



NURSING'S VOICE AND VALUE

2018

ANNUAL REPORT

THE INTERNATIONAL
COUNCIL OF NURSES





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THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES

The **International Council of Nurses (ICN)** is a federation of more than 130 national nurses associations (NNAs), representing more than 20 million of nurses worldwide. Founded in 1899, ICN is the world's first and widest reaching international organisation for health professionals. Operated by nurses and leading nurses internationally, ICN works to ensure quality nursing care for all, sound health policies globally, the advancement of nursing knowledge, and the presence worldwide of a respected nursing profession and a competent and satisfied nursing workforce.

ICN's ever-increasing networks and connections to people reinforce the importance of strong linkages with national, regional and international nursing and non-nursing organisations. Building positive relationships internationally helps position ICN, nurses and nursing for now and the future. Our work with the specialised agencies of the United Nations system, particularly with the World Health Organization, the International Labour Organisation and the World Bank, are important for nurses everywhere. In addition, we work closely with a range of international non-governmental organisations.

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1899-2019

**120 YEARS OF EXISTENCE
FOR ICN**

MESSAGE FROM THE ICN PRESIDENT

The International Council of Nurses (ICN) represents the voice of nurses around the world. We influence health, social and economic policy at country, regional and global level through the sharing of evidence and best practice. This annual report provides an opportunity to reflect on our core mission of representing nursing worldwide, advancing the profession and influencing health policy.

These are exciting times for ICN and the profession of nursing. The launch of the Nursing Now campaign means that nurses are speaking out on a global scale. The appointment of a Chief Nursing Officer at the World Health Organization (WHO), and ICN's key work at the World Health Assembly and on other WHO Committees mean that we have representation at the highest decision-making tables for global health. The appointments of ICN presidents, myself and Dr Judith Shamian, on key high-level Commissions mean that we have a direct line of influencing policy. In 2018, our leadership programmes enabled many more nurses to develop the leadership skills they need to become influencers, and our projects have extended our capacity to deliver initiatives addressing the Sustainable Development Goals; provide global platforms for ICN to synergise with other organisations to deliver access to specialised knowledge and research on key nursing and health topics; and support programmatic activity on today's critically important global health issues. And, of course our many events – regional and endorsed conferences, workforce forums, NNA meetings, regulation and credentialing forums and our Triad meetings with WHO and the International Federation of Midwives – continue to bring nurses together to share best practices, learn from each other and build strong relationship within as well as outside of the profession.

But despite these exciting achievements, we must recognise that nursing is facing numerous challenges. Many nurses work to deliver safe care in remote regions, in conflict areas, without adequate resources or protection. They face shortages, recruitment and retention issues, heavy workloads and low wages. However, I believe that there is a growing recognition at a global level of the importance of nurses in meeting 21st century health challenges. Together, we must increase the profile of nurses and highlight the value of nursing work in maintaining a healthy society which is intricately linked to a productive economy.

We continue to work extremely closely with our National Nursing Association members and our partner organisations, without whom we would not have been able to achieve so much over this past year. I would like to thank Jhpiego, CGFNS, Johnson & Johnson, the World Bank, Nursing Now and many others for helping ICN to advance the profession of nursing. Thank you for your support!

As we look ahead to the future, and all the exciting opportunities to come, we are pleased to share with you this overview of our objectives and achievements over the past year.

I hope to see many of you at our ICN Congress 2019 in Singapore!



Annette Kennedy
President
International Council of Nurses

2019 CONGRESS

WILL TAKE PLACE FROM 27 JUNE
TO 1 JULY IN SINGAPORE

ICN MEMBERS

ICN IS A FEDERATION OF OVER 130 NATIONAL NURSES ASSOCIATIONS, REPRESENTING MILLIONS OF NURSES WORLDWIDE. WE WORK DIRECTLY WITH THESE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS ON ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO THE NURSING PROFESSION.

There is no individual membership to ICN. Nurses who are part of their national nurses' association (NNAs) are automatically part of ICN. Member NNAs may be professional associations, unions, regulatory authorities or organisations that undertake a combination of these functions.

- Collegi d'Infermeres i Llevadores d'Andorra
- Associação Nacional de Enfermeiros de Angola
- Federación Argentina de Enfermería
- Aruba Nurses Association (ODEA)
- Australian College of Nursing
- Österreichischer Gesundheits- und Krankenpflegeverband, Austria
- Nurses Association of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas
- Bahrain Nursing Society
- Bangladesh Nurses Association
- Barbados Nurses Association
- Fédération Nationale des Infirmières de Belgique (FNIB)
- Nurses Association of Belize
- Bermuda Nurses' Association
- Colegio de Enfermeras de Bolivia
- Botswana Nurses Union
- Conselho Federal de Enfermagem, Brazil
- Bulgarian Association of Health Professionals in Nursing
- Association Professionnelle des Infirmiers/ères du Burkina
- Canadian Nurses Association
- Colegio de Enfermeras de Chile
- Chinese Nursing Association
- Asociación Nacional de Enfermeras de Colombia
- Ordre National des Infirmiers République Démocratique du Congo
- Cook Islands Nurses Association
- Colegio de Enfermeras de Costa Rica
- Croatian Nurses Association
- Sociedad Cubana de Enfermería
- Cyprus Nurses and Midwives Association
- Danish Nurses' Organization
- Asociación Dominicana de Enfermeras Graduadas
- East Timor Nurses Association
- Federación Ecuatoriana de Enfermeras/os
- Egyptian Nurses Syndicate
- Eritrean Nurses Association
- Estonian Nurses Union
- Ethiopian Nurses Association
- Fiji Nursing Association
- Finnish Nurses Association
- Association of Nurses and Midwives of Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Association Nationale Française des Infirmiers et Infirmières Diplômés et Etudiants
- National Association of Gambia Nurses & Midwives
- DBfk - Bundesverband (German Nurses Association)
- Ghana Registered Nurses Association
- Hellenic Nurses Association - Greece
- Grenada Nurses Association INC.
- Asociación Guatemalteca de Enfermeras Profesionales
- Guyana Nurses Association
- Association Nationale des Infirmières Licenciées d'Haïti
- Colegio de Profesionales de Enfermería de Honduras
- College of Nursing Hong Kong
- Hungarian Nursing Association
- Icelandic Nurses Association
- Indian Nursing Council
- Persatuan Parawat Nasional Indonesia
- Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation



