

Country Reports, 2015



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January 2016
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Report Summary

In preparation for the inaugural WASLI conference 2015, representatives from countries from around the world were called upon to submit reports sharing information about the current state of interpreting and associates related to sign language interpreting. Below is the question key, as distributed to contributors.

The information in this document, while not complete with each country's report, provides a scope of sign language interpreting and interpreting associations today from an international perspective as submitted by various regions.



WASLI, in its pursuit to support the profession of sign language interpreting, the Deaf community and all communities associated within, has developed these reports not only to better understand events as they've occurred, but also to plan and identify future areas for growth and development. For those interested in previous country reports, please visit: [\(website is down while I write this\)](#)

As we continue in the future, we look forward to the opportunity of expanding our reporting and network, increasing quality and equity for all. As our networks continue to grow and associations continue to build on expand their initiatives, we look forward to increased sharing of information so that all can learn from one another's' experience.

Country Report Question Key:

1. Association Representative and Association Name"
2. Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?
3. Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?
4. What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?
5. Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?
6. Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?
7. Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?
8. What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?
9. Are SLIs members of a national union?
10. What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?
11. In what ways can WASLI assist you?
12. In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?
13. Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?
14. What are their main activities in last 4 years?
15. Any other comments you want to make?

Table of Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Report Summary | 1 |
| Table of Contents | 2 |
| Africa | 3 |
| Asia | 15 |
| Australasia-Oceania | 23 |
| Balkans | 29 |
| Europe | 30 |
| Latin America-Caribbean | 37 |
| North America | 44 |
| Transcaucasia-Central Asia | 49 |

Africa

Below provides an overview of reports from various representatives from across Africa.

Representative: Joelle Amino Moussezi. I work for the Society Without Barriers-Cote d'Ivoire (SWB-CI, www.swbci.org). I am member of the SLIA of Cote d'Ivoire but not a board member. Therefore, I am not speaking on behalf of the SLIA but on behalf of SWB-CI.



The national SLIA in Cote d'Ivoire is OILS-CI (Organization des Interpretes en Langue des Signes de Cote d'Ivoire). It was established in October 2011. The association has about 20 unpaid sign language interpreters who are volunteers.

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

No, the government has not yet approved such programs.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

There is professional SLI certification/training at SWB-CI and Handicap Alliance International (HAI), where there is a sign Language training program, and a minimum certification of Level 2. Most SLIs learn basic sign language with friends or at church.

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

There is no current system in Côte d'Ivoire.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

No, they do not.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

No, the national government does not recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally. Sign Language is not officially recognized yet as a profession while oral interpreting is recognized.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

No monthly or annual salary exists.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

No.

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. The approval of SLI training/certification program by the government;
2. The official recognition of the profession of Sign Language Interpreting by the government;
3. Capacity building of OILS-CI

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

- Improve our SLI training program;
- Help us find some financial supports for our following activities:
- National Seminar on SL Training;
- Development of SLIs services in the education system;
- Advocacy program for official recognition of the profession

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

I do not speak on behalf OILS-CI, but as a concerned SWB-CI member.

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

SWB-CI can support WASLI as a technical partner in achieving the goals of WASLI in French-speaking West African countries and to promote sign language interpreting there.

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

None at the time.

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

2012: International Week of the Deaf in Abidjan organized by the National Association of the Deaf in partnership with SWB-CI;

2015: International Day of Women organized by the National Association of Deaf Women.

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

- Governance structure of OILS-CI
- A General Coordinator
- A Program Coordinator
- A Treasurer
- A Communication Manager

- An Outside Relationship Manager
- SWB-CI: an NGO promote disability rights, SL and SLI in relation with CRPD

Representative: Pinto George, Ghana

I'm the secretary of the Association of Ghanaian Sign Language Interpreters (AGSLI).

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

Yes, the sign language interpreter association name is provided above. It was established on the 4th of September 2009. We provide top-up skill training, advocate for the rights of members, share relevant information on SLI jobs and deaf issues.

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

The special education division of the college of education is providing a sandwich program of sign language, apart from that we have private organizations/institutions such as the Ghana National Association of the deaf (GNAD) and some religious organizations that have Senior High School Certificate.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

Yes, apart from ones own academic credentials, one needs special certification for SLI with the maximum level focused on the field of SLI professionalism.

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

This does exist, but we don't have in my own country.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

The government of Ghana recognizes other local languages used in translation but not sign language.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

Apart from the private sector, no sign language interpreter is on the government pay roll.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

Because few of them work for private institutions, there is no standard payment structure for SLIs. They are paid by the discretion of the organizations they work for.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

No

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. Recognition
2. Accreditation
3. Employment

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

- Training workshops on professionalism
- Capacity building
- Financial support to implement local activities
- Pay our dues regularly to WASLI

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

The deaf association in collaboration with their Danish counterparts organized a series of SLI training workshops; The current one being an assessment of all existing SLIs from across the country. Details can be read at GNAD Website: www.gnadgh.com

Representative: Leonida T. Kaula, Kenya
 Chairperson
 Kenya Sign Language Interpreters Association (KSLIA)

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

Yes, it was established in September 2000 and officially registered in October 2001. We have short seminars for members and experience sharing forums. We currently have 45 members: 15 male and 30 female. Our governance structure is as follows: chairperson, vice, secretary, vice treasurer and regional representatives.

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

No, we have a few training centers, which are not approved but somehow, recognized.

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

No standards yet. It is a free market.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

None. The profession is not recognized.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

None.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

It ranges between \$2,400 USD annually for government sign language interpreters. In the private sector, interpreters are contacted on need basis and daily rate varies.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

No.

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. Unavailability of training institutions
2. Lack of recognition of the profession
3. Poor working relationships between interpreters and Deaf Associations

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

1. Offer training and help establish accreditation of sign language interpreters resulting into renewal of practicing license biannually.
2. Expose interpreters to international forums where interpreters can learn from more experienced countries.

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

We can share information that WASLI may require.

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

No.

