|  |
| --- |
| **Indigenous Public Health: Raising Voices on the Global Stage, Indigenous Working Group for the World Federation of Public Health Associations** |
| **Objectives*** *The Indigenous Working Group of the World Federation of Public Health Associations are interested in communicating and workshopping across as many platforms as possible to inform the direction of our work and increase the profile of the group. Our aim is to increase the presence of Indigenous voices in public health, identify priority areas and increase health equity for Indigenous peoples. An opportunity to make an immediate contribution to Indigenous health equity.*

Indigenous peoples across the globe continue to suffer the burden of disease and inequitable health outcomes. One of the biggest barriers is the minimisation and consistent undervaluing of Indigenous voices by the wider mainstream medical/health community, perhaps it’s in the “too hard” basket, or perhaps it’s fear of how to engage, perhaps it’s unconscious bias or even institutional racism. This culture of minimisation affects Indigenous people and means solutions best suited to affect change in health outcomes for our people are never able to be realised.In 2017 Indigenous peoples from around the globe took part in a yarning circle hosted by the Kulin Nations at the World Congress on Public Health in Melbourne, Australia. A mandate was given to launch an Indigenous working group for the World Federation of Public Health Associations, the first in its 50-year history. This year the group was officially recognised at the WFPHA AGM and General Assembly during the World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland. A launch was held at the University of Geneva. There is great interest from within the WHO and other groups keen to collaborate to bring indigenous perspectives and action to the front and commit to indigenous approaches & indigenous public health. We are in an initial phase of growth which includes setting up robust operational foundations to ensure sustainable long-term success for the working group, growing membership, setting priorities and continuing to foster relationships that will bring long term transformation. This session is an opportunity for shared ideas, collaboration and knowledge transmission and strengthened global approaches to Indigenous public health.**Format:** **IWG brief on its evolution, launch and broader aims, current operational set up and opportunities to participate****Priority setting workshopping in groups****Whole Group Discussion****Learning goals:*** Indigenous Public Health approaches
* Collaborating for change - where you can make the greatest impact for improving indigenous health equity, as an individual, as an organisation
* Advocacy - Prioritising an Indigenous agenda for the betterment of all
 |