



WFSA

WORLD FEDERATION OF SOCIETIES OF
ANAESTHESIOLOGISTS

Impact Review 2017–2021



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Overview

The World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists (WFSA) is the foremost global alliance of anaesthesiologists, the specialist physicians dedicated to the total care of the patient before, during and after surgery. We unite anaesthesiologists around the world to improve patient care and increase access to safe anaesthesia and perioperative medicine.

We unite anaesthesiologists around the world to improve patient care and access to safe anaesthesia and perioperative medicine.

Our programmes

Our programmes tackle the key barriers to the lack of access to anaesthesia care and are run in partnership with our Member Societies and other organisations that share our goals. With a physician led and patient focused approach we train thousands of anaesthesia providers every year and provide open access to online continuing medical education.

Official relations

We are in official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO), and advocate for anaesthesia and surgery as an essential component of Universal Health Coverage.

5 of the world's 7 billion people are without access to safe and affordable anaesthesia and surgical care when needed.

Our Impact

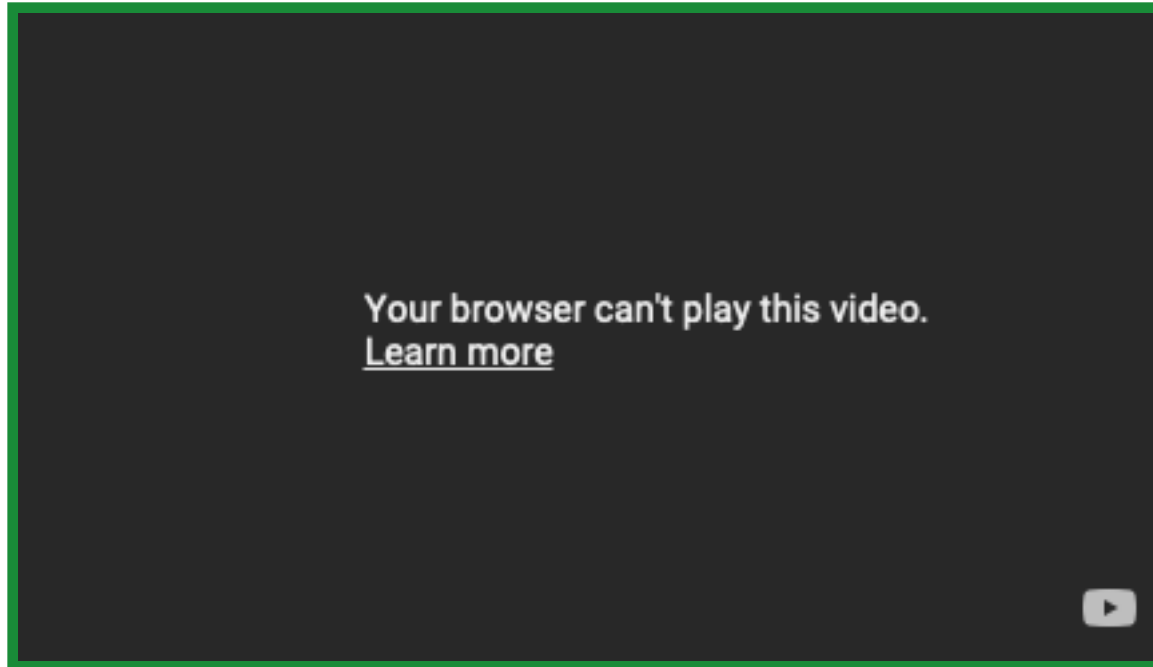
Our impact is felt globally, and with **5 of the world's 7 billion people** without access to safe and affordable anaesthesia and surgical care when needed, the work of the WFSA and its Member Societies is more important than ever.

The work of the WFSA and its Member Societies is more important than ever.





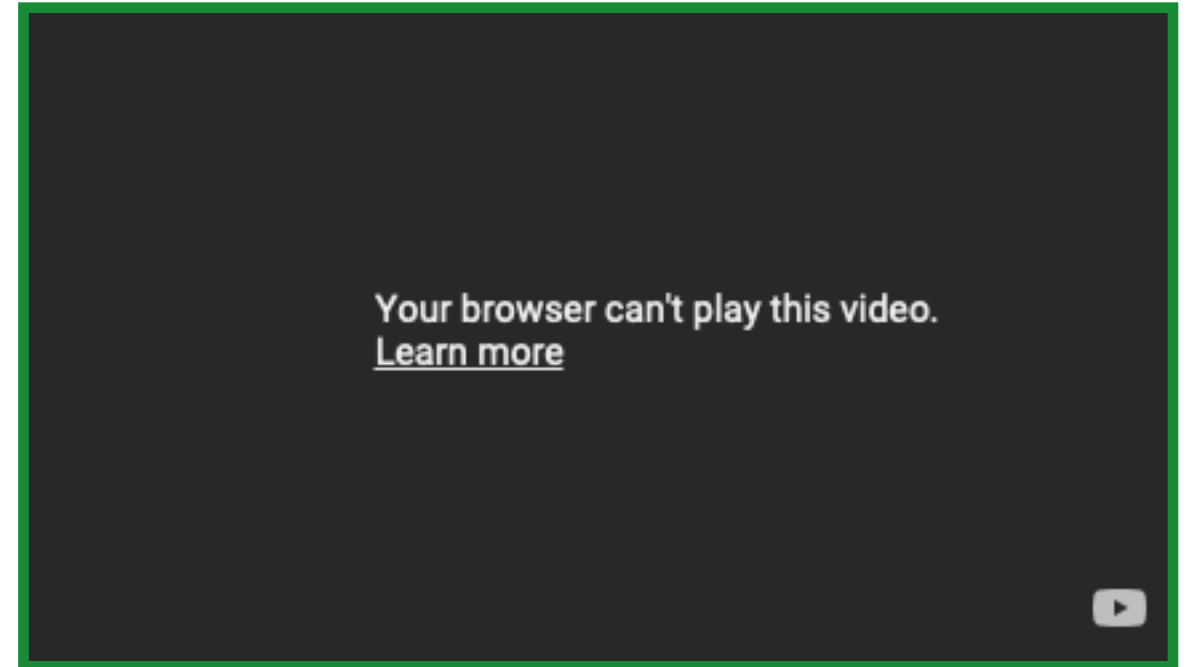
Presidents' forewords



Dr Gonzalo Barreiro (President 2016–2018)

“ Two highlights from my presidency include the approval and support by the World Health Organization for the publication of the WHO-WFSA International Standards for a Safe Practice of Anaesthesia. This was an amazing joint effort by amongst others Adrian Gelb, Wayne Morriss and Alan Merry. Secondly, the creation of the Gender Balance ad-hoc Committee aimed at calling to attention and monitoring the global situation of our female colleagues to promote their quality of life and access to senior positions in hospitals and universities.

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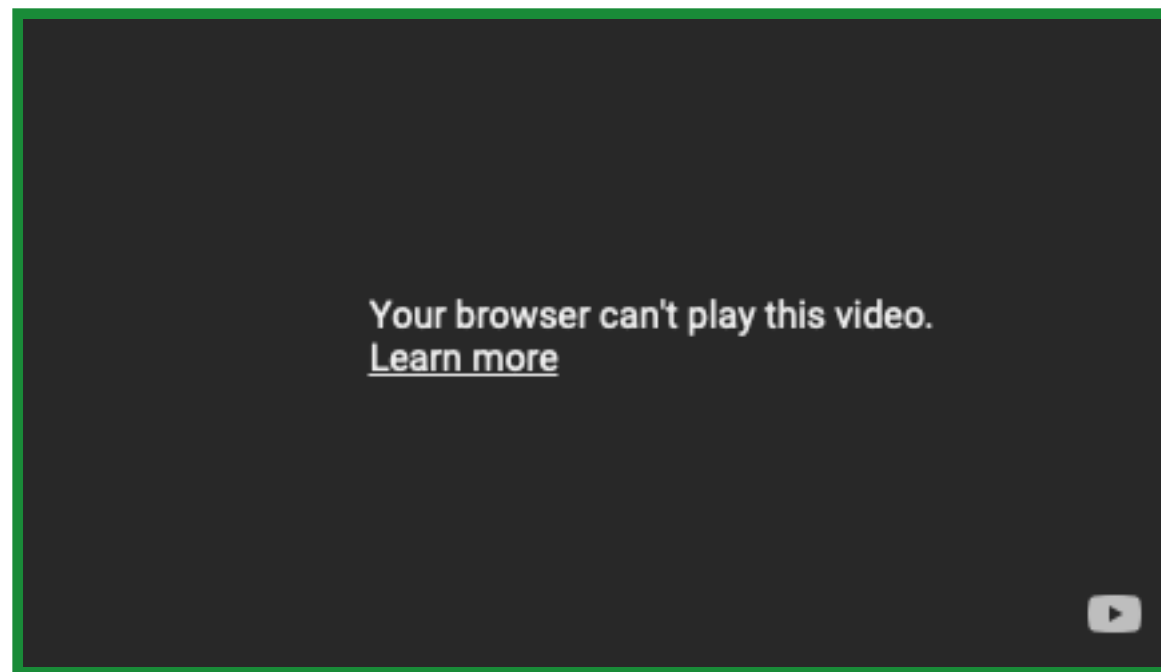
Dr Jannicke Mellin-Olsen (President 2018–2020)

“ To induce lasting improvement, we must involve policy makers and decision makers on a national and global scale. We have, for instance, contributed to the National Surgical, Obstetric and Anaesthesia Plans, along with the Harvard Program in Global Surgery and Social Change, the WHO and others. We work with the WHO Global Patient Safety Network, the Patient Safety Movement Foundation and others to improve patient safety, with UN organisations to ensure access to safe medications.

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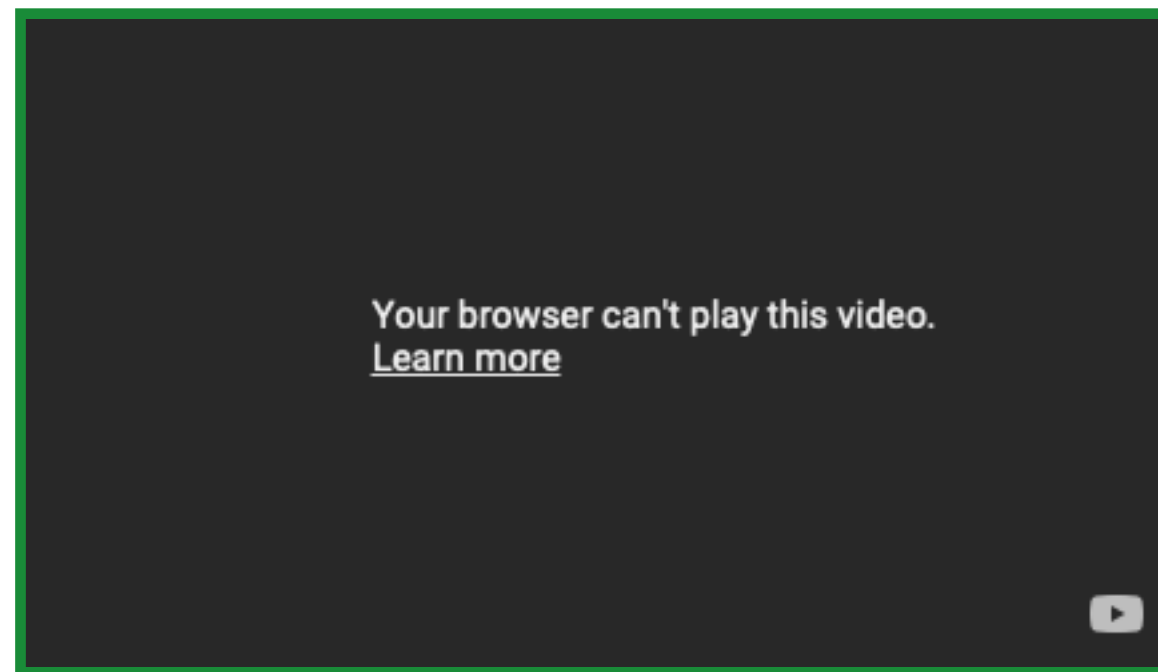
Presidents' forewords



Prof. Adrian Gelb (President 2020–2022)

“ COVID took the world by surprise and derailed activities and the same to some extent at WFSA. We responded very, very quickly, early in the pandemic, by putting together a work group to start collating appropriate educational material for all of us dealing with this virus. In addition, the website was upgraded to include a COVID tab that includes lots of COVID related material produced either by ourselves or by National Societies and other organisations.

