



Closed Loop Management system overview

WorldSkills Shanghai 2022

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Revisions

Version	Date	Changes
1.2	22.03.22	<p>Section 2.1.3 – Journey overview documents for Competitors and Team. leaders, and Experts have been created</p> <hr/> <p>Section 3.1 – Noting that the physical distancing requirement within a skill competition workshop (one metre) is different to the requirements at all other times outside the skill competition workshop (two metres).</p> <hr/> <p>Section 4.1 – Full details of the accommodation are in the WSC2022 Packages brochure.</p> <hr/> <p>Section 5.1 – Full details of the packages are in the WSC2022 Packages brochure.</p> <hr/> <p>Section 6.2 – Added information on dedicated meetings with China Eastern Airlines</p> <hr/> <p>Section 6.3 – Added date for a dedicated meeting on this topic</p> <hr/> <p>Section 6.4 – Added date for a dedicated meeting on this topic</p> <hr/> <p>Section 7.1 – Full details of these processes are outlined in the WSC2022 Prevention and control of COVID-19 document with version 1.0 released on 23 March 2022.</p> <hr/> <p>Section 7.2 – Details about the role of the CLO are outlined in the WSC2022 Prevention and control of COVID-19 document with version 1.0 released on 23 March 2022.</p> <hr/> <p>Section 8 – Updated timeline.</p>
1.1	24.02.22	Initial release

1 About this document

WSI and MOHRSS and WSS2022 have had extensive discussions on the realistic and most likely or most probable delivery of WorldSkills Shanghai 2022. This is critically important as Members, Partners, and Sponsors need to know now in order to continue their commitment and planning to participate in WorldSkills Shanghai 2022.

It is now confirmed that the planning will proceed with the delivery model for WorldSkills Shanghai 2022 (WSC2022) being a Closed Loop Management system (CLM system).

This document is for Members, Partners, and Sponsors to provide an overview of the Closed Loop Management system as it will be applied at WorldSkills Shanghai 2022 and will be updated as and when required.

2 Introduction

The starting point for “what does a Closed Loop Management system look like for WorldSkills Shanghai 2022” will be based on the operational model of the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics. This was implemented in February 2022 (Omicron variant prevalent) as a very complex event (19 days of competition, 43 venues in the closed loop, with some 60,000 accredited personnel including athletes, coaches, officials, federation delegates, volunteers, and media), and provides experience and “lessons learned” for WorldSkills Shanghai 2022.

While it is expected that the world will be in a “better place” with the pandemic by October 2022, if the starting point for WorldSkills Shanghai 2022 is close to the high restrictions of the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics then this provides a “worst case scenario” (baseline) for Members, Partners, and Sponsors to assess their participation.

As China Government policies adjust to national and international responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and the situation improves, WSS2022 should be able to release certain restrictions and modify planning to incorporate positive changes – moving to “better case scenarios”, and maybe for some activities we can reach “best case scenario”.

2.1 Closed Loop Management system

All planning will be carried out in accordance with the *COVID-19 Prevention and Control Protocols (currently Edition 8)* and the *Diagnosis and Treatment Protocol for COVID-19 Patients (Trial Version 9)*, both of which state that all people entering China shall be subject to 21 days of quarantine (14 days of centralized isolation + 7 days of medical observation period) upon entry.

The implementation of the Closed Loop Management system allows participants to enter China without undergoing the compulsory 21-day quarantine, subject to participants being fully vaccinated (14 days or more before entering China)¹.

The closed loop is expected to be in effect from C-11 until C+5. Consideration is being given to a progressive or phased setup to take into account international and domestic workforces.

¹ Currently participants are considered fully vaccinated according to the requirements of their country/region of residence or national health authority where the vaccine was administered. Full vaccination may be with one, two or three shots, depending on specific requirements, type of vaccine, and personal medical history.

