

Our Impact in 2025

Advancing global access to life-saving stem cell transplantation

Report to the Community



Creating Impact Together

Every year, thousands of patients around the world depend on an unrelated volunteer donor to receive a potentially life-saving transplant. Making these transplants possible requires a highly coordinated international network built on trust, quality standards, shared data, and cross-border collaboration. WMDA serves as the global infrastructure that enables this network to function safely and effectively.

In 2025, WMDA supported a global community spanning 57 countries and helped strengthen a network comprising more than 44.3 million registered unrelated voluntary stem cell donors. Together with its members and partners, WMDA contributed to the transplant ecosystem that enabled 35,000 patients to receive an unrelated donor transplant and facilitated more than 200,000 donor searches worldwide. Nearly half of these unrelated donor transplants crossed international borders, demonstrating the importance of global cooperation in providing patients with access to the best available donor.

Throughout the year, WMDA invested in five strategic areas: Search, Match & Connect; Global Development; Donor Care; Quality; and Member Engagement. Key achievements included strengthening digital donor search infrastructure, expanding education and capacity-building activities, supporting the development of new registries, advancing donor safety through SPEAR reporting, growing certification activities, and preparing the community for future developments in transplantation and cellular therapies.

This report demonstrates how WMDA, together with its members, volunteers, partners, and supporters, continues to improve access to safe, high-quality stem cell transplantation while protecting donors and building a more connected, resilient, and equitable global transplant community.



The image displays a donor and patient meeting each other.

During the event, representatives of donors issued a call to action, urging more healthy, eligible citizens to join the China Marrow Donor Program.

WMDD2025活动和活动摘要

In honour of the 11th 'World Marrow Donor Day' campaign, the Red Cross Society of China, in collaboration with the China Marrow Donor Program Management Center and the Red Cross Society of China Hebei Branch, organised the 'Celebrating Hope Heroes' event.



Contents

- 3 | Our Profile
- 4 | Our Journey
- 5 | A Global Member Association
- 7 | Our Impact in 2025
- 15 | Governance, Accountability & Sustainable Resources
- 22 | Looking Ahead

“As the current president of the WMDA (World Marrow Donor Association), and as someone who is alive today because a stranger donated her stem cells to save my life, I’ve seen firsthand what international cooperation among nonprofits can accomplish when it’s built on trust, shared standards and a genuine commitment to the patient on the other end of the search.”

Jay Feinberg - *President WMDA*



”



Support Members To Achieve Their Goals



Cross-Border Collaboration To Promote Donor Care



Equal Access For Patients By Connecting Our Members

Our Profile

A Global Network of Life-Saving Transplants

WMDA is a global association connecting registries, cord blood banks, and transplant stakeholders across 57 countries.



-  Countries listing voluntary stem cell donors for international exchange through WMDA
-  Countries working with WMDA, not yet listing voluntary stem cell donors

Our vision

A world where every patient has access to life-saving cellular therapies.

Our mission

To enable global collaboration that ensures safe, high-quality transplantation while protecting donors.

We achieve this by:

- Driving digitalisation of the global search and facilitation process;
- Strengthening donor care across all donation types;
- Enabling collaboration between members, regulators, and partners.

Our Pillars

Our committees act as expert bodies, shaping progress across:

- Pillar 1: Optimising 'Search, Match & Connect'
- Pillar 2: Supporting Global Development
- Pillar 3: Promoting Donor Care
- Pillar 4: Ensuring Quality - Certification Body
- Pillar 5: Driving Member Engagement

25

Committees

43

Active projects

151

Member
organisations

1700+

Individuals
engaged

Our Journey

Since its origins in 1988, WMDA evolved from a pioneering idea into a global infrastructure supporting transplantation worldwide. Over nearly four decades, our growth mirrors the increasing international collaboration required to save lives.

Key Milestones Include:

- 1988: Publication of the first telephone book with potential donors
- 1994: Establishing global standards for donor registries
- 2003: Launching the SPEAR Reporting Tool for donor safety monitoring
- 2015: Introducing World Marrow Donor Day
- 2021: Advancing digital systems for global donor search and coordination

As a result, patients gained access, registries improved capability, searches became faster, donors were better protected.

And our journey continues, as Dr. Carlheinz Müller said during his Shirley Nolan Lecture*:

“Bioinformatics has made a highly efficient contribution to improving the donor selection process. Its value was particularly significant in the era before Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS)-based HLA typing became widely available. With the adoption of NGS technology, the donor selection landscape changed fundamentally, reducing the dependence on bioinformatics-driven approaches. As younger donors increasingly enter the registry with comprehensive, high-resolution typing data, the need for traditional bioinformatics methods will gradually decline. Nevertheless, bioinformatics continues to play an important role in addressing complex matching challenges such as multiple mismatches and remains a valuable source of innovation and problem-solving within donor selection.”

Carlheinz Müller - *Past-President WMDA*



”

WMDA in	1988	2025
 Voluntary Stem Cell Donors on File	6000	Over 44,000,000
 Countries Participating	8	57
 Patient Searches Performed for an Unrelated Stem Cell Donor	500	Over 1,000,000
 Stem Cell Donations Facilitated	0	Over 500,000

*The Shirley Nolan Lectureship honors Shirley Nolan’s pioneering work setting up the first donor registry and is awarded to individuals who have advanced the transplantation field, continuing her legacy of saving lives through stem cell donation and global knowledge sharing.