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

1. Creating awareness and advocating for recognition of the profession
2. Offering short-term trainings
3. Recruitment of new members
4. Networking with like-minded organizations

Any other comments you want to make?

The association is experiencing a lot of challenges and it is our hope WASLI can provide support during this time.

Representative: Timothy Tinat, Nigeria

ASSOCIATION OF SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS OF NIGERIA (ASLIN)

Established in 2007.

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

The purpose of the association is to promote the profession of sign language interpretation in Nigeria and integration of Deaf people into society. The current number of registered members: 150. Some members are full time while others part-time.

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

There is no government approved SLI/DI program but there are some individuals that are privately engaging in training individuals on how to sign.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

Recently, we were in Sweden with 10 delegates to learn about the process of instituting certification and authorization of Sign Language Interpreters in Nigeria.

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

Right now, our association does not yet have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification but the efforts are ongoing and hopefully it will create employment for all SLIs.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

All the programs will fall in place by the time we begin to have implemented the program.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

National government only recognizes the service of SLIs without any plan or benefits.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

It varies based on general educational background. Salaries range from \$1,860 and above.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

Effort is ongoing to get registered with relevant union.

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. Lack of educational training on interpretation.
2. Lack of full mutual support for the Deaf association.
3. Organizing intense training, workshop and conferences on sign language interpretation.

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

Encouraging our members to duly register to become WASLI members.

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

Yes, assist with organizing Annual General Meeting and organizing a series of workshops for their Deaf members in topics like computers, etc.

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

Our association has made lots of achievement in making the Deaf people reckon with in the society.

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

Association sends delegates to Sweden to learn interpreting and how to develop curriculum for sign language training program for all Nigerian SLIs

Representative: ARSSI ABDELAZIZ: Morocco

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

Morocco does not have a national association of sign language interpreters (SLIs).

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

No.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

We don't have any professional training.

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

No.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

No.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

No.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

SL interpreters are often underpaid. Normally language interpreters are hired with a minimum 400 euros per day.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

No.

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

- Lack of academic training.
- Conduct training projects.

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

Our association can work with WASLI to liaise with government departments as well as look for international funding.

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

Since we are not a SLI association we often work on training service providers on different issues related to the Deaf.

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

Our association targets training interpreters.

Representative: Thomas Shayo: Tanzania
TANZANIA ASSOCIATION OF SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS (TASLI)

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

Yes. We were established in 2004. We support training, advocacy for better pay, coaching and mentoring. There about 40 members: 15 women and 25 men. We are a member-based non-governmental association (NGO). We are volunteers for TASLI work.

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

No approved training or programs.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

The minimum is the basic sign language course offered by the Deaf association; Then a beginners two-week training by TASLI. We have no "real professionals".

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

No

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

No

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

No

1. What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

The highest salary is \$6,000.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

Only those with official employment, and we join the sector based union.

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. Training
2. Recognition
3. Running the organization (TASLI)

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

Assist with lobbying for courses to be established at colleges.

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

- Lobbying developed country SLIAs to support young SLIAs in progress
- Promoting our association as a professional organization that can work with universities, and then using WASLI as a consulting organization in interpreter training and certification

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

No.

1. What are their main activities in last 4 years?

- Assist with making our strategic plan
- Lobby for recognition of SL in our constitution
- Support for training new interpreters
- Training of trainers, for sustainability of the programs

Any other comments you want to make?

If WASLI could support developing SLIAs in the area of accessing professional training, and accessing scholarships, then we can get recognition.

Representative: Obed Mambwe, Zambia
Association of Sign Language Interpreters of Zambia (ASLIZ)

There are two sign language interpreting associations (SLIAs) at loggerheads: ZNASLI (first to be established, date unknown) & ASLIZ (established 2004). I am a member, interpreter & mentor. Currently, the number of members is unknown and we currently have no board, only active volunteers.

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

Currently there is no government-approved training. Trainings are provided by the SLIAs.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

Additionally, there are qualification requirements by law, but our SLIAs require an interpreter to have a certificate of recognition from an SLIA.

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

There is none.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

No

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

No

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

There are no known fulltime employed sign language interpreters.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

No

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. Lack of legal or policy framework for sign language interpreting (although the government domesticated the UNCRPD)
2. No sign language interpreter training programs at college or university level.
3. No employment or pay for sign language interpreters.

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

- Establish a single unitary sign language interpreting association
- Establish sign language interpreter training and share expertise and training resources
- Advocate to government for the recognition of sign language interpreting as a profession

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

- Offer information on the situation of SLI in Zambia
- Offer support to other WASLI member SLIAs/SLIs

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

No

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

They successfully lobbied to include sign language interpreting on national television.

Asia

Below provides an overview of reports from various representatives from across Asia.



Representative: Lee Daesub, Korea
Korea Association of the Deaf
Send email inquiries to nrasli@zentsuken.net

Representatives: Mr. Sanu Khimbaja- President, Nepal
Mrs. Shilu Sharma-Vice President, Nepal
National Association of the Sign Language Interpreters in Nepal (NASLI-Nepal).

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

NASLI-Nepal was established in 2010 and provides training once a year. Currently we have 42 members (24 female, 18 male). The board consists of 9 board posts including 1 ex-offio member from NDFN. We have 2 female members in the key vital positions and 1 female as a board member.

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

Not at all.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

Currently there is no training but the knowledge base using Nepali Sign Language is enough. The training manual was developed and collaborated on with NDFN to establish the training package.

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

Not at all.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

Not at all.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial

relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

Nepali Sign Language is not yet recognized as a national language hence SLI professionals as not being recognized formally. We do not know what the situation regarding other spoken language interpreters.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

The salary is \$390.00 USD - \$2600.00 USD annually. Interpreters in local district deaf associations are working around \$ 390.00 USD whereas the highest paid full-time interpreters work in the Deaf Federation on a foreign aid project with paid salary of around \$2600 USD.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

No.

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. Professional recognition.
2. Continuous development opportunity.
3. Lack of adequate training.

