



# **Irish Global Health Network Annual Report 2019**

*Report prepared for Irish Aid - Reporting period: January 2019 - December 2019*

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## Executive Summary

Established in 2004, under the registered charity name of The Irish Forum for Global Health, the organisation was rebranded as the Irish Global Health Network in 2019 as part of a strategy reset to more accurately reflect its activities. It is comprised of 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 IGHN developed and follows 'Working Together for Global Health and Wellbeing: Strategy 2018 – 2023'. The IGHN 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 2019: Equity, Health and the SDGs, and planned and delivered our events around that theme.

Our primary means of engaging with members on a day-to-day basis is via our weekly newsletters and through regular broadcasts on our social media channels ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), LinkedIn, Youtube and [Instagram](#)), and in parallel we work in partnership with other organisations to organise events such as conferences, lectures, training, workshops, seminars, and other learning opportunities.

This report is structured to highlight key updates in a number of focal areas of the M&E Framework by strategic area and should be read together with the Annexes listed in the table of contents as referenced throughout the report.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

- In 2019, we recorded the organisation's activities on a monthly basis via the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework, which was generated as part of the strategic plan completed in 2018. The framework details our activities in a systematic format, from our communications activities to the attendance and feedback received at events. Our M&E reporting was regular and systematic in 2019 allowing us to report quarterly on activities throughout the year via the operations updates at our Board meetings and as outlined in Annex 1: IGHN 2019 Summary and in the individual M&E Event Summaries outlined in Annexes 2-6 of this report.

## Governance and Finance



Four Board meetings were held in 2019 (February, April, June and October). Six Executive Management (EMC) meetings were held throughout the year (every 8 weeks on average). More in depth information on the Board meetings related to Board changes, composition and evaluation feedback insights are covered in greater detail under Area 3. We evaluate board meetings using post-meeting online surveys. Furthermore, we review a risk register which is reviewed at every Board meeting.

- During the November 2019 Executive Management Committee meeting, it was agreed by EMC members that the EMC would be disbanded in favour of a new Finance Sub-committee which would be comprised of Board members and members of the Secretariat. The decision was taken given both the additional capacity of the Secretariat to independently manage functions adequately, and to facilitate the additional demands being placed upon the Secretariat as a result of the increased funds being managed both through the ESTHER programme and through the management of larger and additional events.
- The Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the Board and comprises up to four Members of the Board plus the Executive Director and Finance Manager. To facilitate coordination with the ESTHER Programme, one of the Finance Committee members will also act as Focal Point

for ESTHER and the Executive Director is a member of the HSE Global Health Programme Management Group.

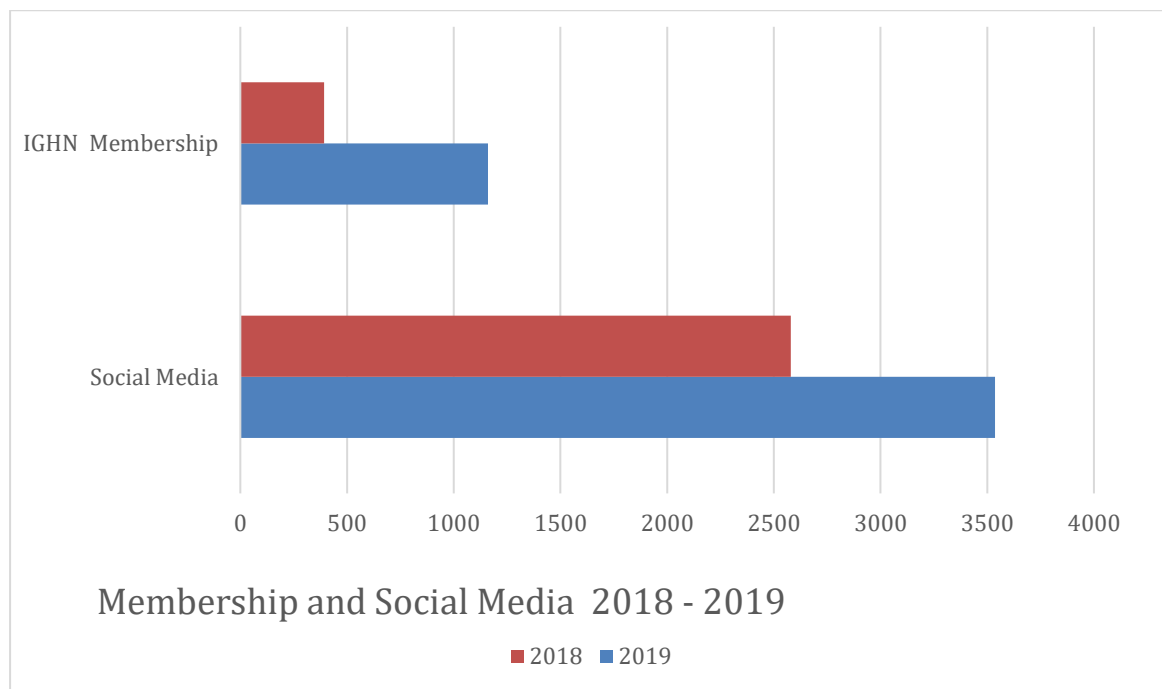
## Membership & Communications

- In 2019, our support base of subscribers *more than tripled* from 373 to 1161 meaning that we have been extremely successful in growing our Network over the year. We have also recouped the numbers lost to us as a result of the GDPR compliance introduced nationally in 2018.
- Our subscribers represent an extremely engaged cohort as evidenced by our increased average open rate for our communications outputs. (from ~15% in 2018 to ~ 30% in 2019).
- Our growing base of supporters has grown as a result of participation at our events throughout the year, including the Clean Cooking Conference in Wexford, the Access to Medicines Conference, Irish Aid's Father Michael Kelly Lecture and our own flagship conference the Global Health Exchange. This growth was in part encouraged by a deliberate GDPR-compliant opt-in consent form at the point of registration for IGHN events. Our ongoing engagement by the Student Outreach Team in nine universities around Ireland, as well as the ongoing work of Key Correspondents engagement is further expanding our support base.
- Overall, our combined communications (email and social media platforms) reached over 17,365 people. The topline growth in membership and social media reach is illustrated in figures 1.1 and 1.2 below. More details on our communications activity can be found under Area 1 in the Narrative report that follows this topline summary.

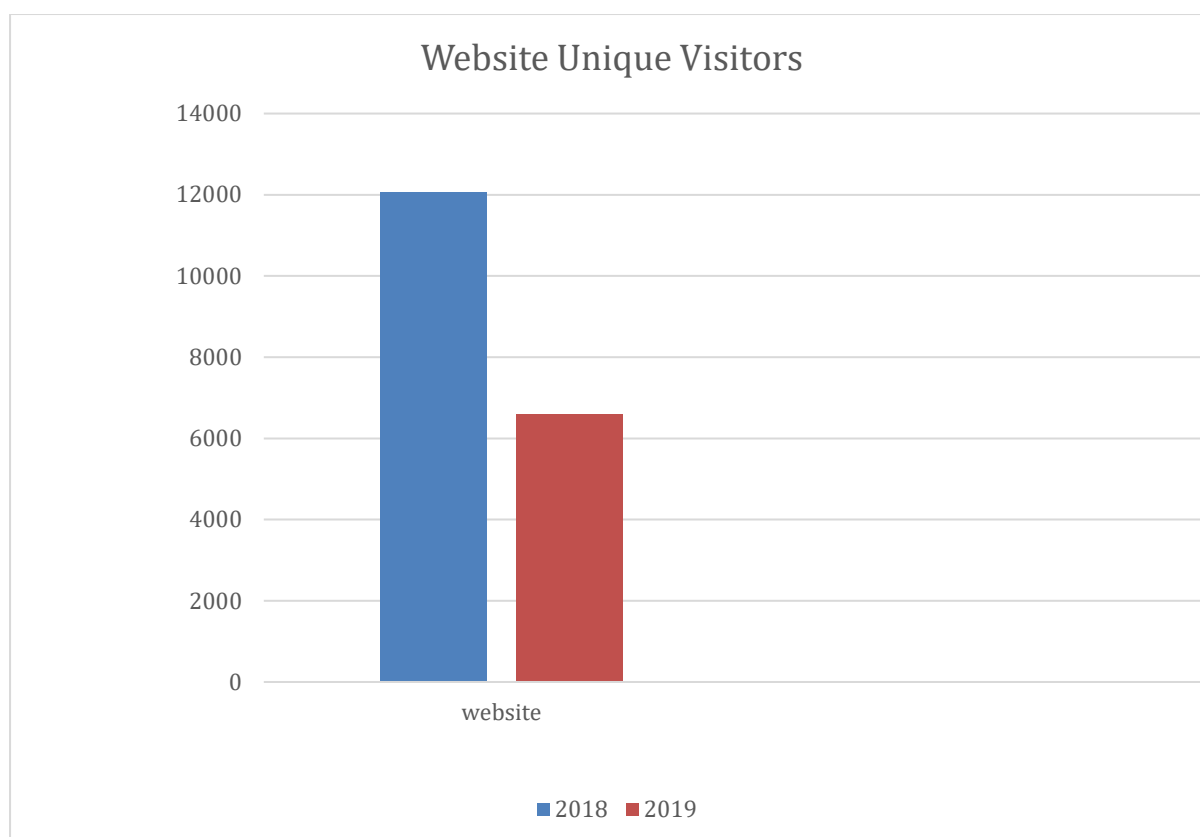
Channel	Reach	No. of communications in 2019
<b>IGHN email subscribers</b>	<b>1161</b> (+768 on 2018)	56 newsletters (+7 on 2018)
<b>ESTHER Ireland email subscribers</b>	<b>673</b> (+43 on 2018)	15 (+5 on 2018)
<b>Twitter followers</b>	<b>2228</b> (+348 on 2018)	420 tweets (273,918 impressions +150,699 on 2018)
<b>Facebook friends</b>	<b>991</b> (+130 on 2018)	103 posts (20,955 interactions - 364 on 2018)
<b>YouTube</b>	<b>63</b> subscribers (3,341 views -149 on last year)	54 videos (+45 on 2018)
<b>Website Unique Visitors</b>	<b>12,042</b> (up 5,467 on 2018)	65 website updates

Linked in Company Page (New since mid 2019 / no comparisons available with 2018)	70	24 updates
Instagram Followers (New since mid-2019/ no comparisons available with 2018)	137	34 posts
Total People Reached	17,365	706 updates posted

Membership and Social Media, Illustrated Growth - 2018 -2019: Fig 1.1



Website Unique Visitors, Illustrated Growth - 2018 -2019: Fig 1.2



## Partnerships

2019 was a year in which we worked in partnership with many organisations in different ways. Partners included the HSE Global Health Team, Irish Aid, RCSI, Comhlámh, Dochas, Dublin City University, Queens University Belfast, Trinity College Dublin, NUI Galway, VSO, Concern Worldwide, Medecins Sans Frontiers, Oxfam, GOAL, the National Women's Council, HIV Ireland, DSAI, IDEA and ESTHER Ireland.

- **Coalition 2030:** We are an active Coalition 2030 member and have collaborated to strengthen the global health dimension of that collective and to further support Ireland's role in delivering the SDGs domestically and internationally. Coalition 2030 is a vibrant and active network of NGOs, unions and other organisations. Our Board Chair Anne Matthews, Board Secretary Niall Roche and Executive Director Nadine Ferris France have attended plenaries. The IGHN uses the Coalition to promote the SDG focus of its own events via Coalition members and further afield in recognition of our aligned goals. In September 2019, we worked alongside partners as part of the Public Engagement Working Group ahead of Ireland's Nationwide Climate Strike and the Global SDG Week of Action to deliver a consolidated week-long communications push both on social media and via our newsletter. This push was in support of the millions of people worldwide striking for climate action, who were rallying ahead of the UN summit in which global leaders and Irish Heads of State were

meeting to review progress on Climate & the SDGS. As a member of Coalition 2030, we supported the Dublin strikes demanding ambitious climate action with the stated imperative to leave no one behind broadcasting under the collective #StandTogetherNow call to action.

