

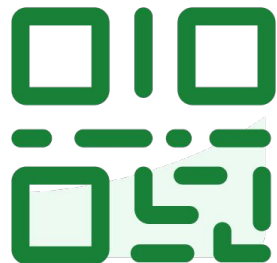


International  
**Forestry  
Students'**  
Association

# GA Preparation Workshop

For IFSS 2024

slido



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# Which Region are you joining from?

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# What are expectations from this Workshop?

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**Forestry  
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# GA Preparation Workshop

For IFSS 2024

# IFSA Background

# What is IFSA?

Established in 1990, IFSA is the **largest international association** for students of forestry and related fields

We are a globally organised and locally operating students organisation that has been organizing student symposiums since 1973.

We **connect, empower, and educate** the next generation of leaders in forestry and related sectors.







# Vision & Mission

## Vision

A world that appreciates forests

## Mission

To enrich our members' education through international events, networking and intercultural exchange



# Global - and Growing...



*World-wide network of students,  
young researchers, and  
advocates*



*Hub for Education and  
Professional Development*

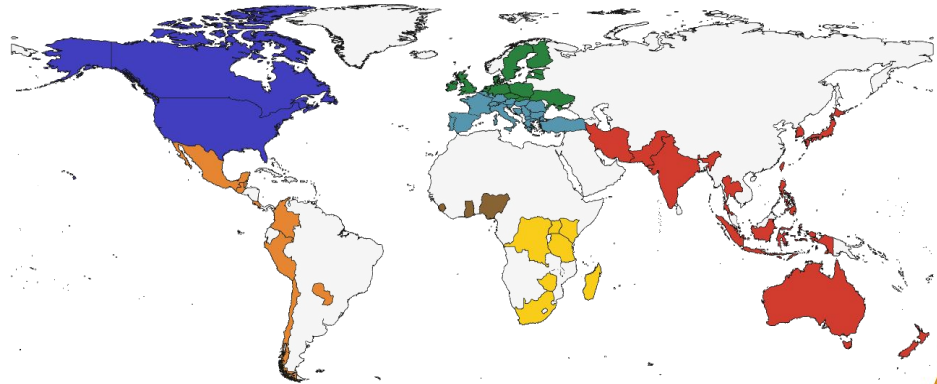


*Mobilizing youth for forestry  
and environmental advocacy*

# IFSA Regions

IFSA is divided into 7 regions

1. Northern America
2. Latin America
3. Northern Europe
4. Southern Europe
5. Northern Africa
6. Southern Africa
7. Asia Pacific





# IFSA Local Committees (LCs)

The basic pillars of IFSA

Student groups affiliated with the respective universities

More than 141 LCs from 64 countries worldwide

[ifsa.net/local-committees/](https://ifsa.net/local-committees/)







# Contents

## How the GA Works

- GA Format
- Accessing Documents
- General Assembly Agenda
- Elections

## GA Proposals

- Changes in RoP
- IFSA Strategy 2022/2026
- IFSA Budget
- Commissions' Proposals



# How the General Assembly Works?

# What is the General Assembly?

The General Assembly, or for friends GA, is the place where all the important decisions in IFSA are made:

- Assess the work completed over the past 12 months
- Approve the annual report, financial report and budget.
- Elect the next **Board** and **Head of Commissions**
- Identify hosts for future IFSA events in this case **IFSS 2026**.





# Who is in the GA?

- The GA is open to all IFSA members
- All IFSA Ordinary members (= Local Committees) that have paid the membership fee have 1 vote



# General Assembly Format

# Format General Assembly (GA)

- GA is **hybrid**
  - In-person participants (as IFSS 2022)
  - Online participants
- This year, GA will be conducted online
- You can fully participate in the GA (e.g. ask questions, propose changes, vote..) both if you are online or in person
- Voting happen only online between GA session

# Accessing documents

All documents presented at the GA will be available on the IFSA website

Get inspiration from 35th GA

- Homepage GA: <https://ifsa.net/ifss2023/ga/>
- Candidates: ***Will be announcing on the website very soon!***
- Documents and Recordings: ***Will be announcing on the website very soon !***