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

Our expectation is that WASLI becomes a source of the development of human resources with technical knowledge of interpreter training and modules. Similarly, the role of WASLI is the development of experts in developing countries like Nepal.

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

We can share our knowledge of establishing an association and working modality with the Deaf Association.

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

No.

Any other comments you want to make?

Asian Region is behind in this area, hence the need for special attention in this area.

Representative: Aqeelur Rehman Hamid, Pakistan

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

Currently there is no national sign language interpreting (SLI) association, but we are trying.

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

No there is not.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

No there is no minimum, but now we are trying to develop a course and we propose this to relative authorities after returning from WASLI Conference.

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

No. These are what we need to develop and agree upon. We are working on this.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

Since there is no standard certification or rules, there are no such requirements.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

No.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

There is no current standard; Often it is volunteer interpreting and when paid it is from (1000 PKR) = 10USD to (5000PKR =) 50 USD per day. It may be half-day or full day event.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

Unknown.

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. No policy and low of provision of SLI for deaf community
2. Government does not provide SLI to deaf community

3. SLI is not yet accepted as profession
4. People expect volunteer service from SLIs and hesitate to pay for service

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

1. Develop a standard course
2. Policy development
3. Raise awareness
4. Organize joint workshops

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

1. We can share our knowledge, ideas and collaboration in development of SLI profession in developing countries.
3. Volunteer work for WASLI projects.

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

Unknown.

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

1. There is no SLI Association but at "Danishkadah" we organized meetings for SL interpreters
2. Basic training of SL for university students
3. Consultative meeting on issues related to SLI as a profession, both with SLIs and Deaf leaders.

Representative: Singapore

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

We have no independent SLI Association currently.

The main SLI section is governed under the Singapore Association for the Deaf (SADeaf).

It was established in the early 1990s. Currently, we have a total of 6 full-time & 1 part-time staff hearing interpreters; 2 Male: 5 Female. 1 full-time Deaf interpreter and 2 other SADeaf staff are deployed as deaf interpreters as and when required. We have no Deafblind interpreters.

A pool of Community Interpreters (assignment-based allowances), a total: 25 (estimated)

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

No government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

Knowledge in Sign Language (SEE, PSE, SgSL)
SgSL & SEE 2 Courses, interaction with the Deaf community
Monthly Continuous Training/Ad-hoc training sessions conducted by trainers from other countries (*Initiative of in-house interpreters*)

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

No structured Continuing Professional Education

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

No.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

At the moment, there is no existing labor law that specifically targets at interpreters/translators in Singapore.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

\$22,000 USD

Are SLIs members of a national union?

N/A

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. Recognition by the government
2. Public Awareness on how to use interpreters
3. Advocacy for interpreter welfare, e.g. low number of interpreters, pay scale

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

- Guidance in the provision of training & Certification of Interpreters
- Setting up independent registry of interpreters

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

- Continue to be a WASLI member
- Maintain ties and continue to exchange information and strategies with other WASLI country members

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

N/A

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

Recently started having local community interpreter sharing sessions to share and discuss interpreting knowledge and issues (10 weeks) , and encourage the learning of Singapore Sign Language (SgSL) for our community interpreters (3 level programs).

Recently actively collaborating with interpreter bodies and agencies in other countries, to make upgrading sign language interpretation programs more easily available to both local deaf and hearing interpreters.

Since 2013, we have been advocating to government bodies to set aside funds for SLI.

Recently, some hospitals have agreed to provide fees for SLI services for deaf clients / patients in need only. Others are undergoing policy review.

Since it went into effect in 2014, students with physical and sensory-related disabilities in publicly funded institutes of higher learning and institutions are provided funding of \$25k per student for the duration of their courses to be used for support services such as the hiring of sign language interpreters and note takers. This has given deaf students in Singapore greater accessibility to information in education and the demand for sign language interpretation in educational settings has also increased, as a result.

Any other comments you want to make?

We are looking towards setting up a registry for interpreters and are keen to learn more the process of setting it up and running it. We are also paving the way to have a local training program and accreditation.

We would appreciate any guidance or resources from WASLI in these areas.

Vietnam

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

No.

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

There is only one program at Dong Nai University for sign language interpreting. Currently, no Deaf Interpreter training programs yet.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

There aren't any requirements for SLIs yet. The Dong Nai program is trying to setup the trainings for SLI. The training requires 600 hours (300 for sign language analysis and 300 for sign language interpreting).

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

Not yet.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

Not yet.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

Spoken language interpreters are considered professional work but sign language interpreters are not. They do not require any papers to prove or to certify the qualification of a sign language interpreter. Sometimes sign language interpreters are paid, and sometimes not.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

There is no full-time sign language interpreter job. If we are paid, then it is hourly. The rate is around \$3.00 USD to \$5.00 USD an hour.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

No.

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

N/A

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

By providing support and collaborating with us to delivery workshops in order to raise awareness and qualification for SLI in Vietnam.

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

We don't have association yet so I cannot answer it now.

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

Unknown.

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

N/A

Any other comments you want to make?

Some questions were difficult to answer since my country does not have any SLI association or National Deaf Association yet.

Australasia-Oceania

Below provides an overview of reports from various representatives from across Australasia-Oceania.

Representative: Dr. Maree Madden, President, Australia Association Name: Australian Sign Language Interpreters' Association (ASLIA)



Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

ASLIA was established in 1992. It provides a range of policies, stakeholder relationships, consultations and biennial conference. We have a total of 255 members: Female - 215 and Male - 40

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

Governance: National Executive committee and State branch committees. All voluntary.

Government approved, standardized training package at Diploma level, a one-year course.

Training delivered in five states, some annually, some biennially.

One national post-graduate course. In 2015, two states include Deaf Interpreters in training.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

No officially recognized minimum certification, especially in education. Generally accepted guideline is that minimum certification is NAATI: National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) Para-professional Interpreter accreditation.

