Irish Forum for **Global Health Annual Report** 2018

Report prepared for Irish Aid - Reporting period: January 2018-December 2018



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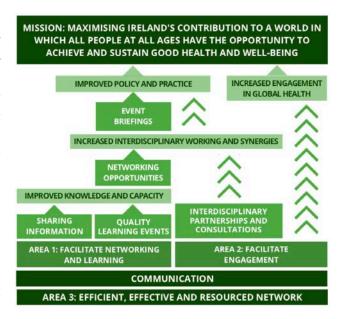
Executive Summary

Established in 2004, The Irish Forum for Global Health is a diverse network of individuals and organisations, including students, academic institutions, NGOs, the HSE, private sector, government, donors, and the general public. Their interests are spread across a wide range of sectors and fields relating to global health and development including: nutrition; emergencies; non-communicable diseases; maternal and child health; water, sanitation, and hygiene; communicable disease; environmental health; and refugee health.

Our vision: Maximising Ireland's contribution to a world in which all people of all ages have the opportunity to achieve and sustain good health and wellbeing.

Our mission: Our mission as a network is to facilitate learning, connecting, influencing and engaging for individuals and institutions within the global health community in Ireland and worldwide.

As a means to achieve our mission the IFGH developed and follows 'Working Together for Global Health and Wellbeing: Strategy 2018 -2023'. The IFGH is guided by an operational workplan and strategic framework based on our Theory of Change (ToC). The foundation of our ToC lies in building and sustaining an efficient and effective network, paired with high quality communications, on the basis of which all strategic focal areas and actions are built upon. In order to achieve these strategic goals, we engage in activities including communications, events, training, and outreach, within our three strategic focal areas: Area 1) Facilitate networking and learning through high quality events and sharing information; Area 2) Facilitate engagement in



global health through partnerships and linking individuals and organisations, and Area 3) Ensure an efficient, effective and resourced network.

We adopted as our annual theme for 2018: Ireland, Health and the SDGs, and planned and delivered all our events and policy dissemination around that theme.

Our primary means of engaging with members on a day-to-day basis is via our email and social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and in parallel we work in partnership with other organisations to create events such as lectures, training, workshops, and other learning opportunities.

This report is structured to highlight key updates in a number of focal areas and should be read together with Annex 1: M&E Framework reporting by strategic area.

Events and training:

- In 2018, we hosted or co-hosted 11 courses, events, or trainings:
 - a co-hosted Development Studies Association of Ireland (DSAI) and IFGH Child Health Study Group Meeting (20th March)
 - Student Outreach Group (SOG) led Transition Year Global Health Workshops (February, April 2018)
 - 2nd Annual Access to Medicines Ireland Conference held in collaboration with RCSI, Comhlámh and MSF (2nd May)
 - Book Launch of 'Getting to Zero: A Doctor and a Diplomat on the Ebola Frontline' held in collaboration with the Sierra Leone-Ireland Partnership (SLIP) (26th July 2018)
 - White Paper Consultation meeting (19th July)
 - Access to Medicines Ireland Strategy day (7th September)
 - o International AIDS Conference Follow up (5th October 2018) held in collaboration with RCSI and Concern Worldwide
 - Weekend International Health and Development Training for Healthcare Workers in collaboration with the HSE Global Health Programme, Comhlámh, NUIG, ESTHER Ireland, MSF Ireland, VSO and Irish Aid (12-14thth October)
 - o Global Health Writes training workshop (6th November)
 - Global Health Exchange Conference: Revisiting 'Health For All' in the SDG era (6th and 7th November) held in association with RCSI, GOAL and Irish Aid
 - o 3rd ESTHER Partnership Forum (November 2018)
 - o Irish Aid Professor Father Michael Kelly Lecture on HIV and AIDS (11th December).

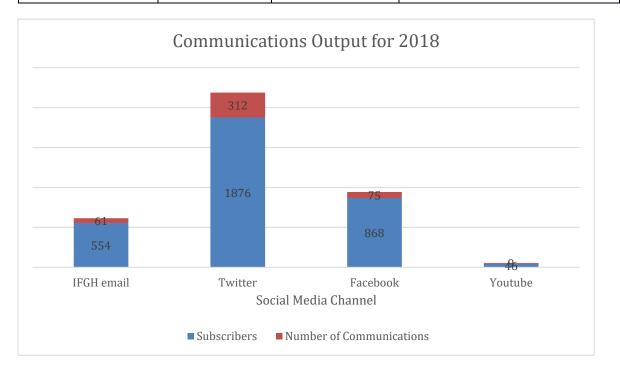
Membership & Communications

- As of 25th May 2018, IFGH and ESTHER Ireland became fully GDPR-compliant. As a result, mailing list numbers dropped from 793 to 373 (-420) for the IFGH (IFGH: -420 subscribers; ESTHER: -403 subscribers). However, this was common across the sector and the remaining subscribers represent a more engaged membership as was evidenced in the increased open rate for our communications outputs (from ~15% to ~ 30%).
- As of the end of 2018, despite a decrease owing to the GDPR, IFGH email subscribers grew to 554 (see table X below). This was helped by a push to encourage members to re-consent to membership while also requiring sign up when registering for IFGH events. Overall, our combined communications (email and social media platforms) had a reach of over 150,000 people in 2018. More details on membership and communications can be found in the table below.





Channel	Subscribers	No. of communications	Content (via all channels)
IFGH email	554	61	Regular news & updates
ESTHER Ireland email	227	13	51 world day posts
Twitter	1,876	312 original tweets	74 Global Health events12 courses/ educational
Facebook	868	75 posts	opportunities
YouTube	46 (3,423 views)	9 videos	42 Job opportunities



Monitoring and Evaluation

- An independent external evaluation of our organisation was completed in March 2018??
 highlighting the excellent added value that IFGH brings to the Irish sector; its results were shared with Irish Aid, our members and all stakeholders.
- Our new IFGH Strategy 2018-2023 was developed in 2017 and finalised in 2018 following board and EMC membership consultations. The strategy has been disseminated, including a public launch by Maureen O'Sullivan on 6th November 2018.
- A new Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework, drawing from our new strategy and associated Theory of Change, was completed in April 2018. This framework records our achievements and details our impact on a monthly basis and forms the basis of our reporting for Irish Aid and other stakeholders.

