



**LEADING NURSING,
PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE**

2019
ANNUAL REPORT
THE INTERNATIONAL
COUNCIL OF NURSES



THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES

The **International Council of Nurses (ICN)** is a federation of more than 130 national nurses associations (NNAs), representing the 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 United Nations 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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MESSAGE FROM THE ICN PRESIDENT

2019 marked the 120th anniversary of the International Council of Nurses – a perfect opportunity for us to look back at what we have achieved since our creation in 1899. For the past 12 decades, ICN has bound the nurses of the world together in professional fellowship, united in their mission to care, protect and heal.

To celebrate this anniversary, ICN held a special interactive exhibition on our history displayed at the ICN Congress in Singapore, and available on our website: <https://www.icn.ch/who-we-are/history>. This exhibition celebrates ICN's history – our past, present and future.

The strength of ICN has been the solidarity of the profession through wars, racism, sexism, natural disasters and political upheaval. Today, we continue to stand together, to support each other and to represent nurses worldwide, advancing the profession, promoting the wellbeing of nurses and advocating for health in all policies. We are so proud to be celebrating the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife in 2020. At the start of this special year, ICN urged world leaders to make massive investments in nursing and midwifery to pave the way for a brighter future for health around the world. We will continue to mark the year through a variety of special events and we urge you to go our 2020 website: <https://www.2020yearofthenurse.org/>

The world is facing a continuing battle against natural and manmade disasters and global communicable epidemics, where nurses are in the frontline. Because of our global membership, ICN is central to communicating with our members, bringing together the family of nurses to support each other, and lobbying for the protection and safety of the health workers.

As can be seen in this Annual Report for 2019, much of the work we do throughout the year is to pave the way for the future, ensuring that the right policies and programmes are in place to strengthen the nursing profession, lobbying for patients and nurse' rights to safe, affordable, quality care. This could not be achieved without our National Nursing Association members, who enable us to keep at the top of our game, support each other and ensure that the concerns and needs of every nurse are heard. 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.

Happy International Year of the Nurse!



Annette Kennedy
President
International Council of Nurses

12 MILLION+

NUMBER OF NURSES
WORKING WORLDWIDE

120

NUMBER OF YEARS SINCE
ICN WAS FOUNDED

WHO WE ARE

ICN IS A FEDERATION OF NATIONAL NURSING ASSOCIATIONS ACROSS THE WORLD. WITH OUR HEADQUARTERS IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, WE ARE OVERSEEN BY A BOARD MADE UP OF NURSING LEADERS FROM ALL REGIONS OF THE WORLD.



ICN MEMBERS

ICN is a federation of over 130 national nurses associations (NNAs), representing millions of nurses worldwide. We work directly with these member associations on issues of importance to the nursing profession. In addition, ICN grants affiliate status to a number of international specialist nursing organisations, which grants them certain privileges and benefits.

Ensuring that NNAs, through their collective action at the global level, add value to their own countries and to the worldwide nursing community, ICN provides our members the platform and the means to achieve common goals through collaborative action, working together for the benefit of society, the advancement of the profession and the development of our members. ICN and our members work with a wide range of non-governmental organisations, governments, intergovernmental agencies, industry and key stakeholders so as to achieve maximum impact.

- Col·legi 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 Faso**
- **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 Nationale **Française** des Infirmiers et Infirmières Diplômés et Etudiants
- National Association of **Gambia** Nurses & Midwives
- DBfK Bundesverband – **Germany**
- **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**
- **Icelandic** Nurses Association
- **Indian** Nursing Council
- **Persatuan** Parawat Nasional Indonesia
- **Irish** Nurses and Midwives Organisation
- **Iranian** Nursing Organization
- National Association of Nurses in **Israel**
- National Council of Nursing Associations of **Italy**
- 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**
- **Macedonia** Nurses and Midwives Association
- 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
- Association Nationale des Infirmières de **Monaco**