# GA Agenda

# Agenda Overview of General Assembly

- **Session 1** - Opening GA & Summary IFSA Term 2021/2022
  - Date & Time: Aug 4, 2024, 13:00-15:15 UTC+0
- **Session 2** - General IFSA Decisions (Changes RoP and new IFSA Strategy)
  - Date & Time: Aug 7, 2024, 13:00-17:20 UTC+0
- **Session 3** - Vetting of Board and Head of Commissions
  - Date & Time: Aug 9, 2024, 13:00-16:30 UTC+0
- **Session 4** - Next IFSA Term & Closing GA
  - Date & Time: Aug 11, 2024, 13:00-15:30 UTC+0

[Link to detailed agenda](#)



Time	Item
13:00-13:35 UTC+0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Opening of GA</li><li>• Nomination BoA and Election Committee from IFSA Board</li><li>• Invitation of guests to the GA from the IFSA Board</li><li>• Introduction to GA proceedings and voting systems</li><li>• Proposal of detailed agenda from IFSA Board</li><li>• Announce the number of Ordinary members entitled to vote</li><li>• Presentation Minutes from previous GA</li></ul>
13:35-14:15 UTC+0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of Annual Report</li><li>• Presentation of Membership Report</li></ul>
14:15-14:30 UTC+0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• BREAK</li></ul>
14:30-15:15 UTC+0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of Financial report last IFSA Term and previous calendar year</li></ul>

# Session 1

*Date & Time: Aug 4, 2024, 13:00-15:15 UTC+0*

## Voting 1

Ballot contains:

1. Board of Assembly
2. Election Committee
3. Detailed Agenda

Time	Item
13:00-13:10 UTC+0	1. Announce results of voting 1
13:10-14:10 UTC+0	2. Statute changes 3. RoP changes
14:10-14:20 UTC+0	Break
14:20-15:10 UTC+0	2. IFSA Budget for the new IFSA Term
15:10-15:20 UTC+0	Break
15:20-16:20 UTC+0	2. Changes in the IFSA Strategy 2022/2026
16:20-16:50 UTC+0	2. Establishment of Sub-Commissions
16:50-17:20 UTC+0	2. Nomination of Honorary and Consulting Members

## Session 2

*Date & Time: Aug 7, 2024, 13:00-17:20 UTC+0*

### Voting 2

Ballot contains:

1. Statute changes
2. RoP changes
3. IFSA Budget
4. Honorary and Consulting Members



## Session 3

*Date & Time: Aug 8, 2024, 09:00-11:30  
UTC+0*

### Voting 3

Ballot contains:

1. Direction
2. Council
3. Heads of Commissions
4. IFSS OC

Time	Item
13:00-13:15 UTC+0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Announce results of voting 2</li></ul>
13:15-14:10 UTC+0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vetting Direction</li></ul>
14:10-14:15 UTC+0	Break
14:15-15:10 UTC+0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vetting Council</li></ul>
15:10-15:55 UTC+0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vetting Head of Commissions</li></ul>
15:55-16:00 UTC+0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vetting of IFSS OC</li></ul>
16:00-16:30 UTC+0	

Time	Item
13:00-13:20 UTC+0	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discharge of previous Officials</li> <li>2. Announce results of voting 3</li> </ol>
13:20-13:40 UTC+0	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Presentation OC IFSS 2025 Indonesia</li> </ol>
13:40-13:50 UTC+0	Break
13:50-14:30 UTC+0	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Plans next IFSA Term</li> </ol>
14:30-14:45 UTC+0	Break
14:45-15:20 UTC+0	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Official and Commissioner of the Year + IFSA Excellence Awards 2024</li> </ol>
15:20-15:30 UTC+0	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Closing GA</li> </ol>

## Session 4

*Date & Time: Aug 11, 2024, 10:00-12:00  
UTC+0*

# Elections

# Election process

- The following Positions are elected at the GA
  - **Board**
    - **Direction** (*President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary*),
    - **Council** (*Membership Councilor, External Councilor and Internal Councilor*)
  - **Heads of Commissions**
  - **IFSS 2026 Organizing Committee**
- Elections are always done by secret ballot, a process organized by the Election Committee.
- All of the eligible LCs will have one voting right for the candidates through eBallot sent out to their official IFSA email addresses.