Governance

- Four Board meetings were held in 2018 (January, April, June and October). Eight Executive Management (EMC) meetings were held regularly throughout the year (every 6.5 weeks on average).
- In 2018, we continued the process of signing up to the Comhlámh Code of Good Practice. Every Board meeting is evaluated using post-meeting online surveys. Furthermore, we reviewed our risk register which at every Board meeting- we didn't really last year due to needing to revise it- so maybe rephrase this.

Partnerships

- 2018 was a year where we worked in partnership with many organisations in different ways as can be seen from the events listing above. Partners included RCSI, GOAL, Comhlámh, MSF, Concern, Oxfam, DCU, HSE, NUIG, VSO and ESTHER Ireland.
- We joined Coalition 2030 as a member and look forward to strengthening the global health dimension of that collective, to further support Ireland's role in delivering the SDGs domestically and internationally.
- Throughout 2018, the IFGH Secretariat also fulfilled its role as the ESTHER Ireland Secretariat, contributing to a number of activities outlined in brief below, and in detail in the ESTHER Ireland 2018 Progress Report.
- We continued as the Irish member of the Federation of European Societies for Tropical Medicine and International Health (FESTMIH) during 2018.

Narrative report

Area 1: Facilitate networking and learning through high-quality events and sharing information

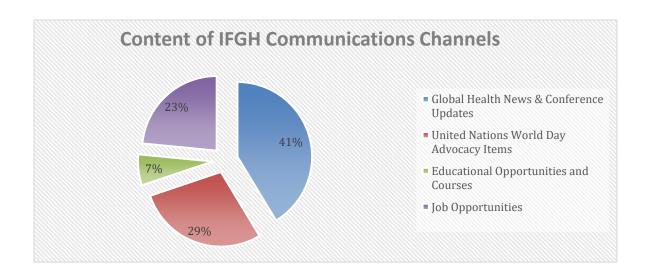
Area 1 focuses on our ability to connect individuals and institutions across disciplines to innovate, coordinate, and learn from each other. Our second strategic goal, focused on Knowledge, aims to provide a platform for increased knowledge, skills, and networking in Global Health.

To achieve this goal, we provided high quality learning opportunities and facilitated a number of events and conferences. We are also a unique conduit for information via our weekly mailers and social media platforms, within the global health community in Ireland, accessed by our members, Irish Aid and the

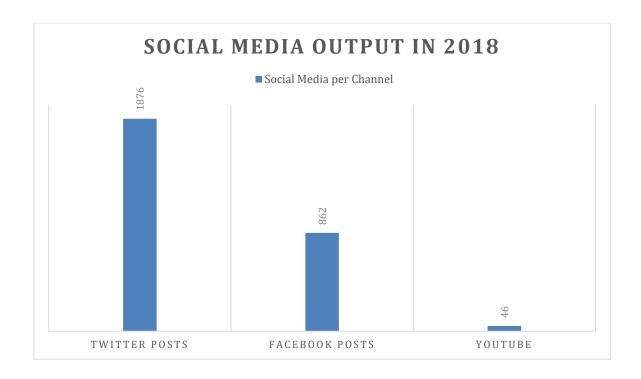
wider global health community. We disseminated focused communications around specific global health topics for dedicated issues, and also continued to produce our weekly emails containing news updates, relevant news, additional opportunities for education and training and other information.

Communications:

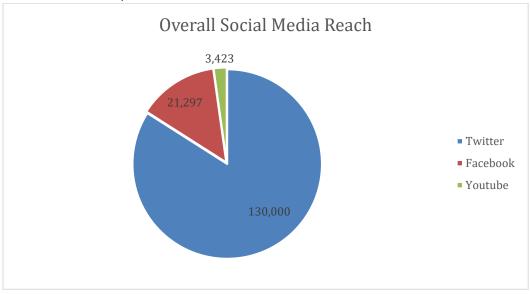
- 1) Throughout the year 61 IFGH eForum emails and targeted campaigns were delivered to IFGH subscribers. IFGH had a total of 793 members at the beginning of the year, which dropped sharply by 420 following GDPR compliance in May. However, Forum membership increased steadily throughout the year, resulting a total of 554 by December 2018. This represents a change of -30% over the year.
- 2) Newsletters were focused on the IFGH Annual Theme (Ireland, Health and the SDGs), but touched on each of Irish Aid's Priority Areas. As well as advertising events and networking opportunities, our newsletters and social media presence was used to raise awareness and inform members of a total of 51 important World Days such as International Women's Day, World AIDS Day and International Migrants Day.



3) Twitter was the most popular communications channel, with a total of 312 tweets to 1,678 followers (a 12% increase on followers from 2017). These tweets had a combined reach (retweets and interactions) of over 130,000 users in 2018. This is in part due to its ability to quickly capture and share information during IFGH events. For example, there was a sharp spike in tweets around all events, particularly during the coverage of the Global Health Exchange Conference. Event-specific hashtags were widely used during events and further increased the reach of IFGH tweets.



- 4) Facebook was our most regularly used social platform for communications throughout the year. 75 posts were produced for 862 followers (an 8% increase in followers from 2017). Annually, these posts had combined reach of 21, 297 interactions. 2018 saw a diversification to our use of Facebook due to the use of more livestreaming, multimedia sharing, and linking in with Eventbrite when sharing events information. As was the case with our Twitter analysis, usage peaked around Q4 (our busy events season).
- 5) The YouTube platform was used as a means to livestream our events (increasing reach and accessibility) and to share videos of our events - most notably for the Global Health Exchange and the Irish Aid Prof Father Michael Kelly Lecture. Whilst there was considerably less output via this platform (9 videos were posted to a total of 46 followers), these videos had 3,423 views in 2018. Predictably, activity peaked when videos were posted following events. Videos from events will be posted in Q1 2019.



- 6) The IFGH website was updated throughout the year to maintain content in line with events and up-to-date news. One of the most important changes was clearing up the calendar, particularly for 'World Health Days' the websites most-visited page. On average, the website had ~541 unique visitors per month. This spiked to over 1000 unique visitors per month during our busy Q4, around events, peaking as attendees viewed information related to the Global Health Exchange Conference. We will focus on a website redesign in 2019.
- 7) As can be noted from our 2018 Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, overall the IFGH noted spikes in the frequency of communications and interaction *across all our social media platforms* in the lead up to, during and following our events in Q4.

