



STUDENTS
FOR

GLOBAL
HEALTH

IMPACT REPORT

2023 / 2024

Summary

Students for Global Health is a network of students across the country advocating for our vision of health equity for all. We believe global health is a local issue and we offer a platform to amplify youth voices, through our branches across the country and our membership in international networks.

This year, in line with our 2022-2026 Strategy, we have strived to re-engage our members and alumni and offer them a breadth of opportunities. We have hosted two national conferences, one organised by our national committee and the other held by our branch at the University of Newcastle. In addition, we have strengthened our ties with existing partner organisations such as MedAct, AfGH and Stop Aids, and developed new partnerships including one with The Electives Network and the Medical School's Council Elective Committee.

This year's General Elections were pivotal in the UK political landscape and the push for global health equity. We believe in the important role that young people can play as drivers of change. Therefore, we gathered students from across the country on our National Working Group campaigns, and advocated for equitable access to digital health, climate change mitigation, and health system strengthening in face of future pandemics.

As a national committee, we are incredibly proud of the work we have achieved and hope to continue building on this in years to come.

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Vision

Students for Global Health advocates for global health equity. We foster the power of the youth to call on the UK government to develop policies and use its position on the global stage to champion equitable access to healthcare.

Global health equity is the backbone of our 2022-2026 Strategy, which outlines three key areas of focus:

Policy, advocacy,
and campaigning

Global health
education and
student
engagement

Partnership with
global health
and social justice
organisations

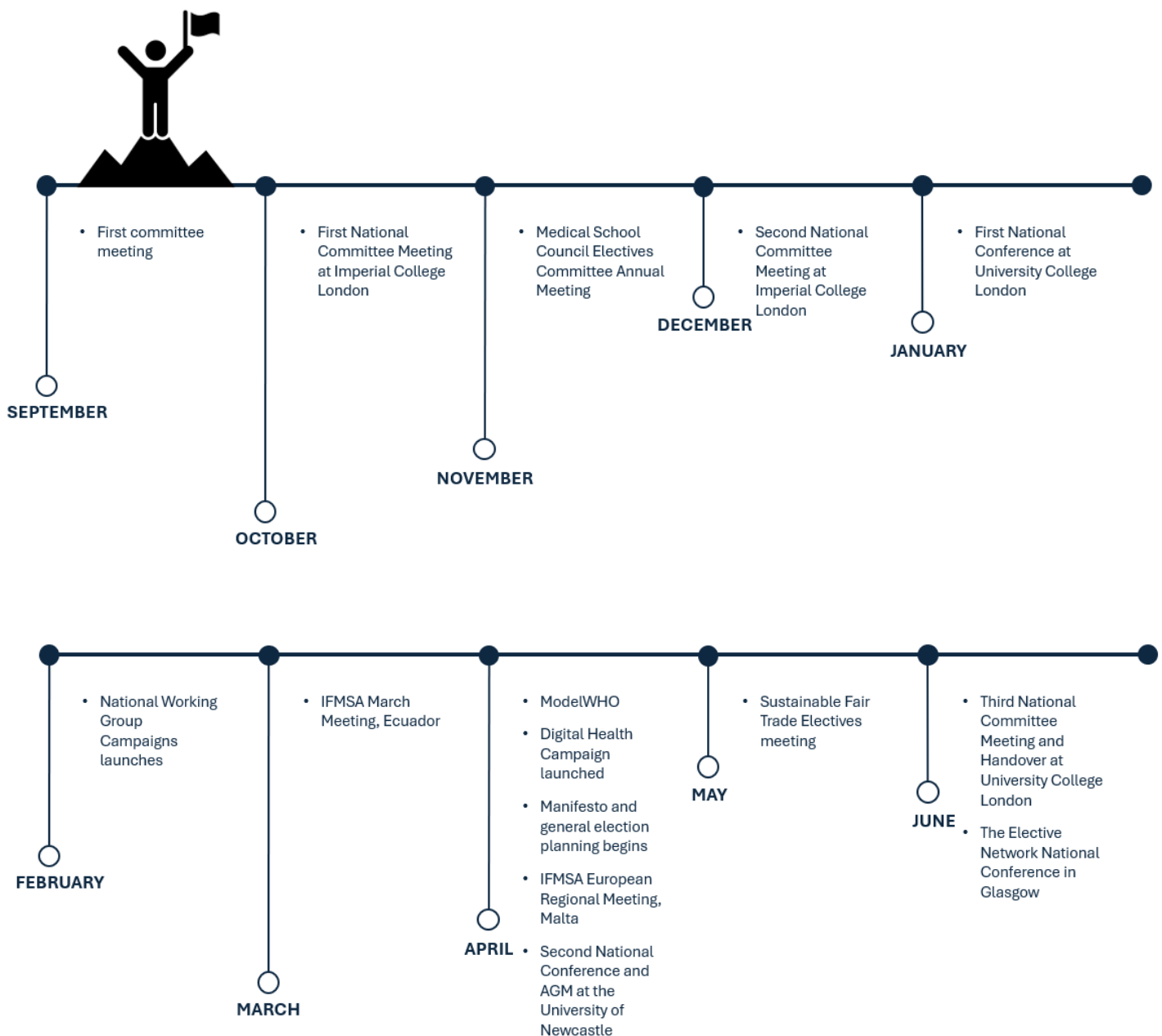
As a UK-based organisation, we are aware of our privileged position and the need to actively decolonise all activities and discourses, especially as we advocate for the rights of communities who face global inequities and injustices.



