Committee Project Funding Report

2017 PROJECTS
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Introduction

Each year, the WFSA commits to providing funding through the Committee Project Fund which aims to financially assist WFSA committee members in their committee projects. WFSA’s ten committees provide the main source of support, expertise and guidance for the delivery of WFSA’s programmes and commit thousands of hours of volunteer time to the WFSA every year. In 2017, the Committee Project Fund contributed $46,800 to seven projects ranging from developing teaching courses, delivering workshops and training and developing incident reporting and research toolkit models.

This report provides an overview of the projects which the Committee Project Fund contributed towards in 2017.
# Projects

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<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Simulation-based training pilot evaluation in Uganda: An integrated curriculum for in-service Anaesthesia providers</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
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## Project Outline

This project aimed to pilot a low-resource simulation-based curriculum for Anaesthetic Officers as a novel form of continuing medical education in Uganda while assessing the feasibility and utility of simulation training in resource constrained settings. This project is part of a wider project to establish a simulation training centre in eastern Uganda and develop a simulation training curriculum with standardised scenarios for use in low resource settings.

Training courses are planned once a month which consist of two, one-day simulation training courses in the management of critical incidents in anaesthesia (CITA) and obstetric anaesthesia (CITOA) which were created using standardised curriculum material previously developed in conjunction with faculty from Makerere University, Uganda and University of California, San Francisco. To date, 19 currently practicing anaesthetic officers have successfully completed both courses out of a target of 24 from this grant. During the courses, two Ugandan anaesthesiologists and a visiting resident from the UK joined the team of trainers at Busitema University.

![Above (Left): Fred Bulamba, Project Lead](image1.png)  
![Above (Right): Participants engaging in the simulation based training](image2.png)
Project Title | Enhancing Patient Safety through Incident Reporting  
---|---
Dates | 12 month period  
Committee | Safety and Quality of Practice Committee

Project Outline

Incident reporting is a key tool for promoting patient safety. Learning from error and failure can help prevent recurrence of problems and prevent further patients being harmed from the same mistakes. In addition, the knowledge gained from analysing incidents helps redesign systems of healthcare work to make them safer.

One well-known barrier to successful reporting is the so-called ‘blame culture’ in healthcare. Doctors and nurses may fear punishment or disciplinary action if they admit mistakes. This project emphasises the importance of assuring reporting clinicians that the incidents will be used for learning, not for punishment, and will be treated confidentially or even anonymously. Setting up an incident reporting system is often the first step in creating an open learning culture within hospitals.

This project aims to design and pilot a web-based reporting system in a small number of hospitals in the Republic of Serbia and to gather transferable intelligence which may help the setting-up of incident reporting systems in other low and middle income countries.

In May 2017, an initial meeting was held to bring prospective Serbian partners together to discuss aspects of the reporting system. This meeting highlighted that the use of existing incidence reporting methods in participating hospitals was not adequate.

The meeting helped to design a reporting form, which could be incorporated into the IT platform envisaged for the reporting system at a later date. In the meantime, a pilot of the reporting method has taken place using paper forms. One person from each department analyses these forms, anonymises them and then submits them to the national system as a summary of the case or recommendations which could be used to benefit other hospitals. These reports will be available on the platform for public use.

The project now plans to pilot the online reporting platform in the summer and early autumn of 2018. A Symposium on Patient Safety will also be organised as the pre-Serbian Congress activity in November, with the focus on introducing and promoting the critical incident reporting system.
Project Outline

Globally, pain (of all types) is often an unrecognised and inadequately treated problem. Fortunately, many effective pain management strategies are “low tech” and cheap and can offer significant improvements to an individual’s quality of life.

The Essential Pain Management (EPM) workshop was developed:

- To improve knowledge about pain
- To provide a simple framework for treating pain
- To address pain management barriers.

Levy Mwanawasa hospital is a 187 bed capacity second level hospital situated in Lusaka province of Zambia. The hospital has no dedicated pain clinic and no pain team to specifically address patients in pain at the hospital. This project therefore ran two EPM Workshops at Levy Mwanawasa Hospital on 31st October and 2nd November 2017. The workshops trained a total of 29 participants and on the 1st November 2017 an Instructor workshop was also ran to train 13 new EPM instructors. The delegates were selected from various specialities, including ward nurses, pharmacists, physiotherapists and doctors.

Looking forward, the project recommendations include plans to create a Pain Management Committee to coordinate:

- Assessment and action plan to address local barriers to the provision of pain management
- Clinical audit to assess impact
- Repeat EPM workshops with local instructors

Above: Participants of the EPM workshop with their certificates of completion.
Project Title: Development of a Teaching Skills Course: Clinical Teaching Course at University Teaching Hospital, Zambia

Dates: 8th-11th May 2017
Committee: Education Committee

Project Outline

The course was designed to equip teachers with the necessary skills to create positive and beneficial learning experiences through their teaching. The course ran from the 8th-11th May 2017. Thirty-five participants registered for the course, 13 men and 22 women. The participants came from a variety of departments including Anaesthesia, Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, and Medicine.

Certificates were awarded to all attendees detailing the sessions they had attended.

The course consisted of five workshops:

1. Lesson planning
2. Small group teaching
3. Large group teaching
4. Bedside teaching
5. Simulation

The workshops utilised many different teaching styles including didactic presentations, large group discussion, small group break-out sessions, simulation and role-play. The last day of the course was dedicated to formative assessment. The participants each taught a small group and a large group session and were given feedback by their peers and the instructors.

The project received very positive feedback regarding the Teaching Skills Course. All participants ‘agreed’ or ‘strongly agreed’ that they benefitted from the course and gained skills relevant to their teaching role in their hospital.

