Global Presence
2018 Annual Report
IDF Global Presence: Strategic Aims

- Improving the health outcomes of people with diabetes
- Preventing the development of type 2 diabetes
- Stopping discrimination against people with diabetes
IDF campaign in the run-up to the UN High Level Meeting on NCDs

During 2018, the main IDF advocacy campaign revolved around the UN High Level Meeting (HLM) on NCDs which took place in New York on September 27, and was attended by an IDF delegation. The HLM 2018 was the most important political meeting on diabetes and other NCDs since 2014.

As part of our HLM year-long campaign, IDF developed many advocacy resources to inform the development of national advocacy campaigns in support of the IDF global call to action – including an advocacy toolkit, a template letter for policymakers, and a call to action leaflet. These documents were distributed to the IDF network (national diabetes associations and members of the Young Leaders in Diabetes and Blue Circle Voices networks), who were encouraged to use them in national advocacy initiatives. The IDF network was particularly active on the #HLM2018 selfie campaign that IDF launched to promote the priorities of people living with diabetes on social media.

The meeting resulted in a Political Declaration outlining the way forward in combating NCDs. On a statement launched at the beginning of the HLM, IDF welcomed several aspects of the Political Declaration and regretted some notable omissions. In October, IDF organised a consultation to assess the support of its networks to the HLM Political Declaration and the statement IDF had prepared to highlight its gaps. 78 BCV and YLD members participated in this survey, 91% of whom fully agreed with the IDF statement.

After the HLM, IDF analysed the Political Declaration and prepared a detailed response, which proposes solutions to the main gaps identified.
Online advocacy on key international dates

In 2018, IDF continued raising awareness and advocating for better diabetes care on occasion of key international days including:

• World Obesity Day
• International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
• Universal Children’s Rights Day
• World Mental Health Day
• World Refugee Day

As on previous years, IDF organised social media campaigns on occasion of two of the most important global economic fora: the G7 Leaders’ Summit and G20 Leaders’ Summits.

The objective of these campaigns was to raise awareness of the economic impact of diabetes and request the G7 and G20 governments to adopt cost-effective measures to improve the lives of future generations.
Global Coalition for Circulatory Health

In 2017, IDF joined the Global Coalition for Circulatory Health. The leadership of the coalition is comprised of organisations in official relations with WHO and with an interest in heart disease and stroke.

On 22 May, the coalition held a side event at the 71st World Health Assembly to advocate for circulatory health and hypertension control in universal health coverage for the estimated one billion people who live with raised blood pressure. The speakers proposed a path forward that puts patients and the health workforce at the centre, creates an enabling environment of training, education, information systems and sustainable financing, and mobilizes the political will to leave no one behind.

On September 25, just ahead of the HLM in New York, the Global Coalition launched a White Paper for Circulatory Health, which aims to present concrete actions across a range of areas (education, universal health coverage, access to medicines and technologies etc.) to advance circulatory health.

Hypo-RESOLVE

In 2017, IDF joined 22 partners from nine European countries and the US in Hypo-RESOLVE. With a €26.8 million budget, partly financed by the Innovative Medicines Initiative 2, this four-year project officially launched its activities on May 17-18, 2018. The project aims to better understand the underlying mechanisms of hypoglycaemia, define predictors and consequences of hypoglycaemia and calculate its cost in European countries, with the ultimate objective of achieving better treatments for people living with diabetes. The project is organised around eight work packages. More information on each one of the work packages can be found here.

IDF leads the project’s Patient Advisory Committee (PAC), alongside JDRF and Novo Nordisk. The PAC is an integral part of Hypo-RESOLVE and ensures that the voice of people living with diabetes is heard across all project components. The PAC held several face-to-face meetings with three work packages during EASD in Berlin in October, and in November in Amsterdam.
World Health Assembly side event

On May 22 2018, IDF organised a side event to the 71st World Health Assembly (WHA) focused on the potential of quality nutrition education, as part of the solution to overcome diabetes and obesity-related health challenges. The event also acted as a platform to showcase the latest developments of the IDF Kids and Diabetes in School (KiDS) project, a project that aims to foster a safe and supportive environment in schools for children with diabetes and encourage the adoption of good healthy habits from an early age.

The purpose of the event was to highlight the urgent need to tackle obesity in the school environment and expose current gaps in nutrition education to achieve global health targets, including a 0% increase in diabetes prevalence by 2025 and a reduction in diabetes-related premature mortality by 30% by 2030. Speakers at the event included:

- Prof Nam H Cho, IDF President
- Dr Francesco Branca, WHO Director of Nutrition for Health and Development
- Dr Taru Koivisto, director of Wellbeing and Services at the Finnish Ministry of Social Affairs and Health
- Dr Lawrence Haddad, Executive Director of the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
- Dr Monika Arora, Health Promotion Director of Public Health Foundation India (PHFI)
- Dr Ophra Rebiere, Sanofi Vice President and Head of Corporate Social Responsibility
- Dr Tatjana Milenkovic, President of the Macedonian Diabetes Association
- Ms Paula Chinchilla, nutritionist and member of the IDF Blue Circle Voices and Young Leaders in Diabetes networks

The event, which was attended by some 90 WHA delegates, received very positive feedback – especially on the participation of a young person living with diabetes, who spoke about her personal experience. More information about the event can be found here.
Diabetes in Humanitarian Settings

Around the world, **68.5 million people** are forcibly displaced. IDF estimates that **four million forcibly displaced people are living with diabetes** and need **uninterrupted access to medicines and care**. They also need **healthy food** and a **safe space to exercise**. Caring for diabetes becomes even more difficult when disaster strikes and people are forced to flee. In these difficult circumstances, people with diabetes often struggle to manage their condition and are at increased risk of **life-threatening complications**.

In May 2018, IDF launched **Preventing and Managing Diabetes in Humanitarian Settings**, a multi-stakeholder initiative whose **Steering Committee** includes representatives of WHO, UNWRA, ICRC, Santé Diabète and FHADIMAC. As part of this project, IDF is calling on national governments, international organisations and donor organisations, civil society and the private sector to:

- **Guarantee uninterrupted access to diabetes medication and care** for all displaced people with diabetes and integrate diabetes care as a key component of the humanitarian response.
- **Increase funding to strengthen health systems** in areas with a high burden of displaced populations.
- **Generate data through screening and monitoring programmes** to assess the exact burden of diabetes among forcibly displaced people.

37 organisations, including several IDF Members, signed a **pledge** supporting the project’s objectives.

**Deliverables** of this project to date include infographics, videos focused on the challenges for refugees to access diabetes care, and a social media campaign launched on the occasion of World Refugee Day 2018.

IDF also held meetings with government representatives from Lebanon, Jordan, Ethiopia, Canada and France, to present the project and discuss potential areas of collaboration.