If you cannot view this embedded video click [HERE](#)



Dr Wayne Morriss (President 2022–2024)

“ While the world is focussed on COVID-19, we must continue to advocate for the surgical patients who need our expertise. The WFSA will continue to remind governments of their 2015 World Health Assembly commitment to strengthen anaesthesia and surgical care. We will continue to advocate for greater resourcing and workforce strengthening. The COVID-19 pandemic has presented many challenges but there are also opportunities. We will continue to strengthen online educational resources, foster collaborative relationships with Member Societies, and support our global workforce.

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Nationalities represented on WFSA committees

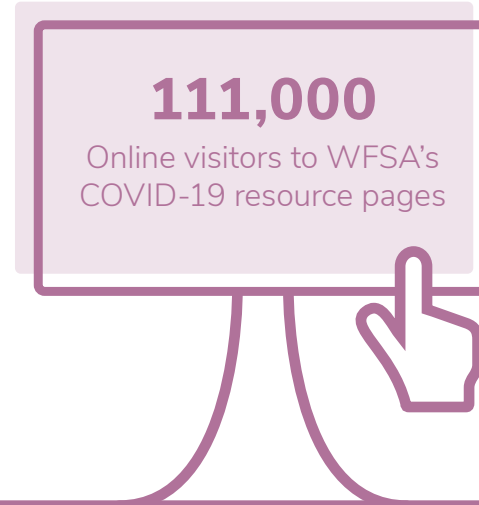
Member societies in 2021



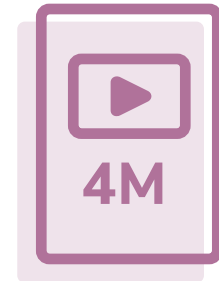
Value of time donated by WFSA volunteers in US\$



Anaesthesia Tutorials of the Week available through the virtual library



Online visitors to WFSA's COVID-19 resource pages



4 million views of educational videos on WFSA YouTube

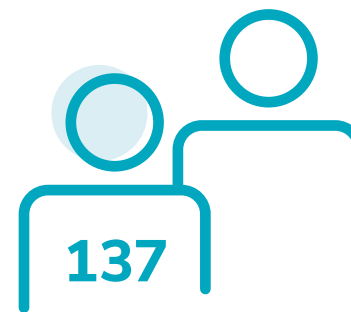
WFSA 2017 - 2021 in numbers

Ministries of health contacted in support of WHA68.15

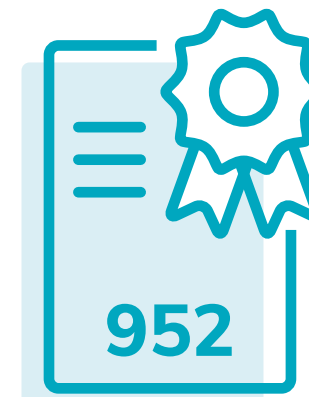


Official statements made at WHO meetings

Global population covered by WFSA Global Anaesthesia Workforce Survey

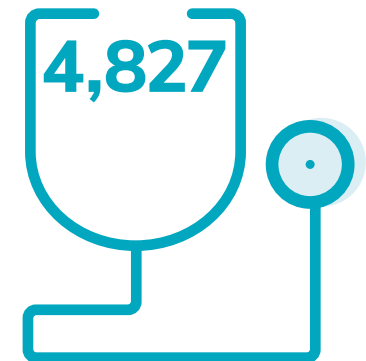


Fellowships hosted in 21 countries



Trainers trained

Clinicians trained in WFSA-led courses





EDUCATION & TRAINING



Our clinician-led programmes provide essential information and training to improve the knowledge and competencies of anaesthesia professionals.

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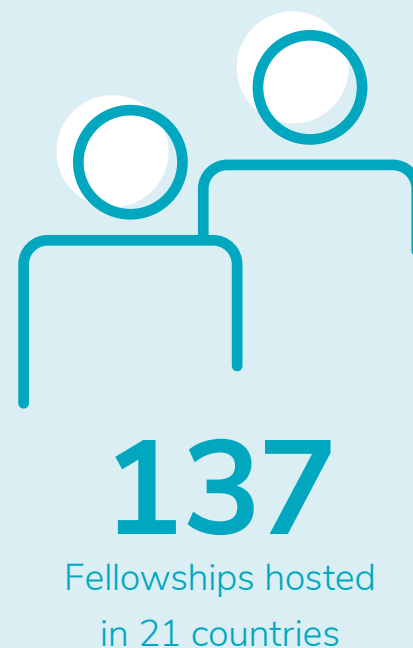
Education & training

Since our founding, WFSA has sought to strengthen global anaesthesia care and pain management by prioritising the training and education of anaesthesiologists around the world. Our clinician-led programmes provide essential information and training to improve the knowledge and competencies of anaesthesia providers.

With a sustainable localised approach, WFSA's tailored programmes are a proven means of improving the skills of thousands of anaesthesia providers every year.

WFSA's education and training leads to better patient outcomes and brings us closer to achieving our vision of universal access to safe anaesthesia and our mission to unite anaesthesiologists around the world to improve patient care and access to safe anaesthesia and perioperative medicine.

WFSA Training in numbers





Safer Anaesthesia From Education

The Safer Anaesthesia From Education (**SAFE**) programme was developed by WFSA and the UK and Ireland's Association of Anaesthetists to provide obstetric or paediatric anaesthesia training to anaesthesia professionals working in low resource settings.

Since its launch in 2011, **185 courses** have been delivered in **43 countries**, training over **5,000 clinicians** and a further **800+ SAFE Trainers**.

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



The SAFE courses ensure that anaesthesia providers have a uniform refresher training and hence sing from the same hymn sheet. The course content is simplified, easy to comprehend, clinically useful for our setting and delivered in a way that encourages participation.

Hope Phiri-Nyimbili (Zambia) Safe Obstetrics & Paediatrics



10 years of SAFE

The first SAFE Obstetrics course was piloted in Uganda in 2011. Since then, the SAFE programme has expanded to include SAFE Paediatrics, SAFE Operating Room, a SAFE Training of Trainers course and SAFE Online.

SAFE Obstetrics

A three-day course aimed at both physician and non-physician anaesthesia providers in LMICs. The course addresses the core and extended roles of the anaesthetist in obstetric emergencies. The course focuses on clinical scenarios based on the conditions that cause 80% of maternal deaths.

SAFE Paediatrics

This course provides clinicians with refresher training in the essentials of paediatric anaesthesia. The course emphasises the principles of safe care for children, in particular, assessment, vigilance and competence in essential skills.

SAFE Operating Room (OR)

This two to three-day course was developed in recognition of the need for multidisciplinary training to support safe surgery. The course brings together teams of anaesthetists, surgeons, obstetricians and

nurses who usually work together but rarely train together. SAFE OR is delivered in small groups using a combination of lectures, low-tech simulation, discussions and role-play.

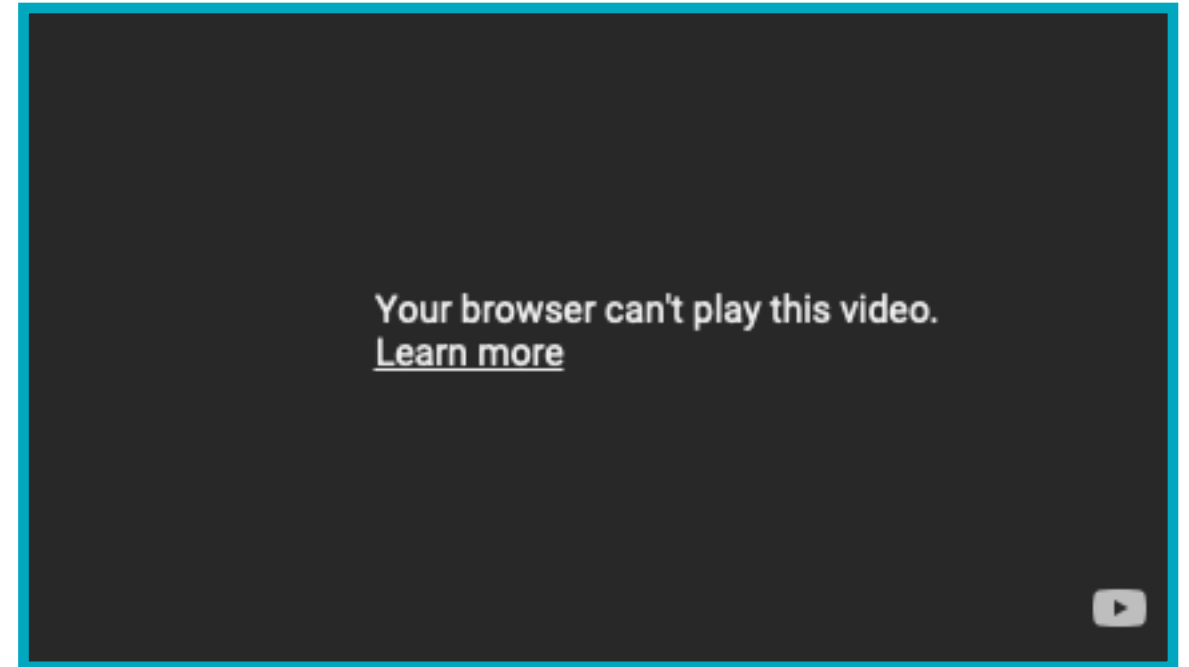
SAFE Training of Trainers (ToT)

Sustainability is central to the SAFE programme. SAFE ToT builds local SAFE training capacity through a one-day course to develop the teaching skills of clinical educators.

After successful pilots, the WFSA launched the SAFE Online platform in July 2021.

SAFE Online

Safe Online is the digital extension of the SAFE Obstetrics and Paediatrics courses. Using an interactive and engaging online platform, SAFE Online enables trainees to develop their skills and knowledge in their own time. The modules for the online course are derived from the traditional SAFE Obstetrics and Paediatrics courses and include live discussion with SAFE trainers. The course can be used either as a refresher or as a complement to traditional SAFE courses.



Introduction to the newly launched SAFE Online course. If you cannot view this embedded video click [HERE](#).

“SAFE Obstetrics really improved my confidence in providing safe anaesthesia to pregnant women. The course's expert lectures provided me with the skills and knowledge I need to manage the different complications that can occur in obstetric anaesthesia in areas such as the resuscitation of new-born babies.

Prosper Mussawe (Tanzania) SAFE Obstetrics



Essential Pain Management

Essential Pain Management (**EPM**) is a cost-effective multi-disciplinary training course which aims to improve clinicians' knowledge and skills in managing pain.

Run in over **63 countries** so far, EPM brings together local health workers to improve pain management and knowledge. To date an estimated **15,000 clinicians** have undertaken the course. A further **2,000** have trained as EPM instructors, enabling the course to be sustainably run in multiple countries.

EPM provides participants with a systematic approach for managing patients in pain. It also provides the skills required to train others who are teaching pain management.

EPM courses have formed a key component of WFSA's Safe Anaesthesia ASAP partnership with Masimo.

