

Nursing Now Challenge **UPDATE REPORT**

December 2025

Nursing Now
CHALLENGE



a programme of The Burdett Trust for Nursing

NURSING NOW CHALLENGE - OVERVIEW



The Nursing Now Challenge is a global network, a vibrant community of more than **250,000** student and early-career nurses and midwives from **156** countries that facilitates **connection, collaboration** and supports **personal and professional leadership development**.

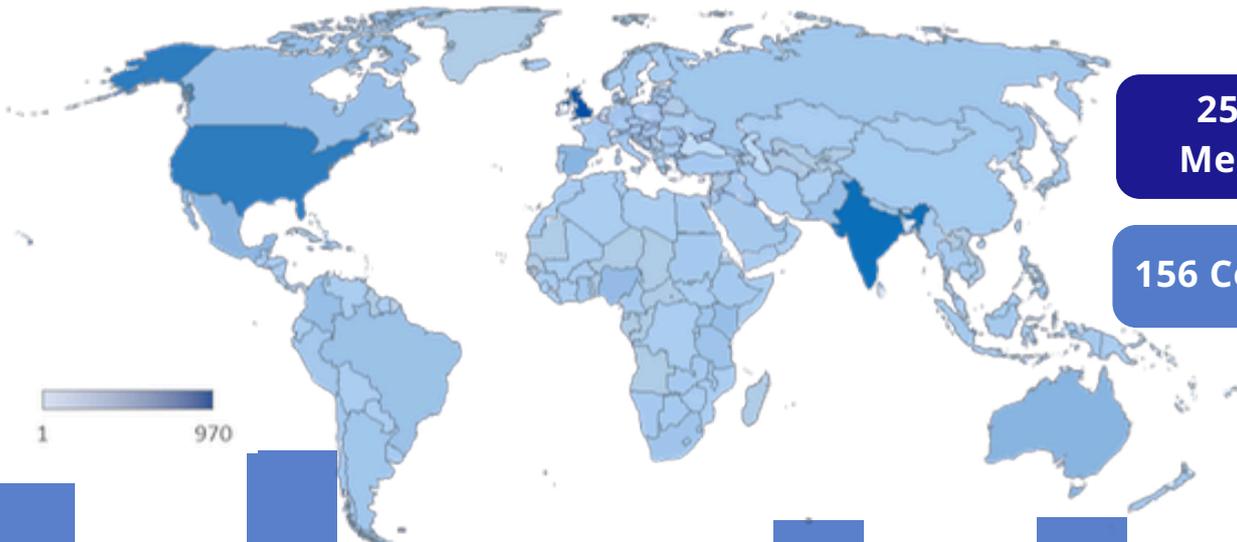
Membership to this network is free and provides access to a **vast programme of events, activities, and accredited courses** in response to the needs of **student and early-career nurses and midwives around the world**.

We provide opportunities for our members to thrive by empowering them to unlock their potential, **elevating their position for influence, change and impact**.

IN THIS REPORT YOU WILL FIND...

- Latest membership data
- Activities update
- Upcoming activities, events and initiatives