2.1.1 Assumptions

1. All participants must purchase a package to attend WSC2022.
2. WSS2022 and WSI understand the invaluable role that all Members, Partners, and Sponsors play in the success of WorldSkills and are re-evaluating all who can attend WSC2022.
3. All overseas participants are required to enter the closed loop upon arrival in China and remain in it until they leave the country.
4. Domestic participants including WSS2022 staff, technicians, volunteers, and contractors, will also be part of the closed loop.
5. The Closed Loop Management system will apply to venues including NECC, official hotels, Accommodation Centres, dedicated medical facilities, and locations that serve WSC2022.

2.1.2 WSC2022 Participation Guide

The Closed Loop Management system is guided by Chinese Health Authorities. A WSC2022 Participation Guide has been developed similar to the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics Playbooks to ensure that all participants and the people of China stay safe and healthy for the event. This document is called **WSC2022 Prevention and control of COVID-19**. Version 1.0 was released on 23 March 2022 and will be updated as and when required.

2.1.3 Journey overviews

- **WSC2022 Competitor and Team Leader journey overview**
- **WSC2022 Expert journey overview**

These two documents outline the journeys for each group including before, entering, during, and leaving Shanghai. The information has been extracted and condensed from this document as well as the **WSC2022 Prevention and control of COVID-19** document, and **WSC2022 Package brochure**, to provide succinct details to assist them in their decision to attend WorldSkills Shanghai 2022.

3 Activities and components

The primary objective is to deliver WorldSkills Shanghai 2022 in a secure and safe environment. It is important to confirm which activities and components will be included to ensure the integrity of the event, the wellbeing of all participants, and optimize their ability to participate. This may require the amendment and/or omission of traditional activities to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Now that the Closed Loop Management system has been confirmed, MOHRSS, WSS2022, and WSI are continuing with the planning for all activities and components that are part of the event.

3.1 Skill competitions

1. All workshops have been designed to ensure COVID-19 prevention and control protocols and physical distancing measures (one metre) as recommended by the WHO are incorporated. Noting that the physical distancing requirement of two metres applies outside the skill competition workshops as detailed in the **WSC2022 Prevention and control of COVID-19** document.
2. All personnel in workshops must wear approved PPE as required by the skill competition and the pandemic prevention and control requirements.
3. Transparent partition walls may be installed at the perimeter fences of the workshops to ensure safe physical distancing between participants in the workshop and potential visitors not part of the closed loop.
4. All skill competitions will have a cleaning team stationed within the workshops to clean high touch areas, equipment, and tools in shared work areas.

5. All closed rooms and offices in the workshop will have maximum capacity limits (as recommended by the WHO) indicated at the entry of each closed area.
6. Skills requiring live models, actors, or guests are currently under review to determine how the skill competition can be conducted in the safest manner.

3.2 Opening and Closing Ceremonies

As part of our planning, WSS2022 will include all Members, Partners, and Sponsors in the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. Current pandemic prevention and control protocols state that we cannot exceed 50% of the maximum venue capacity. We are considering a number of venues (World Expo Cultural Center, SAIC Motor Pudong Arena) that have sufficient capacity to allow all Members, Partners, and Sponsors to attend.

WSS2022 and WSI are committed to delivering the essential elements of the ceremonies. Planning is underway for the ceremonies to be broadcast through live streaming for people in Shanghai and the rest of the world to watch.

3.3 General Assembly meetings

General Assembly meetings will take place within the NECC as planned while observing appropriate COVID-19 pandemic prevention and control protocols.

3.4 WorldSkills Conference

MOHRSS, WSS2022, and WSI will invite high-level Member stakeholders, industry leaders and partners, education leaders, international organizations, and government officials to attend the WorldSkills Conference.

The conference will take place within the NECC allowing those inside the closed loop to attend in person. Those outside the closed loop will be able to attend online.

3.5 Cultural precinct

Inside the closed loop it is our intention to provide a cultural precinct that will allow participants to experience the richness of Chinese culture and skills, by bringing China “into” the closed loop. Whilst these components are still under discussion, the cultural precinct could include, but not limited to, live traditional performances, arts and crafts, dragon dances, plate spinning and many others. In addition, WSS2022 and WSI are engaging WorldSkills Champions Trust (previous Competitors) to gain their suggestions and perspective.