An estimated 15,000 clinicians have undertaken EPM training.

Vital Anaesthesia Simulation Training

Vital Anaesthesia Simulation Training (**VAST**) is a multi-disciplinary, simulation-based course aimed at developing the non-technical skills of surgical teams. VAST enables participants to practice their skills in challenging and realistic clinical scenarios using simulation technology to do so. The course reinforces clinical frameworks but focuses on participant-led learning to develop essential non-technical skills.

“*The design of the course is truly unique, adaptable for any setting with minimal equipment. It is truly rewarding to work with colleagues in any country, it leaves them with the tools to keep using simulation for education highlighting patient safety.*

Michelle Murray, VAST coordinator in India, Rwanda & Canada.

Developed in partnership with the University of Dalhousie and the University of Rwanda, VAST courses have been delivered in Africa, Asia, the Pacific region and North America. Since 2019, the WFSA has delivered VAST in India and Tanzania training **57 clinicians** and **15 VAST facilitators**.



Liberia Anaesthesia Capacity Development Project

The Liberia Anaesthesia Capacity Development Project was established in 2018 to address the shortage of physician anaesthesia providers (PAPs) in Liberia by supporting the anaesthesia training and qualification of Liberian physicians.

The WFSA-supported project aimed to address the lack of PAPs in Liberia by supporting Liberian physicians to complete the West African College of Surgeons Diploma in Anaesthesia by 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. To date three physicians have completed training and plans are underway for more Liberian doctors to follow suit.



Fellowships

The WFSA Fellowships programme provides trained anaesthesiologists from around the world with the opportunity to train at another medical institution and to specialise in an anaesthesia topic of their choice. These fellowships can range in duration from 3- 12 months, where the fellow can learn from peers and carry that knowledge back to their own workplace once the fellowship ends.

“ To date, around 32 Latin American anaesthesiologists have completed the training, of which 28 are now working in their home countries. Many of the former fellows have gone on to hold senior positions in their local anaesthesia societies and teach paediatric anaesthesia. As anaesthesiologists at Hospital Luis Calvo Mackenna, we are particularly proud to contribute to the educational efforts of the WFSA.

Dr Silvana Cavallieri – Hospital Luis Calvo Mackenna, in Santiago de Chile Paediatric Fellowship head

Beginning with 3 fellows in 1996, in **25 years** the programme has grown to over **400 fellows** trained in **62 countries** across **8 clinical sub-specialities**, research and medical education / simulation.



My fellowship in Chile helped me to perform my professional work with greater safety and efficiency. I have improved my anaesthetic technique in children under 1 year old. I feel more confident in myself and I take advantage of every moment to replicate the things I learned, from how to prepare my drugs, anaesthetic patient safety and work with other health professionals.

Dr Liz Marilyn Ugaz Cachay (Peru), Paediatric Anaesthesia Fellowship in Santiago de Chile 2019/20



Research & Education Fellowships

WFSA's research and education fellowships seek to encourage and strengthen anaesthesia research capacities in low resource settings.

Research fellowships aim to provide anaesthesiologists from low and middle income countries with the skills and experience they need to establish and lead collaborative research projects in their home countries.

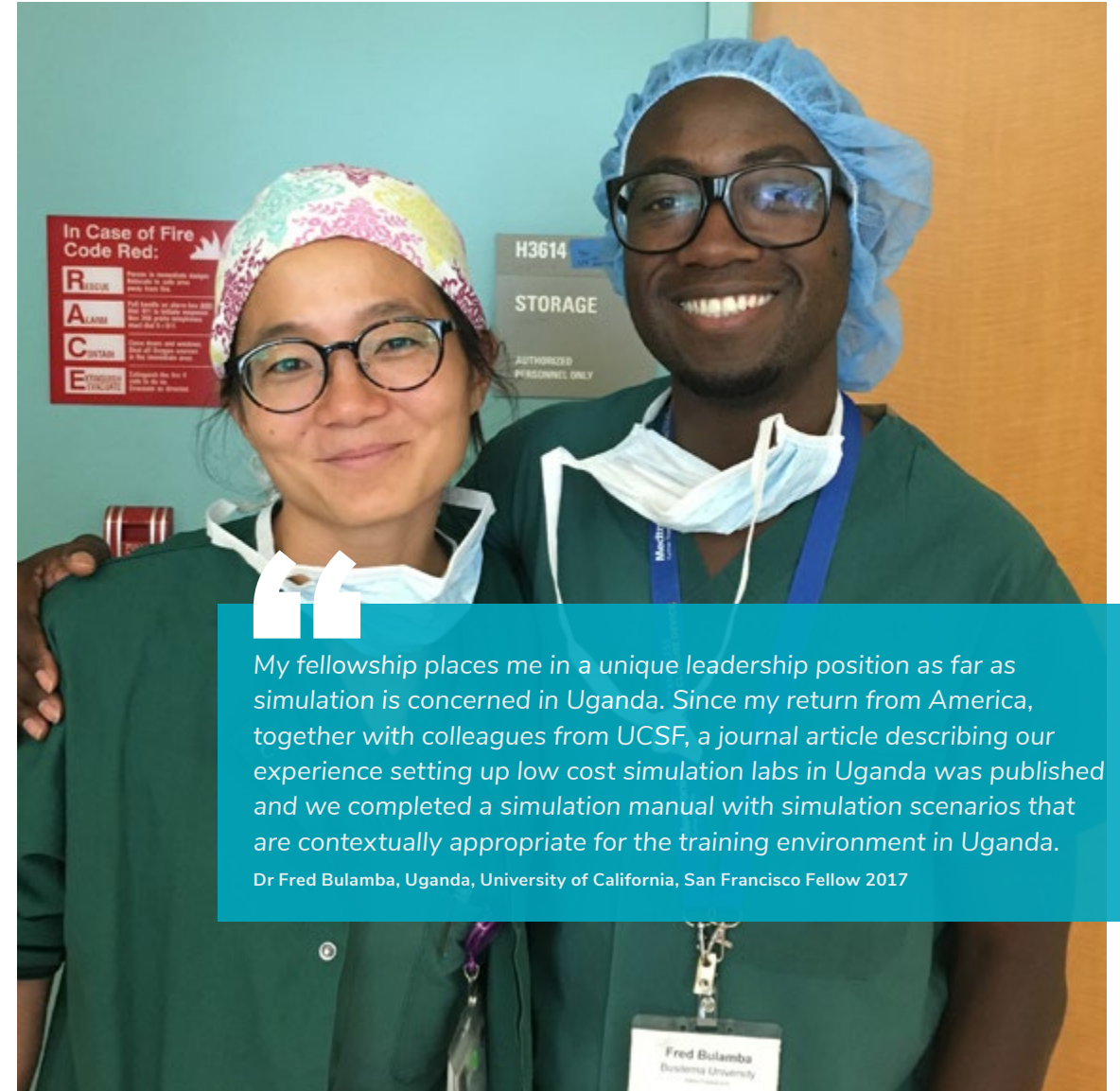
In partnership with the Ohio State University, the University of California San Francisco and the Universities of Cape Town and KwaZulu-Natal, the WFSA has supported **7 anaesthesiologists** from LMICs to develop their skills and knowledge in research, education and simulation.

“ Although my fellowship time was limited and also impacted by the disruptions of COVID-19, I can definitely say this experience has enriched my knowledge and skills in the research world. I am now fully aware of the enormous requirements to undertake a clinical trial in a low-resource setting.

Dr Agya Prempeh, WFSA/IARS research clinical fellowship, 2020

In 2020, the WFSA collaborated with International Anesthesia Research Society (IARS) to create a Research Clinical fellowship in 'Global Surgery and Anaesthesia in Africa' which takes place in Cape Town. The aim of the fellowship programme is to develop the skills necessary to lead collaborative clinical research in Africa. Inaugural research fellowship grants were awarded to anaesthesiologists from Ghana and Tanzania.

Research initiatives like these are helping to create the practical evidence-based insights that will help develop the next generation of equipment, drugs and advanced learning methods for safer anaesthesia and more effective pain relief in resource poor settings.



My fellowship places me in a unique leadership position as far as simulation is concerned in Uganda. Since my return from America, together with colleagues from UCSF, a journal article describing our experience setting up low cost simulation labs in Uganda was published and we completed a simulation manual with simulation scenarios that are contextually appropriate for the training environment in Uganda.

Dr Fred Bulamba, Uganda, University of California, San Francisco Fellow 2017



Scholarships

The scholarship programme provides vital opportunities for young anaesthesiologists from low resource countries to attend international congresses in order to improve their knowledge and skills as well as to build up their professional networks. WFSA Scholarships also provide an opportunity to present research with over 70% of scholars presenting a poster or an abstract at the congress they attended.

The learning gained and networks created during these events prove invaluable to these future leaders in anaesthesia.

Since 2008, over **250 scholars** from **75 countries** have been supported to attend **30 congresses**.

Over **500 scholarships** were made available for the 2021 World Congress of Anaesthesiologists. WFSA's support for these scholarships was aided by generous donations by partner organisations and individuals.



The scholarship exposed me to some of the best professionals in anaesthesia and the least I can do is mentor another to follow my footsteps or do even better

Dr George Kateregga, WFSA – Baxter Scholar at 2016 WCA in Hong Kong.



WFSA Virtual Library

The WFSA Virtual Library is one of WFSA's flagship online resources. It was created and is curated by anaesthesiologists for qualified anaesthesia providers and those pursuing a qualification in anaesthesia.

Updated in November 2020, the new WFSA Virtual Library enables users to access a wealth of free, curated, open source documents, videos, articles, journals, standards and guidelines covering all aspects of anaesthesia.

Tailored to the interests of anaesthesia providers worldwide, users are able to:

- Download articles
- Save and view content offline
- Share resources via social media
- Search for anaesthesia resources by sub-specialty, language, date and category

The WFSA Resource Hub incorporates the highly popular Anaesthesia Tutorial of the Week (ATOTW) and Update in Anaesthesia Journal. In 2020, 21 ATOTW articles were published.

WFSA Virtual Library in numbers





Anaesthesia Tutorial of the Week (ATOTW)

ATOTW is an open-access online tutorial created to support Continuing Medical Education (CME). The tutorials, which are available in Chinese, English, French, Portuguese and Spanish are published fortnightly for over **18,000 subscribers** from across the globe. Each tutorial is accompanied by a quiz which allows readers to test their own knowledge of the ATOTW tutorials. The tutorials are conducted at a self-directed pace and a certificate is available for those that pass the quiz.

Over **450 tutorials** written by leading anaesthesiologists covering **13 different sub-specialties** are now available for download.

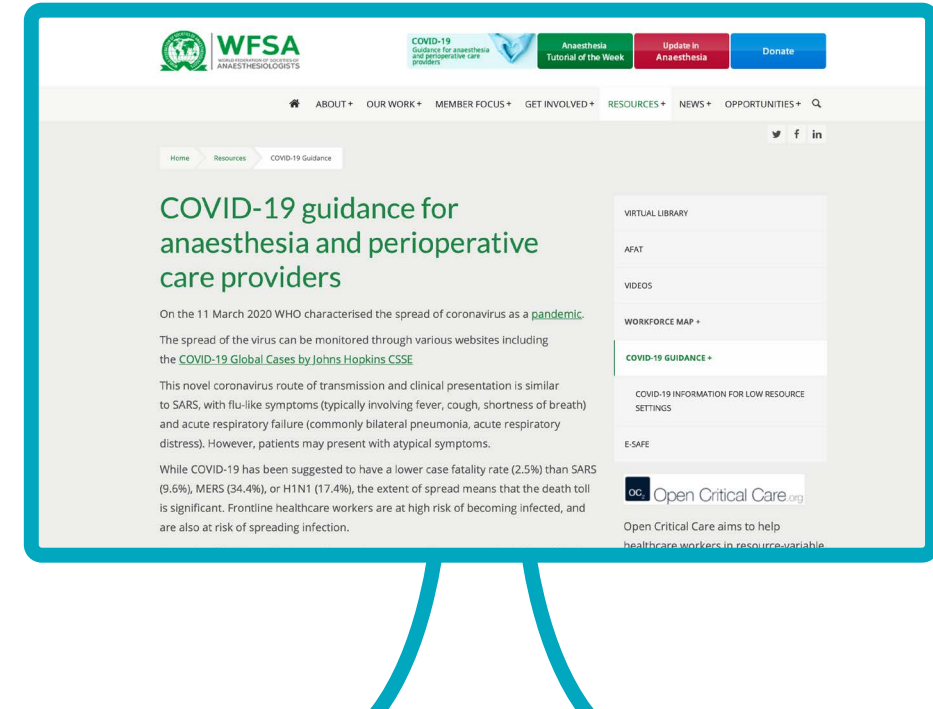
In response to COVID-19, ATOTW has developed a suite of tutorials to help anaesthesia professionals respond effectively and safely to the pandemic.