A Global Member Association

Operating Through Professional Collaboration

As an Association we look for ways to make a difference together with our members:



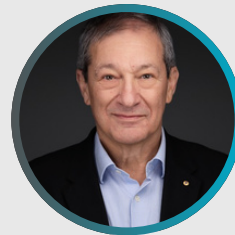
”

“My journey as a WMDA evaluator has been both meaningful and fulfilling. What stands out most to me is not only the knowledge gained through audits and training, but the sense of purpose behind this role. Being part of a global effort that supports safe and effective donor registry practices has been truly impactful. Each experience has deepened my appreciation for the dedication within this field and has continuously shaped my perspective on quality, safety, and collaboration.”

Zainab Al Mutairi, SSCDR, Saudi Arabia
WMDA Evaluator

“My best volunteer experience.”

Jeff Szer, Royal Melbourne Hospital BMT Service, Australia
Chair of the Impartiality Committee



”



”

“I thoroughly enjoy the community (the people) and see great value in the work we're doing. Work with WMDA is among the best parts of my job with my registry.”

Matt Prestegaard, NMDP, United States of America
Chair of the Search, Match & Connect Steering Committee
Member of the Standards Committee
Member of the Cryopreserved Product Standards

Thank
you!

In 2025, we are grateful to **374**
volunteers who actively
contributed to our mission!

WMDA is a global network, powered by its members.

In 2025, WMDA members came together to align on plans, guided by a simple principle: serving patients in need of a transplant while safeguarding donor well-being. This commitment has always been at the heart of our work and continues to define our direction as a global network.

This year, during World Marrow Donor Day, I had the privilege of standing amongst hundreds of volunteers in China, celebrating with the China Marrow Donor Program (CMDP). Moments like these, understanding local realities, and meeting the people behind the registries, remind me that WMDA can only be relevant when we remain connected to the organisations we serve.

Across our membership, I continue to see the same determination: protecting donors while striving to find the best treatment option for every patient. Resources are used responsibly, donors are supported with care, and transplant centres are served with professionalism. This is where our collective impact becomes tangible.

WMDA is a global network of registries, donor centres, cord blood banks, transplant professionals, and partners. Their expertise and collaboration shape our priorities and ensure efforts are directed where they matter most. Our members are not simply users of WMDA services, they are co-owners of a shared infrastructure that enables transplantation across borders.

Looking beyond today's needs, we prepared for the future through strategic discussions on artificial intelligence, advanced therapies, evolving regulations, and demographic change. These conversations helped clarify where WMDA must remain steady, where we must adapt, and where thoughtful investment will be essential.

At the same time, we are operating in a world marked by geopolitical tensions, economic uncertainty, regulatory complexity, and rising operational costs, that continue to place pressure on healthcare systems worldwide. Yet our community demonstrated resilience, investing in infrastructure, and sustainability to keep transplantation accessible, efficient, and safe.

WMDA strengthened its focus by deepening engagement with small and medium-sized registries, supporting regional collaboration, expanding certification activities, and continuing its leadership in donor care and biovigilance.

We will continue to focus on where we can create the greatest impact together. By listening to our members, simplifying where possible, we will continue to build a stronger, more connected, and future-ready WMDA, always guided by our commitment to patients and donors.



Lydia Foeken - CEO WMDA

Our Impact in 2025

Turning Ambition into Measurable Impact

In 2025, WMDA contributed to a growing global transplant system:

Patients & Donors

200,000 searches initiated by our members

70,000 patient records in Search & Match

44,334,179 registered voluntary unrelated donors

38% young donors in the database (age <35, +2%)

35,000 patients supported through collaboration

90% donors are registered at WMDA certified organisations

18 updated donor suitability recommendations

Community & Awareness

World Marrow Donor Day
(20 Sept, 11th edition)

7 countries supported via grants (Ethiopia, Tunisia, Algeria, Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Morocco, Indonesia)

Knowledge (Science & Education)

4 matching algorithms validated

4 scientific publications

7 educational webinars

74 search coordinators graduated to strengthen search expertise

3 joint in-person meetings (EBMT, FACT, ISCT)

6 in-person best practice meetings

Safety & Compliance (SPEAR & Quality)

357 SPEAR reports submitted (+23)

44 SPEAR reporting organisations (+8)

1 rapid alert shared

40 WMDA certified organisations

60 WMDA Standards reviewed

60 volunteer evaluators (+5)

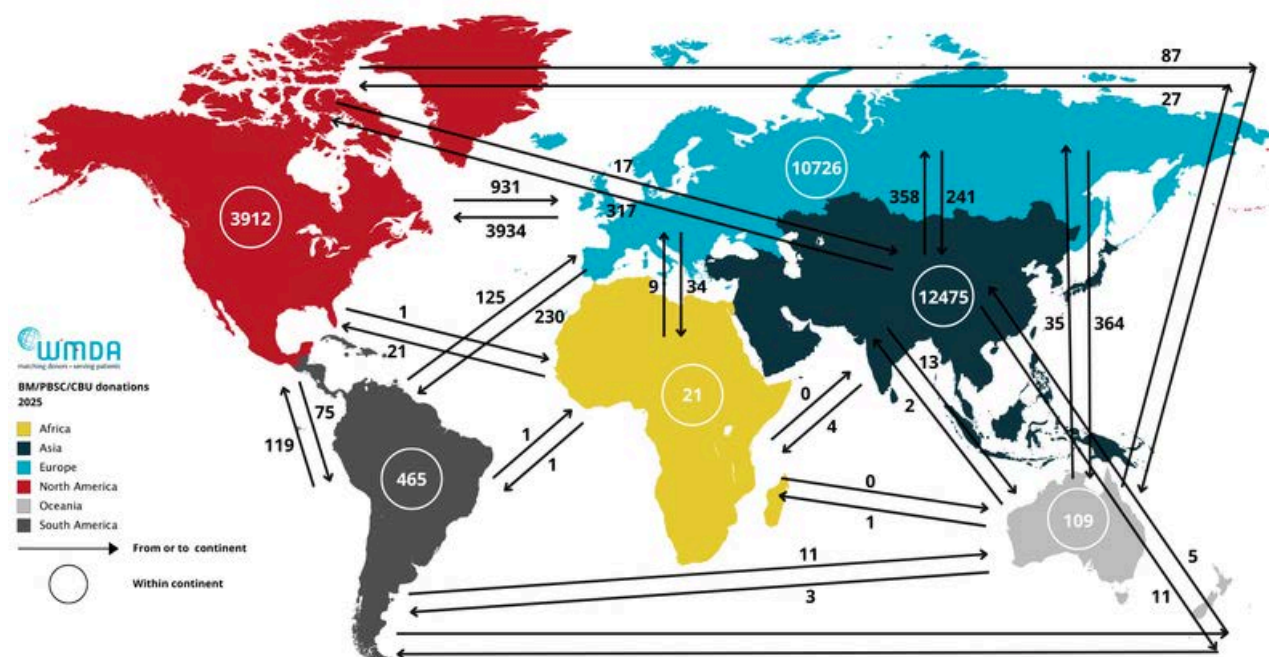
2 certified courier companies (Ontime Courier GmbH, time:matters GmbH)



