



IFFD ANNUAL REPORT

2025

iffd

International Federation
for Family Development



empowering families





Table of Contents

03	Introduction
07	About Us
09	Family Enrichment
16	Pause
19	Family Advocacy
26	IFFD in First Person

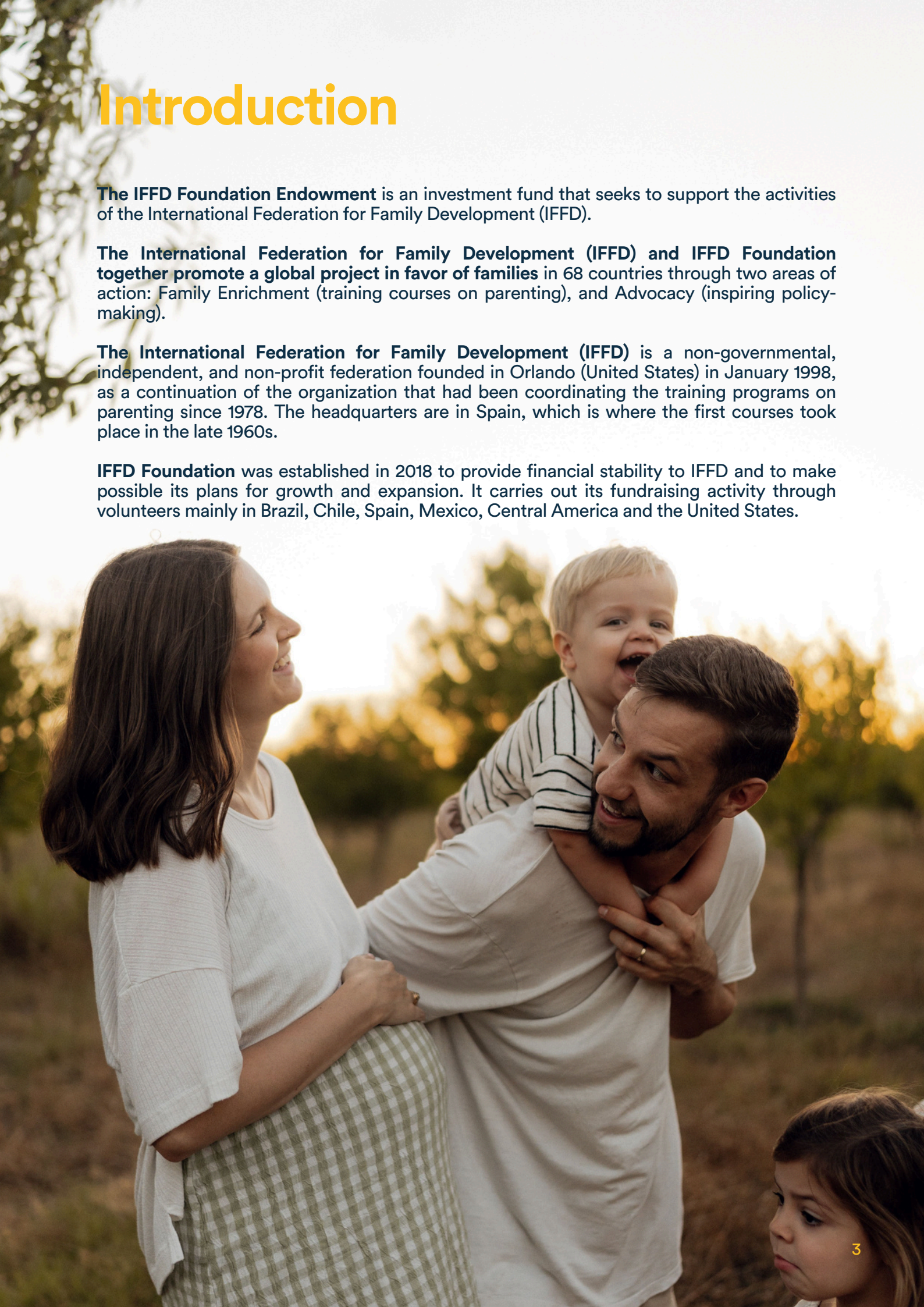
Introduction

The IFFD Foundation Endowment is an investment fund that seeks to support the activities of the International Federation for Family Development (IFFD).

The International Federation for Family Development (IFFD) and IFFD Foundation together promote a global project in favor of families in 68 countries through two areas of action: Family Enrichment (training courses on parenting), and Advocacy (inspiring policy-making).

The International Federation for Family Development (IFFD) is a non-governmental, independent, and non-profit federation founded in Orlando (United States) in January 1998, as a continuation of the organization that had been coordinating the training programs on parenting since 1978. The headquarters are in Spain, which is where the first courses took place in the late 1960s.

IFFD Foundation was established in 2018 to provide financial stability to IFFD and to make possible its plans for growth and expansion. It carries out its fundraising activity through volunteers mainly in Brazil, Chile, Spain, Mexico, Central America and the United States.



Letter from the IFFD President



Olivier Yao

As we look back on 2025, I am filled with gratitude for the thousands of volunteers, families, leaders and partners who continue to make IFFD's mission a reality around the world. Together, we have strengthened our presence across 68 countries, expanded opportunities for Family Enrichment, advanced family-focused Advocacy and continued to innovate in response to the changing needs of families today.

This report reflects much more than numbers and activities. It tells the story of a global community united by a shared conviction: that strong families are essential for the flourishing of individuals and societies. Whether through our parenting and marriage programs, international congresses, digital initiatives such as PAUSE or our work in international institutions like the United Nations, our efforts are rooted in the same purpose: to help every person discover and live the beauty of family life.

The achievements presented here are the result of collaboration across cultures, generations and continents. They demonstrate the extraordinary impact that can be achieved when people generously dedicate their time and talents in service of others.

As we move forward, we remain committed to supporting families, fostering leadership and building bridges of dialogue and understanding. Thank you for being part of this mission and for helping IFFD continue to grow as a force for positive change in the world.