- **HIV Ireland:** We presented to HIV Ireland staff and volunteers during a lunchtime 'lunch & learn' session. The purpose of the session was to introduce IGHN to the group and to see how IGHN can support HIV Ireland in sharing their activities and events in a more consistent way. The event was attended by 25 HIV Ireland Staff and Volunteers. Throughout the year, we engaged in promotion of initiatives and events by HIV Ireland, including the Fast Track Cities initiative in response to Ireland's growing HIV crisis.
- **Global Health Symposium:** A global health group coordinated by the College of Anaesthesiologists and including the HSE was formed in 2019 with the purpose of highlighting opportunities and challenges in global health education across the various colleges in Ireland. In November 2019, an event was held bringing together approximately 80 individuals and IGHN supported with reporting and communication.
- **Networks of Networks:** In December 2019, the IGHN Executive Director met with other Executive Director/CEOs of Dochas, Comhlamh and the IDEA network to share progress, discuss any strategic opportunities for collaboration and learn from each other in the networking space in Ireland. It is hoped this will lead to even greater collaboration in 2020 and beyond. A shared calendar has been established to coordinate and amplify mutual activities. The intention is to meet every few months throughout 2020.
- **DSA Ireland:** In July 2019, the Communications and Events Coordinator met with the Administrative Coordinator of the Development Studies Association of Ireland to share learnings and insights about communicating with our member base. It was agreed that the IGHN and DSA Ireland could collaborate to mutually publicise activities and items of interest in view of the common ground shared by both organisations. Events including the Global Health Exchange, the Father Michael Kelly Lecture Series and ESTHER Ireland Partnerships forum were promoted via the DSA Ireland mailshot and on their website.
- **National Women's Council of Ireland:** In July 2019, the IGHN Executive Director and IGHN Communications and Events Coordinator met with NWCI's Women's Health Co-ordinator, who is charged with leading policy and campaigns to examine ways in which the two organisations could support each other's work and collaborate. The NWCI participated in the Global Health Exchange presenting on Ireland's Women's Health Action Plan and also helping to promote the Father Michael Kelly Lecture Series among its staff and members, while the IGHN supported with promoting contraception consultations, the Out of Silence mental health report and other ongoing events in our weekly Newsletters.
- **ESTHER Ireland & ESTHER Europe:** Throughout 2019, the IGHN Secretariat also fulfilled its role as the ESTHER Ireland secretariat – while also continuing to Chair the European ESTHER Alliance in 2019/2020 contributing to a number of activities outlined in brief below, and in detail in the ESTHER Ireland 2019 Progress Report. IGHN took over the hosting of ESTHER Europe in December 2019.



## 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, we aim to provide a platform for increased knowledge, skills, and networking in Global Health.

# 5 events

Target

5

# 593 attendees

Target

300

1265 online views

98% Events extremely useful or useful

71% Very likely to attend again

## IGHN EVENTS HOSTED AND CO HOSTED 2019

Month	IGHN Events Hosted and Co-Hosted 2019	Number of Participants
16 April	Access to Medicines Ireland (AMI) Conference	173
16 May	HIV Ireland Presentation of IGHN	25
29, 30 & 31 May	Clean Cooking Conference, Wexford	90
12 September	Global Health Exchange Conference (GHE) 2019	185
28 November	Father Michael Kelly (FMK) Lecture on HIV/AIDS (World Aids Day)	120
	<b>Total (Does not include ESTHER and SOT events)</b>	<b>593</b>

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 newsletters containing conference and events announcements, news updates, opportunities for education and training and other information of interest to those working in the area of global health.

### Communications:

In September of 2019 in anticipation of the website redesign, the Irish Forum for Global Health was renamed to the Irish Global Health Network as part of a strategy reset to more accurately reflect the nature of the work of the organisation. A new logo for both the IGHN and the Student Outreach Team were signed off by the Board and launched thereafter. The announcement of the name change was made on 2 September in the newsletter, ahead of the Global Health Exchange in DCU, with the intention that the

### Announcement - Organisational Rebrand



#### Name Change Announcement Irish Global Health Network

The Irish Forum for Global Health is refreshing its brand logo and changing its name in line with a strategy reset to reflect its role as a global health network. From next week, to coincide with the launch of the new website, the organisation name will change to the Irish Global Health Network. We will be rolling out the new logo in stages across our print and digital channels.

communications roll out across all communications channels would follow on a phased basis in line with the launch of the new website. The website itself was launched on 20 September with rebranding and a thorough text review of our site completed before that date. The transition was seamless, with minimal disruption and all social media sites and banners, along with printed materials were changed to reflect the new branding by the end of October.

## Website Redesign

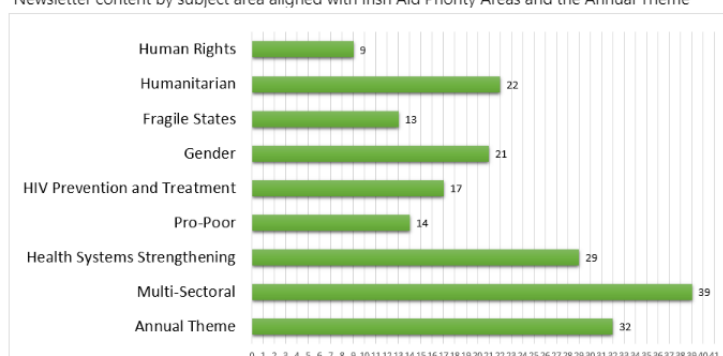
The website redesign aimed to improve user interface design across the site in general, as well as to consolidate certain components and sections of the site for easier navigation. It was felt that a more dynamic site which offered a better portal to the varied activities of the IGHN would add value to members and improve interaction. The events sections – past and upcoming, Key Correspondent Sections, Student Outreach Team sections along with the blogs, news updates and event calendars were all upgraded for improved user design, with enhanced social media integration. Event round-ups are now a regular feature of the site as illustrated here. These serve as a repository for all of the event components to be captured on a single microsite, both as a record for global health events held in Ireland and as a legacy resource for use and information sharing by the global health community.



## Newsletters (See Annex 1, page 1.)

There were **52** newsletters broadcast during the year, with the top accessed newsletter in January reaching an open rate of 48%. Throughout the year, there were similarly high open rates, which hovered around rates of 40%, 39% and 37% particularly around announcements about our own events. The average newsletter open rate throughout

Newsletter content by subject area aligned with Irish Aid Priority Areas and the Annual Theme








the year was 30%, still double the industry average of 15%. Monthly AB testing of our network base indicate that open rates are maximised on Mondays and Fridays. We will continue to test as our base grows, but it is likely that the threefold growth rate in our member base will negatively affect our engagement rates as time goes on and providing value to members as well as sourcing items of interest will be instrumental in allowing us to secure engagement. Our newsletters featured subject

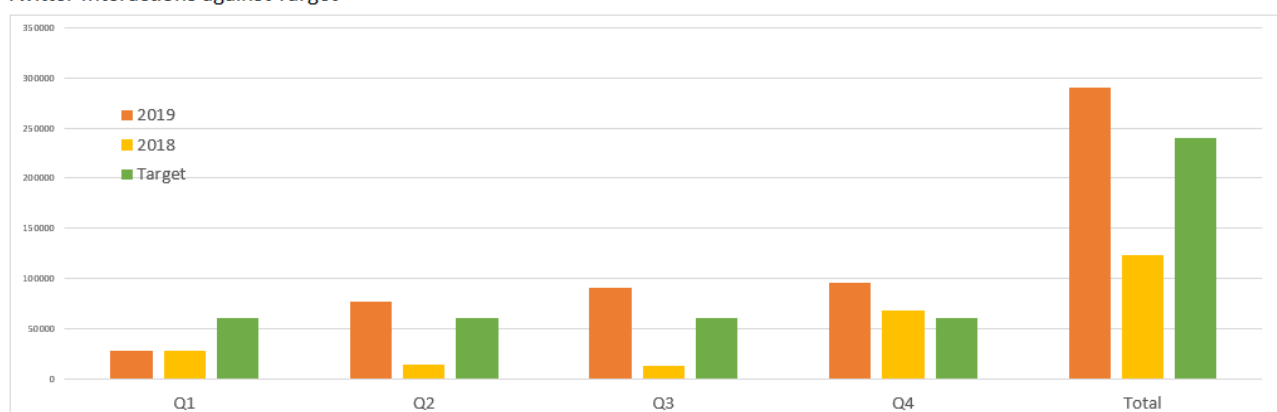
areas aligned to Irish Aid priority areas and our own annual theme of Equity, Health and the SDGs as illustrated above.

## Social Media

**Twitter:** Twitter was by far the most utilised social media channel of the year, earning a total of 273,918 impressions in 2019 an increase of more than 150,000 for the same period in 2018. The strategic decision to focus the efforts of the Secretariat on a single social media channel early in 2019 was deliberate given our low capacity to populate all social media channels on a regular basis. We trended twice on Twitter in Ireland over the reporting period for both the AMI and the GHE conferences, earning in excess of 25,000 impressions during both events, a major achievement for a non-profit organisation of our capacity.

Twitter	FOLLOWERS	NEW
	2228	348
Facebook	FANS	NEW
	991	130
Youtube	FANS	NEW
	63	17
Instagram	FANS	NEW
	0	0
LinkedIn	FANS	NEW
	0	0

Twitter Interactions against Target



**Facebook:** Our facebook page, which was less utilised and suffered a drop in interactions of 364 from the same period in 2018, nonetheless became an extremely useful tool with the introduction of Livestreaming at IGHN events during the third and fourth quarters.

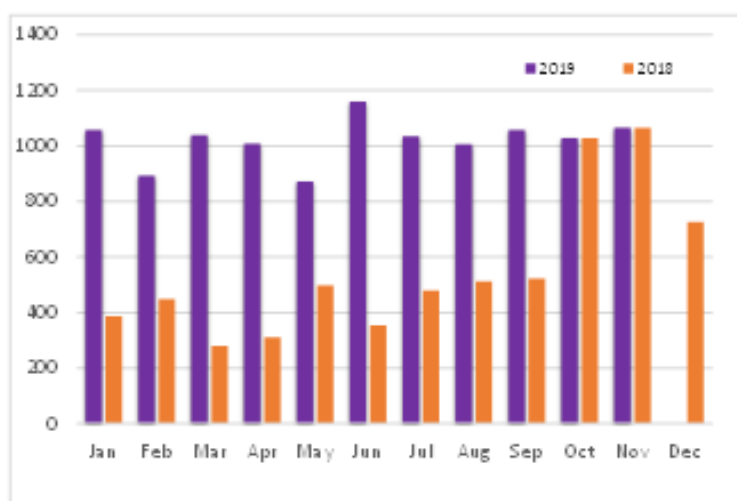
Facebook livestreaming has shown promising potential to drive engagement through the establishment of event playlists of recorded speakers. We found this to be extremely useful as an engagement tool and legacy resource for those who could not participate in person at the Global Health Exchange which received an additional 900 views on our Facebook playlist, the Father Michael Kelly Lecture (365 views recorded by the Gay Community News) and the ESTHER Partnership Forum (270 views) and it has encouraged us to continue recording in this format to maximise audience reach both via the livestream on the day and via the subsequent organic social media sharing of participants themselves with colleagues and friends after events.