Contributing to Global Collaboration Together

Global Exchange Between Continents 2025

(Bone Marrow/Peripheral Blood Stem Cells/Cord Blood Units)*

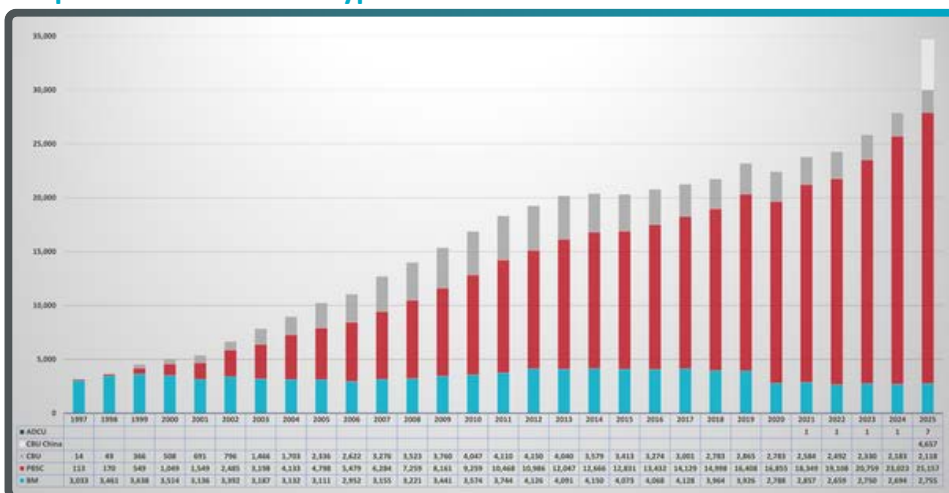


In 2025:

- 1.9 million voluntary unrelated donors recruited
- 21,000 cord blood units banked
- 368 adult donor cryopreserved units banked
- 49% of the unrelated transplants were shipped for international patients
- 66% of the donors are typed on high resolution (for HLA-A, -B, -C, -DR(B1), -DQ(B1))

This reflects a highly interconnected global network, where collaboration is essential to patient outcomes.

Shipments Per Product Type in 2025



Thank you

Gift of Life Marrow Registry and NMDP for ensuring that this information was collected and provided to members.

Impact in Action

“196 of the 198 matched unrelated stem cell donor transplants undergone by Swiss patients in 2025 involved material donated internationally, coming from a total of 23 countries. This shows that international cooperation is necessary to enable patients in Switzerland even to obtain access to a life-saving stem cell transplant.”

Blutspende SRK Schweiz AG, Switzerland



— ” —

“Implementation of the Patient and Search APIs (Application Programming Interface) and elimination of our local search algorithm have streamlined the search process and simplified system infrastructure, resulting in personnel and system efficiencies, reduced chance of data entry error, faster times to identify potential matches for patients in need, and cost savings. Our upcoming implementation of the Connect API will prepare us to communicate with all other registries in an effective, efficient, and secure way using modern technology, and ensures continued electronic communications with current partners when EMDIS is obsolete. We have no doubt that the up-front efforts to implement this change will be far outweighed by the long-term benefits.”

Janet Parks, Canadian Blood Services Stem Cell Registry, Canada



— ” —

“WMDA is advancing global access to advanced therapies by collaborating with professional societies to address key challenges in donor protection, consent, and standardisation of starting materials. Through expert engagement, guideline development, and contributions to accreditation standards, WMDA is strengthening ethical practices and harmonisation across the advanced therapy ecosystem.”

Yen-Michael S. Hsu, Gift of Life Marrow Registry, United States of America



— ” —

“We would like to sincerely thank WMDA for the time and dedication. We are truly pleased with the process, the work carried out has been very valuable. We greatly appreciate your recommendations for improvement and have already begun working on them!”

Laura Aguerre, Argentine HSC Donors Registry - INCUCAI, Argentina



— ” —

“We highly value WMDA’s commitment to capacity building and sincerely hope for your continued technical support and collaboration as we work towards strengthening our national capabilities in this field.”

