



International
Federation on
Ageing

Annual Report 2020

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About the IFA

The International Federation on Ageing (IFA) is an international non-governmental organization with a membership base comprising government, NGOs, academics, industry, and individuals in 80 countries. The IFA began operations in 1973, at a time when the social and economic impact of population ageing was only beginning to be understood by governments around the world.

The IFA has general consultative status at the United Nations and its agencies and is in formal relations with the World Health Organization.

The IFA has been involved in drafting key initiatives such as the UN Principles for Older Persons, actively advocating for older people to be recognized in the Sustainable Development Goals, and maintaining a strong voice in the dialogue on how to best protect the rights of older people globally.

The IFA is a registered charity in Canada, with an international and democratically elected Board of Directors.

Vision

A world of healthy older people whose rights and choices are both protected and respected.

Mission

To drive the agenda of the world's ageing populations.

Goal

To be the global point of connection and networks of experts and expertise to influence and shape age-related policy.





Mr Graeme Prior

No person, young or older, is expendable said António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General. Older people carry the collective wisdom of our societies, said Dr Tedros earlier this year. Dr Nabarro also said civil society plays an important collective role to maintain the narrative that every life matters.

Collectively these three statements bring us to the conclusion of what has been a difficult year for all of us working in the field of ageing due to the global COVID-19 pandemic while not losing sight of the health, wellbeing and rights of persons of all ages, recognizing the profound value of older people in providing the glue for civil society and the energy, power and passion to help drive change while being witness to omissions and discriminations.

We have seen over 85 million cases of coronavirus in the world, with more than 1.8million who have died. There is a tremendous sense of loss, loss of life, identity, touch, purpose and even the loss of hope. Each of us are living with COVID and experience personal and professional situations that are not only unique but intense 24/7.

The IFA is intensely conscious of the lives of older people and also those family and friends who feel disconnected for extended period of time. Through IFAs leadership in March this year weekly Town Hall meetings have provided not only conversations with experts but most importantly a time to be connected and establish links with colleagues from around the world. Mental wellbeing is critically important as is trust and belief in the science behind public health decisions.

As an organisation the way IFA thinks, feels and acts in driving the agenda of the world population ageing should be a mirror into the world on older people through our connections and work with government, NGOs, industry and older people. Through this we are better able to help influence and help shape actions within the Decade of Healthy Ageing.

The coronavirus pandemic has brutally exposed the lack of much needed coordination and focus and the prevalence of age discrimination. We believe it is vital for the IFA to continue to highlight such issues without which current and future generations will pay a heavy price if we, collectively, fail to act appropriately.

The health, wellbeing and functional ability of all citizens, and especially older people must be at the forefront of a serious review of the systems in which policy and programs within and external intergovernmental agencies. Lives, livelihoods and economies are in jeopardy when people and the systems in which they live and work are disconnected or do not have a common agenda.

Health systems have been put under enormous pressure and the shortcomings of long-term care and support systems, often due to lack of prioritisation, funding and regulation, have been laid bare. Pervasive ageist attitudes have come to the fore in the narrative of the pandemic, with older people routinely labelled as 'vulnerable' and common suggestions that we should be less concerned about COVID-19 because 'only older people are dying'. In many respects the rituals and rites of passage of humanity have long been trivialized – the global pandemic has only brought to the open the dehumanization of care and the process of dying and grief.

Yet at the community level there are shining examples of the voice and power of older people. Environments created to enable older people to do what they value, vis a vis age-friendly cities and communities have provided a strong foundation in the pandemic response. Governments co designing and working with civil society can bring benefits for people of all ages.

It is critical that systems (the ways of thinking and working internally and externally) are critically reviewed to achieve stronger and more tangible results for all older people globally, preserving their dignity to the very end.

In these unprecedented times the work and the voice of the IFA has been sought after in various fields including clinical and integrated care, age-friendly environments, ageism, the open-ended working group on ageing and the Decade of Healthy Ageing.

At the United Nations, our team is a thoughtful group of professionals that are respected for their commitment and 'ready for action' philosophy. We now have representatives in New York, Vienna and also Geneva. Dr Stuen (IFAs Main Representative) Ms Hamlin, Dr Levy, Mr O'Neal, Dr Timmerman, Ms Zainoeddin (New York), Dr Fitzgerald and Dr Scheil-Adlung (Geneva) and Dr Stark (Vienna) are tireless in their representation and advocacy at the missions, capitals and across sectors.

The IFA has demonstrated an ability to be responsive to change and is an organization that is not afraid to 'step up' to help other organisations including the WHO. This approach and way of working is something of a hallmark of the IFA

It is a privilege to be the IFA President, leading a dedicated group of Directors and working with a strong team at the IFA Secretariat. Thank you.



Vaccines4Life

Project Leads



Ms Megan Acton



Ms Anna Sangster



Ms Yifan Zhang



Ms Andra Stancu



Ms Vanessa Alphons



Ms Sheila Amri



Ms Petek Yurt

The goal of the IFA Vaccines4Life Project is a world of healthy older people whose rights to safe and appropriate vaccines are protected and respected through programs that hold high the principles of prevention, access and equity. V4L is framed by three independent yet connected intentions:

1. To be a reliable source of information, evidence and good practice across sectors and disciplines on the link between adult vaccination and healthy ageing.
2. To mobilize knowledge, experts and expertise through the creation and use of innovative platforms and channels of communication.
3. To influence and help shape policy related to adult vaccination and at-risk groups through capacity building at the national and international level.

2020 Achievements

Vaccines4Life Knowledge Mobilization Platform



Country: Canada **VSN member since:** 2020
Website language: English

Seek reliable information from trusted sources on vaccine safety

The [Vaccines4Life.com](https://www.vaccines4life.com) website is a knowledge mobilization platform that serves as a point of connection on the most urgent matters related to adult vaccination. A key element of the Vaccines4Life platform is the Vaccinet database, a knowledge repository curating content on adult vaccination from a variety of different sources, including but not limited to journal articles, reports, media, presentations, and webinars. Launched during World Immunization Week (24-30 April 2020), the website has had 11,321 page views.

In October 2020, Vaccines4Life.com joined the WHO [Vaccine Safety Net](#). The Vaccine Safety Net is a global network of diverse digital information sources, established by the World Health Organization, that provides reliable accurate, understandable, and accessible evidence-based information on the safety of vaccines, located in countries around the world and in various languages.