**Youtube:** Youtube was a valuable resource for professional videography recorded at both the Global Health Exchange (310 playlist views) and the Father Michael Kelly Event (220 playlist views). It

served as a useful tool to house the 54 videos we posted this year to our dedicated channel for future reference. Despite this, there was a reduction of 149 views in 2019 overall, likely as a result of the increased availability of video playlists hosted on Facebook and during Facebook livestreaming itself.

**Website:** Visitors to the website in 2019 numbered more than 12,000 representing a doubling of visitors for the same period in 2018. This reflects the strategic push to improve website user engagement through the vehicle of our weekly newsletter via content posted to and hosted on the website. In addition, there was a significant spike in website visits over the course of the quarter 3 and quarter 4, when our larger events are concentrated and perhaps as a result of the website launch.

Monthly Unique Visitors to the IFGH Website



**LinkedIn Company Page:** In line with the organisational rebrand, we established a new company page on LinkedIn to explore the potential for building an online global health community in Ireland. Since September, we have had 73 people sign up to follow our page. In 2020, we plan to further develop our activities on this professional networking portal in alignment with the SOT strategy to build a resource for students and early career professionals interested in working in the area of global health. Pairing students with research opportunities will be a dedicated area of focus for development in 2020.

**Instagram:** Due to concerns of remaining relevant to our younger membership via the SOT, we established an Instagram account in mid-2019 and have posted 34 posts to promote SOT events, opportunities and items of interest. In 2020, we expect to increase the number of broadcasts and drive engagement by encouraging use of the account by student representatives

### Most interactions on Twitter

[GHE2019 Repeat after me](#)

[April 10 looking forward to hearing more on A2M](#)

[Support for A2M Press Release in Leinster Hse](#)

[Achill Last minute spots available](#)

### Most Accessed Newsletters

[Dedicated Mailout of the GHE 2019](#)

[GHE Deadline Extended](#)  
[Clean Cooking Nobel Laureate Announcement](#)

### Most Accessed Webpages

[Homepage](#)

[Main Events Pages \(Past and Upcoming\)](#)

[GHE 2019](#)

of the nine universities active in the SOT in Ireland. With plans to hold a Key Correspondent training dedicated to video production ahead of the AMI conference in 2020, we expect that Instagram will have huge potential as an engagement tool for reaching younger audiences.

**Press Coverage:** Another area of growth this year was our press outreach. We successfully placed interviewees on 20 occasions in national and regional news outlets throughout 2019. The broadcasts included discussions on topics relating to global health from IGHN Chair Anne Matthews (April 3, Global Health Day) and Executive Director Nadine Ferris France (HIV and AIDS outlook in Ireland), to participants and speakers at the following conferences: Access to Medicines, Pathways to Clean Cooking, the Global Health Exchange and the Father Michael Kelly lecture.

The full spectrum of outlets in which we were featured included RTE Morning Ireland, Newstalk, Today FM, Dublin's 98FM, Spin 1038, Near FM, Waterford 102/103fm, SouthEast Radio Wexford and KFM Kildare. Our print coverage ranged from the Beam, an international climate justice publication based in the Netherlands and medium.com an aggregate online international news outlet, to national and regional titles such as the Irish Times (Dominic Coyle News Editor and Paul Cullen, Health Editor) the Irish Examiner and also the Wexford People and Gay Community News. More information about the individuals and topics featured, as well as the corresponding media outlets are outlined in further detail in the summary of individual events that follows.

#### Events and Conferences:

Our events in 2019 were extremely well received. The events listed below cover the five events that fall into the category of Area 1: Facilitate Networking and Learning Through High-Quality Events and Sharing Information which are now being reported on separately for the purposes of this report, and distinct from Area 2: Facilitate engagement in global health through partnerships and linking individuals and organisations which include ESTHER and SOT events.

Over the course of 2019, the networking activity at the five events in Area 1 is illustrated in Figure 1.3 "Networking Activity at Events" below, demonstrates the importance of networking to attendees as an outcome of events, as captured on evaluation forms following those events. In Figure 1.4, "Attendees Value from Events" the option of "stimulating new thinking" is selected by 50% of attendees as the most important influence of IGHN events, with "networking" and "influencing the global health agenda" ranking as equally important by 25% of attendees. In total, 80% of event attendees had plans for action and 80% had follow-up events planned. In addition, 80% of the events were also successful in securing media coverage.

**Figure 1.3**

## Networking Activity at Events

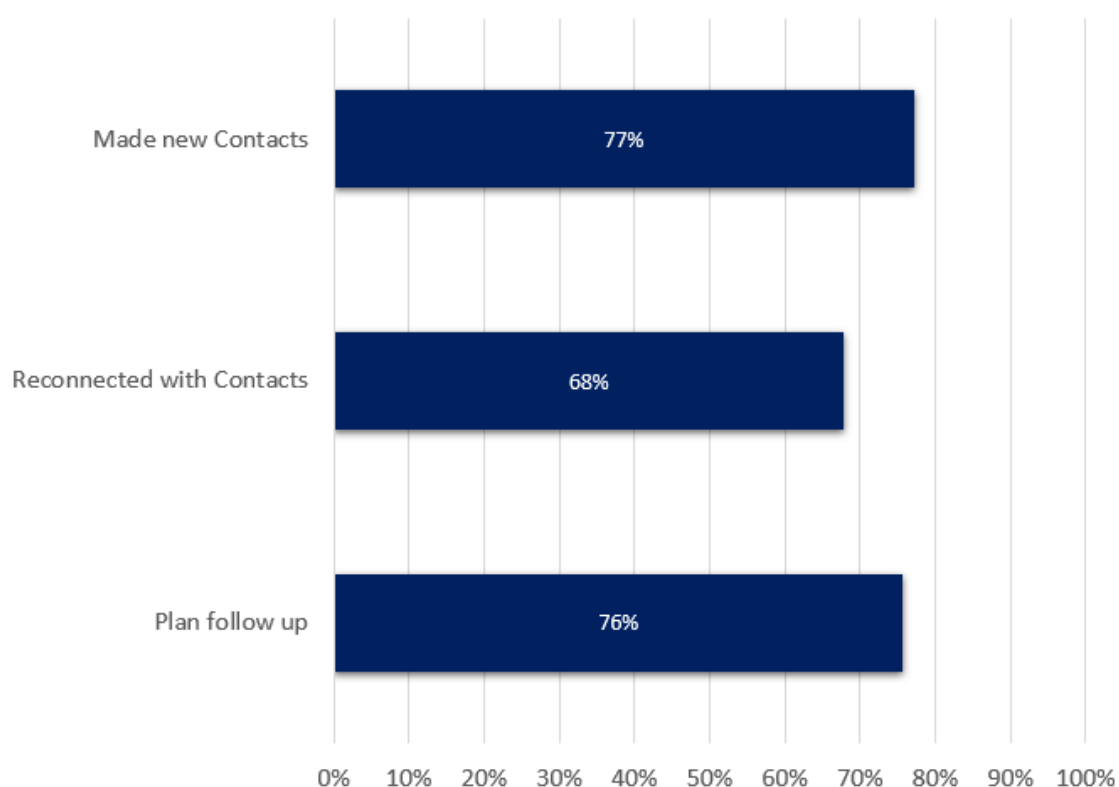
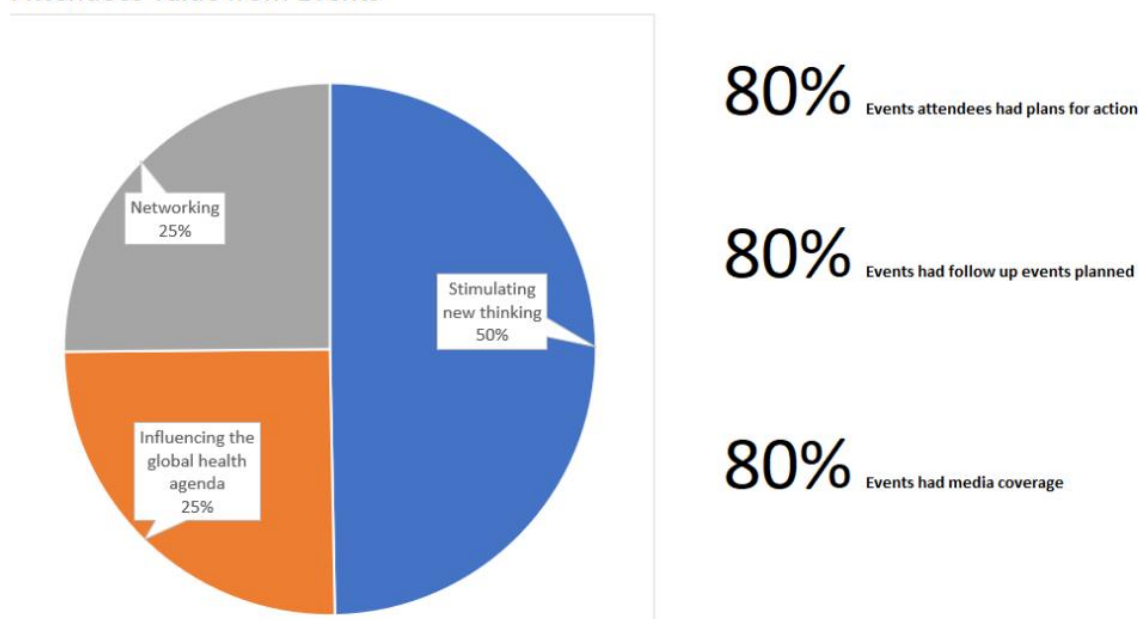


Figure 1.4

## Attendees value from Events



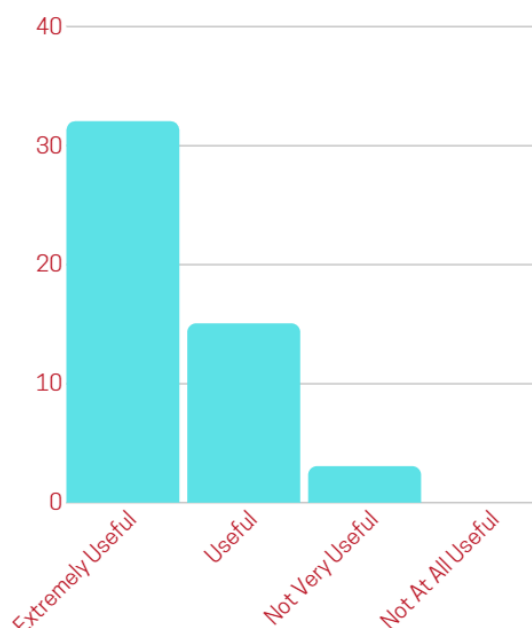
1. **Access to Medicines:** On April 16, 2019, we co-hosted a conference on Access to Medicines “Affordability and Innovation”, held in RCSI with Access to Medicines Ireland (AMI),

Comhlámh, UAEM, MSF Ireland/UK and RCSI. A total of 173 guests attended the event. During morning and afternoon plenaries, two panels of leading international experts, patient advocates and industry representatives were featured. This year, there was a specific focus on proposals to reform the current model of innovation within the industry, to shift the emphasis away from patents and monopolies towards making public health and accessibility the priority.

