

# AGM 2013 - Country report for full members

## 2. Your association

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**On behalf of which national association of sign language interpreters are you reporting?**

NBTG (Netherlands)

**Your name:**

Mirjam Stolk

**Your email address**

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## 3. Country facts

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**What is the population in your country/region?**

16.800.000

**What is the number of Deaf sign language users in your country (or in the region of the country) you are representing?**

15000-20000

**How many sign language interpreters are officially registered in your country / region?**

464

**How many interpreter members does your association have?**

about 380

**If you have any comments on the above facts, please mention them here:**

Due to filling out this survey after the deadline I did not want to 'waste' anymore time waiting for the exact number of members....

## 4. Events & goals

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**What are the most important events for your association in the past year?**

Past year we celebrated our 25th anniversary. I think the most important events were related to this anniversary. For example the efsli Spring school and the upcoming conference in November.

**What are the most important events for the situation of sign language interpreters in your country/region (for example the recognition of the national Sign Language, of the profession, etc.)**

Two of the events that have been affecting the Dutch SL Interpreters the most for the last year must have been 1. the KTT project regarding video remote interpreting (different stakeholders carried out tests and discussed and set up a list of requirements for this in the Netherlands quite 'new' form of interpreting) 2.the upcoming changes in the way that students will be provider an Interpreter in school/college. We cannot foresee what the consequences will be of the planned measures by our government

**What are the goals of your association for the coming year?**

1. To increase the quality of sign language interpreters, matching the changing needs and wishes of the organisations of deaf, hard of hearing, late-deafened, sudden-deafened, and deaf-blind people.
2. The NBTG will do this by regularly investigating the needs and wishes of users of the interpreting services, as well as of interpreters and students when organising qualitative continuing education.
3. To increase the educational possibilities for interpreters, such as post doctoral studies and specialisations. The NBTG wants to play a more active role in establishment and provision of this education
4. Increasing the knowledge on the role of the interpreter at the government, user organisations and interpreter users, in cooperation with partners in the field.
5. Look after the interests of Sign Language Interpreters by pleading with stakeholders and for good working conditions
6. Stimulating social recognition of sign language interpreting as a profession by co-operating even more with, amongst others, user organisations and Tolknnet (SLI employment agency) when it comes to education on the profession. Also the NBTG would like to pay more attention to informing the government on the importance of the work of SLI's.