- Iranian Nursing Organization
- National Association of Nurses in Israel
- Consociazione Nazionale delle Associazioni Infermiere-Infermieri, Italia
- Nurses Association of Jamaica
- Japanese Nursing Association
- Jordan Nurses and Midwives Council
- National Nurses Association of Kenya
- Korean Nurses Association
- Kuwait Nursing Association
- Order of Nurses in Lebanon
- Lesotho Nursing and Midwifery Organization
- Liberia Nurses Association
- Lithuanian Nurses Association
- Association Nationale des Infirmiers & Infirmières Luxembourgeois
- Nurses Association of Macau
- National Organisation of Nurses and Midwives of Malawi
- Malaysian Nurses Association
- Malta Union of Midwives & Nurses
- Mauritius Nursing Association
- Colegio Nacional de Enfermeras, A.C., Mexico
- Federación Mexicana de Colegios de Enfermería, AC (FEMCE)
- Association Nationale des Infirmières de Monaco
- Mongolian Nurses Association
- National Association of Nurses and Midwives of Montenegro
- Association Marocaine des Sciences Infirmières et Techniques Sanitaires
- Associação Nacional dos Enfermeiros de Mozambique
- Myanmar Nurses and Midwives Association
- Namibian Nurses Association
- Nursing Association of Nepal
- NU' 91, Netherlands
- New Zealand Nurses' Organisation
- Asociación de Enfermeras Nicaragüenses
- National Association of Nigeria Nurses and Midwives
- Norwegian Nurses Organisation
- Pakistan Nurses Federation
- Palestinian Nursing and Midwifery Association
- Asociación Nacional de Enfermeras de Panamá
- Asociación Paraguaya de Enfermeras
- Colegio de enfermeros del Perú
- Philippine Nurses Association
- Polskie Towarzystwo Pielęgniarskie, Poland
- Ordem dos Enfermeiros - Portugal
- Romanian Nursing Association
- The Order of Nurses, Midwives and Medical Assistants in Romania
- Russian Nurses Association
- Rwanda Nurses and Midwives Association
- Asociación Nacional de Enfermeras de El Salvador
- Samoa Registered Nurses Association, Inc.
- Associação Nacional dos Enfermeiros y parteiros de São Tomé e Príncipe
- Association Nationale des Infirmiers et Infirmières d'Etat du Sénégal (ANIIDES)
- Association of Health Workers of Serbia
- Nurses Association of the Republic of Seychelles
- Sierra Leone Nurses Association
- Singapore Nurses' Association
- Nurses and Midwives Association of Slovenia
- Solomon Islands Nurses Association
- Democratic Nursing Organization of South Africa
- Organización Colegial de Enfermería, Spain
- Sri Lanka Nurses Association
- St. Lucia Nurses Association
- St. Vincent & The Grenadines Nurses Association
- Suriname Nurses Association
- Swaziland Nurses Association



- Swedish Association of Health Professionals
- Association Suisse des Infirmières/Infirmiers
- Taiwan Nurses Association
- Tanzania National Nurses' Association
- Nurses Association of Thailand
- Association nationale des infirmiers/ères du Togo
- Tonga Nurses Association
- Trinidad & Tobago Registered Nurses Association
- Turkish Nurses Association
- Uganda Nurses & Midwives Union
- Emirates Nursing Association
- American Nurses Association, Inc.
- Colegio de Enfermeras del Uruguay
- Zambia Union of Nurses Organization
- Zimbabwe Nurses Association
- Polskie Towarzystwo Pielęgniarskie, Poland
- The Order of Nurses, Midwives and Medical Assistants in Romania
- Asociación Nacional de Enfermeras de El Salvador
- Association Nationale des Infirmiers et Infirmières d'Etat du Sénégal (ANIIDES)
- Sierra Leone Nurses Association
- Solomon Islands Nurses Association
- Sri Lanka Nurses Association
- Suriname Nurses Association
- Association Suisse des Infirmières/Infirmiers
- Nurses Association of Thailand
- Trinidad & Tobago Registered Nurses Association
- Emirates Nursing Association
- Zambia Union of Nurses Organization

ICN REPRESENTS THE MORE THAN

20 MILLION

NURSES WORLDWIDE

GOVERNANCE

ICN IS GOVERNED BY A BOARD OF 14 DIRECTORS ELECTED ON THE BASIS OF ICN VOTING AREAS. THE BOARD SERVES AS THE AGENT OF THE COUNCIL OF NATIONAL NURSING ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES (CNR) AND CARRIES OUT POLICY CONSISTENT WITH THE FRAMEWORK ESTABLISHED BY THE CNR.

ICN BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017-2021

OFFICERS

Annette Kennedy (Ireland) President
Pamela Cipriano (USA) 1st Vice-President
Thembeke Gwagwa (South Africa) 2nd Vice President
Sung Rae Shin (South Korea) 3rd Vice President

MEMBERS

Fatima Al Rifai (United Arab Emirates)
Karen Bjoro (Norway)
Erika Caballero (Chile)
Lian-Hua Huang (Taiwan)
Marja Eulália Juvé (Spain)
Roswitha Koch (Switzerland)
Ioannis Leontiou (Cyprus)
Lisa Little (Canada)
Brigita Skela.Savic (Slovenia)
Wu Ying (China)





NURSING AND HEALTH POLICY

ENSURING THAT NURSES HAVE A VOICE IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF HEALTH POLICY IS FUNDAMENTAL TO ENSURING THESE POLICIES ARE EFFECTIVE AND MEET THE REAL NEEDS OF PATIENTS, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD.

OUR WORK

Nursing and Health Policy is at the centre of what we do. ICN works to develop and deepen our relationship with the World Health Organization (WHO) and in the following pages you will find numerous examples of this work. ICN has a particularly strong and close relationship with Elizabeth Iro, WHO's Chief Nursing Officer, who started her new position in January 2018. In October 2018, ICN, Nursing Now and WHO signed a Memorandum of Understanding to support and advance nursing; and we are working closely with Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus' – WHO Director General – who publicly recognises the importance of nursing and is committed to strengthening the profession. ICN continues to work with WHO on formal guideline development and advisory groups.

ICN'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

ICN explicitly seeks to align and integrate nursing with global health priorities. For the period 2017-2020, we have Identified several specific health topics priorities for a global focus and advancement. We work to influence the World Health Organization, and other high-level decision making bodies to ensure that nurses are part of the decision-making, policy-setting and implementation of national and international policies and strategies.

1. **Universal Health Coverage**
2. **Person Centred**
3. **Antimicrobial Resistance**
4. **Ageing**
5. **Immunisation**
6. **Human Resources**
7. **Mental Health**
8. **Non-communicable**
9. **Sustainable Development Goals**



UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

As the largest health profession in the world, nurses are critical to achieving Universal Health Coverage. UHC is an overarching topic that is addressed in many ICN projects and policy initiatives.

In 2018, ICN attended the 12th Biennial Conference and Meetings of the **Global Network of WHO Collaborating Centres for Nursing and Midwifery** in Australia, which gathered representatives from 44 WHO Collaborating Centres for Nursing and Midwifery across the six WHO global regions and provided many opportunities for discussions on the priorities and work plans of the network and for building successful relationships to work towards a common goal: 'Universal Health Coverage: Sustainable Development Goals are Everyone's Business'.