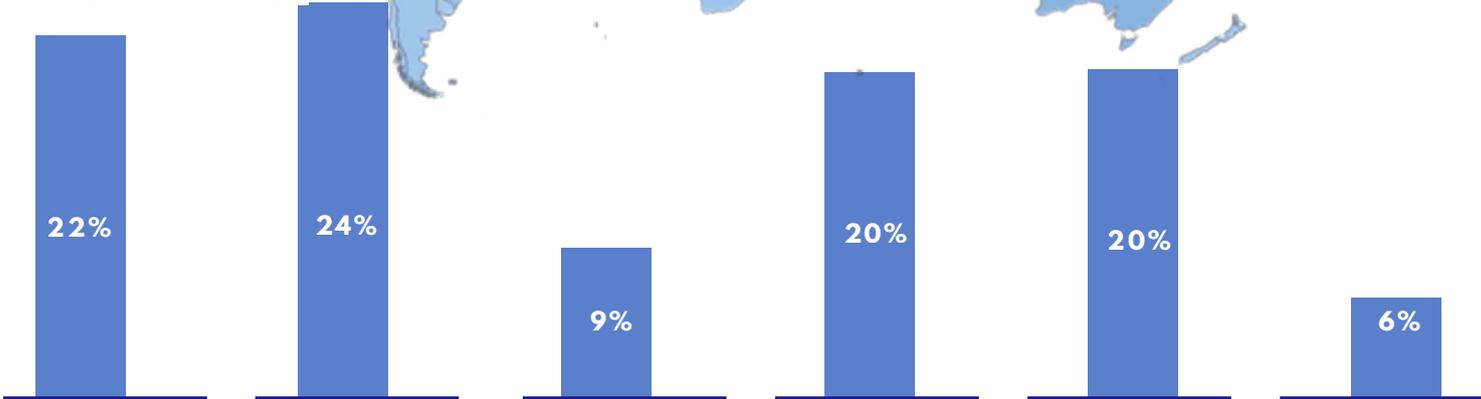
September - December 2025



**254,642
Members**

156 Countries

1 970



AFRICA

- Algeria
- Botswana
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cameroon
- Congo
- DR Congo
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Gambia
- Ghana
- Guinea
- Ivory Coast
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mauritius
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Nigeria
- Rwanda
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Sudan
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

AMERICAS

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Bermuda
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- Canada
- Cayman Islands
- Chile
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- El Salvador
- Grenada
- Guatemala
- Haiti
- Honduras
- Jamaica
- Mexico
- Nicaragua
- Panama
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Saint Lucia
- St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- Suriname
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Uruguay
- USA
- Venezuela

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

- Afghanistan
- Bahrain
- Egypt
- Iran
- Iraq
- Jordan
- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- Libya
- Morocco
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Somalia
- Tunisia
- UAE
- Yemen

EUROPE

- Albania
- Andorra
- Armenia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Faroe Islands
- Finland
- France
- Georgia
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Israel
- Italy
- Kazakhstan
- Kosovo
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Moldova
- Netherlands
- Northern Ireland
- Norway
- Palestine
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania

SOUTH EAST ASIA

- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- India
- Indonesia
- Maldives
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- Sri Lanka
- Thailand

- Russia
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Turkey
- UK
- Ukraine

WESTERN PACIFIC

- Australia
- Brunei Darussalam
- Cambodia
- China
- Japan
- Korea
- Malaysia
- Micronesia
- Mongolia
- New Zealand
- Papua New Guinea
- Philippines
- Samoa
- Singapore
- Solomon Islands
- South Korea
- Taiwan
- Tonga
- Vietnam

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

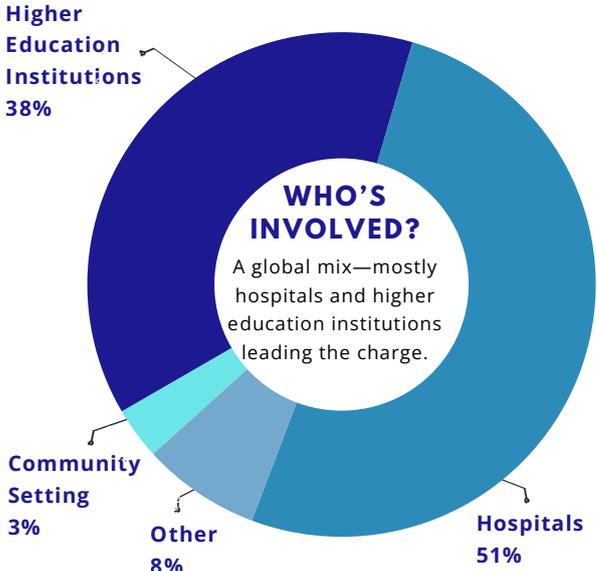
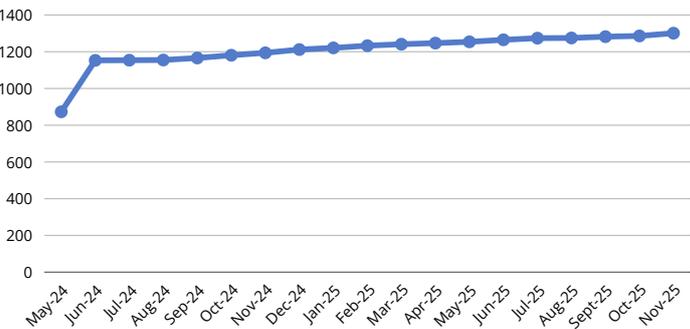
Our Member Organisations are amplifying the impact of the Nursing Now Challenge - sharing knowledge, sparking opportunities, and building a stronger, more connected future for the next generation of nursing and midwifery leaders.