Through this new partnership, the V4L website will be verified as a reliable source for vaccine safety information, increasing our reputation as a leaders in adult vaccination, allowing access to up to date and accurate vaccine safety resources and bringing opportunities to exchange knowledge with stakeholders worldwide.

World Coalition on Adult Vaccination

The [World Coalition on Adult Vaccination](#), established in 2016, aims to collaborate on a common agenda around a life course approach to vaccination. With the addition of leading organisations including the British Lung Foundation and CanAge, the coalition increased to 49 organizational members in 2020.

IFA's [Vaccines4Life Newsletter](#) comprising updates from World Coalition on Adult Vaccination members has increased its frequency from quarterly to bi-monthly editions to support the growing global body of work to improve life course immunization policies.

The Coalition has also arranged a number of joint statements, such as "[Pneumococcal Pneumonia: Worth the Shot](#)" and advocacy initiatives such as [videos](#) for awareness raising days such as World Immunization Week. These efforts are promoted through IFA's [@Vaccines4Life](#) Twitter account, which gained 218 new followers in 2020, with over 20,000 tweet impressions.

Among those 65 years and older, 90% of deaths from an infectious disease are linked to pneumonia. Join the World Coalition on Adult Vaccination and [@IntFedAgeing](#) in calling for investment and education on influenza and pneumonia vaccination. bit.ly/32ehl8Z pic.twitter.com/xC2f5EQs7O



Expert Meetings and Events

Vaccination in France: Changing the Public Perception

Following the bilingual Expert Meeting held in Lyon, France in December 2019 "*Vaccination in France: Changing the Public Perception*", the IFA organized a [francophone webinar](#) in January 2020, and produced a consensus statement, in both [English](#) and [French](#), and [expert meeting report](#) to elevate the strategic prioritization of life course vaccination among patient and professional organizations in France.

Creating an Action Plan to Address Gaps in Global Influenza Control

Across sectors, work is being done to address the public health issue of low influenza vaccination uptake and multiple organizations have made important strides towards achieving adequate coverage. Despite these achievements, significant gaps and actions exist in global influenza control. For these reasons, the IFA and the International Federation on Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA) convened the network meeting "Creating an Action Plan to Address Gaps in Global Influenza Control" at the IFPMA headquarters in Geneva, from 20-21 January 2020. The meeting brought together leading patient and health advocacy organizations, influenza focused groups, public health, and industry in order to develop a 'call for action' to improve influenza immunization practices and uptake.

Influencing Policy to Improve Adult Vaccination in Germany

In February 2020, the IFA held a successful, high-level expert meeting in Munich Germany to critically evaluate the structural, organizational, and individual level barriers older Germans were facing in accessing potentially life-saving vaccines. Outcomes from this meeting included an [executive report](#) that captured the key findings and recommendations for improvement, and a [consensus statement](#). These documents have since been shared with members of the ministry of health and leaders of national health organizations in Germany.



Pneumonia Vaccination in At-Risk Groups: A Canadian Perspective

The IFA safely convened a hybrid Expert Meeting in Toronto, Canada in October 2020 titled “Pneumonia Vaccination in At-risk Groups: A Canadian Perspective” with an impressive attendance list of leading experts in Canada’s public health, professional association, patient and ageing advocacy spheres. The project focus is on identifying opportunities to build intersectoral capacity to raise awareness and ultimately uptake rates of pneumonia vaccination among all Canadians, particularly older people and those with underlying health conditions. Meeting deliverables include a [consensus statement](#) and expert meeting report (in progress).

Improving Adult Influenza Vaccination in Canada: Learning from International Good Practices

IFA launched a Virtual Meeting Series titled “Improving Adult Influenza Vaccination in Canada: Learning from International Good Practices” comprising two town hall style virtual meetings: [“The Canadian Adult Influenza Vaccination Programs: Issues of Access and Equity”](#) on 30 September 2020 and [“Strengthening Adult Influenza Vaccination Programs: Learning from International Good Practice”](#) on 14 October 2020; along with a formal expert roundtable on 17 November 2020. This program of work invites the perspectives of experts in the field of vaccination and patient advocacy in Canada and internationally to explore principles of successful harmonized vaccination programs and deliberate the challenges and opportunities for positive change within the Canadian context. Meeting discussions have been compiled in a position paper and will inform the creation of a “Best Practices” section on the Vaccines4Life website.

Mobilizing Patient Groups to Change Vaccine Policy

From 1-3 December 2020, the IFA convened a virtual expert meeting series titled “Mobilizing Patient Groups to Change Vaccine Policy”. The expert meeting series gathered representatives of member associations representing groups at-risk to VPDs, together with professional associations and representatives of the Joint Action on Vaccination to:

- Contribute to new and strengthened partnerships and broader coalition-building in accordance with objectives set out by the European Commission Joint Action on Vaccination, and in doing so, inform EU policy.
- Protect progress by determining how best to position policy issues and strategies for action to address low uptake rates of adult vaccination within at-risk populations.
- Using the COVID-19 pandemic as an entry-point, determine cost-neutral actions that could be undertaken by organizations to catalyse conversations and policy action.

A consensus statement compiling key messages and next steps to be taken are being developed.

Building Global Momentum for Adult Vaccination Policy within COVID-19

The IFA proposed to develop and host a series of four webinars to build global momentum to increase access to vaccines with themes falling under the following areas: prevention, access, and equity. The first webinar



Amazing progress has been made against infectious disease thanks to vaccines, yet rates have been slipping for adults around the world due to COVID-19.

– Ms Martha Rebour, Executive Director, Shot@Life

titled “[Protecting Progress in Accessing Adult Vaccination within COVID-19](#)” was held on 10 December with over 200 registrants to set the stage for the upcoming three webinars. As a result, one of the expert speakers, Ms Martha Rebour, Executive Director at Shot@Life accepted an invitation to be part of the IFA Expert Centre. The webinar mobilized attention to the upcoming webinar on 20 January 2021 titled “The Case for Investment in Health Prevention and Promotion”. Together, outputs from the webinars will be used to develop an e-policy toolkit to raise awareness of the policy issues.