With gratitude,

Letter from the Outgoing IFFD Secretary General



Javier Vidal-Quadrás

There is an old story about a man walking along a beach after a storm. Thousands of starfish had been washed ashore and left stranded on the sand. As he walked, he noticed a child carefully picking them up, one by one, and throwing them back into the sea. "It won't make any difference," the man said. "There are too many." The child bent down, picked up another starfish and replied: "It made a difference to this one."

During these twenty years as Secretary General of IFFD, I have often thought of that image. Ours has never been a mission of numbers, but of people, of families, of hearts.

Time and again, I have repeated the same conviction: we transform society family by family, reaching not all of them, but each and every one of them.

I have also often recalled that the first and most radically important good for each one of us is our own family. Everything else only makes sense and can only be truly effective if it springs from a passionate love for those entrusted to our care. The time devoted to Family Enrichment is never wasted time; in one way or another, it always finds its way back to our own families.

As I look back, I feel an immense sense of gratitude: for your friendship, your generosity, your creativity, your sacrifices and your unwavering hope. We have innovated, grown, professionalized our work and dreamed together.

Thank you for allowing me to share this extraordinary adventure with you.

Thank you for your trust, your patience and your affection. I may have stepped away from the helm, but I remain on board, as one more among you, ready to help in whatever way I can.

And I am convinced that, in the years ahead, with the people currently leading IFFD and with the renewed drive that Jorge Correa will bring as Secretary General, our dream will continue to fall short: what lies ahead will surpass even our highest expectations.

With gratitude and affection,



Letter from the Incoming Secretary General



Jorge Correa

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is both an honor and a profound responsibility to address you for the first time as Incoming Secretary General of IFFD.

As I step into this role, I do so with deep gratitude for all those who have built and nurtured this federation over more than four decades, and with a clear conviction about where our collective energy must be directed. IFFD is much more than an international organization: it is a global community united by the belief that strong families are the foundation of a just and flourishing society. That unity — across geographies, languages and traditions — is our most valuable asset, and nurturing it will be at the heart of everything we pursue together.

Throughout these pages, you will encounter that spirit in action: volunteers serving families, member organizations collaborating across borders, young leaders stepping forward and programs that equip parents to nurture the next generation. What makes these achievements possible is the open communication and coordinated collaboration among all of us — when we share best practices and align our efforts, our impact grows exponentially.

Looking ahead, I am committed to placing unity, communication and coordination at the center of our shared agenda — strengthening the channels that connect us across the federation and ensuring that our collective work reinforces rather than duplicates itself. When we act as one, sharing knowledge and supporting each other, we multiply our impact far beyond what any one organization could achieve alone.

I invite each of you — member organizations, volunteers, donors and partners — to join in this effort. Let us build a federation where collaboration is our default and every organization feels heard, valued and connected. Thank you for your dedication and your trust. I am honored to serve this community and eager to walk this path forward with all of you.

With warm regards,



Letter from IFFD Foundation Chairwoman



María Béjar

I would simply like to express how pleased we are at IFFD Foundation to support the work of IFFD.

These pages reflect the relevance and, above all, the beauty of a mission devoted to helping people and families discover and live family life more fully. It is a privilege to contribute to making that work possible.

Together with IFFD, its volunteers, supporters and friends around the world, we help carry forward a project with a lasting impact on society — one we hope will keep growing and reaching many more families worldwide.

With gratitude,



A warm, golden-hour photograph of a family of four sitting on a light-colored, circular-patterned rug in front of a large floor-to-ceiling window. The father, on the left, is smiling and looking towards the children. The mother, on the right, is laughing and looking at the children. Two young boys are in the center, focused on playing with colorful wooden blocks on a small wooden board. The window behind them looks out onto a lush green landscape with trees and hills under a bright sky. The overall mood is joyful and intimate.

**Our mission is to help each
person discover and live
the beauty of family life.**



Our mission

At IFFD our mission is to *help each person discover and live the beauty of family life*, while fostering friendships and personal development.

Our **Family Enrichment** activity consists mainly of support, educational and formation programs for young people, married couples, parents and grandparents. We have been organizing international congresses since 1978. In addition, since 2022, we have been promoting innovative digital projects such as Pause, an online content platform for families.

Our **Family Advocacy** activity consists mainly in opening lines of communication between countries, academia, international organizations, families and civil society, highlighting the family perspective and child protection in social policies. It contributes to the global debate and encourages commitment to family policies from key venues such as the United Nations and the European Union.



Statement of Purpose

1. We are a Federation of non-governmental, non-denominational, non-profit, independent and privately operated Family Enrichment Centers from different countries.

2. We integrate a vast network spanning 68 countries across 5 continents, with over 7,000 dedicated volunteers.

3. Our mission is to generate dynamics that help every person discover and live the beauty of family life in a friendly environment that promotes personal growth. We empower families worldwide through improved communication and collaboration skills and our programs do not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or country of origin.

4. Our experience reveals that parents must learn how to better fulfill their parental role. Both parents are called to participate in our programs, in order for each to make their own contribution as an individual, as a parent and as a family.

5. Our programs primarily use the 'case-study method'. This methodology promotes open dialogue about real-life situations, allowing participants to share their perspectives without imposing their own ideas or dismissing the thoughts of others.

6. Our moderators are dedicated volunteers who bring their life experience and skills in facilitating and guiding discussions after receiving proper training.

7. Our activities aim to accompany each person and/or couple in their lifelong learning process. Our parenting courses are targeted to groups of parents with children of the same age with a main focus on teaching the appropriate parenting skills relevant to that stage of development.

8. Our professional activities of advocacy aim to integrate a family perspective into international, regional, national and local development agendas through the design, implementation and monitoring of evidence-based laws, policies and programs.

9. We organize regional and worldwide congresses relevant to families and leadership summits to strengthen our collective identity and facilitate the exchange of knowledge and best practices.

10. We promote and participate in scientific projects and other activities aimed at raising awareness and disseminating evidence-based findings to enrich our local and international work.



IFFD at a glance

We are present in
68
countries worldwide

+7,000
Volunteers

590
Courses in 2025

29
Advocacy
events

+40,000

People impacted worldwide

*Including Course participants, attendees at UN events, attendees to Family Enrichment projects, Pause subscribers and other IFFD activities.

