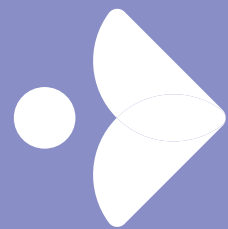


# IND 2026 Webinar

12 May

· Welcome ·



International Council of Nurses

**OUR NURSES.  
OUR FUTURE.**

International Nurses Day 2026

Empowered Nurses Save Lives

**#IND2026**

**#OurNursesOurFuture**



# Empowered nurses **save lives**

A day to name and own the power of nursing





# Why nursing power matters now: Meeting the world's biggest health challenges

**NCDs: 71% of global deaths**, three quarters in LMICs



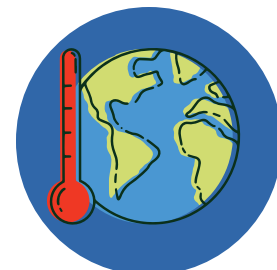
Growing **mental health needs**:  
Over 10% of world's population (970m) live with mental illness

Access: ~**Half** of world's population do not have access to **Universal Health Coverage**



**Immunization & public health**:  
81% of children vaccinated in 2021 – 5 % reduction

**Ageing**:  
world population over 60 to nearly double by 2050 (12% → 22%)



Rising **humanitarian aid needs** (est. 300 million people in 2024) due to conflicts, climate crises



# Urgent need for empowered nursing

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**29.8 million** nurses worldwide  
**5.8 million shortage**



Nurses still **undervalued & underprotected**



**Unequal distribution** & inequitable migration/recruitment



Need to fully enable/resource nurse **leadership & CNOs**  
**85% women profession:** gender equity

46–63% of NNAs reported an **increased gap between workforce demands and supply** since 2021  
*(NNA Presidents Survey, 2025)*

# A new model: monochrome to multicolour



**INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY 2026**

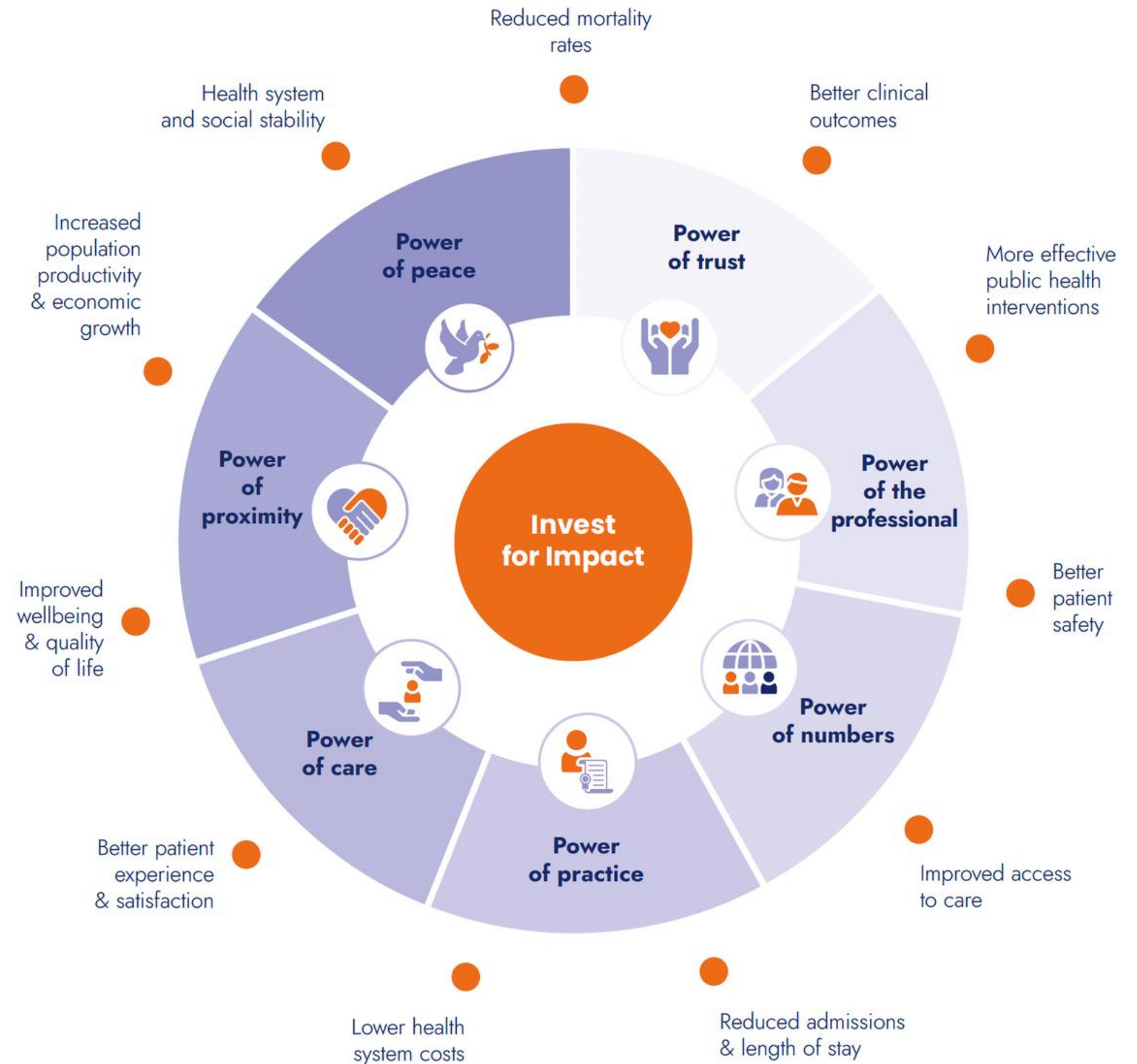
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# The seven powers of empowered nursing