Political presence was highlighted at the conference in the opening and closing remarks from Dr Michael Harty TD, Chairperson of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health who spoke in support of AMI and highlighted the need for countries, including Ireland, to address the limited access to medicines and health technologies as a result of high prices and patent monopolies. Featured speakers included: Dr Kieran Harkin, Co-Founder of AMI; James Love, Director of Knowledge Ecology International; Professor Michael Barry, Clinical Director of the National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics; Michele Tait, former manager of Ireland's National Hepatitis C Programme; Bas Leerink, Dutch Health Consultant and member of the Dutch Council for Public Health & Society; Dimitri Eynikel, Advocacy Advisor Europe, MSF Access Campaign; Diarmuid MacDonald, Just Treatment UK; and patient advocates: Aoife Kirwan of MS Ireland, Kay Curtin Co-Founder of Melanoma Support Ireland and Robbie Lawlor (HIV activist, ACTUP Dublin).

**Fig 1.5 Evaluation Results: Audience Feedback Access to Medicines Ireland 2019**

Fifty-one respondents (29%) filled and submitted evaluation forms. 98% responded that they were very likely or somewhat likely to attend the conference again and 94% found it either very useful or somewhat useful. 60% of those who gave feedback attended the event to 'stimulate new thinking' a further 28% said they felt the conference was contributing to influencing the global agenda. In qualitative feedback captured, participating doctors noted that the conference would influence their own prescribing and discussions with other doctors, several expressed desire to get involved in patient advocacy or join AMI and other said they would contact local TDs and the Oireachtas Health Committee. Suggestions included getting more students involved in AMI.

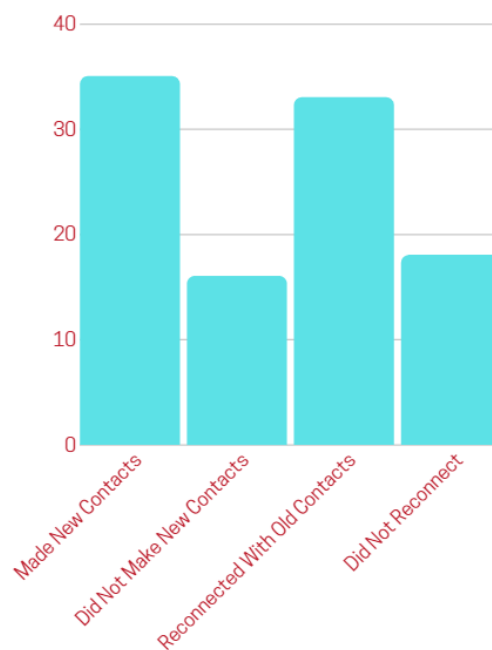




**Fig 1.6 Evaluation Results: Audience Feedback Access to Medicines Ireland 2019**

A distinct outcome of the conference resulted in Deputy Maureen O’Sullivan TD referencing the AMI’s call for the Irish government to support the Italian Transparency resolution at the World Health Assembly. Other calls for government action included: public return on investment by strengthening the negotiating power of universities and public research unites; retaining patent rights to some publicly funded drugs and the creation of a policy to support the uptake of bio-similars.

The IGHN secured media placements for the conference in the Irish Times (one news story by Dominic Coyle with a further summary piece by Paul Cullen, Health Correspondent the day after the conference) Professor Michael Barry was interviewed on RTE Radio 1’s Sean O’Rourke show the morning before the conference. On the day of the conference, James Love and Kay Curtin were successfully pitched and interviewed by both Morning Ireland and the Newstalk breakfast show. The event enjoyed a further seven conference news reports generated by our Key Correspondent’s team which were published widely through our newsletter and on social media. The event itself trended in the number one spot on Twitter, meaning that #AMI2019 was the most talked about topic in Ireland on the social media channel on April 16<sup>th</sup> earning 23,000 impressions. A summary report of the conference including key messages, progress and key achievements of the conference along with planned future actions by AMI was published on the AMI website and distributed by IGHN and partners.





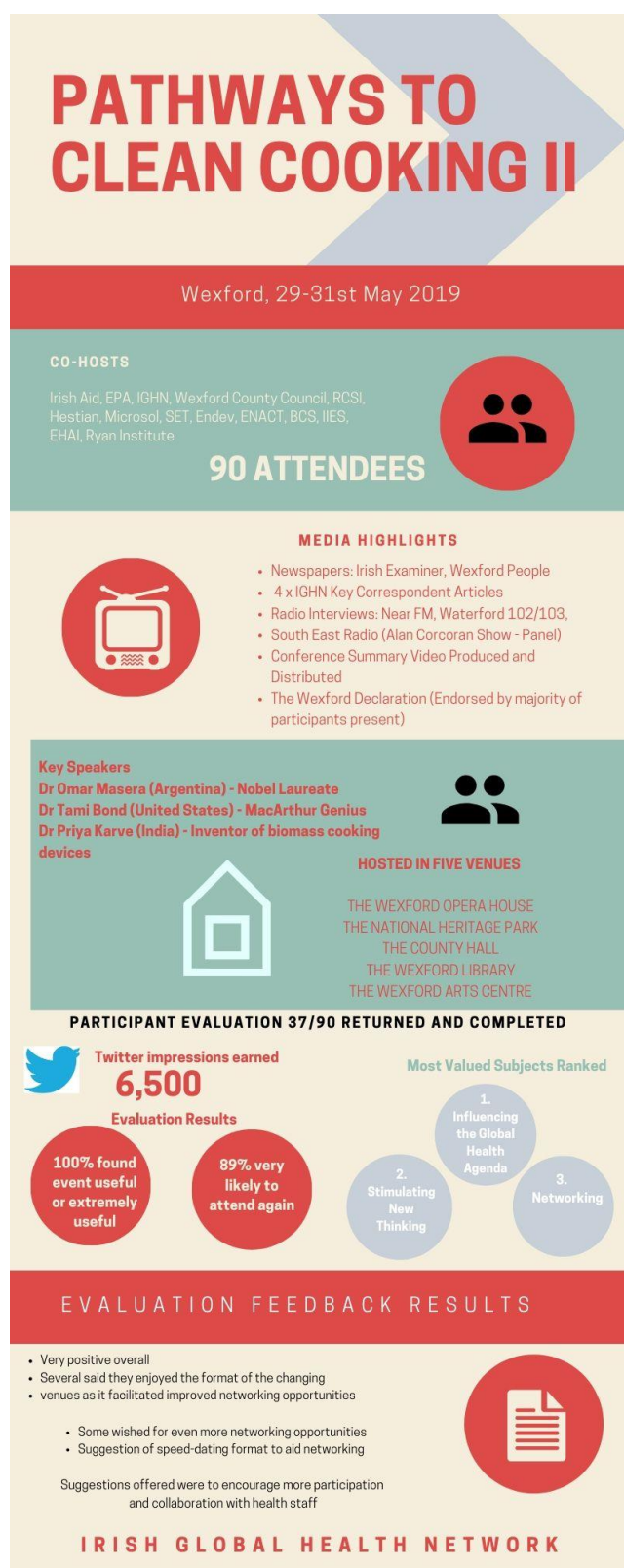
2. **Pathways to Clean Cooking II: The** Pathways to Clean Cooking II Conference took place in five Wexford venues (National Heritage Park, National Opera House, Wexford Library, Wexford County Hall, Wexford Arts Centre) from May 29-31 gathering global experts working in the sector of Clean Cooking attempting to reduce the reliance by hundreds of millions of people on fuelwood and other sources of bio-energy to meet their basic needs.

The conference was supported by Irish Aid, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Irish Forum for Global Health, the Ryan Institute at NUI Galway and Wexford County Council, in addition to a host of international partners mobilised through the Pathways to Clean Cooking platform.

A total of 90 mostly international participants attended the event to examine latest advancements in Clean Cooking practices and technologies. Top level global experts including a Nobel laureate Dr. Omar Masera (Argentina), a MacArthur Genius, Dr. Tami Bond, (United States), an inventor of biomass burning cooking devices Dr. Priya Karve (India) along with a host of international experts from entrepreneurs to think tank professionals travelled to take part in the conference organised by Wexford member of the Pathways to Clean Cooking platform, Conor Fox.

37 out of 90 attendees (41%) completed and returned evaluation feedback with 100% of respondents saying they found the event extremely useful or useful, and a further 89% commenting that they were very likely to attend again. In qualitative feedback, several commented that they enjoyed the format of changing venues which allowed for increased networking opportunities.

Another recurring theme of the conference was the need for more participation and



collaboration with health staff, who it was felt were allowing “the perfect to be the enemy of the good” in not permitting a greater adoption rate of cleaner fuel technologies. In the context of the 2.8 billion worldwide that still rely on solid fuels for cooking, the perceived shortcomings of those technologies in eliminating 100% of emissions—a feat not yet achievable—needed to be fully understood, teased out and communicated with health staff to secure greater adoption rates of cleaner technologies that can still contribute extremely positively to reducing emissions and help reverse the negative impacts on climate change and global health that continue unabated.

The IGHN posted 19 original tweets on the day of the conference earning more than 6500 impressions on Twitter. Media coverage on the conference extended to a piece on Environment and Health in the Irish Examiner, The Beam – an international Climate Action Publication, along with a post conference write up in the Wexford People. A further four pieces were published by the IGHN Key Correspondent’s team. Radio Interviews included a segment on NEAR FM and Waterford 102/103 with Conor Fox in addition to a panel interview with South East Radio Alan Corcoran show featuring Conor Fox, Omar Masera and Priya Karve. Key outcomes of the conference were a “Wexford Declaration” which was published and endorsed by the great majority of participants of the conference, in addition to a round up video of the event. Both outputs were shared widely on IGHN channels both in our dedicated mailouts to subscribers, our weekly newsletter, and on our website and social media channels.

3. **The Global Health Exchange 2019:** The Irish Global Health Network (IGHN) 2019 Global Health Exchange (GHE2019) was co-hosted by Dublin City University (DCU), the Health Service Executive, and Oxfam Ireland. A total of 185 participants attended the event, which was live streamed on Facebook earning a further 931 views.

A Key Correspondents' workshop held the night before trained 17 students of global health to write written pieces, summarise sessions for the closing session by Steve MacDonald on the day, generate stories for Instagram and broadcast on Twitter. A resulting nine articles were published on the IGHN website and distributed via the newsletter, while also feeding into the Global Health Summary document published in November. The summary document was distributed widely in a dedicated mailout to all attendees and more than 1000 subscribers to the newsletter. It gathered international speakers and participants from across the global health sphere including advocates, health workers, social justice campaigners, students and academics.

The conference itself featured two plenary (morning and afternoon) sessions with keynote speakers Ifrah Ahmed, Founder of the Ifrah Foundation, and Ailbhe Smyth, Former Co-Director of the Together for Yes Campaign. The programme was comprised of six streams across seven parallel sessions, each addressing a stand-out global health area of interest. A dedicated web roundup of the event was made available at: [www.globalhealth.ie/ghe2019](http://www.globalhealth.ie/ghe2019) featuring videos of the plenaries and sessions as well as links to presentations, photo galleries, biographies, the event summary and key correspondent articles.

Thanks to the support of the online teams in the HSE and DCU, in addition to the broadcasts of our Key correspondents tweeting on the day, the event trended in the number one spot in Twitter in Ireland, earning 25,000 impressions on the day of the conference.

