

**GENEVA FOUNDATION
FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH**



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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Preface by the director

The Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research (GFMER) is a non-profit organization established in 2002. It is supported by Swiss and international institutions and works in close collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO).

In 2022 the foundation and its partners launched for the twelfth consecutive year, a series of distance training/online courses on sexual and reproductive health and research: a total of 200 health professionals from 54 countries attended the adolescent sexual and reproductive health training programme; a total of 125 health professionals from 38 countries attended the family planning training programme; and a total of 125 health professionals from 39 countries attended the research methodology and research protocol development training programme. Moreover, GFMER was given the mandate to organize coaching and webinars for participants of the 2022 WHO ICFP Scientific Writing, Mentoring and Coaching Course that was organized by the Bill & Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health, the Department of SRH (including HRP), WHO in collaboration with the foundation.

GFMER continues the Fistula Group Programme. The aim has been to create a “Centre of Excellence for the prevention and treatment of obstetric fistula” in Northern Benin, which would serve other countries in the region under the name of “Tanguiéta Model”. During 2022, several missions were conducted in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, and Madagascar where Professor Charles-Henry Rochat (who has the overall responsibility for GFMER’s fistula project) and his team of specialists, operated on a total of 286 obstetric fistula cases during surgical workshops and routine surgical practice. Moreover, local doctors were trained on the management of obstetric fistula.

GFMER’s online courses on Global Health New Challenges, and online courses on maternal and newborn health offered in collaboration with Oxford Maternal and Perinatal Health Institute (OMPPI) continued in 2022.

GFMER has built a strong partnership with governmental and non-governmental organizations and universities for the exchange of information and expertise at international level. The website of the foundation had 1,566,307 page views and visitors from all over the world.

We believe our efforts to assist in many countries and the programmes we deliver contribute to improving the reproductive and sexual health status of the populations in need.



Prof. Aldo Campana
The Director

Mission

The overall objectives of the Foundation are to promote and develop health education and research programs.

Foundation Council

- Prof. Giuseppe Benagiano (President)
- Dr. Blaise Bourrit (Secretary)
- Dr. Grace Bianchi-Movarekhi
- Dr. Georges Antoine de Boccard

Executive Committee

- Prof. Aldo Campana (Director)
- Prof. Charles-Henry Rochat (Co-director)
- Dr. Karim Abawi
- Dr. Anne-Caroline Benski
- Dr. Hongguang Dong
- Dr. Raqibat Idris
- Mrs. Fionna Poon
- PD Dr. Pierre Vassilakos

GFMER main fields of activities

1. Training course in sexual and reproductive health research 2022

<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/index.htm>

Since 2003 GFMER, in partnership with the WHO and other partner institutions, has organized a training course on sexual and reproductive health research. The course focuses on research methodology and attracts the participation of health professionals from different countries, particularly from developing countries. Through the pool of participants, GFMER has managed to disseminate the course in different countries.

In order to reach more health professionals, in 2010 GFMER in collaboration with WHO and other partners launched the online course on sexual and reproductive health research "From Research to Practice: Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research" that offers a training package specially developed for those health professionals involved in research in this field, whose access to learning is limited by time, financial resources or other constraints and for whom access to quality education and learning is limited. The programme is designed to meet a wide range of contemporary issues in sexual and reproductive health, especially in developing countries. It helps students to better identify the problems related to reproductive and sexual health, it helps to improve the skills of caregivers, and it promotes good practices. To better tailor the course to the specific needs of our participants, in 2018, the course was restructured into individual modular courses "Courses on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research" each with its own goal and objectives.

The courses form part of the WHO policy for increasing human resources in the field of sexual and reproductive health, particularly in developing countries. GFMER is mandated to organize the courses.

Course participants

The students in the courses are health professionals from diverse background but mainly from low- and middle- income countries, involved in the area of reproductive and sexual health and whose access to healthcare training is limited by time and/or financial resources. This includes doctors, midwives, nurses, health educators, social workers, advocates, reproductive and sexual health programme managers and other healthcare workers. Most of the participants are in the age groups 25 to 34 years and 35 to 44 years. The health professionals in these age groups have work or familial obligations and, for them, our courses are likely to have the most impact; thanks to the flexibility of the courses, which offers a good opportunity to access continuing training in the field of care. Women are well-represented in our courses.

Recruitment of participants

The participants became aware of the courses through various means including publicity for the course through local contact coordinators in the countries and regions and on the GFMER website and partner sites, as well as mobilization of the GFMER and WHO networks.

Selection of participants

This course is a post-graduate/continued learning course for health professionals with a diploma involved in the field of sexual and reproductive health. The standard criteria for selection are as follows:

- A degree in a relevant discipline of health sciences, natural sciences, or social and economic sciences.
- Involvement in the domain of sexual and reproductive health.
- Preference is given to health professionals who work for health establishments at the district level, an NGO, or a ministry of health.
- Nomination by WHO, WHO regional offices and other institutions- sponsored participants.
- The Foundation encourages the participation of women.

It is noted that the Foundation has established partnerships with NGOs, health ministries, and universities in different countries. Certain entities include our courses in their human resource development programmes. Moreover, each year, a number of participants find the information on their own when consulting the Foundation site or on partner sites.

The application must contain the following elements:

- A CV.
- A letter of motivation indicating clearly their interests and goals for the course.

Based on the application form and documents provided by the candidates, we make our pre-selection and the selected candidates or their employers are contacted by our Geneva Team. We communicate the list of candidates to the country coordinators who we ask to also contact the candidates by phone, email, or WhatsApp. When possible, we try – via our coordinators - to meet on site. For countries where we do not have local coordinators, we ask other coordinators in nearby regions to assume contact. For example, for South Sudan, we call our coordinator in Sudan.

Course contents

GFMER training courses are run by course coordinators who decide the content and schedule of the course and designate its contributors. The course coordinators are experts or scientists from WHO and/or various universities who possess important professional networks at the international level.

The content of our courses is based on recommendations by WHO and can therefore be recognised by other global institutions. It is also enhanced by field experience from our teachers with a wide range of experience in the field of sexual and reproductive health. It is based on groundwork, especially in low- and middle- income countries and proposes pragmatic solutions. We provide reference materials for our students and encourage them to use it in their professional practice (prevention, treatment and training as well as in advocacy and programming).

Teachers, partner institutions

The speakers, lecturers, and course facilitators are highly trained professionals from WHO, universities, and specialized institutions. They have a wide range of knowledge and experience in the field of sexual and reproductive health and research, especially in low-income countries.

Throughout the training course, participants are supervised by country coordinators, the course coordinators, teachers and tutors.

Teaching methods

Teaching methods for GFMER SRHR course consist of on-line lectures (video recordings, didactic presentations), key readings, reading materials, additional references and referrals to related websites.

For each module, participants receive assignments. For their assignments, the students receive very precise instructions. We prepare a guideline for assignments. Before writing the assignment, the student is asked to follow the course, read the reference documents that we put at their disposal, and write their text according to the given instruction. We also create an evaluation grid of personal work. Tutors and coordinators revise the assignments using the assignment marking guides provided. The goal is to help students deal with problems of sexual and reproductive health in their respective countries, using what they learn in our courses and preparing their work with respect to academic and scientific standards.

In terms of documentation and published educational resources, the GFMER Training Courses in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research are among the richest in the world. They contain the most reference documents (guidelines), continuously updated in the field of sexual and reproductive health and research. These help participants to become more familiar with scientific reading and writing and use the knowledge acquired in the training courses in their day-to-day professional practice. A personal coach is assigned to each participant. Coaches are mostly GFMER country coordinators and former participants, who facilitate the learning process with the participants. As part of the students' work is based on the analysis of local situations in regard to sexual and reproductive health problems, the assistance of country coordinators / coaches is very important.

The participation of a student is measured by the submission of assignments in the time given. Once their work is completed, reviewed, and accepted for a given module, the student is credited with the expected hours of work (6 to 8 hours) per week, regardless of the actual time it took to complete the work.

To support the participants, different mechanisms of communication and interaction (Facebook, Google Groups, WhatsApp, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter, Zoom) are used. These tools favour interaction between participants and teachers and, allow for the creation of a rich network of exchange between health professionals. The variety within the community of students and the establishment of communication tools has furnished an excellent means of learning and of sharing experiences between students from different countries.

GFMER provides free access to the course contents, which are an important source of information for professionals who are involved in the domain of sexual and reproductive health and research (only registered students benefit from a regular monitoring and obtaining a certificate).

The online community created by GFMER for the training course improves communication with and between participants and provides access to academic and administrative support. The diversity among participants and the network facilitated by GFMER provide an opportunity to learn from and share practices with peers from around the world.

In 2022, GFMER successfully implemented the twelfth edition of its online training courses, bringing to bear the experience gained from the previous editions.

1.1 Course in adolescent sexual and reproductive health 2022

<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/adolescent-health/index.htm>

The 2022 online training course in adolescent sexual and reproductive health: "Meeting the needs and fulfilling the rights of adolescents' sexual and reproductive health for WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region" was held for eight weeks.

Working in close Collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and WHO Regional Office for Eastern Mediterranean (WHO EMRO), GFMER recruited a total of 200 health professionals from 54 countries for the course. The Course Coordinators were Dr. Venkatraman Chandra-Mouli of the WHO Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health & Research and Dr. Khalid Siddeeg of the Department of Healthier Populations / Child and Adolescent Health, WHO Regional Office for Eastern Mediterranean (WHO EMRO). Dr. Raqibat Idris and Mrs Fionna Poon were the GFMER Course Manager and the GFMER Course Administrator respectively.