ICN formally endorsed the **Tokyo Declaration on Patient Safety** which was developed at the Third Global Ministerial Summit on Patient Safety held in Tokyo, Japan, 13-14 April 2018. The Japanese Nurses Association, who represented ICN at the Summit, [spoke on behalf of ICN](#) and stressed that nurses should be central to the design and operation of all health providers' patient safety systems and processes. ICN called for an appropriate number of nurses with a suitable mix of education, skills and experience available at all times across the continuum of care and urged governments to ensure funding is sufficient to deliver needs-based staffing.

ICN is a founding member of the **Global Rehabilitation Alliance** (GRA) which was launched in May 2018. The mission of the Alliance is to advocate for health systems strengthening to provide rehabilitation, as an integral component of Universal Health Coverage. As a founding member of the GRA, ICN commits to building strong nursing leadership for rehabilitation; to work towards developing a strong multidisciplinary rehabilitation workforce; and to work collaboratively with the other members of the Alliance to raise awareness and advocate for strengthened rehabilitation in health and social systems around the world.

ICN's President, Annette Kennedy, attended the **4th World Innovation Summit for Health** in Doha, Qatar where a [report](#) was launched on Nursing and Midwifery: The Key to the Rapid and Cost-Effective Expansion of High-Quality Universal Health Coverage. The report received special appreciation from Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director General, who said in the foreword to the report: "Nurses and midwives are at the heart of progress toward Universal Health Coverage and the Sustainable Development Goals. They are

GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON PRIMARY HEALTH CARE FROM ALMA-ATA TOWARDS UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

In 2018, the 40th Anniversary of the Declaration of Alma-Ata presented an opportunity to renew the global commitment to strengthening primary health care to achieve Universal Health Coverage and the Sustainable Development Goals. On 25-26 October 2018, the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF and the Ministry of Health of Kazakhstan held the Global Conference on Primary Health Care: from Alma-Ata towards Universal Health Coverage and the Sustainable Development Goals in Kazakhstan.

ICN played a key role in bringing the nursing voice to this landmark event. As a member of the International Advisory Group on Primary Health Care for Universal Health Coverage. We made a submission to the WHO public consultation on the draft declaration and released a **joint statement**, which called for an addition emphasizing the critical role of nurses and midwives in delivery of PHC. We also endorsed the Civil Society Statement which called on governments to strengthen political leadership and governance; improve financing; enhance accountability; and advance country-led solutions.

In preparation for the Conference, ICN attended the **Commonwealth of Independent States conference** in October 2018. This scientific pre-conference for the WHO European Region focused on the linkages between four integral themes to the prestige and continued innovation of primary health care: policy, research, education and practice.

During the Global Conference, ICN took part in the panel on *Who Needs to be in the Modern Primary Care Team to Achieve Universal Health Care* and in a parallel session on Empowering People at the Centre of Primary Health Care, speaking on *The Voice of Women, Nurses and Midwives*. In addition, ICN and Nursing Now made a joint statement, calling on governments to remove barriers that impede nurses to work to their full scope to achieve the vision set out in the **Astana Declaration**. The statement emphasized that appropriate remuneration and financial resources should be in place to support the nursing workforce.

not only essential for delivering health services; their experience and knowledge are also valuable assets in shaping health policy, and their voices deserve to be heard at the policymaking table."



PERSON-CENTRED CARE

The philosophical basis of nursing is a person-centred approach to health. A person-centred approach, a functional health system, the availability of an appropriately skilled workforce and addressing the issues of access are the critical building blocks for Universal Health Coverage.

In April 2018, ICN participated in the **11th Geneva Conference on Person-centred Medicine** at the Geneva University Hospital, organised by the International College of Person-centred Medicine (ICPCM) in collaboration with the World Medical Association (WMA) and other major international medical and health institutions. ICN presented on “Empowering the Inter-Professional Health Team” in a session on Empowerment and People-centred Care.

ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) endangers human health and the future of healthcare delivery and is considered one of the biggest threats to global health and human development. Nurses play a central role in patient care and interdisciplinary communication and, as such, are in a key position to contribute to reducing AMR.

ICN attended the **2018 International Global Health and Antimicrobial Resistance Workshop** organised by The World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) on 23 May in Geneva, which was focused on strategies, global action and partnerships to tackle this challenge. The WFPHA called on all governments, industry, NGOs, health professionals, public and private research organisations for integrated action on AMR and proposed the establishment of antibiotic efficacy as a global public good.

AGEING

According to the World Health Organization, there will be 1 billion people over 60 years of age in the world by 2020 and this number is projected to double to 2 billion by 2050. As the global population ages, there is a need to expand access to quality care so that people can live better as they live longer. Nursing plays a vital role in improving and maintaining the health of the older person. To foster attitudes, knowledge, and skills, maximize the functional ability of ageing populations, and support age-friendly supportive environments and public health policies, we must ensure the presence of an adequately skilled nursing workforce.

In 2018, ICN entered into an agreement with **EasyCare Academy** to expand access to quality care for older adults around the world. The goal of the collaboration is to create robust and accredited educational and training material for those working to provide care to older adults, either in home-based or institutional settings.

ICN participated in an expert group meeting convened by the International Federation on Ageing on adult vaccination and were invited to present on the role of nurses in vaccine education and delivery. The overall goal of the event and work being led by IFA is to improve the uptake rates of adult vaccination especially in at-risk populations such as older people and those with non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

IMMUNISATION

Vaccination is still one of the most successful and cost-effective treatment to guarantee the health and wellbeing of our populations and, as the frontline of healthcare, nurses are ideally placed to lead the way to ensure effective immunisation practices and coverage. ICN is strongly involved in the advocacy for immunisation as one of its priority areas and continues to work to support and strengthen immunisation programmes through enabling nurses to play a critical role in the administering of treatment. ICN works to ensure an adequately skilled workforce, improve vaccine supply and storage: increase effectiveness and efficiency of immunisation delivery; maintain and improve community confidence in immunisation programmes through the promotion of vaccine safety; improve immunisation coverage; and improve community health literacy related to immunisation.

In 2018, ICN called upon health systems to mobilize their nursing workforce in the effort to combat vaccine-preventable diseases. By providing nurses with the adequate training and competencies and by broadening their autonomy, countries can extend the reach of prevention programmes to their most vulnerable often found living in remote and deprived areas serviced solely by nurses.

With the generous support from Pfizer, ICN conducted a current state [survey](#) of 15 OECD representative countries to determine the current state of nursing's involvement in immunisation in their countries. The [results](#) showed that in countries with nurse prescribing for immunisations there was a significantly greater proportion of adults over 65 receiving the influenza vaccination and nurse preparedness also had a significant impact.

ICN participated in the informal discussion on the zero draft of the [WHO Roadmap on Access to Medicines and Vaccines 2019-2023](#). This is a key ICN priority given the central role that nurses play in medication administration, monitoring, surveillance, compliance and increasingly prescribing.