A total of 66 participants (35%) completed post event evaluation forms with 96% reporting that the event was extremely useful or useful. More than 45% planned to follow up with contacts as a result of the conference and of those who gave feedback, 'stimulating new thinking' ranked in the top spot at 49%, ahead of 'networking' at 28% and 'influencing the global agenda' at 23%. In qualitative feedback captured, participants commended the organisation of the event and the varied programme. In relation to planned actions after the conference, several expressed the desire to initiate new linkages, for example: "to

**GLOBAL HEALTH EXCHANGE 2019**  
Theme: Reaching the furthest behind first: addressing gender and other inequalities to meet the SDGs

**PRESENTATION STREAMS**

- A: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
- B: Leadership in Global Health
- C: Nutrition and Health
- D: Inequalities, Inclusion, and Global Health
- E: Environment and Health Inequalities
- F: Conflict, Crisis and Rehabilitation

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

**Dr. Ailbhe Smyth**  
Together for Yes  
"The People Say 'Yes': A Victory for Abortion Rights in Ireland"

**Ifrah Ahmed**  
Ifrah Foundation  
"Addressing the Health Consequences of Female Genital Mutilation in Somalia"

**MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS**

NEAR FM Interview with Dr. Mohammed Haqmal, Afghan Public Health Chief

17 Key Correspondents trained - publishing eight articles on newsletter/website

**IGHN Twitter**  
#GHE2019 trended in the number 1 position in Ireland, earning 25,000 impressions on Twitter

Event Livestreamed  
IGHN's Facebook page  
Total of 931 views

**TOPLINE CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Include, listen to, and empower communities
2. Advocate for and support young people to achieve their potential
3. Build upon work towards equality and equity, to promote justice
4. Take responsibility to protect environment / mitigate climate change
5. Be unafraid to make radical change where it is needed
6. Open cross-sectoral collaboration

participate in the Women in Global Health Chapter”, “to link with the Women’s Council”, “to hold joint events with contacts made”, “to expand the work cross-border”, “to plan a seminar for medical students”, “to evaluate new training given and incorporate new learning”, “to set up a task-force group in global health”, “to explore the link between health and environment more”. Suggestions for the event included, making presentations more dynamic, making presentations available on the IGHN website and organising CBD points for medical students. An immediate outcome of the event was the establishment of a Women in Global Health Chapter in which interested participants signed up to join on the day. (More detail about Women in Global Health outlined in Area 2 below in this report).

4. **The Annual Father Michael Kelly Lecture:** On November 28, 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). More than 120 people attended the event, with a further 365 online views via the livestream. A musical performance by the SUSO Youth Choir, Kilcock opened and closed the event this year. In the opening address from Ciarán Cannon, TD (Minister of State for the Diaspora and International Development) the Minister saluted the work of the speakers present and reaffirmed the Irish government’s commitment to supporting people affected by HIV and AIDS.

Keynote speakers included Dr. Joannie Marlene Bewa, a multi-award winning physician from the Benin Republic, who is an internationally renowned advocate for the SDGs and Georgina Caswell, Head of Programmes, Global Network of People Living with HIV, South Africa. The keynotes were followed by a moderated panel including Nicola Brennan, Policy Director with Irish Aid,

#### Professor Michael Kelly HIV and AIDS Lecture – November 28, 2019

Category: Past Events, Upcoming Events  
September 27, 2019

We are pleased to announce that this event was successfully hosted with more than 120 participants attending this year’s annual lecture.

Video Presentations from Speakers are Available on the official Father Michael Kelly Website under the 2019 theme: HIV and Women: Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights: <http://fathermichaelkellyzambia.org/>

The Photo Gallery is Available Here

As in previous years, the Irish Global Health Network facilitated Irish Aid’s Annual Father Michael Kelly HIV and AIDS Lecture. This year’s theme was HIV and Women: Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights.

DOWNLOAD THE EVENT PROGRAMME

Download the Event Poster

Download the Full Compilation of Lectures and Presentations from the FMK Series 2006-2015

The lecture included a video address from Father Michael Kelly in Zambia, and was moderated by broadcaster and entertainer, Dil Wickramasinghe.

**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE  
PROF. FATHER MICHAEL KELLY LECTURE ON  
HIV & AIDS**

**THIS YEAR’S THEME IS: WOMEN, SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE  
HEALTH AND RIGHTS**

NOVEMBER 28, 2019  
5:00 – 7:30 PM  
SMOCK ALLEY THEATRE

ATTENDANCE IS FREE OF CHARGE, BUT  
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED AT THIS  
LINK: <https://fmk.eventbrite.ie>

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE BY:  
SUSO YOUTH CHOIR, KILCOCK  
DIRECTED BY  
EIMEAR & CLAIRE CREHAN

**FEATURING GUEST SPEAKERS**

<b>MODERATOR:</b> DIL WICKRAMASINGHE BROADCASTER, JOURNALIST AND COMEDIAN	<b>FR MICHAEL KELLY</b> FATHER FROM ZAMBIA	<b>GEORGINA CASWELL</b> HEAD OF PROGRAMMES, GLOBAL NETWORK OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV, SOUTH AFRICA	<b>ELLIE MARLEY</b> HIV STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION RESEARCHER
<b>CIARÁN CANNON TD</b> MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE DIASPORA AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	<b>DR JOANNIE MARLENE BEWA</b> PHYSICIAN, RESEARCHER AND ADVOCATE, BENIN	<b>AILBHE SMYTH</b> ACADEMIC, JOURNALIST AND ACTIVIST	<b>RUAIRI DE BURCA</b> DIRECTOR GENERAL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION AND AFRICA DIVISION, DFAT

FREE REGISTRATION AT: <https://fmk.eventbrite.ie>

Irish Aid | Irish Global Health Network | Smock Alley Theatre

SMOCK ALLEY THEATRE  
7 FALKLAND STREET LONDON  
E1 6AN  
SMOCKALLEY.COM | 01478084





Ailbhe Smyth, Academic,  
Feminist and Activist and Ellie  
Marley, HIV Stigma & Shame  
Researcher.

The audience reach was  
extended via the [GCN  
livestream](#) on Facebook of the  
event which earned a further  
365 views 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, along with media interviews with our  
Executive Director that featured on the following  
radio stations: Newstalk, Today FM, Dublin's 98FM,  
Spin 1038, Near FM and Kildare's KFM. Three articles  
from our Key Correspondents were published on the  
IGHN website and distributed via the IGHN  
newsletter.

In qualitative feedback captured for the purposes of  
Monitoring and Evaluation, 100% of the 25 attendees  
who gave feedback said that they found the event  
'useful' or 'extremely useful' and 65% of respondents  
said they were 'very likely to attend future events'.  
The event was a platform for both making new  
contacts (48%) and reconnecting with previous  
contacts (56%). More than 40% of  
respondents attended the event in  
order to 'stimulate new thinking'.  
Some 54% had planned follow-up  
actions including the following  
listed: to bring ideas back to their  
organisation, share the messages  
with colleagues, re-examine sexual  
health information in the workplace  
and encourage the outreach of  
support services for HIV patients.

# 120 attendees

365 online views

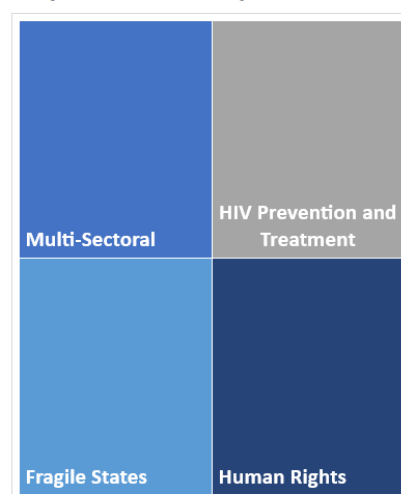
# 100%

 Events extremely useful or useful

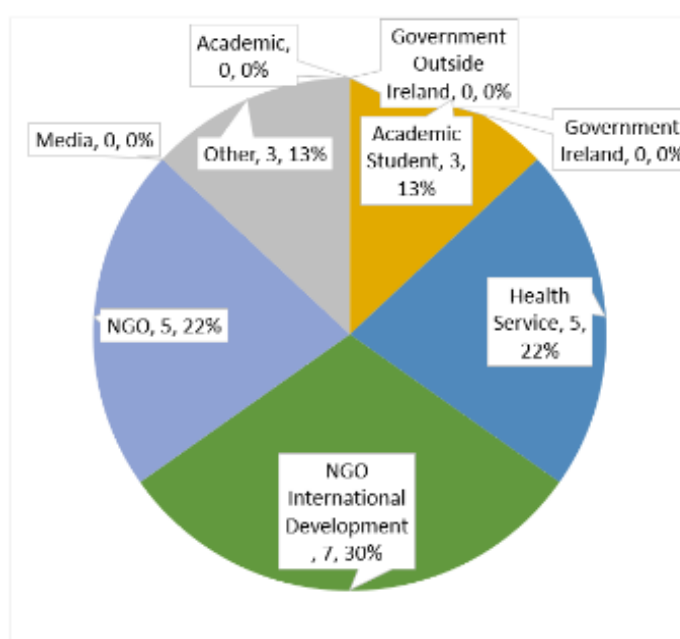
# 65%

 Very likely to attend again

Subject areas covered by event



Event attendees by Sector



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

**Area 2 emphasises the facilitatory nature of IGHN as we seek to promote engagement in global health across disciplines. We will continue to collaborate with our core partners**

*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.*

<b>AREA 2: NETWORKING AND LEARNING EVENTS – 2019</b> <b>ESTHER EVENTS AND STUDENT OUTREACH TEAM ACTIVITIES</b>		
<b>Month</b>	<b>IGHN SOT Events Hosted and Participated in 2019</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>
15/01/2019	ESTHER Theory of Change and Strategy Day 2019	10
29/01/2019	ESTHER European Alliance Meetings 2019	25
12/02/2019	SOG Networking Event Global Health Class 2018/2019 TCD	30
05/03/2019	SOG-led TY Global Health Workshop Donabate Community School	100
28/03/2019	SOG-led Primary School Global Health Workshop Donabate Portrane Educate Together	60
15/04/2019	Student and Young Professionals Workshop AMI	12
22/06/2019	Health & Development Humanitarian Emergency Workshop Meeting	49
11 September	Key Correspondent Training, RCSI	17

10/10/2019	Copenhagen Global Health Challenge	3
12/3/2019	Esther Ireland Partnership Forum	42
	<b>Total Attendees</b>	<b>333</b>

## ESTHER IRELAND

- 1) **ESTHER Theory of Change and Strategy Day 2019** – On January 15, the Executive Director and Communications Coordinator attended a meeting with ESTHER Ireland stakeholders and HSE staff to develop the Theory of Change underpinning the implementation of the ESTHER Ireland strategy during 2019.
- 2) **ESTHER European Alliance Meetings 2019** – On January 29, members of the ESTHER European Alliance (Germany, The Netherlands, UK - THET, Switzerland) met in RCSI, 26 York St, to discuss plans for 2019 and discuss the implications and integration of the principles behind the Theory for Change.

- 3) On 21-23 June, **The Global Health Humanitarian and Development Workshop** took place in the Achill Outdoor Centre in Achill, Mayo. This is an introductory multidisciplinary training workshop on Health & Development. It includes technical aspects of humanitarian emergency management. The event was organised by the HSE Global



Programme, NUI Galway, Comhlamh, Irish Global Health Network, ESTHER Ireland, Trocaire, GOAL, Concern Worldwide, Mediciens Sans Frontieres, VSO and Irish Aid. The IGHN produced a Web Round Up of the Event for participants interested in attending this workshop in future years. It includes photo galleries, presentation downloads, gong presentation videos and other resources that can be referenced as an in- depth guide to the workshop. The dedicated Round up is [available on our website](#). As a result of an evaluation carried out by the IGHN 97% of the 49 participants reported that they were very likely to attend again in the future with 59% reporting that they found it useful or extremely useful.