Events, Networking Opportunities and Conferences:

- 1) In Q1 and Q2 of 2018, Global Health Workshops were held by SOG with 90 Transition Year Students in Donabate Community School and 60 6th Class Students in Donabate-Portrane Educate Together National School, respectively. Activities which raised awareness of Global Health issues were included such as three minute presentations and interactive, practical exercises. Feedback from students was overwhelmingly positive with many asking for the workshops to be held over two days. IFGH is currently preparing for two further Global Health Workshops to be held with schools in January and February 2019.
- 2) On May 2nd, 2018, we co-hosted a conference on Access to Medicines "A High Price to Pay: Problems and Solutions", held in RCSI with Access to Medicines Ireland (AMI), Comhlámh, UAEM, MSF Ireland/UK and RCSI. 160 guests were in attendance at the event. Two panels of leading international experts, patient advocates and industry representatives were held to discuss the current model of drugs development and propose interventions and alternative models with the potential to dramatically lower the prices of new medicines. Political presence was highlighted at the conference in the opening and closing remarks from Brendan Howling, TD (Labour Party Leader) and

ACCESS TO MEDICINES



Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin, TD, (Sinn Fein) respectively. Featured speakers included Ellen 't Hoen (LLM, Intellectual Property Rights Expert), Dimitri Eynikel (Advocacy Advisor Europe, MSF Access Campaign), and Yannis Natsis (Policy Manager, European Public Health Alliance) and patient representatives Robbie Lawlor (HIV activist, ACTUP Dublin) and Babalwa Maglas (lawyer and cancer treatment campaigner, Republic of South Africa). Oliver O'Connor (CEO, Irish Pharmaceutical Healthcare Association) represented the pharmaceutical perspective. 37 guests (23%) filled and submitted an evaluation form. 91% rated that the overall quality of the

event was of 'good' or 'excellent' quality. 73% of those who gave feedback attended the event for 'learning and networking' opportunities. Attendees suggested inclusion of group activities at future AMI events. Many attendees came from the pharmaceutical sector and felt that the sessions were unbalanced in terms of viewpoint. Media coverage from, as a result of the event extended to RTE Drive Time (~02:09:00), Irish Times Article, an Irish Times Editorial, a Focus Magazine article, and two Global Health Writes Articles. A policy document based on output from the conference and further work was published in Winter 2018 (See Annex 2).

- 3) On July 26^{th,} we co-hosted a Book Launch 'Getting to Zero: A Doctor and a Diplomat on the Ebola Frontline' by Dr Sinéad Walsh and. Dr Oliver Johnson OBE with the Sierra Leone – Ireland Partnership. The event was held in the Cheyne Lecture theatre in RCSI. RTÉ Broadcaster Marian Finucane launched the event, followed by a discussion and Q&A with the authors and a reception. 180 guests registered to attend filling the capacity of the venue, of which 23%. (42 guests) filled and submitted an evaluation form. Audience members came from a variety of sectors, the majority of which were from the NGO sector. Other sectors represented were academia, students, media, HSE and Irish Government. 74% of those who completed our feedback had never before attended an IFGH event. 100% of respondents found the event useful or extremely useful and 98% of respondents are likely to attend future events. The launch of the event coincided with, and contributed to, a number of features in the Irish media: coverage appeared in The Irish Times, the Irish Independent, Belfast Telegraph, The Big Issue, RTÉ Radio One and a segment on Newstalk.
- 4) On the 5th October, the IFGH in association with Concern Worldwide and RCSI hosted the 'Highlights and Follow-Up Session to: International AIDS Conference 2018' in the Houston Theatre, RCSI. Our speakers, Robbie Lawlor (ACT

A DOCTOR AND A DIPLOMAT ON THE FRONT LINE OF EBOLA **MEDIA IMPACT Event Hosted** by Mariane Finucane Featured in the Irish Times Irish Independent Belfast Telegraph RTE Radio One Newstalk The Big Issue DATE July 26, 2018 FEEDBACK: 100% found event useful

GETTING TO ZERO:

UP/Youth Stop AIDS), Susan Donlon (HIV Ireland), Jack Lambert (UCD-Mater Hospital) and Breda Gahan (Concern Worldwide), represented the diversity of patient advocates, development specialists and medical professionals who are all working in the HIV/AIDS field. Each speaker, who had all been in attendance at the conference, gave a short presentation on their highlights and take-home points. This was followed by a discussion and Q&A moderated by Emma Warwick (Irish Aid). The event was well covered on social media, including livetwitter reporting and a video live stream via Facebook. 50 guests attended of which 21 guests (42%) filled and submitted an evaluation form. 100% of respondents found the event useful or extremely useful, and 86% of respondents are very likely to attended future events. With regards to the makeup of our audience, the most-represented sectors were the NGO sector and the NGO non- development sector. 57% of respondents were new attendees to an IFGH event. The event was a hub of networking, with 65% and 83% of those attending making new contacts, and reconnecting with previous contacts respectively. 100% were planning some form of follow-up actions. Planned actions made by guests including promoting the global

HIV/AIDS Campaign Undetectable = Untransmittable (U=U) message, catching up with colleagues and getting more politically involved with keeping HIV/AIDS high on the global agenda. Areas in which organisers were recommended to improve were to focus more strongly on HIV in Ireland and to create and circulate a Twitter hashtag for future events.

5) From the 6th-7th November, we co-hosted with GOAL and RCSI the '2018 Global Health Exchange: Revisiting 'Health for All' in the SDG era' which was held in RCSI, 123 St. Stephen's Green. The event was centred around three themed Plenaries 'Equality, Inclusion and Leaving None Behind'; 'Effective partnerships & Strategies to bridge the humanitarian-development nexus' and 'Integrated and inter-sectoral programmes, adaptability & sustainability'. Our expert speakers ranged represented a diverse array of sectors such as academia, diplomacy and government, NGO and health services. A total of 61 submissions were made to present at the conference, which were carefully selected from to the total of 42 submissions which formed the basis of our parallel sessions (panels, soapbox snapshots and poster presentations) held on both days of the conference. 96 guests registered to attend of which 45 filled and submitted an event evaluation form. 88% found the event 'useful' or 'extremely useful'. 84% of respondents are 'very likely to attend future events'. 96% of respondents made new contacts, and 85% planned on following up with their contacts from the conference. Qualitative feedback highlighted elements of the conference which were appreciated such as the soapbox snapshots and the closing conference summary. Areas in which improvement was recommended were a stronger focus on NCDs, climate change and practical activities; improved signage and navigation between rooms and more advance notice for submissions.