Year in review

We believe that global health is a local issue. As a network, Students for Global Health runs events and engages decision-makers both nationally and at branch level. Some milestones this year include:

National Committee Events:



Branch Events:

Throughout the year, our local branches also host events on a local and regional levels, at their universities and local area. This year, we had a huge range of events organised by both our existing, and incoming branches. Some notable events included:

- **Cardiff University:** short course on LGBTQ+ accessible healthcare
- **University of Dundee:** panel on “How to Organise an Elective?”
- **University of Edinburgh:** “Medical Neutrality and Healthcare in Palestine” speaker event
- **Hull York Medical School:** quiz night in collaboration with Friends of MSF society
- **University of Sheffield:** “Decolonising Medicine” speaker event
- **St George’s University of London:** Global Health and Conflict Hackathon, in collaboration with SfGH University College London, Student Med Aid and Friends of MSF Imperial College London.
- **University of Warwick:** “Health in Gaza Under Occupation” speaker event
- **Imperial College London:** co-organised with LonWHO a model WHO, a simulation of a WHO General Assembly on Digital Health



Impact

POLICY, ADVOCACY, CAMPAIGNS

National Working Group
Campaigns launched
Policy paper on digital health
and gender
2024 General Elections
Manifesto and toolkit
7 campaigns workshops
Multiple representations on
working groups, roundtables,
and other conferences



EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS

Memorandum of Understanding
signed with STOPAIDS and Royal
Society of Tropical Medicine and
Hygiene

Multiple collaborations with
Action for Global Health,
MedAct, the Electives Network

GLOBAL HEALTH EDUCATION

2 national conferences (35-99
tickets sold) in Newcastle and
University College London
Academic posters presentation
Co-organised the ModelWHO
(Imperial branch)
Multiple workshops including EDI





UK NETWORK

21 branches

5 new branches, including 1 in a non-medical school

National membership introduced

Alumni working group launched

16 new alumni registered



International

Represented the UK at the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) March Meeting (Ecuador, online), European Regional Meeting (Malta), and August Meeting (Finland)



GOVERNANCE

18 members recruited for the 24/25 NC

25% of the new NC are non-medics

3 in-person NC meetings

3 trustees recruited

2022-2026 Strategy launched, implemented, and reviewed

As a member-led network, Students for Global Health evolves thanks to the feedback of members. Here is some of the feedback that we have received:

This was honestly one of the best conferences I've attended, the discussions that took place were so inspiring and stimulating.
(UCL Conference)

The conference presented a diverse range of fascinating topics and left me feeling both empowered and inspired to make changes
(UCL Conference)

The team are so so welcoming and accommodating, everything ran so smoothly and was really well organised. The content of all workshops and lectures was really really high quality and engaging (and this is definitely not always the case so well done!)
(Newcastle Conference)

Finances

This section accounts for the income and main activities expenditure of Students for Global Health national teams and excludes that of branches. This is because most branches are affiliated to - and thus report their finances to - Students Unions.