Protecting Progress in Accessing Adult Vaccination
Building Global Momentum for Adult Vaccination Policy within COVID-19
The webinar seeks to raise awareness of the current situation and how to

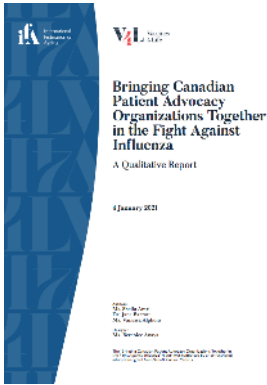
Projects

Changing the Conversation on Adult Influenza Vaccination

IFA completed a [10-country environmental scan](#) to understand the status quo and gaps of public health messages that focus on older adults and people living with chronic diseases and thus to improve adult influenza vaccination campaigns. This study was conducted through an online review of the publicly accessible documentation of immunization policies, immunization campaign resources and other information. In September, a large-scale 100+ page report was published, in addition to a [consensus statement](#) resulting from an expert meeting bringing together thought leaders from NGOs, government, industry and academia to enable a road map for changing the adult influenza vaccination campaigns. In 2021, The IFA will be convening a series of educational webinars, gathering good practices on messages and campaigns to help build a solid base for improving communication practices in adult influenza vaccination.



Bringing Civil Society Voices Together to Improve Rates of Adult Influenza Vaccination in Canada



In the 2018-2019 influenza season in Canada, vaccination rates fell far below the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) target of 80%. Civil society organizations (CSOs) including patient, professional and seniors' organizations can positively influence influenza vaccine uptake rates for at-risk populations.

In December 2020, the IFA produced a [qualitative report](#) resulting from interviews with different key decision makers and representatives of Canadian CSOs. The qualitative study investigated the reasons behind the poor prioritization of adult influenza vaccination by CSOs in Canada. Findings from this study suggest that there is a general understanding of the importance of influenza vaccination to the lives of at-risk populations but that organizations face considerable barriers in prioritizing adult influenza vaccination.

Towards Ending Immunization Inequity

The IFA is undertaking a mix-method study titled "Towards Ending Immunization Inequity" which explores the effects of social determinants on immunization messages and campaigns. The first phase of the study consists of desk research to gather vaccination data, such as NITAG recommendations, vaccinator gateways, vaccine schedules, etc. in each of the five selected countries: Canada, France, Germany, United Kingdom and Australia).

The second phase is a focus group using the findings of the desk research to understand how best to maximize the impact and implementation of future recommendations at a country level. The third phase is a cross-sectional survey to identify factors associated with hesitancy within influenza vaccination messages and campaigns, and the healthcare system more broadly among a sample of vulnerable populations.

The collective results of this study will provide significant understanding of the role of social determinants in the inequity observed and conclude on actions that should be taken to further foster equity during the Decade of Healthy Ageing.

Amplifying Civil Society Voices to Improve Rates for Adult Influenza Vaccination (Germany)

Patient and advocacy organisations, through their membership base and stakeholder engagement, represent a diverse population of older people in Germany who are at-risk to vaccine preventable diseases such as influenza. Through a series of structured conversations with key decision makers and influencers representing patient and ageing organizations in Germany, IFA is gathering insights, knowledge, and views on how best to prioritize adult influenza vaccination.

The primary objective of this project is to gain a deeper understanding of views from at-risk patient, ageing and advocacy organizations on how to best prioritize influenza vaccination to improve the lives of older Germans and their families.

Vaccination Advocacy Toolkit

The COVID-19 pandemic has brutally exposed the lack of preparedness of not only government but also patient and ageing organisations to advocate for testing, treatment and social care. These organisations, which represent hundreds of millions of people at-risk to VPDs, are critical to helping to influence decisions of governmental policy that could improve and expand the coverage of adult vaccination schedules.

For these reasons, IFA is developing a Vaccination Advocacy Toolkit (in collaboration with an advisory group) that will help to save the lives of at-risk populations through education of key influencers and their organisations representing millions of people. The overarching goal of the VAT is to improve the uptake rates of adult vaccination

through helping to build the capacity and capability of stakeholder groups that represent and work with those populations most at-risk of VPDs. It will be developed as a public service to support the belief that people and the organisations they represent can change their communities for the better.

National Immunization Task Advisory Groups (NITAGs)

Research is currently lacking on the composition of NITAGs including the field of science members are from, the nomination process, and modes of functioning. IFA is working to complete an environmental scan of 20 NITAGs, with 10 completed to date. The remaining 10 scans can be used to create a more complete picture and better enable IFA to know what barriers and opportunities NITAGs present in improving adult vaccination rates. For example, if NITAGs are comprised primarily of pediatricians, and lack geriatricians, this may be a key barrier. Afterwards, the findings will be compiled into a comprehensive report and a conclusion set with recommendations by the IFA.

Pneumonia Literature Review

IFA commissioned a literature review conducted by Dr Nora Cutcliffe on the impact of pneumonia on the functional ability of older adults, and an article (in progress) by Dr Vyvyan Mishra to showcase findings of the literature review.

Mobilizing a Civil Society UK Vaccine Alliance

The goal of this project is to begin with forming a Civil Society UK Vaccine Alliance to advocate for improved prevention actions and access to adult vaccination in the UK. Once the Alliance is formed, it would develop agreed mechanisms to inform position papers / reports across sectors and disciplines aligned to further the goals and objectives of the Alliance. Finally, the Alliance would act to raise awareness of the key messages of the UK Government Vaccine Strategy and ways to drive this agenda in local communities by targeting policymakers, civil society, and healthcare workers. In 2020, the IFA began the background research on current advocacy groups in the UK focused on vaccination. The IFA plans to hold a joint listening session with an advocacy group focused on vaccination in the UK to attract attention to the Alliance that is to be developed thereafter.

Vision Health

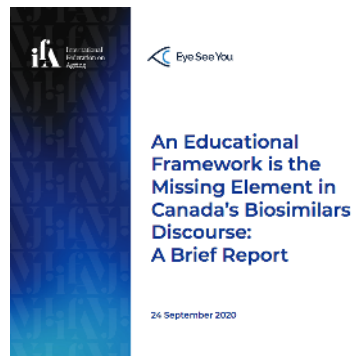
Project Lead



Ms Andra Stancu

In 2020, the Biosimilars in Ophthalmology project was launched as part of the IFA's Vision Health Program Eye See You. In August 2020, a virtual expert panel titled "[Biosimilars in Ophthalmology: Is there a big change on the horizon?](#)" initiated the national dialogue on the importance of patient-centered education and clinical consultation about biosimilars in ophthalmology so as to facilitate informed decision-making and influence biosimilar policies in development. An [executive summary](#) of the panel discussions was published on the www.eyeseeyou.care website, which was also updated in 2020 to reflect the newly launched Biosimilars in Ophthalmology program.