conference also facilitated a number of mini-events and workshops such as the 'Careers Spotlight' Breakfast, the 'Global Health Team Challenge', a Women in Global Health meeting, Breast Cancer Awareness booth and a Global Health Writes training. 7 GHW attendees covered the event. Their articles, which informed Ian Hodgson's Conference Summary, as well as his forthcoming 'Global Health Snapshot', will continue to be published on the IFGH website. The conference was well covered on social media, with over 300 uses of the

#GHEConference hashtag. Livestreaming (and recording/archiving) of all sessions held in the main plenary theatre via our IFGH YouTube broadened the coverage reach and accessibility of the

- 6) On November 29th, 2019, ESTHER Ireland and the HSE Global Health Programme co-hosted the 3rd ESTHER Ireland Partnership Forum, held at the Royal College of Physicians, Ireland. This one-day event brought together ESTHER Ireland Partners, grantees and those interested in learning more about health partnerships. Ruari de Burca (Irish Aid) provided the opening address, Dr Shams Syed (WHO) gave a keynote address and summary of the day, and our ESTHER partners showcased lessons learned, challenges and opportunities from their partnerships. A number of plenary presentations, panels and quick-fire rounds discussed a variety of topics such as 'Experiences of the Partnership Journey', 'Models of Health Partnerships' and 'What can Ireland learn?' with networking sessions held throughout the day. 82 registered attendees (fewer arrived due to inclement weather). 25 attendees filled and returned an evaluation form. 100% found the event useful or extremely useful. 100% had follow-up actions, and 80% were likely to attend an ESTHER Ireland event again. The Forum saw the Irish launch of the ESTHER EFFECt Tool, the opening of the ESTHER Small Grant Fund 2018/19, and the formal presentation of wall plaques to the two most recent partnerships, the Gorey-Malawi Health Partnership and Edenpark-Malawi Partnership.
- 7) On December 11^{th,} we supported Irish Aid to host the Annual Irish Aid Professor Father Michael Kelly Lecture on HIV and AIDS, which took place at Smock Alley, featuring an introductory address via pre-recorded video by Father Michael himself, and chaired by Dil Wickremasinghe (Broadcaster, journalist and comedian). There was an opening address from Ciarán Cannon, TD (Minister of State for the Diaspora and International Development. Our keynote speech was given by Dr. Oanh Khuat (Executive Director, SCDI Vietnam), followed by a moderated panel including Nicola Brennan (Director, Policy Unit, Irish Aid), Rory O'Neill (HIV Activist and entertainer) and Robbie Lawlor (HIV Activist, ACTUP Dublin and Youth Stop AIDS). Our audience reach was extended via the GCN livestream on Facebook of the event and through collaboration with Irish Aid in publicity leading up to, during, and following the event. The event was well received and media coverage included an article in GCN, and 2 articles from our Global Health Writers which will be published on both the IFGH and Father Michael Kelly websites. 70 guests representing a variety of sectors attended. Special guests included Maureen O'Sullivan TD, and HE Sekhulumi Paul Ntsoaole, Ambassador of Lesotho. 23 (33%) of our guests filled and submitted an evaluation form. 100% of those who gave feedback found the event 'useful' or 'extremely useful' and 91% of respondents are 'very likely to attend future events'. The event was a platform for both making new contacts (52%) and reconnecting with previous contacts (70%). Nearly two thirds of respondents attended the event in order to 'stimulate new thinking'. 100% had planned follow-up actions including spreading awareness of what they had heard on the evening; joining groups represented on the evening such as ACT UP, and learning more about HIV and AIDS development.
- 8) <u>Finger on the Pulse</u> is the Irish Forum for Global Health's annual GHW publication composed of articles written by a team of volunteer Citizen Journalists, who have given their expertise and viewpoints on the latest issues and events in the field of Global Health.

a. <u>Finger on the Pulse: Volume 1</u> brought together 20 articles which represent various perspectives from our Global Health Writers who covered the Fourth Global Forum for Human Resources for Health (13-17th November).

Area 2: Facilitate engagement in global health through partnerships and linking individuals and organisations

Area 2 emphasises the facilitative nature of IFGH as we seek to promote engagement in global health across disciplines.

To achieve this goal, we continued to collaborate with our core partners across the health and development sectors who are central to our ability to deliver value to our members. We used our secretariat capacity to provide operational, logistics and communication support to our partners. We capitalised on the ideas, expertise and in-kind contributions such as time, venue space and finances which are contributed by our partners.

Membership:

- 1) An analysis of those who subscribed to our IFGH eForum (544) highlights that the majority of our memberships are Irish-based (79.2%). Our members come from a wide range of sectors: academic, NGOs (development), student, government, and our diversity of reach is highlighted in that 39% of our members chose 'Other' when indicating their profession.
- 2) We also publicised 12 educational courses and 42 job opportunities to our members via our email and newsletter.

Partnerships and Interdisciplinary Working:

- 1) The IFGH is a member of the FESTMIH (Federation of European Societies for Tropical Medicine and International Health), which is a non-profit international association. IFGH are pleased to have continued this membership in 2018.
- 2) On the 20th March, IFGH hosted the DSAI Child Health Working Group meeting (7 attendees) in Beaux Lane House, RCSI. Two presentations were held on Environmental Health and Neglected Tropical Diseases following which the group discussed broadening focus/rebranding to include other health issues. The lower than expected turnout may have been due to the meeting coinciding with the bank holiday weekend.
- 3) IFGH facilitated a Strategy and training day for the members (12 in attendance) of the Access to Medicines Ireland group on the 7th September, held in Beaux Lane House, RSCI. The day was used to set the context of access to medicines issues in which the group is situated, reflect on their journey as a group; facilitate a formal discussion about group operations; discuss visions and set down a strategy to reach future goals. Discussions held throughout the day helped form the basis of an Access to Medicines group charter which formally describes who the group is, what is their vision, how the group operates, their partnerships, and a brief overview of their strategic aims. This document is circulated to new members upon joining AMI to help accustom them to the group.
- 4) Organised alongside the HSE Global Health Programme, NUIG, Comhlámh, MSF Ireland, VSO, ESTHER Ireland and Irish Aid, the IFGH held the second 'International Health and Development

Training for Healthcare Workers' workshop for HSE staff hosted by the Achill Training Working Group at the Achill Outdoor Education Centre on Achill Island on the 12th- 14th October. 35 people (mainly healthcare workers) attended the training, which focused on health and development issues, volunteering, working overseas, policies, practical tips, self-care, team work, etc. 34 of the attendees submitted evaluation forms which were designed by the HSE to identify the main strengths and weaknesses of the weekend. The majority of respondents (>30) felt that as a result of the training they were now 'better prepared to work or volunteer in resource poor settings' and had a 'better understanding of health and development'. Practical activities were singled out by participants as being the most valuable sessions. Whilst overall feedback felt that the weekend could not be improved, areas suggested for improvement were a less packed agenda, and alternative sessions such as refugee health and disabilities/NCDs. Outputs from the event include photos, a podcast from Comhlámh and an extensive video of the training workshop. The success of this event for the second-year running has prompted the secretariat and the co-organisers of this training to consider running this twice a year in 2019.