The utility and popularity of ATOTW continues to grow, with over **164,000 users** from **149 countries** accessing the site in 2020.

With the majority of users accessing ATOTW on a smartphone the platform has been adapted to make it a more enjoyable experience on mobile devices. The new online platform includes offline viewing, PDF download, social media sharing and an intuitive search engine.

“Being able to provide free high-quality education material, especially to anaesthesia providers who would otherwise have no access to any form of CME continues to be the main motivation and driving force behind ATOTW efforts. I am so grateful to be able to work alongside such a dedicated team of anaesthesiologists who volunteer their time tirelessly to author, edit and translate our articles. We hope our work continues to enrich knowledge and improve patient care around the world.

Dr Maytinee Lilaonitkul - ATOTW Editor-in-Chief



COVID-19 Guidance

WFSA launched a free-to-access [online resource](#) to meet the urgent need for evidence-based and practical guidance for anaesthesia and perioperative care providers responding to the COVID-19 crisis. A working group of anaesthesiologists from Africa, Asia, the Americas and Europe was formed to curate and collate the most useful and relevant resources for the anaesthesia community. As a result, an open source online library of over 100 different resources was created, covering an array of issues such as PPE, ventilation and critical care for those working in both high and low-resource settings. To-date over 111,000 users have accessed and downloaded resources from these pages.

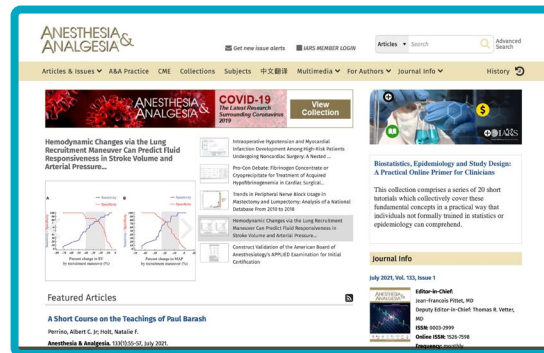
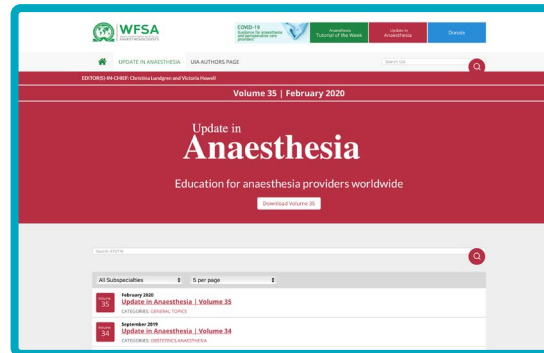
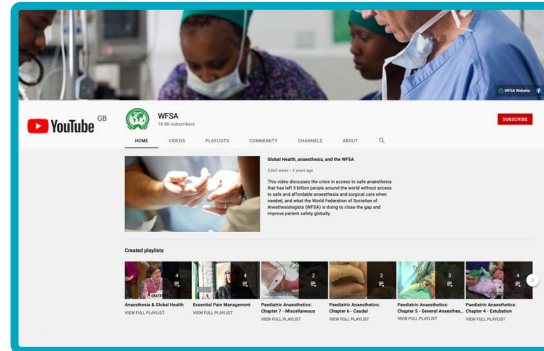


WFSA YouTube

WFSA's YouTube channel contains over **70 films** in English, French and Spanish. With **19,000 subscribers** (33% subscribing in 2020 alone) and **4 million views** since its launch in 2016. The WFSA channel is an increasingly important education resource for anaesthesia providers worldwide.

In 2020, WFSA partnered with World Medical Education and consultants at The Royal Free Hospital in London to produce a series of COVID-19 themed instructional videos.

The channel also includes a popular series of subtitled educational videos on adult and paediatric anaesthesia produced in partnership with Southampton Hospital. This series includes a paediatric anaesthetic video on 'IV Induction igel' that has been **viewed 1.7 million times**.



Update in Anaesthesia

Update in Anaesthesia (UIA) is the official education journal of the WFSA. UIA provides concise and clinically-relevant articles for anaesthesia providers working with limited resources.

A new online UIA platform features enhanced search functionality that allows users to explore over **25 years** worth of globally-focused anaesthesia articles.

Readers can choose to download full volumes or individual articles. The UIA platform also allows users to 'read offline' making it more accessible for users in areas with low-bandwidth.

Anaesthesia & Analgesia

Formed in 2014, the Global Health Section of Anesthesia and 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 features the latest global anaesthesia research.

A&A continues to be published monthly and provides the latest in medicine, patient monitoring and pain management including, most recently, the latest research around COVID-19.



ADVOCACY



WFSA leads global advocacy efforts to raise the importance of access to safe, quality and affordable anaesthesia and perioperative medicine.

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Advocacy

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

We amplify the voices of anaesthesiologists to advocate at the local, national, regional and global levels to convey the importance of this branch of medicine.

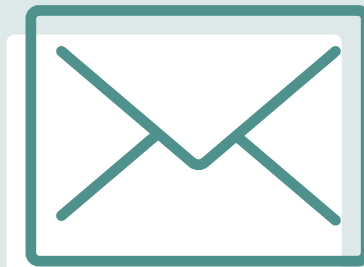
We promote anaesthesiology and surgery as an essential element of global health and work to address the crises of unsafe surgery and lack of access to anaesthesia care.

As the only global federation of anaesthesiologists, the WFSA is well placed to influence decision-makers. WFSA is in official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO), and in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

WFSA Advocacy in numbers

193

Ministries of Health
contacted in support
of WHA68.15



33

Official statements made
at WHO meetings

97%

Global population covered by
WFSA Global Anaesthesia
Workforce Survey





The three pillars of advocacy

WFSA's advocacy is guided by three pillars – Unity, Access and Safety. These pillars support our overall mission to improve patient care, and increase access to safe anaesthesia by uniting anaesthesiologists around the world.

These pillars support our overall mission to improve patient care, and increase access to safe anaesthesia.

1. Unity

With **136 Member Societies**, representing over **150 countries** and hundreds of thousands of anaesthesiologists, WFSA is the foremost global alliance of anaesthesiologists.

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

2. Access

5 billion people still do not have access to safe, affordable and timely anaesthesia care despite anaesthesia and surgical care being acknowledged as vital to achieving Universal Health Coverage, a key target of the Sustainable Development Goals.

WFSA works with its Member Societies and partners to build the global evidence-base around access to safe anaesthesia. WFSA advocates nationally, regionally and globally for resources to be committed to address the gaps in the availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality of anaesthesia care at country and local levels.

5 billion people still do not have access to safe anaesthesia care.

3. Safety

Scaling-up anaesthesia resources will not improve patient outcomes alone. It is essential that safe practices and standards are followed. One of the outcomes of this focus on safety has been the creation and publishing of the WHO-WFSA International Standards for a Safe Practice of Anaesthesia.





Advocating on the global stage

WHO, WHA, UN

Reflecting its position of being in official relations with the World Health Organization and in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), WFSA is an active advocate for anaesthesia care in international and regional fora.

The WFSA used its global presence to actively advocate in support of WHA resolution 68:15 “Strengthening emergency and essential surgical care and anaesthesia as a component of universal health coverage” which was adopted by consensus in 2015 at the **68th World Health Assembly**.

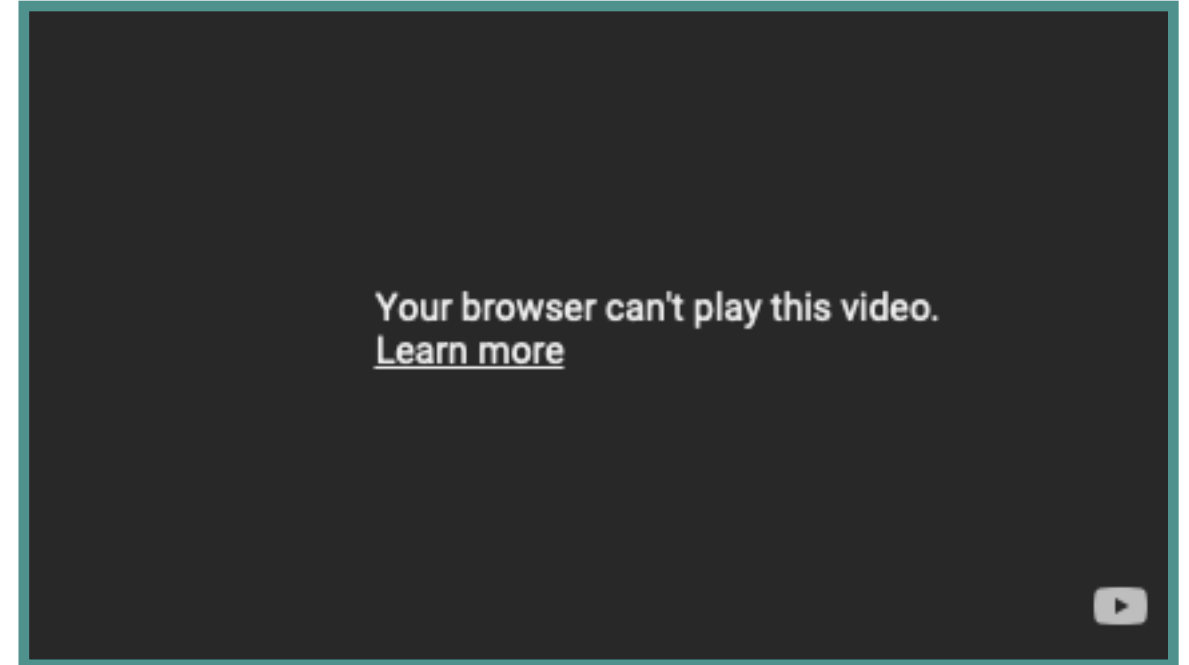
WHA Resolution 68.15 forms part of, and influences, WFSA’s wider response to the global crisis in anaesthesia and surgery.

This work continues in 2021, with WFSA coordinating a sign-on letter sent on behalf of **40 surgical care organisations** to all Ministries of Health, Permanent Representatives and Health Attaches in Geneva urging them to submit progress reports, as mandated by the resolution, to the WHO on steps taken to expand essential anaesthesia and surgical care services at the national level.

Since 2017, WFSA has delivered **33 official statements** at WHO meetings.

As part of our advocacy WFSA has continued to urge WHO and UN Member States to:

- Improve access to safe and affordable anaesthesia and perioperative care through the development of National Surgical, Obstetric and Anaesthesia Plans (NSOAPs).
- Scale-up the global anaesthesia workforce.
- Adopt the WHO/WFSA International Standards for a Safe Practice of Anaesthesia.
- Prioritise diagnosis, treatment and management of NCDs.
- Combat rising antimicrobial resistance.



