

The Alliance for a Cavity-Free Future

Annual Review



2024 - 2025

1st April 2024 - 31st March 2025

Welcome from the Chief Executive Officer



Professor Nigel Pitts
Chief Executive Officer, Alliance
for a Cavity-Free Future

Throughout this Annual Review we share with you the achievements and highlights from the 12-month period ending 31st March 2025.

As ever, our network of international voluntary Chapters continued to expand the reach of ACFF globally and were very active in pursuing their own localised projects to increase the awareness and prevention of dental caries. On behalf of ACFF Global, I'd like to extend our thanks to the international network of Chapter volunteers who work diligently in their home countries, and on the international stage, towards the shared goal of achieving a cavity-free future. There is room for just a small snippet of the hard work and achievements of the ACFF Chapters to be captured in this Annual Review.

2024-25 saw further development of the ACFF Oral Health Policy Lab Network and we were delighted to be welcomed to Cape Town, South Africa in January 2025 for a Policy Lab focussing on Early Childhood Caries. This very successful Lab was the second country-level oral health Policy Lab hosted by ACFF, and the fifth in the series of Labs to-date. This highlights our continued development of the Policy Lab Network, as we work with national stakeholders to target country-specific oral health issues and help reduce the prevalence of the most common global non-communicable disease, dental caries.

We also had a busy year with our Advocacy Programme, participating in meetings ranging from the Organisation for Caries Research, the FDI World Dental Federation, the European Association for Dental Public Health, the American Public Health Association and the first-ever Global WHO Oral Health Meeting.

We'd like to thank all our international partners who fund, facilitate and cooperate with the work of the Alliance for a Cavity-Free Future. By bringing together stakeholders from across borders and sectors, we can take meaningful steps forward towards a cavity-free future.

Our Mission and Goals

The ACFF Goals are central to everything the organisation does. Striving to meet each individual aim moves us further towards achieving our stretch goal:

1

Every child born should stay cavity-free during their lifetime

2

ACFF and its Chapters will work towards ensuring that ninety percent of dental schools and dental associations accept the philosophy behind the “new” approach of “caries as a continuum” in order to improve dental caries prevention and management.

3

ACFF and its Chapters will work collaboratively with a broad range of organisations to achieve a reduction in caries inequality within and across countries, in the context of both oral and general health.

4

ACFF and its Chapters, members and partners should work to promote integrated, comprehensive and locally appropriate caries prevention and management systems and monitoring approaches.

To achieve these goals, we believe that global leaders, organisations and individuals– such as country and community leaders, health and dental health professionals, public policy and education communities, and the public – need to collaborate to learn more about caries and take the required action in order to influence change in behaviour, education and policy on a local, regional and global level. This is reflected in the ACFF Declaration, which our Chapters and Members sign up to:

Global collaborative action is needed to challenge global leaders and other stakeholders – including country and community leaders, health and dental health professionals, public policy and education communities, and the public – to learn the importance of caries as a disease continuum and to participate in action toward the delivery of comprehensive caries prevention and management that can positively influence the continuing problem of caries.

This action should:

- **Ensure that primary prevention with appropriate fluoride strategies are in place.**
- **Promote the preventive control of initial caries lesions through education to change human behaviour and the use of appropriate, evidence-based technologies.**

Year at a Glance



Partnerships

The ACFF has long-standing relationships with key global and regional organisations, as well as esteemed individuals from oral and public health settings:

- World Health Organisation (WHO)
- Global Collaboratory for Caries Management (GCCM) – which includes ACFF and:
 - i. International Caries Detection and Assessment System (ICDAS)
 - ii. International Caries Classification and Management System (ICCMS)
 - iii. CariesCare International (CCI)
- FDI World Dental Federation (FDI)
 - i. Chief Dental Officers and Dental Public Health Section (CDOs)
 - ii. Vision 2030 Implementation Group
 - iii. ACFF/FDI Annual Symposium
- European Association of Dental Public Health (EADPH)
- Organisation for Caries Research (ORCA)
- Platform for Better Oral Health in Europe (PBOHE)
- Latin American Oral Health Association (LAOHA)
- European Dental Hygienists Federation (EDHF)
- International Federation of Dental Hygienists (IFDH)
- International Association of Paediatric Dentistry (IAPD)
- International Association of Dental Students (IADS)
- European Dental Students' Association (EDSA)



Funding

ACFF Global extends its thanks to Colgate-Palmolive, who has been a funding partner since the organisation's inception in 2010. The unrestricted grants issued by Colgate-Palmolive enable ACFF Global to fulfil its global advocacy activities, develop the work of local Chapters and further grow the Policy Lab Network.