- 5) In November 2018 IFGH joined Coalition 2030 as a member of Coalition 2030. We look forward to strengthening the global health dimension within this collective, to further support Ireland's role in delivering the SDGs domestically, as well as internationally.
- 6) A core component of our work towards the IFGH Secretariat's additional function as the ESTHER Ireland Secretariat. (For more details, please see the ESTHER Ireland Annual report for 2018). In brief, we took the following actions to facilitate high-quality partnerships:
 - a. We produced 13 email campaigns which shared information and updates on ESTHER Ireland activities and international health partnerships with ESTHER Ireland members.
 - b. Co-hosted along with the HSE Global Health Programme the 3rd ESTHER Ireland Partnerships Forum (29th November). This one-day event was held in the Royal College of Physicians, Ireland.
 - c. Assisted in the development of the European ESTHER Alliance online collaboration platform, and updated it with information about new 2018 ESTHER Ireland Partnerships.
 - d. Two new ESTHER partners were accredited in 2018.
 - e. IFGH supported the transition of oversight of ESTHER Ireland from IFGH to HSE Global Health Programme on Global Health.

Student Outreach Groups (SOGs):

- 1) Our Student Outreach Group was also active during the year. Coordination with undergraduate and postgraduate students across Ireland has to led to the establishment and sustained relationships with six universities across Ireland: University College Cork; National University of Ireland, Galway; University of Limerick; Trinity College Dublin; Dublin College University and the Royal College of Surgeons Ireland.
 - a. SOG Strategy 2018-2020: Composed by IFGH board member and the SOG student coordinator Rosemary James (NUIG), this strategy was developed to align with IFGH overall strategies and priorities. This document gives and overview of the SOG, it's goals', member specifications' and an outline of the 2-year plan proposed to help meet the SOG meet its' target goals. Year One includes improved communications,

- networking and events. Year Two plans to expand to engage with student research, develop policy statements and host global health writing workshops.
- b. The SOG has founded a number of external partnerships in 2018 with Evidence Aid, Oxford; Global Health Mentorships; Global Health Next Generation Network and Access to Medicines Ireland.
- c. UCC: Throughout March and April an 'Unpacking Health Inequity' mini-lecture series was held.
- d. NUIG: On the 3rd November at the Clinical Science Institute, University Hospital Galway, a 'Health in Conflict' conference was held. A variety of perspectives from doctors, refugees and public health experts were heard from across the day on topics such as epidemic control, healthcare on the frontline and NGO projects. The conference also included practical workshops wherein students were exposed to relevant global health skills.
- e. Global Health Exchange Conference: during the Global Health Exchange Conference, the SOG in association with Global Health Next Generation Network and GlobalHealthMe hosted a 'Students & Young Professionals Breakfast' on the 7th November at Beaux Lane House. The breakfast consisted of a careers and mentorship talk and a 'Global Health Challenge' where students competed in teams to find economic, health conscious and innovative solutions to a fictional air pollution crisis. The winner of the team challenge was awarded in a prize giving during the closing session of the Global Health Exchange highlighting the importance presence and potential impact of young people in the field of Global Health.

Global Health Writes:

- 1) In 2018, we hosted one Global Health Writes workshop, (6th November) which was attended by 17 participants, the majority of which were undergraduate and postgraduate students. These workshops were designed to introduce learners to key concepts in advocacy and journalistic writing around health topics. The workshop was hosted at RCSI, focused on the Global Health Exchange Conference, and was facilitated by GHW Chief Editor Ian Hodgson and GHW trainers Steve MacDonald and Eimhin O'Reilly.
 - a. 7 Attendees from the workshops formed a conference correspondence team which were led by Dr. Hodgson. The team produced over 20 articles on topics of interest from the Global Health Exchange Conference, which are hosted at http://globalhealth.ie/category/global-health-writes/global-health-writes-articles/. Of those trained at the GHW workshop in November, three participants went on to cover and produce written articles about the Irish Aid Prof Father Michael Kelly Lecture. In addition to this, the Global Health Writes platform published articles about the Access to Medicines conference. Articles disseminated during 2018 will be collated to produce the 2019 edition of Finger on the Pulse: Volume 2.

Policy & Advocacy:

1) On the 19th July 2018, the IFGH along with Oxfam, facilitated an open meeting 'What to do about health?' attended by 12 participants to Inform a Collective Written Submission on Health for the White Paper on International Development. This represented a unique

opportunity for the Irish development community to highlight the challenges, operational approaches and ways of working that can shape future development policy, priorities and actions. We also gave members the opportunity to attend remotely via Zoom. Using feedback and notes from those who attended, our Forum Chair Anne Matthews submitted the White Paper to Irish Aid on the 23rd August.

- 2) The 2nd Annual Access to Medicines conference (2nd May), facilitated by the IFGH and RCSI, brought together international experts, patient representatives, public health workers and political representatives to discuss solutions to access to medicines issues. AMI produced a Winter 2018 Policy brief which has been disseminated to TDs and Senators on basis of which formal meetings have been scheduled at the Dáil for January and February 2019 to discuss further action. AMI are in the process of planning the 3rd Annual Access to Medicines Ireland Conference (scheduled for 16th April 2019) which will build on the successes of previous meetings with the same commitment from the IFGH to co-host and organise the event.
 - a. The Irish Times published a <u>Letter to the Editor</u> from Dr Kieran Harkin (AMI) responding to an article on the Irish approval process for new drugs (13th September). Sen. Lynn Ruane (Independents) published an <u>article on AMI</u> in TheJournal.ie (9th December)
- 3) On the 6th November, at the Global Health Exchange Conference, Maureen O'Sullivan, TD formally launched the IFGH 'Working Together for Global Health and Wellbeing: Strategy 2018 2023'. This gave IFGH an opportunity to strengthen its relationship with political stakeholders and was an opportunity to raise political awareness of global health issues.
- 4) The IFGH facilitated a Meeting between Dr. Oanh Khuat (SCDI) and, Robbie Lawlor (ACT UP Dublin, Youth Stop AIDS) with Nicola Brennan (Policy Unit Director, Irish Aid) giving them a platform to raise issues related to stigma and HIV/AIDS relevant to Irish Aid action priorities (11th December).
- 5) Minister Ciaran Cannon T.D. opened the Irish Aid Annual Prof Father Michael Kelly Lecture in December (11th December).

