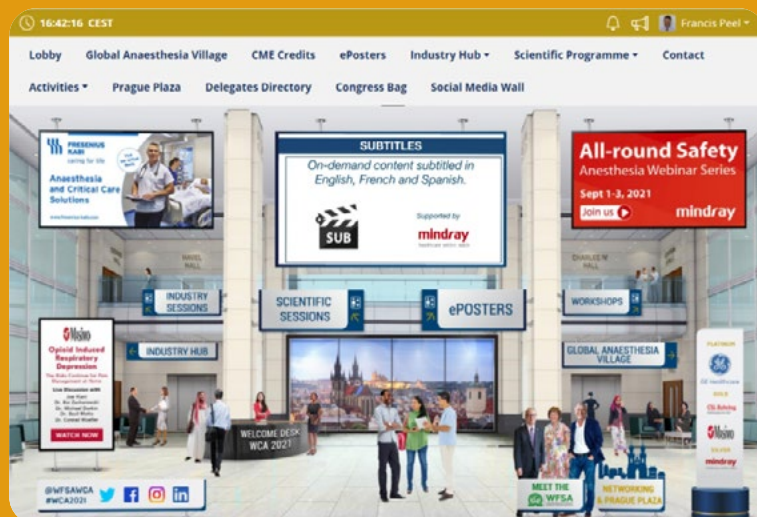
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“The best congress I have ever attended, the experience has been amazing, I would like to thank the WFSA for the opportunity they offered me.”

– Claudia Stella Niño Carreño, Colombia

Reflecting our members' interest and engagement with industry partners, WCA 2021 hosted 14 focused industry symposia sessions on issues ranging from non-invasive monitoring to the training needs of obstetric surgeries.

WFSA supported 583 scholars from low, lower middle-income, and upper middle-income countries to attend WCA2021. The support of generous donors meant that this was the largest number of scholarships offered by WFSA for any WCA.



18th World Congress of Anaesthesiologists

3 - 7 March 2024 SINGAPORE

Together We Can

2022 and beyond

The 19th WCA will take place in Singapore from 3 – 7 March 2024. It will be the first in-person world congress since 2016, enabling the global anaesthesia community to renew and reaffirm the professional and social connections which form the bedrock of global anaesthesia.

Keep up-to date on WCA2024 announcements at www.wca2024.org.

[Find out more](#)



1000 trainers from 104 countries joined together to evidence the efficacy of providing life-saving CPR training programmes virtually.

”

“Since attending the conference I also have a sense of belonging to a community with the wider world of anaesthesiologists. Which has been important to me during this Covid crisis.”

– Eunice Onisimo, Fiji

Global Impact Partners

WFSA Fellowships offer anaesthesiologists from low-resource settings the opportunity to undergo sub-speciality anaesthesia training or non-clinical training at another medical institute. WFSA works with Global Impact Partners to deliver anaesthesia patient safety programmes at scale. Our current



LAERDAL FOUNDATION: WFSA's six-year relationship with the Laerdal Foundation has delivered training for anaesthesia professionals in Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Bangladesh, Nepal, and India. Through the 'Better Births – Safer Births' initiative, anaesthesia professionals were trained in obstetric anaesthesia through Safer Anaesthesia From

Global Impact Partners are Laerdal Foundation, Masimo and most recently, Johnson & Johnson. The impact of these partnerships has been far-reaching, with significant contributions being made to health system strengthening in Bangladesh, Kenya, India,

Education (SAFE) and Vital Anaesthesia Simulation Training (VAST) courses.

The Laerdal Foundation continues to support the Utstein Metrics Initiative which is working on the development and subsequent adoption of refined global surgical indicators.

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“These programmes drive very important changes at the hospital and global level alongside the facilitation of improved data collection against key surgical indicators, thereby making significant contributions towards Sustainable Development Goal no 3 – Good Health and Wellbeing”

– Tore Laerdal, Executive Director, Laerdal Foundation



Obstetric Safe Surgery programme in Kenya trained the surgical team collectively



MASIMO: Utilising strong links with the Indian Society of Anaesthesiologists, the WFSA partnership with Masimo has sought to strengthen anaesthesia capacity in India by training 900 clinicians and 142 medical educators through a range of WFSA-led programmes. In addition, the partnership has supported scholars to attend regional and global congresses including the 2021 World Congress of Anaesthesiologists.

This successful partnership continues with a new project focused on ways to strengthen anaesthesia capacity in Palestine.

[Watch Video](#)

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“Five years ago, the WFSA gave us the opportunity to be part of something bigger and we are delighted to be the first to partner with WFSA to take safe anaesthesia to parts of the world where it needed to go and the results have been incredible”

– Joe Kiani, Masimo, Founder, Chairman



Training as part of the Better Births – Safer Births initiative in Tanzania



JOHNSON & JOHNSON: Following the success of the Obstetric Safe Surgeries programme in Kenya, Johnson & Johnson is supporting a new three-year project to strengthen anaesthesia and surgical services in Kenya and Malawi.