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

All interpreters certified by NAATI from 2007 onwards participate in a compulsory program of revalidation, which includes CPE requirements in a three-year cycle. As of 2017, revalidation will be compulsory for all NAATI accredited interpreters.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

Australia has national and state level workplace health and safety legislation. Many interpreting agencies have WHS polices specific to interpreting (e.g. limiting the amount of time that an interpreter works), but overuse injuries are still common.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

There are no specific laws for sign language interpreters. Employers typically set pay scales. There is a great deal of cooperation between associations of signed and spoken language interpreters on both a national and state level.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

Average salary for full-time position for a professionally accredited SLI is \$45,000 USD. There are variations across the country. Please note that there are few full-time SLI positions available. The majority of SLI work is part-time or freelance.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

There have been discussions over the past two years for spoken and signed language interpreters to join a professional union to represent our interests in rates of pay and working conditions. Take up has been slow, but momentum is building.

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. Pay rates, working conditions and recognition of the work we do.
2. Length and breadth of training programs.
3. Quality control and monitoring.

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

Tapping into international research and developments in the field.
Supporting professionalization.

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

Australia has many experienced and talented educators and a long history of having an association for interpreters. ASLIA could assist WASLI by delivering training and support to fledgling associations in other countries.

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

Yes.

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

- Running an annual conference (will be biennial from 2016) and conference for interpreter trainers.
- Liaison with a professional union.

- Developed online education modules.
- Provided interpreter training to countries in the Pacific region.

Any other comments you want to make?

We are looking forward to continued positive relationship with WASLI.

Representative: Gael Seru, Fiji

Fiji Association of Sign Language Interpreters (FASLI)

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

FASLI was first established around 2005-2006. We provide support, mentoring, and professional development for all interpreters. We have about 70 members: 7 male and 63 female.

FASLI has a committee, which includes a representative from Fiji Association of the Deaf (FAD) board, and the FAD office.

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

There has been dialogue in progress with stakeholders to get a formal training program.

This will be an interpreter-training program accredited by government.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

In our case, only a basic sign language certificate because of unavailability of experienced/skilled interpreters engaged in different settings. The demand has been high due to diverse needs for our services from education, court, workshops etc.

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

Yes

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

No, however we stress the importance of having two (2) interpreters work in settings that take more than an hour. We continue to increase awareness on this as well as in regard to pay.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

There is recognition but nothing formal like an MOU. Our application to be registered is in process so we hope to get the government's commitment after we are registered.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

\$2,500

Are SLIs members of a national union?

No

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. Interpreter training
2. Full-time jobs
3. Pay

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

1. Provide interpreter trainers
2. An exchange program
3. Training of interpreter trainers

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

1. Work with the local Deaf association to pass information/networks to interpreters from the region
2. Be a member of WASLI and support its work

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

No.

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

1. Revival and re-election of new committee
2. Interpreter training
3. Assisting the Deaf teachers with sign language classes
4. Professional Development

Any other comments you want to make?

We appreciate WASLI for updates on their website, Facebook and emails, keeping us up to date with interpreter developments. Thank you for sponsoring an interpreter from Fiji to attend the WASLI conference, 2015.

Representative: Rebecca Curtis, New Zealand

President

Angela Murray - Oceania Representative

Sign Language Interpreters Association of New Zealand (SLIANZ)

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

Yes - SLIANZ was established in 1995. Information can be found on our website www.slianz.org.nz. Support includes professional development and an annual conference.

We have 88 current members; 80 Female and 8 Male. We're voluntary committee, elected every year, for a 2-year term at annual general meeting (AGM).

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

Yes, there is a 3-year degree program at the Auckland University of Technology (AUT), in the School of Languages. This is the only program available to become a New Zealand Sign Language Interpreter.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

The minimum qualification to work as a professional SLI in New Zealand is the Diploma in Sign Language Interpreting. The majority of professional Interpreters work with this qualification. The first group of degree program students graduated in 2013.

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

No - SLIANZ members are required to submit their professional development every year to receive a certain amount of points, but there are no consequences for the members if they do not complete the required points. This needs further discussion.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

No - nothing specific relating to sign language interpreters.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

SLIANZ has a memorandum of understanding with the New Zealand Society of Translators and Interpreters and we have a representative on their board. There is no binding governmental legislation that spoken and sign language interpreters should be equal

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

From the employment survey of 2012 New Zealand Interpreters were earning between USD\$26,000 and USD\$32,000.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

No

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. Lack of tri-lingual interpreters English, NZ Sign Language and Te Reo Maori (indigenous language of NZ). Maori Deaf have limited access to their culture.
2. No interpreter standards or regulation
3. Only one location, Auckland, for interpreter training.

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

To support the regional conference in Fiji 2018.
To support our regional representative.

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

Interpreter Employment Survey 2012

SLIANZ - ASLIA MOU 2012

Deaf Aotearoa (Association) - SLIANZ MOU 2012

The first degree course for NZSL interpreter students graduated in 2013

Government allocated USD\$7 million over 4 years - 5 key areas, including interpreting standards

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

1. Oceania Support
2. 2012-13 Jacqui Iseli (NZSL Interpreter) 2 years
3. VSA volunteer supporting emerging Deaf and interpreter community.

4. PNG 2014 joint project with COF & ASLIA short training program for Interpreters in Fiji



Balkans

No report submitted.



Europe

Below provides an overview of reports from various representatives from across Europe.

Representative: Hanne Knudsen, Denmark

FTT

Foreningen af Tegnsprogstolke

(Association of Sign Language Interpreters)

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

FTT was established on May 19th 1977. There are 270 members - less than 10% male interpreters. FTT is not a trade union. There are annual elections to the board. There are wages to cover board meetings (5 meetings a year) and the rest is volunteer work.

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

There is a BA (bachelor's) for sign language interpreters (3.5 years, full-time study)
There has been a project (2012-2015) run by Danish Deaf Association for Deaf interpreters.
Weekend courses, in all approximately 150 hours of training.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

The minimum is to have passed the official education, which at present is the BA.
The Deaf interpreters from the project can work for DNTM, (public funding for social assignment).