Habtam Taye, Ethiopian Blood and Tissue Bank Service, Ethiopia
Winner of Gift of Life Marrow Registry
Bronze World Marrow Donor Day Grant 2024



— ” —

Facilitating Better Matching and Digital Facilitation of Transplants

WMDA enables healthcare professionals around the world to find the best stem cell source for their patients in need. Our global systems connect registries and transplant centres, ensuring that high-quality donor and cord blood information is shared quickly and reliably.



In 2025, we modernised our data infrastructure to improve the speed, data accuracy, and the reliability of data information exchange. Our matching algorithm providers participated in a validation study in which four matching algorithms were compared. As a result, it will become easier to explain differences between matching outcomes. We continue to reduce the time to transplant, such as flagging extensively typed cord blood units and newly available adult donor cryopreserved products.

Collaboration is at the heart of this progress. WMDA is grateful to the providers of the matching algorithms, Hap-E Search (DKMS) and Atlas (Anthony Nolan/NMDP) for their generous and ongoing support.

Future of Donor Search & Facilitation

Digital tools such as Match-Connect enable real-time communication between registries, reducing delays and streamlining search & facilitation processes.

In 2025, early adopters tested Match-Connect before it was fully rolled out worldwide. Their feedback helped identify and fix practical or technical issues, ensuring the system works smoothly and safely. This step was essential to building a reliable solution that meets the needs of healthcare professionals everywhere. The number of registries that share real-time donor data with WMDA is increasing. As of June 2026, 73.3% of the donor data is updated every day.



Jan Hoffmann presenting Match-Connect during IDRC 2025, Quebec, Canada

When a patient is in need of a transplant, WMDA provides advice to healthcare professionals on the potential options within a few minutes.

Growing a Diverse and Global Donor Community

By sharing knowledge and best practices, our members adapt approaches to reflect cultural and regional differences, strengthening donor engagement globally.

A key focus is improving continuity for donors who move across borders. As no standard process currently exists for transferring donor records internationally, WMDA develops solutions to ensure donors remain connected to patients in need, regardless of location.

At the same time, WMDA supports the establishment of new donor registries and cord blood banks, guiding organisations from initial planning through to full integration into the global network. This expands access to transplantation in underserved regions.

Despite this progress, donor representation remains uneven. Most donors are based in Europe and North America, limiting access for patients in other regions. Increasing diversity within the global donor pool is therefore essential to improving equity in transplant outcomes.

Education is central to this work. Through its global education programme, WMDA provides high-quality training for healthcare professionals, complemented by webinars, workshops, and regional meetings that promote knowledge sharing. In 2025, the International Donor Registry Conference (IDRC), hosted by Héma-Québec in collaboration with Cell Therapy Transplant Canada, brought the global community together to explore innovation in science.

Regional engagement was further strengthened through events such as the Asia-Pacific Registries Meeting hosted by the Hong Kong Bone Marrow Donor Programme.

By combining education, collaboration, and global standards, WMDA is building a more inclusive and resilient system, giving patients everywhere a better chance of receiving a life-saving transplant.



IDRC 2025, Quebec, Canada (left)



WMDA visiting the Malaysian Ministry of Health (top right) and Japanese Red Cross (bottom right)

Global Safety and Care in Stem Cell Donation

As stem cell therapies continue to evolve, ensuring donor safety is more important than ever. Donors today may contribute not only to transplantation but also to research and advanced cellular therapies. In response, WMDA brings together global experts to share knowledge and strengthen practices, leading to the development of standards that support safe and responsible donation beyond traditional transplantation.

WMDA enhances safety through its global SPEAR Reporting Tool, which tracks and analyses events across donation, transport, and transplantation. By learning from these insights, the international community continuously improves care and reduces risks. In 2025, WMDA further promoted the use of SPEAR as a potential model for broader regulatory application.

Clear, up-to-date medical guidance remains essential to safe donation. WMDA provides accessible recommendations that enable healthcare professionals worldwide to make informed decisions and maintain high standards of care.

Donor care is central at every stage, from registration to post-donation follow-up. Donors receive transparent information, provide informed consent, and are supported throughout their journey.

In 2025, WMDA expanded its guidance on medicines used in donation and on genetic testing, reflecting emerging practices in the field. At the same time, growing attention is being given to donors' mental well-being, recognising that emotional support is a critical component of safe, ethical, and responsible donor care.



A patient meeting their voluntary unrelated stem cell donor at the IDRC 2025, Quebec, Canada



Global Standards and Certification for Safe Stem Cell Donation

WMDA ensures safe, high-quality stem cell donation through globally recognised standards and certification. Our Certification Body evaluates registries and cord blood banks against internationally agreed requirements, promoting consistency, transparency, and trust across borders. A key strategic priority is achieving ISO 17065 accreditation, further strengthening the independence and credibility of the programme.

By harmonising processes worldwide, WMDA enables faster and more reliable donor identification and facilitation. Standardised approaches reduce delays, minimise risks, and improve the overall transplant journey. A strong focus on donor care ensures that donors are well informed, protected, and supported, reducing the likelihood of last-minute withdrawals and safeguarding both donor and patient outcomes.

This work is supported by a global network of trained volunteer evaluators who contribute their expertise and participate in continuous education. In 2025, WMDA expanded this network and further strengthened its training programmes, reinforcing the quality and resilience of its global certification system. Further a Courier Company Certification Programme was launched to centralise audits on a global scale.



Audit of time:matters GmbH, photo taken at Frankfurt Airport, Germany



Ontime Courier GmbH receiving their certification, IDRC 2025, Quebec, Canada

“My WMDA evaluator journey began in 2017 with foundational training and certification in 2018 - a milestone brightened by a handmade card from the WMDA team. Since then, I’ve audited six registries. Each audit deepened my grasp of global standards and local implementation. Attaining Expert Evaluator status in 2024 reflects not only professional growth but the privilege of collaborating with dedicated colleagues worldwide. Above all, I’m inspired by our shared commitment to donor and patient.”