Objectives

The objectives of the course were as follows:

To build knowledge and understanding in the following areas:

1. The rationale for the provision of a package of effective health and social interventions to promote adolescent sexual and reproductive health, to prevent health and social problems, and to respond to them if and when they arise, with particular relevance to the Eastern Mediterranean Region.
2. WHO's recommendations for the delivery of these interventions.
3. Special considerations in delivering these interventions to adolescents including in humanitarian settings and COVID 19 pandemic.

Course participants

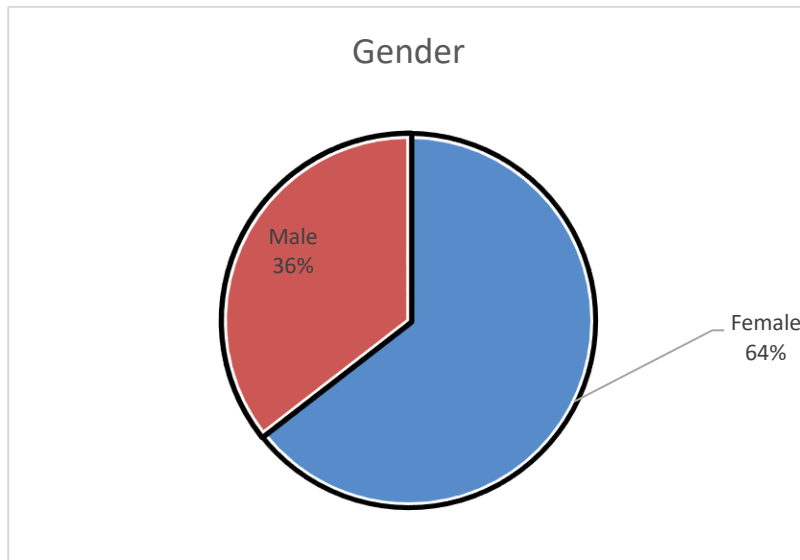
<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/adolescent-health/adolescent-health-participants.htm>

The students in the course were health professionals from diverse background but mainly from low- and middle- income countries, involved in the area of reproductive and sexual health. Most of the participants (35%) were young adults in the age groups 35 to 44 years (Table 1). Women were well-represented as they made up more than half (65%) of the participants of the course (Graph 1).

Table 1: Age of participants

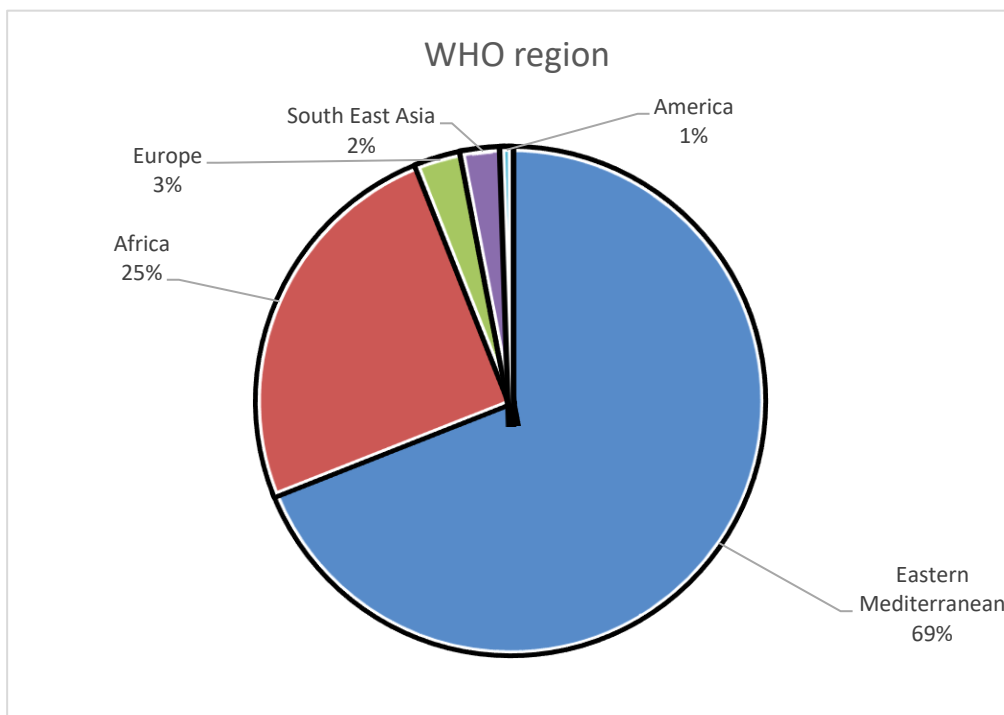
Age Group	No. of participants	%
18-24 years old	7	4%
25-34 years old	57	28%
35-44 years old	70	35%
45-54 years old	46	23%
> 55 years old	20	10%
Total	200	100%

Graph 1: Gender of participants



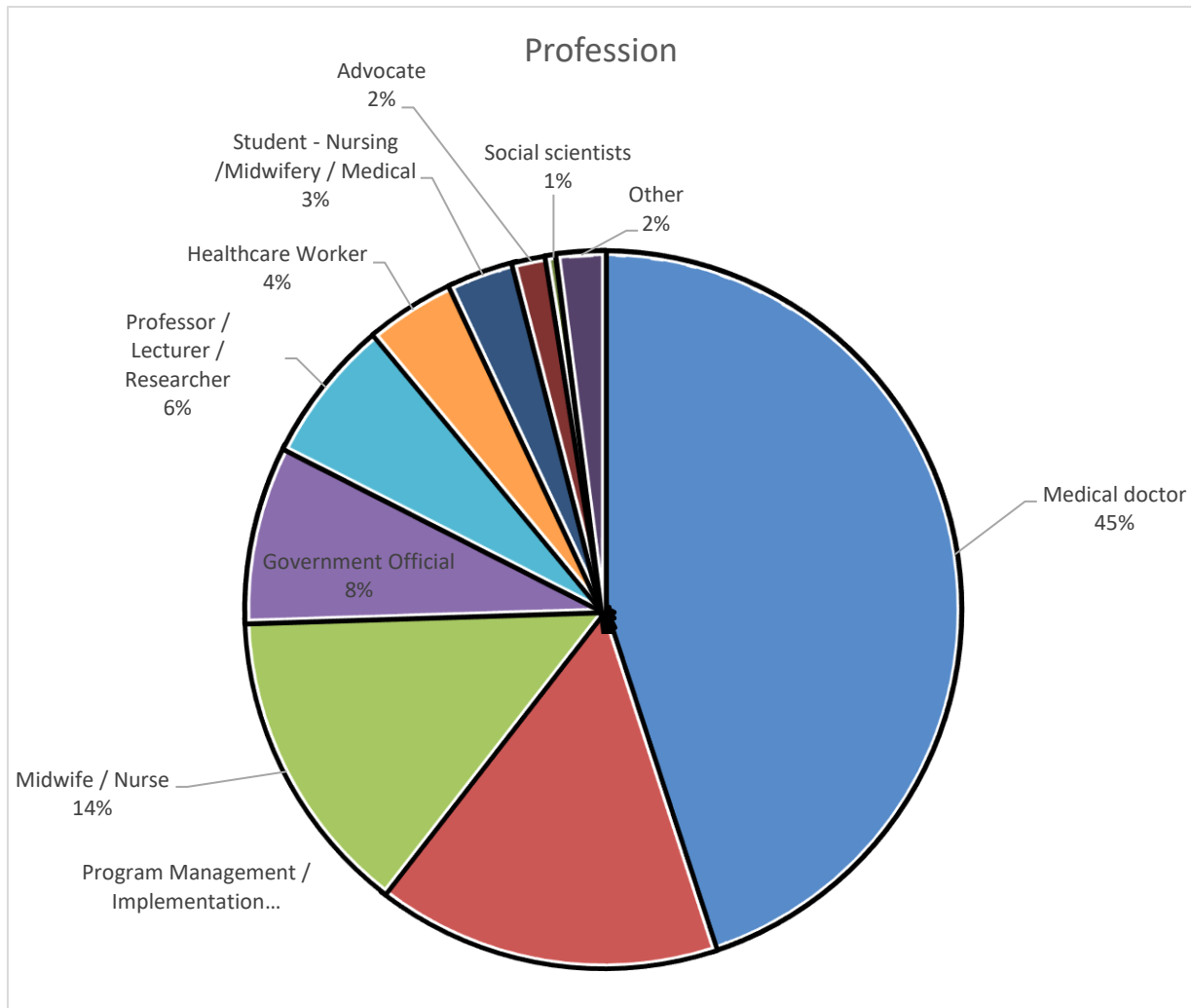
This course was attended by health professionals mainly from Eastern Mediterranean (69%) - for which the course was adapted, Africa (25%), Europe (3%), South-East Asia (2.5%) and America (0.5%) as shown in Graph 2 below.

Graph 2: Geographic distribution of participants by WHO Regions



The following graph shows the proportions between the different professions. The largest proportion of participants were medical doctors (45%).

Graph 3: Participants' professions



Recruitment of participants

Participants became aware of the course through the following means:

- Publicity for the course through local contact coordinators in the countries and regions.
- Publicity for the course on the GFMER website and partner sites.
- Mobilization of the GFMER and WHO networks. WHO EMRO nominated and sponsored 96 candidates from 10 target countries (Bahrain, Jordan, Libya, Pakistan, Qatar, Somalia/Somaliland, Syria, Tunisia and United Arab Emirates). These nominations included health professionals from WHO regional / country offices, local and international NGOs and WHO collaborating centres at the country level, health ministries, and universities. WHO collaborated with Packard Foundation to offer 26 additional sponsorships and GFMER offered 4 free slots.