Former WFSA President Dr Jannicke Mellin-Olsen presenting a statement at the 71st World Health Assembly. If you cannot view this embedded video click [HERE](#).

These key messages have been delivered at both global level fora such as the World Health Assembly and WHO Executive Board meetings and at WHO regional meetings in Africa, the Americas, Europe and the Western Pacific. In addition, WFSA spoke at a special online event series organised by the Global Surgery Foundation (GSF) that focused on advancing the NSOAP process.

“ Within the Southern African Development Community, WFSA is viewed as a practical, committed, and strong partner that continues to actively work with Member States and other Non-State Actors in advocating for the attainment of safe, timely, appropriate, and affordable surgical care. WFSA is involved in walking the talk together with us.

Professor Emmanuel Makasa, Wits-SADC Regional Collaboration Centre for Surgical Healthcare



Essential Medicines

A lack of access to safe, effective, quality and affordable medicines and vaccines including essential anaesthesia medicines - such as ketamine and potent opioids - impedes progress to Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

The availability of these essential medicines has been threatened by legislation that ignores their medical value. In low-income countries, ketamine provides 70% of anaesthetics and is the “go to” anaesthetic for C-section and other life-saving surgeries.

Opioids are essential medicines for the management of pain, and an indispensable element of UHC.

The [#Ketamineismedicine campaign](#) has been part of WFSA's work with the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependency and forms part of our wider work with the WHO and at the WHA on ensuring access to essential medicines.

Human Rights Council

Since 2020, WFSA has been working with UN Member States at the Human Rights Council to firmly embed anaesthesia and surgical care within the human rights discourse.

In 2021, WFSA worked with Member States to include language in a [resolution on Preventable Maternal Mortality and Morbidity](#) that emphasised the need to strengthen the health workforce and health systems through increased funding, and the need for the deployment and training of anaesthesiologists and other healthcare providers. This resolution was adopted by consensus at the 47th session of the Human Rights Council.

This was the first time that agreed language urging Member States to strengthen their anaesthesia provision has been included in a Human Rights Council resolution. The resolution will be used by Member States to inform their national policy making.

WFSA and its partners will use this language to advocate for a scale-up of investment and prioritisation for anaesthesia services by governments.

Urges States to **strengthen the capacity and resourcing of health-care systems and the health workforce**, to provide the essential services needed to prevent and treat maternal morbidities, including through **increased budget allocations for health**, including sexual and reproductive health-care services, and the **deployment and training of midwives, nurses, obstetricians, gynaecologists, doctors, surgeons and anaesthesiologists**, in accordance with international medical standards and to ensure holistic social integration services.

HRC Resolution A/HRC/47/L.23/Rev.1 OP7

Your browser can't play this video.
[Learn more](#)



The Happy Birth Days film highlights the everyday impact that strengthening the anaesthesia workforce can have on reducing preventable maternal mortality and morbidity. If you cannot view this embedded video click [HERE](#).



The Global Anaesthesia Workforce Map

This internationally renowned research project maps the number, distribution of and training of anaesthesia providers globally. With data obtained from **153 countries**, this map represents **97.5%** of the world's population.

The workforce map represents the most comprehensive dataset of the global anaesthesia workforce ever compiled.

The WFSA Global Anaesthesia Workforce Map evidences the acute shortage of anaesthesia providers worldwide and highlights the gap between the rich and poor countries. Based on current population data, more than **136,000 additional physician** anaesthesia providers are needed immediately to achieve an interim

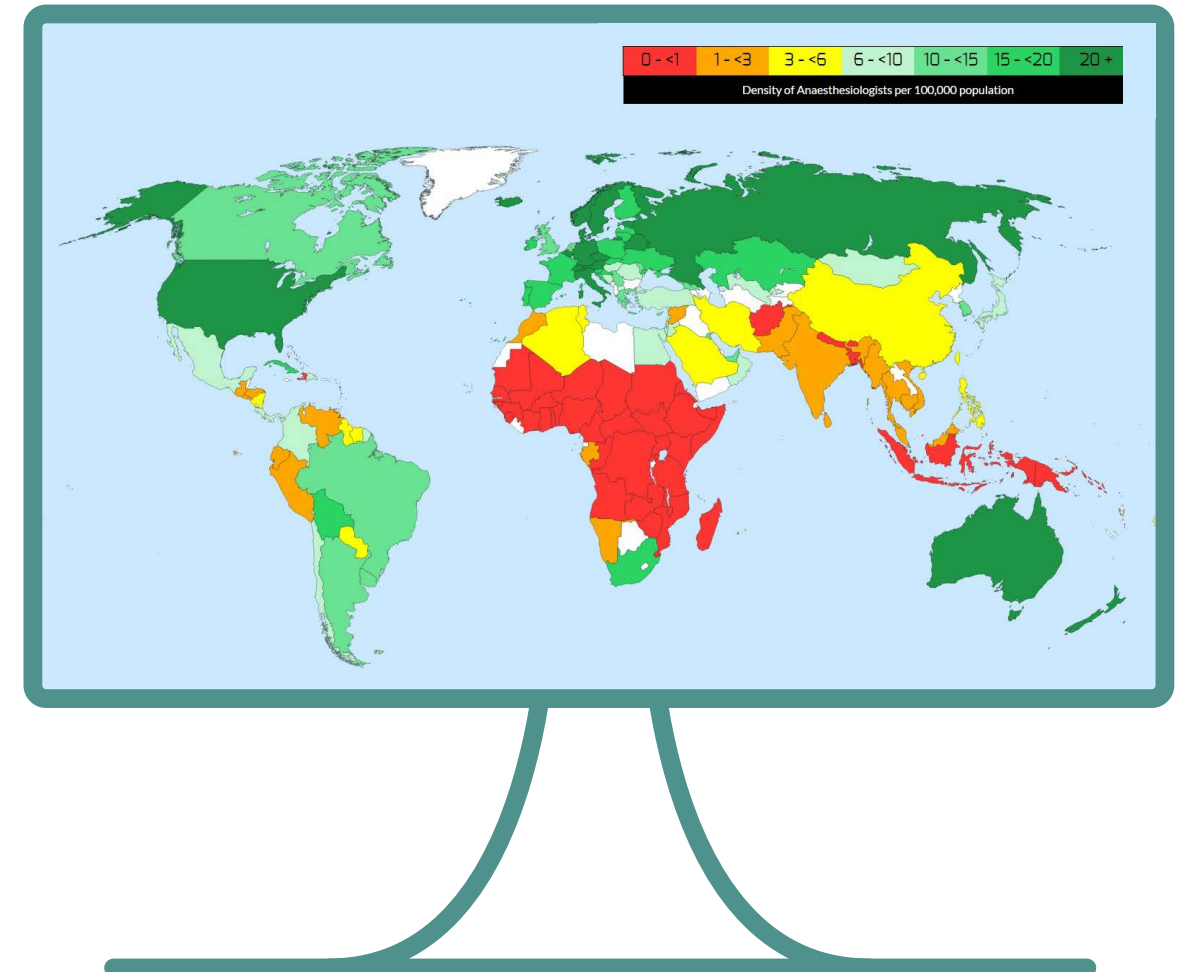
target density of **5 per 100,000** population in all countries. Without adequate numbers of trained providers it will be impossible to scale-up anaesthesia provision, and ensure access to safe anaesthesia for all.

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

Research findings published in the journal 'Anesthesia and Analgesia' continue to be regularly cited. An updated survey and analysis will be published in late 2022.

“For the ongoing global survey we have created a Global Anaesthesia Workforce Study Group. Our hope is that this group can be a nimble network for not only gathering accurate data but also a mechanism for advocacy and translation of the data into action.

Dr Michael Lipnick, University of California, San Francisco and Principle Investigator WFSA Global Anaesthesia Workforce Study 2020.



An interactive map and country by country anaesthesia workforce data is available at <https://wfsahq.org/resources/workforce-map/>



Advocacy alliances

WFSA works with a plethora of organisations that focus on advancing access to safe anaesthesia care.

Once such organisation is the G4 Alliance which WFSA co-founded in 2015 and in which WFSA remains an active member. Comprised of more than 60 organisations from all regions of the world, the G4 alliance for Surgical, Obstetric, Trauma and Anaesthesia care is an advocacy-based organisation dedicated to building political priority for surgical care as part of the global development agenda.

WFSA has been instrumental in supporting the leadership of the Patient Safety Movement Foundation.

Amongst other outcomes, WFSA with G4 partners has supported the adoption of World Health Assembly Resolution 68.15 on the essential role of anaesthesia and surgical care in Universal Health Coverage

and included reference to surgery and anaesthesia in the United Nations General Assembly 2019 High-Level Declaration on Universal Health Coverage.

WFSA works with a plethora of organisations that focus on advancing access to safe anaesthesia care.

WFSA has been instrumental in supporting the leadership of the Patient Safety Movement Foundation. As part of this it has been an active participant in events such as the annual World Patient Safety Day.

The WFSA has also worked closely with its partner the Global Surgery Foundation (GSF) and helped to organise and deliver with FIGO, Smile Train, Operation Smile and the G4 Alliance a webinar on the role of NGOs, academic institutions, professional associations, and other non-state actors in supporting the NSOAP process, as part of GSF's Special Online Event Series.





Working with the WHO to improve standards of anaesthesia care

In 2018, the WHO jointly approved and published the [WHO-WFSA International Standards for a Safe Practice of Anaesthesia](#). The Standards provide guidance on what is required to provide safe anaesthesia care.

These standards build on the basic tenet that access to safe anaesthesia for essential surgery is a basic human right.

These standards build on the basic tenet that access to safe anaesthesia for essential surgery is a basic human right and should be available to all patients irrespective of their ability to pay. They are resolutely patient centred and designed to promote the best possible health outcome and minimise exposure to the risk of harm.

Published in [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#), the International Standards are applicable to all anaesthesia providers around the world and cover, amongst other areas, professional aspects, facilities and equipment, medication, patient monitoring and conduct of anaesthesia.

The International Standards establish a uniform international expectation about standards of safety for anaesthesia care regardless of provider or location. They are acknowledged as an aspirational goal in some parts of the world where the standard of anaesthesia care is low, but crucially, can also be viewed as a valuable political tool for advocating the value and importance of investing in anaesthesia services.

The WFSA has also developed a comprehensive [Anaesthesia Facility Assessment Tool \(AFAT\)](#).

The AFAT forms part of a range of resources on National Surgical Planning available from the Harvard Program in Global Surgery and Social Change.

Can J Anesth/J Can Anesth (2018) 65:698–708
https://doi.org/10.1007/s12630-018-1111-5



SPECIAL ARTICLE

World Health Organization-World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists (WHO-WFSA) International Standards for a Safe Practice of Anesthesia

Normes internationales pour une pratique sécuritaire de l'anesthésie de l'Organisation mondiale de la santé et de la Fédération mondiale des sociétés d'anesthésiologie (OMS-FMSA)

Adrian W. Gelb, MBChB, FRCPC · Wayne W. Morriss, MBChB, FANZCA · Walter Johnson, MD · Alan F. Merry, MBChB, FANZCA, FFPANZCA, FRCA on behalf of the International Standards for a Safe Practice of Anesthesia Workgroup

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Abstract *The International Standards for a Safe Practice of Anesthesia were developed on behalf of the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists (WFSA), a non-profit organization representing anesthesiologists in 150 countries, and the World Health Organization (WHO). The recommendations have been approved by WHO and the*

all anesthesia providers throughout the world. They are intended to provide guidance and assistance to anesthesia providers, their professional organizations, hospital and facility administrators, and governments for maintaining and improving the quality and safety of anesthesia care. The Standards cover professional aspects; facilities and equip-

“The WHO-WFSA Standards is an important document and achievement by the WFSA. It is the first time the World Health Organization has endorsed standards of anaesthetic care directly, deliberately and explicitly. With these standards, anaesthetic safety is no longer just a tool at the grass roots level, it is now a tool that is landing on the desk of every ministry of health in WHO's 194 Member States. WFSA realizes that some national societies already exceed these Standards while others may struggle to achieve them. We ask the latter and their ministry of health to explicitly adopt them as the aspirational goal to which they are working

Professor Adrian Gelb, WFSA President and co-author of the WHO-WFSA Standards.