HUMAN RESOURCES FOR HEALTH

The health workforce is responsible for caring for the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities. Nursing forms the largest segment of the health care workforce and is the major player in achieving high quality, effective and efficient health care. Nurses are the backbone of the health care system and in the acute sector are the professionals who provide 24-hour care and support to patients. ICN believes an active and committed health workforce is a necessary prerequisite to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and achieving Universal Health Coverage.

SCALING-UP THE NURSING WORKFORCE

In 2018, ICN, the World Bank, Jhpiego and the East, Central and Southern Africa College of Nursing convened a consultation meeting with 15 Eastern, Central and Southern Africa (ECSA) countries to discuss and plan the **labour market and education system analysis of nursing and midwifery**. Discussions centred around ways in which to engage with nurse leaders representing government, regulatory bodies and associations from ECSA nations to build consensus and an action plan for investing in nursing education; to identify synergies with other regional initiatives; and to develop partnerships to implement and disseminate the results from the analytical work and an action plan for investments.

ICN attended the **6th Quadrennial General Meeting and the 13th Scientific Conference of the East, Central and Southern Africa College of Nursing (ECSACON)**. ICN's President, Annette Kennedy, spoke on the nursing and midwifery workforce taking a leadership role in the prevention and control of NCDs.

ICN led a session at the **Nursing Employment Issues Conference 2018** organised by the Royal College of Nursing, UK, focused on exploring how health systems and worldwide health institutes are responding to global health challenges based on international experience.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC WELFARE

ICN presented at the **Annual Delegates conference of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation**. A core focus of the conference was occupational health and safety issues for nurses and midwives. ICN's presentation, entitled "Caring for the Carers: an international perspective", highlighted the risks associated with the delivery of health care and focused on violence in the workplace, nursing in conflict areas, and nursing in times of epidemics.

19 MILLION

ACROSS THE GLOBE HAVE NO ACCESS TO VACCINES

In collaboration with ICN, the International Centre on Nurse Migration published two reports in 2018: one was a **Pay Data Analysis Report**, which showed that many nurses around the world have experienced a real terms' fall in their purchasing power over the past 10 years. The second was a **Policy Brief on Nurse Retention**, which focused on identifying which policies are effective in keeping nurses in work and practice. The report identified the cost, productivity, care quality, and workload and working condition impacts of nurses leaving organisations and the profession and provided an overview of the evidence base, and focuses on developing a framework approach for policy interventions aimed at improving nurse retention.

MIGRATION

ICN took part in panel discussion on **“Overseas recruitment and the global image of nursing”** at the Nursing Times Workforce Summit in London. This open discussion considered the international recruitment process, the implications of Brexit and how the process can be streamlined to improve the onboarding of nurses from overseas.

ICN also participated at the **Workshop on health workforce and health workforce migration** in Paris with representatives from 25 OECD countries, WHO and ILO on the migration and mobility of healthcare professionals around the globe. ICN's work in this area ensured nursing had a good profile at the event. This work also contributes to a major WHO report for 2020 on “The State of the World's Nursing”.

VIOLENCE AND CONFLICT

ICN is a member of the **Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC)** whose purpose is to promote respect for international humanitarian and human rights laws that relate to the safety and security of health facilities, health workers, ambulances and patients ensuring they are safe and secure during periods of armed conflict or civil violence.

ICN participated as a Scientific Committee member and panellist in the **6th International Conference on Violence in the Health Sector** in Toronto, Canada. With the theme “Advancing the Delivery of Positive Practice”, the conference provided a platform for all parties confronted with violence in healthcare to develop and implement positive practice in order to minimise violence.

ICN is closely involved in the **Health Care in Danger** project, which ultimately aims to make access to healthcare in situations of armed violence more secure. The project, which is led by International Committee of the Red Cross, aims to improve security and delivery of impartial and efficient healthcare in armed conflict and other emergencies.

ICN WORKFORCE FORUMS

Held annually and hosted by volunteer member NNAs., ICN's workforce forums aim to stimulate thinking, enhance learning and, ultimately, develop proactive strategies. The Forums also assist to maintain the relevance of ICN programmes and support international work.

In 2018, the College of Nursing Hong Kong (CNHK) and ICN co-hosted the **19th Asia Workforce Forum**, with the participation of 10 national nursing associations. Current challenging workforce issues, such as the retention of nurses, PHC and UHC and the nursing workforce, were discussed. Participants stressed that, despite slight overall increases in nurse staffing levels in some of their countries, the supply still does not meet the demand for health care. Nurses should be empowered and supported to take on collaborative leadership roles in inter-professional health care teams and participants urged all countries to instate a Chief Nursing Officer role. The participants of the Forum strongly supported the need for all countries to consider the growing evidence base on the cost effectiveness of nurses working in advanced roles and ensuring that there are no barriers to nurses working at the full extent of the scope of their practice.

2020

STATE OF THE WORLD'S NURSING
REPORT TO BE PUBLISHED

MENTAL HEALTH

WHO estimates that nearly two-thirds of people with a known mental health problem never seek help from a health professional. Stigma, discrimination and neglect prevent care and treatment from reaching people with mental disorders*. ICN is concerned about the lack of recognition of the health workforce role in the care, advocacy and leadership in dealing with mental health and NCDs. ICN is also concerned about the absence of consumers and the community in the development of policies, strategies or legislation related to mental health and NCDs. People-centred care and community engagement need to be front and centre in any future implementation plans.

ICN attended a session held by the UN NGO Committee on the **Mental health of migrants, refugees, and displaced persons**. ICN presented on the role of healthcare professionals in supporting the health of migrants, refugees, and displaced persons.

ICN took part in the congress of the Horatio European Psychiatric Nurses where we gave the keynote speech on Patient and Nurse Safety. An organisation representing **psychiatric and mental health nursing** organisations within Europe, Horatio is an active partner in discussions that influence European mental health issues with particular reference to the viewpoint of nurses.

ICN also attended the 10th mhGAP Forum which provided an opportunity for diverse stakeholders to discuss progress on **WHO's mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020** in countries and to exchange information on the implementation of the Plan.

* World Health Organization. *Mental disorders affect one in four people. 2018 [cited 2018 30 October]; Available from: https://www.who.int/whr/2001/media_centre/press_release/en/.*

NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

NCDs kill 15 million people between the ages of 30 and 69 each year. Low- and lower-middle income countries are particularly affected by NCDs with almost 50% of premature deaths from NCDs occurring in these countries. Nurses make an important contribution to tackling NCDs and, as the largest group of healthcare professionals, are the key providers of NCD prevention, treatment and management. Nurses, as the point of first contact, are well positioned to detect, treat and refer patients with NCDs as well as to provide information, education and counselling to the public on prevention of NCDs.