3.6 Welcome Reception

The Welcome Reception is held at the end of the Excursion for the Expert Group on C-5, and Competitor Group on C-3. The Welcome Reception has traditionally provided the opportunity to network over dinner. In a COVID-19 environment this may not be possible, but we are looking at alternatives that can cater to the high number of attendees, such as within the Cultural Precinct (section 3.5) or an alternative venue.

3.7 VIP and Sponsor Night

The VIP and Sponsor Night has traditionally provided the opportunity to network over dinner. In a COVID-19 environment this may not be possible, but we are looking at alternatives that can cater to the high number of attendees, such as within the Cultural Precinct (section 3.5) or an alternative venue.

3.8 Farewell Party

The Farewell Party is a celebration to highlight the achievements of all Competitors. Eligible participants will be able to access the Farewell Party which will be within the Closing Ceremony venue. All COVID-19 protocols will be respected.

3.9 Skill Out

Skill Out was introduced as a way for Experts to take a break from the workshop to relax in a social setting and network. The challenge in a closed loop is social distancing restrictions and therefore we are looking at ways to provide as many of the core elements in a COVID-19 environment. We are discussing whether Skill Out could take place near the dining area of the NECC or the Cultural Precinct (section 3.5).

3.10 Excursions

Excursions provide an opportunity for participants to experience the cultural richness of the host city and country/region.

Due to COVID-19, we will adjust our planning to provide participants with an immersive experience showcasing the local industry, culture, and hospitality. Several options currently under discussion including activities within the Cultural Precinct (section 3.5).

3.11 One School One Member

One School One Member enables local students to learn about the WorldSkills Competition and promotes vocational education and training (VET) and excellence in skill development. It also provides learning around countries/regions of the world. In return Competitors have an opportunity to interact with students in Shanghai and learn about the culture and history of China.

WSS2022 and MOHRSS see this as an essential and valuable activity and are committed to ensuring interactive engagement is achieved while physical visits to schools are not possible.

Each Member will be allocated a school and will receive a video that offers a glimpse into the host schools and highlights their characteristics, teaching activities, and student's activities. Communication will be ongoing, and a cultural exchange will occur digitally while Competitors are in Shanghai. In addition, students of the schools will prepare souvenirs for their allocated Members.

We welcome ideas from Team Leaders on how they see One School One Member could be successfully held in a COVID-19 environment.

3.12 Visitor Experience

Visitor Experience includes the WorldSkills Expo; Try-a-Skill; careers information, advice, and guidance; and other interactive opportunities within the Competition venue.

There are many additional components that are a key component of a WorldSkills Competition, however, are highly dependent on domestic and international staff and visitors. Currently domestic visitors are not allowed in the closed loop under the closed loop model. WSS2022 will continue to investigate possible opportunities to hold similar events outside the closed loop.

WSS2022 will continue to develop solutions to allow domestic visitors to experience a WorldSkills Competition.

4 Services

4.1 Accommodation

WorldSkills Shanghai 2022 (WSS2022) will use a combination of hotels and Accommodation Centres to provide four levels of accommodation: Tiers A+, A, B, and C. All accommodation packages include breakfast and in-room Internet access.

Due to the requirement to fill all rooms, as hotels that are part of the closed loop cannot be accessed by regular clients during the closed loop period, WSS2022 will allocate participants to the hotels and Accommodation Centres within each level.

Delegates who require additional nights' accommodation outside of the designated dates of the package may book via the WorldSkills International Registration System.

Participants cannot leave the accommodation unless they are using dedicated WSC2022 transport and are going to an official venue or location within the closed loop.

All details relating to accommodation are included in the **WSC2022 Package Brochure** released 23 March.

4.2 Food and beverage

Participants will not be able to source food and beverages outside the closed loop.

WSS2022 and WSI are currently assessing the provision of food and beverages throughout the entire event period for all participants. We are working with the Competition venue, hotels, and Accommodation Centres to provide reasonably priced food. WSS2022 will aim to provide, where possible, convenience stores, vending machines, and other facilities.

Details relating to food and beverage package inclusions are included in the **WSC2022 Package Brochure** released 23 March.

