



IFBLS Strategic Plan 2022-26

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IFBLS Strategic Plan



The International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Science (IFBLS) is an independent non-governmental association of national societies in 34 countries, representing more than 229 000 Biomedical Laboratory Scientists worldwide.

Topics and Goals

Promote the profession	• IFBLS is the global voice of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists
IFBLS World Congress	• The IFBLS Congress is prestigious; to host, to contribute and to attend
WHO Collaboration	• IFBLS influence global health policies
Promote professional standards	• IFBLS provides support to the Biomedical Laboratory Scientist community
Education and professional development	• IFBLS advances Biomedical Laboratory Science professionals

Promote the Profession

- IFBLS is the global voice of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists

IFBLS World Congress

- The IFBLS Congress promotes excellence in Biomedical Laboratory Science

WHO Collaboration

- IFBLS influences global health policies by providing expert opinion relating to Biomedical Laboratory Science

Promote professional standards

- IFBLS provides guidelines and information support to Biomedical Laboratory Scientists and the community

Education and professional development

- IFBLS provides opportunity for Continuous Professional Development of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists

Promote the Profession

- IFBLS is the global voice of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists



- Work with WHO to promote Biomedical Laboratory Scientists' professional expertise and global contributions
- Deliver
 - WHO Meetings Reports and Follow Up
 - Contribute to Essential InVitro Diagnostic List (EDL)
 - Attend WHO Meetings
 - Communicate WHO policies to members and regions
 - Participate in WHO Regional Meetings
- Outcome
 - Contributions made to current revision of EDL on Kleihauer and 17 OH Progesterone
 - Replies submitted on standards for readers of rapid test
 - Contributions made to Standards for Glucose Meters, Rapid Syphilis Tests, Rapid Streptococcal A Tests and Rapid Cryptococcus Tests
 - Attended meetings virtually on EDL, Pandemic Preparedness
 - Attended regional virtually
- Ongoing
 - Continued active engagement with WHO

Promote the Profession

- IFBLS is the global voice of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists



- Work to ensure the profession of Biomedical Laboratory Science is recognized as a Scientific Profession globally
- Deliver
 - Work with ISCO to ensure we are recognised as a Profession under ICL Classification
 - Work with EPBS to ensure we are recognised as a Profession within Europe via ESCO and EU Regulated Professions Database
- Outcome
 - Worked with EPBS on recognition in Europe
 - Paper submitted.
 - Status hopeful
 - Reviewed ISCO Classification
 - Identified a title: Scientist Medical (2211)
- Ongoing
 - Statisticians meeting in October
 - Request to renew dialogue
 - Fellowship programme

Promote the Profession

- IFBLS is the global voice of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists



- Identify a strategic theme for Biomedical Laboratory Science Day and encourage its Celebration
- Deliver
 - Agree Theme
 - Prepare Marketing Material for Members
 - Prepare pre recorded message
 - Promoting BLS day to members and wider community

- Outcome
 - Guardians of Quality and Patient Safety: Biomedical Laboratory Science
 - Letter to members
 - Broadcast



- Ongoing
 - Same theme next year
 - Continued promotion



Promote the Profession

- IFBLS is the global voice of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists



- Provide a forum for publication of scientific work in The International Journal of Biomedical Laboratory Science
- Deliver
 - Ensure governance and sustainability of the IJBLS
 - Promote publication by BLS
 - Provide Editorial Content and Articles for publication
- Outcome
 - Agreed roles and responsibilities for production team
 - Met with Editorial Team
 - Provided editorial
 - 1st issue in March, 2nd for October
- Ongoing
 - Encourage Network of Experts to publish
 - Consider award for 1st time author

Promote the Profession

- IFBLS is the global voice of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists



- Invite members to give voice to their achievements and concerns.
- Deliver
 - CD Meetings and reports
 - Open Forum
 - Regional Forum
- Outcome
 - CD reports reviewed and contribute to Strategic Plan
 - Inform Webinar series
 - Open Forum output contributing to decisions on Congress
- Ongoing
 - Set up virtual meeting with regions.