- 4) **On December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2019, ESTHER Ireland and the HSE Global Health Programme co-hosted the 4th ESTHER Ireland Partnership Forum**, held at Smock Alley, Dublin. This one-day event brought together ESTHER Ireland Partners, grantees and those interested in learning more about health partnerships with the theme 'Learning Together for Better Impact'. The event was launched by an opening speech from Dr Philip Crowley (HSE), followed by workshops centred on different topics such as: 'Ways of improving healthcare in partnerships settings', 'Fundraising for partnership activities', 'Working cross-culturally: how to make it work' and 'Learning from ESTHER Switzerland's experience, Mr Luciano Ruggia, Project Manager ESTHER Switzerland'. Following was a presentation on 'Code of Good Practice for Volunteer Sending Agencies', then a discussion about 'Development of an Irish Charter for Personnel Engagement in Partnerships'. IGHN ESTHER Intern, Jane O'Flynn announced the winners of two Unsung Hero Awards for ESTHER Ireland 2019; one from the Irish side of partners and the second from the global south partners. Following the awards ceremony, Dr David Weakliam and Nadine Ferris France rounded off the event by presenting a summary of ESTHER Ireland updates. In qualitative feedback captured for the purposes of Monitoring and Evaluation, 50% of attendees came from Dublin, 28% outside Dublin and a further 17% from Europe. A total of 61% of respondents said they were 'very likely to attend future events'. The event was a platform for both making new contacts (72%) and reconnecting with previous contacts (44%). More than 40% of respondents attended the event in order to 'stimulate new thinking' and 44% were new attendees to the forum. Some 68% had planned follow-up actions including: further discussion internally and reaching out to the other organisations; exploring new funding possibilities, developing or utilizing code of conduct for volunteers; and accelerating project planning as a result of networking.

#### Partnerships and Interdisciplinary Working:

- 1) The IGHN is a member of the FESTMIH (Federation of European Societies for Tropical Medicine and International Health), which is a non-profit international association. In October 2017 IGHN Chair Professor Anne Matthews presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health and continued to engage with ECTMIH during 2019 to increase participation from Ireland for their events. IGHN are pleased to have continued this membership in 2019 and partnered to promote the 11<sup>th</sup> Congress .
- 2) Organised alongside the HSE Global Health Programme, NUIG, Comhlámh, MSF Ireland, VSO, ESTHER Ireland and Irish Aid, the IGHN held the third '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 June 21-23.
- 3) In mid-2019, several of our Board members joined efforts with other interested persons to form an Irish Chapter of Women in Global Health. Led by Brynne Gilmore and Paula Quigley (DAI-International Development) the efforts of this initiative were introduced at the GHE event in September 2019. Progress to date includes the following:



- More than 30 interested individuals have expressed interest in joining WGH
  - A Core Team of WGH-I has been established
  - Application to be WGH-I Chapter has been officially accepted by WGH Global
  - The group is currently working on a MoU between IGHN and WGH
  - Plans for the official launch of WGH-I (March 8) aligned to International Women's Day (March 8) 2020 are underway
- 4) Late in 2018, the IGHN joined Coalition 2030. We continue to work with the group to strengthen the global health dimension within this collective, to further support Ireland's role in delivering the SDGs domestically, as well as internationally.
- 5) A core component of our work towards the IGHN Secretariat's additional function as the ESTHER Ireland Secretariat. (For more details, please see the ESTHER Ireland Annual report for 2019). In brief, we took the following actions to facilitate high-quality partnerships:
- 15 emails circulated this year to the ESTHER network
  - Co-hosted 4<sup>th</sup> ESTHER Partnership Forum
  - Ireland to now host the European ESTHER Secretariat
  - Hired European Alliance Coordinator, Hala Ali
  - 3 partnerships accredited in 2019 and 1 reaccredited

#### **ESTHER Membership:**

- 1) An analysis of those who subscribed to our ESTHER Panorama Newsletters (673 subscribed contacts) with a further 26 partners and grantees email contacts, highlights that the majority of ESTHER membership base are Irish-based (67%).
- 2) We sent a total of 15 email campaigns via Mailchimp to ESTHER members with partnership updates, courses, reports and announcements, as well as grant information.

#### **The Student Outreach Team (SOT):**

- 1) As part of the website and branding refresh of IGHN, the Student Outreach Group was renamed to the Student Outreach Team as part of a strategy reset to more accurately reflect its activity. In line with this, representatives in Universities have been consolidated into teams. Members for the 2019/2020 academic year are listed on the dedicated SOT section of the IGHN page: <https://globalhealth.ie/who-we-are/>
- 2) Coordination with undergraduate and postgraduate students in 2019 across Ireland has led to the establishment and sustained relationships with nine universities across Ireland (an increase of three on last year): Queen's University Belfast, Technological University Dublin, University College Dublin, University College Cork; National University of Ireland, Galway; University of Limerick; Trinity College Dublin; Dublin City University and RCSI.
- 3) **SOT Strategy 2019-2021 (See Annex #):** Developed by IGHN Board Member and the SOT National Coordinator Rosemary James, this [three-year strategy 2019-2021](#) is designed to align with IGHN overall strategies and priorities. This document gives an overview of the SOT, its strategic focal areas, member specifications and an outline of the 3-year plan proposed to deliver on its goals.

- 4) **Sponsorship Opportunities:** The IGHN is currently soliciting sponsorship opportunities with university student unions, private companies' corporate social responsibility departments, national community grant programs and individual donors. This sponsorship is to fund components of the Student outreach programme 2020/2021. The student outreach budget currently allocates £200 per university per event. Future funding from individual Student union clubs and societies grants would go toward student recruitment, independent projects, student recruitment, promotions and other on campus activity. The SOT groups will be able to access their own funding and provide reporting to the secretariat to ensure spending is monitored. This project began in late November, initial sponsorship enquiries were with contacts in the following companies across Dublin and Cork Ernest and Young, PWC, National Lottery, Republic of Work, Bank of Ireland and AIB to understand the application procedures and the competition for funding within CSR departments. Applications open in the new year for CSR grants and usually have a 3-6 month timeline before funding is allocated. The SOT groups will be applying to their respective Students Union.
- 5) **Partners:** The SOT work closely with a wide range of academic and NGO partners inside and outside of Ireland co-hosting events and producing publications. The current SOT partners are: Irish Doctors for the Environment, WHO's Global Health Workforce Network Youth Hub, Evidence Aid, Global Health Mentorships, Global Health Next Generation Network, Universities Allied for Essential Medicines and the Association of Medical Students Ireland. In addition, the SOT became official partners of the European Public Health Association next generation network (EUPHANxt) programme in 2019.

#### **SOT EVENTS and ACTIVITIES 2019:**

- 1) On Feb 18 2019, the Student Outreach Team organised a networking event with the Global Health Class at Trinity College attended by 30 participants including representatives from the Department of Foreign Affairs Ireland and Irish Aid (Máire Matthews and Cillian Quinn), MSF (Dana Krause), Goal (Luke Fitzgerald), Concern (Breda Gahan and Eleanor), Trocaire (Fionnuala Flynn). Invited lecturers were (Dr Lina Zgaga and Prof James O'Mahony), Dr Sebastian Kevany (guest speaker and an author of upcoming global health book) as well as two alumni.



- 2) On April 15, a Student and Young Professionals Workshop for Access to Medicines was held in RCSI by the Student Outreach Team and Universities Allied for Essential Medicines (UAEM). This was a side-event was part of the annual Access to Medicines Ireland (AMI) conference. There were two case-studies discussed with role play - lack of Research & Development for antimicrobial resistance, and lack of affordability and access to Hepatitis C treatment. 12 participants attended the event.



- 3) On October 10-11th, the IGHN sent a team to represent them at Copenhagen's annual Global Health Challenge. The team consisted of three members from the IGHN student outreach team; Viveka Guzman (UCD), Hongying Chen (Trinity) and Nicole Katherine Connors (UCC) and two University of Copenhagen MSc students. The University of Copenhagen selected just 75 students (15 teams) out of hundreds worldwide that applied to take part in the Global Health Case Challenge 2019 "Breaking the Curve of Obesity".

#### Global Health Case Challenge 2019 - Bending the Curve of Obesity

Category: Key Correspondent Articles, Key Correspondent News

October 17, 2019

By Alina Alesha Khan, Key Correspondent with the Irish Global Health Network

For the first time, the Irish Global Health Network (IGHN) sent a team to represent them at Copenhagen's annual Global Health Challenge from October 10-11th. The team consisted of three members from the IGHN student outreach team; Viveka Guzman (UCD), Hongying Chen (Trinity) and Nicole Katherine Connors (UCC) and two University of Copenhagen MSc students, Alina Alesha Khan and Tanja Munk Warmdahl. The University of Copenhagen selected only 75 students (15 teams) among a huge amount of students from all over the world that applied to take part in the Global Health Case Challenge 2019 "Breaking the Curve of Obesity". The selected students represented 16 universities, 26 different study programs and 31 different nationalities - a truly diverse and interdisciplinary group.



The selected students represented 16 universities, 26 different study programs and 31 different nationalities. Each team had 24 hours to develop the best solution regarding this year's challenge "Breaking the curve of obesity". Teams presented their proposed solutions both in writing and as a 5-minute pitch presentation. All teams received pitch training and delivered their project in front of a general audience and to a jury consisting of representatives from the School of Global Health – University of Copenhagen, Steno Diabetes Center Copenhagen, Cities Changing Diabetes, Novo Nordisk and EIT Health that is supported by the EIT body of European Union. Reflections on the event from those the SOT members who took part are published on the IGHN website at this address: <https://globalhealth.ie/global-health-case-challenge-2019-bending-the-curve-of-obesity/>. The IGHN Student Outreach Coordinator, Rosemary James, is currently working on developing a similar annual Global Health Challenge in Ireland as part of the Events and Trainings component of the SOT strategy.



- 4) From October 27-29, SOT Coordinator and Board Member, Rosie James along with the two professional interns taking advantage of the Global Health Miles plan, as part of the Internship programme attended the World Health Summit in Berlin to participate and report on the event for the Key Correspondent programme. Organised by Charité hospital group, the M8 University Alliance and sponsored by France, Germany, the WHO and the European Commission, the event was attended by 2,500 people including 20 ministers of health. The main themes of this year's event were climate change & public health, Universal Health



Coverage, G7/G20 health policy, digital health and education. Representing AMI, Rosemary James also attended the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi) 15th anniversary symposium on October 30th on behalf of Access to Medicines Ireland (AMI).

- 5) **The Key Correspondents Programme:** In 2019, we hosted one Key Correspondents workshop, (September 11) which was attended by 17 participants, the majority of which were postgraduate students. These workshops are designed to introduce course participants to key concepts in advocacy and journalistic writing around health topics.





The workshop, which was hosted at RCSI, focused on the Global Health Exchange Conference 2019, and was facilitated by Key Correspondent Facilitator Steve MacDonald and IGHN Communications and Events Coordinator, Joan Bolger. Fifteen attendees from the workshop formed a conference correspondence producing nine published articles on topics of interest from the Global Health Exchange Conference, which are published at <https://globalhealth.ie/category/key-correspondent-news/> in addition to a number of social media outputs. Of those trained at the Key Correspondent workshop in September, five participants went on to cover and produce written articles about the Global Health Symposium, the Irish Aid Prof Father Michael Kelly Lecture and the ESTHER Partnership Forum. In addition to this, Key Correspondents from the 2018 intake published articles throughout the year. Conferences and activities covered include: Access to Medicines Conference, the Clean Cooking Conference, the Berlin World Health Summit, the Civil Society Dialogue of the Irish National Women's Council on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and separate pieces on Irish Doctors for the Environment, who were invited to join as a friend of the forum in June.