1,930

Young people in our
programs in 2025

32

Countries impacted
with Family Policies

10

IFFD Policy Papers
published

+2,800

Subscribers on Pause
+50,000 video views



Family Enrichment

IFFD Family Enrichment offers a variety of **programs, congresses and projects** to accompany people in different life stages. They use participatory dynamics such as the case study method, which poses real situations and allows each user to grow in his or her personal and family life. In 2025 we had a year of **innovation, good practices and key lessons learned**.

PROGRAMS

CONGRESSES

PROJECTS

Our programs

> For parents

The programs equip parents with educational skills related to exercising authority, understanding their children, transmitting values, affective-sexual education and fostering personal autonomy.



First Steps

For parents of children from 0 to 3 years old



First Conversations

For parents of children from 4 to 5 years old



First Letters

For parents of children from 6 to 7 years old



First Decisions

For parents of children from 8 to 10 years old



Pre-Adolescence

For parents of children from 11 to 13 years old



Adolescence

For parents of children from 14 to 16 years old



Role of the Father

For Fathers

> For couples

The programs provide couples with tools to strengthen their relationship and promote family harmony, addressing topics such as marital love, sexuality, communication, decision-making and work-life balance.



Married Love 1

For couples from newlyweds to 10 years of marriage



Married Love 2

For couples with 10 to 20 years of marriage



Married Love 3

For couples who have been married for more than 20 years

> For grandparents

The programs help grandparents strengthen their role as a fundamental source of support for the family.



Grandparents

For active grandparents

> For young single professionals

The programs offer young professionals tools to grow in personal maturity and develop strong relationships.



Personal Project

For single young professionals (non-married)



International Personal Project

Created by and for single young professionals (non-married) from the 6 continents

How our centers work

IFFD works through a decentralized structure, with **national associations** coordinating programs alongside schools, social organizations and families.

Programs typically include 5–7 sessions based on the “**Family System**,” a case study method learning process which includes 4 steps:

- **Individual reflection**
- **Couple sharing** (not in youth programs)
- **Small-group discussion** (8–10 people)
- **Plenary session** (led by moderator)

Moderators and team leaders, usually parents and young professionals trained in facilitation, drive the programs. Centers, promoting groups, moderators and team leaders form an extensive volunteer network of around **7,000 people worldwide**.



International Courses

Digital Courses: Digital & Hybrid Moderator Practices 2025

The **Digital & Hybrid Moderator Practices** program provides both **theoretical and practical training** in communication skills and group discussion facilitation techniques. The training consists of two hours of theoretical instruction, followed by a digital Q&A session to address participants' questions. The practical component includes two one-hour moderation practice sessions, conducted either online or in person through hybrid courses. An additional and optional hour of Q&As is offered at the end so people can ask questions after the whole training.

During 2025, eight training cycles were delivered, reaching **284 participants** across **24 countries** and **80 cities**:

- **DMP India Dubai Singapore** (January-February 2025) / 15 participants / 4 countries
- **HMP USA** (March 2025) / 65 participants / 20 cities
- **DMP THE PHILIPPINES** (March-April 2025) / 50 participants / 18 cities
- **HMP IFEH'25** (June-July 2025) / 40 participants / 12 countries
- **HMP EFEH'25** (June-July 2025) / 34 participants / 5 countries
- **HMP ITALY** (September-October 2025) / 30 participants / 6 cities
- **DMP THE PHILIPPINES** (October 2025) / 30 participants / 10 cities
- **DMP CAMEROON** (December 2025) / 20 participants / 2 cities

Countries

We are present in **68 countries** on 5 continents

Argentina	Guatemala	Nigeria	The Netherlands
Australia	Honduras	Panama	Trinidad & Tobago
Austria	Hungary	Paraguay	UAE
Belgium	India	Peru	Uganda
Bolivia	Indonesia	Philippines	United Kingdom
Brazil	Ireland	Poland	United States
Cameroon	Israel	Portugal	Uruguay
Canada	Italy	Puerto Rico	Venezuela
Chile	Ivory Coast	Romania	
China	Japan	Russia	
Colombia	Kazakhstan	Singapore	
Congo DR	Kenya	Slovakia	
Costa Rica	Korea	Slovenia	
Croatia	Latvia	South Africa	
Czech Republic	Lebanon	Spain	
Ecuador	Lithuania	Sri Lanka	
El Salvador	Malta	Sweden	
Finland	Mexico	Switzerland	
France	New Zealand	Taiwan	
Germany	Nicaragua	Tanzania	

Program languages

The chart below shows the languages into which our programs have been **translated**.

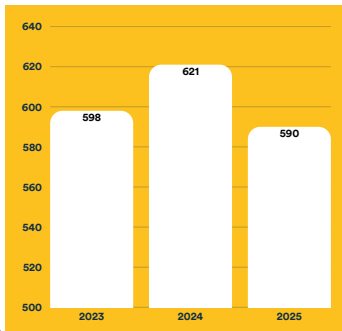
COURSES	Spanish	English	Polish	Portuguese	Italian	French	German	Russian
FIRST STEPS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
FIRST CONVERSATIONS	X		X		X	X		X
FIRST LETTERS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
FIRST DECISIONS	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
PRE-ADOLESCENCE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
ADOLESCENCE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MARRIED LOVE 1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MARRIED LOVE 2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MARRIED LOVE 3	X	X			X			
PERSONAL PROJECT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
GRANDPARENTS	X	X	X	X	X	X		
ROLE OF THE FATHER	X	X						
ON BOARD	X	X						
FAMILIES WITHOUT BARRIERS	X	X			X			