Qi Liu, China Marrow Donor Program, China
WMDA Evaluator



— ” —

Committees and Projects

Our five pillars consist of several active committees which are coordinated by WMDA office staff: the pillar coordinators. A committee may oversee one or more project groups. In 2025, WMDA members and staff collaborated in 23 different committees, 2 user/advisory groups and 43 different projects.

Resources Published

Publications

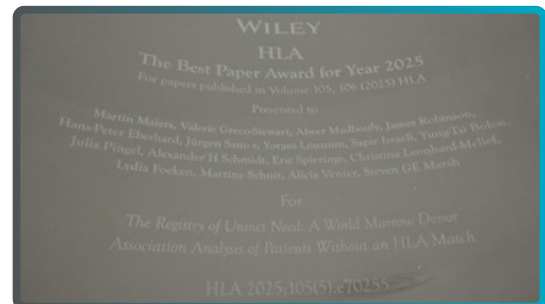
- a. Pryce et al., 2025: [Genetic Findings of Potential Donor Origin in Cells Used for Cell and Gene Therapy: Recommendations from the World Marrow Donor Association.](#)
- b. Maiers et al., 2025: [The Registry of Unmet Need: A World Marrow Donor Association Analysis of Patients Without an HLA Match.](#)
- c. Foeken et al., 2025: [30 years of global collaboration in transplantation and cellular therapy: WMDA's commitment to donor safety, ethical standards, and equitable access.](#)
- d. Greco-Stewart et al., 2025: [Identification and management of the backup donor: recommendations from the World Marrow Donor Association.](#)

Reports

- a. [WMDA Global Trends Report](#)
- b. [WMDA SPEAR Report 2024](#)

Statements

- o [P3DC.2501 WMDA Statement on Use of Biosimilar Mobilising Agents.pdf](#)



The RUN publication won 'The Best Paper Award for Year 2025'

SPEAR Communication

- a. Rapid Alert: [SPEAR Rapid Alert: March 2025 - Mix-Up Of Haematopoietic Progenitor Cell Marrow \(HPC-M\) Products](#)
- b. The WMDA SPEAR Committee has reviewed a case that highlights possible gaps in the post-donation follow-up process for related donors, particularly minors. Recommendations are made to strengthen related donor follow up post-donation. Read it here: [P3-PDC.1307.pdf](#)
- c. The WMDA SPEAR committee was informed of a probable case of hepatitis E virus (HEV) transmission from donor to patient through a PBSC product. A brief communication has been shared with case details and key points on HEV donor testing. Read it here: [PDC.1306.COMM.HEV Transmission.pdf](#)

Educational Webinars

- 20251216: [WMDA Certification: Registry Services | Slides](#)
- 20251118: [Responsibilities of a Team Leader | Slides](#)
- 20251016: [Mid-Cycle Surveillance | Slides](#)
- 20250930: [Compliance with WMDA Certification Agreement | Slides](#)
- 20250909: [Webinar World Marrow Donor Day 2025: Anyone can be a Hope Hero | Slides](#)
- 20250311: [Changes in Policies and Procedures 2024 | Slides](#)
- 20250210: [Reclassification of C*04:09N | Slides](#)

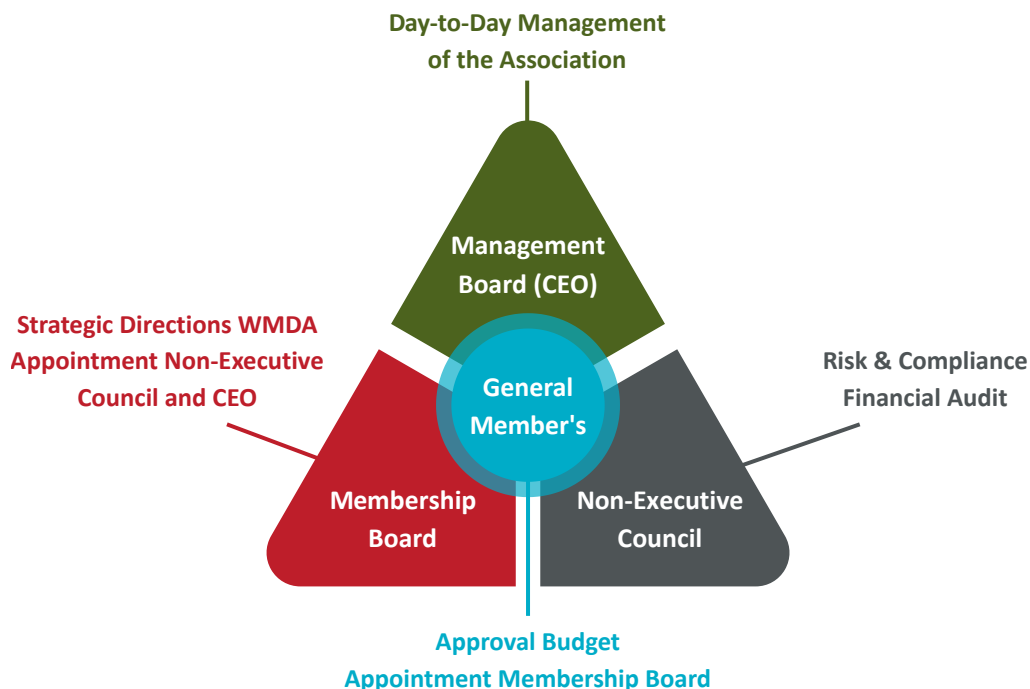
Governance, Accountability & Sustainable Resources

Governing Bodies

Strong governance and responsible financial stewardship enable WMDA to fulfil its mission of connecting patients with life-saving stem cell donors. Through transparent decision making, independent oversight, effective risk management and sustainable financing, we ensure that resources entrusted to us create lasting global impact.