Selection of participants

Using set criteria, participants were selected based on the application form and documents they provided. Sponsored participants were nominated by WHO EMRO and other institutions. Participants or their employers were then contacted by our Geneva Team. The list of candidates was communicated to the country coordinators / tutors who also contacted the candidates.

Course contents

<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/adolescent-health/adolescent-health-weekly-schedule.htm>

The content of this course was based on recommendations by WHO. Reference materials were also provided to students.

Teachers, partner institutions

Teachers from WHO, GFMER as well as other national and international institutions were involved in teaching and tutorship for the online training course.

Coaching

<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/adolescent-health/adolescent-health-tutors.htm>

During the course, a coach was assigned to each participant to facilitate their learning. A total of 23 coaches from 18 countries were assigned to the 200 participants in their countries or nearby countries. The roles of coaches were to:

1. Collect, review and comment on participants' assignments, and
2. Answer any technical questions in relation to the course.

Coaches motivated and interacted with their students through different means including Email, WhatsApp, Zoom meetings and Webinars.

Teaching methods

Teaching methods consisted of on-line lectures (video recordings, didactic presentations), key readings, reading materials, additional references and referrals to related websites.

For each module, participants received assignments with very precise instructions. An assignment guide was prepared to guide participants. Tutors and coordinators revised the assignments using the assignment marking guides provided and communicated feedback to students. The goal was to provide the students with the necessary knowledge and skills to meet the needs and fulfil the rights of adolescents' sexual and reproductive health in their respective countries, and especially the Eastern Mediterranean region.

The participation of a student was measured by the submission of assignments in the time given. Once the student's work is completed, reviewed, and accepted for a given module, he/she is credited with 6 hours per week (48 hours in total), irrespective of the actual time taken to complete the work. At the end of the course, the student received a certificate signed by the organizing institutions.

To support the participants, various mechanisms of communication and interaction (Facebook, Google Groups, WhatsApp, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter, Zoom) were used.

1.2 Course in family planning 2022

<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/family-planning/index.htm>

In response to the real need and a high demand for continuing training in family planning, the Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research, in partnership with the Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research of the World Health Organisation, offered an online upgraded training course in family planning "Family Planning: An Online Evidence-based Course". For the first time, the course was offered in English and French concurrently.

This training course is designed for health professionals of different levels of knowledge and education (Doctors, nurses, midwives, managers, social workers etc.) who are involved in the provision of sexual and reproductive health services worldwide, particularly family planning, especially in the developing and least developed countries.

Objectives

The goal of this course was to promote the provision of evidence-based informed reproductive choices and access to family planning services among health service providers in different countries.

Course participants

English: <https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/family-planning/participants.htm>

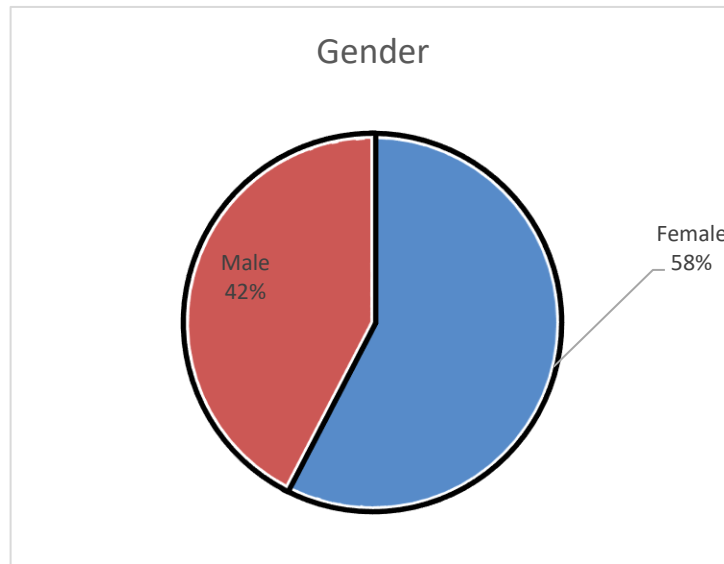
French: <https://www.gfmer.ch/ssr-cours-2022/planification-familiale/participants.htm>

A total of 125 health professionals from 38 countries attended the family planning training programme with majority (74%) taking the English version of the course. Majority of the participants (47%) were in the age group 35 to 44 years (Table 1), and as indicated in Graph 1, women made up 58% of participants.

Table 1: Age of participants

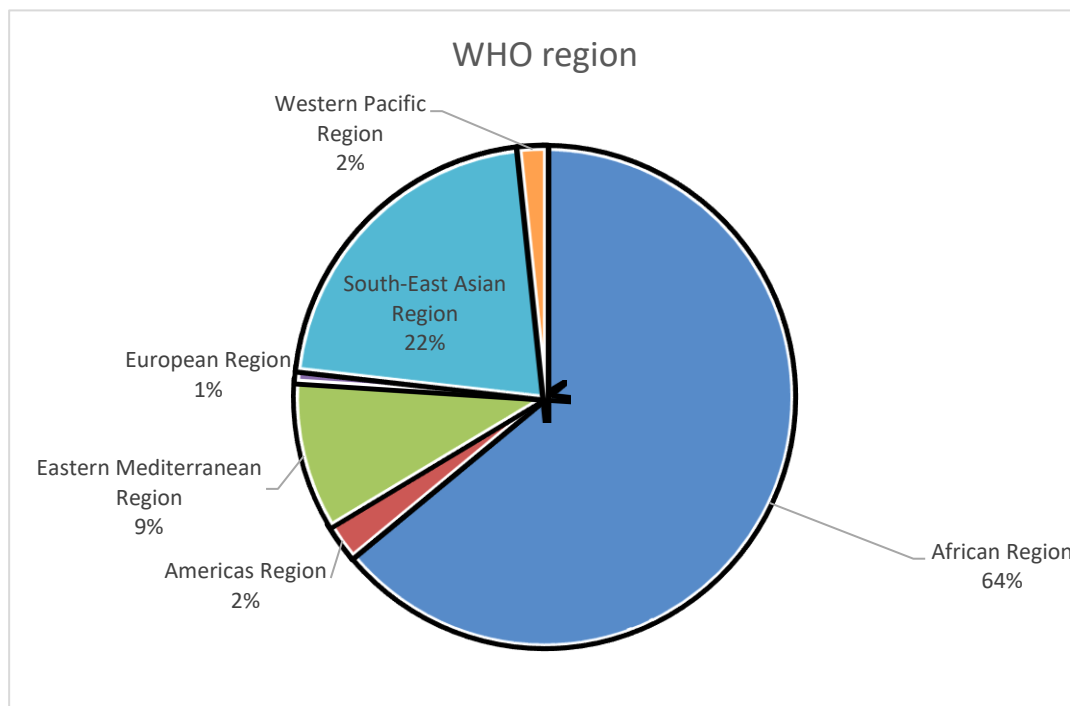
Age Group	No. of participants	%
18-24 years old	0	0%
25-34 years old	20	16%
35-44 years old	59	47%
45-54 years old	34	27%
>55 years old	12	10%
Total	125	100%

Graph 1: Gender of participants



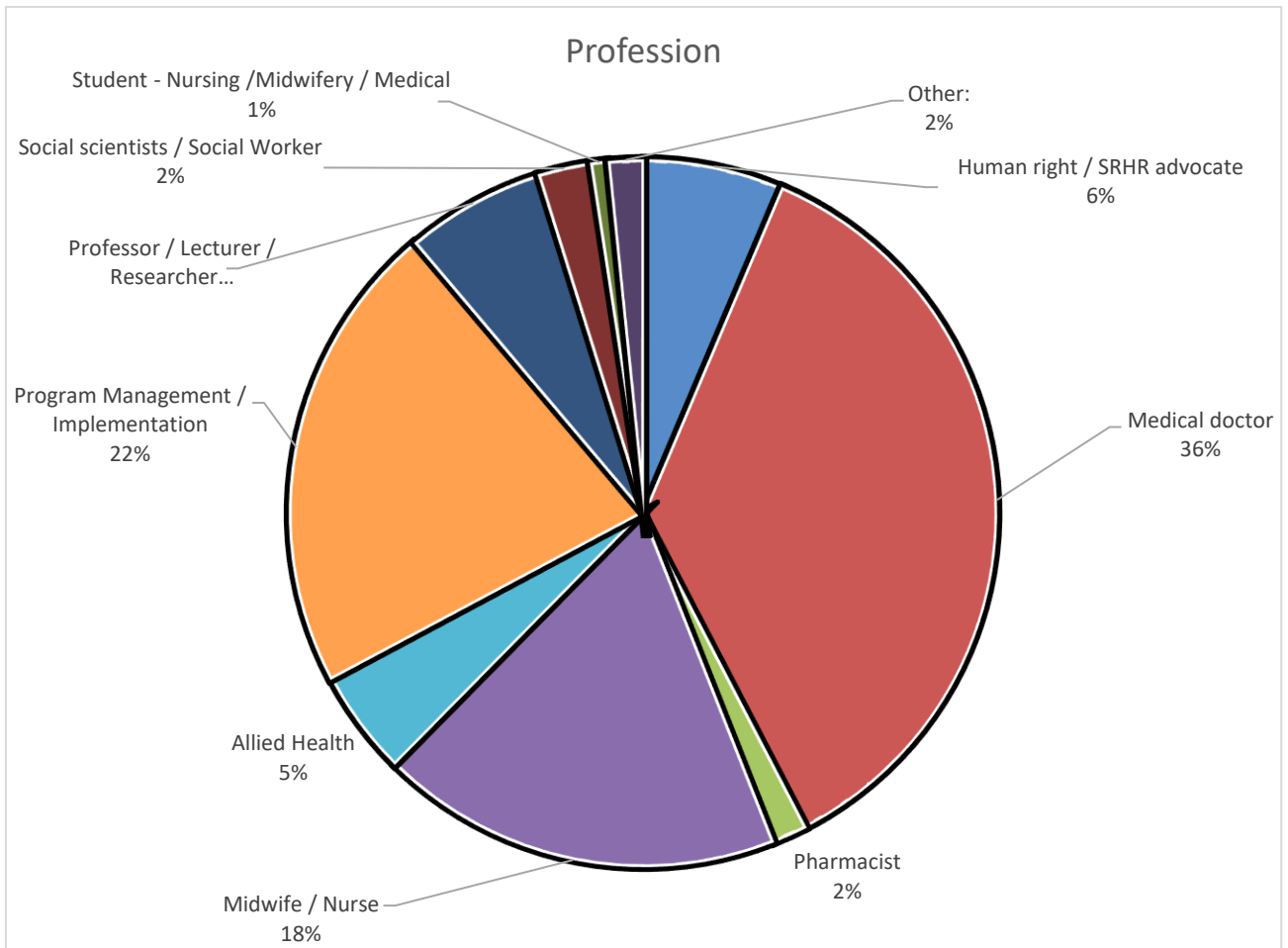
This course was attended by health professionals mainly from Africa (64%), South-East Asia (22%), Eastern Mediterranean (9%), America (2%), Europe (1%) and Western Pacific (1%) (Graph 2).