1,301 MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

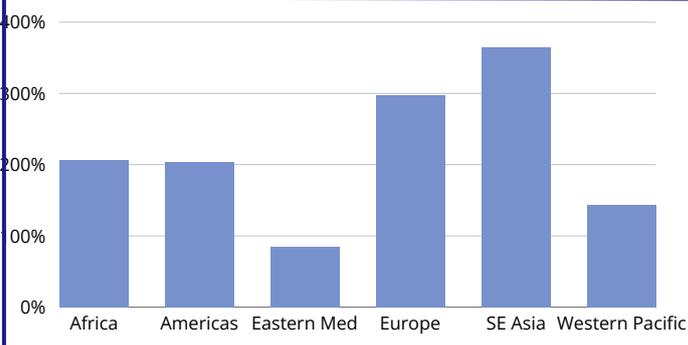
CONNECTING US WITH **249,096** STUDENT & EARLY-CAREER NURSES AND MIDWIVES

STEADY GROWTH

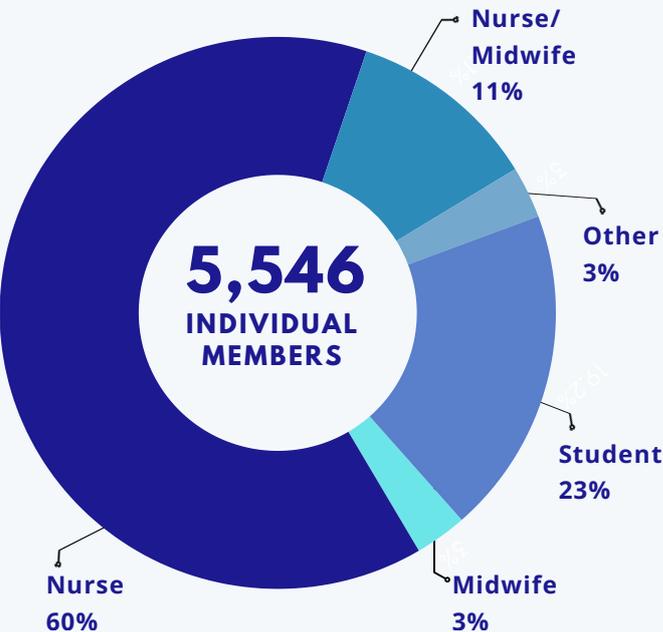
Membership has grown consistently over the past year, reflecting increased global engagement.



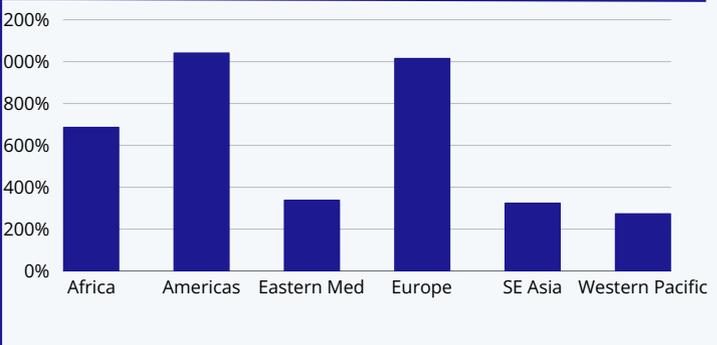
REGIONAL SPREAD OF MEMBER ORGANISATIONS



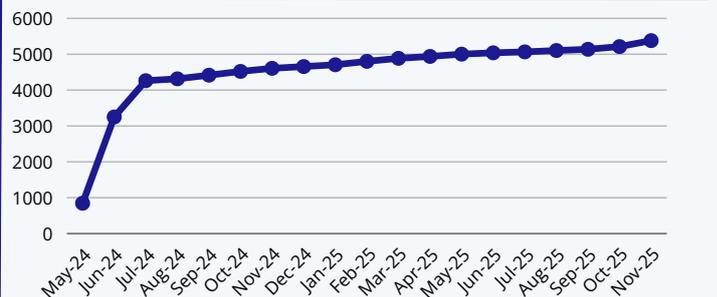
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS



REGIONAL SPREAD OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS



STEADY GROWTH



ACTIVITIES

2nd October

SoWN dissemination webinar with Dr Carey McCarthy

Engage, Empower, Act⁷

Nursing Now
CHALLENGE
A programme of the Burdett Trust for Nursing

2nd October, 1:30pm BST

From evidence to action:

Disseminating the State of the World's Nursing report & advancing policy dialogue, with WHO's Dr Carey McCarthy



On 2nd October we held a webinar with WHO's **Dr Carey McCarthy** and **Dr Bruna Moreno** to explore the ways in which student and early-career nurses can actively engage with the **State of the World's Nursing report** to ensure that it drives meaningful change for the nursing profession and health systems worldwide.