- 6) **Finger on the Pulse** is the Irish Global Health Network's annual publication composed of articles written by our team of volunteer Citizen Journalists, who have given their expertise and viewpoints on the latest issues and events in the field of Global Health. Articles published and distributed during 2019 were collated to produce the 2019 edition of Finger on the Pulse: Volume 2 which will be published in early January. The dedicated newsletter brought together a selection of 20 articles from a body of work which numbered more than 30 published pieces in 2019 to represent various perspectives from our Global Health Writers who covered six conferences throughout the year in total.

#### Policy & Advocacy:

- 1) Executive Director Nadine Ferris France and Board Member Enida Friel (GOAL) accompanied a lobby group of the Access to Medicines team during a Dail visit in February 2019. The group spoke with Ministers and TDs to discuss solutions to access to medicines issues. AMI produced a 2019 Event Summary which has since been disseminated to TDs and Senators in anticipation of further engagement. AMI are in the process of planning the 4th Annual Access to Medicines Ireland Conference (scheduled for April 2020) which will build on the successes of previous meetings with the same commitment from the IGHN to co-host the event.

- 2) Political presence was highlighted at the AMI conference in the opening and closing remarks from Dr Michael Harty TD, Chairperson of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health who spoke in support of AMI and highlighted the need for countries, including Ireland, to address the limited access to medicines and health technologies as a result of high prices and patent monopolies.
- 3) In conclusion of the Pathways to Clean Cooking which the IGHN co-hosted, the IGHN endorsed the Wexford Declaration and was instrumental in securing related press coverage.
- 4) Ciarán Cannon Minister of State at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade with special responsibility for the Diaspora and International Development opened the Irish Aid Annual Prof Father Michael Kelly Lecture in November (November 28). In his opening address, he signalled Ireland's commitment to supporting communities affected by HIV and AIDS and building on the work of advocates in Ireland and events such as the annual lecture series. The new national PrEP programme is a deliberate commitment by government towards that end.
- 5) The IGHN is planning a dialogue meeting in January with Irish Aid to discuss the implications for health of Ireland's International Development policy – A Better World. More than 100 people from a variety of sectors including the health service, NGOs, INGOs academics and students were scheduled to attend the event.

### 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. **IGHN Board/EMC:** 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.
2. Changes to the Board Composition were as follows: In January 2019 Sinead Murray joined the IGHN Board from Misean Cara. Ruairi Brugha (RCSI) stepped down in October in advance of his retirement from RCSI appointing Debbi Stanistreet (RCSI) in November to replace him.

3. As outlined in the report overview, the IGHN evaluated two out of four of the Board meetings in 2019 using a post-meeting online survey in line with the Code of Good Practice. In addition to this, a risk register was developed which is reviewed at every Board meeting. The below statistics and feedback pertain to two of the board meetings held throughout 2019 (February and October).
4.
  - a. Overall the board meetings were self-rated as more strategic than operational, with 83% rated as highly strategic or strategic.
  - b. 88% of materials were provided in a very timely manner to the board to review in advance of meetings. 100% rated agenda items as being very important or somewhat important.
  - c. Feedback singled out the good participation as being useful and encouraging, the Operations Update as being a very useful tool, Irish Aid participation, as well as the meetings being well planned.
  - d. Areas for improvement: Not enough time to discuss future plans, more agenda points to be submitted by board members, Zoom volume difficult to hear for remote participants and more time for student initiatives.

## **2) IGHN Secretariat/ESTHER Staff Changes:**

- Nadine Ferris France became Executive Director, January 2019
- Joan Bolger joined as Communications and Events Coordinator in mid-January 2019
- Hala Nasib joined in November 2019 to serve as ESTHER Ireland lead and ESTHER European Alliance Coordinator
- Nor Nasib continued in her role as Finance Officer in 2019

## **IGHN/ESTHER Interns:**

- Emmett Byrne left the IFGH in March 2019. Abigail Greenwood (50%) and Jane Flynn (50%) joined in April 2019. In October, Ellen Corby replaced Abigail Greenwood (60%) and in November Philip Norton (40%) replaced Jane Flynn.
- Rebecca Brennan joined one day per week in April (20%) to support SOT, stepping down in November to pursue full time work. IGHN Professional Intern Philip Norton has been appointed to work 1 day/week on the SOT in 2020.
- The interns continue to provide vital support to all activities, particularly communications, events and the SOT.

## **Information Communication Technology**

1. In January 2019, the IGHN Secretariat migrated its office system to Microsoft Office 365 to strengthen administration control, increase privacy on the organisational system, reduce price per users for application use and take advantage of a non-profit plan with enhanced security against phishing and data theft. Moving to the cloud has meant that the organisation is better protected by cloud disaster recovery measures which can be implemented more quickly and offer greater control over Secretariat resources. IT support is also available from a remote team via the non-profit plan at no extra cost to monthly user subscriptions.
2. Pixel2Coding won the tender and completed the redesign of the new website, with ongoing site security, maintenance and software updates provided by Egg Design in Killarney.



3. The ESTHER, IGHN and FMK websites' content continue to be hosted by Ampersand in the UK. Ampersand continue to host the ESTHER email domain for consistency with the ESTHER site.

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

Following the independent external evaluation of our organisation in 2017, we have continued to implement the recommendations for improvement which included:

- **Focus events and advocacy work around one annual theme** (2019 theme was 'Equity, Health and the SDGs')  
During the Global Health Exchange Conference 2019 we devoted two parallel sessions with seven submissions in each stream to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. The conference itself was convened under the theme Reaching the furthest behind first: addressing gender and other inequalities to meet the SDGs. The annual Professor Father Michael Kelly Lecture was also convened under the theme HIV and Women: Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights to further endorse and consolidate the work around our 2019 theme.
- **Consider the capacity implications and opportunity costs of ESTHER**  
It was agreed in 2019 to recruit a dedicated ESTHER staff member at 60% time and to host the ESTHER European Alliance within IGHN
- **Continue to provide events and increase focus on entry-level training**  
Our events were expanded and more complex in 2019 reflecting our ability to meet the demands of the growing size of our network over the course of the year. Events were extremely well attended with an overall increase of 100 people (826 in 2018 to 926 in 2019).
- **Continue to improve M&E and reporting**  
The Communications Coordinator liaised with Capacity Development International during the year to implement new reporting indicators in the M&E Framework. Three upgrades were made to the Framework in 2019, in quarter 2 and quarter 4 to accurately reflect the full scope of the work of the IGHN. In addition, our M&E reporting was regular and systematic in 2019 allowing us to report quarterly on activities throughout the year via the operations updates at our Board meetings and as outlined in Annex 1 (IGHN 2019) of this report.

**IGHN Strategy 2018 – 2023:** Following and informed by the external evaluation outlined above, the IGHN strategic plan builds on our prior achievements with 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.

- 1) The M&E framework, including the Theory of Change that was developed by CDI for 2018-2023 on the basis of the evaluation is a core reporting tool of the IGHN: Tracking of events and communications is systematically input into this framework, helping us to align our activities to the IGHN strategic goals, and also assist in the development of the workplan for 2020, which was finalised in December 2019.
- 2) 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.



- 3) 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

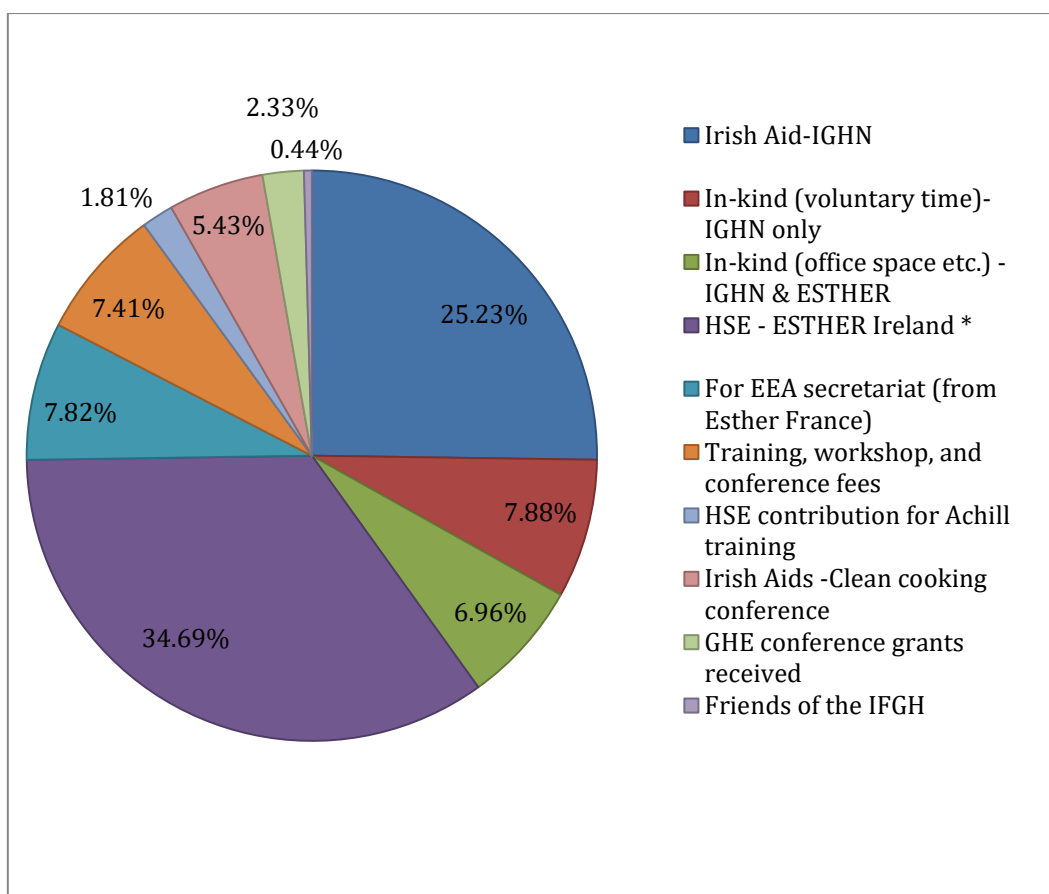
- The strategy has meant more focus on hosting of high-quality events and evaluation of the events by attendees continues to be overwhelmingly positive
- We are noticing that IGHN is being approached to host and incubate programmes/initiatives/events more than before.
- Timely receipt of funding is crucial for the organisation and its ability to plan and complete activities. All efforts will be made to accelerate the receipt of funding in 2019/2020.
- Minimisation of staff turnover within such a small Secretariat has been crucial in the delivery of events and implementation of planned activities
- The formerly intensive period of Q4 for the IGHN Secretariat was alleviated by hosting the GH Exchange in September rather than October or November
- The Global Health Exchange Conference was extremely successful. It requires ongoing dedicated capacity in 2020
- 2019 was a year of continuity for ESTHER Ireland, with a focus on developing and building the capacity of existing partnership and the opening of another grant round.