NCDs are a strategic priority area for ICN whose vision is to build the capacity and capability of the nursing profession to support global efforts to prevent, control and manage NCDs in all settings and service levels. ICN is working to ensure that nursing is engaged in international, national and country specific NCD Action Plans; strengthening nursing leadership and fostering of skills in intersectoral partnerships and health promotion; and improving community health literacy and self-management skills for people living with NCDs. ICN also recognises and advocates for ongoing development and recognition of advanced nursing practice.

15 MILLION

PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 30 AND 69 ARE KILLED BY NCDs EACH YEAR



ICN is a member of the [Global Coalition for Circulatory Health](#). Led by the World Heart Federation, this group brings together the cardiovascular disease community to reduce the global burden of heart disease and stroke through international advocacy and collective action.

ICN attended the **General Meeting of the WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (GCM/NCD)** which brought together GCM/NCD Participants representing Governments, the United Nations system, and non-State actors with the aim to cooperate at the local, national, regional and global levels to meet the NCD targets of the WHO Global NCD Action Plan and the NCD-related targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

ICN joined the Women Deliver Call to Action to [Prioritise Diabetes in Pregnancy to Save Lives, Improve Maternal Health, and Curb Intergenerational Transmission of NCDs](#). Diabetes in pregnancy is an under-recognized, under-prioritized health issue with significant implications for women, newborns, and children throughout their lives.

ICN attended the **WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) 8th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 8)**. The event concluded with a new strategy to accelerate tobacco control efforts and stronger transparency measures to counter tobacco industry interference.

WHO INDEPENDENT HIGH-LEVEL COMMISSION ON NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

ICN's President, Annette Kennedy, is a Commissioner on the WHO Independent High-Level Commission on Non-Communicable Diseases to advise the WHO Director General recommendations on how to transform new opportunities to enable countries to accelerate progress towards SDG target 3.4 on NCDs. ICN has been actively involved in providing recommendations to support the Commission, and strongly advocated for the inclusion of a nurse on the technical expert group. ICN also lobbied its members to take part in the web-based consultation which was held in May, in order to ensure the inclusion of nurses and the health workforce in the final report.

The final report of the Commission, [Time to Deliver: Accelerating our response to address NCDs for the health and well-being of present and future generations, was released in June 2018. It referred to models of care \(many of which are now nurse-led\), enabling nurses](#) to work to their full scope, recognising nurses' role in terms of health promotion, health literacy, disease prevention and management; it recognised the need for financial support and resources. The report also recognised "the 40 million health workers globally, including nurses and other members of the interdisciplinary team have an important role in advocating for the Commission's recommendations based on their extensive knowledge and experience and because of the trust placed in them by Governments and the public."

In September 2018, the United Nations General Assembly held the third High-level Meeting on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases. As part of our partnership with the **Global Coalition on Circulatory Health**, ICN worked on a [White Paper](#) which was presented at the High-Level Meeting. ICN attended the meeting which adopted the political declaration based on the recommendations of the WHO Commission. The declaration includes commitments to reduce NCD mortality by one third by 2030, and to scale-up funding and multi-stakeholder responses to treat and prevent NCDs.





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the United Nations in 2014 to replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). They contain 17 goals covering a broad range of sustainable development issues for the world, such as ending poverty, hunger, improving health and education, combating climate change, etc. Health has a central place in SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all ages, and clearly nursing has a major role to play in relation to SDG 3. But the work of nurses also has a major impact on the delivery of other SDGs such as education and poverty. While nurses seek to help people achieve their optimal health, our work frequently includes addressing many of the other SDGs and nurses understand the links between wider conditions and individual and population health. Nurses, as the primary providers of healthcare to all communities in all settings, are key to the achievement of the SDGs. In fact, if investment in the nursing profession is not made by governments and world leaders, we cannot succeed.

In April, ICN signed an agreement with Women Deliver to join the [Deliver for Good](#) campaign as an ally organisation. Deliver for Good is a global campaign that applies a gender lens to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and promotes 12 critical **investments in girls and women** to power progress for all.

ICN attended the **UN 62nd Commission on the Status of Women – Empowering Rural Women and Girls**, including a range of sessions focused on: ending violence against women and girls; the use of technology in improving the health of rural women and girls with a focus on NCDs; achieving the SDGs; investing in rural health workers; women in the media; and eliminating female genital mutilation. ICN also hosted a parallel event.

ICN participated as a member of the **Expert Advisory Group on the development of *Survive, Thrive and Transform: Care for Every Small and Sick Newborn***, a global advocacy and call to action document designed to galvanize greater attention to care for small and sick newborns. The document will make a case for small and sick newborn care in humanitarian settings and the need to link with Early Childhood Development efforts for follow-up screening and support of small and sick newborns for disabilities and developmental delays.

ICN also participated in the **“Every Newborn Action Plan”** Management Team Meeting at UNICEF. Discussions were held around progress towards 2020 ENAP National and Global Milestones; framing newborn health within the UHC and the SDG agenda; quality of care; and health workforce and education issues and needs.

ICN signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) with the **Childhood and Early Parenting Principles (CEPPs) Global Initiative** to collect and expand the knowledge base of scientific evidence and best practice in maternal and perinatal health and early childhood development and to share this knowledge; join forces with other health professionals, educational institutions and organisations involved in the field, to raise community awareness worldwide of the transformative potential of supporting maternal health and early childhood development for societies; and to provide capacity for professional education and a continuum-of-care for mothers and infants during the critical period.

ICN participated in an expert group with WHO, the International Pharmaceutical Federation, the World Medical Association, the World Federation for Medical Education and other key stakeholders to revise the chapter “Improving Medication Safety” in the **Patient Safety Curriculum Guide**. This chapter will be published separately and will be a joint publication by all organisations involved. Key suggestions for the update included greater emphasis on the patient’s role in medication use, the growing scope of practice and authority of nurses and interprofessional collaboration.

ICN attended a series of meeting at the WHO in Geneva focused on developing an **“Essential midwifery and neonatal nursing care education toolkit”**. These events aim to strengthen the quality of midwifery education in support of the implementation of the Global Strategy for Women, Newborns and Adolescent Health 2016-30 and the Global Strategy for HRH Workforce 2030.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

WORKING TOGETHER WITH TRUSTED PARTNERS, ICN IS IMPLEMENTING SEVERAL PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY FUNDING EXTERNAL TO OUR CORE BUDGET AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM A VARIETY OF ORGANISATIONS AND SECTORS.

These projects extend our capacity to deliver initiatives addressing the Sustainable Development Goals; provide global platforms for ICN to synergise with other organisations to deliver access to specialised knowledge and research on key nursing and health topics; and support programmatic activity on today's critically important global health issues.

ICN GLOBAL NURSING LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Policy and politics determine the health of populations and the future of the nursing profession. At local, regional, national and international levels, policy and politics profoundly shape the practice of nursing and the environments in which nurses live and work. But their voices are often absent from policy tables. Nurse leaders everywhere need the right professional, political and policy leadership skills to operate effectively in tough policy arenas. The [ICN Global Nursing Leadership Institute](#) (GNLI™), a strategic leadership programme, prepares top nurses from around the world to drive policy that improves the health of people, health care and the nursing profession.