Chapters

ACFF's network of local Chapters spans 6 continents. Some of our Chapters share with us later in this Review their recent achievements and we are delighted to note in particular the consistent focus for activities to align with ACFF's objectives – in particular, incorporating cariology into teaching and promoting prevention, early diagnosis and non-invasive or minimally-interventive management of caries. Many Chapters are supported financially or with resources by Colgate-Palmolive.



Aligning on Best Practice

In September 2024 the joint ACFF/FDI Symposium at the World Dental Congress in Istanbul focussed on **Innovations in Essential Medicines: Bridging Clinical Practice and Public Health**. This Symposium was built around the recently introduced inclusion of preventive oral health products (Dental medicines and preparations) in the [WHO lists of Essential Medicines](#). It was chaired by the ACFF CEO and included presentations from Dr Yuriko Harada, WHO; Prof Rick Niederman, NYU College of Dentistry, USA; and Prof. Gerry Mckenna, Queen's University Belfast.



Multi-Stakeholder Network

At the close of 2024-25, ACFF had over 5,000 members. The ACFF Expert Panel met remotely due to funding restraints, which helped advise the direction and focus areas for ACFF in the next 12 months. The Pan-European Collaborative Council, supported by Colgate-Palmolive Europe, hosted its annual meeting and continued to foster a collaborative network of shared experience and insight from across Europe.



Governance Review

The organisational structure and Articles of Association of ACFF Global were reviewed with lawyers to ensure that they were up to date with charity law, aligned with changes to the long-standing funding contract with Colgate-Palmolive and could chart an appropriate way for founding Chair, Professor Nigel Pitts to continue with the charity post academic retirement. During this period, the formal partnership with King's College London, who previously hosted the ACFF Global office and directly employed ACFF staff also concluded.

Professor Nigel Pitts stood down as Chair after 13 years in post, to take up a senior consultancy role as Chief Strategy & Advocacy Officer – which was subsequently changed to Chief Executive Officer.

Professor Tim Newton was appointed as Chair, prior to standing down as a trustee of ACFF Global and handing over to incoming Chair, Professor Chris Vernazza.

Our thanks are extended to all current and former trustees for their hard work and shared vision for ACFF.



Looking Forward

ACFF will be working with its existing partners and funders, whilst also developing new funding relationships and strategic global partnerships, with a continued focus on building the Policy Lab Network and improving on global communications.

Global Advocacy

The ACFF was delighted to attend the following meetings and events throughout the 2024/25 Review year:

- **Organisation for Caries Research (ORCA)**

As part of the Global Collaboratory for Caries Management (GCCM), ACFF partners with the ICDAS Foundation. A full session was held at the 71st ORCA Congress in Heraklion, Crete on July 3rd 2004 on **ICDAS: 2004 and the future**. Nigel Pitts presented on **Context** and **ICDAS Evolution over 20 years**; Kim Ekstrand presented on **ICCMS - The International Caries Classification and Management System**; Stefania Martignon presented on **CCI – CariesCare International**; and Dom Zero moderated a lively open discussion session.

- **the FDI World Dental Federation**

In addition to the joint ACFF/FDI Symposium on **Innovations in Essential Medicines: Bridging Clinical Practice and Public Health** held at the World Dental Congress in Istanbul mentioned above, ACFF was invited to present to the FDI's Chief Dental Officers and Dental Public Health Section on: **ACFF Oral Health Policy Labs – How can these best assist the CDOs and DPH Section going forward?** on 11th September 2024. This presentation was well received and led to useful discussions with a range of Chief Dental Officers.

- **the European Association for Dental Public Health (EADPH)**

At this meeting – From plate to profit: the Commercial Determinants of Health – the transition to the new Special Interest Group (SIG) entitled **Moving Towards Translating Research into Policy – with Caries as an Exemplar** was held on October 3rd 2024. The meeting was a success and considered how best to build on previous evidence into policy-related activities, how to expand partnerships, maintain alignment with the WHO Global Strategy and Action Plan, prioritise the areas of focus for the SIG and consider what outputs are needed. The SIG in Chaired by Nigel Pitts (UK) and co-Chaired by Ilze Maldupa (Latvia) and links to the ACFF Policy Lab Network.