Graph 2: Geographic distribution of participants by WHO Regions



Graph 3 shows the proportions between the different professions with the largest being medical doctors (36%).

Graph 3: Participants' professions



Recruitment of participants

Participants became aware of the course through the following means:

- Publicity for the course through local contact coordinators in the countries and regions.
- Publicity for the course on the GFMER website and partner sites.
- Mobilization of the GFMER and WHO networks. WHO HQ nominated and sponsored a third (32%) of the participants from family planning accelerator countries (Afghanistan, DR Congo, Kenya, Madagascar, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Timor-Leste). These nominations included WHO regional/country offices, local and international NGOs, WHO collaborating centres at the country level, health ministries, and universities.

Selection of participants

Using set criteria, participants were selected based on the application form and documents they provided. Sponsored participants were nominated by WHO HQ, WHO Regional Offices and other institutions. Participants or their employers were then contacted by our Geneva Team. The list of candidates was communicated to the country coordinators/ tutors who also contacted the candidates.

Course contents

English: <https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/family-planning/weekly-schedule.htm>

French: <https://www.gfmer.ch/ssr-cours-2022/planification-familiale/programme-hebdomadaire.htm>

The content of this course was based on recommendations by WHO. Reference materials were also provided to students.

Teachers, partner institutions

Teachers from WHO, GFMER as well as other national and international institutions were involved in teaching and tutorship for the family planning online training course.

Coaching

English: <https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/family-planning/tutors.htm>

French: <https://www.gfmer.ch/ssr-cours-2022/planification-familiale/tuteurs.htm>

During the course, a coach was assigned to each participant to support their learning. A total of 17 coaches (12 Anglophones) from 14 countries were assigned to 125 participants in their countries or nearby countries. The roles of coaches were to:

1. collect, review and comment on participants' assignments,
2. answer any technical questions in relation to the course, and
3. facilitate participants' group work and the development and submission of group assignments.

Coaches motivated and interacted with their students through different means including Email, WhatsApp, phone calls, Zoom meetings and Webinars.

Teaching methods

Teaching methods consisted of on-line lectures (video recordings, didactic presentations), key readings, reading materials, additional references and referrals to related websites. Live webinars were organized where technical experts answered to questions from the students.

For each module, participants received assignments with very precise instructions. An assignment guide was prepared to guide participants. Tutors and coordinators revised the assignments using the assignment marking guides provided and communicated feedback to students. Participants also worked in groups to develop and submit a group assignment facilitated by their coaches. The goal was to equip the students with the knowledge to promote the provision of evidence-based informed reproductive choices and access to family planning services in their respective countries.

The participation of a student was measured by the submission of assignments in the time given. A student whose work is completed, reviewed, and accepted for a given module is credited with 6 hours per week (24 hours in total), irrespective of the actual time taken to complete the work. At the end of the course, the student received a certificate signed by the organizing institutions.

To support the participants, various mechanisms of communication and interaction (Facebook, Google Groups, WhatsApp, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter, Zoom) were used.

1.3 Course in research methodology and research protocol development 2022

<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/research-methodology/index.htm>

Objectives

The objective of this course is to provide knowledge and skills in research methodology and research protocol development to health professionals in sexual and reproductive health field. This course will enhance participants' knowledge of research methodology and how to develop research protocols and improve their scientific writing.

Course participants

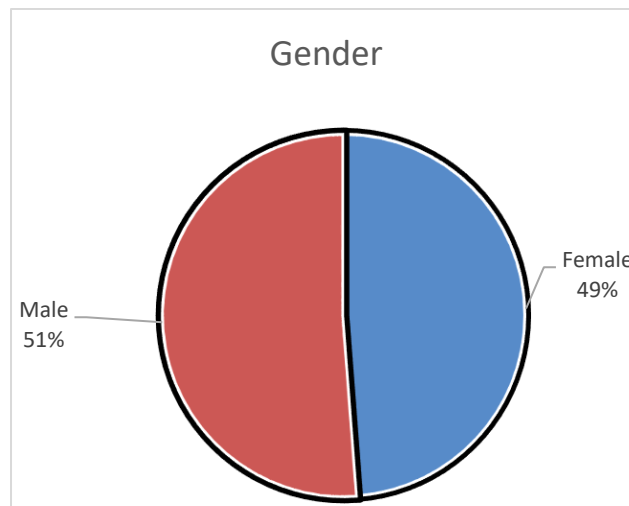
<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/research-methodology/participants.htm>

A total of 125 health professionals from 39 countries attended the research methodology and research protocol development training programme. The majority of participants (39%) were in the age group 35 to 44 years (Table 1) and Males (51%) (Graph 1).

Table 1: Age of participants

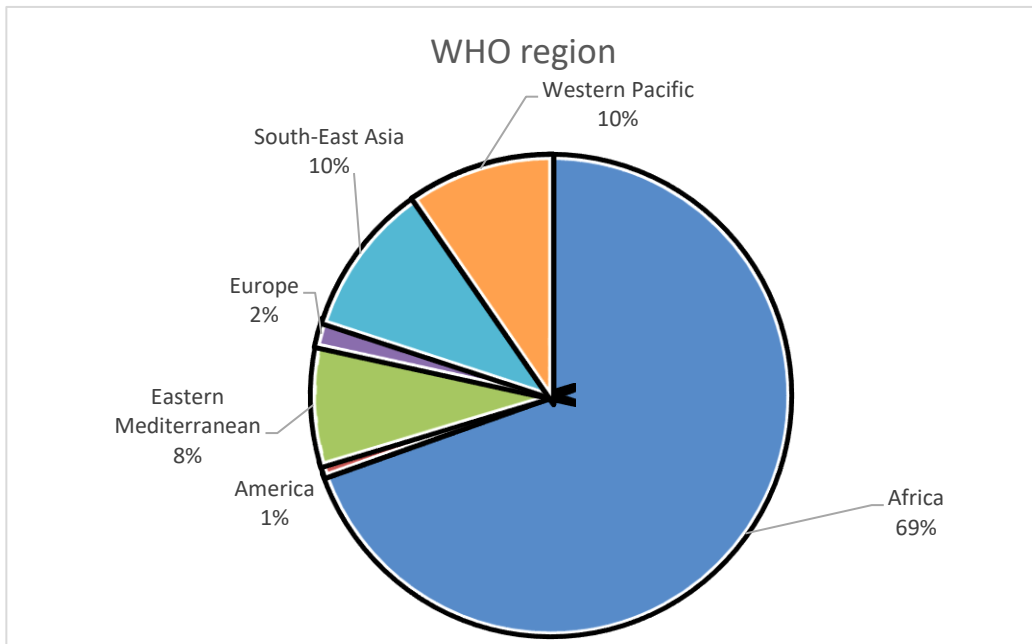
Age group	No. of participants	%
18-24 years old	0	0%
25-34 years old	31	25%
35-44 years old	50	39%
45-54 years old	37	30%
> 55 years old	7	6%
Total	125	100%