From 7-14 September, ICN welcomed the Global Nursing Leadership Institute 2018 Policy Programme scholars to Geneva, Switzerland for their residential module, where scholars met with international speakers from ICN, Burdett Trust for Nursing, WHO, Nursing Now and MSF. During the graduation ceremony on 14 September, the 26 graduates from 19 countries each presented his/her plans to improve nursing locally.

LEADERSHIP FOR CHANGE

Established in 1995, the [ICN LFC™ programme](#) aims to prepare nurses with the leadership skills that are required to implement organisational change for the purpose of improving nursing practice and achieving better health outcomes. The LFC programmes are tailored to respond to the specific needs of the countries in which they are implemented. This is achieved through close collaboration with the national nurse associations. They provide participants opportunities to develop understanding of global health challenges, obtain insight into international leadership styles, and be exposed to and analyse change management in the context of health system redesign and transformation and health and social policy. The LFC Training of Trainers (TOT) workshop that concludes every LFC ensures the sustainability of the benefits of the programme locally by giving to the trainers in country the capacity to train other cohorts of nurses. Based on the success of the current programmes and methodology, the LFC programmes build a stronger and more efficient workforce which in turn, brings significant benefits to the populations they serve. ICN LFC programmes have been implemented in more than 40 countries.

LFC workshops were hosted by the Korean Nurses Association; the Order of Nurses in Lebanon; the Taiwan Nurses Association (with participants from Indonesia; Myanmar and Taiwan); and the [Chinese Nursing Association](#) (sponsored by Johnson & Johnson).



Other Nursing Leadership activities in 2018 included:

- ICN spoke at the **Women Leaders in Global Health** conference in London on the topic “What does leadership in global health mean?”
- ICN participated in the **Leadership Connection** event organised by Sigma Theta Tau International aimed at giving a Global View of Transformative Leadership.
- ICN attended the **XXIV Italian National Congress conference**, titled “The transformational leadership and the challenge of an ever-changing world”, which gathered more than 200 nurse directors from all over Italy. The ICN programmes, Leadership for Change and the Global Nursing Leadership Institute (GNLI), were given as examples of programmes that spearhead the education of nurse leaders around the globe.

2018 GRADUATES



ICN Leadership Programmes
Global Nursing Leadership Institute



Burdett Trust
for Nursing

ICN TB/MDR-TB PROJECT

More than 3.5 million people with tuberculosis go undiagnosed and untreated each year. Many of those missed will either die or be placed on inappropriate treatment – many will not be treated and continue to infect others in their communities. Furthermore, nearly half a million will be diagnosed with multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) which is more difficult and more expensive to diagnose and treat. Major efforts are needed to close this gap and nurses on the front lines play an important role in detecting, diagnosing, and treating these patients.

The [ICN TB/MDR-TB Project](#) aims to build global nursing capacity in the prevention, care and treatment of TB. This is achieved by training experienced nurses to cascade information to nursing colleagues and other health workers with the purpose of making improvements to patient care delivery. The practice-oriented nature of our training programme enables nurses to improve the implementation of policies and guidelines relating to TB and MDR-TB using a patient-centred approach. The ICN TB/MDR-TB Project has trained 2,224 nurses through the Training for Transformation (TFT) courses in 17 countries in Africa, Asia, and the Russian Federation since 2005. These nurses have in turn rolled out the training to more than 166,000 nurses, doctors, allied health workers and community members – which equates to each nurse training approximately 76 additional people. The ICN TB Project is supported by a United Way Worldwide grant made possible by the generosity of the Lilly Foundation on behalf of the Lilly MDR-TB Partnership.

ICN's TB/MDR-TB Project hosted an official launch event of Nursing Now and the IND resources in Durban, South Africa in February 2018, bringing together nursing leaders from Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, South Africa, Swaziland, Uganda and Zambia. Seventeen nurses from seven African countries with a high burden of TB/MDR-TB took part in a workshop to develop the capacity and skills of nurses working in TB to understand research and to be able to carry out a small research study in their setting.

ICN participated as a panel member in the **WHO Guideline Development Group meeting on Infection Prevention and Control in Clinical and Programmatic Management of Tuberculosis** in March 2018. The meeting was held to update the 2009 WHO Policy on TB Infection Control in Health-Care Facilities, Congregate Settings and Households.

ICN launched the ICN [Nursing Guide for Managing Side Effects to Drug-resistant TB Treatment](#), at the **49th Union World Conference on Lung Health**, which drew around 4,000 delegates from around the world. ICN sponsored eight nurses from the Russian Nurses Association, the Chinese Nursing Association and the National Organisation of Nurses and Midwives of Malawi to attend the event. All eight nurses submitted abstracts which were accepted for presentations.

The ICN TB/MDR-TB Project conducted a training on **Nurse case management of DR-TB side effects** in Beijing, China in collaboration with the Chinese Nursing Association and Peking Union Medical College School of Nursing.

ICN took part in the Guideline Development Group Meeting to revise the **WHO treatment guidelines for rifampicin- and multidrug-resistant tuberculosis, 2018 update**. ICN also supported the dissemination of WHO changes to drug-resistant tuberculosis treatment recommendations to more than 20 million nurses.

ICN participated in a panel session on TB care and treatment at the **Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (ANAC) pre-conference session at the International AIDS Society meeting** in Amsterdam.

ICN attended the **United Nations General Assembly Interactive Civil Society Hearing** in preparation towards the first UN high-level meeting on tuberculosis. More than 200 people attended the meeting to discuss the key asks of governments.

The ICN TB/MDR-TB Project held a review meeting in **Ethiopia** in September with nurses trained by the project in 2016, who have since shared the training with an additional 2,452 people. In October, a training was held on TB/MDR-TB in Adama, Ethiopia with 24 nurses from both clinic and hospital settings.

THE GIRL CHILD EDUCATION FUND

ICN's Girl Child Education Fund (GCEF) supports the primary and secondary schooling of girls under the age of 18 in developing countries whose nurse parent or parents have died.

Over 80 girls were able to start the school year in January 2018 in the four countries where the GCEF programme runs, namely Kenya, Uganda, Zambia and Swaziland. The continuous generosity of individuals and corporations' donations is key to support the orphaned daughters of nurse parents to continue their education from primary school to the end of high school.

LESOTHO ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

For over 10 years, the Lesotho Nurses Association (LNA), the Swedish Association of Health Professionals and ICN have worked together to implement the Lesotho Wellness Centre project thanks to the funding from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) through Union to Union. For the period 2018-2022, ICN has decided to develop and strengthen the Lesotho Nurses Association through [the Lesotho Organisational Development Project \(ODP\)](#). The project aims to strengthen the capacity of the LNA to support and protect the health workforce in Lesotho, especially nurses and midwives, and give the LNA a significant voice at policy and decision-making tables; increase membership aiming at self-sustaining the LNA; and continue providing the LNA and related healthcare worker groups with access to essential healthcare services and occupational protections through the Lesotho Wellness Centre.