4.3 Transport

Each hotel and Accommodation Centre has a dedicated mix of official WSC2022 vehicles to provide one-stop shuttle transportation between the hotel or Accommodation Centres and the venues. Official vehicles will be appropriately branded to allow priority lane access on Shanghai roads.

Participants will only be able to utilize the closed loop transport system and cannot access outside transportation such as public transport and taxis.

5 Packages

All participants must purchase packages to attend WorldSkills Shanghai 2022. WSS2022 and WSI will allow anyone who wishes to attend to do so – on the understanding that they will be entering the Closed Loop Management system.

5.1 Package brochure

Full details of the packages are in the **WSC2022 Packages** brochure

6 Other considerations

6.1 Visa

For most individuals to enter China, a visa is required. For individuals from most Member countries and regions there is a cost for the visa. It is important to define the following three visa scenarios:

1. **Normal visa:** WSS2022 will issue invitation letters for participants to include in their visa application. Participants follow the standard process and pay the applicable amount.
2. **Free-visa:** effectively a normal visa, but with costs waived due to attendance at a specific event.
3. **Visa-free:** instead of getting a normal visa, WSS2022 apply for entry to China on behalf of the participant and issue an ID accreditation card for the purpose of travelling to China for WSC2022 only.

MOHRSS and WSS2022 will work with Chinese embassies and consulates via the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs to give priority to and simplify the normal visa application. MOHRSS and WSS2022 are currently exploring visa-free entry for all participants.

(From WSI: There is no requirement for Competition Organizers to provide free-visa or visa-free solutions as part of hosting, however some Members may offer this as part of their bid. This was not the case with WorldSkills China for WSC2022.)

6.2 Flights

We understand the concerns that Members, Partners, and Sponsors have expressed regarding:

- the need to be able to assess flight availability and costs early to decide on participation,
- the inability to book commercial flights as schedules are not currently available for October 2022,
- the infrequency of flights (many airlines have scheduled only one flight per week which adds difficulties to ensuring all participants can book),
- the inability to organize charter flights due to restrictions imposed by Chinese air authorities, and
- increased flight costs.

WSS2022 and China Eastern Airlines held the first dedicated flight meetings with Members on 16 March 2022. This meeting will progress into individual and group meetings to identify suitable solutions.

Dedicated flight meetings for Partners will start in the coming weeks

6.3 Insurance

All insurance requirements for WorldSkills Shanghai 2022, and who is responsible for these insurances, was covered by WSI at item 11 of the Competitions Committee meeting 2 March.

As with all WorldSkills Competitions with respect to comprehensive travel and medical insurance, it is the responsibility of the participant to obtain the appropriate level to attend WorldSkills Shanghai 2022. For WSS2022, this should include insurance for potential COVID-19 related medical expenses risks.

WSS2022 is aware that some Members are having trouble getting insurance to specifically cover COVID-19 related medical expenses, and/or current quotes for this cover are high. Therefore, WSS2022 are investigating options to offer offering Members, Partners, and Sponsors this insurance for COVID-19 related medical or isolation expenses within China.

A dedicated meeting on this topic has been organized for 30 March 2022.

6.4 Toolboxes

WSS2022 and WSI are aware of the increased costs being quoted by the freight industry. A dedicated meeting on this topic has been organized for 30 March 2022. In the meantime, please contact client.support@wss2022.com to inform us of your toolbox shipping challenges.

WSI, via the Competitions Committee, has targeted the reduction of tools and toolboxes required for the skill competitions.

A dedicated meeting on this topic has been organized for 30 March 2022.

7 COVID-19 pandemic prevention and control protocols

Full details of these requirements are outlined in the **WSC2022 Prevention and control of COVID-19** document with version 1.0 released on 23 March 2022. This document will be updated as and when required.

7.1 Processes

The following processes outline the COVID-19 pandemic prevention and control protocols in four phases to assist you to participate in WorldSkills Shanghai 2022.



Full details of these processes are outlined in the **WSC2022 Prevention and control of COVID-19** document with version 1.0 released on 23 March 2022.

7.2 COVID Liaison Officer (CLO)

Details about the role of the CLO are outlined in the **WSC2022 Prevention and control of COVID-19** document with version 1.0 released on 23 March 2022.

8 Timeline