When asked what they liked best about the course, participants responded:

“I liked how interactive the course was.”

“The best thing about this course was that it allowed me to apply what I was learning.”

“It’s been an eye-opening course. Instead of focusing on what I need to teach, I will focus on what they need to learn.”

“When you are teaching, you are teaching for the learners. You have to find a way of conveying that information. You don’t have to use one method or be static – try to explore other ventures.”
Project Outline

This was the first SAFE Paediatric Anaesthesia course held in Papua New Guinea (PNG) and in the Pacific. The course was timed to coincide with the PNG medical Symposium which is held in the capital every two years. Anaesthetic Scientific Officers (ASOs – non-physician anaesthesia providers) provide the bulk of anaesthesia services in PNG outside of the capital and receive no formal continuing education apart from attending these symposia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Numbers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anaesthetic Scientific Officers (ASOs = NPAPs):</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASO trainees:</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaesthetic Registrars:</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaesthetic Consultant:</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>25</strong></td>
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This type of course is often the only ongoing education/training the ASOs receive for years at a time, so the course was modified to fit into the two full days the weekend after the PNG Medical Symposium before the ASOs had to return to work.

All participants received a satchel containing:

- SAFE Participants Manual
- SAFE Handbook
- SAFE USB
- Pre-course test
- Commitment to change form
- Pen and paper

All participants and faculty received a certificate of participation at the end of the course.
Project Title | Essential Pain Management (EPM) Workshop
Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University Teaching Hospital Bauchi, Nigeria

Dates | 2\textsuperscript{nd} November 2017
Committee | Education Committee and Pain Committee

Project Outline

The Essential Pain Management course was delivered at Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University (ATBU) Teaching Hospital in Bauchi, Nigeria on the 2\textsuperscript{nd} November 2017. After the approval to conduct the workshop was obtained, the hospital education committee chairman was informed for publicity and other necessary arrangements were made. There was a huge amount of preparatory work, including preparing CDs for participant’s manual, organising a venue and selecting course participants.

Approximately 120 Participants attended the workshop. Participants were selected from various departments units of ATBU Teaching Hospital and Bauchi State Specialist Hospital. The workshop commenced with an overview of pain management services offered by the Anaesthesia department at ATBU Teaching Hospital. The first component of the workshop consisted of a series of short interactive lectures and group discussions to improve pain knowledge.

The second component of the workshop included a series of small group case discussions where the Recognise, Assess, Treat (RAT) method was used as a concept for the management of a variety of pain problems. The participants were able to discuss common and also difficult pain management scenarios using this method. The workshop ended with an interactive session to provide a simple approach for managing pain, identify pain management barriers and to address how to overcome these barriers.

Above: Participants of the EPM course held at Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University Teaching Hospital, Bauchi, Nigeria
Project Outline

There are many barriers to scientific research in anaesthesiology, and in settings where access to anaesthesia is limited, such as some low and middle income countries (LMIC), the challenges are even greater. Currently there are no centralised, readily accessible resources to serve as a starting point for anaesthesiologists undertaking clinical research, and no tools tailored for conducting clinical anaesthesia and critical care research in resource poor settings. This becomes a challenge for anaesthesiologists who cannot access the tools and training they need due to their geographic location, funding, or time constraints, and limits opportunities to conduct high quality research to apply into clinical practice.

To overcome some of these barriers, the WFSA Scientific Affairs Committee in partnership with the Centre for MEDICI (Medical Evidence, Decision Integrity, Clinical Impact) are developing the Global Anaesthesia Clinical Research Toolkits. These research toolkits will allow researchers anywhere in the world to access high quality resources, freely through the WFSA.

The project objective is to strengthen the competency and proficiency of researchers from LMIC’s in conducting high quality research by providing a WFSA ‘one-stop shop’ to help plan, develop, execute and publish research projects in the form of a web-accessed, text-based toolkit.

The research toolkit will include a primer on ‘Research Principles in Global Anaesthesia’ alongside modules and toolkits on aspects and stages of the research process to aid effective and efficient scientific research in anaesthesiology.

The concepts and key steps to be included in the Toolkit Modules have now been mapped out and resources to inform the key steps are being collated, including “top 5 things to know” for each step. A recent MSc(epi) graduate and an international MPH student from an LMIC have been hired to conduct the search for appropriate resources.

This summer, voluntary members from the WFSA Scientific Affairs committee and colleagues in LMICs will be enlisted to fully develop the drafted steps, and to test and refine the contents for relevance to LMICs.

An initial prototype is due to be released in draft this autumn; for continued feedback and refinement from LMIC users and WFSA members.

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<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Development of WFSA Global Anaesthesia Clinical Research Toolkits</th>
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<tr>
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<td>10 month period</td>
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<td>WFSA Scientific Affairs Committee</td>
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Project Title
Development of WFSA Global Anaesthesia Clinical Research Toolkits

Dates
10 month period

Committee
WFSA Scientific Affairs Committee
Conclusion

The 2017 Committee Project Funding supported a broad range of projects across WFSA programme focuses; Education and Training, Safety and Quality and Innovation and Research. There were workshops and courses in education for safe anaesthesia practice across different disciplines and through different methods, courses to ensure educators are equipped with the skills to foster meaningful learning, initiatives to advance safety and quality through learning from incident reporting as well as the development of toolkits to strengthen the competency and proficiency of researchers from LMIC’s to produce high quality research. The ability to demonstrate the positive impact of projects across all of these areas further equips WFSA with the evidence to advocate for the importance of scaling-up the anaesthesia workforce, achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and ensuring safe anaesthesia for all.

The WFSA would like to thank all of the committees and members who have continued to give their time and effort to ensure projects such as these can happen.