## Financials

IGHN total Income for the year 2019 as follows:

INCOME	2019	2018
Irish Aid-IGHN	80,000	50,000
In-kind (voluntary time)-IGHN only	25,000	25,000
In-kind (office space etc.) -IGHN & ESTHER	22,080	22,080
HSE - ESTHER Ireland *	110,000	110,000
For EEA secretariat (from Esther France)	24,785	-
Training, workshop, and conference fees	23,488	26,100
HSE contribution for Achill training	5,724	3,600
Irish Aids -Clean cooking conference	17,209	-
GHE conference grants received	7,400	5,000
Friends of the IFGH	1,400	2,150
<b>Total</b>	<b>317,086</b>	<b>243,930</b>
<b>* Funding for 2018 was received in the bank in January 2019</b>		

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

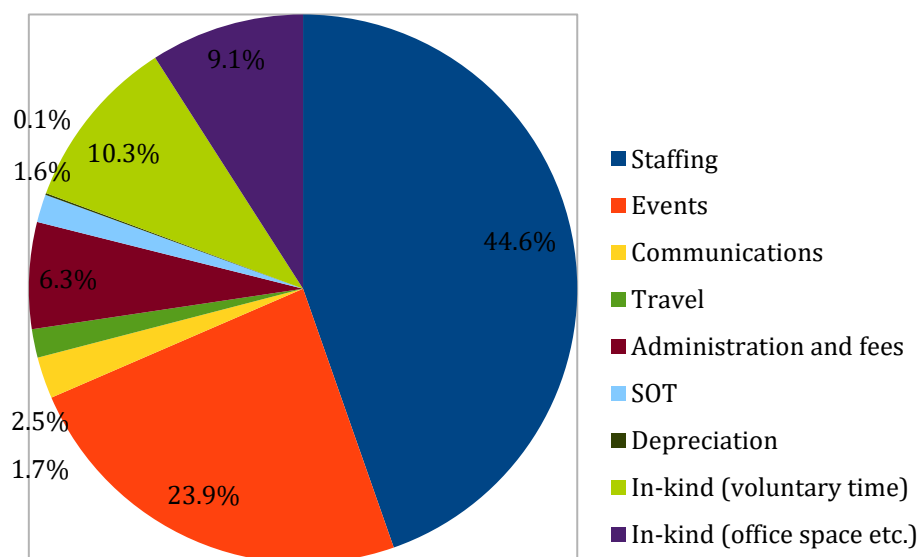


#### IGHN total Expense for the year 2019 (including ESTHER Ireland)

EXPENDITURE	2019	2018
Staffing	108,709	91,799
Events	58,133	40,908
Communications	5,982	4,756
Travel	4,097	3,942
Administration and fees	15,297	15,683
SOT	4,008	2,507
Depreciation	258	258
In-kind (voluntary time)	25,000	25,000
In-kind (office space etc.)	22,080	22,080
<b>Total</b>	<b>243,564</b>	<b>206,933</b>

The IGHN and ESTHER Ireland also acknowledge and thank our partners for the large amount of in-kind contributions received: In 2019, 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 IGHN Members,

IGHN Board Members, IGHN Executive Management Committee and the ESTHER Steering Group, totalling €25,000 (\*non-monetary).



*Full information on 2019 financial (Annex1) will be found in the Audited Accounts in the future.*

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

# IRISH GLOBAL HEALTH NETWORK LIMITED

## YEAR TO DATE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS

UP TO 31 DECEMBER 2019

	IGHN OPERATIONS			ESTHER OPERATIONS		
	ACTUA	BUDGE	VARIAN	ACTUAL	BUDGE	VARIAN
	L	T	CE		T	CE
	€	€	€	€	€	€
<b>INCOME</b>						
Grants- Irish Aid for IGHN	80,000			HSE – Grants (for 2018 operation)	50,000	
Grants- Irish Aid for FMK	10,000			HSE – Grants (for 2019 operation)	50,000	
Grants- Irish Aid for Clean cooking	11,459			HSE-Achill (2018)	3,600	
Grants- EPA for Clean cooking	5,000			Eventbrite-Achill 2019	3,488	
Grants-NUIG for Clean cooking	500			HSE-Achill 2019	5,724	
Grants- EHAI	250					
Eventbrite-Clean cooking	2,178					
Eventbrite – GHE	7,495					
GHE (printing 2018) from GOAL	327					
Oxfam & HSE funds GHE 2019	7,400					
Friend of Forum- Concern,Trocaire, Goal & MisenCara	1,400					
	<b>126,009</b>				<b>112,812</b>	

EXPENDITURE						
Staffing	54,736	50,487	4,249	53,973	50,487	3,486
Communications	2,742	3,000	(258)	3,240	2,500	740
Events	43,997	31,959	12,038	14,136	10,000	4,136
Travel	1,551	2,100	(549)	2,546	5,100	(2,554)
Administration	3,790	2,000	1,790	3,379	2,050	1,329
SoG	4,008	2,300	1,708	-	-	-
Fees	3,589	6,510	(2,921)	4,538	8,010	(3,472)
	114,413	98,356	16,057	81,812	78,147	3,665
SURPLUS	11,596			31,000		

Note:

1. Total of €14,215 included in accruals (see summary below) as at December 2019

**End of year accrual for 2019**

Audit and accounting fee	3,500
Visa for FMK for Marlene	400
Esther 43600 grants	10,000
Hala PRSA	315
Total accruals	<u>14,215</u>

## Annex 1: IGHN M&E Framework Report 2019 (Excerpt)

(Full M&E Report Evaluation available as separate attachment with this Annual Report)

### Irish Global Health Network

AREA 1: Facilitate Networking and Learning through High Quality Events and Sharing Information

Report For 2019

### Activity and Quality Measures

**5 events**

**593 attendees**

1265 online views

**98%** Events extremely useful or useful

**71%** Very likely to attend again

Target On/Over Target

5 0

Target On/Over Target

300 293

Events by subject area aligned with Irish Aid Priority Areas

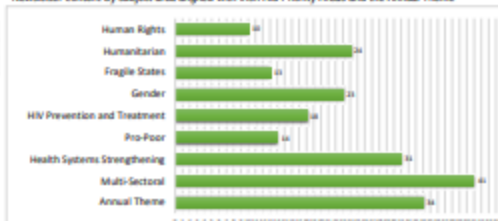


Average Score for Speaker Quality No data

Events by Type of Event



Newsletter content by subject area aligned with Irish Aid Priority Areas and the Annual Theme



Annual Theme: 34 newsletters /

55 newsletters 25 media/other outputs

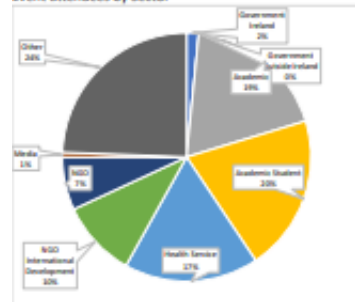
### Irish Global Health Network

AREA 1: Facilitate Networking and Learning through High Quality Events and Sharing Information

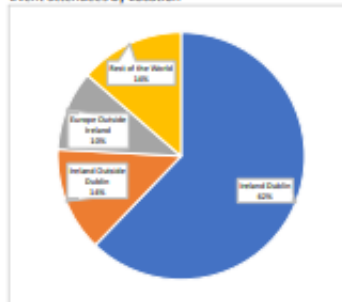
Report For 2019

### Reach measures

Event attendees by Sector



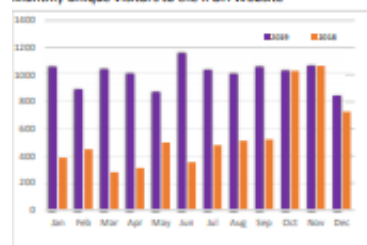
Event attendees by Location



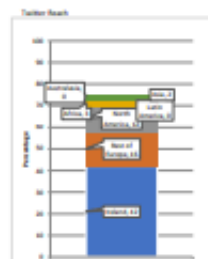
Event attendees by Frequency of Attendance



Monthly Unique Visitors to the IGHN Website



	FOLLOWERS	NEW
Twitter	2243	363
Facebook	997	136
Youtube	64	18
Instagram	158	295
LinkedIn	74	144



24% Average Newsletter Open Rate

## Annex 2: AMI Conference Report

The full report can be viewed at the following link: <https://www.accesstomedicines.ie/conference-report>

# THE ACCESS TO MEDICINES IRELAND 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AFFORDABILITY AND INNOVATION



This report synthesises core messages and recommendations from the Third Annual Access to Medicines Ireland Conference, which took place on April 16th 2019, hosted by the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.



This year, there was a specific focus on proposals to reform the current model of innovation within the industry, to shift the emphasis away from patents and monopolies towards making public health and accessibility the priority.



Over 170 delegates attended to hear the diverse speakers' perspectives on the issues that affect access to medicines in Ireland and overseas.

### KEY MESSAGES


1. Patients bear the ultimate burden of a dysfunctional innovation system for drugs research and development.
2. Awarding patents and monopolies allows the pharmaceutical companies to charge prices as high as the market can bear. The current model is unsustainable.
3. Setting high prices for medicines is not the only way to stimulate innovation. There are alternative incentives (to high prices) to stimulate innovation, such as public funding.
4. Governments have tools at their disposal to shift the power balance in their favour when negotiating with the pharmaceutical industry.



## Annex 3: The Wexford Declaration

The original Wexford Declaration of the Pathways to Clean Cooking II Conference can be viewed online here: <https://globalhealth.ie/pathways-to-clean-cooking-wexford/> along with the eBrochure, Programme and Photo Gallery of the event.

Wexford, Ireland, May 31, 2019

PATHWAYS TO CLEAN COOKING II 

# Wexford Declaration

## Leaving no one behind

**We the undersigned:**

**Affirm** that energy for cooking is essential for human wellbeing and that the nations of the world have committed to ensuring access to affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy for all by 2030

**Recognise** that billions of people depend on wood and other biomass to cook their daily meals and that for many of them, particularly the rural poor, it will be the only fuel option available for decades to come

**Note** with great concern that across the world biomass continues to be burned inefficiently, in unvented and pollution-emitting devices that are globally responsible for four million avoidable deaths annually; for severe forest degradation in specific areas; and for the large-scale emission of greenhouse gases

**Emphasise** that wood and other biomass, when managed and treated properly and burned in efficient devices, can provide a low-emission, affordable, readily available, sustainable energy source

**Underline** that advances in biomass-burning devices, fuel processing, and distribution have demonstrated that biomass can be one of the cleanest energy options

**Confirm** that a diversity of solutions, including biomass options, is needed to satisfy the wide range of household energy needs and to achieve international goals on human health, environmental quality, climate change mitigation and energy justice

**Assert** that improving biomass options for cooking and other household energy services can be an effective climate, energy and gender strategy that can immediately enhance families' health and wellbeing – especially for women and children – and can help preserve the world's vital storehouses of carbon and biodiversity

**Acknowledge** that families regularly make parallel use of multiple devices and fuels for different types of cooking practices and other

tasks, which is an approach known as 'stacking'. Accordingly, we recommend holistic approaches to sustainable cooking that address all elements of the 'stack'

**Call** urgently for the provision of the large-scale funding which is profoundly needed for the sustainable cooking sector and the expeditious fulfilment of existing funding pledges, which amount to hundreds of millions of dollars

**Call** on organisations that fund climate change mitigation projects to prioritise those initiatives that provide immediate emissions reductions and social benefits through sustainable cooking to the communities most vulnerable to climate change

**Call** on citizens to help address this clean cooking challenge by using choices, as consumers, to support organisations or companies that lead the way. We further call on citizens to appeal to their elected representatives to urgently prioritise sustainable household energy in their health, climate and development policies

**Call** for a clarification of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 7 as it currently stands, to the effect that biomass and biomass-burning devices can meet the definition of clean fuels and stoves

**Call** for a sector-wide discussion to re-define sustainable energy indicators that are technology and fuel neutral and reflect true access to affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy for all

**Commit** to working towards universal access to sustainable energy for cooking and other household needs, and in so doing, we commit to building relationships with the full range of stakeholders, institutions, and disciplines necessary to achieve this goal

**The Pathways Conference Participants - leaving no one behind**

## Annex 4: The Global Health Exchange Event Report

The full eight-page summary can be viewed online at this link: <https://globalhealth.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Global-Health-Conference-2019-Final-Summary-V10.pdf>

