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Results of the survey on ISBT Young Professionals and their needs

In order to identify the needs of the young members to improve the value of the ISBT membership, the Young Professionals (YP) Council designed an online survey that was circulated to all members over a 3 month period between December 5th, 2018 and Feb 28th, 2019.

Who have responded?

A total of 79 ISBT YP (≤ 40 years) participated in the survey. They represent 22% of the total YP ISBT members. They come from all around the world (see figure 1).

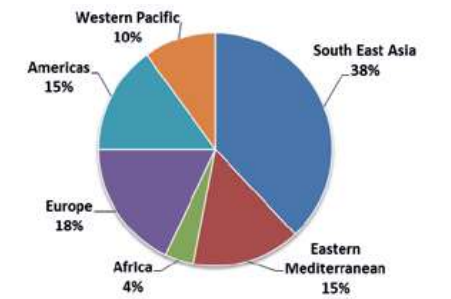


Figure 1. Geographical distribution of the YP who have participated in the survey

They work in different fields but mainly in clinical transfusion (25%) or in the field of immunohaematology (26%), as physicians, students or researchers. Over half of the participants (57%) were in their first year of membership.

Why have they chosen to become a member of ISBT?

The YP become ISBT members for numerous reasons, few of the most important seemed to be the continued education through workshops, webinars, journal club, and the ISBT Education App (74%), networking opportunities (60%) and career development (54%).

A number of the responding YP were also members of an ISBT working party (18%).

A large proportion of the YP have heard of the ISBT programs / activities (i.e. the Young Investigator Breakfast (62%), the Harold Gunson Fellowship (66%), the YP workshops (46%) during Congresses, the ISBT education App (51%), the webinars and

live journal clubs (80%) and the Academy Support (27%). About 38% have downloaded the ISBT Education App and 48% have already attended an ISBT webinar or Journal Club.

Are they satisfied with their ISBT membership?

Most of the participants (85%) were satisfied with their ISBT membership.

What are their needs?

The survey results identified several needs (see figure 1), including:

- Mentorship programs for YP
- More workshops tailored for YP during Congresses

They also highlighted a desire of greater social/networking opportunities, with:

- Creation of a forum dedicated for YP on the ISBT website
- Enhanced engagement through social media

Several participants also underlined the need to expand the opportunities of membership and Congress attendance for members from low income countries.



Figure 2. Benefits that the YP would like to receive from their ISBT membership

The YP council is trying to address some of these needs (improving YP experience, organizing workshops and social activities) with the Board for the Basel and Bangkok Congresses taking place in Basel (June) and Bangkok (November) this year. A proposal for a mentorship program has also been submitted to the Board.

As a reminder, a special hashtag (#ISBTYoungBlood) has already been created for YP on the ISBT Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn social media accounts.

If you are a YP ISBT member and have other ideas of initiatives that could be taken up by the council, please feel free to contact us (cecile.toly-ndour@aphp.fr or arwa.alriyami@gmail.com (chair)).