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

No.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

No. The majority is protected through employment with agencies and agreements.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

Sign language interpreters are more recognized than other interpreters. It is a demand that SLIs can only be paid by public funding if they are educated SLIs. There is a lack of educational options for many of the spoken languages interpreters.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

50.000 app. (\$50,000 year)

Are SLIs members of a national union?

Depending on how they are employed. In Denmark generally most people are in a union. Most SLIs are in HK (trade) or SL (social workers).

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. Tendering - pressuring the payment received for educational and social interpretation
2. Intense pressure to work more for the same money.
3. Fewer sign language users in the future. Different needs for communication.

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

- Create a "Competence Center" on subjects relevant for Sign language interpreters.
- With knowledge and access to latest research, curriculums from interpreter training to inspire others, with a monthly newsletter on the latest news, and a database.

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

Passing information to and from the "Competence Center." (Example from the Danish "Videns Center" "Center of Knowledge."

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

No.

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

- The recognition of sign language
- The project on Deaf Interpreters
- Campaigns for visibility and equality
- The transformation of the SLI education to a BA.
- We do collaborate with the Danish Deaf Association, but no official document is signed.

Representative: Dutch Association of Sign Language Interpreters
Nederlandse Beroepsvereniging Tolken Gebarentaal (NBTG)

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

It was established in 1988. The total number of current members is 401 (as of 12-31-2014). Male/female members: unknown. Governance structure: voluntary board, voluntary committees, three paid staff (office manager, policy maker & communications officer).

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

Yes, one bachelor degree (4 year) at the University of Applied Sciences in Utrecht. Note: No Deaf interpreter training program is available, including not in the existing program.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

In order to be registered the interpreter must have successfully completed the four year sign language interpreting program

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

Yes, 60 hours in 4 years.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

No (only self regulation)

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

They exist within the judicial system (criminal proceedings), yes. This is the same law and recognition for spoken and sign language interpreters. In addition to that, sign language interpreters are recognized as a profession within the disability laws.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

Nearly all sign language interpreters in the Netherlands work on a freelance, hourly basis. There is no annual income or salary range.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

Not a union, but member of a professional organization for freelance based professionals (PZO), which directly lobbies with the government on rights and conditions for all freelance professionals.

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. Providing good working conditions (e.g. hourly rates)
2. Maintaining the interpreters level and quality. Due to increase of # interpreters, there is more competition and clients become more critical.
3. Interpreting in teams-only accepted when working for Deaf-Blind.

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

At the moment, we don't have the need for assistance by WASLI.

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

Yes

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

Advocate the rights and needs of interpreters towards the government (e.g. regarding working conditions); organize CPD and exchange of expertise; professionalize both the profession and the association.

AFILS (Association Française des interpretes et traducteurs en langue des signes)

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

It was created in 1978. It supports French/LSF interpretation, gathering interpreters for better acknowledgement of the profession. Currently it has 128 members, all graduated with a master's degree (including 10 male). It is governed by a board (9 members), all of which are volunteers.

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

Sign language interpreters: 5 universities provide masters degrees (Bachelors+5)
Deaf interpreters: none.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

French/LSF Masters degree.

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

No.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

No.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

SLIs are as equally recognized as spoken language interpreters. Trainings are identical but pay scales may vary depending on the employer's status.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

From 14,400 to 30,000 euros per year.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

No.

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. No protection from national state.
2. Non-graduated "interface."
3. Financial weakness by lack of public investment.

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

We don't know yet.

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

We don't know your needs.

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

No.

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

We always work closely in collaboration with 4 other associations (including FNSF ie. Federation Nationale des Sourds de France) within what we call "Collectif des 5".

Latin America-Caribbean

Below provides an overview of reports from various representatives from across Latin America-Caribbean.

Asociación Nacional de intérpretes y traductores de lengua de señas venezolana y guías-intérpretes. (ASOIVE)

Si tenemos una Asociación Nacional, se estableció en Enero de 2006. Se llama Asoive (Asociación Nacional de intérpretes y traductores de lengua de señas y guías intérpretes). Brinda apoyo a sus miembros en cuanto al desenvolvimiento en su profesión y

Si, a mediados del 2014 el gobierno nacional a través del Consejo Nacional de Personas con Discapacidad (CONAPDIS), creó un programa llamado Servicio de Comunicación Accesible (SENACOA), este programa tiene como objetivo registrar, formar y servir

Solo formalmente el sector Educativo. En el caso de las Universidades pide que la persona que interprete pre-grado debe ser Bachiller (haber culminado el colegio) y La credencial de asoive. la Educación básica exige que tengan una carrera universitaria

Si, el ente máximo en la materia, requiere de los Intérpretes y Traductores la profesionalización académica para permanecer en el contexto educativo y conservar el cargo.

No de manera directa, si no lo aplicativo en forma general en el ámbito laboral.

No hasta el momento. La Constitución Bolivaria de Venezuela (1999) reconoce en el artículo 81 a la lengua de señas como la manera que tienen los sordos para comunicarse pero no la reconoce como un idioma

Debido a los tipos de cambios del dñar que tenemos en el país es muy difícil responder eso.

No

La gran demanda del servicio en todo el país por los clientes Sordos u oyentes. El desconocimiento y poca aceptación del rol del intérprete. Apegarse de manera fidedigna a la ética profesional

Con talleres de formación y refuerzo en la materia y difundiendo experiencias de los avances y logros en países donde este campo se encuentra más adelantado.