Subsequently, expert stakeholder interviews provided a basis to build upon the growing national dialogue and develop a strong summary report comprising perspectives of Canadian and international experts in patient advocacy and vision health. The IFA completed a report entitled "[An Educational Framework is the Missing Element in Canada's Biosimilars Discourse: A Brief Report](#)" which highlights the urgency to build an educational framework to guide the emergence and implementation of biosimilar policies affecting vision health. In the absence of such a framework, Canadians are at a disadvantage when it comes to making informed decisions about their vision treatment.



In the latter part of 2020, a virtual town hall entitled "Biosimilars in Ophthalmology: What do patients and their families need to know?" provided an open forum for debate and discussion among patients, caregivers, patient advocates and health care providers on the critical education and resources needed now, to ensure Canadians are empowered to have informed consultations about their vision health treatment options as new biosimilars emerge.

The IFA is looking forward to expanding the project in 2021 to include professional associations and vision health professionals in IFA's advocacy initiatives through the creation of an advisory committee. An expert panel discussion geared toward vision health professionals is under development.

The launch of the WHO World Report on Vision provides a critical opportunity to expand the vision health portfolio to respond to the needs of older people experiencing vision loss based on international evidence-based recommendations.

DR Barometer

Project Leads



Ms Yifan Zheng Dr Supriya Venigalla

The DR Barometer 1.0 Study that was completed in 2017 brought to attention the status of prevention, assessment and treatment of diabetic eye disease (DED), which includes Diabetic Macular Edema (DME) and Diabetic Retinopathy (DR), as well as lived experiences of people with the condition and the perspectives of the clinicians based on their interactions with patients. Maximizing the impact derived from evidence is a core goal of the DR Barometer Program.

The goal of the [DR Barometer Program](#) is to address the findings of the 2017 DR Barometer study, and to be a platform for knowledge exchange and solution driven actions to build best practices, inform policy, and increase patient education and awareness. The DR Barometer Program aims to be the global point of connection for 'evidence-to-action' around diabetes-related vision complications.

The DR Barometer Program is framed by three focus areas that form the Communities of Practice (CoP).



Each CoP is led by a Chair and an Expert Advisor. The Communities of Practice represent a formal process to drive meaningful policy and practice change in the screening, treatment, and prognosis of diabetic retinopathy for adults living with diabetes.

The DR Barometer Community currently comprises over 100 vision health, diabetes, and ageing advocates; health care professionals from several specialties including geriatrics, primary care, diabetology, and ophthalmology; and public health experts and officials.

2020 Achievements

Development of the Communities of Practice

The official launch of the DR Community of Practice (CoP) coinciding with the onboarding workshop was originally scheduled in March 2020 in Zagreb, Croatia. Due to the global impact of COVID-19, the face-to-face workshop was cancelled, and two virtual sessions were held instead in July 2020.

The virtual workshops comprised 18 delegates from 11 countries (Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Greece, Mexico, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States). Experts and thought leaders in the

fields of ophthalmology, diabetology, primary care, geriatric care, public health, diabetes advocacy and vision health advocacy gathered at the workshops to discuss evidence, practical challenges, solutions and strategies on the three focal areas: patient education and empowerment; guidelines and protocols; and coordinated care.

Chairs, expert advisors, and members of the Community of Practice sought to expand on the role of patients as educators and use media in patient education; improve implementation of guidelines and protocols by learning of suggested pathways to application, detect barriers, and develop solutions to overcome them; and improve the coordinated care pathway by understanding patient perspectives.

Virtual DR Barometer Global Advisory Committee (GAC) Meeting

On 13 May 2020, members of the GAC were invited to update on organisational work related to the DR Barometer Program and Study.

Members of the GAC emphasized on the importance of optimizing the opportunity of exchanging information in the context of COVID-19 pandemic. There was agreement on the need to collectively create messages and guidelines across sectors and disciplines and disseminate these through various channels to different target audiences.

Mr Nick Parker (IAPB) provided an update on the DR Working Group within IAPB. The Working Group's new leader in ophthalmology, has been involved in the response to COVID in collaboration with WHO. The Working Group included the development of technical specifications for the use of AI in DR and finalised a revised version of the fundus camera specifications which will be used in the IAPB standard equipment list and as benchmark for Valued Suppliers.

With regard to COVID-19 and Ophthalmology, Dr. David Wong provided a description of how ophthalmologists were managing their practices in the midst of COVID-19. Ophthalmology clinics are not essential services and were therefore closed, except for emergency/urgent care. Injections for macular degeneration were ongoing as there is significant risk of vision loss.

Dr George Lambrou (Vision Academy, Bayer) provided an update on the work of the Vision Academy on the development of COVID-19 guidelines and materials to support ophthalmologists and patients with retinal disease maintaining healthcare while minimizing the risk of infection.

The meeting of the Global Advisory Council resulted in the development of a 3-year strategic plan, which guides the activities of the Program.

Development of quarterly newsletters and social media strategy The DR Barometer Program newsletters are disseminated on a quarterly basis by the IFA to all community members. The newsletters highlight new resources or publications, blogs, spotlights, good practices, and recent and upcoming events, which provide important insights to inform and shape policies, programmes and services to positively impact the vision health of adults with diabetes. Community members are welcome to submit content as well as to refer colleagues to join the Community.

To expand membership base worldwide, the Program has strategically increased its social media presence, and program updates are promoted through IFA's Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn accounts.

International Federation on Ageing
1,535 followers
2mo • 🌐

November is **#DiabetesAwarenessMonth**. 1 in 3 people living with diabetes will develop life-altering vision complications. Join the **#DRBarometer** community to help drive policy to fight diabetes-related **#visionloss**. <https://lnkd.in/dANwT4G>

1 in 3
people with diabetes
currently develop
retinopathy over
their lifetime

Hearing

Project Lead



Ms Megan Acton

Sensory capabilities such as hearing decline with age, beginning with adults in their 40s and increasing dramatically to those over 80 years of age. In fact, age-related hearing loss is one of the most common sensory impairments among older people and is expected to be one of the top leading causes of burden of disease. Today, hearing loss affects approximately 164.5 million older people, accounting for 33% of the global population over the age of 65 years.

Despite the growing evidence that hearing loss is not an inevitable consequence of ageing, many older people live with unidentified hearing loss that impacts their functioning on a daily basis.