[Watch the recording here.](#)

10th October

Launch of Health Action Training, *Take A Breath* sessions



We launched a new initiative in partnership with the Health Action Training team to run short, **Take A Breath sessions** every Friday at 1pm to encourage our members to take a pause to promote their wellbeing, explore their sense of self, and reduce their stress. Health Action Training uses a wide variety of techniques, including arts-based practices, to promote self care.

10th October

Global Book Club with Professor Julia Downing

On 10th October we held a special **Global Book Club session with Professor Julia Downing**, to explore the key themes in her book [Children's Palliative Care Nursing](#) and mark [#HatsOn4CPC Day](#).

Three members of the Challengers' Committee members lead the discussion:

- CJ Nwasike, UK
- Shazia Ali, Pakistan
- Andres DeJuan Ortega, Spain. [Watch the recording here.](#)

ACTIVITIES

17th October

Farewell to Professor Aisha Holloway

In October, Professor Aisha Holloway stepped down from her role as Programme Director to take up the prestigious position of Chief Nursing Officer for Scotland. Aisha will continue to be involved in the development of the Nursing Now Challenge as she joins the Nursing Now Challenge Advisory Board.

24th October

Professor Gemma Stacey appointed as the new Programme Director of the Nursing Now Challenge

Professor Gemma Stacey was selected as the new Programme Director of the Nursing Now Challenge and will begin her role in **early December**. Professor Stacey was selected from a very strong field of applicants following a competitive recruitment process, reflecting the outstanding calibre of leadership and commitment within the global nursing community. [Read more here.](#)

6th November

Members of the Challengers' Committee join Clare Cable at the RCNi, Nursing Live event



Hazel Vera Tan, Challengers' Committee Western Pacific Regional Hub Lead and Hassan Hussain, Challengers' Committee member joined Clare Cable at the **RCNi's Nursing Live** event to present the Nursing Now Challenge and discuss their **global vision for nursing**.

Hassan shared his experiences through [this blog](#) which was recently published on the Nursing Now Challenge website.

ACTIVITIES

19th November

New NNCESI launched in collaboration with the AMR Futures Lab, University of Edinburgh

In collaboration with the new [AMR Futures Lab at Edinburgh Futures Institute \(EFI\)](#), we have launched a new [Nursing Now Challenge Global Solutions Initiative](#) to empower nurses and midwives around the world to take action on antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Through this challenge, participants are invited to design an innovative, nurse/midwife-led AMR project that can be implemented in their workplace or community. The initiative aims to spotlight the critical role nurses and midwives play in infection prevention, and antimicrobial stewardship, in the advancement of sustainable health solutions. [Watch the launch webinar here.](#)

1st December

Launch of new podcast, Grassroots

We have launched our new podcast, *Grassroots*. This is a podcast that amplifies the voices of student and early-career nurses and midwives, driving change from the ground up. Each episode shares stories of **innovation, leadership, and resilience** from nurses and midwives around the world – from community-led health initiatives to pioneering research and advocacy.

In the first-ever episode, **Mitchel** and **Benedicta**, winners of the **Nursing Now Challenge Global Solutions Initiative**, created in collaboration with the Sabin Vaccine Institute's Global HPV Consortium, share their inspiring work to raise awareness of HPV and cervical cancer, break stigma, and empower nurses to lead prevention and education.

 **Check out Episode 1 and be inspired by nurse-led innovation in action**

- [Watch the episode on YouTube](#)
- [Listen to the conversation on Spotify](#)

[You can find more information about *Grassroots* on our new webpage, here.](#)



3rd December, 9:00 - 10:00 GMT

Understanding AMR - The Global Challenge

The Nursing Now Challenge, in collaboration with the new AMR Futures Lab at Edinburgh Futures Institute (EFI), has launched a new Nursing Now Challenge Global Solutions Initiative (NNCGSI) to empower nurses and midwives around the world to take action on antimicrobial resistance, one of the most urgent threats to global health today. On 3rd December, we held the second session in this series to continue this important discussion.