COURSES	Slovak	Latvian	Lithuanian	Dutch	Hungarian	Chinese	Japanese
FIRST STEPS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
FIRST CONVERSATIONS		X	X		X		
FIRST LETTERS	X	X	X			X	
FIRST DECISIONS	X	X	X			X	
PRE-ADOLESCENCE	X	X	X		X	X	
ADOLESCENCE	X				X		
MARRIED LOVE 1	X	X	X	X			X
MARRIED LOVE 2	X						
MARRIED LOVE 3							
PERSONAL PROJECT	X	X	X			X	X
GRANDPARENTS				X			
ROLE OF THE FATHER	X						
ON BOARD							
FAMILIES WITHOUT BARRIERS							



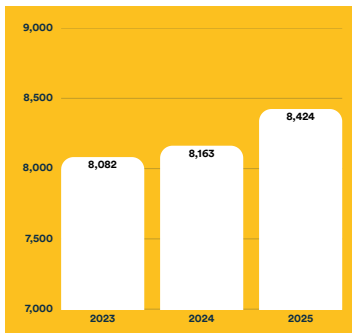
2025 Statistics

COURSES



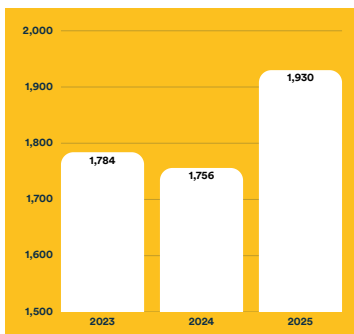
Over 2023–2025, the number of courses **remained broadly stable**, fluctuating between 590 and 621. There was a slight peak in 2024 (621) followed by a return to 590 in 2025, close to the 2023 level (598). Overall, the data shows consistent delivery with minor year-to-year variation.

COUPLES



Between 2023 and 2025, couple participation shows **steady growth**, rising from 8,082 to 8,424 (+4.2% overall). After a small increase in 2024, growth accelerated in 2025, indicating expanding reach and sustained demand for the courses.

SINGLE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS



From 2023 to 2025, the number of single young professional participants shows **overall growth** with a small dip in 2024. After falling slightly from 1,784 (2023) to 1,756 (2024), they rise strongly to 1,930 in 2025, the highest level in the period.

2025 CONCLUSION

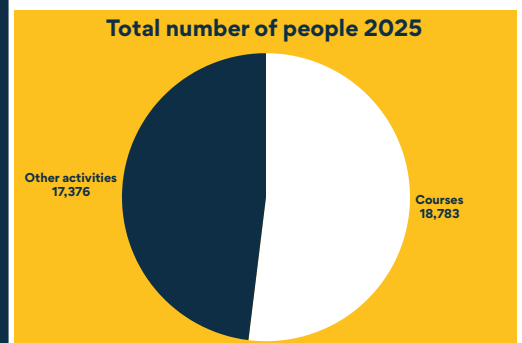
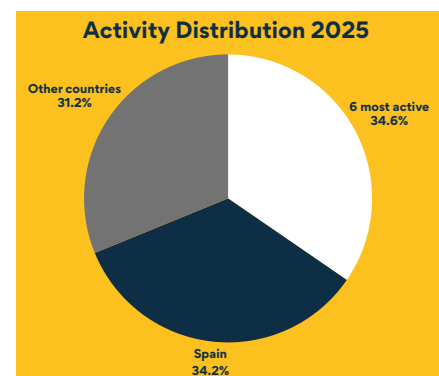
The 2025 results reflect a strong, resilient and growing global Family Enrichment network. While the number of courses remained stable, participation continued to increase, reaching 8,424 couples and 1,930 single participants: **the highest levels recorded in the three-year period.**

Looking ahead, the positive participation trends, expanding international initiatives and strong engagement of volunteers and families around the world provide every reason for optimism. Together, these results confirm that IFFD is well positioned to continue **strengthening families and expanding its reach** in the years to come.

ACTIVITY DISTRIBUTION & PEOPLE ENGAGED

The 2025 activity distribution demonstrates a well-balanced global presence. Spain, the six most active countries (Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, the Philippines, and Poland) and all other countries each accounted for roughly **one-third of total activities**, reflecting both strong engagement and broad international participation.

In total, **36,159 people** participated in Family Enrichment activities in 2025. Participation was almost evenly split between **courses** (18,783 participants) and other **activities** (17,376 participants), highlighting a balanced approach that combines structured learning with a wide range of outreach and engagement initiatives.



36,159 people
engaged in
Family
Enrichment
Activity in **2025**

Congresses and Conventions

LONDON 2019



In October 2019, IFFD held the **20th World Congress of Family Enrichment in London**, bringing together more than 1,000 participants from 55 countries. The Congress focused on family well-being, education, leadership and public policy, while strengthening international collaboration through the Training of Moderators and the World Meeting of Leaders. The event also hosted the **First World Congress of Personal Project**, gathering 250 young participants from 35 countries and reinforcing IFFD's commitment to youth and family development worldwide.

CEBU 2024



In February 2024, IFFD held the **21st World Congress on Family Enrichment in Cebu** under the theme **"Family Life and New Technologies."** The Congress gathered more than 1,100 participants from 35 countries to discuss key issues affecting families in the digital age, including artificial intelligence, mental health, leadership and family policies. The event also included the **2nd World Congress of Personal Project**, together with leadership meetings and training sessions that strengthened international collaboration among Family Enrichment leaders. The support of **EDUCHILD** played a key role in the success of the event and the continued growth of initiatives in the Philippines.

ROME 2028



Preparations are underway for the next World Congress of Family Enrichment, to be held on **October 14, 2028 (tbc)**, in **Rome** under the theme **"Family Life and the Search for Meaning."** The World Meeting of Leaders will take place the previous day. Organized in collaboration with IFFD's local team in Italy, the Congress will adopt a new **one-day format**, allowing more time for networking and cultural activities.

EUROPEAN MEETING OF FAMILY ENRICHMENT & PERSONAL PROJECT LEADERS (POLAND)



On November 15, 2025, IFFD held the **European Meeting of Family Enrichment & Personal Project Leaders in Warsaw**, bringing together 130 participants from 16 countries to promote collaboration through workshops and group discussions. The meeting received strong feedback (9.2/10), with participants highlighting the organization, atmosphere, speakers and family involvement. Key sessions were delivered by **Raphael M. Bonelli** and **Monika Suchowierska-Stephany**.