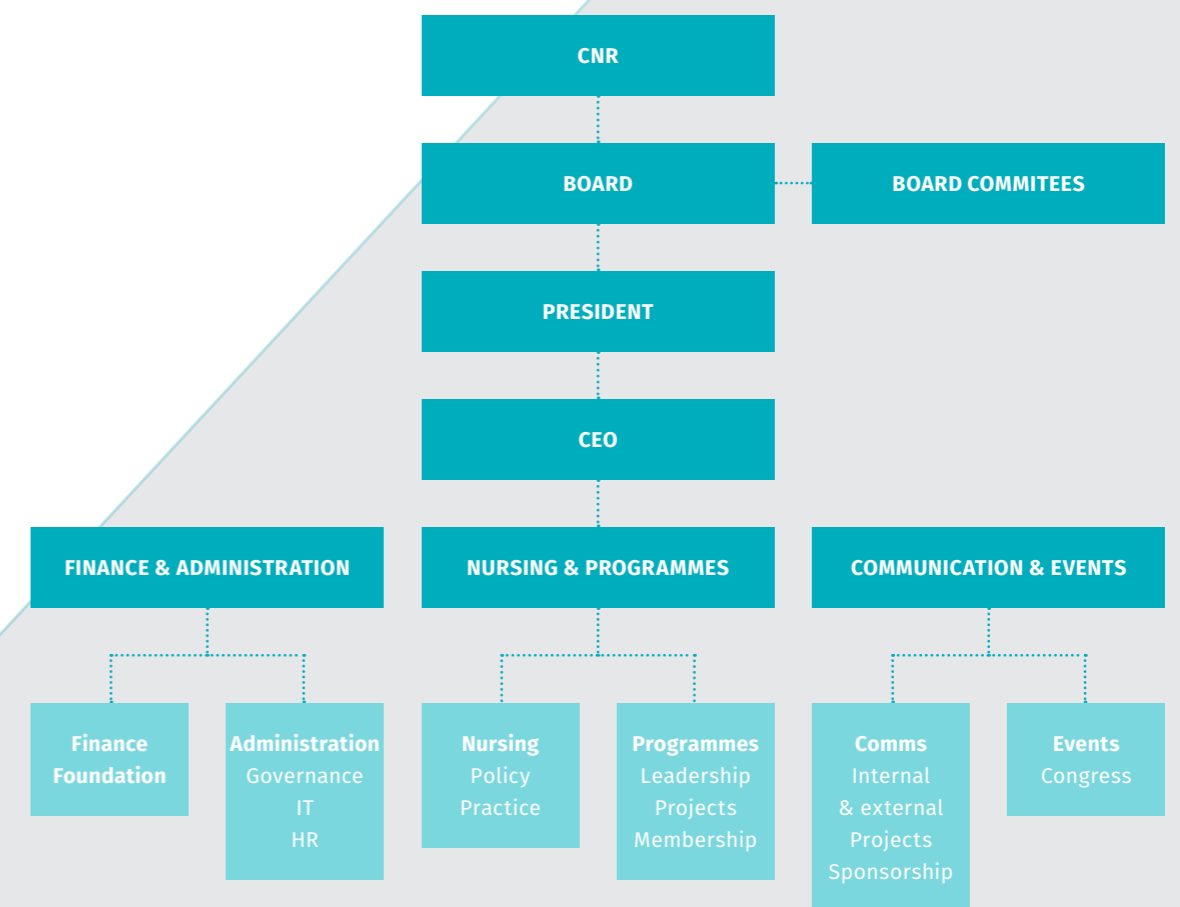
- **Mongolian** Nurses Association
- National Association of Nurses and Midwives of **Montenegro**
- Association **Marocaine** des Sciences Infirmières et Techniques Sanitaires
- Associação Nacional dos Enfermeiros de **Mozambique**
- **Myanmar** Nurses and Midwives Association
- **Namibian** Nurses 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
- **Polish** Nurses Association
- Order of Nurses – **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**
- 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
- Joint Virtual **Swedish** Nurse Organisation for International Work
- 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

ICN SECRETARIAT

ICN headquarters in Geneva is home to a small but dedicated staff, under the leadership of Howard Catton, ICN's Chief Executive Officer.



130+

NUMBER OF NATIONAL NURSING ASSOCIATION IN ICN MEMBERSHIP



ICN BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017-2021

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.

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 Bjørø (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)

The ICN Board meets twice a year. In 2019, Board meetings were held in Singapore, just prior to the ICN Congress in May; and in Cyprus, at the end of November, where it was linked to the ICN Policy Day for NNAs from the EURO and EMRO regions, and the 26th Cyprus Nurses and Midwives Association (CYMNA) Conference.

The ICN Board has several sub-committees dealing with different aspects of ICN's work, namely, the Awards Committee, the Congress & Conference Committee, the Constitution Committee, and the Membership Committee. A new Committee, the Language Committee, was established in 2019 to discuss the topic of languages used by the Board. The Executive Committee is made up of the ICN President and three Vice Presidents.

ICN'S MISSION, PILLARS AND STRATEGIC PLAN, 2019-2023

ICN's mission is to represent nursing worldwide, advance the nursing profession, promote the wellbeing of nurses, and advocate for health in all policies.

ICN has three pillars of work: socio-economic welfare, regulation and professional practice.

ICN's Strategic Plan 2019-2023 has four goals under which we will present our work:

1. Global Impact
2. Membership Empowerment
3. Strategic Leadership
4. Innovative Growth

THE 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. 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.

ICN's work overlaps with the SDGs in many ways, and we have indicated this using the SDG symbol throughout this report.

5000+
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
AT ICN'S 2019 CONGRESS

ICN GOAL 1: GLOBAL IMPACT

OUR AIM IS TO INFORM AND INFLUENCE THE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF HEALTH, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL AND ECONOMIC POLICIES AT A GLOBAL AND REGIONAL LEVEL TO PROMOTE HEALTH FOR ALL.



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

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 Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director General, who publicly recognises the importance of nursing and is committed to strengthening the profession, and with Elizabeth Iro, WHO's Chief Nursing Officer. ICN has been in official relations with WHO since its founding in 1948 and continues to work with WHO on formal guideline development, advisory groups, the Nursing Now campaign and other activities.

WHO EXECUTIVE BOARD

ICN attended the 144th session of the WHO Executive Board held in Geneva, 25 January to 1 February 2019. We developed interventions and delivered statements on four important agenda items, asserting the vital role nurses play in healthcare around the globe: universal health coverage, substandard and falsified products, United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and patient safety

The WHO EB approved ICN remaining in official relations with WHO and the plan for collaboration that had jointly been prepared and submitted by WHO and ICN staff. The WHO EB also accepted the recommendation from the WHO Director General that 2020, the bicentenary of Florence Nightingale's birth, should be designated as the Year of the Nurse and Midwife, a proposal that was accepted by the World Health Assembly in May (see page 14).

WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

The World Health Assembly (WHA) 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 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.



The 72nd WHA was held at the United Nations headquarters, Geneva, from 20 to 28 May 2019. Plenary meetings and general discussions were held under the attendance of the highest health authorities coming from the different regions of the world.

ICN had an important delegation of approximately 80 representatives from more than 30 countries. ICN made interventions on the following agenda items:

- Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals
- Universal Health Coverage – Primary health care towards Universal Health Coverage
- Prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases
- Substandard and falsified medical products
- WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel
- Promoting the health of refugees and migrants
- Global action on patient safety
- 2020: International Year of Nursing and Midwifery

In addition, interventions were made on behalf of the members of the World Health Professions Alliance (WHPA) on universal health coverage; the Global strategy on human resources for health: workforce 2030; 12.5 Patient safety – Water, sanitation, and hygiene in health care facilities; and Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health.