Continuando la membresía con la misma y mostrando disposición a colaborar con que resulte para el beneficio de ambas partes.

yes

Trabajo de la mano en cuanto al mejoramiento del servicio de interpretación y de la relación profesional entre Sordo e intérprete. estrecha colaboración en las jornadas de evaluación y valoración de competencias interpretativas de los intérpretes

No

ASOCIACIÓN NACIONAL DE TRADUCTORES/INTERPRETES DE LENGUA DE SEÑAS Y GUÍAS INTERPRETES DE COLOMBIA - ANISCOL

Si, establecida el 5 de julio de 2005, y busca lograr la profesionalización de la interpretación y la defensa de sus derechos, socios 53: 40 mujeres y 13 hombres, y 4 asociaciones regionales. Un consejo directivo y asamblea y el trabajo es voluntario

Existe la carrera: Tecnología en interpretación para Sordos y sordociegos, y el 1 de julio de 2015, se aprobó la inclusión de la Interpretación en la Clasificación Nacional de Ocupación, lo cual permitiera abrir más programas de formación tecnológica

Tener estudios de educación secundaria, formación en lengua de señas y contar con un permiso del Instituto Nacional para Sordos que tiene el gobierno que se llama el INSOR.

Los que no tengan certificación de cursos de lengua de señas deben hacerlos para mantener el permiso temporal que otorga el INSOR.

NO existen.

No lo reconoce, el estatus de los traductores de lengua oral a los intérpretes de lengua de señas, ni en los salarios.

Tiempo completo de 8 horas: 840 dolares

Tiempo parcial de 5 a 6 horas: 645 dolares

Estos son valores promedio, en algunas regiones existen salarios por debajo de 350 dolares

En Colombia existen aproximadamente unos 650 intérpretes identificados laborando, de los cuales solo un 20 % está afiliado a ANISCOL, y/o a las Asociaciones regionales que son 4 en distintas partes de Colombia.

1- La formación profesional, que reconozca a la mayoría de los intérpretes que cuentan con más de 15 años de ejercicio profesional y forma a los nuevos.

2- Contratación directa con el Gobierno.

3- Trabajar en unión con las asociaciones de Sordos.

Acompañando a Aniscol, en el establecimiento de la formación tecnológica y profesional que se va a iniciar, luego de la aprobación de la inclusión de la Interpretación en la Clasificación Nacional de Ocupación CNO, y con docentes.

Promoviendo que los Intérpretes vean en WASLI una entidad seria que los apoya en la profesionalización, y promoviendo la afiliación individual, además de difundir las actividades de WASLI a nivel nacional.

no

Talleres de capacitación para los intérpretes regionales, más de 130 capacitados; producción de conocimientos, mediante la publicación del primer libro sobre Traducción/Interpretación en Lengua de Señas, y la inclusión de la Interpretación en la CNO

En Colombia, aunque no hay convenio de trabajo conjunto con la federación de sordos, si se hacen acciones conjuntas, pero falta más reconocimiento por parte de la federación al trabajo de Aniscol.

Hacer las Conferencias de wasli más accesibles

ANCITILES - Asociación Nacional Costarricense de Traductores, Intérpretes e Investigadores de Lenguas de Señas (Costa Rica)

Si. 3 de junio de 2012. Talleres y actividades para el desarrollo profesional de los ILS. 4 hombres/8 mujeres. Junta directiva de 5 miembros: presidente, vicepresidente, secretario, tesorero, vocal. No hay trabajadores asalariados ni voluntarios.

Hay un programa de formación de ILS desarrollado de manera autónoma y con un nivel técnico por la Universidad de Costa Rica, a través de su oficina Programa Regional de Recursos para la Sordera (PROGRESO).

Las instituciones públicas y privadas contratantes piden haber concluido el programa de formación de PROGRESO-UCR. Por el escaso número de ILS algunas instituciones contratan a estudiantes de interpretación o a ILS empíricos.

No existen en Costa Rica programas de educación continua para los ILS y por lo tanto no es un requisito para el ejercicio profesional. Tampoco existe un sistema de certificación para los ILS formados en el programa de PROGRESO-UCR.

A pesar de que se reconoce la necesidad de salud ocupacional para los ILS, no existen leyes al respecto ni políticas de protección para ellos. Esto provoca que los ILS tengan que trabajar jornadas que por su duración afectan su salud y su seguridad.

No se les reconoce como iguales en las instituciones donde se les contrata al no poseer los ILS una carrera universitaria con pregrado o grado académico. El gobierno nacional hasta hace poco ha mostrado interés en el tema de los ILS.

US \$12000.00.

No. En Costa Rica los ILS no están afiliados ningún sindicato de intérpretes y traductores.

1-Obtener recursos financieros, materiales y humanos del gobierno y de ILS extranjeros para los programas de capacitación 2-Mejoramiento de los programas de formación y actualización de los ILS 3-Convenios entre gobierno y asociación de ILS y Sordos.

Promover con su personal calificado el movimiento asociativo de los ILS y su desarrollo profesional. Capacitación sobre la estructura necesaria para el desempeño correcto y sostenible de la asociación. Cursos para la formación de formadores de ILS.

Servir de enlace con los ILS de los países de Centroamérica y el Caribe en donde no hay asociaciones de ILS, colaborando para su establecimiento y posterior afiliación a WASLI.

no

Acción de cabildeo con las instituciones del Estado encargadas del tema de discapacidad y educación. Impartir talleres sobre la labor de los ILS. Participar junto a instituciones estatales en la elaboración del perfil del ILS y su certificación.