IFFD also supported national conventions in the **United States, Brazil, Spain, Italy, France and Mexico**, strengthening global cooperation.

Projects

Family Enrichment Holidays



Family Enrichment Holidays combines **family vacations** with **Family Enrichment training**, bringing together families from different countries for a shared experience of learning, community life, leisure and spiritual development.

Torreciudad, Spain

From 28 June to 8 July 2025, IFFD hosted the Family Enrichment Holidays in Torreciudad, Spain. The event brought together 19 families from Croatia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Spain, the United Arab Emirates and the United States, totaling 40 adults and 73 children.



Table Mountains, Poland

From 12–25 July 2025, IFFD Poland hosted the first European Family Enrichment Holidays in the Table Mountains. Families from Finland, Slovenia, Lithuania, Croatia and Poland participated in this inaugural edition. The success of this first edition has led to plans for a second edition in 2026.



On Board



On Board is one of IFFD's newest programs for couples, designed to strengthen and enrich married life through a **four-session journey** delivered over three months: Lighthouse (self-discovery and reflection), Changing Course (navigating crises), Out to Sea (the vocation of marriage) and Full Sail (marital intimacy and self-giving love).

In **2025**, On Board expanded internationally with courses in Madrid, Pamplona and Granada in Spain, as well as Tucumán and Buenos Aires in Argentina. Participant feedback was highly positive, with satisfaction scores of 9.5/10 in Madrid and Pamplona and 8.5/10 in Granada.



The program continues to grow, with new editions already scheduled for 2026 in Pamplona, Vitoria and Málaga, as well as introductory sessions planned in Rome, Houston, Bogotá and Brasília.

Families without Barriers



Families without Barriers is a project that unites people from diverse cultural, economic and social backgrounds around universal issues such as children's education and family in an environment of friendship and mutual help.

During 2025, the Families without Barriers program continued to expand across Spain, operating in 10 provinces and delivering 40 courses that reached between **350 and 400 participants**. Building on this growth, preparations are underway to launch the program in Seville and expand to additional cities.



2025 has been a year of **consolidation** and **strategic evolution** for PAUSE. This report summarises the platform's key achievements across three dimensions: platform performance and growth, new content launched and innovation currently in progress.

- PERFORMANCE & GROWTH
- NEW CONTENT LAUNCHED
- INNOVATION IN PROGRESS

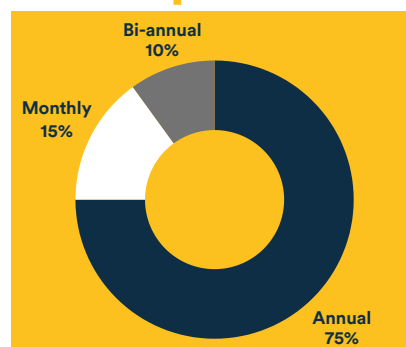
Platform data



Geographic Reach

PAUSE reaches families in **58 countries**. 70% of subscribers are based in **Spain**, while 30% come from international markets including **Canada**, the **United States** and dozens of countries across Europe and Latin America.

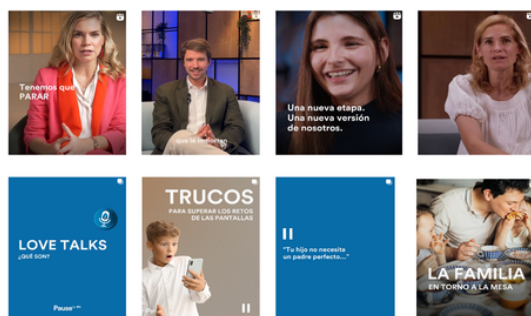
Subscription mix



Social Media Growth

In 2025, PAUSE strengthened its social media presence significantly. The Instagram community surpassed **3,000 followers**, consolidating an engaged audience around family education content.

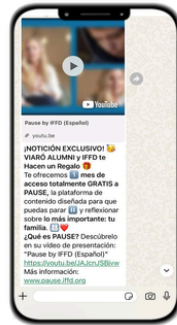
Among the milestones achieved during the year were the launch of the PAUSE **LinkedIn** page, which enabled the platform to reach a new professional audience and the launch of the PAUSE **TikTok** channel, opening the platform to a broader and younger demographic.



Business-to-Business Institutional Partnerships

PAUSE has built a growing B2B channel through **agreements** with educational institutions (schools, alumni associations and family clubs) and IFFD Family Enrichment Centers.

Some examples of partnerships include:



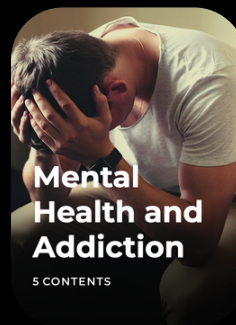
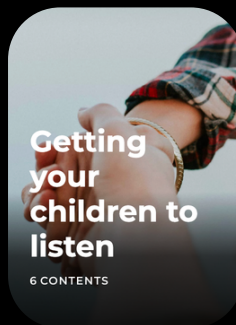
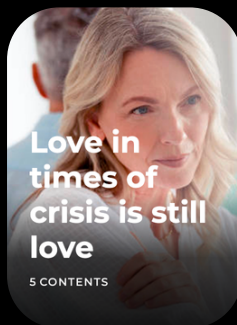
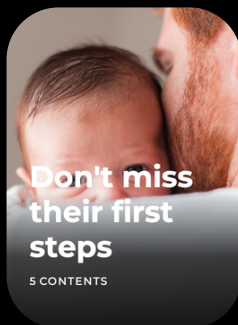
	VIARÓ ALUMNI
	ARENALES 25 COLEGIOS
	FOMENTO 35 COLEGIOS
	INSTITUCIÓ FAMILIAR D'EDUCACIÓ
	OTROS

Active partnerships in 2025 include:

- **IFFD Family Enrichment Centers:** All participants enrolled in IFFD courses receive free access to the PAUSE platform for three months.
- **Training for Faculty and Staff:** including teachers, family counselors and management teams.