WHO EUROPE

An ICN delegation attended the regional committee of WHO Europe in Copenhagen in September 2019. ICN submitted two joint statements with the European Forum of National Nurses and Midwives Association (EFNNMA) on the following topics: *Lessons Learned Health 2020 on Leadership and Accelerating Primary Health Care Strengthening*. ICN and EFNNMA wrote to the candidates for the post of WHO Europe Regional Director to urge them to make a commitment to appoint a Chief Nursing Officer for the region. The elected candidate, Dr Hans Kluge, “committed to establishing a programme on nursing and midwifery, and a post of Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer at WHO Europe”.

STATE OF THE WORLD’S NURSING

The first-ever State of the World’s Nursing Report will provide countries and stakeholders with the data and evidence needed to support policy dialogue and decision-making around investment in the nursing and midwifery workforces for a stronger health system. The report will include data about individual countries to provide a snapshot of the global state of the nursing workforce. It will be used to influence policymaking decisions on healthcare in years to come.

ICN attended the regional policy dialogue for The State of the World’s Nursing and The State of the World’s Midwifery 2020 reports organised by the United Arab Emirates Ministry of Health and Prevention in Dubai on 1 May 2019. The meeting was aimed at raising the awareness of nurse leaders about the quality of data for the reports, discussing nurse leaders’ role for quality and validating data and finding recommendations for current and future challenges faced by nurse leaders. ICN spoke about the importance of generating evidence and key indicators to measure the impact of evidence-based care by nurses on health and performance outcomes.

On 11 September, ICN, Nursing Now and WHO co-hosted an online discussion about the State of the World’s Nursing report, just prior to the 30 September deadline for the submission of data to be included in the report. The three organisations encouraged nurses to engage with their governments and employers to ensure that the most accurate information is reported to create a solid basis on which to influence and shape the future of health care.”

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE NURSE AND THE MIDWIFE

During the WHA, Member States agreed that 2020 would be the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife (YONM). This will be the first time in history that the nations of the world will unite in celebration of the benefits that nursing and midwifery bring to the health of the global population.

ICN, Nursing Now and WHO worked closely together throughout 2019 on plans for 2020. The ICN President attended the first steering group meeting at WHO to develop a strategy for the YONM. Almost 200 nurses from around the world joined a webinar in November 2019 on the YONM, chaired by ICN CEO, Howard Catton and hosted by Nursing Now. The webinar gave an overview of key events planned for 2020 and encouraged individual nurses and organisations to come up with their own ways to mark this special year-long celebration. Also in November, NNAs from across Southern Europe and the Middle East joined ICN in Cyprus to finalise regional strategies and share ideas for maximising the impact of the YONM. The delegates heard from each of the national associations, as well as the ICN Board members, about their plans for 2020.



ICN, WHO and Nursing Now wrote to all heads of state and community and religious leaders asking them to mention the YONM in their New Year messages. At the end of the year, ICN opened a new portal to bring the nursing community together by sharing all events organised by ICN and our members. ICN’s Board members posted videos on YouTube celebrating YONM.



NURSING REPRESENTATION

Ensuring that nurses are represented at the highest levels of decision-making is an important part of ICN’s work. Many countries do not have a Government Chief Nursing Officers (GCNOs) with the authority to play a vital role in planning, developing, implementing and evaluating health policies and health systems. In many of the countries with GCNOs, these positions do not have the authority to advise and influence at a strategic level, and that the full range of responsibilities and resources associated with the GCNO role are essential to directly influencing health policy formulation. Some focal points are not even Registered Nurses.

GCNOs are critical to achieving national health goals and improving access and outcomes of healthcare for individuals, families and communities. Their expertise substantially informs the development of health policies, delivery of health systems and ensures the optimal use of the nursing workforce, to plan, and coordinate the nursing profession to best meet the needs of the population it serves.

GENDER EQUALITY

Gender equality is an important issue for ICN for two reasons. Firstly, the health, wellbeing and rights of women have a direct impact on their families and communities so women should be a priority for all healthcare. Secondly, the overwhelming majority of nurses are women. Addressing the issues of importance to women will benefit the nursing profession as well.

DELIVER FOR GOOD

ICN is a partner of the Women Deliver’s *Deliver for Good* campaign. In June 2019, ICN and the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) co-hosted a multi-stakeholder, international colloquium in Vancouver, Canada in advance of the global *Women Deliver Conference*, the world’s largest conference on gender and equality. ICN and CNA held a day of conversations focused on the links among power, nursing and advocacy, and on identifying solutions that can help *nurses deliver*. With a workforce dominated by women globally, nurses may experience gender inequality at individual, organisational and structural levels. Nurses must be supported to develop knowledge, personal power and strategies to deliver on the promise of effective advocacy from points of care to the development of policy at country and international levels.



108 YEARS

TIME IT WILL TAKE TO CLOSE THE GENDER GAP



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.

The GCEF has enabled hundreds of girls in Kenya, Lesotho, Swaziland and Uganda to complete school. Many go on to become leaders in their communities, helping to strengthen and empower other girls; several have followed in their parents' footsteps to become nurses. It is encouraging to see the success of this programme which helps to support nurses in Africa who often put their very lives at risk to care for others.

During the ICN 2019 Congress, ICN held a fundraising event for the GCEF during which the ICN/FNIF International Achievement Award (IAA) was presented to Dr Joyce J. Fitzpatrick for her international contribution in advancing nursing education through research, innovative conceptual models and theory development. Additionally, the session included video interviews with some of the beneficiaries of the programme, along with the GCEF Coordinators from Kenya and Swaziland, who support the girls psychologically and ensure that they are coping with any other issues they may have.



COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

ICN took part in the 63rd session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at the UN Headquarters in New York from 11 to 22 March 2019. With the support of Maimonides Medical Center, ICN held a reception to provide the opportunity for nursing leaders attending CSW to connect. ICN participated in the Global Strategic operatives for the eradication of human trafficking meeting hosted by The Order of Malta Mission to the UN. The ICN President was a speaker at the parallel session hosted by UN Women UK on "Gender responsive social protection for marginalised women and girls and survivors of trafficking", and ICN hosted the parallel session "Promoting the health and empowerment of women: Innovative exemplars in global nursing practice, education, consultation and partnership"



CLIMATE CHANGE

ICN is a member of the Global Climate & Health Alliance, formed in Durban in 2011 to tackle climate change and to protect and promote public health. The Alliance is made up of health and development organisations from around the world united by a shared vision of an equitable, sustainable future. ICN is also a member of the WHO-Civil Society Working Group to Advance Action on Climate and Health, launched in May 2019 and aimed at strengthening WHO-NGO collaboration to drive progress on addressing climate change to protect and promote health.

In November 2019, ICN called on governments to take immediate action to tackle climate change after the latest Lancet Countdown report revealed impending health crisis for future generations. Climate change poses the single biggest health risk to humanity with devastating damage to people's health and livelihoods if urgent action is not taken. ICN said that human health and wellbeing, the prosperity of our communities and the effectiveness of our health systems are all being damaged by climate change. It is also a serious threat to global development with the potential to undermine decades of public health gains. The demand for well-educated and trained nurses is likely to increase as the incidence and prevalence of non-communicable diseases rises across the globe in response to global warming



COUNTERFEIT MEDICINES

In May 2019, ICN released a new position statement on substandard and falsified medicines coinciding with an agenda item on the subject at the 72nd WHA. ICN's intervention highlighted that substandard and falsified medical products can cause significant damage to people's health and undermine patients' faith in healthcare professionals and the systems they work in. ICN is a partner in Fight the Fakes, a global, multi-stakeholder campaign that aims to raise awareness about the dangers of fake medicines, which put the public at risk, could increase resistance to real treatments, and may cause further illness, disability or even death. This global movement of organisations and individuals speaks up and helps spread the word about this under-reported, yet growing threat to public health. The campaign aims to give a voice to those who have been personally impacted and share the stories of those working to put a stop to this threat to public health.

SAFEGUARDING HEALTH IN CONFLICT AND CRISIS

ICN is a founding member of the Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition, 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 is also closely involved in the Health Care in Danger project, led by the International Committee of the Red Cross, which aims to make access to healthcare in situations of armed violence more secure.

In May 2019, the sixth annual report from the Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition was released showing that healthcare continues to be attacked, impeding the delivery of essential health services and injuring and killing patients and healthcare workers. The report, *Impunity Remains: Attacks on Health Care in 23 Countries in Conflict in 2018*, documents nearly 1,000 violations of the international humanitarian laws and United Nations resolutions designed to protect health workers in conflict zones in 2018. Such violations led to the deaths of 167 health workers and more than 700 injuries to staff who were there to help the sick, injured and dying.

In July 2019, WHO declared an international public health emergency in the Democratic Republic of Congo, due to an outbreak of Ebola. ICN announced our support for the nurses working on the frontline of this epidemic and supported WHO's call for international funding to stop the outbreak and protect the health workers, families and communities caring for those who are suffering.

In September 2019, ICN, along with other members of the WHPA, condemned the targeted attacks on hospitals in northwest Syria, demanding immediate action to halt the airstrikes ICN stated that "access to health is a human right, as is the right of workers not to be subject to violence at work – these attacks are abhorrent and unacceptable."



ICN GOAL 2: MEMBERSHIP EMPOWERMENT

OUR AIM IS TO STRENGTHEN NNAs ACROSS THE THREE PILLARS OF ICN TO ENABLE THEM TO ADDRESS KEY CHALLENGES AT REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS



COUNCIL OF NATIONAL NURSING ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES (CNR)

CNR is the governing body of ICN and sets policy at the macro level, including admission of members, election of the Board of Directors, amendments to the constitution, and setting of fees. A National Representative is a nurse selected by a member association to be its representative, who may or may not be the president of that association, but who meets the ICN definition of nurse. CNR meets every two years.

In 2019, CNR met just prior to the ICN Congress in Singapore. It was attended by representatives from 85 member NNAs and focused on three main topics: access to accurate data, particularly for the WHO *State of the World Nursing* report; governance and strategic decisions within ICN; the future of the Nursing Now campaign, which will be taken over by ICN in 2021.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Several awards were given to ICN member NNAs during CNR. The Membership Growth Award, which recognises the NNA representing the most significant growth of the number of nurses over the preceding quadrennium, was presented to the College of Nurses of Andorra.

The Membership Inclusiveness/ Representativeness Award recognises NNAs' improvement in the NNA coverage to demonstrate inclusiveness and representativeness. The silver award, which is given to NNAs including 50+% of the total number of nurses in a country, was presented to the College of Nurses of Bolivia, the Danish Nurses Organization, the Grenada Nurses Association, the Icelandic Nurses Association,

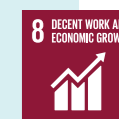
the Nurses Association of Jamaica, the Nurses Association of the Republic of the Seychelles, the Order of Nurses, Midwives and Medical Assistants in Romania, and the Association of Health Workers of Serbia. The bronze Inclusiveness Award, given to NNAs including 25+% of the total number of nurses in a country, was presented to the Japanese Nurses Association, the Taiwan Nurses Association, the Ghana Registered Nursing Association, the National Association of Nurses and Midwives of Montenegro, and the Suriname Nurses Association

INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON REGULATION

ICN and the Consejo General de Enfermería of Spain held a joint International Forum on Regulation, in February 2019 in Madrid, to discuss the future of professional regulation and scope out the current and key issues for regulators around the world. The Forum brought together leaders in nursing regulation from many countries around the world and included country reports on the current situation of nursing regulation; and presentations on regulatory reforms; global health and the nursing agenda.