Graph 1: Gender of participants



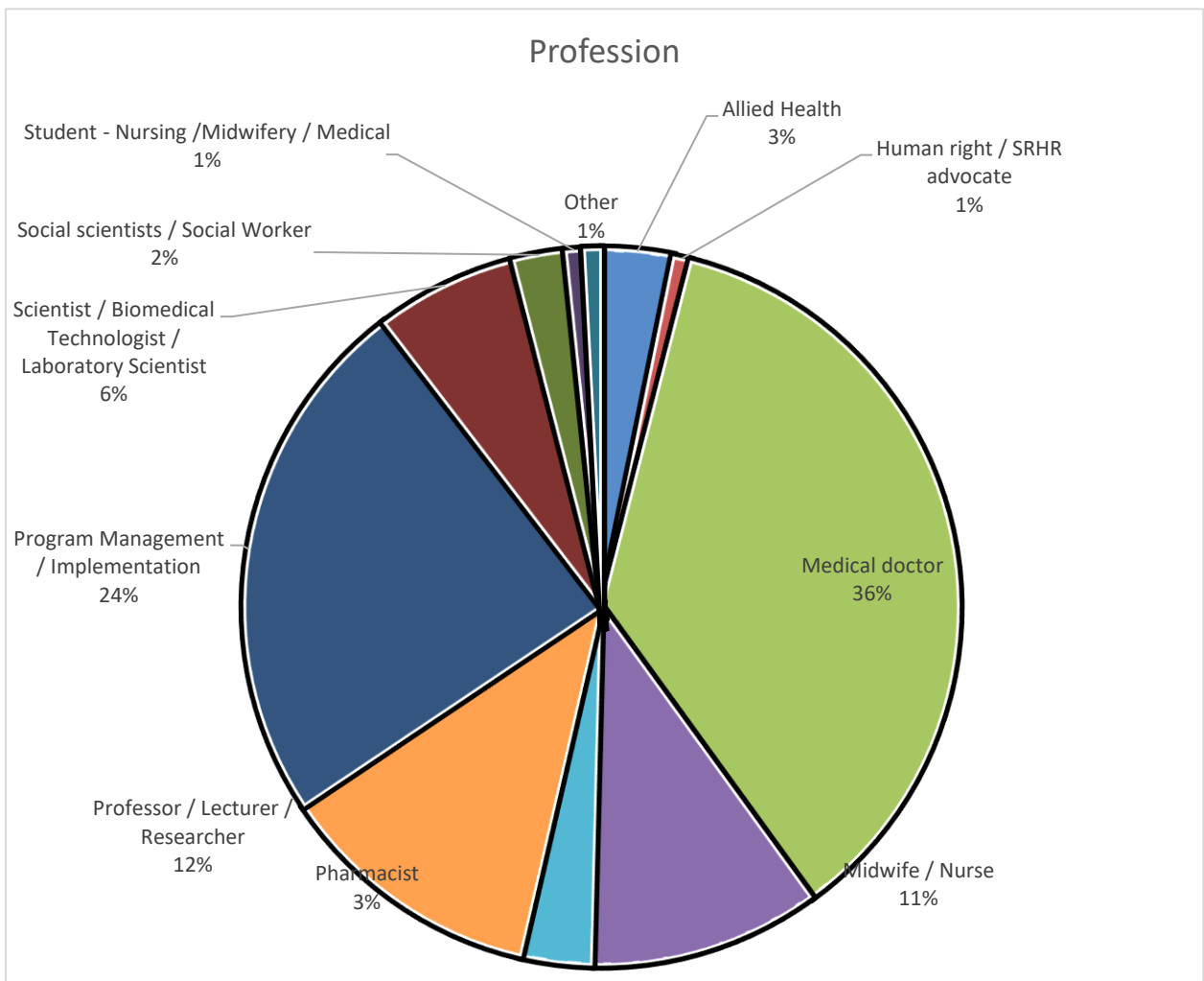
This course was attended by health professionals mainly from Africa (69%), South-East Asia (10%), Western Pacific (10%), Eastern Mediterranean (8%), Europe (1%) and America (1%) (Graph 2).

Graph 2: Geographic distribution of participants by WHO Regions



Graph 3 shows the proportions between the different professions with the largest group of participants being medical doctors (36%).

Graph 3: Participants' professions



Recruitment of participants

Participants became aware of the course through the following means:

- Publicity for the course through local contact coordinators in the countries and regions.
- Publicity for the course on the GFMER website and partner sites.
- Mobilization of the GFMER and WHO networks. These include WHO regional/country offices, local and international NGOs, WHO collaborating centres at the country level, health ministries, and universities.

Selection of participants

Using set criteria, participants were selected based on the application form and documents they provided. Sponsored participants were nominated by WHO HQ, WHO Regional Offices and other institutions. Participants or their employers were then contacted by our Geneva Team. The list of candidates was communicated to the country coordinators/ tutors who also contacted the candidates.

Course contents

<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/research-methodology/weekly-schedule.htm>

The content of this course is based on recommendations by WHO, enhanced by field experience from our teachers with a wide range of expertise in sexual and reproductive health and research. Reference materials were provided to students for them to use in their professional practice.

Teachers, partner institutions

Teachers from WHO, GFMER as well as other national and international institutions were involved in teaching and tutorship for the online training course.

Coaching

<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/research-methodology/tutors.htm>

A total of 16 coaches from 14 countries were assigned to the 125 participants in their countries or nearby countries during the course. The coaches' responsibilities were to:

1. collect, review and comment on participants' assignments,
2. guide participants through the development of their research protocols,
3. review and provide feedback on the research protocols developed by the students, and
2. answer any technical questions relation to the course.

Coaches motivated and interacted with their participants through various means including Email, WhatsApp, phone calls, Zoom meetings and Webinars.

Teaching methods

Teaching methods consisted of on-line lectures (video recordings, didactic presentations), key readings, reading materials, additional references and referrals to related websites. Live webinars to teach and to respond to participants' questions were organized.

For each module, participants received assignments with very precise instructions. The students also developed a research protocol on a topic related to their area of practice. Guides were provided to help the participants prepare their assignments and research protocols. Tutors and coordinators revised the assignments and research protocols using the assignment marking guides provided and communicated feedback to students. The goal was to enhance participants' knowledge of research methodology and how to develop research protocols and to improve their scientific writing.

The participation of a student was measured by the submission of assignments and the research protocol in the time given. A student whose work is completed, reviewed, and accepted for all the modules including the submission of a research protocol is credited with a total of 60 hours, irrespective of the actual time taken to complete the work. At the end of the course, the student received a certificate signed by the organizing institutions.

To support the participants, different mechanisms of communication and interaction (Facebook, Google Groups, WhatsApp, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter, Zoom) were used.

1.4 WHO ICFP Scientific Writing, Mentoring and Coaching Course 2022

<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/scientific-writing/index.htm>

This training course is organized in collaboration with the Bill & Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health and the Department of SRH (including HRP), World Health Organization (WHO) with the goal for participants to develop the motivation, skills, and confidence to write a high-quality scientific manuscript on a family planning topic. The course targeted junior scientists who had accepted abstracts at [ICFP 2022](#). It is aimed that most participants will submit their manuscripts to a peer-reviewed journal within six months of the conference. It is anticipated that a large proportion of these submissions will be accepted for publication within 12 months.

Longer-term, the course aims to develop the research capacity of LMIC scientists and practitioners working in family planning.

Objectives

The objectives of the course are for trainees at the end of the course to:

1. Be aware of the parts of a scientific manuscript and the fundamentals of good scientific writing.
2. Have the skills to craft a scholarly and lucid argument.
3. Develop their abstract into a scientific manuscript and navigate the process for submission and peer review.
4. Participate in a network of junior scientists, facilitators and mentors who have similar interests.

Course participants

<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/scientific-writing/participants.htm>

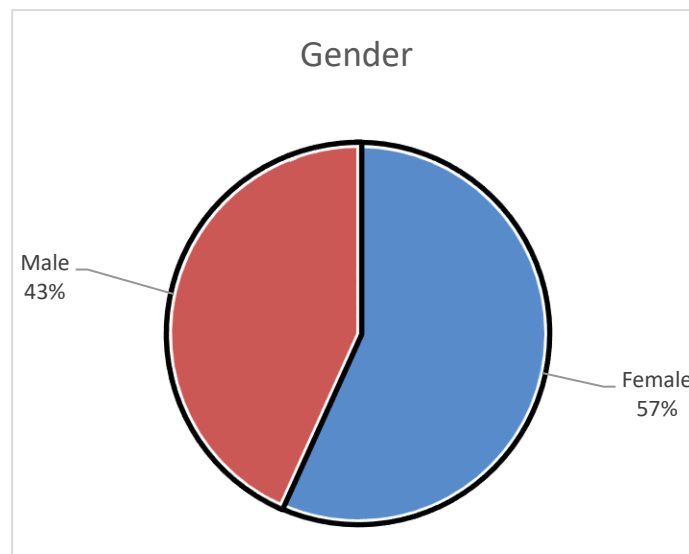
A total of 67 health professionals from 29 countries who attended the training and mentoring sessions of the course during the 2022 ICFP were taken into the 6-month coaching and webinar program. Majority of the participants (36%) have 4-6 years of experiences in their various fields (Table 1) and are Females (57%) (Graph 1).