1



The power of **trust**

3



The power of **numbers**

2



The power of **the professional**

4



The power of **practice**



# The seven powers of empowered nursing

5



The power of **care**

7



The power of **peace**

6



The power of **proximity**



# The **economic power** of nursing care

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**\$1.1 trillion** could be added to global economy by addressing health workforce gaps

Every \$1 invested in health brings **\$2–4 returns** – [1:14 returns](#) for preventive interventions

**\$1 trillion in gains from NCD prevention** and management investment

Investing in nursing **advances global gender equity** (gender parity could bring USD 28 trillion in societal value annually)

Sources: [McKinsey, 2025](#); [Remes et al., 2020](#); [BIAC, 2025](#); [McKinsey Global Institute, 2016](#)

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## Invest for **impact**

### Structural empowerment

Workforce plans, working conditions, safety, compensation, education & pipeline, full scope of practice, resourced nurse leadership & decision-making



# IND Report 2026

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## A new model

### The 7 powers


- 1  **TRUST**  
Protect safety
- 2  **PROFESSIONAL**  
Quality care
- 3  **NUMBERS**  
Expand coverage
- 4  **PRACTICE**  
Optimise workforce
- 5  **CARE**  
Improve outcomes
- 6  **PROXIMITY**  
Reach communities
- 7  **PEACE**  
Defend from shock

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## Strong evidence

 **189** million years of life lost to early death and disability could be saved

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 **1.1** trillion could be added to the global economy

Scaling up primary health care in low- and middle-income countries could save **60** million lives while increasing average life expectancy by **3.7** years by 2030.  
*WHO, 2018*

**Nurse education saves lives**  
Every **10%** increase in bachelor's-degree-prepared nurses decreases patient mortality by **7%**.  
*(Aiken et al., 2014)*

 **20-40%** improvements in medication adherence

## Real stories, real impact

**16** case studies in report



**Your region, your power: NNA voices on today's webinar!**





**Your region, *your power***



**The voice of our  
National Nurses'  
Associations**





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# Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMRO) IND E-journal



## A message to EMRO nurses

Dr Myrna Abi Abdallah Doumit  
ICN Board Representative, Eastern Mediterranean region



Dear EMRO nurses,

On the occasion of International Nurses Day, I stand united across the EMRO region, clear and powerful message that Nurses Save Lives. You demonstrate this reality every single day. In the face of displacement, and unimaginable strain systems, you have not stepped back, you have stepped forward. You have remained at the front lines in communities, in shelters, and in the most dangerous and uncertain environments, delivering care with courage, dignity, and unwavering commitment. You have carried not only the burden of care, but the

EMRO E-Journal

## Opening message

from HRH Princess Muna Al Hussein

- WHO Patron for Nursing and Midwifery in the Eastern Mediterranean Region
- Global Ambassador for ICN
- Honorary Ambassador to Alzheimer's Disease International



On the International Nurses and Midwives Day, we honour the nurses and midwives of the Eastern Mediterranean Region – leaders whose strength, determination, and steadfast dedication uplift societies amid complex challenges and circumstances.