Area 3: Ensuring an efficient, effective and resourced network

Area 3 focuses on how we use our small central staff and limited resources to wisely create the greatest value for our members and funders.

To achieve this goal, we worked as effectively and efficiently as possible to build and strengthen our internal governance and external networks.

Governance:

1) Changes to the Board Composition were as follows: In March 2018 a new student representative, Rosemary James (NUIG) joined the IFGH Board. Hasheem Mannan (UCD, School of Nursing, Midwifery, and Health Systems) and Anne Nolan (Health Development Specialist) joined in June. David Weakliam left the board in September.

- 2) For each meeting an agenda, overview report, financial report and other documents were prepared, and disseminated in advance where relevant. Detailed minutes also provide an overview of board and EMC activities.
- 3) As outlined in the report overview, the IFGH evaluated each Board meeting using a post-meeting online survey in line with the Governance?? Code. In addition to this, a risk register was reviewed at every Board meeting??. The below statistics and feedback pertain to the four board meetings held throughout 2018 (January, April, June and October).
 - a. Overall the board meetings were self-rated as more strategic than operation, with 65% rated as highly strategic or strategic.
 - b. 75% of materials were provide in a very timely manner to the board to review in advance of meetings. 63% rated agenda items as being very important.
 - c. Feedback singled out the Operations Overview as being a very useful tool, as well as the possibility to participate remotely via Zoom.
 - d. Areas for improvement: poor sound quality joining via Zoom will be corrected via the purchase of microphone/speaker system. Difficulty for board members finding conference room that are not located in Beaux Lane House.

4) IFGH Secretariat:

- a. Steve MacDonald left IFGH in January 2018. In March of 2018 a 60% FTE equivalency Communications & Events Coordinator was hired (Eimhin O'Reilly) who remained with us until December 2018. Joan Bolger was hired in February 2019.
- b. Following the end of two internship contracts in Q1 and Q2 in September 2018, two Professional Interns were recruited to cover IFGH and ESTHER work plans at 60% and 40%.
- c. As of December 2018, the board promoted the role of Operations Director to Executive Director of the IFGH
- d. Additional Consultancy capacity was hired to support the Global Health Exchange Conference for 2 weeks.

Strategic Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E):

- 1) An independent external evaluation of our organisation was completed by CDI at the end of 2017/beginning of 2018. The evaluation used a number of different approaches, including: a thorough desk review of IFGH and ESTHER Ireland documents, M&E data, reports and web and social media content; 17 key-informant interviews; two in-depth interviews; an email survey of the IFGH membership (of which 57 responses were received); analysis and synthesis of the OECD/DAC framework and thematic analysis. The results of the evaluation were reported in early 2018.
 - a. The report found that IFGH was strong in:
 - i. Ability to access global health community in Ireland and facilitate collaboration
 - ii. Newsletter, website, workshops, learning events and conferences
 - iii. Managing ESTHER Ireland
 - iv. Providing value for money for Irish Aid
 - b. The report made recommendations for improvement:
 - i. Focus events and advocacy work around one annual theme (On the basis of this feedback a theme for 2018 was selected 'Ireland, Health and the SDGs')

- ii. Consider the capacity implications and opportunity costs of ESTHER
- iii. Continue to provide events, and increase focus on entry-level training
- iv. Continue to improve M&E and reporting
- 2) IFGH Strategy 2018 2023: Following and informed by the external evaluation outlined above the IFGH strategy was drafted in collaboration with CDI. The strategy was then further developed through consultation with the IFGH Board, Secretariat and other stakeholders in March 2018. This strategic plan builds on our prior achievements and had a fresh focus of building traction around annual cross-cutting themes and connecting individuals and institutions working in global health, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 3) A new M&E framework, including a Theory of Change, was developed by CDI for 2018-2023 on the basis of the evaluation. Tracking of events and communications now feeds into this automatic framework, helping us to align our activities to the IFGH strategic goals. The ToC and M&E framework also assisted in the development of the workplan for 2018.
- 4) We evaluated events wherever possible through feedback forms completed by attendees. This data was collected and presented using the reporting functions of our M&E framework at EMC and Board meetings to help guide future events and track performance.
- 5) We also tracked our communications channels, and compiled regular communications reports presented at each EMC and Board meeting to help guide strategy and track performance.

Lessons learned

- The new strategy has meant more focus on hosting of high quality event and evaluation of the events continues to be very positive
- Delay in receiving funding was challenging for the organisation (2018 funding received in November 2018). All efforts will be made to accelerate this in 2019
- Changeover of staff within such a small secretariat has a large impact on implementation
- Q4 is a very intensive period for IFGH Secretariat
- The Global Health Exchange Conference was extremely successful. It requires dedicated capacity in Q4
- 2018 was a year of transition for ESTHER Ireland, with more of a focus on transferring management to the HSE. It also meant extra delays in receiving funding. 2018 funding was received only in January 2019 so no small grant round was opened in 2018

Financials

IFGH Income 2018 (including ESTHER Ireland)

Income	2018
Irish Aid	60,000
HSE (ESTHER Ireland)	110,000
In-kind (voluntary time) **	25,000
In-kind (office space etc.) **	22,080
Training, workshop, and conference fees	24,700
Friends of the IFGH	2,150
Total income	243,930

Notes ** In-kind contribution was of non-monetary value and is not included in the audited accounts

IFGH Expenditure (including ESTHER Ireland)

Expenditure	2018
Staffing	91,799
Events	40,908
Communications	4,756
Travel	3,942
Administration and fees	15,683

SOG	2,507
Depreciation	258
In-kind (voluntary time)	25,000
In-kind (office space etc.)	22,080
Total Expenditure	206,933

The IFGH and ESTHER Ireland also acknowledge and thank our partners for the large amount of inkind contributions received: In 2018, we received additional in-kind contributions including hosting and office space, meeting rooms, and office overheads, totalling €22,080 (*non-monetary). We also received 1000 voluntary working hours, or 125 working days, per year contributed by IFGH Members, IFGH Board Members, IFGH Executive Management Committee and the ESTHER Steering Group, totalling €25,000 (*non-monetary).