The FDI World Dental Federation



The American Public Health Association (APHA)



The first-ever Global WHO Oral Health Meeting – (Bangkok)

- **the American Public Health Association (APHA)**

ACFF, working with senior figures from the American Public Health Association convened a session at the Annual Meeting in Minneapolis on **Evolving the NCD Framework to a 6x6 Approach – Building Trust in Public Health and Science**. This was held on 26th October 2024. The Ex-Officio Member Executive Board; Chair and Intersectional Council of APHA - Padmini Murthy was Moderator. Nigel Pitts CEO of ACFF presented on **Why oral diseases and sugars fit the NCD Framework**; Eugenio Beltran, Collaborating Centre NYU presented on **Why it is timely and logical to include oral diseases and sugars: WHO in the NCD Framework**; Gopal Sankaran, Elected Member APHA Executive Board presented on **How do oral diseases and sugars fit the NCD framework: The challenges and solutions**; Kamiar Alaei, State University Long Beach presented on **A rights-based approach: Integrating HIV, human rights, and oral California health into the evolving NCD framework** and Alice Horowitz, APHA Public Health Oral Health Section & Member, ACFF Expert Panel, presented on **Using principles of health literacy to increase public understanding and trust: NCD Framework**.

- **The first-ever Global WHO Oral Health Meeting – (Bangkok)**

First ever Global Meeting on oral health at which combined WHO teams from Geneva and the Regional Offices, met with senior Ministers, as well as pairs of representatives from many countries (for each the Ministry, the lead on Universal Health Coverage/Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) working with the country's Chief Dental Officer or delegate). In addition, a cross-section of invited others from UN Agencies and Non-Governmental Organisations were also present. The meeting brought together 100 countries, including 12 health ministers, with representatives from 35 UN Agencies and non-State actors, totaling around 350 in-person participants – **ACFF was one of the invited NGOs**.

- **The United Nations Environmental Programme and WHO “GEF 7” group on Phasing-down the use of Dental Amalgam** (of which ACFF is a member) met on July 12th 2004 and again at the Bangkok Global WHO Oral Health Meeting. These meetings provided stewardship of the Programme and updates from participating Countries and organisations on progress in providing practicable solutions for three exemplar Counties as well as global advice on implementing the Minamata Treaty.

World Cavity-Free Future Day

On 14th October 2024, World Cavity-Free Future Day (#WCFday) celebrated its ninth anniversary with the “Brush Together, Smile Together” campaign.

This campaign focussed on encouraging adults to brush with their children, as research shows that children are more likely to brush their teeth when accompanied by a family member.

The day saw great engagement from around the world on social media and in particular, from the ACFF Chapters. This globally focussed attention for 24 hours on cavity prevention and children’s oral health helps push forward one of ACFF’s key goals: for every child to stay cavity-free for their lifetime.

#WCFday 2025 will be the tenth anniversary of this global awareness campaign.



Chapter Highlights

India

Chapter Lead: Professor Mahesh Verma

The India Chapter has focussed on a number of preventative activities and educational resources during the Review period including: pit & fissure sealant application, dental screening outreach, mobile dental clinics, oral hygiene instruction and the development of new Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials.

Their dental screening outreach programs screened over 2,000 patients across a variety of settings, with over 1,500 patients referred for further treatment.

Training and building capacity in healthcare teams has also been a priority, which included:

- A 2-day capacity building training programme for Doctors, with over 40 postgraduate students and senior residents engaged.
- A 1-day capacity building programme for nursing professionals, with around 100 nurses participating.

Additionally, the Chapter has acknowledged the ever-growing importance of social media in public engagement, especially with younger audiences. The network of Chapter members and partner organisations have been active throughout the Review year ensuring that the great work undertaken is being communicated to the public and more people are talking about oral health.

The India Chapter currently has 9 reports in the process of publication.



France-Belgium

Chapter Lead: Professor Jean-Louis Sixou

The France-Belgium Chapter has focussed on education, research and stakeholder engagement as priorities during the Review period.

At a national institutional level in France, this included the development of the “Generation Without Cavities” project and working with the Directorate General for Health on increasing the availability of fluoride toothpastes

At a national non-institutional level this included contribution to the development of the website of the French Association of Ambulatory Paediatrics and in Belgium, hosting a seminar on nutrition for paediatric dentistry residents at Université libre de Bruxelles in March 2025.

