



Annual Report 2022

Overview

In 2022, as the restrictions related to the covid pandemic were relaxed, the Board voted to go ahead with the Sixth EUFASD Conference, which was held on 12 – 14 September, 2022 in Arendal, Norway. Thus preparations for this conference were the main activity of the year. This conference was held in conjunction with a satellite organized by the FAR SEAS project on FASD prevention. The conference was so popular that we had to cut off registrations, as space was limited to 250 attendees. See the appended conference report.

Changes

At the General Asembly held at the Clarion Hotel Tyholmen in Arendal, Oscar Garcia-Algar was unanimously elected to take over the post of chairperson from Diane Black. During the gala dinner that followed the meeting, Diane Black was thanked for her invaluable work as founder and chair of the EUFASD Alliance. Diane Black was named Honorary Chair of the EUFASD Alliance, and received a photo book of memories from the past eleven years, to a standing ovation from the 250 guests present.

Membership

At the end of 2022, the EUFASD Alliance counted 42 member organizations in 20 countries.



Conference report EUFASD 6

The sixth European Conference on FASD took place on September 12 to 14, 2022, with a pre-conference training day on 11 September and a satellite conference on the EU-funded FAR SEAS project on Tuesday, September 13.

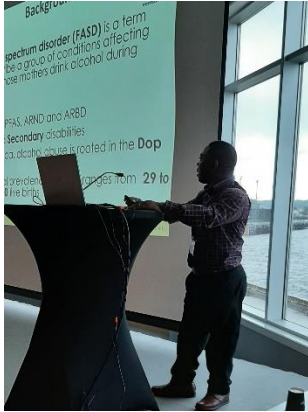
The conference was held at the Clarion Hotel Tyholmen in the seaside Norwegian village of Arendal. Despite some frustrations with delayed flights and sometimes long bus rides from Oslo, all were charmed by the locale.

At the pre-conference day training there were 51 participants. At the main conference there were 252 participants, representing 30 different countries from around the world.

The FAR SEAS Satellite workshop, building on the stimulating talks and ideas presented in the wider EUFASD conference, brought together 54 participants from over 19 European countries for a 1-day workshop of two sessions– The morning FAR SEAS session focused on practical issues and options for making large-scale prevalence estimates of FASD, including issues of data collection, prevalence among different population groups, ethical issues of such studies, and how to communicate and use the results to maximum effect; and the afternoon session, looked at how to move on from establishing the prevalence to prevention initiatives to reduce prenatal alcohol exposure, whilst safeguarding women's and families' confidentiality and providing ethical treatment and support. Participants from clinical, public health, academic and civil society backgrounds came together to listen to the latest evidence in these areas and share their insights in interactive discussions. The outputs from the workshop – the introductory presentations and a workshop report with conclusions – will be available on the FAR SEAS website (www.far-seas.eu/capacity-building/) in October, and later through the EC webpages and Health Policy Portal.

Scholarships

Three scholarships were offered to attend the conference.



Babatope Adebisi presented a talk on “A guideline for the prevention and management of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder in South Africa.” He says “The conference allowed me to meet and network with leaders in FASD research. All thanks to the organisers and sponsors.”

Froukje Wielenga presented a poster entitled “A Management Program for Children and Adolescents with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders in the Netherlands: a Research Proposal.”



Miranda Eodanable presented her work in a poster entitled “Experiences of young people with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder: a photovoice study.” Miranda says “The EUFASD scholarship has provided me an invaluable opportunity to meet with an international network of researchers and to reflect on their dynamic research. The sessions and informal discussions will continue to direct my journey as a PhD researcher and an educational psychologist. Thank you!”

Poster Prizes

The following poster prizes were awarded.

First Prize. Poster 38: Sharon Dawe, Elizabeth Eggins, Joseph Lee Betts, Heidi Webster, Denise Hatzis, Tania Pomario, Hayden Tills, Ned Chandler-Mather, Doug Shelton: Assessment of young children with prenatal exposure: Knowledge gained and challenges ahead--from Australia.

Second Prize. Poster 47: Silje Lunderød, Sara Greger, Gislaug Søyland Sele, Linda Jensen, Elise Hærem: The founding of the organization FASD NORGE--from Norway.

Third Prize. Poster 31: Madeline N. Rockhold, Carson Kautz-Turnbull, Christie L.M. Petrenko: Threat versus deprivation trauma exposure and behavioral outcomes in children with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders—from the United States.