2020 Achievements

World Hearing Forum As a member of the [WHO World Hearing Forum](#) (WHF), a global network of stakeholders promoting ear and hearing care worldwide, in 2020 IFA was able to contribute to key WHO documents and strategies including the forthcoming [WHO World Report on Hearing](#), which will be launched on World Hearing Day (3 March, 2021).

Think Tank to Improve Hearing in Later Life

On 9-10 November 2020, the International Federation on Ageing (IFA) and the International Collegium on Rehabilitative Audiology (ICRA) convened a virtual Think Tank on Hearing in Later Life, gathering a group of inspiring and thoughtful leaders from across the fields of audiology, otolaryngology, psychology, geriatric medicine, gerontology, public health, government, ageing, industry and NGOs. Sponsorship for the Think Tank was secured from new partnerships including the European Hearing Industries Manufacturers Association (EHIMA), the William Demant Foundation, Sonova, Facebook Technologies Ltd. and Cochlear Ltd.

It is the opportune time to join forces across sectors to improve hearing care for older adults given the upcoming launch of the WHO World Report on Hearing on World Hearing Day, the start of the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021-2030), and the expertise shared, the connections built, and the momentum created during the Think Tank on Hearing in Later Life.



Using their collective capabilities and resources, Think Tank delegates committed to work towards the overarching goal that all government and non-government led actions for healthy ageing include hearing care within their scope. A multitude of new partnerships were formed as a result of the Think Tank, which has led IFA to convene a [Hearing in Later Life Summit](#) in 2021, one day prior to the IFA 15th Global Conference on Ageing.

Brain Health

Project Lead



Ms Anna Sangster

Cognition is one of the major predictors of day-to-day functional ability, and new strategies for protecting against cognitive decline and impairment are urgently needed in a comprehensive public health framework.

2020 Achievements



CONSENSUS STATEMENT



In May 2020, the 2019 Copenhagen Summit on Cognitive Reserve and the associated [consensus statement](#) and [press release](#) were successfully launched.

The WHO [Global action plan on the public health response to dementia 2017-2025](#) recognises dementia as a public health priority and aims to improve the lives of people with dementia, their families and carers, while decreasing the impact of dementia on communities and countries and the IFA is now looking forward to the 15th Global Conference on Ageing where a [Presidential Symposium on Brain Health](#) entitled “The Treatment for Dementia is Prevention” will be hosted. The IFA has currently secured partial funding for this event from Roche Ltd and AARP, and is continuing to pursue additional funding opportunities.

COVID-19

Project Leads



Ms Andra Stancu



Ms Chesley Ryder

In the midst of unprecedented global health challenges the IFA undertook several actions to advocate for the rights and choices of older people during COVID-19.

A summary document on the World Health Organization COVID-19 resources and guidance that support older people was published [WHO Country and Technical Guidance – COVID-19: Analysis of the Focus on Older People](#).

The IFA garnered support from more than 215 individuals for an [Open Letter](#) to the World Health Organization calling for prioritization of the needs of older people in the global COVID-19 response.

A weekly IFA Virtual Town Hall Series “COVID-19 and Older People” has expanded the IFA’s global network has expanded with 1,200 new contacts from over 50 countries. Since the series began in April 2019, the forum which features one or more expert speakers, continues to attract a growing audience and foster collaborative relationships with multisectoral thought leaders by addressing a variety of issues impacting the lives of older people during the COVID-19 pandemic. Up to 170 participants join each week, and an additional up to 300 view the Facebook live stream weekly. This virtual town hall series will continue in 2021. See recordings and resources from all IFA Virtual Town Halls in this series [here](#).



This Friday, the IFA Virtual Town Hall series on COVID-19 and Older People will focus Good Practices from an Age-friendly Perspective with [@cmcguigan1972](#) of [#Agefriendly](#) [#Ireland](#). Register now: ow.ly/4lm050zwinZ [@AgeFriendlyIrl](#) [#RightsMatter](#) [#OlderPeopleMatter](#) pic.twitter.com/0KfSUE7oam



19 28

15th Global Conference on Ageing

Project Lead



Ms Nathalia
Wittingham

As a response to the unprecedented times and challenges the Covid-19 pandemic has brought, the IFA announced the first virtual and in-person 15th Global Conference, entitled “Rights Matter”, where delegates from all over the world will have the opportunity to benefit, interact, listen and learn from five themes, fifteen sub-themes, three keynote speakers, three presidential symposiums, concurrent sessions and one exhibition space.

The 15th Global Conference on Ageing “Rights Matter” represents a critical point of connection for all those fighting for the rights of older people in a time when their value may have been in question against the backdrop of the brutal nature and consequences of the global pandemic.

Goal

The [15th Global Conference on Ageing “Rights Matter”](#) aims to respond to the intersection of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the priorities of the WHO Global Strategy and Action Plan. Presentations will be focused on four action areas of The Decade of Healthy Ageing 2020-2030: ageism, age-friendly cities and communities, primary health care, and long-term care alongside older people and pandemics constitute the structural pillars of the IFA Global Conference which is expected to attract more than a thousand delegates around the world across governments, NGOs, industry, academia and older people.



The goal of the 15th Conference and Pre-conference is to feature experts presenting and discussing critical issues within the field of ageing. It's about delegates and organizations being accountable to change so that together we can enable older people to do what they value. It is the IFA's goal that the 15th Global Conference results in delegates coming back, re-engaging with peers and sharing the actions that have been taken since the last Conference.

2020 Achievements

- To ensure the health and safety of all delegates, speakers, staff, and volunteers, the 15th Global Conference on Ageing was rescheduled, and it is now scheduled for 10-12 November 2021 with pre-conference events on 9 November 2021.
- The themes for the conference are now focused on the four themes related to the WHO Decade of Healthy Ageing (2020-2030): Ageism, Age-friendly Cities and Communities, Primary Health Care and Long-term Care.
- A fifth theme was added to the conference focused on Older people and Pandemics to ensure there is space at the 15th Global Conference on Ageing on the lessons learned in this pandemic and the value of immunization throughout the lifespan and ensure that no one is left behind.
- The Conference will be a hybrid event, combining an in-person experience as it was originally planned, and a virtual experience, allowing participants to attend virtually from around the world.
- The IFA was able to find the right audio-visual company that can provide the necessary service and equipment to run the conference virtually and in-person for all delegates to have an excellent and high-quality experience.
- Niagara Falls Business Events agreed to continue working in partnership with Niagara Airbus to subsidize a custom shuttle bus solution from Pearson International Airport to Niagara Falls during the new dates.
- Ms Alana Officer, Mr Michel Tamblyn and Mr Spencer West confirmed their participation during the new conference dates and will deliver the keynote address at the conference.
- The IFA has secured nine (9) Conference sponsors with the aim of increasing sponsorship in 2021.