The France-Belgium Chapter published 25 papers: 9 in English and 16 in French.

Brazil

Chapter Lead: Professor Marcelo Bönecker

The Brazil Chapter focussed their efforts on 2 strategic fronts during the Review period:

- Leading the development of the Regional Declaration for Advancing Oral Health in Latin America and the Caribbean, with an operational highlight being the engagement with regional IADR/LAR leaders and oral health coordinators to develop three versions of the document, culminating in its submission for public consultation.
- Sustaining high impact social partnerships, including ongoing partnership with the Latin American Oral Health Association (LAOHA) and Colgate’s “Bright Smiles, Bright Futures” program.

Great progress has been made with the Regional Declaration for Advancing Oral Health in Latin America and the Caribbean during the Review period:

- First semester of 2024 was spent drafting the initial version.
- August 2024: The first version of the document was shared with the presidents of the National Sections of IADR in Latin America (IADR/LAR): Argentina, Brazil, Caribbean, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.
- September 2024: During the in-person IADR/LAR meeting, the document was broadly discussed and received important suggestions, resulting in the second version of the Declaration.
- March 2025: This second version was sent for review to the oral health coordinators of the same countries.
- To be covered in more detail in the 2025/26 Review period: in May 2025 a hybrid meeting was scheduled with the oral health coordinators during the FDI Latin America Meeting in Costa Rica, to incorporate their contributions into the document, and in June/July 2025 the third version of the declaration was generated and submitted to a public consultation across Latin America and the Caribbean.

With the public consultation process for the Regional Declaration well underway, the Brazil Chapter is positioned for a work cycle focused on the official launch of the document and the initiation of engagement with governments and policymakers for its implementation, ensuring the continuity of the path toward a cavity-free future.

The partnership with Colgate's "Bright Smiles, Bright Futures" program continued to be of great value in Brazil, as its oral health education initiatives and large-scale distribution of hygiene kits continued to prove essential to supporting the ACFF's vision of eradicating tooth decay as a public health problem. In the reporting period, over 100,000 children benefitted from the program through educational activities and oral hygiene kits.

Spain

Chapter Lead: Professor Teresa Almerich Torres

The Spain Chapter has focussed much of their efforts during the Review period on education, engagement with students and promotion of the WHO Global Oral Health Action Plan (GOHAP).

Among several activities arranged by the Chapter, one of note was an activity named "Promoting Oral Health at the University: An Interdisciplinary Approach," which was held as part of Oral Health Week during the XIX International Conference on Innovation in Oral Education at the European University of Madrid; engaging students from Dentistry, Nutrition and Oral Hygiene. The project featured workshops on hidden sugars in food and beverages, interactive booths, and the distribution of educational materials, engaging students from three disciplines. 436 responses to the activity survey provided valuable insights into oral hygiene and dietary habits within the university community.

Within the 2024-25 academic year, the University of the Basque Country updated the teaching content of the Paediatric Dentistry course to integrate a contemporary understanding of caries as a continuous process. This update incorporated prevention strategies, early diagnosis, and non-invasive management and was implemented thanks to the hard work of Virginia Franco; Chapter Member, President of the Spanish Society of Integrated Paediatric Dentistry, and Professor at the University of the Basque Country.





¡Cepíllate con Bruno!

Bruno sabe lo importante que es cepillarse los dientes cada día, por eso ha creado para ti este práctico calendario de cepillado, para que lleves la cuenta de cada vez que te cepillas los dientes.

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www.acffglobal.org

To further the reach of World Cavity-Free Future Day, the Chapter arranged for Spanish translation of all assets and widely shared the resources across social media, which included collaboration with the Spanish Society of Oral Public Health and Epidemiology (SESPO), the Spanish Society of Paediatric Dentistry, and the Spanish Society of Integrated Paediatric Dentistry. Additionally, to promote the campaign, the Spain Chapter Lead published an article about ACFF Global and the latest local advances and actions of the Spanish Chapter, in a national journal aimed at dentists and dental hygienists.

The Chapter has also been focussed on widely promoting the WHO Global Oral Health Action Plan, which thanks to Chapter members has been promoted at the XXIX SESPO National Congress, the European Summit on Oral Health in Primary Care, organised by SESPO, and the Spanish Federation of Dental Hygienists.