Table 1: Years of experiences in the field

Number of years in the field	No. of participants	%
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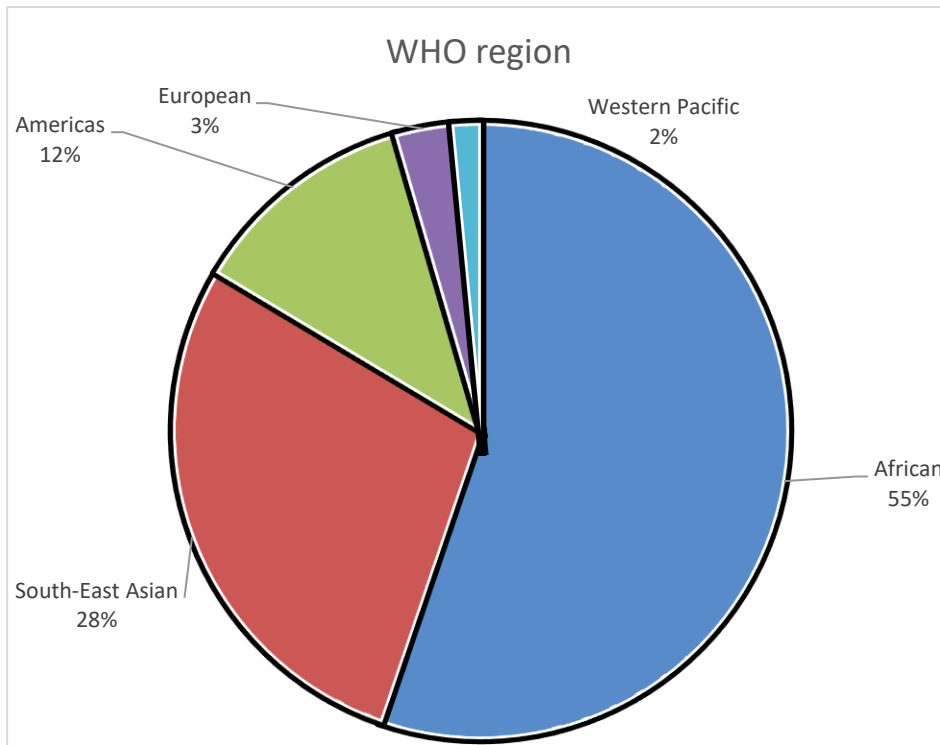
0-3 years	17	25%
10 or more years	8	12%
4-6 years	24	36%
7-10 years	18	27%
Total	67	100%

Graph 1: Gender of participants



This course is attended by health professionals mainly from Africa (55%), South-East Asia (28%), America (12%), Europe (3%) and Western Pacific (2%) (Graph 2).

Graph 2: Geographic distribution of participants by WHO Regions



Recruitment of participants

The course participants are junior scientists who have accepted abstracts at ICFP 2022. For most, this is their first manuscript in family planning, and for those involved in previous manuscripts, they had not been the lead or senior author.

Course contents

<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/scientific-writing/webinars.htm>

The course has the following two parts:

1. Training and mentoring sessions during the [International Conference on Family Planning \(ICFP\) 2022](#) in Thailand (14 November 2022 to 17 November 2022)
 - Plenary seminars
 - Mentoring
2. Post ICFP webinars and coaching (21 November 2022 – 20 May 2023)
 - Webinars: 2 webinars (02 Feb 2023, 13 April 2023)
 - Coaching

The Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research (GFMER) is organizing and managing the coaching and webinars which is still ongoing.

Coaching

<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2022/scientific-writing/tutors.htm>

A total of 13 coaches from 11 countries are assigned to the 67 participants in their countries or nearby countries during the course. The coaches' responsibilities are to:

1. Manage a group of participants in the six months following the training (21 November 2022 – 20 May 2023) and communicate with them via email, WhatsApp, Zoom
2. Support each participant to develop one manuscript and submit to a peer-reviewed journal within the 6 months by:
 - a) having a Zoom or similar call to listen to the student's experiences with writing and offering advice on how to improve the quality of their work
 - b) offering to read the student's paper to give tips and direction before submission (not essential but most preferred)
 - c) helping to support students' responses to peer review
3. Submit monthly reports on participant's progress

An orientation session was organized for the coaches and a mid-course meeting will be organized in 2023. Coaches are motivating and interacting with their participants through various means including Email, WhatsApp, phone calls, Zoom meetings and Webinars.

1.5 Course evaluation

At the end of the course, participants and coaches of the training courses in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research are required to complete and submit the end of course survey. The responses from these surveys are used to monitor how well our courses meet the needs of our participants and to improve on the courses.

1.6 Following participants after the course

Each participant of our courses becomes a member of our Foundation, and we continue to keep contact with them. Monitoring and maintaining contact with them and between them prove to be very useful. Today, GFMER has available an international network of healthcare professionals on ground in direct contact with their communities. It is thanks to this network that we have established collaborations with Harvard University and Oxford, and the Service of Gynaecology at the University Hospital of Geneva. These institutions collaborate with GFMER to develop training tools for healthcare providers at the community level. The network that the Foundation runs facilitates the dissemination of these tools. This also allows us to establish contacts with NGOs, ministries of health or other institutions in several countries.

1.7 Course coordinators at country level

<https://www.gfmer.ch/country-coordinators/GFMER-country-coordinators.htm>

GFMER

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[GFMER Country Coordinators Map](#)

GFMER Country Coordinators



Afghanistan



Bolivia



Cameroun



Ghana



India



Iraq



Malawi



Mongolia



Pakistan



Nigeria



Uganda



Bangladesh



Brazil



Ecuador



Georgia



Indonesia



Kenya



Madagascar



Mozambique



Peru



Togo



Zambia



Yemen



Burkina Faso



Egypt



Gulf Cooperation Council



Iran



Lebanon



Mexico



Oman



Sudan



Turkey

GFMER has appointed a total of 32 coordinators in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Georgia, Gulf Cooperation Council, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Lebanon, Malawi, MENA Region, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Sudan, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, and Zambia.

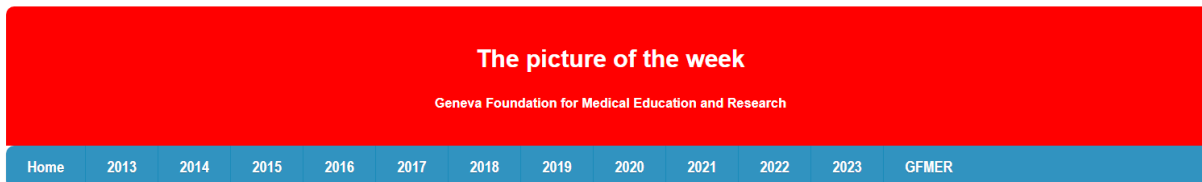
The main tasks of country coordinators consist of:

- Student coaching at local level, i.e., helping the students to access the teaching material and learning methods. As the majority of student’s work (assignments and research protocol) is based on the analysis of local situations in regard to sexual and reproductive health problems, the local coordinators can offer the appropriate assistance to the students.
- Ensure communication with the course organizers and students.
- Advertise the course to various local training and research institutions.
- Recruit eligible candidates for the course.
- Create a network between students from the same country.
- Organize if possible some meetings with students from the same country.
- Identify potential sponsors to provide scholarships for students. It is worth mentioning that the majority of institutions allocate funds for their human resource capacity building programmes.

1.8 Picture of the week

<https://www.gfmer.ch/gfmervoices/pictureoftheweek-2022.htm>

We have created a section on our website entitled “Picture of the week”. Each week, we publish the photo of a student showing their professional activities in a treatment facility, in a refugee camp, on site, in class, etc. This initiative has proved to be very gratifying for our students. It emphasizes the importance of distance training for health professionals where access to training is sometimes limited. It also shows the application of knowledge acquired by our students in their professional practice.



GFMER picture of the week - Images 2022

Clickable thumbnails linking to the corresponding picture of the week

2. Sexual and reproductive rights

<https://www.gfmer.ch/srr/index.htm>

In order to achieve sexual and reproductive health, people need to know their sexual and reproductive rights. The Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research (GFMER) therefore sees a close relationship between sexual and reproductive health on the one hand and the legal and political system on the other. For these reasons, the Foundation created a dedicated website on Sexual and Reproductive Rights. Since its establishment in 2002, GFMER has exchanged sexual and reproductive health expertise with governmental and non-governmental organizations all over the world. GFMER has become a resource centre for training and research in human sexuality and reproduction, creating a vast network of health professionals in developing and developed countries.

With this website GFMER seeks to contribute to a meaningful inclusion of human rights in sexual and reproductive health issues.

Content of the sexual and reproductive rights website:

- Introductions to major sexual and reproductive rights topics.
- Regularly updated summaries of national legislations for the major areas of sexual and reproductive health.
- Selected publications on legislation and ethical issues in sexual and reproductive health.

3. Clinical training, prevention and treatment of obstetric fistula

<http://www.gfmer.ch/fistula/index.htm>

https://fistula-group.ch/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/230522_rapport_activite-22-.pdf



3.1 General

With the widespread availability of cellular networks, improved bandwidth in Africa and access to new technologies in the field of videoconferencing, a new era of medical practice is emerging, allowing teams to experiment with new forms of skill transmission, including in the very complex field of fistula surgery.

Thus, during our April 2022 mission to Benin, Fistula Group initiated a “live” training programme in Tanguiéta through video transmission. This experiment prefigures a new form of distance learning by specialist doctors from the hospital.

Less costly in terms of travel, these “lives” are an opportunity for training because they make it possible to attend operations carried out by world-renowned operators and to interact with them in real time. Eventually, this facility could facilitate telementoring, allowing an expert to give advice without being physically present in the operating room and to provide real-time support for complex surgery.

In this context, the Tanguiéta medical team was able to organise, in December, “Les Premières Journées Scientifiques de Tanguiéta”, a series of conferences, followed by live surgeries, which met with great success and will be repeated in 2023. The year 2022 also marks an important turning point in the operating methods for Tanguiéta, as the GFMER has financed the purchase of the technical platform for laparoscopic surgery.

Scaling up of the Tanguiéta model

Through FIGO (International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics), whose Committee I joined at the end of 2021, we have a wonderful opportunity to disseminate our good practices, in the spirit of the principle of the Tanguiéta model (treatment, training, research, prevention, reintegration of patients, awareness-raising of the population) and to extend our network in francophone Africa in particular. We regularly exchange our experiences, share our expertise during remote meetings, and reciprocally, we strengthen national skills thanks to these networks, by sending our partners to the field. This is the case in 2023 for Dr. Aholou, former GFMER grant holder and now head of the maternity ward of the Saint Jean de Dieu hospital in Tanguiéta, who will go to specialise for 6 weeks at the Fistula Hospital in Addis Ababa in 2023, invited by FIGO.