Aunque no existe un convenio formal por escrito de trabajo conjunto con la asociación de Sordos, si existe un acuerdo verbal para la colaboración entre ambas

Asociación de Intérpretes y Guías Intérpretes de Lengua de Señas del Perú - ASISEP

Presidenta Isabel Rey Clemente

Si tenemos una asociación nacional de intérpretes se constituyó el 5 de enero del año 2009 los fines de la asociación es promover el reconocimiento oficial de la profesión de intérprete de lengua de señas peruana, 2 socios y 21 socias

No lo tenemos
estudios de lengua de señas, participar con la comunidad sorda y ser reconocidos por la comunidad sorda

No la tenemos

No lo tenemos

No tenemos escala del gobiernos, es una tarifa puesta por los intérpretes

la remuneración por una hora es aproximadamente 13 dolares

No

La reglamentación de la Ley 29535 que reconoce la lengua de señas peruana la profesionalización de los intérpretes de lengua de señas el reconocimiento de la labor del intérprete de lengua de señas peruana

Respaldando las gestiones que hacemos ante las entidades de gobierno en busca de la profesionalización de los intérpretes de lengua de señas
Proporcionando información que nos oriente para alcanzar nuestros fines
Capacitación

Difundiendo el trabajo que realiza Wasli en beneficio de los intérpretes y los países.
Apoyando a WASLI económicamente con la cuota anual de un país que no tiene recursos

yes

3er Encuentro de Intérpretes de lengua de señas del 18 al 25 de febrero 2015

2do Encuentro Nacional de Intérpretes del 26 al 28 de setiembre 2013

1er Encuentro Nacional de Intérpretes del 28 al 30 de junio 2012

Gracias Wasli por permitirnos formar parte de una comunidad de interpretes que nos permite intercambiar experiencias.

Federa  o Brasileira das Associa  es dos Profissionais Tradutores e Int rpretes e Guias-int rpretes de L ngua de Sinais (Febrapils)

Sinal criado em 22/09/2008. S o 15 associa  es estaduais (APILS) filiadas. Mandato de 4 anos: presidente e vice-presidente e 10 diretores s o escolhidos pela chapa eleita. Todos s o volunt rios. Cria  o de novas APILS; Lutar melhores condi  es TILS.

Curso de Forma  o de Tradutor e Int rprete de L ngua de Sinais (Institui  es de Ensino Superior - Bacharelado). Curso T cnico de Forma  o de TILS (PRONATEC).

Forma  o em Ensino M dio e Certificado de forma  o de TILS em cursos ou Exame de Profici ncia em tradu  o e interpreta  o (PRO-LIBRAS) expedida pelo Minist rio da Educa  o (Governo Federal).

N o   sistem tico. A forma  o continuada   promovida pelas APILS ou institui  es de educa  o com cursos breves. O TILS paga o curso.

N o h  uma legisla  o que contemple sobre a sa de e seguran a na atua  o dos TILS nos locais de trabalho. H  um acordo entre TILS e contratantes. H  uma iniciativa da FEBRAPILS e FENEIS para tramitar legisla  o para contemplar sobre isso.

Lei Federal 12.319 de 1  de setembro de 2010 regulamenta a profiss o do TILS. Registro no C digo Brasileiro de Ocupa  o (CBO). Remunera  o para N vel M dio em concurso. Tabela da FEBRAPILS para contrata  o de TILS. Rela  o de trabalho com o TILS/APIL

N vel Superior: m dia de 40 horas/semana com sal rio de 11.000 a 13.000 d lares anuais.

N vel M dio: m dia de 40 horas/semana com sal rio de 8.000 a 10.000 d lares anuais

Nos Estados alguns TILS s o filiados  s APILS e em sindicatos estaduais. Entretanto, a  nica organiza  o nacional para TILS   a FEBRAPILS, organiza  o n o-governamental. N o h  uma organiza  o governamental ou conselho federal para TILS.

Os TILS enfrentam a aus ncia de um programa de forma  o inicial e continuada (curr culo b sico e unificado), aus ncia de pol ticas p blicas no atendimento e valoriza  o dos TILS no contexto social: sa de, forma  o, honor rios e profissionaliza  o.

Maior presença nas ações da FEBRAPILS, principalmente política de formação, valorização laboral; Incentivo à filiação de TILS às APILS; Documentos expedidos ao Governo brasileiro para reivindicações do movimento dos TILS.

Participação de câmaras técnicas de política de formação de TILS, sobretudo na América Latina; Divulgação de pesquisas na área de tradução/interpretação de língua de sinais; Organização de uma rede de saberes e experiências sobre os TILS.

yes

Fortalecimento das APILS; Conscientização do TILS na participação do movimento da categoria; Participação de debates sobre TILS e surdos nacionais e locais; Realização do Encontro Latino-Americano e de nível Estadual.

A FEBRAPILS e a FENEIS estão elaborando um acordo de parceria. Há a discussão sobre o decreto que regulamenta a Lei 12.319/2010; Organização administrativo-financeira da FEBRAPILS.

North America

Below provides an overview of reports from various representatives from across North America



Representative: Jocelyn Mark, President, Canada
Association of Visual Language Interpreters of Canada (AVLIC)

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

AVLIC was founded in 1979; Membership is driven and run by volunteers, with 1.5 paid staff. Total membership is 795: 760 ASL-English interpreters, 30 Deaf Interpreters, and 5 LSQ-French interpreters. For more information visit: www.avlic.ca

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

SLI training is offered by 6 Canadian post-secondary institutions, all are provincially recognized, each between 2 to 3 years of training. 1 program is joint between a community college/university; 2 programs are actively pursuing a 4-year degree.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

To be an active member of AVLIC, the interpreter must be a graduate of an AVLIC recognized Interpreter Education Program or meet the defined Deaf interpreter criteria.

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

At this time AVLIC does not have Continuing Professional Education requirements to maintain membership or AVLIC certification, although we recognize the importance of this.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

AVLIC does not have information about this.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

We are recognized equally: both have government approved training programs, and wages are comparable in some areas of the country. The same employment laws apply to both.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

Approximately \$36,000.00-\$44,000.00 USD

Are SLIs members of a national union?

No.

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

- 1) Obtaining Occupational Title Protection provincially.
- 2) Reviewing the current AVLIC administered national certification process.
- 3) Stronger relationships with Deaf organizations, other interpreter organizations and other stakeholders.

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

- Communicating successes and work being pursued in other countries in the context of common interests, e.g. evaluations, resolution processes.
- The ability to network and solicit feedback from the international interpreting communities, e.g. via online forum.

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

We can provide remote support to WASLI affiliates. AVLIC can be a mechanism for WASLI to contact and communicate with our membership.

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

Yes.

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

Please visit <http://www.cad.ca> to view all initiatives and activities.