Education and training activities during the Review period included:



- Alongside SESPO, Chapter members organised and delivered specific online training courses to the teams of Oral Health Units – comprising dentists, dental hygienists, and nursing assistants – of the Public Health System in several autonomous communities (Castilla y León, La Rioja, and Aragón). The purpose of these courses was to facilitate the implementation of programs aimed at population groups such as children aged 0 to 6 years and adults over 65, promoting an approach to dental caries based on risk assessment and the principles of minimal intervention and maximum preservation of dental structures.
- A community initiative was led in the Valencia Region focused on patients with behavioural limitations, in collaboration with the Mental Health Unit of the Xirivella City Council. This initiative aimed to disseminate and implement health education on oral care for people with disabilities through talks and practical workshops on tooth brushing.
- As part of the 25th anniversary of the Paediatrics-Paediatric Dentistry Meeting, a course was held at the Faculty of Dentistry of the Complutense University of Madrid, addressing the latest advances in the treatment of caries in children and adolescents using minimally interventional techniques.
- Chapter members also engage as speakers and participants in webinars and activities, organised by the Latin American Association of Paediatric Dentistry.

Czech Republic

Chapter Lead: Professor Romana Koberova Ivancakova

The focus of the Czech Republic Chapter during the Review period has been on the preparation of accessible, informational resources and the hosting of professional webinars for dentists, physicians, nurses and dental students.

An informational brochure has been prepared for parents focussing on basic knowledge about the primary dentition and on how parents should care for their children's baby teeth. The emphasis of the brochure is placed primarily on measures aimed at preventing tooth decay in baby teeth. Parents are informed about the necessity of regular toothbrushing with a toothbrush and toothpaste containing an adequate amount of fluoride (according to EAPD recommendations), the risks associated with consuming foods and beverages high in sugar, and the importance of proper dietary habits. The role and effects of fluoride, as well as the need for its regular topical application, are explained in a clear, accessible manner.

"Dental Tuesdays" has been a key success during the Review period, with over 3,000 participants engaging in these professional webinars. Topics covered have included: the development of the oral microbiome in children and its relationship to ECC, the specifics of dental care for children with autism spectrum disorders and minimally invasive methods for treating dental caries in the primary dentition.

These activities complement the long-running Health Smile preventative program, which has been running since 1999 in the Czech Republic with the aim of improving the oral health of pre-school and school children based on the successful Swiss model of the Czech-Slovak-Swiss Medical Society. The program is based on educating children in the prevention of tooth decay and gingivitis, both theoretically (causes and prevention of tooth decay and gingivitis) and practically (training in proper tooth-brushing techniques using appropriate aids and applying a topical fluoride agent under the supervision of instructors). More than 2,000 children are currently involved in this project and the results achieved are very encouraging and approach the WHO goals for the 21st century in the field of oral disease prevention. The project has been supported for its full duration by the Gaba Company and Colgate-Palmolive.



Malaysia

Chapter Lead: Professor Rahimah Abdul Kadir

The Malaysia Chapter has had an exciting year, celebrating their 10-year anniversary and launching a reflective e-book: [ACFF Malaysia Chapter – A Decade of Excellence](#). Key focusses during the Review year include community service and the promotion of World Cavity-Free Future Day.

The Chapter was registered in 2022 as a Charity Organisation with the Malaysian Register of Societies, to help extend voluntary involvement and officialise the organisation/sustain continuity of management. The Chapter held their first executive committee election in November 2024.

Long-term partners of the Chapter include the Oral Health Program Ministry of Health Malaysia and the Malaysian Association of Dental Public Health Specialists, who work together to create a space of professional recognition in the nation through transfer of knowledge and empowering skills to domestic professionals, students, teachers, carers and the general public.

Community service has always been a primary activity of the Chapter and offers opportunities to collaborate with local communities and work with dental faculties to allow their clinical students to come along and increase their community engagement experience while still in tertiary education – the Malaysian dentistry curriculum have made it a requirement for field program to be compulsory for dental students prior to graduation. Community service activities include free oral health screening programs, oral health education, toothbrushing drills and field preventative work like fluoride varnish or fissure sealant applications under the supervision of registered academics.

“Think global but go local” has been the long-standing approach of the Malaysia Chapter for World-Cavity Free Future Day, hosting their own linked events that are tailored to the diverse Malaysian population. For the 2024 World Cavity-Free Future Day events started with a live podcast show with the Johore State Dental Division. It was moderated by local dentists Dr Nurliyana and Dr Muhammad Azim, with Prof Dr Rahimah as panel member. The show achieved more than 8,000 hits, confirming the importance of this tool in advocacy work.