9 MILLION

NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL NURSES AND MIDWIVES NEEDED BY 2030





ICN WORKFORCE FORUMS

Held annually and hosted by 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.

The Order of Nurses in Lebanon and ICN co-hosted the **International Workforce Forum** in Beirut in February 2019. The meeting discussed key nursing workforce challenges, including staff shortages, pay and conditions of employment, and the global health agenda to improve access to care and the development of primary and community health services. Nursing leaders at the International Workforce Forum issued a communiqué which called on governments to take action to ensure safe staffing levels, decent working conditions and a better future for patients and the nurses who care for them.

The 20th ICN Asian Workforce Forum was held in Seoul, Korea, 21-22 November 2019. Participants released a communiqué expressing the need for governments to invest in the education, remuneration and working conditions of nurse to support the achievement of universal health coverage (UHC). Discussions between representatives from 11 NNAs of the Asia region centred on the International Year of the Nurse and of the Midwife in 2020, the release of the first global report on *The State of the World's Nursing* in April 2020 and the challenges faced by the nursing workforce to support the achievement of UHC.



ICN TB/MDR-TB PROJECT

The ICN TB/MDR-TB Project aims to build global nursing capacity in the prevention, care and treatment of TB with the purpose of making improvements to patient care delivery. The Project has trained 2,224 nurses 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. 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.

In January 2019, the TB/MDR-TB Project Director presented the *Nursing guide for managing side effects to drug-resistant TB treatment* in a webinar with RESIST-TB and the Union's Nurses and Allied Professionals sub-section. The ICN/CITC Nursing Guide for Managing Side Effects to Drug Resistant TB Treatment is available in English, French, Spanish, Russian, Por-

tuguese and Bahasa Indonesian on the ICN TB/MDR-TB Project website.

The TB/MDR-TB Project held a research workshop in Durban, South Africa in March 2019 with faculty from the University of KwaZulu-Natal School of Nursing. This workshop brought back nurses from Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, South Africa and Zambia trained in 2018 to follow up on the progress made with their research proposals, which included infection prevention and control, healthcare worker stigma towards TB patients, reasons for patient non-adherence to treatment, healthcare worker knowledge, attitudes and practices related to TB, provider practices related to the prescribing of isoniazid preventative therapy for preventing TB in HIV-positive patients and rates of hearing loss in patients on drug-resistant TB therapy.

In March 2019, on the occasion of World TB Day, the TB Project honoured seven Leading Lights, recognising the work of some outstanding TB nurses who are role models and leaders in their field. The project director was an invited panel member at a WHO Global TB Programme guideline review group on recommendations for the use of the urine lateral flow LAM test to diagnose TB, and presented at the National TB conference in Uzbekistan on the role of nurses in implementing outpatient care, where she also gave a master class to 80 nursing students at the Tashkent Medical Institute.

120TH ANNIVERSARY

An interactive exhibition detailing the 120-year history of ICN was launched at our Congress in Singapore. The exhibition and its app led viewers on an interactive journey through the 12 decades of ICN, from our founding on 1 July 1899 during the women's suffrage movement through the highs and lows, successes and challenges of the last 120 years, culminating in a look towards the future of ICN and nursing.

Research for the exhibition was carried out by Professor Marie Carney, Dean Emeritus and post-doctoral research fellow at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery. An online timeline of the 120 years of ICN is also available on the ICN website.

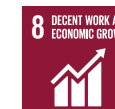


MIGRATION

In November 2019, ICN published a position statement on international career mobility and ethical nurse recruitment, calling on governments to monitor and publish data on nurse migration and adhere to WHO standards for ethical international recruitment. Imbalances in funding between rich and poor countries means there is an increased risk of unscrupulous international recruitment that fails to adhere to ethical principles and leaves vulnerable health systems stripped of their most valuable asset: qualified nurses. It is crucial that all countries train and retain more of their own nurses and implement ethical recruitment practices when they employ nurses from overseas. Career mobility is important for many nurses: it enables them to further their professional development, maximise their skills and qualifications, and fulfil their personal career goals. And the *quid pro quo* of this is that they provide nursing care in countries where there are shortages of appropriately skilled nursing personnel.

But there have been many cases of internationally educated nurses being poorly treated by their employers, and some countries that can ill-afford to lose their nurses have been left with insufficient numbers because of aggressive recruitment from overseas. The ICN position statement called on governments and employers to address their workforce shortages by training and educating enough nurses to meet their own country's health needs, and to adopt appropriate policies when taking nurses from other countries.

The International Centre on Nurse Migration (ICNM) serves as a comprehensive knowledge resource created by CGFNS International Inc. in partnership with ICN. ICNM emphasizes the development, promotion and dissemination of research, policy and information on global nurse migration and human resources in nursing. This resource centre features news, resources, and publications widely available to policy makers, planners and practitioners.



60%

PERCENTAGE OF WHO MEMBER STATES WITH LESS THAN 40 NURSES AND MIDWIVES PER 10,000 POPULATION

ICN GOAL 3: STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP

OUR AIM IS TO PROVIDE STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP TO ADVANCE THE NURSING PROFESSION TO MEET CURRENT AND FUTURE NEEDS OF THE POPULATION, HEALTH SYSTEMS (INCLUDING HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE) AND NURSES.



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.