Media, Marketing and Communications

Project Leads



Ms Chesley Ryder



Ms Berenice Anaya

This year, the IFA continued to strengthen outreach of media, marketing and communications efforts across all platforms.

Through these channels, the IFA sought to increase awareness of project works, build engaging communities of practice, affect policy and practice on age-related issues, and communicate regarding updates to the 15th Global Conference on Ageing “Rights Matter.”

Websites

- The www.ifa.ngo site continued to exist and develop as a place to showcase the IFA’s various content from project works, WHO and United Nation statements and updates, partners and members, and experts. During 2020, more than 157, 000 pages were viewed.



- As the IFA 15th Global Conference “Rights Matter” moved to 2021 due to the global pandemic, the www.ifa2021.ngo website was updated regularly to reflect the new dates, along with the new Conference themes, and information on the Conference which will now be both virtual and in-person. Throughout 2020, more than 36,000 pages were viewed.



- As mentioned the www.vaccines4life.com website was launched in April 2020. Since then, relevant news items and project updates have been added including [Dr. Jane Barratt Announced as CSO representative for ACT-Accelerator Vaccine Pillar \(COVAX\)](#)
- The EyeSeeYou website was updated to include information on the new Vision Health Project: Biosimilars in Ophthalmology and resources that support this <http://eyeseeyou.care/en/>

Social Media

- The IFA uses social media to encourage engagement with stakeholders and build a network working towards a world where older people rights are respected and protected.
- In 2020 followership on IFA social media platforms saw a further significant net increases:
 - [Twitter](#) gained 896 new followers in 2020 for a total of 6,648 followers with over 100,000 tweet impressions
 - [Facebook](#) gained 442 new followers in 2020 for a total of 3,017 followers
 - [LinkedIn](#) gained 616 new followers in 2020 for a total of 1,521 followers
- Posts on social media focus on capturing expertise, bringing discussions to the forefront of mass media, and sharing the advancements made by project work, partners and members around the world.
- Many meetings and webinars were live-tweeted and live streamed on the IFA Facebook page including
 - IFA Virtual Town Hall Series: COVID-19 and Older People
 - [United Nations International Day of Older Persons | Pandemics: do they change how we address age and ageing](#) with 1,047 views
 - [Paving the Way to OEWGA11 in Conversation with Experts](#) with 323 views'

Top Tweet earned 81.5K impressions

The IFA applauds [@DrTedros](#) [@WHO](#) for comments on the need to work together to protect older people from the virus and ensure their needs are being met – for food, fuel, prescription medication and human interaction. What practical steps are needed to make this a reality?
pic.twitter.com/YhkrCw2Wnc



👁️ 81.5K 🗨️ 46 ❤️ 126



Statements, Blogs and Newsletters

- As a leading voice in the ageing community, the IFA continues to put forward original content, sharing perspective and providing examples of good practice.
- The IFA is a leader in age-related advocacy, publishing statements, news and blogs on relevant topics including
 - [COVID-19 Exposes Systematic Problems in Long-term Care Homes Globally](#)
 - [Written Statement by the International Federation on Ageing for the 73rd Session of the World Health Assembly, 18-19 May 2020](#)
- The IFA releases a monthly newsletter to a mailing list of over 16,000 individual subscribers. In 2020, the VoltAge continued to deliver more visually appealing and engaging content with readers. The software (Constant Contact) is also used for the Age Friendly Innovation Exchange (AFIX) newsletters, Vaccines4Life Newsletter, DR Barometer Newsletters, and conference communications.

Project Lead



Ms Jun Wang

Meltwater and Website Newsfeeds

To drive the IFA's visibility and pitch relevant journalists, the IFA has contacted over 13,012 journalists globally in 2020. The average open rate of emails, including project-related press release and statements, is 23.2%.

To continue to distribute and share news while connecting with the right contacts externally, the IFA will customize newsfeeds content for Vaccine4Life and DR Barometer website.

Expert Centre and Media Inquiries

To connect more deeply with the experts and stakeholders, mass media has the power to bring the missions of the IFA to key audiences that engages conversations while simultaneously influencing policy at the national/government level. To this end, the [IFA Expert Centre](#) has opened a direct line of communication with reporters in the field.

Now in the fourth full year of operation, the IFA expert centre received 258 inquiries to date for 2020 (event, media and general). Inquiries range in requests from speaking engagements to commenting on up-to-date news stories to the exchange of knowledge amongst colleagues and relevant news field. The IFA intends to grow this network by bringing on more experts and engaging existing ones to maintain their profiles with their latest research and work. In 2021, the IFA Expert Centre will feature a new function to deliver insights through expert curated Q&A.

DR. JANE BARRATT
Secretary General | International Federation on Ageing
As Secretary General of the IFA Dr Barratt is an internationally respected speaker on age related issues across the globe.
Fostering Healthy Ageing | Healthy Ageing | Public Policy and Advocacy | Population Ageing | Women's Rights | Inequality | Human Rights

DR. AMY D'APRIX
Founder - Life Transitions by Dr. Amy | Life Transitions by Dr. Amy
Our vision is to change the way people think, talk and act when navigating life transitions, particularly in their last third of life.
Retirement Planning | Seniors | Elder Care | Practical Strategies to Improve Your Caregiving Role | Staying Healthy and Positive

DR. SANDRA HIRST
Director | International Federation on Ageing
A career spent building capacity in the field of gerontological nursing and improving benchmarks in support of professional nursing practice.
Gerontology | Seniors and Healthcare | Gerontology of Nursing

DRA. MARÍA EUGENIA JIMÉNEZ CORONA
Deputy General Director of Epidemiology | Directorate General of Epidemiology (DGE)
Dra. María Eugenia Jiménez Corona serves as Deputy General Director of Epidemiology, Secretary of Health.
Vaccination | COVID-19 | Organization Analysis | Fund Raising | Immunology | Vaccination Strategies | Epidemiology | Geriatrics