Governance at WMDA

WMDA is governed through four governing bodies with specific authority and decision making powers. The figure below shows an overview of the roles and responsibilities of the governing bodies.



Strengthening Governance in 2025 - Non-Executive Council

2025 was the first year of the operation of the Non-Executive Council (NEC). The NEC serves as WMDA's independent supervisory body, overseeing governance, finance, risk and key strategic issues. It provides an external perspective on WMDA's long-term sustainability. It monitors financial performance, membership fee compliance, organisational risks and insurance structures. Furthermore, it supports the CEO with advice and acts as a sounding board. The NEC also guides the development of core governance tools such as the annual agenda, the information protocol, and the structure and collaboration between the Management Board and the Membership Board.

In 2025, the NEC focused on strengthening WMDA's governance foundations, clarifying roles among the NEC, Management Board and Membership Board, and overseeing major strategic issues such as Match-Connect, fiscal and legal structure questions, international membership relations and organisational continuity.

The NEC also reviewed risks, IT capacity, funding models and compliance developments (ISO 27001, EU regulations), making 2025 a formative year for building WMDA's future-proof governance framework.



Christine Beerepoot
Chair



Vincent The
IT



Jaap Dijkman
Finances

Membership Board

The Membership Board discussed the strategic priorities in 2025, which resulted in the 2026 annual plan. They also made sure that the membership interests were part of the service model on how to operate Match-Connect. In addition, they served as ambassadors to support global regulatory alignment.



Jay Feinberg
President



Matt Seftel
Past President



Julia Pingel
Pillar 1



Ann O'Leary
Pillar 2



Heather Stefanski
Pillar 3



Garth Healey
Pillar 4

WMDA Staff and Organisational Capacity

WMDA operates through a governance model that combines volunteer expertise and professional management. Our WMDA office team is based in Leiden, the Netherlands.

30

Employees & contractors

17

Nationalities

BR, CA, CH, CN, DE, ES, GB-SCT, GB-WLS, IN, LK, NL, NZ, PH, PL, UA, VN, ZA

"The passion of my colleagues, as well as that of the community and members, constantly reminds me how valuable our work is and motivates me to take on any challenges. Having the opportunity to connect with many experts in the field of stem cell donation and transplantation allows me to continuously expand my knowledge and experience. Most importantly, the friendly working atmosphere at WMDA helps me maintain a healthy balance between my professional responsibilities and family life."

Zhihong He - *Product Owner Data Quality at WMDA*



"

Financial Report

WMDA is an association under Dutch law. Profits generated are invested in activities to serve the community. The WMDA members contribute on a voluntary basis to our work. The employees function according to various job profiles, which are linked to the remuneration policy of the University Medical Centers in the Netherlands.

Indicator	2024	2025
Total Income	€ 2,502,532	€ 2,691,495
Staff Costs	€ 1,285,646	€ 1,628,240
Other Operating Expenses	€ 2,336,635	€ 2,666,646
Result	€ 190,790	€ 43,051

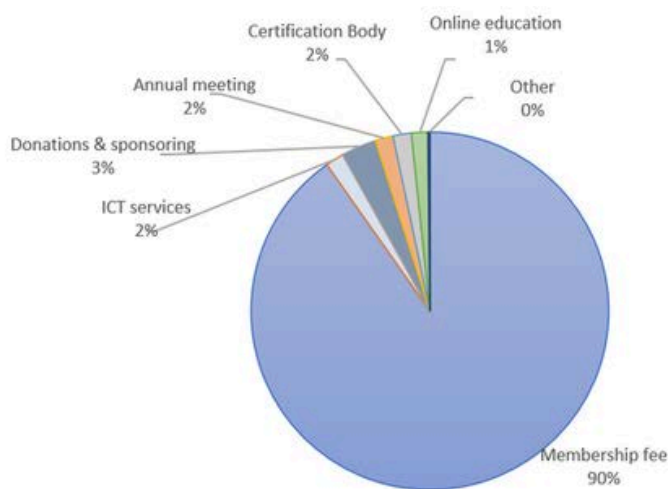
The Financial Statements 2025 have been prepared by WMDA's accounting office and according to the Civil Code. A complete and detailed report can be requested at: mail@wmda.info.

Income Statement

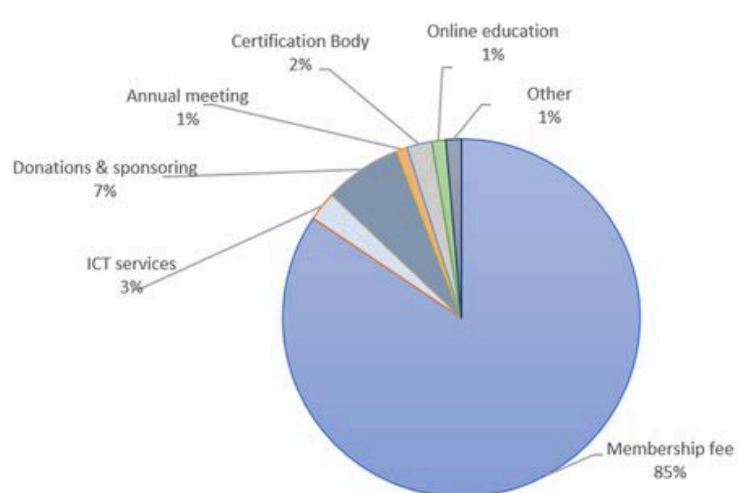
In 2025, the growth of income was primarily driven by an increase in membership fees and additional donations received through the matching gift initiative. The increase in staffing costs is mainly attributable to salary adjustments in line with the Collective Labour Agreement for University Medical Centers in the Netherlands, as well as the expansion of the team with the addition of an ICT Tester (QA).