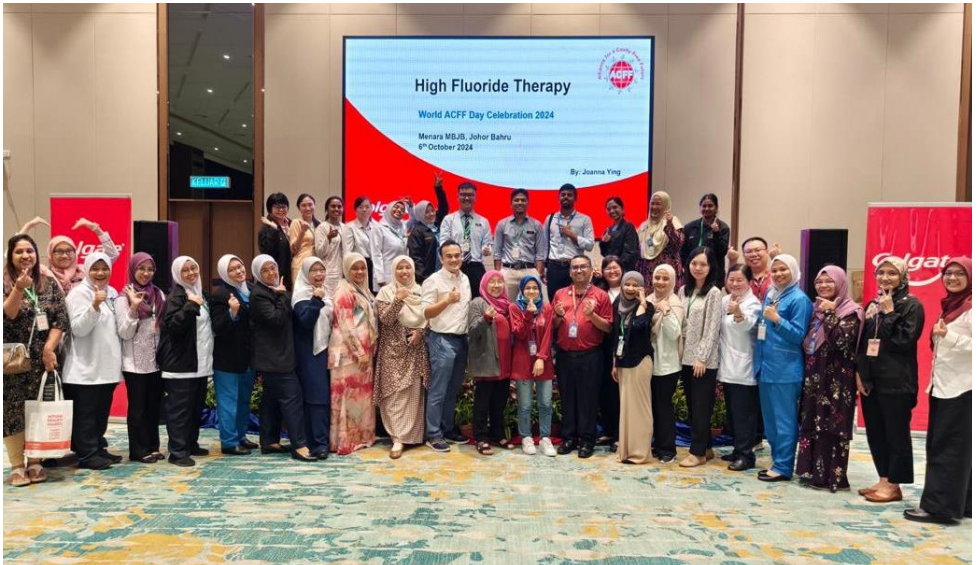
The main World Cavity-Free Future Day event was titled “STRONGER TOGETHER: Building Sustainable Partnerships towards a CAVITY FREE FUTURE for the vulnerable population!”, which featured educational forums, workshops, exhibitions, interactive activities and a Symposium titled: “Together We Can: Creating a World Where Everyone Has Access to Quality Oral Care” which included highly regarded





Malaysian speakers. The event concluded with an official closing by Honorable Mr Liang Tiang Soon, Chairman of Health and Environment, Johor State. The Malaysian Association of Dental Public Health Specialists, the Malaysian Association of Paediatric Dentistry, and the Malaysian Association for Disability and Oral Health all collaborated to achieve this successful event; supported by industrial partners and sponsors, Southern Lion and Colgate-Palmolive. More than 250 people attended.

Additionally, Chapter members were invited to collaborate (as speakers and judges for the Oral Presentation competition) with the Sibiu Dental Practitioners Association in their 1st Borneo Dental Conference 2024 on the theme "Transforming Oral Health Care in the Era of Health Reform".





South Africa Policy Lab

In late January 2025, South Africa became the second of the Oral Health Policy Lab Network's Exemplar Countries. The Global ACFF Team, in conjunction with a local Steering Committee, ran a lab in Cape Town, facilitated by Professor Nigel Pitts and Ross Pow, aiming to answer the question:

Building on the best available evidence and practice, how can a small number of innovative pilots, focused on measurable impact in caries prevention and care for those aged 0-6, be designed and implemented with a view to sustainable national rollout?

Recognising the breadth of the long-standing problems around Early Childhood Caries (ECC) in South Africa, this lab brought together: dental academics; government staff from national, provincial and district levels; educators and health educators; representatives of Associations for dentists, dental therapists and hygienists; and more. The results of this lab can be found in the March 2025 found here: [Towards a Cavity-Free Future for Infants and Children in South Africa](#). The recommendations propose three Pilots for immediate progress and four cross-cutting enabling actions.

Throughout 2025, ACFF Global are continuing its work with the South Africa Policy Lab and continue to support implementation of the Policy Lab report – which will be covered in the following Review.

Published Report – November 2024

[Inequalities in oral health: estimating the longitudinal economic burden of dental caries by deprivation status in six countries](#) by Gerard Dunleavy, Neeladri Verma, Radha Raghupathy, Shivangi Jain, Joao Hofmeister, Rob Cook, Marko Vujicic, Moritz Kebschull, Iain Chapple, Nicola West and Nigel Pitts. BMC Public Health. 2024 Nov 21;24(1):3239. doi: 10.1186/s12889-024-20652-0.