# Applications

- The Open Calls are out for the Direction, Council and Heads of Commissions and IFSS 2026 Organizing Committee. .
- The deadline for applications are on **8th of August 23:59 UTC+0**
- Applications will be uploaded on the website for members to view
- Can apply for **2 positions** at the same time
- Applications contains:
  - Motivation Letter
  - Application Video
  - Work Plan

Should you need more information about the position you want to apply for, reach out to the current position holders

# Membership fees

# Membership fees

With the exception of 1st year in IFSA, all LCs are supposed to Pay an annual membership fee. As of the 34th GA 2023, below are the rates

- Ordinary Members
  - LICs: 50 Euros,
  - MICs: 100 Euros,
  - HICs: 210 Euros.
- Benefits of paying membership fee
  - Guarantees voting right at the GA
  - Opens access to opportunities in IFSA
- **NB: Failure to pay membership fee for 3 consecutive terms will lead to dismissal of an LC**

# Voting



# Vetting

→ Just before voting happens, candidates are Vetted

- Candidate applications will be uploaded to the website and LC members to watch the videos and read motivation videos!
  - Review the applications carefully so that you vote for competent candidates-
- Candidates will be vetted at the **3rd plenary session on 9th of August 2024.**
- During vetting, candidates are given time (the time frame depends on the position desired) to present themselves, their capacities and goals if elected in the position they are running for.
  - Its an opportunity to interact with the applicants, ask them questions and know their Manifestos!

# Online Voting

After vetting takes place, you have an idea of who to vote!

## How will voting take place?

- Voting happens only online between GA session
- Voting session lasts at least 48 hours
- Every LC has 1 vote
  - No proxy votes or possibility to delegate your vote
  - Everyone has the ability to vote, don't have to be in person at IFSS
- Quorum is calculated for every voting session

# Voting Platform

- Elections work are done using [ElectionBuddy](#)
  - Guarantees integrity and anonymity of voting
  - Simple online voting
- LCs will receive a ballot in their official email address ([lc.name@ifsa.net](mailto:lc.name@ifsa.net))

This is the **only way** to vote.

- If you don't have access to the official LC email address get in touch with [web@ifsa.net](mailto:web@ifsa.net) to get a new password
- Ballots cannot be edited after submitting
- Step by Step voting guide at <https://ifsa.net/online-ifss/vote-howto/>

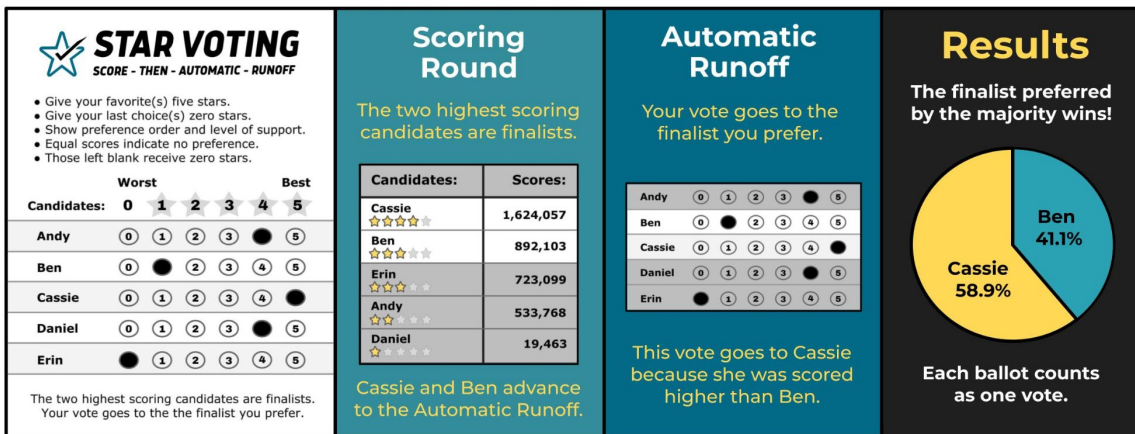
# Voting system - Approve motions

- All motions in the GA are approved by a simple majority vote (vote in favours should be more than the vote against)
- In the ballot the options are
  - Approve
  - Reject
  - Abstain
- This is the default voting system. For example, used in:
  - Approve Agenda
  - Change in the RoP
  - Approve budget

# Voting system - Elections

Voting system for election is a slightly customized version of STAR voting

## How does STAR Voting work?



Whether or not your favorite can win, your vote goes to the finalist you prefer!



Ballot
Review
Confirmation

## IFSA

### IFSA STAR Voting Template v2

Your choices can be viewed by the administrator

#### Position 1

Score ZERO to THREE choices. If you don't want to vote, select abstain.