ICN President, Annette Kennedy, joined other organisations on 21 May, to sign the UHC 2030 Global Compact for progress toward universal health coverage which reflects ICN's mission to support achieving health for all through UHC based on primary health care. ICN considers UHC as one of the strategic priorities and has been an active partner of the global health community in advocating UHC through health systems strengthening and ensuring health in all policies and a multi-sectorial approach

In September 2019, ICN represented the voices of the world's 20-plus million nurses at the UN's first ever UN High-level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage in New York. During the meeting Heads of State and Government adopted a political declaration, 'Universal Health Coverage: moving together to build a healthier world', in which they reaffirmed their commitment to Health for All and to scaling up the global effort to achieve it. ICN welcomed the commitment made by UN member states to immediately address the global shortfall of 18 million health workers, half of whom are nurses and midwives, through educating, building and retaining a skilled health workforce, "including nurses and midwives who are an important element of strong and resilient health systems...". The declaration recognises that primary health care (PHC) is the most inclusive, effective and efficient approach to safeguarding people's physical and mental health and social wellbeing. PHC is the cornerstone of a sustainable health system for UHC and the SDGs.

ICN attended and spoke at several meetings under the auspices of the general debate of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly held in New York City, in September 2019. These included side events on *Transforming health workforce education to meet evolving needs and achieve Universal Health Coverage*; *Envisioning a health workforce for the future: optimizing NCD care and management*; and *Delivering on UHC: From the Frontlines to the Guidelines*. ICN, Jhpiego and Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing also co-hosted a side event on *Power on the Path to UHC 2030: Nurses and midwives as Navigators, Innovators, and Accelerators*.





the collection and analysis of data and information'. The Commission on NCDs was formed in 2017 to help meet the SDGs by 2030. ICN President Annette Kennedy was the only member of the nursing community on the Commission, ensuring the voice of nursing was heard in its meetings and visible in the Commission's reports.

PERSON-CENTRED CARE / PATIENT SAFETY

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 March 2019, ICN was invited to speak at the 4th Global Ministerial Summit in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on Nurse staffing: Impact on patient safety. As a result of this Summit, A White Paper on Nurse staffing levels for patient safety and workforce safety was developed by ICN and the Saudi Patient Safety Center based on the ICN Position Statement on Evidence-based safe nurse staffing and ICN Position Statement on Patient Safety. The White Paper was launched at the ICN Congress in Singapore in June 2019. The paper brings together evidence from a wide range of sources, covering different countries and contexts, showing that having the right numbers of nurses, in the right place and at the right time, delivers quality and safety for the populations they serve, and will help to retain nurses.

On 17-18 June, ICN participated in a consultative meeting to plan for the very first World Patient Safety Day to be held 17 September 2019, organised by the Patient Safety and Risk Management Unit in the WHO Department of Service Delivery and Safety. On the occasion of World Patient Safety Day, ICN and the Saudi Patient Safety Centre released a joint statement and a joint video, highlighting the clear relationship between nurse staffing levels, patient safety and quality of care. The two organisations reinforced their commitment to continue working collaboratively and with partners to promote and highlight the impact of nurses and nursing in ensuring the safety of patients.

In December 2019, on the occasion of Patient Solidarity Day, ICN and the International Alliance of Patients' Organizations called for "Acceleration of Progress for Safe Patient-Centred UHC" to guarantee safe health-care for all. About half of the world's population do not have access to the essential health services they need, and 100 million people are pushed into poverty because of the health expenses. Nurses constitute more than half of the global health workforce and are putting patients at the centre of their care. It is essential for governments to scale up efforts in investment in nurses.

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; as well as the absence of consumers and the community in the development of policies, strategies or legislation related to mental health. People-centred care and community engagement need to be front and centre in any future implementation plans.

ICN attended the WHO's, Mental Health Forum, in October 2019 in Geneva, which provided an opportunity for diverse stakeholders to discuss progress on WHO's Mental Health Action Plan in countries and to exchange information on the implementation of the Plan.

Also in October 2019, ICN observed World Mental Health Day to raise awareness of mental health issues affecting one billion people across the world. The 2019 focus on suicide prevention was especially welcome because of the high number of suicides across the globe.

450 MILLION

NUMBER OF PEOPLE SUFFERING FROM MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS AROUND THE WORLD



NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

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.

In June 2019, ICN participated in a consultative meeting "to define Priority Medical Devices for Cardiovascular Disease, Diabetes and Stroke Management" with important stakeholders and prestigious academicians. This work will lead to guidelines issued by WHO in conjunction with the different stakeholders to be used to better manage those specific chronic conditions. In July 2019, ICN joined other members of the Global Coalition for Circulatory Health to write to the UN Secretary General to reject a letter from the outgoing Director-General of the UN Office at Geneva (UNOG), Mr. Michael Møller, who called for a "more nuanced" relationship between the tobacco industry and the UN system. The Coalition members said these comments represent a threat to progress towards the SDGs and stand in direct conflict with the legally-binding Article 5.3 of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. The signatories asked the Secretary General to publicly reject Mr. Møller's letter and encourage the international community to disregard its contents

In December 2019, the WHO Independent High-Level Commission on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) released its latest report, *It's time to walk the talk*, which highlights the vital role of nurses in the provision of NCD and mental health services in primary care, and says they will need to be empowered to take on new roles and responsibilities through 'enabling legislation, effective policies, accessible, affordable and high-quality education, commitment from employers, supportive funding models, leadership and





ICN GLOBAL NURSING LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

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.

During the ICN Congress in Singapore in June 2019, ICN hosted the inaugural GNLI Alumni Networking Event, facilitating networking between scholars that have completed the programme over the past 10 years. ICN welcomed 45 GNLI Alumni from different countries and cohorts since the inception of the programme, and five GNLI 2019 Scholars. They shared stories of how GNLI has inspired strategic policy leadership, and plan for the future.

The GNLI 2019 Programme was hosted just outside Geneva, Switzerland in September 2019 with 28 scholars from 26 countries. The scholars visited the WHO HQ in Geneva, where they were welcomed for the first time in the history of the programme by Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, and were able to exchange and share concerns, ideas and planning for the future of the nursing and midwife profession. The discussion panel and session were moderated by Elizabeth Iro, WHO Chief Nursing Officer, and included other key WHO staff. The scholars also visited the ICN office where they met with ICN partners from Jhpiego, the World Medical Association, International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, and Médecins sans Frontiers. The graduation ceremony was attended by Ambassadors and/or representatives from 10 different Permanent Missions in Geneva.