In Kenya, the programme will focus on improving obstetric fistula services. In Malawi, the focus will be on long-bone fracture.



Simulation training in India as part of the Masimo-funded programme in Telangana.

Our Partners

Support from these organisations has enabled the WFSA to expand our vital education and training programmes around the world. We thank these partners for their continued financial support and dedication to safe anaesthesia and global health.



Return on Investment

The WFSA is supported by an extraordinary network of thousands of volunteers. They generously and graciously dedicate their expertise and time to our work year on year.

Experienced trainers volunteer their time and expertise to join WFSA's committees, council and board as well as design and run our training programmes. The in-kind value of this volunteered time and expertise is conservatively estimated to be **over \$4million per year**.

This support means that WFSA provides a return of over \$10 for every \$1 invested in the organisation by its membership.

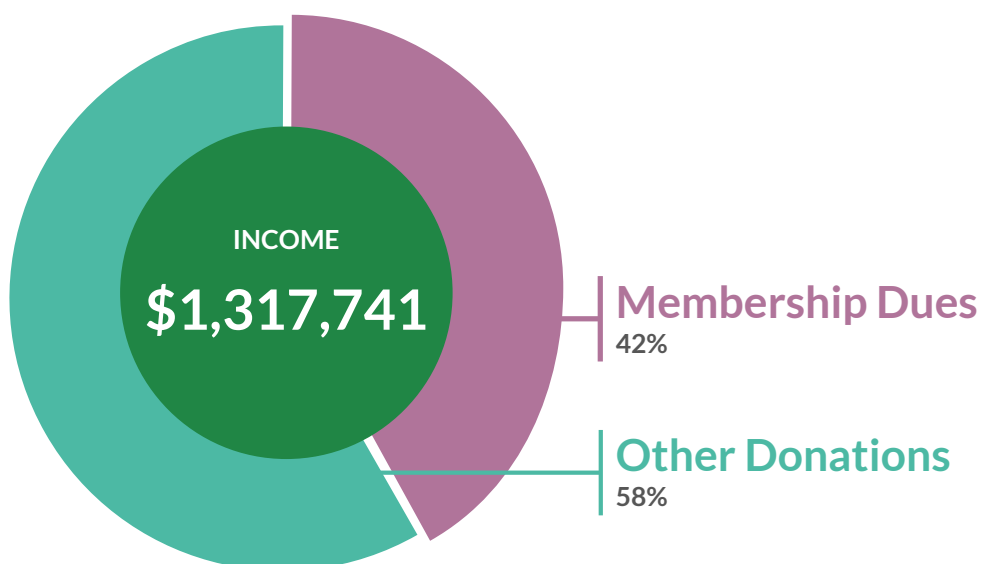


Our volunteers are the foundation of what we do, and we could not succeed without them.

Finance

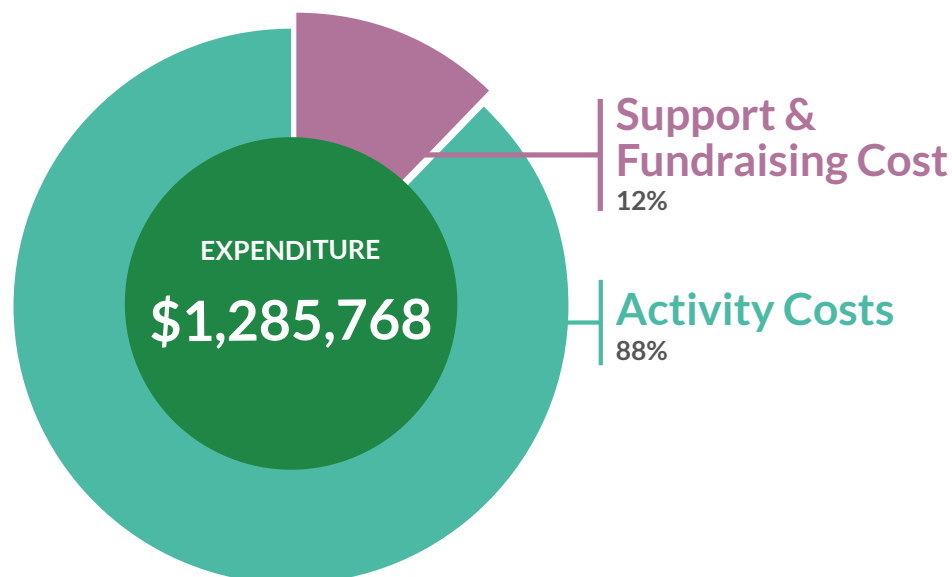
Income

Financial Year Ends - 2021



Expenditure

Financial Year Ends - 2021



For more information contact us at:

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🐦 [@wfsaorg](https://twitter.com/wfsaorg)

🌐 wfsahq.org

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