Full financial information will follow in the Audited Accounts that will be submitted to Irish Aid when completed in Q1 2019.

Notes * In-kind contribution was non-monetary value and is not included in the audited accounts

Annex 1: M&E Framework: Progress against strategic areas

At-a-glance activities and outputs 2018 by key activities within strategic focal areas (described in detail within Progress Narrative below):

NOTE: As noted within our ToC image above there are organic overlaps between some of the activities, which results in some duplication of events when reporting against key activities

Area 1: Facilitate Networking and Learning	Learning events	Raised awareness of 51 World Days related to global health Disseminated information regarding 74 events and 12 courses/educational opportunities via our newsletter Created 312 original messages on Twitter resulting in over 130,000 interactions. Published 75 posts on Facebook which led to 21, 297 interactions. 9 videos uploaded via YouTube were viewed 3,243 times. 30global health writes articles produced around five events Finger on the Pulse: Volume 1 is the culmination of 30 Global Health Writes articles published in 2018 Book launch held in association with SLIP (26 th July) AIDS 2018 Follow-up held in collaboration with RCSI and Concern Worldwide (5 th October) Co-hosted Irish Aid Annual Professor Father Michael Kelly Lecture on HIV and AIDS (11 th December) Global Health Workshops for TY students
		(February, April)
	Networking opportunities	The IFGH Chair Anne Matthews facilitated an initial meeting to discuss the potential of setting up a Women in Global Health Chapter in Ireland at the 2018 Global Health Exchange Conference (7 th November).

	Conferences	Conference on Access to Medicines held at RCSI (2 nd May)
		Co-organised the 2018 Global Health
		Exchange Conference with GOAL and RCSI
		(6 th -7 th November)
Area 2: Facilitate	Membership	Publicised 12 courses / educational
Engagement		opportunities, and 42 job opportunities to
		members via the IFGH email and newsletter.
	Partnerships &	Remained as the supporter network of the
	Interdisciplinary	Comhlámh Code of Good Practice for
	working	International Volunteering.
		Accepted as a member of Coalition 2030 (November 2018)
		The IFGH became a member of the FESTMIH (Federation of European Societies for Tropical Medicine and International Health) in 2017, to facilitate collaboration and
		information sharing across global health societies in Europe and expand IFGH reach and visibility across Europe. We are grateful to have continued on with this partnership. In 2018.
		DSAI Child Health Study Group Meeting (20 th March)
		What to do about health: White Paper meeting (19 th July)
		Access to Medicines Ireland Strategy Day (7 th September)
		Co-hosted and facilitated an International Health and Development training weekend for healthcare workers in partnership with the HSE Global Health Programme, Comhlámh, and others (12 th -14 th October).
		Supported partnerships through communications and events including the 3 rd ESTHER Ireland Partnership Forum (29 th November), through functions of the ESTHER Ireland Secretariat (please see ESTHER Ireland Annual Report 2018 for more information).

T	
Student	The SOG published their Strategy for 2018-
Outreach Groups	2020.
(SOGs)	Six SOG groups have been established in Ireland
	Founded external partnerships with Evidence Aid, Global Health Mentorships, Global Health Next Generation Network and Access to Medicines Ireland
	UCC Mini-Lecture Series 'Unpacking Health Inequity' (March, April)
	'Health in Conflict' Conference (3 rd November)
	Student and Early Professionals 'Careers Spotlight' Breakfast (7 th November)
	Global Health Team Competition (7 th November)
	Supported the National University of Ireland, Galway SOG with materials to set up the Global Health Debate for 2019.
Global Health	Hosted 1 Global Health Writes Training
Writes	Workshop (6 th November)
	A Global Health Writes team covered the Global Health Exchange, and further Writers covered the Irish Aid Prof Father Michael Kelly Lecture
Policy & Advocacy	Access to Medicines Policy brief (Winter 2018)
	'What do about Health?' White paper Meeting and Submission (19 th July)
	Maureen O'Sullivan T.D was invited to officially launch our IFGH Strategy 2018-2023 at the 2018 Global Health Exchange Conference (6 th November) Meeting between Dr. Oanh Khuat (SCDI)
	and, Robbie Lawlor (ACT UP Dublin, Youth Stop AIDS) with Nicola Brennan (Policy Unit Director, Irish Aid) (11 th December)

		Invited Minister Ciarán Cannon T.D to give an opening address at the Irish Aid Annual Prof Father Michael Kelly Lecture (11 th December)
Area 3: Efficient, Effective and Resourced Network	Governance	Changes to board composition as outlined in narrative report. Evaluation of board meetings 4 Board Meetings held in 2018 8 EMC Meetings held in 2018
	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Financing	Developed a new strategy and M&E framework (both completed in 2018) Continued implementing according to existing financial policies and guidelines

Annex 2: AMI Policy Brief



Fighting for fair prices for new medicines.

Winter 2018



Fighting for fair prices for new medicines.

A High Price to Pay

Access to Medicines Ireland Policy Document

- Overview

 Fair and equitable access to effective medicines is critical to public health in Ireland and around the world.

 However, exorbitant prices charged by the pharmaceutical industry for drugs used to treat serious illnesses like cancer, hepatitia, and HIV mean that medicines are often rationed or completely inaccessible.

 Striet patient protections grant pharmaceutical companies a meanspeaty over the drugs they produce, raising prices. Multiple studies have shown that these prices are not justified by research and development or production costs.

 The Irish Covernment is under huge pressure to reimburse these high-price drugs, however it leads as fleative policy tools that would give it more leverage when negatiating.

 His policy document informs on measures that can be taken to ensure prices are fair and affordable and research is directed proportionally to health need.

Access to Medicines Ireland (AMI) was formed in 2015 to join the global effort to achieve access to medicines. The barriers to access are many, and AMI focuses on issues caused by the commercialisation of drug research

The current research and development model is largely driven by commercial interests. A major consequence of the profit-driven system is that there is no incentive to develop drugs for conditions which predominantly of fleet poor populations. This lack of financial incentive is also largely responsible for the failure to develop new antibiotics to address the growing problem of antimicrobial resistance. Furthermore, the patient incentive priorities competition between researches over collaboration, area ting inefficiencies and adding significantly to cost s.