Intérpretes y Traductores de Lengua de Señas de la República Mexicana A.C.

8 de abril de 2014, Autorización de la Secretaría de Economía
A201402071259597714

3 Asociaciones Estatales (finalizando trámites de afiliación)

Mesa Directiva (Presidente, Secretario, Tesorero)
No tenemos trabajadores asalariados

No existen.

Existe una Certificaci3n del Gobierno de la Rep3blica, âœPrestaci3n de Servicios de Interpretaci3n de la Lengua de SeÃ±as Mexicana al EspaÃ±ol y viceversaâ€ expedida por el Centro Nacional de Normalizacion y Certificaci3n de Profesiones, No se respeta.

Se estÃ¡ aplicando un examen te3rico y prÃ¡ctico a los int3rpretes afiliados a la asociaci3n cada aÃ±o para asignar nivel de interpretaci3n. Se dan cursos de capacitaci3n al interior de la asociaci3n.

No se cuenta con eso.

No existe.

\$10,000.00 US dolares en un aÃ±o

NO

Capacitaci3n
Profesionalizacion
Difusi3n de la figura del Int3rprete Profesional.

Capacitaci3n de interpretes y capacitaci3n para formadores de int3rpretes
Reproducir la Capacitaci3n en centro Am3rica y el Caribe

yes

1er Encuentro de Int3rpretes de Lengua de SeÃ±as de Norteam3rica
Capacitaci3n a nuevas Asociaciones Estatales.

Saludos y Ã‰xito

**Representatives: Mano a Mano, David quint-Pozos, President
Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) Dawn Whitcher, President;
In the United States there are currently two national organizations.**

Liz Mendoza, North America Rep to WASLI

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

1. Mano a Mano comprised of trilingual interpreters (Spanish-English-ASL) est. in 1999, 175-200 members, Volunteer Board.
2. RID comprised of 16,000 ASL-English interpreters, established in 1964. Members elect volunteer board, national office, and 18 staff.

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

No government approved programs, but government funds help to support training programs to prepare interpreters for K-12 settings and community settings. 150+ interpreter education programs across the United States. Only a few prepare trilingual interpreters.

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

Minimum training is a 2-year associates degree, but RID certification requires completion of a Bachelors degree. Minimum certification is the National Interpreter Certification from RID or one of the state testing systems like the BEI in Texas.

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

Yes. All current certification systems in America require continuing education units (CEU) in order to maintain certification. RID requires 80 contact hours every five year cycle. In some states interpreters can work without certification or CEUs.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

There are many workplace regulations in America but none that are specific to interpreters. There is research addressing the propensity of SLIs to sustain injuries from overuse and there are guidelines and recommendations to follow, but not laws.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

Because of ADA, SLIs work in many settings. SLIs often work in teams. Most states have laws defining who can interpret. A few interpreters in VRS have joined unions. Some employers have set pay scale. Freelance interpreters usually set own rate.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

The annual salary varies greatly depending on setting, geographic location and whether interpreter is freelance or staff. 2013 survey report from National Consortium of Interpreter Education Center states salaries range from \$10,000- 90,000 USD per year.

Are SLIs members of a national union?

Some interpreters who work for VRS companies have joined a national communication workers union. Overall, it is a small percent of the profession at large.

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. Market disorder resulting from vast variations in standards about who is qualified to work.
2. Gap between completion of training program and readiness to work.
3. Changing needs of the Deaf Community and need for more Deaf interpreters.

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

- Sharing resources and international expertise.
- Share resources; offer modest funding to support specific activities (like the streaming for the upcoming conference), technical assistance and support as requested and appropriate.
- Help to publicize issues to our members and ask for their support.

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

Mano a Mano hosted National conferences (2011, 2013, 2015) and local workshops. RID has national certification system, certification maintenance program, publications, public advocacy at state and natl. level, biennial and regional conferences.

RID is in a period of transition related to operations and governance in order to better serve its membership and consumers. As well, RID works to strengthen its relationship with the other national organizations in order to maximize resources.

Transcaucasia-Central Asia

Below provides an overview of reports from various representatives from across Transcaucasia-Central Asia



Representative: Igor Bondarenko, Council of Sign Language Interpreters of Kyiv Regional Organization of Ukrainian Society of the Deaf

Do you have a national Sign Language Interpreter Association (SLIA)? If yes, when was it established; what information and support do you provide; total number of current members include female/male split; what is the governance structure; do volunteers and/or paid workers work for the SLIA?

No

Are there government approved Sign Language Interpreting/Deaf Interpreter training programs available? If yes, how many and what types of programs?

Yes, we have two sign language interpreting training programs licensed by The Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine.

1. Initial Training Courses (ITC), 4-month length
2. Advanced Training Courses (ATC), 1-month length

What is the minimum training or certification required to work as a professional SLI?

ITC, certification by Ukrainian Society of the Deaf

Do SLIs have Continuing Professional Education requirements to be met to maintain certification and ongoing professional paid employment?

Yes, ATC every 3-5 years.

Do SLIs have particular health and safety workplace national, state laws and policy protections?

No.

Does the national government recognize Sign Language Interpreters (SLI's) and spoken language interpreters/translators equally? How? For example through labor/industrial relations and employment laws, government approved national training system, policy, wages or pay scales?

No.

What is the full-time, average SLI annual salary range (US dollars)?

2013 - \$ 2,250-3,000

2014 - \$ 1,485-2,100

2015 - \$ 720-1,200

Are SLIs members of a national union?

No.

What are the three biggest challenges facing interpreters in your country?

1. Increase the prestige of the profession and the level of wages
2. Development and adoption of standards for the profession
3. Implementation of SLI education in higher education level trainings on demand

In what ways can WASLI assist you?

N/A

In what ways can your association or country support WASLI?

N/A

Does the SLI Association have a formal agreement with Deaf organization to work in collaboration?

No.

What are their main activities in last 4 years?

We hold two national conferences of sign language interpreters, annual seminars and trainings, and have implemented of the Code of Professional Conduct.