



IAF Education Working Group:



Education Working Group 2019 Report for Council of Delegates Meeting-

EWG Introduction:

The IAF Education Working Group was formed in February 2019 with two key directives, to unite the existing IAF educational projects and to create and disseminate educational resources and information. To this end, the IAF Education Working Group administers the IAF Falconry Education Program, which is composed of these 5 areas:

- 1) IAF School Links Programme,
- 2) IAF Young Falconers Group,
- 3) IAF Translations Working Group,
- 4) IAF Youth Exchange Project,
- 5) IAF Social Media Presence coordination.

EWG seeks to foster a positive image of falconry and raptor conservation, to promote the education of those interested in practicing falconry, to disseminate further falconry knowledge to those already practicing it, and to create a global falconry education resource freely accessible to everyone.

2019 Summary:

In this, its first year of its existence, EWG has been focused on consolidating, expanding and restructuring each of its projects to accommodate them within the new program structure.

Members were invited to join EWG based on their particular interests in education and their previous affiliation with IAF educational projects. The current 9 members of the EWG speak on behalf of its 5 components and bring unique perspectives to the WG since they represent different regions, backgrounds, projects and age demographics.

Four of the main projects undertaken by EWG as a whole have been:

- The creation of global educational resources for the promotion and perpetuation of positive information on falconry and raptor conservation. (Especially the school links project has been active in this).



IAF Education Working Group:

- The creation of a dedicated educational website to gather educational resources and inform anyone who is interested about the activities and details surrounding each project area. This project has been advancing slowly, while the full website plan has been completed, the publication of the website is expected to take another two months as of the writing of this report.
- The creation of a logo for EWG, which is featured in the letterhead above. This was undertaken in collaboration by youth artists and graphic designers from a range of different countries and cultures working together.
- The creation of a google docs folder accessible to all EWG members, subdivided into different project categories, components of which can be shared with anyone who is interested at their request.
- The centralization of IAF educational communication through the creation of a Facebook page called "IAF Education Working Group" where educational content may be shared and of an iaf email account (education@iaf.org) accessible to all EWG members so that all communications may be shared and to improve response rates.
- Another key project which EWG members have worked on in 2019 in collaboration with the secretariat has been the creation of an IAF social media code of conduct. This has been applied to a range of other IAF projects and has helped to gather and simplify the dispersed IAF social media presences from various groups and pages. It is key that we
- EWG has taken a lead role in coordinating the 2019 World Falconry Day. Additional information may be seen on the specific WFD report.

1) IAF School Links Programme:

The school Links Programme has been reformatted into a component of the EWG, with broader objectives which are designed to be implemented through more concise objectives. In 2019, the ISLP has seen the number of schools affiliated with ISLP rise to a total of 77 schools across 15 countries, with us having an opportunity to welcome 15 new schools and 9 new associates into ISLP. The creation of global raptor conservation and falconry educational resources have been a key project for ISLP alongside the other members of EWG. Further details regarding SLP activities may be found in the specific SLP report.

2) IAF Young Falconers Group,

In 2019 the Young falconers groups activities were focused on consolidating the existing volunteer potential involved in the translations group and encouraging those who were enthusiastic to take on further projects to assist with the task Groups System.

Three Task groups were formed with the intention of assisting EWG and other IAF working groups via specialised groups dedicated to conservation and politics research, art and design and IT.

A further project which has been developed has been a survey based on the youths passion for falconry. This project is envisioned as a video showcasing young falconers passion and will go hand in



IAF Education Working Group:

hand with the updated youth video to be presented at the next international falconry festival in 2021.

- 3) IAF Translations Working Group,
- 4) IAF Youth Exchange Project,
- 5) IAF Social Media Presence coordination.

These five projects are designed to support our art in all regions of the globe and to make the unique traditions of falconry comprehensible to the wider public. The IAF Falconry Education Program is a participation-based program, which sets a focus on aiding as high a standard of falconry as possible and on fostering the enthusiasm of the youth for our art. In line with the ethos of IAF, participation in this program is open to everyone and anyone may use the resources which are produced in it to enrich their own falconry or environmental education activities. In 2019, this project seeks to merge and harmonize the efforts of established IAF projects with newer projects. In the first 6 months of its existence, the EWG has created its own easily distinguished logo, an IAF education strategy, a set of social media posting rules, over 200 translations and is in the process of creating its own website to gather all of its effort in one easily accessible place. The strength of EWG is that it represents the many cultural facets inherent to the global falconry community. Our activities in creating translations, educational content and in supporting other IAF projects and WGs are made possible through the dedication and enthusiasm of many volunteers who wish to contribute to their art in any way they can with their own unique perspectives and skillsets. It is of note that many youths are active in this project and support its efforts to ensure that our intangible cultural heritage gets transmitted not just from one generation to another, but across all linguistic and national boundaries. In this, falconry has acted as a bridge, allowing us insights into different cultures and points of view. Education unlocks minds and doors, and is a key in creating the bonds of fellowship and unity which underpin our international falconry family. The twin pillars of falconry and education form a powerful cord, which allow us to cast our minds eye to other cultures and other variations of our art. Falconry is a global and eternal art form, its diversity and the passion which we falconers demonstrate for our art, our hunting companion and our falconry community are fundamental strengths and the reason why we will pass on the glove and leash on to those who come after us. Anyone who is interested in participating in or informing themselves about the IAF Falconry Education Program is welcome to contact us at education@iaf.org or to visit our Facebook page and in the future, our website.