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 (WAD)

Every year on 16 October WFSA supports anaesthesia professionals all over the world to celebrate their profession and have fun whilst doing it.

World Anaesthesia Day commemorates the astonishing events on 16 October 1846 when doctors at Massachusetts General Hospital first publically demonstrated the use of ether on a patient. Despite nearly **175 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.

In light of this on-going neglect, global awareness days like World Anaesthesia Day can be a powerful advocacy tool to mobilise political will, educate the general public and highlight the achievements of the global anaesthesia community.

Each year on World Anaesthesia Day WFSA focuses on a different aspect of anaesthesia care. This helps us to explain to different audiences the varied, diverse and critical roles that anaesthesiologists play in patient wellbeing. Our WAD campaigns have included:

Each year on World Anaesthesia Day WFSA focuses on a different aspect of anaesthesia care.

2020 – Occupational Wellbeing of Anaesthesiologists: A campaign toolkit that included videos, flyers and other materials was developed and disseminated to Member Societies and the wider global anaesthesia community as a means by which to create a conversation around the importance of occupational wellbeing.

2019 – Resuscitation: WFSA partnered with the World Restart a Heart Day movement to highlight the indispensable role of anaesthesiologists in providing safe and effective resuscitation.



2018 – The Right Stuff: WFSA asked anaesthesia providers to share their favourite piece of anaesthesia equipment to highlight how important adequate facilities and equipment are to providing safe anaesthesia care.

2017 - Count Me In: To highlight the findings of the WFSA's recently published Global Anaesthesia Workforce Map, our campaign worked to unite anaesthesia providers to raise awareness and support for scaling-up “human resources for anaesthesia”.

World Patient Safety Day

WFSA is an active member of the World Patient Safety Network and celebrated the inaugural World Patient Safety Day on 17 September 2019. WFSA joined partners to advocate for improved global patient safety standards with the target of reducing avoidable patient harm, preventable deaths, and encouraging more effective health care.

To address the World Patient Safety Day 2020 theme of Health Worker Safety, WFSA co-sponsored and presented a number of sessions at the International Forum on Perioperative Safety and Quality.



SAFETY & QUALITY



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

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Utstein Conferences

In 2019, WFSA, in partnership with the Laerdal Foundation, brought 36 international experts in surgery, obstetrics and anaesthesia (SOA) together at the Utstein Abbey in Norway to refine existing indicators and reporting criteria for surgery, obstetrics and anaesthesia.

The conference conducted the first comprehensive review of the six metrics developed by The Lancet Commission on Global Surgery.

The Utstein Conference entitled “Metrics and Reporting Criteria for Surgery, Anaesthesia, & Obstetrics Patient Safety” conducted the first comprehensive review of the six metrics developed by [The Lancet Commission on Global Surgery](#). The aim of the conference was to clarify and strengthen data reporting in order to make it easier for service providers to assess the scale and accessibility of anaesthesia and surgical services at the national level, with the overarching aim

being to facilitate national, regional and global planning for surgical, obstetric and anaesthesia care and services.

The metrics were refined as part of this project and reduced from 6 to 5, namely: surgical volume; geospatial access; workforce; perioperative mortality; and, catastrophic expenditure.

The consensus reached at the Utstein Conference detailing indicators, approaches to data collection and reporting criteria necessary for patient safety was pre-published online in 2021 and has since been accepted for publication in an international peer-reviewed journal.

A follow up Utstein meeting will be held in 2022 to define approaches for data collection and articulate these into a ‘How To’ guide for global practitioners. The next steps for the broader global dissemination of metrics and their integration into national and global data collection processes will also be defined and implemented.





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.

Innovations relating to anaesthesia, critical care or pain can include:

- A new product/ device
- An IT innovation
- A new technique or the solution of a problem
- An innovation in education or training in anaesthesiology

As part of their award, winners receive up to \$25,000 to develop and help take the product or technology to market. Additionally, they are offered the opportunity to make a short promotional film and present their work at the World Congress of Anaesthesiologists 2021.

2019 winners

Paul Barton and his team won the 2019 award to help develop their Screenless Anaesthesia Monitor (SAM). The SAM is a lightweight battery-powered hospital-grade device and app that enables anaesthesia providers to monitor a patient's vital signs through their smartphones or devices. SAM aims to be affordable, portable, robust, and "ownable" for practitioners working in low-income settings.

“Our primary vision is to save lives in operating theatres worldwide. To this end, we are building a sustainable business around SAM to continue to develop and refine the product, then market, produce, distribute and sell SAM at the lowest reasonable cost to end-users.

Paul Barton



2018 winners

The 2018 award was presented to Maziar Mohsen Nourian and Michael Lipnick for their RevoCap project which sought to create an affordable and context-appropriate capnography device for use in low and middle-income countries.

“There have been multiple calls to action for universal access to capnography to improve patient safety in resource-constrained countries, yet reliable and affordable capnography monitors for these settings are still not available.

We have created a prototype of a low-cost capnography device using commonly available components. The simple design is affordable and context-appropriate for low-resource settings.

Maziar Mohsen Nourian and Michael Lipnick.



2017 winners

Caroline Corbett and Nick Nevin won in 2017 for the development of a new video laryngoscope called SmartBlade.

SmartBlade harnesses smartphone technology, providing a guided view of laryngoscopy to facilitate endotracheal intubation.

“The SmartBlade provides a disposable blade which integrates with a smartphone camera, to provide video laryngoscopy in financially constrained environments. The hope is that the SmartBlade will make routine use of video laryngoscopy affordable, accessible and preferable.

Caroline Corbett and Nick Nevin.





Essential Anaesthesia Equipment

When possible, the WFSA complements training anaesthesia providers with the provision of essential equipment that enable clinicians to deliver safe anaesthesia and perioperative care.

Over the last four years, WFSA's partnership with the Laerdal Foundation has seen us supplement SAFE Obstetrics training in Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Nepal, India, and Bangladesh with Lifebox Pulse Oximetry training and the distribution of over **100 Lifebox pulse oximeters**.

As part of the Safe Surgery 2020 programme, Essential Anaesthesia Kits have been distributed to over **30 rural health facilities**.

The WFSA's Essential Anaesthesia Kits include pulse oximeters as well as other patient monitoring equipment such as blood pressure monitors, capnographs and airway management equipment.

“The Essential Anaesthesia Kits have improved the confidence of anaesthesia providers as they now feel more comfortable in difficult intubations as they can use bougies to insert ETTs (endotracheal tubes). There have been no anaesthetic complications observed due to lack of equipment due to items included in the essential anaesthesia kits.

Johaphes Josiah, Non-physician anaesthesia provider, Tanzania

As part of the Safe Surgery 2020 programme, Essential Anaesthesia Kits have been distributed to over 30 rural health facilities in Cambodia, Ethiopia, and Tanzania to complement SAFE Obstetrics training delivered by the WFSA. All facilities have also received training on equipment use and maintenance and anaesthesia providers have been mentored by WFSA SAFE Fellows (qualified anaesthesiologists and SAFE trainers).





Lifebox

WFSA is a 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 providers across the globe, Lifebox has distributed more than **28,000 pulse oximeters** and supported **163 pulse oximetry workshops**.

Lifebox also piloted and rolled out Clean Cut - its surgical site infection (SSI) reduction programme - across **15 hospitals** in Ethiopia. The results, published in the British Journal of Surgery in September 2020, show a reduction in the risk of SSIs by 35%.

Since its founding in 2011, Lifebox has:

- Worked in over **116 countries**
- Trained more than **10,000 healthcare providers**
- Made surgery safer for **33 million patients**

Global COVID-19 Response

Since 2020, Lifebox has prioritised supporting its global network to respond to COVID-19 by developing tools and resources for safe surgical, anaesthesia and COVID-19 care.

The Lifebox pulse oximeter is at the heart of this response. Pulse oximeters are a crucial tool in safe anaesthesia and the management of COVID-19 patients. Lifebox has distributed more than **6,500 oximeters** to frontline providers across **43 countries** during COVID.

Lifebox has also worked to reduce the risk of infection to surgical teams, providing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and developing guidelines for its safe reuse.

In partnership with WFSA and Smile Train, Lifebox developed the COVID-19 Surgical Patient Checklist, a communication tool that provides prompts to surgical teams to perform key infection prevention strategies during an operation and is supported by an online Train-the-Trainer workshop.



Lifebox responded rapidly to COVID-19. In the absence of good testing, being able to have a pulse oximeter on the finger of a person with a cough and detect those with low oxygen levels has proven to be incredibly important across the world. With 6,500 pulse oximeters distributed thus far, work continues apace - with Lifebox doing incredible things at scale.

Dr. Atul Gawande, Lifebox Chair



WORKING TOGETHER



Supporting and connecting our members is at the heart of our Working Together programme. As a Federation we work collaboratively with our membership to collectively strengthen our Member Societies and the health systems they work in.

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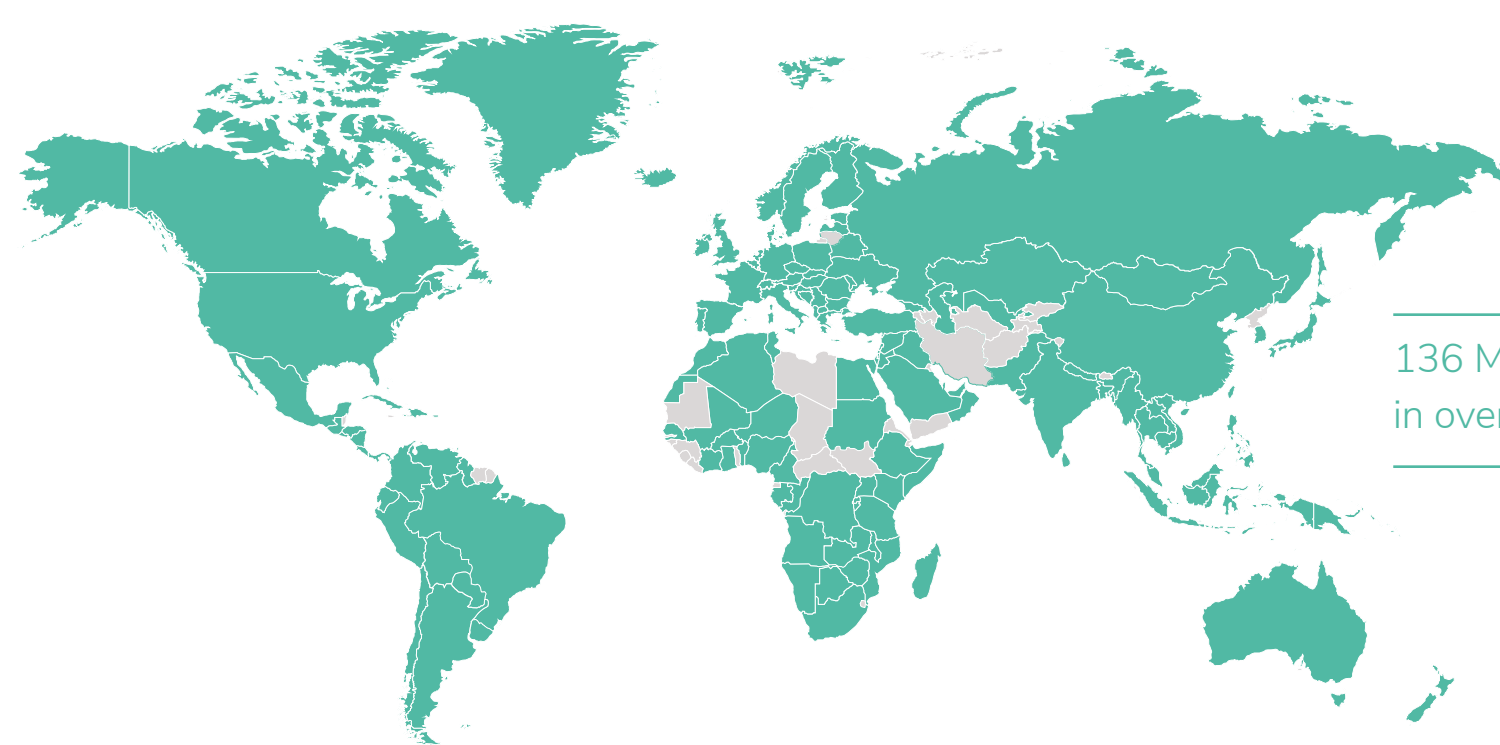


Our members

WFSA is the leading global network of anaesthesiologists, drawing together the expertise and knowledge of hundreds of thousands of anaesthesiologists in our **136 Member Societies in over 150 countries**. It is this wide reach and the diversity of our Federation that makes the WFSA a unique organisation, leading the way in promoting safe anaesthesia and perioperative care on a global scale.