In 2018, a new President and Executive Committee members of the Lesotho Organisational Development Project were elected. Focus areas include ensuring a Memorandum of Agreements is signed with the Ministry of Health to take over management of the Wellness Centre from March 2019; and LNA membership growth continues.

ICNP®

The International Classification for Nursing Practice, or (ICNP), is an international standard that facilitates the description and comparison of nursing practice locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. The ICNP terminology serves a critical role for ICN in facilitating representation of the domain of nursing practice worldwide to promote evidence based quality care. ICNP provides nurses with content solutions for electronic health records (EHRs) at all levels to support data-based information for use in practice, administration, education and research.

ICN attended the **WHO Family of International Classifications Network** Annual Meeting in Korea, and joined the Functioning and Disability Reference Group's Primary Care Task Force. The group had previously focused almost exclusively on disease diagnosis by family physicians, but ICN successfully argued that Primary Care extended well beyond Family Medicine, indeed in many settings Primary Care does not involve physicians at all.



OVER 80 GIRLS

STARTED THE SCHOOL YEAR IN JANUARY 2018
THANKS TO THE GCEF SUPPORT



**NO MATTER
THE LOCATION**



**NO MATTER
THE SETTING**



**HEALTHCARE SHOULD BE
ACCESSIBLE TO ALL**

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NURSES
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HEALTH IS A HUMAN RIGHT



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INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY
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International Council of Nurses

CAMPAIGNS

ICN'S WORKS WITH VARIOUS PARTNERS ON CAMPAIGNS WHICH PROMOTE AND SHARE KEY MESSAGES ON TOPICS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO NURSING. BY PROVIDING FACTUAL, ACCURATE AND RELIABLE INFORMATION ON A BROAD RANGE OF ISSUES, ICN IS AN ACTIVE AND EFFECTIVE ADVOCATE ON KEY ISSUES.

INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY

International Nurses Day is celebrated around the world every May 12, the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth. ICN commemorates this important day each year with the production and distribution of the International Nurses' Day (IND) resources and evidence.

In 2018, ICN chose the theme, **Nurses: A Voice to Lead – Health is a Human Right**, for International Nurses Day. The IND 2018 resources were launched in February at the launch of the Nursing Now campaign. The report explored the critical role nurses play in delivering Universal Health Coverage and improving access to quality health care. It featured over a dozen **case studies** sourced by nurses globally, showcasing the invaluable contribution of nurses to healthcare systems as well as their capacity to bring health to all. The IND resources included a website, www.icn-voicetolead.com, downloadable document, posters, a **video** and **interviews** with experts in the fields of health and human rights.

NURSING NOW

In collaboration with ICN and WHO, Nursing Now is a global campaign to raise the status and profile of nursing. It is a programme of the Burdett Trust for Nursing that works to empower nurses to take their place at the heart of tackling 21st Century health challenges.

On 27 February 2018, the Nursing Now campaign was launched in London and Geneva. The global event was distinguished by the endorsement of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge and supported by numerous high-level health experts, policy-makers and nurse leaders who spoke out in favour of

a greater voice and recognition for the profession. National nursing associations across the globe also joined the launch.

In October 2018 at WHO headquarters in Geneva, ICN, WHO and the Burdett Trust for Nursing signed an Agreement to support the Nursing Now campaign and advance nursing, further reinforcing Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus' – WHO Director General – commitment to strengthen the profession. The technical panel session and official signing proceedings were broadcast live from WHO HQ.

54 national and local Nursing Now groups and three regional Nursing Now groups have now been established – making this a truly global campaign! ICN attended the biggest Nursing Now ceremony in the world to date in Korea with over 5000 nurses and 50 politicians from the National Assembly attending.



DAISY FOUNDATION

In October 2018, ICN signed an agreement with the DAISY Foundation to expand globally the meaningful recognition of nurses who provide extraordinary and compassionate care to patients and families every day.

The DAISY Foundation is a public foundation serving the nursing profession through recognition programmes as well as grants for nursing research and evidence-based practice. Its mission is to promote recognition of compassionate care and excellence in nursing through collaborations with professional healthcare organisations.



PUBLICATIONS

ICN PRODUCES POSITION STATEMENTS, FACT SHEETS, GUIDELINES, TOOLKITS AND A QUARTERLY JOURNAL ON A VARIETY OF TOPICS. THESE PUBLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE ICN WEBSITE (WWW.ICN.CH) AND THE ICN ESHOP (WWW.SHOP.ICN.CH).

INTERNATIONAL NURSING REVIEW

[International Nursing Review \(INR\)](#) is ICN's official quarterly, peer-reviewed journal that focuses predominantly on nursing and health policy issues of relevance to nurses.

In 2018, INR was chosen as one of the inaugural recipients of the International Academy of Nursing Editors' Nursing Journal Hall of Fame. INR was inducted into the new Hall of Fame, which recognises journals with 50 or more years of continuous publication and sustained contributions to nursing knowledge, in Boston in August 2018. Nursing research has been published in ICN's International Nursing Review since 1953, helping to shape nursing practice and improving the lives of people all across the world.

ICN-WHO DISASTER NURSING COMPETENCIES

ICN has established a high-level expert group to guide the update of the **ICN-WHO Disaster Nursing Competencies**. The ICN Framework of Disaster Nursing Competencies was released in 2002 and updated in 2009. A 2015 review also showed that the competencies are significantly used for the continued professional development of disaster nursing. A two-day workshop to support the development of the Competencies took place in September, bringing together international leading experts who have a good understanding of competencies and their potential application in order to ensure that the competencies are of the highest possible quality. Key performance indicators have been identified during the meeting to support the development of the competencies. The Competencies will be launched at the ICN Congress in Singapore in June 2019.

NEW ICN WEBSITE LAUNCHED!

At the end of August 2018, ICN launched its newly revamped website, www.icn.ch, which offers quick and easy access to essential information and features that offer a more comprehensive understanding of the ICN's work and strategic priorities. The new website has a clean, fresh, modern look, improved functionality and enhanced content. New features include the ICN events section which enables viewers to access registration, the programme, the speakers list and many other practical tools.

POSITION STATEMENTS

In consultation with our members, ICN produces [position statements](#) on a variety of topics.

In 2018, ICN produced three new position statements. The first was on the [health of migrants, refugees and displaced persons](#) and it urged governments, health systems and individual nurses to integrate the nursing profession in policy making and lobbying activities, showing that nurse-led models of care improve access to health care services for hard to reach and vulnerable populations. A second position statement addressed [Evidence-based safe nurse staffing](#) and called for increased investment in safe, effective and needs-based nurse staffing levels in order to improve patient outcomes and create positive practice environments. ICN also released a new position statement on [Nurses, Climate Change and Health](#) which calls for involvement of the nursing profession to mitigate the impact of climate change, to address climate change risks to health and to support sustainable practices in healthcare.