DR. STEFANIA MAGGI
Immediate Past President | European Union Geriatric Medicine Society
Dr. Maggi is a Geriatrician and Epidemiologist with expertise in both areas of Clinical Geriatrics and Epidemiology of Aging.
Coronavirus | Research | Disease Prevention | Clinical Geriatrics | Epidemiology of Aging | Education | COVID-19

DR. ISABELLA ABODERIN
Senior Research Scientist | Oxford Institute of Population Ageing, Oxford University
Dr. Aboderin is also Head of the Program on Aging and Development (PA-ADC) & Associate Prof of Gerontology at the University of Southampton.
Elder Adult Rights | Ageing Policy and Development | Social Determinants of Health in Old Age | Health Systems | Access to Health Care

United Nations

Project Leads



Ms Megan Acton



Ms Andra Stancu

The IFA obtained General Consultative status with the [UN Economic and Social Council](#) (ECOSOC) in 1995 and has formal working relations with several UN agencies, including the World Health Organization (WHO). This status enables the IFA to contribute to joint statements, convene side events and promote the rights of older people across a variety of platforms at the UN.

IFA UN Representatives Dr Stuen, Ms Hamlin, Dr Levy, Mr O’Neal, Dr Timmerman, Ms Zainoeddin (in New York), Dr Fitzgerald and Dr Scheil-Adlung (in Geneva), and Ms Stark (in Vienna) work tirelessly in their representation and advocacy at UN missions, capitals and across sectors.

As an NGO in General Consultative Status with ECOSOC, and one of few international NGOs focused on ageing and older persons, the IFA, through its UN Representatives strive to advocate for the rights of older persons to be protected and respected by influencing and shaping age-related policies.

2020 Achievements

UN Meetings

Throughout the year, the IFA has provided oral and written statements for meetings such as the UN High Level Political Forum, the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing, and the Commission for Social Development (CSocD), where IFA developed a written statement on affordable housing and social protection systems for all to prevent homelessness.

In addition, IFA produced a written statement for the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (ECOSOC) High Level Segment “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.”

International Day of Older Persons (IDOP)

On 1 October 2020, the IFA hosted the Official Commemoration of the UN International Day of Older Persons entitled “[Pandemics: Do They Change How We Address Age and Ageing?](#)”

This event was co-organized by the NGO Committee on Ageing, New York and DESA, and co-sponsored the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations, in collaboration with the Group of Friends of Older Persons and brought together over 360 diverse participants from NGOs, Member States, academia and civil society.

Among many memorable moments, a highlight of the event was an interactive dialogue moderated by Dr. Jane Barratt, Secretary General of the IFA, featuring foremost thought leaders in the field of ageing. The discussion focused on concrete actions needed towards achieving healthy ageing across areas, which intersect with the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing 2021-2030.

Report on Recent UN Activities from the New York IFA Team

Submitted by



Dr Cynthia Stuen,
UN Main
Representative



Ms Valerie Levy



Mr James O'Neal



Dr Sandra
Timmermann



Ms Frances
Zainoeddin

The IFA UN Team in New York seeks to carry out IFA's Vision of a world of healthy older people whose rights are both respected and protected. This work has become even more paramount with the COVID-19 pandemic when the world's ageing populations have been discriminated against in their care and treatment, with ageism at its root. COVID-19 is a human rights issue and your UN team in New York seeks to support IFA's extraordinary leadership during this crisis. The following are some highlights of our work in spite of the quarantine with webinars, virtual meetings and communications.

Webinars

- The UN International Day of Older Persons was held 1 October virtually on the theme, PANDEMICS: DO THEY CHANGE HOW WE ADDRESS AGE AND AGEING? The Decade of Healthy Ageing 2020-2030 and the Year of the Nurse & Midwife.
- Team members participate in IFA's weekly webinars on related pandemic topics and commend IFA for their superb content. The NGO Committee on Ageing /NY I (NGO CoA) is seeking to promote the availability of the IFA webinars to its membership. Team members have participated in well over 60 different webinars during this pandemic.
- Plan and offer programs i.e.) 7 May on Brain Health by NGO Committee on Ageing/NY with IFA hosting Committee's first virtual program meeting. Jane Barratt reported on the IFA Copenhagen Summit on Cognitive Reserve and another speaker on use of the Montessori method for persons with advanced cognitive decline.
- Support for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day observance 16 June with all three NGO Committees on Ageing (NY, Geneva and Vienna) co-sponsoring along with others. Topic was The Impact of Covid-19 on Violence, Abuse and Neglect of Older Persons.
- On March 27, Cynthia Stuen was a panelist on "COVID-19 Meets Metabesity: The Nexus between Pandemics and Age-related Diseases," sponsored by Kinexium.

Side Events

- Two in-person side events at the UN were held during the 58th Commission on Social Development with IFA involvement and NGO CoA. On 12 February on the topic of Homelessness in Ageing Women, organized by Soroptimists International, Jane Barratt was invited as speaker on topic of "The Perfect Storm of Gender Disadvantage Throughout Life". The second organized by the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics, on the topic of Homelessness among Older Persons: Facts, Causes, Consequences.
- Pass It On Network organized, with IFA and NGO CoA co-sponsorship., a virtual side event during what would have been the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing (7 April) on the topic of Lifelong Learning and Work.

Written Statements

- Providing input and /or drafting written submissions such as those from IFA for the Commission on Status of Women, Stakeholder Group on Ageing's (SGA) annual position paper for the High Level Political Forum, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations statement on UN at 75 and most recently on COVID-19 Recovery: Building Back Better, and a joint letter to Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations from civil society organizations requesting a plan of action on his brief on older persons and COVID-19.
- Frances Zainoeddinn represents IFA as a member of the SGA and in preparation for the 2020 High Level Political Forum (HLPF) she has:
- Advocated for the selection of SGA representative to participate in preparations for thematic consultations on HLPF session on protecting and advancing human wellbeing and ending poverty. This resulted in Jane Barratt being selected as the SGA representative.
- Attended informal consultations on drafting of the 2020 Ministerial Declaration and providing textual revisions.
- Participated in meetings of the Major Group of Stakeholders Coordination Mechanism Steering Group for preparation for virtual HLPF 7-16 July.

Advocacy

- Team members are actively involved in advocating for a legally binding document for the protections of the human rights of older persons. We work closely with member states particularly the Group of Friends of Older Persons (26 member states) in NY, OEWGA Chair, UN DESA, OHCHR, UNFP, GAROP and other NGO Committees and organizations to seek support for a Convention.

