



## Congress 2021

# GUIDE TRAINING & EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair of Guide Training & Education (GTE) Committee Gáspár Göncz

GTE Committee 2017-2021 activities, results, statistics as well as draft outline of 2022's Strategic Plan.

### Most recognisable GTE Statistics 2021:

- **3051** Active Certificates in **65+** countries (2011: 805, 2013: 1393, 2015: 1693, 2017: 1972, 2018: 2395)
- **349** new assessments in 2021 in 19 countries (746 in 2018)
- **extra +6000 USD** over the budget for 2021 contributing to the post-covid survival of the IRF

### Established and in function:

- New generation of motivated and professional IRF Instructors and Assessors
- Global Raft Guide Assessment Standards
- Regular Assessments, Workshops and Guide Training Programs on five continents
- Dynamic growth in the number of IRF Raft Guide certificates
- Safety Kayak promoted as a professional certificate being part of many IRF workshops
- Annual IRF GTE conferences
- Promoting event safety standards for raft races, established for WRC and ERC
- Mark Hirst (IRF Assessor) functioning as IRF GTE Secretary - he standardised IRF GTE processes
- Sean Clarke in charge of Administration - GTE Admin is now functioning better than ever
- Updated all IRF GTE documentation and resources - AS v.6 is already online.
- Online IRF certificates replaced plastic cards

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### Have commenced and/or development started:

- IRF Rafting Operators Accreditation (processing results of first pilot audit)
- Promoting the new IRF (non-rafting) certificate: IRF Whitewater Guide Certificate
- Promote IRF Guide Training Program Curriculum as a global standard
- Re-activating IRF courses in Latin-America
- Re-designing Instructor certification process to simplify, but provide better quality

### GTE Activity Summary 2017-2021:

After two years of initial momentum in GTE during 2017-2018, Covid brought a stop on almost all international activity in 2019-2020. But despite the recession, the pandemic has brought plenty of positive effect to the IRF Guide family.

- The IRF Guide Community have proven to share empathy, provide help and cooperate in the challenging times - big thanks to all!!!
- GTE and commercial rafting had major activity on national levels, when / where restrictions allowed
- The online Instructor Conference brought in a record number of attendees
- GTE documents and processes have been reviewed and updated due to free capacity
- GTE surpassed expectations for 2021 reactivating the guide community

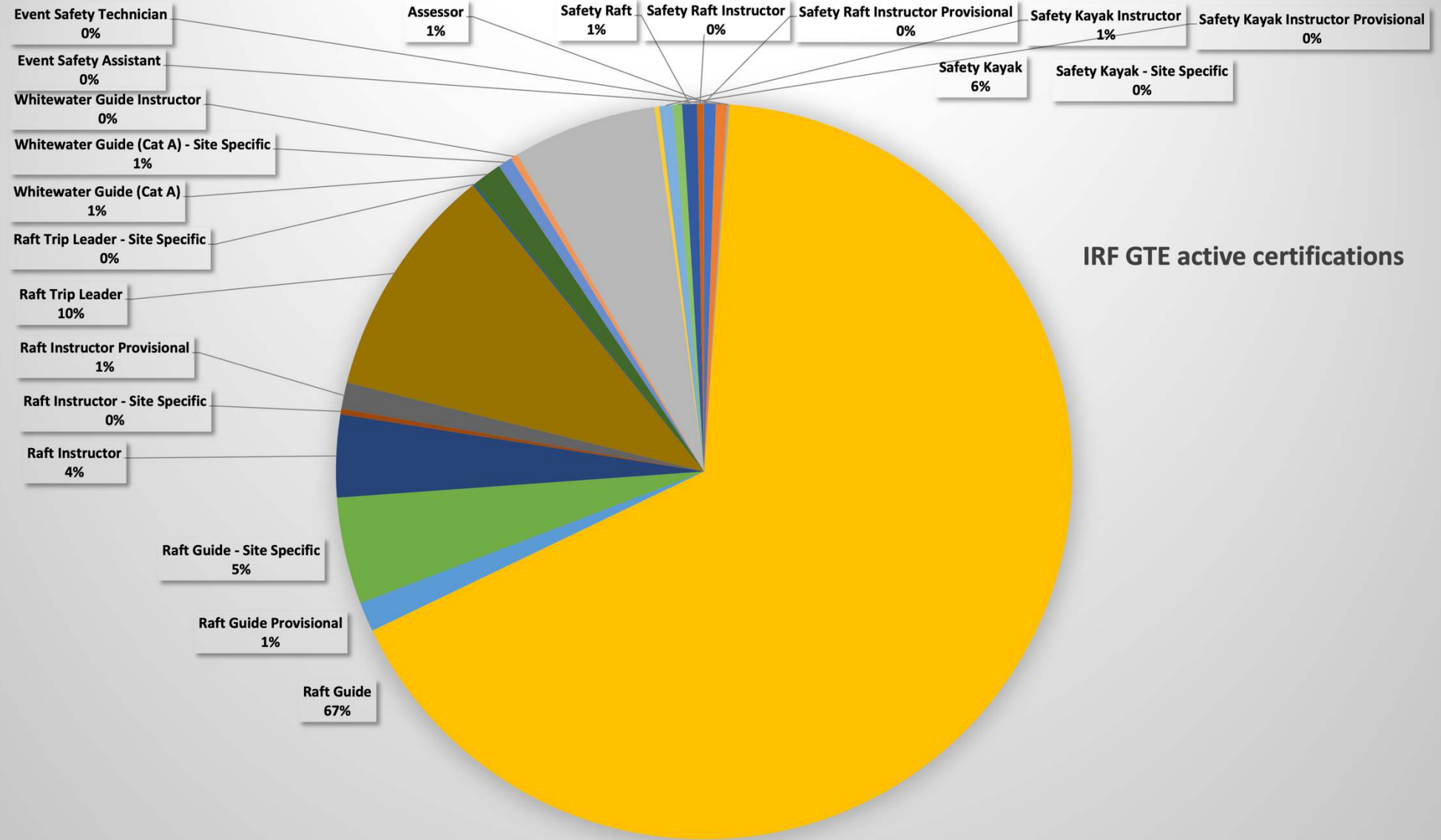
### Draft of GTE's 2022 Strategic Plan:

The following bullet points shall be included in the 2022 Strategic Plan:

- Redesigning IRF Instructor Certification process, and provide more Instructor aids
- IRF Rafting Operators Accreditation - further assessments
- IRF GTE Conference 2022
- New assessors - finalising process for several new applicants
- Introduce recreational / individual certificate for Whitewater river-users
- Introduce an introduction level for Whitewater Guide certificate (level 1)
- The IRF GTE Scheme has become stable enough to get legalised on National levels. It has been delivered across National Rafting Federations in six countries. This gives us further opportunity to take on more and more countries. Needs further contracts and negotiations with national organisations

More information about IRF GTE in detail:

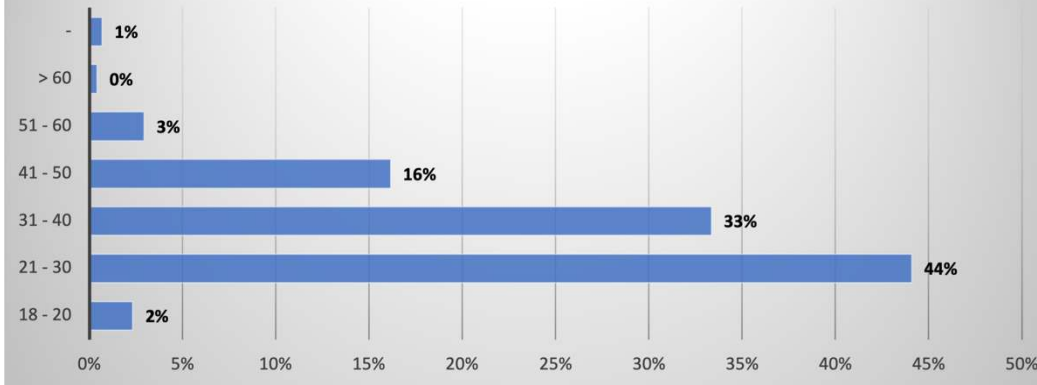
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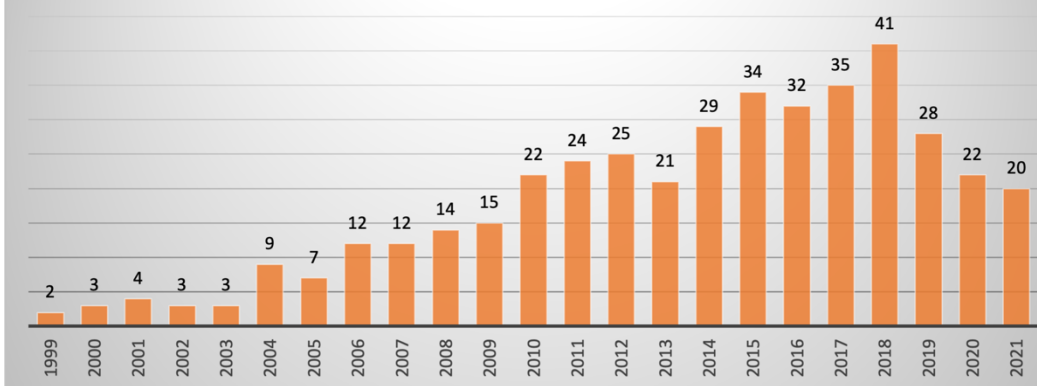
IRF GTE active certifications by age



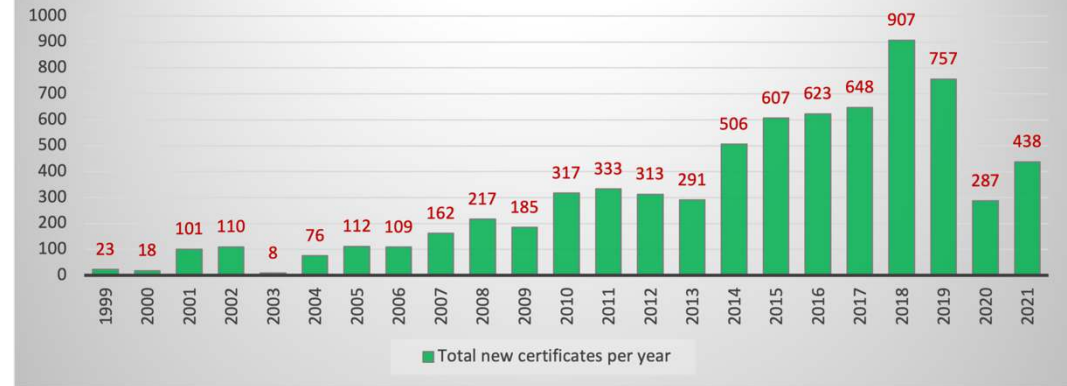
IRF GTE number of primary instructors/assessors certifying per year



IRF GTE number of countries certifying per year



IRF GTE new certificates by year



Report by Gáspár Göncz (Guide Training & Education Committee Chair), October 2021