Candidates	
Candidate 1	<div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>
Candidate 2	<div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>
Candidate 3	<div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>
Abstain	

Continue >>

## What do I see on the ballot?

For each candidate

- — (or abstain from candidate)
- 0
- 1
- 2 - Min to get elected
- 3
- 4
- 5 - Highest

And an option to abstain from the whole position

# How are votes counted?

1. Step 1. Ballots closes after the set duration, and results viewed
2. Step 2. For each ballot, a candidate with the highest rating wins, where two individuals are needed, the top two rated candidate take the position
3. Step 3: If all the candidates on the ballot score less than  $\frac{2}{5}$ , the position is re advertised

The Results from the Voting platform will be Screenshotted and presented at the GA



# Why STAR Voting

- One election multiple elections
  - Candidates can run for up to 2 positions and is still only one election
- Regional constraints
  - The regional constraints in board diversity can be guaranteed without another election
- Fairer voting system
  - Voters express their preference on each candidate, don't have to choose only the best one
- No incentive for strategic votes
  - Strategic voting (giving low scores to the candidates you don't prefer) doesn't work with STAR voting

More info at <https://www.starvoting.us> or  
<https://electionscience.github.io/vse-sim/VSEbasic/>

# Changes in RoP

# What is Rules of Procedure?

- The Rules of Procedure (RoP) clarify the internal regularities of IFSA.
- They are not part of IFSA's Statutes; they are read together with the Statutes and are subject to the provisions of the Statutes.
- The GA decides upon the RoP according to the procedure set in the Statutes.
- The RoP comes into force through publication on the IFSA website.



# RoPs Proposal Process

## Changes RoPs such as:

- On Membership fees for associate members etc.
- Update to IFSA's Budget
- Removal or additional of old sections
- Grammatical changes & general update
- Voting regarding Changes
- Updating on website

# IFSA Strategy 2022/2026

# What is IFSA Strategy?

- IFSA Strategy is a document describing the association's goals and concrete actions on how to achieve them.
- The first IFSA Strategy was launched in 2008 and in the Annual Report 2007/2008.
- Each strategy works in the timeframe of 3-4 years.
- [IFSA Strategy 2018-2022](#)
- [Draft - IFSA Strategy 2022-2026](#)



# IFSA Strategy 2022-26



## Goal 1 Strengthen the IFSA Community



Sub-goal 1.1  
Expand the  
IFSA Network



Sub-goal 1.2  
Promote  
IFSA events



Sub-goal 1.3  
Enhance collaboration  
within the IFSA community



Sub-goal 1.4  
Enhance digital  
communications



Sub-goal 1.5  
Strengthening equality  
and inclusivity



## Goal 2 Take Learning Beyond the Classroom



Sub-goal 2.1  
Enhance soft skills and  
personal development



Sub-goal 2.2  
Enhance forestry  
education



Sub-goal 2.3  
Promote networking and  
exchange of experiences



Sub-goal 2.4  
Prepare students for  
employment opportunities



## Goal 3 Enable Students to Engage Globally



Sub-goal 3.1  
Advocate for youth in  
international policy and  
decision making processes



Sub-goal 3.2  
Promote participation of IFSA  
members at international events



Sub-goal 3.3  
Communicate global  
opportunities

# Structure

- **Goals**

- are the strategic areas where IFSA is investing.

- **Sub-Goals**

- are the specific aims that IFSA is planning to achieve. The descriptions includes a rationale for their relevance.

- **Action points**

- are concrete activities that IFSA is planning to do to achieve the sub-goals. The description includes concrete examples of projects and activities that can be implemented and what their requirements are.

- **Indicators**

- The indicators are the way to monitor the implementation of the action points, assess their impact. They are the key to measure the effectiveness of the strategy implementation and to compare IFSA across different years.



# Changes in the Strategy

- [[https://docs.google.com/document/d/16ToMT\\_8mwacODhjMouc9im5C3DyPLW-9YeERUXp1qMU/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/16ToMT_8mwacODhjMouc9im5C3DyPLW-9YeERUXp1qMU/edit)]
- Please suggest your changes for the IFSA Strategy!

