

# 4th Quarter Update 2020



## 2020 Success Stories

We asked our members, in a year that was dominated by one story, what are the great things, big or small, that you have accomplished?

And you told us! We heard from some of our largest member organizations and our smallest. We learned how the profession has responded to the biggest challenge this generation has faced.

We learned of innovative approaches to connecting with patients (Chile, Slovenia, Switzerland) of amped-up advocacy efforts (Canada, USA), of successful fundraising to support regulatory efforts (Australia), and of care provided to marginalized communities (Ireland, Portugal).

We learned of individual and local initiatives for the management of COVID (Japan, Switzerland), providing of educational courses for the public, naturopathic students and practitioners (Nepal, Spain) and of organized coordinated approaches that tackled issues at the national /international level.

Thank you to our members who responded, we truly appreciate your time. To read the complete reports, please click on the map.

## Committee Reports

### Education

The WNF is conducting a study to further understand the status of naturopathic education globally. Thanks to the support of the naturopathic educational institutions from around the world, we have almost completed the data collection stage and will begin the analysis in the next few months.

Please stay tuned for further updates. We will be asking members for feedback throughout the process.

### Membership

The membership committee has representatives from all world regions. The goal of increasing membership is part of the WNF Strategic plan 2019 - 2021. Our aim is 90 members, including 40 full members, 25 educational members and around 25 associate members and sponsors. Currently we are at 97% of our target with 35 full members, 23 educational members, 12 associate members, 7 non-profit sponsors and 10 corporate sponsors. See the full list [here](#).

### Rapid Reviews

The journal [Advances of Integrative Medicine](#) has graciously published the Rapid Reviews from the global naturopathic community in a special open-access edition. All WNF members have been sent hard copies of both the journal and the [White Paper on the Role of Naturopathy in a Pandemic](#) (currently available in 6 languages). Please let us know if you have not received your copies. We encourage you to share the Rapid Reviews with your local governments and others. Please check the [WNF COVID-19 Resources](#) section of our website.

### Communication

The last six months have been very active on Social Media. There were a total of 286 posts in our three social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) that reached over 130,000 people. Our focus was promoting survey participation as well as research in relation to the pandemic. We informed the public about the naturopathic profession's role of health promotion and community education. Our latest initiative is sharing member's stories about their champions and initiatives. Please [send us](#) your highlights to share with the wider international community.

### Research

The WNF has conducted or assisted with five surveys on the global naturopathic profession over the last couple of years. Thanks to the participation of naturopathic practitioners and WNF members we completed surveys:

- on [naturopathic practice](#)
- on [naturopathic journals](#)
- analyzing the naturopathic community clinics around the world
- the essential role that naturopathic practitioners play in community education
- and knowledge mobilization outlining the types used by naturopathic practitioners around the world

All of these surveys help the WNF promote and advance the naturopathic profession globally. Thank you again to all that participated. We will let you know when the other surveys are published.

### Environmental

The Environmental Health committee is gearing up to launch its website the third week of January 2021. This website features environmental risk factors, a place where you can learn about pollutants, where they come from, how they affect you, and how you can protect yourself.

This two-year project is an in-depth opportunity to learn from naturopathic practitioners and researchers throughout the world about how we all are affected by pollutants. This website will serve as an additional resource to the animated video introduction to pollutants that affect our daily lives.

If you would like to join our team, or have an interest in environmental health, please [contact us](#).

## Health Technology Assessment (HTA)

The Health Technology Assessment (HTA-naturopathy) continues to be another main focus of the WNF Research Group. We would like to thank the 30 volunteers that have dedicated their time to analyze naturopathic papers and to write specific chapters for the HTA. Our goal is to have the first draft completed by early summer. Stay tuned for updates. For more information on the HTA, [please check out the website](#).

## Thank you to our 100+ volunteers

From the WNF's inception, volunteers have propelled our success in furthering the advancement of the global naturopathic profession. In the past year alone, over 100 volunteers donated their time and expertise to our Board, Committees, and working groups. Despite the world-wide chaos in 2020, the WNF accomplished a great deal with the aide of this dedicated group. Thank you all very much! If we overlooked your name please help us keep [this page](#) up-to-date by sending an [email](#).