Promote the Profession

- IFBLS is the global voice of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists



- Use the website to inform support and promote the profession
- Utilize social media to raise professional profile
- Deliver
 - Review content to ensure it is current and vibrant
 - Promote member's National Meetings
 - Promote IFBLS Congress
 - Promote Britta Karlsson Educational Webinar Series
 - Decide on policy for Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, Tictok etc
- Outcome
 - Development Committee reviewing Social Policy
 - Congress is promoted
 - Britta Karlsson programme is promoted
 - Members may request promotion of national meetings
 - List is maintained and up to date
- Ongoing
 - Approval of Social Policy
 - Full website review

IFBLS World Congress

- The IFBLS Congress promotes excellence in Biomedical Laboratory Science



- The World Congress will foster the professional development of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists globally with specific emphasis on Low- and Middle-Income Countries
- Deliver
 - IFBLS Congress Guidelines stipulate that this activity is delivered
 - IFBLS supports the Host Association with advice on the Scientific Programme
 - Presentation by Biomedical Laboratory Scientists is encouraged at Plenary, Scientific and Poster Sessions
 - IFBLS may deliver focused workshops
 - Scientific Abstracts will be compiled into a supplement to the IJBL
- Outcome
 - Revised congress guidelines provide clarity
 - Activity supported by Network of Experts
 - Members of IFBLS Board present in plenary session
- Ongoing
 - IFBLS is committed to supporting the Scientific content of Congress
 - IFBLS supports and promotes presentation through awards programme
 - IFBLS programme may include focused workshops
 - Supplement discussed with IJBL Editorial Team

IFBLS World Congress

- The IFBLS Congress promotes excellence in Biomedical Laboratory Science



- Promote excellence in scientific contributions
- Reward excellence and support participation through the IFBLS Awards programme
- Deliver
 - Abstracts for the Congress are subjected to a review board
 - IFBLS will support award winning Biomedical Laboratory Scientists to publish their presentations in IJBLS
 - Excellence is acknowledged through the Scientific Awards Programme
- Outcome
 - Abstracts are reviewed by scientific committee
 - Awards programme in place
- Ongoing
 - Scientific Committee and Expert Panels to have more active role.
 - Ensure judging of presentations and posters for awards is robust
 - Scientific Committee will work with Editorial Board to bring scientists presentations to publication

WHO Collaboration

- IFBLS influences global health policies by providing expert opinion relating to Biomedical Laboratory Science



- Continue our status as a Non-State Actor in official relations with WHO
- Deliver
 - Agree WHO IFBLS workplan, deliver on content and prepare annual report
 - Attend at and participate in WHO meetings with Non State Actors
- Outcome
 - Agreed work plan in place
 - Attended and participated in virtual meetings
 - Pandemic preparedness
 - Expanding EDL to medical devices
- Ongoing
 - Delivering on work plan

WHO Collaboration

- IFBLS influences global health policies by providing expert opinion relating to Biomedical Laboratory Science



- Provide input for revision of WHO Guidelines related to Biomedical Laboratory Science and specifically the 'Essential List of in vitro Diagnostics'
- Deliver
 - Review and respond to requests for input into specific guidelines
 - Issue requests to IFBLS network of experts and advisory groups; collate response for submission
 - Contribute to WHO discussion on tests to be added to the EDL
- Outcome
 - Contributions made to current revision of EDL on Kleihauer and 17 OH Progesterone
 - Requests circulated to experts and replies compiled on:
 - Standards for readers of rapid test,
 - Standards for Glucose Meters,
 - Standards for Rapid Syphilis Tests
 - Standards for Rapid Streptococcal A Test
 - Standards for Rapid Cryptococcus Tests
- Ongoing
 - Continue to engage and contribute
 - Propose experts to sit on WHO SAGE

WHO Collaboration

- IFBLS influences global health policies by providing expert opinion relating to Biomedical Laboratory Science



- Forge alliances with other health professional organisations in official relations with WHO
- Promote best practice of Biomedical Laboratory Science
- Deliver
 - Participate in and contribute to joint statements of Non State Actors
 - Ensure all contributions by IFBLS to WHO guidelines and the EDL reflect best practice
- Outcome
 - Engage with other NSA at virtual meetings.
 - Assist and support positions
 - Pandemic preparedness
 - Highlighting need for expert scientific practice not just POCT
 - Engage with Experts when making contributions
- Ongoing
 - Continue to engage with Intergovernmental Negotiating Body to negotiate agreement on pandemic preparedness