While income increased during 2025, WMDA invested in organisational capacity, quality management systems, regulatory preparedness and technology development. As a result, the annual surplus was lower than in 2024, reflecting planned investments in future impact and resilience.

Specification of WMDA income 2024



Specification of WMDA income 2025



Thanks to the generous donations of our partners! In 2025, WMDA received support from:

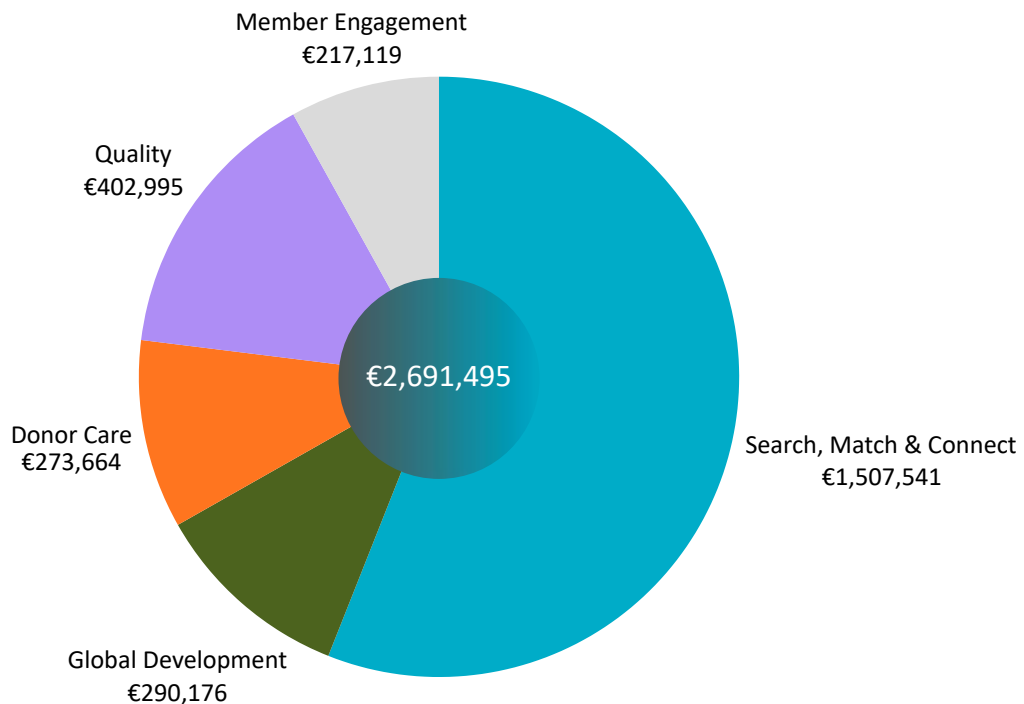
- DKMS (supporting Hap-E), Anthony Nolan and NMDP (supporting Atlas);
- Our 2nd Chance campaign supporters;
- World Marrow Donor Day Partners; DKMS, Sanofi, NMDP, Appfire, Orca Bio, Gift of Life Marrow Registry and NecstGen;
- Global Trends Report Partners; Gift of Life Marrow Registry and NMDP;
- Education Partners; GenDx and NecstGen.

WMDA is registered under Dutch law and recognised as an ANBI (Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling / Public Benefit Organisation) by the Dutch tax authorities.

Find the complete ANBI report on [our website](#).

Investing in Global Impact - Initiatives 2025

In 2025, WMDA invested roughly € 2.7 million across five strategic areas:



Search, Match & Connect

WMDA accelerates donor matching by connecting registries and integrating global data. This enables faster, more accurate searches, helping patients proceed to transplant without delay and with the aim to improve outcomes.

Global Development

WMDA strengthens global capacity through education, training, and knowledge sharing. By supporting registries and improving representation, we contribute to more equitable access to transplantation worldwide.

Donor Care

Through global standards, monitoring, and the SPEAR Reporting Tool, WMDA ensures donors are protected and supported throughout their journey, improving safety and quality of care.

Quality

WMDA strengthens global harmonisation through certification, standards development, and training, ensuring consistent quality and transparency across the network.

Member Engagement

WMDA strengthens collaboration by engaging directly with members, supporting regional development, and representing their interests with regulatory authorities.

Risk Management and Financial Sustainability - Managing Risk

Risk management is an integral component of WMDA's governance framework. Risks are regularly reviewed by management, the Membership Board and the NEC to ensure timely mitigation and organisational resilience.

WMDA faces several external risks in the upcoming years. Ongoing political uncertainty, including the conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East, may contribute to financial instability and inflationary pressures. These developments could impact both funding streams and operational costs.