The 2021 Board members

- **President:** Professor Adrian Gelb (USA)
- **President-Elect:** Dr Wayne Morriss (New Zealand)
- **Secretary:** Professor Daniela Filipescu (Romania)
- **Treasurer:** Professor Davy Cheng (Canada)
- **Director of Partnerships:** Professor Walid Habre (Switzerland)
- **Director of Programmes:** Dr Carolina Haylock-Loor (Honduras)
- **Annually elected Council member:** Dr Bisola Onajin-Obembe (Nigeria)
- **Annually elected Council member:** Professor Christina Lundgren-Steele (South Africa)



136 Member Societies
in over 150 countries.

We are very grateful for the engagement, positivity and generosity of our Member Societies, Board, Council and Committee members which has allowed us to continue growing as an organisation and improving anaesthesia in every region of the world.

WFSA Council

Since 2017, **59 experts** from **29 countries** have guided the work of the WFSA through their membership and support of WFSA's Council. The Council gives advice and recommendations on policy and subjects of common interest to the Federation.

WFSA Committees

Since 2017, **138 experts** from **68 countries** have donated their time and expertise to at least one of **WFSA's 12 Committees**. WFSA Committees provide the main source of support, expertise and guidance for programmes and activities. Members must be experts in the area of interest relevant to the respective Committee.



Member Society in focus

By Natalie Zimmelman, CEO, SASA.

The South African Society of Anaesthesiologists (SASA)

SASA represents over 90% of the country's anaesthesia providers. Our **2,400 plus members** include specialist and non-specialist anaesthesia providers, nurses and trainees. SASA seeks to enhance the quality and safety of anaesthesia practice and ensure the sustainability of the profession through programmes that range from wellness in anaesthesia to workforce diversity.

SASA works within a challenging environment with a weak and fragmented national healthcare system that includes less than **3 anaesthesiologists per 100 000 population** and an extremely low nursing capacity.

Given the environment and that SASA is a relatively small organisation, this has meant that the support and guidance of our international colleagues have been critical. These relationships are highly valued and have contributed significantly to our successes.

Our membership of WFSA is fundamentally important to us and focuses on **four main areas**.

1. Education

SASA and WFSA collaborate on projects to enhance skills within South Africa and on the African continent. Over the last four years, this has included the delivery of two SAFE Paediatric training programmes and a series of courses that has trained local facilitators to run training programmes in their own hospitals. We are currently working on introducing SAFE Obstetric programmes.

2. Collaboration

SASA's participation in WFSA's committees and projects strengthens our profession both nationally and internationally. Consistent and globally coordinated collaborations enable SASA to unite and calibrate its voice with other WFSA Member Societies, providing international legitimacy and weight to our national messaging.

3. Networking

The relationships established through WFSA and its Africa Regional Section are invaluable. WFSA's networks assist us in enabling much-needed unification and connection with often isolated African countries, many of whom are without specialist care.

4. Advocacy

We believe it is vital that anaesthesia is central to the global health discourse and WFSA is our profession's international voice. We believe WFSA is doing a tremendous job, far superseding what would be expected for our profession, relative to its representative size in healthcare.



WHY JOIN SASA?

SASA GIVES YOU STRENGTH IN NUMBERS



#1

SASA is the #1 team for:

- Patient-centred ethical advocacy
- Clinical autonomy
- Stakeholder engagement

SASA GIVES YOU:

A say in decisions that impact your career **YES!**

A powerful **lobbying platform** for patient care and safety, and better working conditions for you

The benefit of peer experience, support and review

Clinical data registry through Safe Surgery South Africa

Hands on help:

Audit advice, engagement with funders, patient complaints and queries, drugs and drug shortages, guidelines, RWOPS etc. in both the public and private sectors

SASA REPRESENTS YOUR INTERESTS IN POLICY MATTERS

1. National Department of Health (NDoH) and Regulators

2. Funders and Administrators

3. Facilities (public and private)

SASA INVESTS IN EDUCATION, TRAINING AND UPSKILLING

 Anaesthetic Nurse development

 Outreach projects

 Enabling ways to fund more research

 • PhD grants
• Jan Pretorius Research Fund supports non-PhD research projects
• AbbVie Scholarship for Registrars and Medical Officers

ANNUAL CONGRESS: COME TOGETHER

Congress is a power networking and learning event with speakers from around the world

100% of Congress surplus go to:

SA's 8 university departments

The host branch

The SASA research fund



Member Societies

WFSA is a federation of 136 Member Societies. We are honoured to be able to represent a truly global federation.

- Albanian Society of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care
- Société Algérienne d'Anesthésie
- Associação de Anestesia da Republica de Angola
- Federación Argentina de Asociaciones de Anestesia, Analgesia y Reanimación
- Australian Society of Anaesthetists
- Österreichische Gesellschaft für Anesthesiologie, Reanimation und Intensivmedizin
- Bangladesh Society of Anaesthesiologists, Critical Care and Pain Physicians
- Belarusian Society of Anaesthetists and Experts in Resuscitation
- Society for Anesthesia and Resuscitation of Belgium
- Société d'Anesthésie-Reanimation du Benin
- Sociedad Boliviana de Anestesiología, Reanimación y Dolor
- Association of Anesthesiologists and Reanimatologists of FBiH
- Botswana Society of Anaesthetists
- Sociedade Brasileira de Anestesiologia
- Society of Anaesthesiologists, Brunei Darussalam
- Bulgarian Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Societe d'Anesthesie Reanimation et Medecine d'Urgence du Burkina
- Agora des Techniciens Supérieurs Anesthésistes Réanimateurs pour la Promotion de
- Cambodia Society of Anaesthetists
- Société Camerounaise d'Anesthesie Reanimation
- Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society
- Sociedad de Anestesiología de Chile
- Chinese Society of Anesthesiology
- Taiwan Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Sociedad Colombiana de Anestesiología y Reanimación
- Société Congolaise d'Anesthésie Réanimation Urgences
- Asociación de Médicos Anestesiólogos de Costa Rica
- Croatian Association of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine
- Sociedad Cubana de Anestesiología y Reanimación
- Anaesthesiology Society Cyprus
- Czech Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine
- Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Society of Democratic Republic of Congo
- Danish Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine
- Sociedad Dominicana de Anestesiología
- Sociedad Ecuatoriana de Anestesiología
- Egyptian Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Asociación de Médicos Anestesiólogos de El Salvador
- Estonian Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Ethiopian Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Finnish Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Société Française d'Anesthésie et de Réanimation
- Societe Gabonaise d'Analgesie, Anesthesie, Reanimation et de Medecin
- Georgian Society of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Anaesthesiologie und Intensivmedizin e.V.
- Ghana Anaesthetist Society
- Hellenic Society of Anaesthesiology
- Asociacion Guatemalteca de Anestesiologia, Reanimación y Tratamiento del Dolor
- Guyana Anesthesiologist Society
- Société Haitienne d'Anesthésiologie
- Sociedad Hondureña de Anestesiología, Reanimación y Dolor
- Society of Anaesthetists of Hong Kong
- Hungarian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Therapy
- Icelandic Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine
- Indian Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Indonesian Society of Anesthesiologists and Intensive Therapy
- Iraqi Society for Anaesthesia, Intensive Care & Pain Medicine
- Israel Society of Anesthesiologists
- Società Italiana di Anestesia Analgesia Rianimazione e Terapia Intensiva
- Société Ivoirienne d'Anesthésie-Réanimation
- Japanese Society of Anesthesiologists
- Jordan Society of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care
- Republican Social Union Federation of Anaesthesiologists & Reanimatologists (Kazakhstan)
- Kenya Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Saudi Anaesthesia Society
- Korean Society of Anesthesiologists
- Association of Kosovar Anaesthesiologists
- Lao Society of Anesthesiologists
- Association of Anaesthesiologists-Reanimatologists of Latvia
- Lebanese Society of Anesthesiologists
- Societe d'Anesthesie-Reanimation De Madagascar
- Society of Anaesthesiologists Malawi
- Malaysian Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Maldives Anaesthesiologists Association
- Société d'Anesthésie, Réanimation et Médecine d'Urgence du Mali
- Association of Anaesthesiologists of Malta
- Association of Anaesthesiologists of Mauritius
- Federacion Mexicana de Colegios de Anestesiologia A.C.
- Micronesia Anesthesia Society



- Society of Anaesthesia and Reanimatology of the Republic of Moldova
- Mongolian Society of Anesthesiologists
- Moroccan Society of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care
- Associação de Anestesiologistas de Moçambique
- Myanmar Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Anaesthesiologists Society of Namibia
- Society of Anaesthesiologists of Nepal
- Nederlandse Vereniging voor Anesthesiologie
- New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists
- Asociación Nicaraguense de Anestesiología y Reanimación
- Societe Nigerienne d'Anesthesie, de Reanimation et de Medecine d'Urgence
- Nigerian Society of Anaesthetists
- Macedonia Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Norsk Anestesiologisk Forening
- Oman Society of Anesthesia and Critical Care
- Pacific Society of Anaesthetists
- Pakistan Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Palestinian Society of Anaesthesia & Intensive Care
- Sociedad Panameña de Anestesiología
- Society of Anaesthetists of Papua New Guinea
- Sociedad Paraguaya de Anestesiología
- Sociedad Peruana de Anestesia, Analgesia y Reanimación
- Philippine Society of Anaesthesiologists

- Polish Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Therapy
- Sociedade Portuguesa de Anestesiologia
- Romanian Society of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care
- Federation of Anaesthesiologists and Reanimatologists (Russia)
- Rwanda Society of Anesthesiologists
- Société Sénégalaise d'Anesthésie-Réanimation et de Médecine d'Urgence
- Serbian Association of Anaesthesiologists and Intensivists
- Singapore Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Slovak Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Medicine
- Slovenian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine
- Somali Society of Anaesthesiologists
- South African Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Sociedad Española de Anestesiología, Reanimación y Terapéutica del Dolor
- College of Anaesthesiologists and Intensivists of Sri Lanka
- Association of Anesthesiologists and Reanimatologists of Republic of Srpska
- Sudanese Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Swedish Society for Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine
- Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Anästhesiologie und Reanimation SGAR

- Syrian Society of Anesthesiologists
- Society of Anaesthesiologists of Tanzania
- Royal College of Anesthesiologists of Thailand
- The Trinidad & Tobago Anaesthetists Association
- Société Tunisienne d'Anesthésie et de Réanimation
- Turkish Anaesthesiology and Reanimation Society
- Association of Anaesthesiologists of Uganda
- Ukrainian Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Society of Anaesthesia, Critical Care and Pain Medicine of United Arab Emirates
- Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland
- American Society of Anesthesiologists
- Sociedad de Anestesiología del Uruguay
- Uzbekistan Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care
- Vietnam Society of Anaesthesiologists
- Society of Anaesthetists of Zambia
- Zimbabwe Anaesthetic Association





Uniting for Oxygen Appeal

In February 2021, recognising the devastating impact that COVID-19 would have on the already short supply of oxygen therapy in many low and middle income countries' (LMIC) hospitals, WFSA launched the Uniting for Oxygen Appeal. Nearly half of all hospitals in LMICs have an inconsistent or no supply of oxygen. This means that every year, hundreds of thousands of people die from hypoxemia – a low level of oxygen in the blood – because oxygen therapy is not available.