Future Preparations

Preparing three symposium on older women for the IFA 2021 conference on Rights Matter. This is the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Platform and the launch of the Decade of Healthy Ageing so the three topics with attention to the pandemic are as follows:

- Health Inequities and Older Women: Decade of Healthy Ageing and COVID-19 Pandemic
- Health Workers and older women in times of the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Elder Abuse and Older Women: Tracking the long-term impact and fostering resilience after the COVID-19 Pandemic

WHO Age-friendly Environments

Project Lead



Ms Anna Sangster

WHO/IFA Webinar Series

The WHO/IFA Webinar Series began in February 2017. Since then, WHO and IFA have hosted a wide array of additional webinars. Considerable focus has been put into showcasing the upcoming Decade of Healthy Ageing including new sessions on implementation and accountability, resilience and advocacy and the role of Integrated Care for Older People (ICOPE) within the decade. These webinars continue to garner significant participation with approximately 100-300 registrants per webinar. 2020 webinar topics included: [Engaging Older Adults in Simulation](#); [Age-friendly Rural Communities: Are They Possible?](#); [Healthy Ageing for Impact in the 21st Century](#); [The Decade of Healthy Ageing: Proposed Approach to Monitor Progress](#); and [The Role of Advocacy and Resilience in Age Friendly Environments](#).

WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities

In April 2018, the IFA began collaborating with the WHO on the [Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities](#) (GNAFCC) – a network of over 1000 members in 41 Countries. As the network administrator the IFA is responsible for all of the administrative correspondence from the dedicated global network inbox as well as the coordination and organization of quarterly affiliate calls. Additionally, as an Affiliate of the global network the IFA is responsible for the screening and associated editing of newly submitted applications to join the network, updating any current member profiles, reviewing the submission of age-friendly practices, and communicating with network members regarding applications/profile updates as necessary.

Mentor-AFE

In August 2019, the WHO and IFA concluded the first-ever cohort of the [Age-Friendly Environments Mentorship Pilot](#) (Mentor-AFE). Based on the success of this pilot the IFA is excited to announce that the Mentor-AFE Programme will be moving forward. The MENTOR-AFE programme will pair 100 mentors and mentees over a 5-year period, and help to develop mentees' skills to lead, influence and implement age-friendly environments for the Decade of Healthy Ageing and beyond.



Age-Friendly Innovation Exchange (AFIX)

Thanks to the Hall & Prior Health and Aged Care Group, the IFA established the interactive learning platform known as the *Age-friendly Innovation Exchange (AFIX)* in 2014. AFIX is a point of connection creating opportunities for intersectoral dialogue, problem solving and sharing. Over the past year, the AFIX community has grown to over 2000 members who contribute to quarterly newsletters on variety of topics and emerging issues within the field of age-friendly, most notably the recent showcasing of age-friendly innovations during the time of COVID-19.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the directors of

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ON AGEING

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of International Federation on Ageing, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2020 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets, and cash flow for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of International Federation on Ageing as at March 31, 2020 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNFPPO).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNFPPO), and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the organization's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONT'D)

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal controls.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, amongst other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Stern Cohen LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants
Chartered Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants
Toronto, Canada
November 4, 2020

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ON AGEING

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the year ended March 31,	2020 \$	2019 \$
Revenues		
Membership fees	81,673	86,582
Corporate and foundation sponsorships	782,490	1,281,839
Events income	5,739	566,120
Donations	283	19,137
Professional income	34,526	13,072
Interest income	13,798	9,803
Gain on foreign exchange	36,307	22,466
In-kind rental income	23,000	21,000
	977,816	2,020,019
Expenses		
Salaries and benefits	653,508	568,607
Event expenses	200,673	650,220
Travel expenses	76,523	40,231
Advertising and promotion	32,032	41,424
Website and IT support	44,928	31,098
Contract services	98,666	82,748
Professional fees	11,433	28,707
Rent	23,000	21,000
Operations	17,605	26,076
Memberships and subscriptions	60,576	16,689
Telecommunications	12,167	10,769
Equipment rental	2,219	3,101
Bank charges and interest	8,879	15,943
Amortization	18,073	2,326
	1,260,282	1,538,939
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses for the year	(282,466)	481,080

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ON AGEING
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

For the year ended March 31,	2020 \$	2019 \$
Beginning of year	1,579,240	1,098,160
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses for the year	(282,466)	481,080
End of year	1,296,774	1,579,240

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ON AGEING
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at March 31,	2020 \$	2019 \$
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash	877,641	1,013,894
Short-term investments (Note 3)	657,629	644,363
HST receivable	12,187	7,176
Prepaid expenses and deposits (Note 6(b))	55,987	5,671
	1,603,444	1,671,104
Capital assets (Note 4)	78,416	32,758
	1,681,860	1,703,862
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	11,021	64,261
Deferred revenue (Note 5)	374,065	60,361
	385,086	124,622
NET ASSETS	1,296,774	1,579,240
	1,681,860	1,703,862

2020 Board of Directors

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International Vice President

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Dr Amy D'Aprix, Canada Life Transition Expert

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Dr Yushao Wu, Vice President, China National Committee on Ageing

Denmark

Mr Bjarne Knud Hastrup, CEO, DaneAge

Kuwait

Mr Nasser Alayyar, President of Khair al Kuwait Charity

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Ad van Berlo, External Advisor, Tante Louise

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Pakistan

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South Africa

Prof Jaco Hoffman, Professor, North-West University (Vanderbijlpark Campus)

United States

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Ms Helen R. Hamlin, United Nations Representative

Ms Kari Henley, Co-Founder, Age Without Borders

IFA Secretariat

Dr Jane Barratt, Secretary General

Mr Greg Shaw, Director, International and Corporate Relations

Ms Megan Acton, Program Manager

Ms Anna Sangster, Program Manager

Ms Nathalia Wittingham, Conference and Events Manager

Ms Jun Wang, Special Project Officer

Ms Yifan Zheng, Project Officer

Ms Andra Stancu, Project Officer

Ms Vanessa Alphons, Project Officer

Ms Chesley Ryder, Communications Manager

Dr Supriya Venigalla, Project Officer

Ms Sheila Amri, Project Officer

Ms Berenice Anaya, Assistant Communications Officer

Ms Petek Yurt, Assistant Project Officer

This report was designed by Ms Chesley Ryder, Communications Manager. January 2021.



International
Federation on
Ageing

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