Background: The recent World Health Organization (WHO) resolution on oral health urges pivoting to a preventive approach and integration of oral health into the non-communicable diseases agenda. This study aimed to: 1) explore the healthcare costs of managing dental caries between the ages of 12 and 65 years across socioeconomic groups in six countries (Brazil, France, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, UK), and 2) estimate the potential reduction in direct costs from non-targeted and targeted oral health-promoting interventions.

Conclusion: Our exploratory analysis shows the disproportionate economic burden of caries in the most deprived groups and highlights the significant opportunity to reduce direct costs via levelling-up preventive measures. The healthcare burden stems from a higher baseline caries experience and greater annual progression rates in the most deprived. Therefore, preventive measures should be start early, with a focus on lowering early childhood caries and continue through the life course.

Additionally, a large number of reports have been published around the world by ACFF Chapter members.

Impacts flowing from the Advocacy Programme

- **Organisation for Caries Research**, the Symposium around the evolution and development of the ICDAS, ICCMS and CCI trilogy was very useful in demonstrating the multiple facets of the work of the ICDAS Foundation over the last 20 years, informed many younger researchers about the four domains of ICDAS, has led to a re-structuring of the website and stimulated a scientific communication in Caries Research.
- **the FDI World Dental Federation**, the presentation to the Chief Dental Officers and Dental Public Health Section has led to further impact from the ACFF Policy Lab Network. The presentation and the ACFF Policy Lab Reports are available to all 192 CDOs on their website. The ACFF/FDI Symposium on Essential Medicines informed some elements of the South Africa Policy Lab and also new plans for the UK Chapter of ACFF.
- **the European Association for Dental Public Health**, the transition to the new Special Interest Group was very helpful in expanding the impact of the Policy Lab Network and starting new discussions amongst representatives of multiple organisations about more systematic collaborative action in the field of translating evidence into policy in Europe as well as Globally.
- **the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting** – the integrated session on Evolving the NCD Framework to a 6x6 Approach – Building Trust in Public Health and Science highlighted the importance of oral health in the wider NCDs agenda and Public Health per se. It also helped prepare the ground for some of the excellent discussions at the Bangkok Global WHO Oral Health Meeting and the incorporation of Oral Health into the UN's subsequent Declaration on NCDs.

- **The first-ever Global WHO Oral Health Meeting** – As a result of this meeting, 3 important outcomes were achieved which will generate global impact:
 - Adoption of the Bangkok Declaration: No Health Without Oral Health
 - Development of national oral health roadmaps
 - Laying the foundations of the Global Coalition on Oral Health
- **The United Nations Environmental Programme and WHO “GEF 7” group on Phasing-down the use of Dental Amalgam (of which ACFF is a member)** – As a result of these meetings and the Programme:
 - A range of resources have been developed to assist Countries in practical ways to implement the recommendations of the Minamata Treaty.
 - The Programme has also been responsible for the new WHO Guideline on environmentally-friendly and less invasive oral health care for preventing and managing dental caries – which will have a profound impact on the way that dental caries will be managed through promoting a more preventive focus and minimally interventive approach.

Closing comments



Professor Chris Vernazza
Chair of The Alliance for
a Cavity-Free Future

As current Chair of The Alliance for a Cavity-Free Future, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our partners and Chapters around the world for their unwavering commitment to our shared mission. Your collaboration, expertise, and dedication continue to drive meaningful progress in improving oral health and health prospects for communities globally. Together, we are moving closer to a cavity-free future for all.

On behalf of the Board of ACFF Global, I confirm that this report is a true and accurate record of the year's activities and achievements.

Collaborating Organisations

ACFF Global would like to thank all our collaborating partners. Without their support and hard work, achieving a cavity-free future would be impossible.



LAOHA



EDHF
European Dental
Hygienists Federation



IFDH
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS



EADPH



ORCA
European
Organisation for
Caries Research



fdi Section
Chief Dental Officers/
Dental Public Health



ICDAS
FOUNDATION
International Caries Detection and Assessment System



ICCMS™
CARIES MANAGEMENT



caries care
INTERNATIONAL



GCCM
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working with ICDAS Foundation and ACFF




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If you wish to connect with any of ACFF's local Chapters or contact ACFF Global, please reach out: admin@acffglobal.org.

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