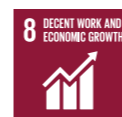


LEADERSHIP FOR CHANGE

Established in 1995, the ICN LFC™ programme aims to prepare nurses with the leadership skills required to implement organisational change for the purpose of improving nursing practice and achieving better health outcomes. LFC programmes are tailored to respond to the specific needs of the countries in which they are implemented, through close collaboration with the national nurse associations. The LFC Training of Trainers 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.

In April 2019, 21 participants completed three LFC workshops in Beirut, Lebanon, conducted in collaboration with the Order of Nurses in Lebanon. Participants completed projects including: implementation of a communication system to improve clinical information among nurses and physicians in seven hospitals in Lebanon; development and implementation of a nursing care intensity tool for use in five hospitals in Lebanon; assessment of workplace violence and intention to leave among nurses in Lebanon; appropriate use of smartphones in the clinical setting among nursing staff in Beirut hospitals; and transition from patient satisfaction to excellence in patient experience in a private hospital in Lebanon.

Also in April, the Taiwan Nurses Association hosted an LFC workshop with 22 nurse leaders, 16 from Taiwan, two from Indonesia, two from Myanmar and two from Vietnam. The participants continue to work on the following projects: establishing a supporting programme to enhance the professional adaptation for nurses in Taiwan; changing nurses' perception, attitude, and performance of interprofessional collaboration practice in hospitals in Taiwan; transforming the nursing image on social media in Taiwan; a pilot project of implementation of nurse managers core competencies standard in general hospital in Indonesia; improving abilities of assessment skills for neuro-surgical nurses in Vietnam; and strengthening nursing management abilities for head nurses in six hospitals in Myanmar.



An LFC ToT Update for current LFC trainers and/or coordinators, who already have experience in delivering the programme, was held in Singapore in June 2019. The update enabled associations to continue delivering this programme, and extended the number of trainers available to support new implementations of the LFC programme among different regions of the world. Trainers attended from 14 NNAs in the Bahamas, Bolivia, Chile, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Myanmar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mexico, Norway, Seychelles and South Africa.

NURSING POLICY LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

In 2019, ICN launched a new ICN Nursing Policy Leadership Programme to help meet the Nightingale Challenge set by Nursing Now (see page 28). This new exciting initiative on strategic leadership focuses on developing both individual leaders and their organisations, and the synergy of both. Tailored to each organisation's needs and circumstances, it is short, effective, and delivered locally to develop established and emerging nurse leaders in hospitals, community services, universities, regulators, ministries of health and non-governmental organisations.

ICN and International Society of Nurses in Cancer Care (ISNCC) hosted an inaugural Policy Leadership in Cancer Nursing Programme in June 2019 in Geneva. The programme, which welcomed 23 senior nurse leaders from 21 countries, was co-funded by a programme development grant from the BristolMyersSquibb Foundation. It has been adapted from ICN's successful GNLI™ and aims to build the policy leadership capabilities, to ensure that nurses' contribution to cancer control across the world is optimised.

DISASTER NURSING COMPETENCIES

In November 2019, ICN, in collaboration with WHO, released a revised and updated version of the core competencies in disaster nursing. The new version of *Core Competencies in Disaster Nursing* outlines what nurses should know and be able to do for the effective prevention, preparedness, response and recovery from disasters. The guidance describes the competencies that nurses must have, depending on their personal career histories and expertise. Level 1 competencies are for all registered nurses, including staff nurses in hospitals, clinics and health centres, and all nurse educators. Level 2 competencies are for any nurse who has achieved the level 1 competencies and is or aspires to be a designated disaster responder within an institution, organisation or system.



11,000
NUMBER OF FATALITIES FROM
NATURAL DISASTER IN 2019

Nurses save lives and improve health and wellbeing



NURSES
A VOICE TO LEAD
HEALTH FOR ALL

12 MAY 2019
INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY
www.icnvoicetolead.com
@ICNurses #voicetolead #IND2019

International Council of Nurses

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE NOMINATION

ICN is supporting the call or the nomination of two Austrian nurses, Marianne Stoger and Margaritha Pissarek, for the Nobel Peace Prize 2020. They spent more than 40 years in Korea working unpaid while caring for patients with Leprosy (Hansen's disease). The chair of a multi-national committee that is nominating the two nurses, Former Prime Minister of Korea, Kim Hwang-sik spoke at the ICN Congress in Singapore about their work. The Korean Nurses Association has launched a petition to nominate the two nurses for the Nobel Peace Prize, and ICN President, Annette Kennedy, and ICN CEO Howard Catton have released videos supporting their nomination.

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.

Several Nursing Now groups were launched in 2019; which currently has 138 groups worldwide! Unfortunately, ICN could not attend them all, but we attended and spoke at the launches of Nursing Now in Brazil, Ireland, Italy and Spain.

On 28 June, at the ICN Congress, Nursing Now launched its Nightingale Challenge, a new global initiative which brings together health employers to inspire the next generation of nurses and midwives as practitioners, advocates and leaders in health. The Nightingale Challenge asks every employer of nurses and midwives to accept the challenge with the aim of having at least 20,000 nurses and midwives aged 35 and under benefiting from this in 2020, with at least 1,000 employers taking part. In September, ICN hosted the first employer webinar "Voices from nurses in practice – ICN's Leadership for Change™". The Challenge has been a great success with over 30,000 signed up!

Nursing now

ICN GOAL 4: INNOVATIVE GROWTH

OUR AIM IS TO IDENTIFY, SECURE AND DIVERSIFY BUSINESS AND REVENUE GENERATING OPPORTUNITIES, CONSISTENT WITH OUR STRATEGIC GOALS.