Speakers include:

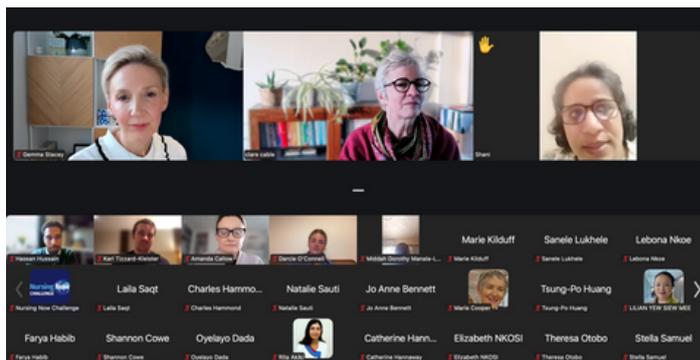
- **Prof Till Bachmann**, Chair of Molecular Diagnostics & Infection at the University of Edinburgh, AMR Strategy Lead for Edinburgh Infectious Diseases, Chair of the Edinburgh AMR Forum, & Founder of the AMR Futures Lab
- **Dr Maneesh Paul**, Lead Co-inventor & Programme Director of Enmetazobactam, a trained Clinical Microbiologist, & Antimicrobial Stewardship Champion
- **Ratna Gandana**, Registered Nurse & South East Asia Hub Lead, Indonesia
- **Laura Ahearn**, Advanced Clinical Practitioner, Respiratory Medicine, Oldham Care Organisation, Northern Care Alliance NHS Trust.

[Watch the recording here.](#)

September - December 2025



Welcome Webinar
5th December 2025



5th December, 8:30 - 9:30 GMT **Nursing Now Challenge Welcome Webinar**

On 5th December we held our final Welcome Webinar of the year. This was an inspiring session highlighting the impact of global nursing and midwifery, and exploring the opportunities available to members of the Nursing Now Challenge community.

Speakers included:

- **Clare Cable**, CEO, The Burdett Trust for Nursing
- **Hassan Hussain**, Registered Nurse, Policy & Advocacy Participation Lead, Doctors of the World UK & Challengers' Committee member
- **Darcie O'Connell**, Nursing student & Western Pacific Hub Lead, Challengers' Committee
- **Sanele Lukhele**, Africa Hub Lead, Challengers' Committee
- **Prof Gemma Stacey**, Programme Director, Nursing Now Challenge
- **Dr Karl Tizzard-Kleister**, Founder & Director of Health Action Training

[Watch the recording here.](#)

12th December, 3pm GMT **Writing for publication workshop with Dr Rhoda Redulla**

On 12th December at 3pm GMT, we held a writing workshop hosted by Dr. Rhoda Redulla, Nursing Now Challenge Advisory Board Associate. This session offered Nursing Now Challenge members a valuable opportunity to learn directly from Dr. Redulla as she shared insights and practical guidance to strengthen and develop their professional writing skills. Participants were able to gain useful tips, ask questions, and build confidence in their writing for academic, clinical, and leadership contexts.

[Watch the recording here.](#)

CHALLENGERS' COMMITTEE UPDATE

We're pleased to welcome our newest Regional Hub Lead

Recruitment of new Challengers' Committee Co-Chair & Nursing Now Challenge Advisory Board member

Amy Staley has reached the end of her tenure as Co-Chair of the Challengers' Committee and will be stepping down from her role in the New Year. Andres deJuan Ortega has been chosen as her successor and will begin his new role in January. Andres has been a longstanding member of the Nursing Now Challenge and a wonderful Regional Hub Lead for Europe.



Eastern Mediterranean

Rakhshanda Ramzan →

MHS, BSN, RN
Registered Nurse & Environmental Health & Climate Researcher

Recruitment is ongoing the South East Asia and Western Pacific Hubs.