This profit-motivated system results in exorbitant prices for drugs, particular concer treatments, asverely restricting access. High prices are levied because the exclusive patents of pharmaceutical companies allow

them to charge as they please. The increasing prices for new medicines put an ever-greater strain on the overall health budget. The solution is not to ration the medication but to secure a fair price.



"Big Pharma is holding governments across the world hostage, and is using fear and secrecy to drive up the cost of medicines."

medicines."

In Ellan't Heen is a lower and public health advacate with one 50 years of experience working on phormoceutical and intellectual property policies. She is an independent consideration medicine low and policy, and is a researcher of the University Medical Center Groningen. From 1999 she was the disector of policy for MSP's Campaign for Access to Espertrial Medicines, in 2009, she actabilised the Medicines Potent Pool with UNITAD.

While the pharmaceutical industry claims that it can cost While the pharmoseutical industry claims that it can cost up to £2.4bm to put a new drug to market, the Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDI) puts this figure closer to \$150mm. There is a serious look of clarity on the cost of research and development (RAD), marketing, production and distribution of new medicines. This discrepancy and look of openness puts officials trying to negotiate a fair price for the public health system at a disadvantage.

Transparency is therefore necessary to hold the private sector and other stakeholders to account for the impact of their actions on access to medicines. Ireland should add its voice to the global movement advocating for

What is AMI doing?

In 2017, an Access to Medicines ireland motion was passed by the Irish Medical Organization calling an the Government to Insist on transpenery from the pharmaceutical industry in relation to the manufacturing and research/development costs of new medicines.

International Cooperation

We commend the Irish government on joining the BeNeLuxA initiative. Together with Belgium, The Netherlands, Luxembourg and Aust in this intergovernmental collaboration arises to increase transparency in pricing and encourages:

- Information sharing and policy exchange
- Joint price negotiations
 Horizon scanning
 Health technology assessments

This initiative will greatly strengthen Ireland's strategic position when negotiating with the pharmaceutical industry. We hope that this step will mark the start of greater collectoration at EU and global level, and that Ireland will take a leading role in advocating for fair

Patents

The current incentive of market exclusivity in the pharmaceutical industry grants the patent holder the freedom to charge whatever price the market can bear, which for life-saving drugs can be very high indeed.

Alternative incentives for needs-driven and transparent R&D should be implemented. Examples include grants, prizes and advance market commitments from public funds.

This would result in a far more affordable medicines priced closer to production cost without the need to pay a commercial patent holder an exorbitant price.

- Non-exclusive licenses allow multiple competitors on the market and drive down prices,
 Intellectual property rights donations award nyalty-free licenses to not-for profit R&D organisations like DMDI
 Public sector patent pools like Medicine Patent Pool remove the profit motive of the pharma industry.

memore the profit martive of the pharma industry.

One of the most of factive licensing tools is empulsery licensing, a legal process used to override a patent when deemed necessary to ensure access to a medicine in the interest of public health. Compulsory licensing was enshrined within international law by the WTO's TRIPS agreement in 1995, and has been used successfully to acquire medicines for cancer in India and hepatitis C in Malaysia.

Hepatitis C

neparitis U

in 2017, the Irish Medical Organization passed a motion
calling upon the government to issue a computory
licence for Sofabuvir- an important medicine used to
cure Hepatitis C. Currently, in Teland of full 12-week
course costs the HSE 647,961, or 6564 per pill, when
the treatment costs just 6104 to produce, including a
50% profit.

Annex 3: IFGH 2018 Financial Report

IRISH FORUM FOR GLOBAL HEALTH LIMITED **BALANCE SHEET**

Assets	Total both IFGH and ESTHER operations
Current Assets	ESTITER OPERATIONS
A001 Bank account IFGH -0436 A002 Esther Grant-Bank account	3,239.02
2600	1,451.41
A003 Bank deposit	2,000.53
A005 EEA bank account -199	900.90
Total Bank Assets	7,591.86
Accounts Receivable (A/R) (Note 1)	113,600.00
Total Current Assets	121,191.86
Total Assets	121,191.86
Liabilities and shareholder's equity Current liabilities:	
L001 Accruals (Note 2)	15,737.41
Total current liabilities Shareholders' equity:	15,737.41
Net Income	(15,391.32)
EQ002 Opening Balance Equity EQ004 Retained Earnings	120,845.77
Total shareholders' equity	105,454.45
Total liabilities and equity	121,191.86

Note:

- The receivable of €13,600 included core income from Irish Aid of €50,000 for ESTHER operations, ESTHER Small grants round for 2018 of €50,000, €10,000 European Secretariat EEA and another €3,600 came from HSE for the contribution towards Achill training 2018. These grant from Irish Aids came through from HSE came in January 2019 for the 2018 operations
 The accruals of €15,737 comprise of the expenses for event cost for FMK, ESTHER and GHE conference in November and December 2018 that was not yet paid

IRISH FORUM FOR GLOBAL HEALTH LIMITED

YEAR TO DATE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS

UP TO 31 DECEMBER 2018

	IFG	IFGH OPERATIONS		•	ESTHER OPERATIONS		ATIONS
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE		ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
	€	€	€		€	€	€
INCOME							
Grants (Irish Aid €0,000 Goal €5,000 Esther €3,000)	68,000			Irish Aids through HSE	50,000	Note 2	
Donations	4,378			Achill – refund Achill	2,400		
Friend of Forum	2,150			training Participant fee	4,570		
Eventbrite – GHE conference	4,152			HSE contribution for Achill	3,600	Note 3	
EXPENDITURE	78,680				60,570		
Staffing	45,899	45,727	172		45,899	45,727	172
Communications	3,103	3,800	(697)		1,653	3,800	(2,147)
Events (Note 1)	27,097	7,200	19,898		13,810	3,000	10,810
Travel	2,831	2,100	731		1,111	5,100	(3,989)
Administration	1,166	1,250	(84)		1,181	1,250	(69)
SoG	2,507	2,000	507		-	-	0
Fees	9,445	6,510	2,935		3,892	6,510	(2,618)
	92,048	68,587	23,463		67,546	65,387	2,159
DEFICIT	(13,368)				(6,976)		

Note:

- 1. Total of €15,737 included in accruals (see Balance sheet) as at December 2018 to accrue for the event expenses for
 - the FMK, the ESTHER partnership Forum and GHE conference
- 2. Esther Grants of €0,000 received through HSE in January 2019 to cover Esther operations. It's in receivable
- 3. HSE contribution for Achill training of €3,600 received in IFGH in January 2019 was included in receivable

Annex 4: 2018 Operations Update