From the north of Benin to the rest of the country, then beyond the national and sub-regional borders...

The centre of gravity is shifting and the question of duplicating solutions envisaged locally is now being considered in other regions of Africa. The change of scale is taking place through the sharing of know-how and experience and the dissemination of research.

3.2 Country Activities

With our partners, 286 patients were operated on in 2022.

Since 1993 and Dr. Rochat's meeting with Brother Florent, the network has continued to expand.

These surgical workshops, which have made a lasting difference to the lives of patients, have also enabled:

- On the one hand, the teams in training, for the most part resident doctors, called D.E.S (doctors specialising in urology and/or gynaecology-obstetrics), to become familiar with complex operating techniques.
- On the other hand, to develop new surgical approaches and to constitute the basis for scientific publications.

Benin

36 patients have been operated on during:

- 1 surgical workshop (In April 2022 Dr. Rochat and his team operated on 33 patients with severe obstetric fistulas and prolapsus)
- routine care throughout the year: 3 patients with fistulas were managed throughout the year by Dr. Aholou.

Cameroon

9 patients have been operated on during 2 Surgical workshops.

In addition to these two workshops, the appointment in 2021 of Prof. Tebeu as Director General of CIESPAC (Inter-State Centre for Higher Education in Public Health in Central Africa) facilitates:

- the establishment of the network of actors in the fight against fistula in Central Africa
- the centralisation of data for the CIESPAC countries.

Burkina Faso

109 patients have been operated on.

As Tanguiéta is located on the edge of the zone considered to be at risk by the Swiss and French authorities, transit between south-eastern Burkina and northern Benin has come to a halt for the time being. Under these conditions, it is therefore problematic to resume the cooperation with Sentinelles which allowed patients recruited in Burkina Faso to benefit from surgical workshops in Tanguiéta. The patients are therefore operated on in Ouagadougou and Fistula Group supports Dr. Moussa Guiro in his operations.

Côte d'Ivoire

40 patients have been operated on during a workshop.

Dr. Moussa Guiro's team also took part in a workshop on the management of 40 complex cases during a mission to Côte d'Ivoire.

Madagascar

82 patients have been operated on.

Dr. Randria is responsible for fistula surgery for the SALFA hospitals. He performs surgical campaigns throughout the year. He has reached retirement age in November 2019, but can continue to manage and teach fistula surgery, thanks to the support of Fistula Group. The programme is currently supporting Dr. Martin's specialisation in urology as a way of planning for the future.

Results

More than 80% of patients have been cured. In view of the WHO standards and the complexity of the cases treated, the result is considered particularly satisfactory.

3.3 The scholarship programme

The Fistula Group programme focuses on reconstructive surgery, treatment of obstetric fistula and prolapse, improvement of the health care system, prevention, reintegration of patients, and most importantly, training and research.

The "Tanguiéta Model" has led to the emergence of an efficient training centre for the surgical treatment of obstetric fistula in West Africa. In Tanguiéta, dozens of surgeons but also trainers of

surgeons have passed through and followed operative workshops. It was also in Tanguiéta that didactic material was developed. The hospital has generated a "cascade effect" with the replication of "fistula treatment schools" in emerging countries. The training of African doctors developed by the Fistula Group is bearing fruit, as it is now mostly doctors from the continent who treat fistula cases on a daily basis.

The scholarship programme set up, and now supported by the Inspir Foundation, is long-term and lasts for several years (up to 6 years for surgeons).

The programme is based on practical workshops / operating missions organised on a recurring basis in these partner locations, several times a year, in partnership with the Saint Camille and Paul VI hospitals in Ouagadougou, the SALFA hospitals (Groupmind des Hôpitaux Luthériens de Madagascar) as well as CIESPAC and OCEAC for Central Africa.

It also aims to train more than fifteen doctors and nurses carefully selected for their skills but also their seriousness and motivation.

The scholarship holders are mainly from the Saint Jean de Dieu Hospital in Tanguiéta (Benin), a longstanding partner of Fistula Group, but also from Madagascar, which is cruelly lacking in specialised surgeons, or from Congo or Cameroon.

In Benin

Two fellows have completed their specialisation:

- Dr. Sosthenes ADENIRAN, neurosurgeon, who resumed service at the hospital in early 2022.
- Dr. Romeo HAODOU, orthopaedic trauma surgeon, who finished at the end of 2022.
- Dr. Stalin Adisso passed her second-year specialisation exams in gynaecology-obstetrics. She recently participated in the first seminar of an inter-university diploma in gynaecological and breast oncology. This activity will take place over 2 years with two seminars each year.
- Maurel M'Po is currently finalising her doctoral thesis in medicine. In Senegal
- Dr. Martin, who has been supported by the programme since 2020, is in his third year of specialisation in urology.
- Dr. Martin Randriantsalama and Maurel M'Po both participated in Dr. Rochat's workshop in April 2022 in Tanguiéta.

3.4 Awareness raising and training

Improving Practice in ObGyn - NYU, LONG ISLAND Annual Symposium, 9.11.2022 - 13.11.2022

Since 2009, Dr. Charles-Henry Rochat has established close ties with the Albert Einstein College in New York, which is part of Yeshiva University.

His title of Visiting Associate Professor has enabled him to bring more than 10 gynaecologists to Tanguiéta for training at Albert Einstein.

Dr. Bogdan Grigorescu, who was one of them, accompanied him in 2008.

Since then, they have maintained a friendship that has brought them together in New York and Geneva.

Dr. Bogdan Grigorescu is currently in the Department of Reconstructive Urogynecology at New York University Hospital on Long Island.

As part of the Annual Gynecology Symposium, Dr. Rochat was invited to give a presentation on his more than 25 years of experience in obstetric fistula surgery.

Debate evening “Philanthropy in a world in crisis”, 17.11.2022

On the occasion of the publication of the fifth edition of the Philanthropy Network Magazine, L'AGEFI invited Dr. Rochat to the evening-debate dedicated to the theme of "Philanthropy in a world in crisis". On the programme: Welcoming remarks by Raymond Loretan Chairman of the Board of Directors of L'Agefi and Genolier Foundation Conference: "Who gives and how? What the Canton of Geneva's tax incentives have changed", by Giedre Lideikyte Huber and Marta Pittavino (University of Geneva). Debate: "Philanthropy in a world in crisis: Vera Michalski-Hoffmann, René Lehmann (Mercy Ships), Dr. Charles-Henry Rochat, Keyvan Ghavami (Credit Suisse), Moderation: Frédéric Lelièvre, CEO and Editor-in-Chief of L'Agefi. Conclusion Raymond Loretan.

First edition of the Tanguiéta scientific days, 2.12.2022 - 3.12.2022

Fistula Group supported the first edition of the Tanguiéta Scientific Days which took place from 2 to 3 December 2022 at the Hôpital Saint Jean de Dieu in Tanguiéta. During the webinar, Dr. Rochat presented the tips and tricks of vaginal surgery and Dr. Aholou conducted a live session with excellent transmission.

3.5 Press review

Movember: the month when men grow moustaches.

Date: 22 November 2022

Wordlradio.ch

<https://fistula-group.ch/movember-le-mois-ou-les-hommes-se-laissent-pousser-la-moustache/>
<https://www.worldradio.ch/listen-again/mckay-interview/episode/charles-henryrochat/?autoplay=1>

Dr. Rochat was on Michael A. Mc Kay's show to talk about men's health and obstetric fistula as part of Movember.

In case you don't know, Movember is a charity founded in Australia in 2003 to help research and prevent prostate cancer and other men's health problems.

On the occasion of the launch of Philanthropy magazine, L'Agefi met Dr. Rochat. In addition to his work, he has been operating on women suffering from obstetric fistulas in Africa for over 25 years with the Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research (GFMER).

A humanitarian action impossible without the financial help of donors, as he explains in this video. Dr. Rochat spoke to Michael A. Mc Kay about men's health and obstetric fistula. In case you didn't know, Movember is a charity founded in Australia in 2003 to help research and prevent prostate cancer and other male health problems.

3.6 Sending materials to Benin

Benin was the recipient of several consignments of equipment this year. In 1998, GFMER signed a collaboration protocol with the university urology service in Cotonou (Benin). This partnership is still in force. The new head of the department, Prof. Josue Avakoudjo, has asked the Fistula Group programme in 2022 for material support. All the defective endoscopy equipment was brought back

to Switzerland for standard exchange with Anklin, which represents Storz Medical. In addition, the Fistula Group sent second-hand equipment with an estimated total value of CHF 30,000 for the St Jean de Dieu Hospital in Tanguiéta (an electric operating table with leg rest, arm rest and accessories, an ultrasound machine and a stand-up scalytic), which was added to the usual suture equipment, as well as video transmission equipment.

4. GFMER Global Health New Challenges: Online Courses

The GFMER Global Health New Challenges program is overseen by [Dr Meena Nathan Cherian](#). The following collaborative activities with partners continued in 2022.

4.1 E-learning public health course on Emergency and surgical care in Universal Health Coverage (UHC); and on Cancer in the context of UHC

<https://www.gfmer.ch/surgery/cancer.htm>

The GFMER Global Health New Challenges Online Courses program creates awareness on global public health issues and promote education through highlighting key messages from evidence-based publications specifically World Health Organization (WHO) for an easy understanding of the impact of the global burden of diseases and policies addressing them. An earlier GFMER's online public health course on Emergency and Surgical Care in Universal Health Coverage (UHC) created an interest by several academic partners for collaborations to further explore topics on Global Health New Challenges online courses and include them in their outreach education and training programs by sponsoring participants from low- and middle- income countries (LMICs).