Working with Member Societies from across Africa and the WFSA Africa Regional Section, hospitals in Nigeria and Zimbabwe were identified as experiencing the most severe oxygen therapy shortages at that time.

The aim of the appeal was to raise £100,000 to provide life-saving oxygen therapy equipment with every pound being matched by WFSA.

WFSA called on the global anaesthesia community and others to support this fundraising appeal and has already secured enough funds to send the first container to Zimbabwe.

“The training that I have undergone is especially relevant during the COVID pandemic and the stresses this has put on oxygen supplies within my hospital. The training will help advance my biomedical engineering knowledge and provide better services to the patients. This equipment saves lives, so I'm very proud that myself and my team are now better able to keep it properly serviced and functioning.

Reggie Tembo, Senior Hospital Equipment Technician, PMD Equipment Office, Manicaland, Zimbabwe.

The selected hospitals will receive:

- **300 x 5** litre oxygen concentrators
- **150** Lifebox pulse oximeters
- **15** emergency bags
- **30** generators
- **15** renowned biomedical engineering training courses developed by our appeal partners Medical Aid International.





World Congress of Anaesthesiologists

The World Congresses of Anaesthesiologists (WCA) is the foremost global gathering of experts interested in learning, networking and engaging in open dialogue on important topics in the field of anaesthesia.

For the WFSA, with its membership of **136 national societies** representing hundreds of thousands of anaesthesiologists worldwide, the WCA is a major component of its work to unite the specialty and advocate for improved access to safe anaesthesia and perioperative care.

Dubbed the “Olympics of Anaesthesia”, WCA is the largest, most comprehensive global anaesthesia congress.

The World Congress of Anaesthesiologists (WCA) typically occurs every four years and WFSA partners with the local host Society to sponsor the meeting. Unfortunately, due

to COVID-19, the 2020 meeting which was to be held in Prague was postponed. In light of the ongoing impact of COVID on international travel, WFSA and organisers made the decision to move to an entirely virtual World Congress of Anaesthesiologists to be held **September 1-5, 2021**.

By going online, the 17th WCA will be the most accessible and affordable World Congress ever held.

WCA 2021 in Numbers

- Delegates from more than **130** countries
- **24** scientific tracks
- **200+** hours of education
- **400+** international speakers
- **26** Problem Based Learning Discussions
- **9** Meet-the-Expert sessions
- **14** Workshops
- **9** Guest Sessions
- **11+** Industry Sessions



Organisers expect to welcome several thousand delegates drawn from more than **130 countries**, with **160 sessions** spread across **24 scientific tracks** resulting in over **47 hours of live streaming** all available at a click of a button.

Regional Congresses

A number of Regional Congresses were cancelled or postponed in 2020 and early 2021 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Upcoming Congresses include:

- **Africa:** All Africa Anaesthesia Conference (Rwanda 2022)
- **Asia Australasia:** Asian and Oceanic Society of Regional Anaesthesia and Pain Management Conference & AORA National Conference (India 2022)
- **Central and South America:** CLASA (Bolivia 2022)
- **Europe:** Euroanaesthesia (Germany 2021)
- **Middle East:** Pan Arab Congress of Anaesthesia, Intensive Care & Pain Management (Lebanon 2021)
- **South Asia:** SAARC AA (India 2021)



PARTNERSHIPS



A workforce led theory of change is shared by both the WFSA and its partners, and this has included training both Physician Anaesthesia Providers, and Non-Physician Anaesthesia Providers.

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Global Impact Partners

WFSA works with Global Impact Partners, namely the Laerdal Foundation, Masimo and Assist International, to deliver anaesthesia patient safety programmes at scale.

Over the past five years, the results of these partnerships have been far-reaching, with significant contributions being made to health system strengthening in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Nepal, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Through its Global Impact Partnerships, the WFSA has been able to develop the skills, knowledge and behaviours of the anaesthesia workforce, transforming services provision by promoting best practice in anaesthesia and improving health outcomes for patients.

A workforce led theory of change is shared by both the WFSA and its partners, and this has included training both Physician Anaesthesia Providers, and Non-Physician Anaesthesia Providers, depending on the workforce composition and needs within each country.



Laerdal Foundation

WFSA's five year relationship with the Laerdal Foundation has led to the training of anaesthesia providers in Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Bangladesh, Nepal, and India. Through the 'Better Births – Safer Births' initiative anaesthesia providers were trained in obstetric anaesthesia through Safer Anaesthesia From Education (SAFE) and Vital Anaesthesia Simulation Training (VAST) courses.

VAST focuses on strengthening the non-technical skills of the whole surgical team through Simulation Based Education.

In 2020, the WFSA was fortunate to secure continued funding from the Laerdal Foundation, for the development of the Utstein Metrics.



Masimo

The partnership with Masimo has seen a range of anaesthesia and surgical training courses delivered in Telangana, India, including

- SAFE Obstetrics
- SAFE Paediatrics
- VAST
- Global Regional Anaesthesia Curriculum Engagement
- Primary Trauma Care.

Since the inception of this Global Impact Partnership in 2016, strong links have been developed with the Indian Society of Anaesthesiologists, allowing for the development of the Anaesthesia Facility Assessment Tool, which is now used widely, and the participation of Scholars from India in regional and global congresses including the World Congress of Anaesthesiologists in 2021.

The WFSA is excited about the potential of the Masimo partnership moving forward.



GE Foundation

Safe Surgery 2020, was a multi-partner initiative seed funded by the GE Foundation, including funding to WFSA via Assist International as a Global Impact Partner. Through the Safe Surgery 2020 initiative, the WFSA trained anaesthesia providers in Tanzania and Cambodia in SAFE obstetrics to improve health outcomes for mothers and newborns. Following the success of this project WFSA continues to work in Tanzania and Cambodia building on the strong relationships engendered by the Safe Surgery 2020 initiative.

The WFSA exceeded expectations during this project by delivering more courses than originally planned.

The WFSA looks forward to continuing these relationships as an effective means to improve anaesthesia and surgical safety.



Current partners

Support from these organisations has enabled the WFSA to expand our vital education and training programmes around the world.





Former partners

WFSA would like to thank our former partners below for the support they have provided to safe anaesthesia and global health.





FINANCE



Analysis of return on investment indicates that WFSA provides a return of around \$10 for every \$1 invested in the organisation by its membership.

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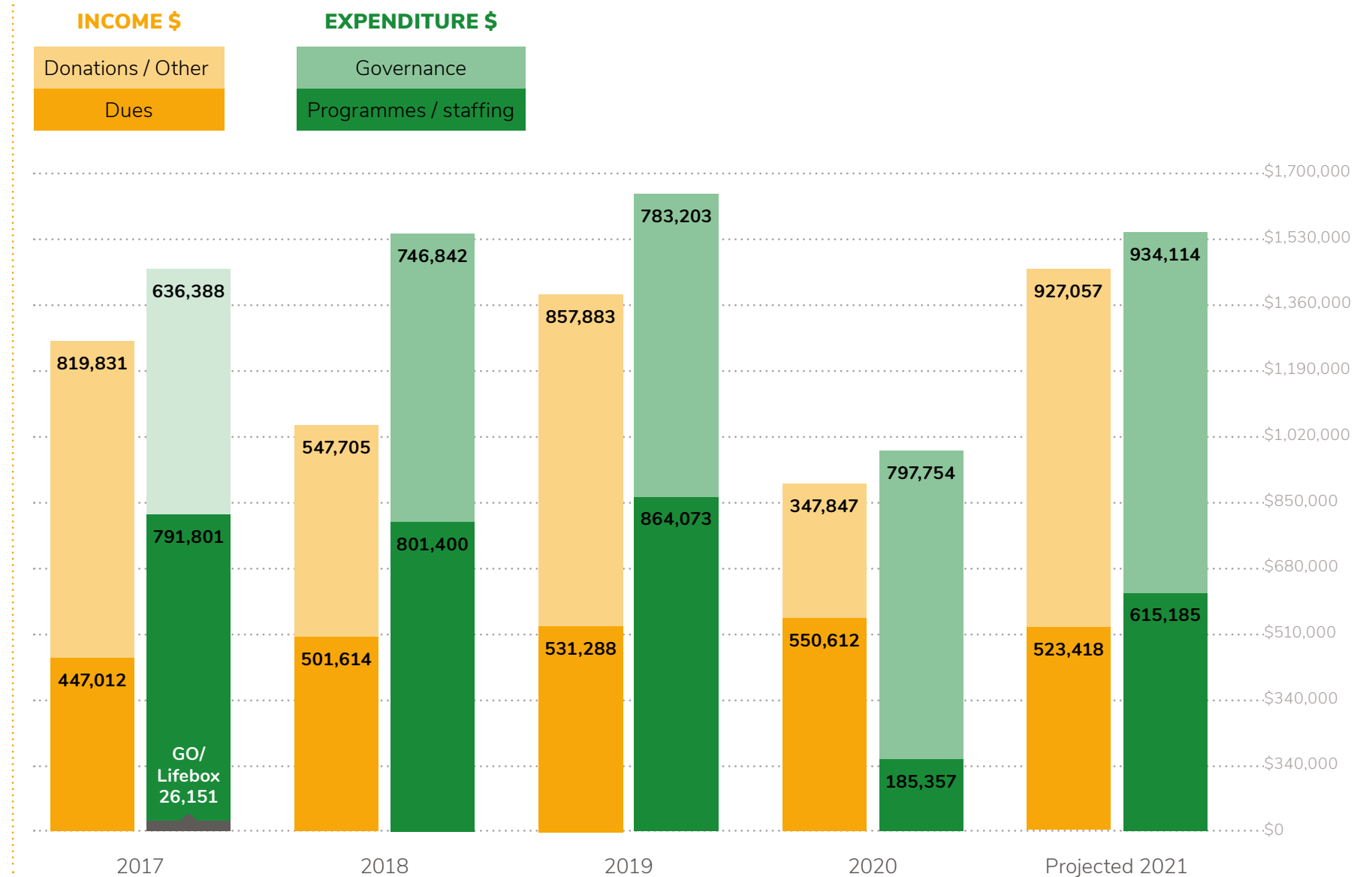


Return on investment

WFSA is extremely grateful to the dedicated cohort of clinicians who enable WFSA to function efficiently and deliver its programmes globally. Conservative estimates of the combined value of volunteer time utilised by the WFSA to support its robust governance and training programmes equates to over USD **\$12 million** of professional time since 2017.

Volunteering their time and expertise free of charge, the physicians and trainers who act as teachers/mentors and convenors at WFSA training centres have donated an estimated **\$8 million** in time in since 2017.

WFSA's Council and Committee members volunteer their expertise to help shape and direct the programmes that WFSA deliver. These highly experienced and internationally renowned anaesthesiologists have contributed an estimated **\$4 million** in time since 2017.





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