# IFSA Budget Proposal 2024/25

# Expenses

Category	Item	Amount	Description	Comments
General Administration	General Administration	€ 2 000.00	General expenses (eg. bank account cost). Includes expenses for GA	
	Subscriptions and Website	€2,600.00	Maintenance website and subscriptions (eg. Zoom, Adobe CC)	This budget does not allow for any additional subscription
Meetings	Interim	€ 4 000.00	Support travel and subsistence costs for Interim	
	IFSS	€ 3 000.00	Loan; Support organization of IFSS	Loan
	NERM	€ 1 000.00	Support for organization RM	
	SERM	€ 1 000.00	Support for organization RM	
	NARM	€ 1 000.00	Support for organization RM	
	SARM	€ 1 000.00	Support for organization RM	
	APRM	€ 1 000.00	Support for organization RM	
	LARM	€ 1 000.00	Support for organization RM	
	CARM	€ 1 000.00	Support for organization RM	
	Board & Department meetings	€ 2 000.00	Travel and subsistence costs for Board meetings (at least 2 per year) and Department Meetings (at least 1 per year) and Support for RRs going to RMs	
Funds	Development Fund	€ 7 500.00	Development Fund 2024/2025	
	Rest Development Fund 23/24	€ 2 500.00	left to pay in term 24/25	
	Officials' and Delegation Fund	€ 4 000.00	Support travel and subsistence costs for delegates and for Officials in Official IFSA Business	
Projects	TreE-Learning	€ 200.00	Development content on TreE-Learning platform	
	Gender Projects	€ 2 500.00	from Forstfrauenkonferenz 2021, reserved for projects on gender	
Partners	IUFRO	€ 3 155.00	Reimbursement Intern at IUFRO	IUFRO Membership fee & Internship
	FAO (Delegations)	€ 1 762.44	Support travel and subsistence costs for delegates at FAO events	Income from FAO in previous years to support IFSA at their events
Total		€ 42 217.44		

# Income

Income				
Category	Item	Amount	Description	Comments
Membership Fees	Ordinary members	€ 7 040.00	Membership fee ordinary members	Assumes everyone is paying the membership fee it would be double that (14080.00)
Partners	IUFRO	€ 2 500.00	From IUFRO to support Intern	
IFSA Auction	Development Fund	€ 1 500.00	Donations from Auctions at IFSA events for development fund	
other income	Donations	€ 0.00	General donations	
IFSS	Loan payback	€ 3 000.00	Loan; Paypack of support organization of IFSS	
Total		€ 14 040.00		

# Commissions' Proposals

# What are the IFSA Commissions?

- The GA establishes commissions in any composition and for any purpose.
- Head of Commission, Sub-Commissions and Commissioners are responsible for the operation and coordination of the Commission.
- There are currently 4 Commissions in IFSA



# Capacity Development Commission

Sub-Commissions	Status	
Carbon and Sustainability	Continue	✓
Cultural Competencies	Continue	✓
Language	Continue	✓
Forestry Education and Mentorship	Continue	✓
Joint IUFRO-IFSA Task Force on Forest Education	Continue/Rename → Joint IUFRO-IFSA Task Force	✓
Gender	Continue	✓
Fundraising	Continue	✓
Workshop and Program Design	Continue	✓
TreE-Learning	Continue	✓

# Communications Commission

Sub-Commission	Status	
Design	Continue	✓
Web	Continue	✓
Publications	Continue	✓
Social Media	Continue	✓
Discord	Merged under Social Media	-
Podcast	New	✓



# Partners' Commission

Commission	Status	
CIFOR-ICRAF	Continue	✓
GLF/YiL (2 year position)	Continue	✓
FAO	Continue (change to 2-year position)	✓
The Forests Dialogue	Continue	✓
ITTO	Continue	✓
EFI	Continue	✓
IUFRO	Continue (revert to 1 year position)	✓
RECOFTC	Continue	✓
IUCN	Continue	✓
FSC	Create	+
Regional partnerships	Create	+
Pro Silva	Discontinue (move to Regional Partnerships SC)	✗

# International Processes Commission

Commission	Status	
Forest Europe	Continue	✓
UNCBD	Continue (2 year position)	✓
UNEP (GPI, UN-REDD)	Continue (1 year position)	✓
UNFCCC	Continue (Change to 2 year position)	✓
UNFF	Continue (2 year position)	✓
WFF	Continue	✓
UNCCD	Continue	✓
UNECE	Continue	✓

???

**Q&A**

*Ask us your questions!*

***Thank you for your attention!***

For your questions, write to:

[board@ifsa.net](mailto:board@ifsa.net)