Income

● Grants	£	9,576
● Conference tickets	£	834
● Individual donations	£	579
●		
Reserves	£	5,481
Total	£	16,470



Expenditure

● IFMSA	£	2,766
● Transportation	£	1,775
● Events and conferences	£	1,245
●		
Marketing and design	£	1,176
Misc. (IT, etc.)	£	783
Total	£	7,745



We currently benefit from two grants, from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Fondation Botnar. These grants enable us to employ a full-time Coordinator, a role hosted by STOPAIDS.

BILL &
MELINDA
GATES
foundation

f o n d a t i o n
BOTNAR

Partnerships and Collaborations

Students for Global Health is part of wide networks of partnerships, and collaborates with various organisations, some of which are listed below.



Action for
Global Health
(AfGH)

We are an active member of the AfGH network, which advocates for health equity. We amplify AfGH advocacy and vice-versa, actively participate in AfGH working groups, and sit on AfGH Steering Committee. Other members of AfGH spoke at our conferences, including MSF UK, the Leprosy Mission, ONE UK, World Vision.



STOPAIDS

STOPAIDS hosts both the Coordinator role and our grants. We collaborated closely with STOPAIDS during our digital health and women campaign.



Royal Society of
Tropical
Medicine and
Hygiene
(RSTMH)

Between 2012 and 2020, SfGH and RSTMH sustained a partnership that materialised in joint events among others. In April 2024, this relationship was renewed.



The Electives
Network

The Electives Network supports students in planning ethical, and engaging electives. We developed this partnership this year, and SfGH and TEN have collaborated on various events, with both organisations holding stalls and talks at the other's national conferences.



International
Federation of
Medical
Students'
Associations

The IFMSA is one of the world's oldest and largest student-run organisations and represents medical students worldwide. The SfGH is the UK representative of the IFMSA and SfGH members regularly have the opportunity to attend IFMSA General Assemblies, conferences and training events.

Challenges and Lessons Learned

Challenges we faced	How we responded	What we learned
Students can face financial challenges that hinder their attendance to conferences, especially from branches far from London	The National Committee offered support for branch travel expenses through an application process, and assisted three branches in attending the UCL conference	The National Committee includes a budget for branch expenses in funding applications to help remove financial barriers
Giving speakers a time that suits them at a conference, and avoiding time changes	The speakers were kindly flexible and supportive throughout the changes	The National Committee will develop a process to establish speakers' availability as soon as possible, and be transparent about potential time changes.
All volunteers on national working groups are students. Although they are highly committed, balancing with academic deadlines can be challenging	Roles and responsibilities were established early in the campaign, and its lifecycle was broken down in phases, themselves divided in weekly sub-phases. Volunteers' availability was established early in the process, and the plan regularly updated accordingly	Activities whose planning acknowledges the time capacity of volunteers and gets updated accordingly are most likely to be successful. The National Committee is developing a consistent management system for all its projects
Collecting feedback can be challenging, especially if attendees are experiencing "feedback fatigue" from everyday solicitations	A system to collect informal feedback was established, and formal feedback channels were simplified. Incentive was offered to participants	Merchandise can be a strong incentive to provide feedback, feedback form should be stripped of unnecessary questions

Next year

After a very successful past year, our new national committee is incredibly excited to continue building on the work of last year. Our plans for the upcoming year include:

- Continuing to support our branches, who make up our network, and expanding our network to include more universities
- Holding the UK's first Sub-Regional Training since 2017 in January, which will offer attendees an opportunity to benefit from peer-education methods, and be trained as trainers.
- Hosting 2 national conferences which will be organised and hosted by our local branches
- Developing opportunities for alumni to stay involved
- Celebrating 30 years of SfGH in 2025 with a celebratory evening, offering members the opportunity to network and be inspired.

Contact

Students for Global health

167-169 Great Portland St

London W1W 5PF

info@studentsforglobalhealth.org

@WeAreSfGH

Charity number: 1111824



www.studentsforglobalhealth.org