EVENTS

ICN HOLDS A NUMBER OF CONGRESSES, CONFERENCES, FORUMS AND OTHER EVENTS FOR NURSES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND IN DIFFERENT LOCATIONS ALL OVER THE WORLD TO ENSURE THAT EVERY NURSE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE THEIR KNOWLEDGE, NETWORK AND LEARN FROM OTHERS.

ENDORSED CONFERENCES

ICN occasionally endorses conferences held by its members associations, providing marketing and promotional support, taking part in development of the scientific programme, and promoting exhibition and sponsorship opportunities to its global network of partners.

In May 2018, ICN endorsed the 2nd International Nursing Conference organised by the Order of Nurses in Lebanon with the theme "Nurses Leading the Vision for Global Health". In November 2018, ICN endorsed the [Indian Nursing Council's international conference](#) in collaboration with Jhpiego, with the theme: Nurses and Midwives for Universal Health Coverage. More than 500 participants took part in this three-day conference in New Delhi

NNA MEETINGS

In May 2018, ICN held its biennial meeting of national nursing association members which brought together over 100 representatives from 52 different countries to discuss country level issues, policy initiatives and implementation and to share experiences and good practice.

The meeting included an update on the ICN strategic plan, current policy priorities and workstreams; the current WHO workforce agenda; and the Nursing Now campaign. Key themes included the need to invest in nursing, raise the nursing voice and improve working conditions; the working environment and decent work; pay, reward and retention; NNA advocacy and campaigning roles; and engaging younger people.

REGULATION AND CREDENTIALING FORUM

Also in May, 32 participants from 21 countries attended ICN's Regulation and Credentialing Forum co-hosted by the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM). Key topics included the role of education; the protection of the public vs. the profession; the role of research from a regulator view; and, migration of nurses and midwives in an increasingly intertwined world.

TRIAD MEETING

Highlighting the key role of the nursing and midwifery workforce in achieving universal health coverage and strong economies, Government chief nursing and midwifery officers (GCNMOs), leaders and representatives of national nursing and midwifery associations, and regulators attended the Biennial Triad Meeting held by ICN, ICM and WHO.

The Triad meeting focused on topics such as Building nursing and midwifery capacity to achieve universal health coverage and the Sustainable Development Goals; Labour market dynamics and education policies in investing in the nursing and midwifery workforce; Optimizing performance, quality and impact of the nursing and midwifery workforce through evidence-informed policies; Strengthening nursing and midwifery data for monitoring and ensuring accountability for the implementation of national and regional strategies; and strengthening nursing and midwifery through collaboration and partnerships.

WORLD HEALTH PROFESSIONS CONFERENCE ON REGULATION

As a member of the World Health Professions Alliance, ICN took part in the World Health Professions Regulation Conference (WHPRC) in Geneva in May.

WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

The World Health Assembly is the decision-making body of WHO. It is attended by delegations from all WHO Member States and focuses on a specific health agenda prepared by the Executive Board. ICN represents the voice of nursing at these important meetings of health ministers and senior health officials from amongst the 194 WHO Member States, as well as representatives from civil society and other stakeholders. We also lobby for governments to include a nurse in their delegation, and we hold a nurses' luncheon during the Assembly, offering the opportunity for nurses from other NGOs and INGOs as well as nurse delegates to exchange and consult on the profession at a global policy level.

In May 2018, ICN delivered a number of [interventions](#) on key agenda items at the 71st World Health Assembly (WHA) and led a delegation of nurses to ensure the involvement of nursing in all policies in which the role of nursing must be strengthened and supported. Of particular interest to ICN were the following agenda items:

- **11.2** Draft thirteenth general programme of work, 2019-2023
- **11.3** Public health preparedness and response
- **11.4** Health, environment and climate change
- **11.7** Preparation for the third High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases, to be held in 2018
- **11.8** Preparation for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on ending tuberculosis
- **12.2** Physical activity for health
- **12.3** Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016-2030): early childhood development
- **12.8** Rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease
- **20.1** Global vaccine action plan

ICN issued a [report](#) on the 71st World Health Assembly which provides a brief background on WHA agenda items that are of particular importance to ICN and the nursing profession. As well as a [video](#) on what ICN does at WHA.



ICN INP/APN NETWORK 2018 CONFERENCE

The [10th ICN Nurse Practitioner/Advanced Practice Nursing Conference](#) was held 26-29 August in Rotterdam, Netherlands. The three-day conference, attended by 1,500 delegates looked at nurses' leading role in the transformation of care, with a particular focus on universal health coverage, the Sustainable Development Goals and human resources for health. The [next ICN NP/APN Conference](#) will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada on 30 August – 2 September 2020.

ICN REGIONAL CONFERENCES

[ICN Regional Conference in Abu Dhabi](#), 25-27 September 2018, in collaboration with the Emirati Nursing Association (ENA) and the Abu Dhabi Health Authority (SEHA) looked at the major health issues and challenges in the region. With over 1100 participants from 30 countries, the event featured several high-profile speakers including Her Royal Highness Princess Muna Al Hussein, ICN President Annette Kennedy, Lord Nigel Crisp, Professor Didier Pittet and Dr Arwa Oweis. Over 100 concurrent sessions and five workshops covered a broad range of topics.

With the theme *Nurses: A Voice to Lead - Ensuring Access to Healthcare through Leadership, Innovation and Collaborative Practice*, the conference provided a platform to improve patient care, build nursing research and mobilise, promote and raise the profile of the nursing profession across the region.

ICN CONGRESSES

ICN holds an international gathering of nurses every two years, hosted by one of our members associations. These conferences enable us to offer the latest information on a rich array of subjects and feature inspiring plenary speakers. They are a fantastic opportunity for nurses to build relationships and to disseminate nursing knowledge and leadership across specialities, cultures and countries.

The [ICN Congress 2019](#) will be held 27 June – 1 July 2019 in Singapore. The abstract system closed at the end of October 2018 with 4,632 abstracts submitted. The preliminary programme is [on line](#) and invitations have been sent to a number of speakers, the majority of whom have accepted. We are excited to announce that there will be a special exhibition at Congress for **ICN's 120th anniversary exhibition**. Registration for the Congress is now open.

The Congress will also host a Nursing Student Assembly, which will be attended by hundreds of nursing students from around the world and will include interactive presentations and discussions on topics that matter to nursing students.

In 2021, the ICN Congress will be held in Abu Dhabi, UAE, and in [2023](#), it will be held in Montreal, Canada .

4,632

ABSTRACTS WERE SUBMITTED FOR THE ICN CONGRESS 2019



27 JUNE – 1 JULY

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES
2019 CONGRESS
MARINA BAY SANDS, SINGAPORE

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BEYOND HEALTHCARE TO HEALTH



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