New content launched in 2025

Throughout 2025, PAUSE significantly expanded its library with new expert-led modules covering the **full spectrum of family life**:



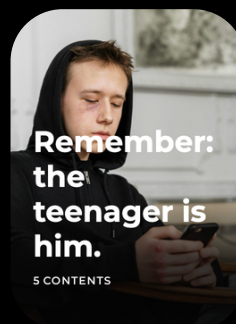
Early childhood development for new and expecting parents.

Resources for couples and families navigating relational difficulty.

Communication strategies and authority models for everyday family life.

Practical guidance for families navigating addiction and mental health challenges.

Digital wellbeing and the impact of social media on family dynamics.



Values formation, resilience and moral development in children.

Creating a nurturing and functional home environment.

Rituals, communication and family cohesion in everyday life.

Navigating adolescence with empathy and healthy boundaries.

Accessible introduction to artificial intelligence in family life.

Innovation & Development in Progress

Platform Evolution: From Library to Experiential Solution

The platform is evolving from a static video repository to a dynamic, personalized family accompaniment solution — hybrid access tiers, advanced AI-driven personalization and multi-format content (audio, video, guides, checklists) designed for real family life.

Native Mobile Application (Android & iOS)

The development of a **native mobile app** is the highest-priority product investment for the coming period. It will resolve the platform's most significant current gap — mobile usability — with background audio playback, a personalized home screen, favorites and progress tracking and a freemium model designed to lower entry friction and increase conversion to premium.

AI-Powered Family Companion Agent

PAUSE is developing an AI agent to serve as a personalized family guidance assistant — delivering contextualized content recommendations, intelligent navigation of the library and tailored guidance based on each family's profile and life stage.

Social Impact & Scholarship Program

A structured scholarship mechanism will extend platform access to 1,000 families who cannot afford a subscription, funded by donors and institutional partners and aligned with the international IFFD network.

Vision for 2026–2027



USER EXPERIENCE

More intuitive, agile, accessible and actionable across all devices and formats.



SCALABILITY

Integration across the international IFFD network with initiatives from countries.



NEW FORMATS

To better respond to our audience's interests, we are launching PAUSE Series (Voices) and PAUSE Podcast, two formats that emerged as top requests from our community.



BRAND & COMMUNITY

A stronger PAUSE identity rooted in trust, belonging and connection with real family needs.

Family Advocacy

IFFD advocates worldwide for a **family-focused approach to policymaking** as a key strategy for social development. Through programs in 68 countries, IFFD identifies challenges affecting family life, promotes academic research and expert collaboration, recommends evidence-based policies and raises awareness of the family's impact on society.

This work is carried out mainly at the **United Nations** and the European Union in collaboration with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (ECOSOC), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UN-HABITAT and other national, regional and local governments, together with academics and civil society partners. All this activity is expressed in four different outcomes:

EVENTS

STATEMENTS

PROJECTS

PAPERS

Events

IFFD BRIEFING & IFFD AWARDS 2025



The **IFFD Briefing** has been held at the UN Headquarters in New York for the past 13 years during the Session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD)

IFFD celebrates this event in collaboration with Member States, UN-System and other civil society organizations on issues related to each year's theme of the United Nations' Commission on Social Development.



The **2025 Briefing** was held on February 12th under the theme "**Towards the Second World Summit for Social Development: Innovating for families and a renewed social pact**". The event's welcoming remarks were delivered by **Nora Urrea**, Vice President of IFFD.

The **IFFD Awards** are presented during the IFFD Briefing to the persons or territories distinguished by the promotion of family-friendly policies. In 2025, the IFFD Global Board decided to recognize the promotion of family-friendly policies to:

- **The Province of Bataan** (The Philippines). Acceptance by Jose Enrique S. Garcia III, Governor
- **SOS Children's Villages International**. Acceptance by Sofia García, Head of Strategic Partnerships and External Engagement.



II WORLD SUMMIT ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



IFFD took a very active role in the **II World Summit on Social Development** held in Doha, Qatar from 4th to 6th of November. It was convened by the UN General Assembly exactly 30 years after the historic 1995 Copenhagen summit. It gathered Heads of State, Governments and Civil Society to address escalating global inequalities, poverty, decent work and the social impacts of climate change.



IFFD took the lead in **3 major events**, the **Solution Studio Session**, focused on **Family Policies and Programs**, Civil Society Solutions. This session aims to demonstrate how civil society is shaping and implementing family-focused policies and programs that respond to demographic shifts, promote social cohesion and reinforce care and support systems.

The Federation also organized alongside Poland the session referring to “**Care and Support Systems for Reinforcing Family-oriented Policies - A Vision for Sustainable Social Development**” and the session on **African Solutions for Family Policy** alongside UN-DESA, Kenya and Democratic Republic of Congo.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES (MAY 15)



IFFD participates actively every year in the celebration of the **Observance of the International Day of Families on May 15th**. The observance brings experts, policymakers, academics, civil society partners and private-sector representatives to United Nations Headquarters to discuss ways to improve the lives of many families worldwide.

Statements

Different UN bodies and other international organizations have different modalities for NGO participation, with a common denominator of participating in various sessions and consultations through **oral and written statements**. Among those opportunities, IFFD usually shares the policy recommendations based on our experiences with families in 68 countries, as they relate to the theme for each particular meeting.

Oral

Oral Statement – 63rd Commission on Social Development
(February, 2025)



Opening Remarks – IFFD Briefing 2025
(February, 2025)



Oral Statement – 58th Commission on Population and Development
(April, 2025)



Oral Intervention – Informal Stakeholder Hearing on the Second Summit for Social Development (May, 2025)



Written

Written Statement – 2025 Commission on Population and Development
(January, 2025)



Written Statement – UNICEF Executive Board Session 2025
(February, 2025)



Written Statement ECOSOC 2025: Family-Centered Vision for Social Progress (July, 2025)



Projects

With our effective and strategic projects we actively drive better implementation of family-friendly policies. We seek not only academic partners and researchers, but also other stakeholders worldwide that can help us achieve our goals more effectively, including the private sector and other civil society actors.