Risk Category	Key Risks	Mitigation Activities
Strategic	Changing transplant landscape, Match-Connect delivery	Scenario planning, strategic reviews
Financial	Dependence on membership fees, inflation	Income diversification, fundraising strategy
Operational	Staff capacity, business continuity	Workforce planning, documentation, succession planning
Information Security & Data	Cyber security, data privacy	ISO 27001 certification, security controls
Regulatory & Compliance	SoHO Regulation, accreditation requirements	Regulatory monitoring, standards alignment with relevant legislation (e.g. EU SoHO legislation)
External & Geopolitical	Conflict, sanctions, economic volatility	Reserve policy, diversified revenue streams

Building Sustainable Global Impact

Creating global access to life-saving stem cell transplantation requires more than technology, standards, and expertise. It requires sustainable investment. As a member-driven organisation, WMDA continually seeks to strengthen its long-term financial resilience while keeping patient access and donor protection at the centre of its work. In 2025, WMDA expanded its fundraising efforts through the 2nd Chance campaign and matching gift initiative, engaging more than 150 new financial donors and raising over USD 111,000 to support future growth. This initiative was supported by a benefactor connected to Gift of Life Marrow Registry.

The gift laid the foundation for future fundraising initiatives. These funds will support the recruitment of a Global Development Officer, helping to build long-term fundraising capacity and financial resilience.



These efforts complement the ongoing commitment of our members, volunteers, corporate partners, and supporters, whose contributions enable WMDA to develop global infrastructure, strengthen donor safety, expand education, and support emerging registries worldwide. By diversifying revenue sources and investing in organisational capacity, WMDA is building a stronger foundation for the future, ensuring that patients, regardless of where they live, can continue to benefit from a safe, connected, and resilient global donor network.

Reserves and Long-Term Resilience

WMDA is committed to supporting patients, donors, and members today and in the future. A core part of this commitment is ensuring the continuity of essential services, even in the event of significant organisational or financial disruption. WMDA aims to maintain sufficient resources to continue operating for a minimum of six months while a long-term continuity solution is implemented.

At the end of 2025, WMDA's free reserves amounted to €262,822.

In addition, designated reserves have been allocated to strategic investments that will strengthen WMDA's future impact:

- Implementation of Match-Connect: € 237,864
- Sustainability programme: € 95,297
- Pilot project on Artificial Intelligence: € 30,000
- WMDA Search & Match Service: € 240,184

To safeguard the continuity of critical services and protect patient access to stem cell transplantation, WMDA also maintains reserves for the following essential activities:

- Continuity reserve: € 552,687
- Certification Body: € 112,140

WMDA maintains a strong financial position with limited debt and prudent financial management. As a result, the organisation's solvency and overall risk profile remain strong and compare favourably with similar non-profit organisations.

Looking Ahead

Building Financial Sustainability

In 2026, WMDA plans to develop a plan for diversifying its revenue base. The diversified revenue strategy will include: governmental and institutional grants, foundation partnerships and building a global development department.

Work Plan and Budget 2026

Based on WMDA's strategy, input was collected from WMDA members for the 2026 Work Plan & Budget. The approved budget is summarised in the table.

2026	
Income	€ 3,431,323
Expenses	€ 3,502,949
Estimated Result	€ -71,626

Strategic Foresight in a Changing World

To prepare for the future, WMDA commissioned the report "The Future of Stem Cell Registries", with support of Anthony Nolan, Gift of Life Marrow Registry, and NMDP. The report highlights how the sector will be shaped by:

- Advances in cell and gene therapies;
- The growing role of artificial intelligence;
- Changing political and economic landscapes.

By applying scenario planning, WMDA and its members are better equipped to anticipate change, strengthen readiness, and proactively shape a resilient global registry system.

Advancing Regulatory Alignment and Recognition

WMDA continues to strengthen alignment with international regulatory frameworks. In 2026:

- WMDA Standards will be assessed against the new EU SoHO Regulation (EU 2024/1938) and the 6th Edition of the Guide for Tissues and Cells published by European Directorate Quality Management;
- Final steps will be taken toward ISO 17065 accreditation.

These efforts support broader regulatory recognition, ensuring that WMDA Standards remain trusted, harmonised, and consistently applied across borders.

Strengthening Global Collaboration

In 2026, WMDA will bring its community together in Madrid, Spain. The meeting will be held alongside the EBMT Annual Meeting to reduce travel and support more sustainable participation, while maximising opportunities for knowledge exchange and collaboration.

Later in the year, our Asian-Pacific registries will meet in Malaysia to talk about the future directions for registries and matching probabilities in the region.



Thank You to the Community

As we reflect on another year of progress, we extend our gratitude to all WMDA members and to everyone in the global transplant community who contributes to our shared mission.

Your commitment, expertise, and collaboration make it possible for us to improve donor safety, strengthen international collaboration, and expand access to life-saving transplants. Every data contribution, every shared insight, and every effort to uphold high standards helps advance our vision of a world where every patient can find the donor they need. We are deeply grateful for your partnership and dedication.

Together, we continue to make a profound impact on patients, donors, and families worldwide.



A special word of gratitude is directed towards our Corporate Members Orca Bio, Ossium Health, Steiner s.r.o. & Sanofi.

Publisher: 2026 © WMDA

WMDA (World Marrow Donor Association)
Schipholweg 55, unit 13-15, 1st floor
2316 ZL Leiden
The Netherlands

T: +31 88 505 7900
E: mail@wmda.info
W: www.wmda.info

This publication provides an overview of WMDA's activities, intentions, and current efforts to contribute to a sustainable and resilient global transplant ecosystem. It should not be read in isolation and must be considered alongside the relevant disclosures in WMDA's impact report.

The publication has not been independently reviewed, verified, or approved by any rating agency, government authority, or other external party. It may include forward-looking statements, estimates, or impact indicators that are based on assumptions, methodologies, and data sources which may change over time and may lead to different outcomes as new information becomes available.

This publication does not constitute a guarantee of future performance or results, but reflects WMDA's current understanding, priorities, and challenges at the time of publication.