My dear nurses and midwives – my heroes – you are more than caregivers; you are architects of resilient health systems, champions of equity, and pillars of stability. You safeguard population health, reduce future burdens through prevention, and reinforce trust in times of uncertainty.

## The voice of EMRO NNAs Activities across the region

The following section features contributions from National Nurses Associations (NNAs) across the Eastern Mediterranean Region, in their own words. Each country entry includes a message from nursing leadership and a summary of important activities, initiatives, and achievements on the ground. Together, they provide a full, multidimensional snapshot of how nurses across the region are delivering care, strengthening health systems, and driving change, in diverse and often difficult conditions.





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# Call to action: A roadmap to **invest for impact and structurally empower nurses**

*Global strategic directions for*  
**NURSING AND MIDWIFERY**  
2021-2025

education  
jobs  
leadership  
service delivery

**ICN's Charter for Change**

- 1** **Protect and invest in the nursing profession** to rebuild health systems that can deliver the Sustainable Development Goals and Universal Health Coverage to improve global health. Recognise and value health and health care as an investment not a cost. Secure commitments for investment to maintain equitable and people-centred care.
- 2** **Urgently address and improve support for nurses' health and well-being by ensuring safe and healthy working conditions and respecting their rights.** Put in place systems to ensure safe staffing levels. Ensure protections against violence and hazards in the workplace and implement and enforce international labour standards on the rights of nurses to work in safe and healthy supportive environments ensuring physical as well as mental health protections.
- 3** **Advance strategies to recruit and retain nurses to address workforce shortages. Improve compensation for nurses to ensure fair and decent pay and benefits, and uphold positive practice environments** that listen to nurses and provide them with the resources they need to do their jobs safely, effectively and efficiently. Fund professional governance, recognition and development activities across career trajectories.
- 4** **Develop, implement and finance national nursing workforce plans** with the objective of self-sufficiency in the supply of future nurses. Align resources to support a robust workforce to deliver essential health services, reverse unemployment and retain talent. When international migration takes place ensure it is ethical, transparent, monitored and delivers equal mutual benefits for sending and receiving countries as well as respecting the rights of individual nurses. Undertake system workforce planning and monitoring across the care continuum.
- 5** **Invest in high-quality, accredited nursing education programmes** to prepare more new nurses and advance career development for existing nurses. Design curricula so that nurses graduate with the right skills, competencies and confidence to respond to the changing and evolving health needs of communities and support career progression from generalist to specialist and advanced practice.
- 6** **Enable nurses to work to their full scope of nursing practice** by strengthening and modernizing regulation and investing in advanced nursing practice and nurse-led models of care. Reorientate and integrate health systems to public health, primary care health promotion and prevention, community, home-based and patient-centred care.
- 7** **Recognise and value nurses' skills, knowledge, attributes and expertise.** Respect and promote nurses' roles as health professionals, scientists, researchers, educators and leaders. Involve nurses in decision-making affecting health care at all levels. Promote and invest in an equitable culture that respects the nursing profession as leading contributors to high quality health systems.
- 8** **Actively and meaningfully engage national nursing associations** as critical professional partners in all aspects of health and social care policy, delivery and leadership as the experienced and trusted voice of nursing. Build local, national and global multilateral partnerships.
- 9** **Protect vulnerable populations, uphold and respect human rights, gender equity and social justice.** Place and uphold nursing ethics at the centre of health systems' design and delivery so all people can access health care that is equitable, non-discriminatory, people-centred and rights based, and without the risk of financial hardship.
- 10** **Appoint nurse leaders to executive roles** where they are most needed. Strengthen nursing leadership roles where they are most needed.

government policy sustain nursing leadership

**ICN**  
International Council of Nurses

**Renewing the Definitions of 'Nursing' and 'a Nurse'**

Final Project Report  
June 2025

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**Thank you**

**Merci**

**Gracias**