URBAN FAMILIES PROJECT

The **Inclusive Cities for Sustainable Families Project** promotes a family perspective in the design, implementation and evaluation of urban policies. Led by IFFD in collaboration with the Veneto Region, UN DESA and other academic partners, the initiative encourages representatives of cities and territories to become more responsive to the needs of sustainable families.



**URBAN
FAMILIES
PROJECT**



iffd
International Federation
for Family Development

More than **260 cities and regions** have endorsed the **Venice Declaration**, committing to advance family-friendly policies and monitor progress through the Good Practices Platform. In 2025, the cities of Envigado (Colombia), Jundiaí and Macatuba (Brazil) joined the initiative by signing the Declaration. São Paulo also hosted the 1st National Meeting of Inclusive Cities for Sustainable Families, bringing together local leaders and stakeholders to share experiences and strengthen collaboration.

The **6th Annual Technical Meeting** of the project took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 27–28 October 2025. Participants exchanged innovations in family-oriented urban policies, reviewed monitoring reports from Venice Declaration signatories, strengthened the Good Practices Platform and identified key indicators and enabling factors for success.

The project also contributed to the observance of **World Cities Day 2025 at United Nations** Headquarters in New York through the session “Inclusive Urban Futures: Families, Care and Innovation at the Heart of Cities,” highlighting the central role of families and care policies in building inclusive and sustainable cities.



ADVOCACY TRAINING PROJECT

The **Advocacy Training Project** provides students and early-career professionals with the knowledge, skills and practical experience needed to contribute to **research and advocacy** on family-related issues at the international level.

The **13th International Advocacy Workshop** was held in Paris from **9–13 June 2025**. The training week equipped participants with methodological tools, ethical frameworks and contextual understanding to support research on family dynamics, intergenerational solidarity and innovative care models for older persons. During the months following the workshop, participants engaged in practical and academic activities designed to strengthen the connection between social services and family-centered approaches across Europe.

As part of the project, IFFD collaborated with IPC–Facultés Libres de Philosophie et de Psychologie through an Erasmus+ research initiative. A total of 44 young researchers from 18 countries participated in a survey on the unmet needs and living conditions of older persons and contributed to working groups supporting the preparation and follow-up of the Second World Summit for Social Development.

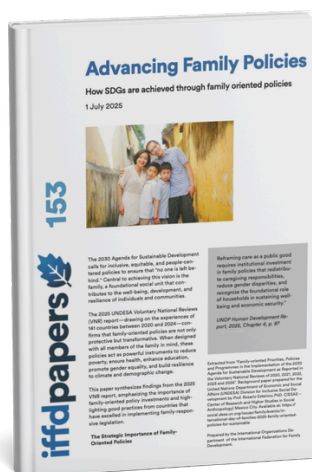
Since its launch, the IFFD International Advocacy Workshop has brought together around 500 students and young professionals from 39 countries, creating a global network of emerging leaders committed to advancing family-focused policies and research.



Papers

IFFD Papers is a collection of policy briefs focusing on a family-perspective approach produced monthly by the Federation in collaboration with authors and partners.

There were **10 papers** produced and published in 2025 by IFFD.



ADVANCING FAMILY POLICIES (1 JULY 2025)

The 2025 UN DESA Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) report —drawing on the experiences of 141 countries between 2020 and 2024— confirms that family-oriented policies are not only protective but transformative. When designed with all members of the family in mind, these policies act as powerful instruments to reduce poverty, ensure health, enhance education, promote gender equality and build resilience to climate and demographic change.

CARE AND FAMILIES (1 NOVEMBER 2025)



The Inter-American Court of Human Rights' Advisory Opinion OC-31/25 represents a landmark step in the recognition of caregiving as a matter of human rights. By defining care as an autonomous right, the Court elevated it from a derivative concept embedded in rights to health, education, or labor, to a self-standing entitlement that imposes direct obligations on States.

The consequences are profound: families gain enforceable entitlements to caregiving services and support; parenting is redefined as a state-supported right; and caregiving itself—long marginalized as private, unpaid and gendered labor—is recognized as socially indispensable work.

OTHER PUBLISHED PAPERS INCLUDE:

Family-Centered Cities,
Posted February 3, 2025

The Korean Case,
Posted May 4, 2025

Enhanced Family Life,
Posted March 4, 2025

Renewed Social Pact,
Posted September 9, 2025

A Global Social Contract,
Posted April 1, 2025

Autonomy and Inclusion,
Posted October 2, 2025

Healthy Urban Families,
Posted May 1, 2025

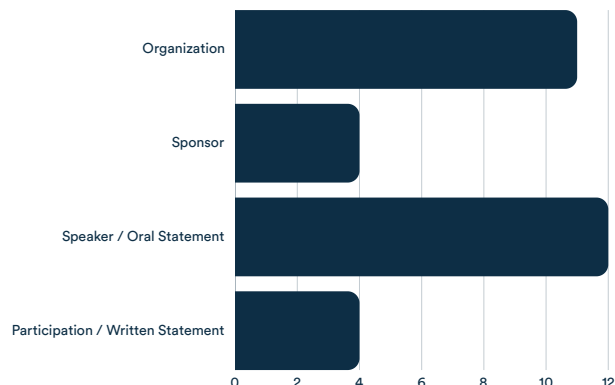
Advocacy Statistics

>EVENTS

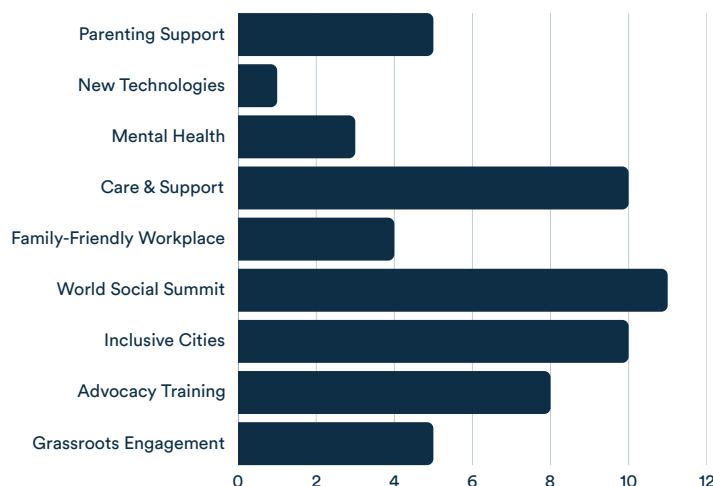
29
Events in 2025

2,885
Estimated attendees to events

IFFD'S ROLE IN EVENTS



ADVOCACY PRIORITIES IN EVENTS



>IMPACT AND ENGAGEMENT 2025

COUNTRIES IMPACTED

SPAIN	THE PHILIPPINES	KENYA
TURKEY	SWEDEN	CANADA
POLAND	SINGAPORE	NIGERIA
QATAR	GREECE	USA
HUNGARY	MALAYSIA	IVORY COAST
SAUDI ARABIA	BELGIUM	MEXICO
ITALY	JAPAN	MOROCCO
AZERBAIJAN	IRELAND	COLOMBIA
AUSTRIA	KOREA	EGYPT
UZBEKISTAN	DRC	ARGENTINA
NORWAY	THAILAND	

UN AGENCIES ENGAGED

UN-DESA
UN-WOMEN
UNICEF
POPULATION
DIV
WHO
STATISTICAL DIV
UN-HABITAT
ILO

IFFD FAMILY ENRICHMENT CENTERS ENGAGED IN ADVOCACY ACTIVITY

USA	MEXICO
IVORY COAST	ECUADOR
THE PHILIPPINES	POLAND
COLOMBIA	
KENYA	

NGOs ENGAGED

FAMILY TALKS (BRAZIL)
ELISAN (EUROPE)
SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES (GLOBAL)
DIFI (QATAR)
BLUE TREE FOUNDATION (SOUTH KOREA)
CADEM (TURKEY)

>PROJECTS: OUR IMPACT SO FAR

260

cities and regions
have endorsed the
Venice Declaration

500

students and young professionals
have participated in the
Advocacy Workshops
since its launch

IFFD in first person



GROWING TOGETHER: THE SMITHS' FAMILY ENRICHMENT JOURNEY

We met when we were in high school and got married right after college in 2018. We are very blessed to have **6 children** with the oldest being 7 years old. Ever since we got married we dreamed of forming a beautiful large family. Little did we know the ways in which **parenting would stretch us and challenge us**. From sleep training to discipline and establishing routines to strengthening our marriage, we were facing normal family challenges. We were so lucky to get introduced to **Family Enrichment**. We participated in the first ever **International Family Enrichment in 2021** and saw how helpful it was for our marriage and our confidence in parenting. We continued being involved and started forming part of the steering committee for Texas. Ultimately, we helped start a course in Houston.

2025 was a big year for us. We started the year with our 4th newborn baby, a huge blessing. In the spring, we were able to attend and participate in the **National Family Enrichment convention in San Antonio**. It was absolutely life-changing. We met so many inspiring couples. They shared their family stories and the role Family Enrichment had played in their lives. We also learned a lot from the keynote speakers— we were challenged to consider and grow in joy in the midst of family life as well as learning each other's love languages to better show our love and appreciation for the other members of our families. We met Rosa Pich and Leticia Rodríguez, Director of Family Enrichment, there—absolutely incredible people. We mentioned we were planning on going to Spain for the summer. They warmly invited us to attend **Family Enrichment Holidays 2025** and we could not refuse!

We had great expectations for the program, but in reality it was even better than we could have imagined. **It was truly magical**. We took care of our family relationships by spending quality time with our children. We also had a chance to **analyze a case with our small group** and then in a **general session**. It was incredible to have such good insight from couples from all over the world!

We had an incredible family summer holiday. We explored nature, enjoyed time at the pool, played sports and made new friends. Our kids, even though they were very young, were able to make memories that will last a lifetime.

As we reflect on the year 2025, we can't help but thank God for such incredible experiences that have created such a positive impact on our family.

We are beyond grateful to IFFD for providing families the opportunity to strengthen marriages and families through Family Enrichment. They have helped us strengthen our own family and we are certain it has touched and transformed many others!

Fast-forward to 2026, God has blessed us with baby twin boys, and we can't wait for this beautiful family adventure to continue! We look forward to learning more and more and to invite others to experience the life-changing experience of Family Enrichment.

Alec & Raquel Smith



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES, TRANSFORMING SOCIETY WITH THE STEBELSCYS

Thanks to **Family Enrichment**, we can become better parents every year, help our children grow to serve others, and thus become happy people. Last year was full of many events. We'd like to mention just three. **Family Enrichment Holidays** are held throughout Poland during the summer, with approximately 300 families participating in **12 FEH in 2025**.

In July 2025, the first **EFEH (European Family Enrichment Holidays)** took place, a holiday for families from various European countries (Lithuania, Latvia, Croatia, Slovenia, Poland, Finland) who spent a week in Poland in the Table Mountains. One of the guests and speakers was **Leticia Rodriguez, Director of Family Enrichment**. Since September 2025, alongside the Family Enrichment courses, training sessions for moderators have been held in three Polish cities, using the case method, which we, as participants, had the opportunity to learn more about during our summer stay in Torreciudad.

In the fall of 2025, the **EMFEL (European Meeting of Family Enrichment Leaders)** took place in Józefów near Warsaw – a meeting for Family Enrichment leaders from various European countries. Preparation for this conference was preceded by weekly online meetings and work in thematic groups. The conference provided an opportunity to build relationships between people involved in Family Enrichment in various countries and discuss challenges to Family Enrichment development. We discussed, among other things, how to better utilize AI tools in our Family Enrichment work. We have the overwhelming impression that the more time, ideas, and commitment we devote to the development of Family Enrichment in our country, the **stronger and happier our family emerges**, and in a small way we can make the world around us a better place.

We look to the future with enthusiasm and great hope and will continue to support Family Enrichment in Poland.

Eva & Marcin Stebelscy

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