The ICN Board is developing a business strategy for building membership and diversifying income which it sees as a priority. Our aim is to expand sponsorship for ICN conferences, congresses and events; develop and promote new business model for ICNP; promote the value of ICN to expand our membership base; and continue to evaluate new and existing programmes and initiatives to determine their sustainability and alignment with ICN priorities.

ICN CONGRESS

ICN holds an international gathering of nurses every two years, hosted by one of our members associations. These Congresses 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.

ICN welcomed over 5000 nurses from more than 120 countries to Singapore to attend the ICN Congress held from 27 June to 1 July 2019, and hosted by the Singapore Nurses Association. The theme of the event was "Beyond Healthcare to Health".

The 2019 Congress began with an opening ceremony attended by the President of the Republic of Singapore, Madam Halimah Jacob, and other members of the Singapore Government, high profile nursing figures and international health experts. Madam Jacob welcomed the nurses saying, "if you save one life you are a hero, if you save 100 lives, you are a nurse."

Two awards were given at the Opening Ceremony, including the Kim Mo Im Policy Innovation and Impact

Award to Elias Al Aaraj for introducing harm reduction services in Lebanon and other Middle East and North African countries. The Kim Mo Im Policy Innovation and Impact Award is granted every two years to a nurse who has demonstrated policy innovation and impact. The Partners in Development Award was given to Johnson and Johnson for their support of the ICN Leadership for Change programme in China. The ICN Partners in Development Award recognises foundations, corporations, non-governmental organisations or other groups that have demonstrated outstanding leadership and investment in nursing and health care capacity building.

Keynote and main sessions at the Congress focused on a variety of topics of importance to the nursing profession and global health: person-centred care, investment in healthcare, disaster preparation, non-communicable diseases (including smoking cessation strategies), nursing leadership and policy, Nursing innovation in primary health care, safe staffing levels and patient safety, ethics, advanced practice, ICN's leadership programmes, migration and retention, regulation and human trafficking.

High profile speakers included WHO Chief Nursing Officer Elizabeth Iro, Professor Sheila Tlou and Lord Nigel Crisp, co-chairs of Nursing Now, Former Prime Minister of Republic of Korea, Kim Hwang, Professor Linda Aiken, Dr Leslie Mancuso, Dr Khama Rogo, Dr Jim Campbell, Cindy McCain and Kevin Hyland.

WHO Director-General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, visited the ICN Congress on the third day. He addressed a full plenary hall, saying "It's time to go beyond healthcare to health: nurses and midwives are an essential part of that transformation to lead this work." He received a standing ovation from the audience. The Director General made the surprise visit



INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY 2019

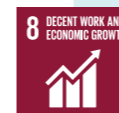
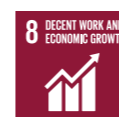
International Nurses Day (IND) is celebrated around the world every May 12, the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth. ICN commemorates this important day each year with the production and distribution of the IND resources and evidence.

IND 2019 resources and evidence were launched under the theme *Nurses: A Voice to Lead Health For All*. Showcasing nurses' innovative work from around the world, IND 2019 contained case studies which highlight the important role nurses play in ensuring everyone has access to the care they need. The report also highlighted the need for nurses to bring their voices, and those of their patients, to the policy table.

IND 2019 provided three important messages for nurse and policy makers:

- Nurses save lives and improve, protect and promote health and well-being.
- Nurses are a vital access point to 24/7, birth to death, emergency and ongoing care.
- Nurses are the foundation to high quality, affordable, accessible care.

The report, posters, videos and other resources can be found on <https://2019.icnvoicetolead.com/>





to the ICN Congress after concluding a visit to Osaka, Japan for the G20 Summit, where he called on the G20 countries to invest in health.

The Congress also hosted a 2019 Congress Student Assembly. This one-day event was attended by hundreds of nursing students from around the world and included interactive presentations and discussions on topics that matter to nursing students.

Policy and Advocacy Cafés provided participants with an opportunity to have face to face time with speakers in order to exchange ideas and gain a better understanding of their innovative work.

For the first time, plenary and main sessions were live-streamed to YouTube.



SPONSORSHIP

ICN would like to thank the following organisations for their support and sponsorship of the ICN Congress and ICN Programmes and Projects throughout the year:

- BristolMyersSquibb Foundation
- The Burdett Trust for Nursing
- CGFNS International
- Gruppo Ospedaliero San Donato
- International Society of Nurses in Cancer Care
- Johnson & Johnson
- National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN)
- Swedish International Development Agency
- As well as the Ministry of Health Singapore, Lee Foundation and D.S Lee Foundation.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION FOR NURSING PRACTICE

International Classification for Nursing Practice (ICNP®) provides an international standard to facilitate the description and comparison of nursing practice locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. Since its introduction in 1999, ICNP has been translated into 18 languages, and there are currently 15 research and development centres worldwide running more than 200 different projects. New versions of ICNP are released every two years.

ICN held an informative session on ICNP during the ICN 2019 Congress in Singapore to celebrate the launch of the new 2019 release of ICNP and discuss the benefits of capturing national nursing data and how the future of the nursing profession is being transformed through data. Also at Congress, an open forum was held to hear about the introduction and use of ICNP in Norway and Portugal, and the benefits delivered to nursing and the local health service. ICNP offers a tried-and-tested option for countries who want to accurately capture nursing data and report on nursing practice. ICNP classifies observations and activity in the domain of nursing and can be used for decision-making and policy development aimed at improving health status and health care delivery. It can improve communication and statistical reporting practices across health services, enhancing quality and safety. ICNP can be used in electronic systems in conjunction with other WHO classifications, wherever care is provided. To support implementation, ICNP is available in a wide range of languages and a number of subsets are available to support a range of health priorities.





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