Challengers' Committee Leadership & Membership

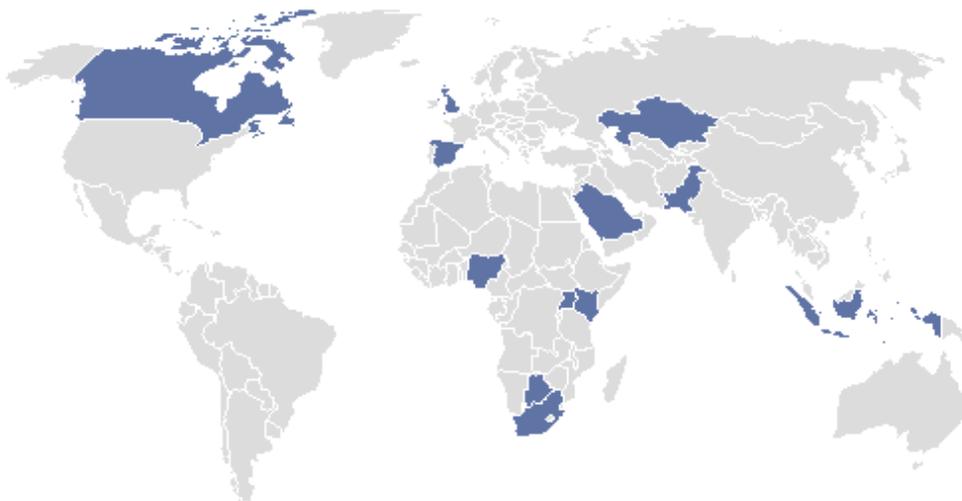
AFRICA	AMERICAS	EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN	EUROPE	SOUTH EAST ASIA	WESTERN PACIFIC
Leads:	Leads:	Leads:	Leads:	Leads:	Leads:
Zipporah Iregi Mohamed Modber Maurine Musie Sanele Lukhele	Stephanie O'Neil Aimée Horcasitas Tracey Collins Abigail Weavers	Komal Rahim Shazia Ali Raskhshanda Ramzan	Lincoln Gombedza Malgorzata Stefaniak Andrea Gonzalez	Earnest Lamuel Ratna Gandana	Tsung-Po Hazel Vera Tan Darcie O'connell
Total Members:	Total Members:	Total Members:	Total Members:	Total Members:	Total Members:
57	11	31	25	13	9
Countries Represented:	Countries Represented:	Countries Represented:	Countries Represented:	Countries Represented:	Countries Represented:
14	5	9	5	2	5
Botswana Cameroon Ethiopia Ghana Kenya Lesotho Malawi Mauritius Nigeria Rwanda South Africa Sudan Uganda Zimbabwe	Barbados Canada Colombia Mexico USA	Egypt Kuwait Lebanon Pakistan Qatar Saudi Arabia Somalia Tunisia UAE	Greece Kazakhstan Poland Spain UK	India Indonesia	Australia Brunei Darussalam Philippines South Korea Taiwan
Total:				146 Members	40 Countries

Nursing Times

The Nursing Times continues to publish blogs and opinion pieces written by Challengers' Committee members, ensuring that their voices and views are heard.

Across the published articles, several cross-cutting themes emerge that reflect the current priorities, pressures and opportunities within global nursing and midwifery:

- Modernising nursing and midwifery education.
- The political dimensions of nursing and policy influence.
- Workforce pressures and frontline clinical challenges.
- Person-centred, empathetic and culturally aware care.
- Innovation and digital transformation in practice.
- Professional identity, growth and reflection.
- Advocacy, leadership and speaking up for change.



20 Articles Published

13 Countries Covered

Including:

Botswana, Canada, Indonesia, Kazakhstan
Kenya, Lebanon, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi
Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Uganda,
United Kingdom



Our most recently published article:

'Every nurse should become an AI citizen developer'

03 September, 2025
By Lincoln Gombedza

(Challengers' Committee Europe Hub Lead)

LOOKING AHEAD

The Nursing Now Challenge team is delighted to welcome **Professor Gemma Stacey** as she joins as our new Programme Director. Her expertise, vision, and commitment to strengthening the global nursing and midwifery workforce mark an exciting new chapter for the Nursing Now Challenge, and we look forward to the impact her guidance will bring in the months ahead.

As we prepare for the new year, we are developing a number of projects and activities designed to **support, empower, and engage our global community.**

These include:

- Recording new episodes for the **Grassroots** podcast, amplifying the voices and experiences of student and early-career nurses and midwives across the globe.
- Developing the **Midwives in Focus** initiative
- Preparing a **Planetary Health** webinar series and establishing **Climate Action Groups** through the Challengers' Committee.
- Co-creating a **research-themed NNCESI**, led by **Dr. Ada Hui**, UK Head of Research at the Royal College of Nursing, to strengthen research capacity among student and early-career nurses and midwives.

We would like to **thank you for your continued support and commitment** to the Nursing Now Challenge and wish you a very **happy holiday season!**

With warmest regards,

The Nursing Now Challenge team

**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us:
challenge@nursingnow.global

Stay up to date with all the latest Nursing Now Challenge news:

Instagram - @NursingNow2020

LinkedIn - @NursingNowChallenge

Website - www.nursingnow.org