Promote professional standards

- IFBLS provides guidelines and information support to Biomedical Laboratory Scientists and the community



- Promote the Code of Ethics in all aspects of our profession
- Promote adherence to ISO quality standards.
- Deliver
 - Prepare and promote a Code of Ethics which is responsive to change
 - Ensure all guidance and statements relating to quality and service provision reference ISO15189
- Outcome
 - Ethics policy in place
 - Guidance and Statements reference standards
- Ongoing
 - Ethics policy to be reviewed
 - POCT guidance to be reviewed with reference to standard
 - All guidance documents to be subject to review cycles

Promote professional standards

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- Maintain active Advisory groups in all areas of Biomedical Laboratory Science to provide advice and expert opinion to the Board and Members.
- Deliver
 - Maintain a database of Network of Expert and Advisory Groups
 - Engage with the Network of Expert and Advisory Groups in matters relating to production of position papers and input to WHO submissions
 - Engage with the Network of Expert and Advisory Groups seeking that they provide material for publication in the IJBL
- Outcome
 - Combine Network of Experts and Advisory Groups into single Scientific Network of Experts
 - More agile
 - Journal editors engaging with Experts
- Ongoing
 - Create and maintain database
 - Encourage promotion of publication

Promote professional standards

- IFBLS provides guidelines and information support to Biomedical Laboratory Scientists and the community



- Develop and present position papers
- Deliver
 - Ensure our position papers are relevant and up to date
 - Develop position papers on current and emerging issues
 - Publish review articles on matters pertaining to Biomedical Laboratory Science and its practice in the IJBL
- Outcome
 - Editorial presentation in Journal highlighting and drawing position papers and guidance together
- Ongoing
 - Schedule review of position papers
 - Engage with Experts
 - Consider paper on use of AI in clinical laboratories?

Education and professional development

- IFBLS provides opportunity for Continuous Professional Development of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists



- Develop and enhance publication of the International Journal of Biomedical Laboratory Science (IJBLS)
- Deliver
 - Ensure governance and sustainability of the IJBLS
 - Promote publication by BLS
 - Provide Editorial Content and Articles for publication
 - Engage with the Network of Expert and Advisory Groups seeking that they provide material for publication in the IJBLS
- Outcome
 - Journal is continuing to publish 2 editions / year
 - Consider supplemental editions
 - Editorials published
 - Journal advertised in members publication
- Ongoing
 - Members to promote journal as a publication opportunity
 - Experts and editors to work with scientists to bring papers to publication
 - Awards for 1st time authors
 - Award winners to publish
 - Seeking publication of plenary papers and webinars

Education and professional development

- IFBLS provides opportunity for Continuous Professional Development of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists



- Promote the use of the Core Competencies Document in the education and training of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists
- Deliver
 - Publish document in IJBLS and on Web Page
 - Encourage members to incorporate into their National Documentation
 - Revise every 4-5 years to ensure it reflects current practice
- Outcome
 - Published on Web Page
 - Referenced in Editorial
- Ongoing
 - Discuss with developing countries to ensure it meets and supports their requirements
 - Add to document review cycle

Education and professional development

- IFBLS provides opportunity for Continuous Professional Development of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists



- The Britta Karlsson Legacy is used to support Continuous Professional Development of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists
- Deliver
 - Relaunch the Britta Karlsson Advancement Programme
 - Seek submissions from members to implement the Britta Karlsson Advancement Programme
 - Continue to develop and provide the Britta Karlsson Educational Webinar Series
 - Expand the reach of the Britta Karlsson Educational Webinar Series through use of digital platforms
- Outcome
 - Webinar series delivered successfully
 - Extensive registration and attendance
 - Office workload
- Ongoing
 - Review of the programme ongoing
 - Consideration on how Virtual Platform can be used to
 - Record and rebroadcast webinars
 - Act as a source of revenue