In collaboration with [experts](#) from academia, WHO and International Scientific Organisations, several online public health courses were developed in various global health topics: [Emergency and Surgical Care in UHC](#); GFMER collation of specific [WHO online courses on COVID-19](#); [Cancer in the context of UHC](#). These courses provide health professionals with knowledge and skills to address challenges with evidence-based solutions to global health issues towards UHC.

The dissemination of the courses continued in 2022. To date 1439 participants of diverse disciplines from over 70 countries have registered for the [Emergency and Surgical Care in UHC](#) course. The outcome of this course has thus far been successful based on the response received from participants who have asked for additional information on surgical care's role as a public health issue. To date, 23 participants from 10 countries registered for the [Cancer in the context of UHC](#).

4.2 Other ongoing collaborative activities:

- Research with GFMER Global Health New Challenges: Institutional Partnerships

<https://www.gfmer.ch/surgery/research.htm>

- Partnerships/Collaborations/Sponsorships with GFMER Global Health New Challenges
 - Collaborations with WHO Global Learning Open courses added open access COVID-19 courses on GFMER Global Health webpage for a wider outreach: [GFMER collation of specific WHO online courses on COVID-19](#)
- GFMER Global Health New Challenges Representation in Global conferences/meetings and education programs with partners

<https://www.gfmer.ch/surgery/gallery.htm>

5. Institutional partnerships

GFMER collaborative activities with Oxford Maternal and Perinatal Health Institute (OMPHI) and Harvard Maternal Health Taskforce

<https://www.gfmer.ch/omphi/index.htm>

<https://intergrowth21.com/geneva-foundation-medical-education-and-research>

The evidence-based management of Pre-eclampsia and Eclampsia

<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2010/pre-eclampsia-University-of-Oxford/index.htm>

This is the first online training course developed by OMPHI and GFMER in June 2011 available in Spanish and English. A total of 3317 health professionals from 120 countries successfully completed the training and knowledge assessment and were awarded certificates.

Upon request from OMPHI, GFMER updated the course and made it available to OMPHI and The Global Health Network (TGHN) in 2022. Due to technical issues related to OMPHI and TGHN, the updated course will go live in June 2023.

The evidence-based management of postpartum haemorrhage

<https://www.gfmer.ch/omphi/pph/index.htm>

This course is available in English, Spanish and Russian. Its dissemination continued during 2022. Since its launch in June 2013 till December 2022, a total of 3499 health professionals from 128 countries have successfully completed the training and knowledge assessment and have been awarded certificates.

Maternal infections

<https://www.gfmer.ch/omphi/maternal-infections/index.htm>

The dissemination of the module continued during 2022. Since the launch of the module in June 2015, up to 1652 health professionals from up to 90 countries successfully completed the knowledge assessment for the module and were awarded certificates.

Obstetric fistula

<https://www.gfmer.ch/fistula/Obstetric-fistula-2015.htm>

The fistula module dissemination continued in the current year. Since its launch in July 2015, up to 1369 health professionals from up to 90 countries have successfully completed the knowledge assessment for the module and were awarded certificates.

A French version is also available (<https://www.gfmer.ch/fistule/Fistules-obstetricales-2017.htm>).

INTERGROWTH-21st

<https://www.gfmer.ch/omphi/intergrowth-course/index.htm>

The INTERGROWTH-21st course on maternal, fetal and newborn growth monitoring communicates the methodology of maternal, fetal and newborn growth monitoring and the application of the

INTERGROWTH-21st international growth standards to make judgement about appropriateness of growth.

The first module launched in June 2016 “Assessing newborn size by anthropometry” is available in English, Portuguese, Spanish and Italian. The second module “Assessing maternal anthropometry and weight gain during pregnancy” was launched in January 2017 and is available in English and Italian. The dissemination of the modules continued in 2022. Till date, up to 6100 health professionals from up to 195 countries successfully completed the knowledge assessment for one or two of the modules and were awarded certificates.

In 2022, three countries officially implemented the INTERGROWTH-21st standards: Argentina, Uruguay and France. In May 2022, Dr. Jose Villar gave a lecture at the National Congress of the Argentinian Pediatric Society and the INTERGROWTH-21st standards were officially added to the Argentinian child growth charts. In Uruguay, important links were formed with the University of the Republic of Uruguay and the Neonatology of the Perreira Rossell Hospital, which also led to the implementation of the standards in their official charts. In France, in February 2022, the Collège Français d'Echographie Foetale officially recommended the national implementation of the Intergrowth-21st standards for all clinical practice.

INTERPRACTICE-21st

<https://www.gfmer.ch/omphi/interpractice/index.htm>

The INTERPRACTICE-21st Project promotes the optimal postnatal growth of preterm infants and standardises growth measurement in selected populations around the world. It is based on the implementation of the INTERGROWTH-21st international standards for preterm postnatal growth and evidence-based feeding recommendations based on human milk.

The “Preterm infant feeding and growth monitoring: Implementation of the INTERGROWTH-21st protocol, interactive e-Learning course” was launched in September 2017. Spanish (<https://www.gfmer.ch/omphi/interpractice/index-spanish.htm>), Russian (<https://www.gfmer.ch/omphi/interpractice/index-russian.htm>), Portuguese (<https://www.gfmer.ch/omphi/interpractice/index-portuguese.htm>) and Italian (<https://www.gfmer.ch/omphi/interpractice/index-italian.htm>) versions of the course are available.

The dissemination of the module continued during 2022. Up to 3442 health professionals from up to 127 countries have so far successfully completed the knowledge assessment for the module and were awarded certificates.

COVID-19 in pregnancy, delivery and the neonatal period

Launched in July 2021, the aim of the course is to provide healthcare providers with evidence-based recommendations for disease prevention and management of pregnant women and their babies during the COVID-19 pandemic in order to reduce the adverse maternal and newborn outcomes. In 2022, the course was translated into Spanish. The Spanish version of the course was launched in April 2022 and a wide dissemination was conducted in the Spanish-speaking region of the world. This included an online conference by Prof. José Villar in September 2022.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cUSEt5AWw7c=>

The dissemination of the module continued in 2022. Till date, up to 494 health professionals from about 128 countries successfully completed the knowledge assessment for the module and were awarded certificates.

It is worth mentioning that the above-mentioned modules can also be accessed by Smartphone and tablet. Moreover, a PDF version is also made available for each module to allow for their offline use.

Supporting Women in Science Program – Aga Khan University

In 2022, the joint research project “Supporting Women in Science” was implemented by the Institute for Global Health and Development at the Aga Khan University, Centre for Global Child Health at the Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids), and University of Oxford, with the funding support of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (<https://www.aku.edu/ighd/research-programmes/Pages/supporting-women-in-science.aspx>). All seven courses developed by GFMER for OMPHI have been selected by the program as part of the “evidence-based practice” courses to be taken by the participants. A first initial cohort of 58 participants which includes early-career women scientists across South-Central Asia and East Africa have completed the online courses.

E-learning modules – Statistics

E-learning module	Duration	No. of unique participants who successful completed the test
Pre-eclampsia and eclampsia	June 2011 – June 2021	3317
Postpartum haemorrhage	June 2013 - December 2022	3499
Maternal infections	May 2015 - December 2021	1652
Obstetric fistula	July 2015 - December 2021	1369
INTERGROWTH-21st/Assessing newborn size and /Assessing maternal anthropometry and weight gain during pregnancy	June 2016 - December 2021	6100
INTERPRACTICE-21st/Assessing preterm infant feeding and growth monitoring	September 2017 - December 2021	3442
COVID-19 in pregnancy, delivery and the neonatal period	July 2021 – December 2021	494

GFMER website (<https://www.gfmer.ch/>)



The GFMER website is extensive, regularly updated and provides easy access to useful information. The website contains information about the Foundation, education programmes (courses), partners, international collaboration and information resources such as publications, presentations and databases. The GFMER website contains information in English, French, German, Italian and Spanish.

In 2022, the website of the foundation had 1,566,307 page views and visitors from all over the world. See the following link for the statistics of the website:

https://www.gfmer.ch/Usage_statistics/pdf/GFMER-visitors-2022.pdf

Activities planned for 2023

Courses on sexual and reproductive health and research 2023

The Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research in collaboration with the World Health Organization and other partners will continue to offer a series of online training courses in the field of sexual and reproductive health and research in 2023 as follows:

- Adolescent sexual and reproductive health
 - Target WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region
 - Target Francophone South, Central and North Africa
 - Target South East Asia
- Family planning in English and French versions
- Female genital mutilation
- Research methodology and research protocol development
- Sexually transmitted infections, HIV/AIDS

Sexual health course

This e-learning course on Sexual health developed by GFMER in partnership with the World Health Organisation and UNESCO will be offered to our online course students and it will be disseminated globally to health professionals, through the GFMER and partners' networks.

GFMER collaborative activities with Oxford Maternal and Perinatal Health Institute and Harvard Maternal Health Taskforce

1. Dissemination of e-learning courses

GFMER will continue to disseminate all courses through its wide and expanding network of health professionals with ongoing monitoring.

2. Update of e-learning courses

GFMER will propose the update of other existing e-learning courses to its partners as necessary.

Development of new e-learning modules

GFMER and partners will explore the possibility to develop new e-learning modules in sexual and reproductive health and related fields.