

IMMUNIZATION ECONOMICS.org | @HEA
Biel, Switzerland, July 15-16 | #immunizationECONOMICS

IMMUNIZATION ECONOMICS PRE-CONGRESS

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

- Includes:
- Lunch (both days)
 - Breakfast (both days)
 - Coffee break (both days)
 - Social event, catered by Les Trois Rois
 - Meeting

Lucy
Private
HEA

EVENT REPORT & SURVEY RESULTS



As part of the 2019 iHEA biennial world congress in Basel, Switzerland, the Immunization Economics Special Interest Group (SIG) organized a pre-congress session on July 13-14. The intended audience for this session was individuals interested in the generation and use of information surrounding immunization costing, financing, and value of vaccination. Audience consisted of early career to seasoned researchers, EPI managers, policymakers, multinational organizations, and donors.

Over **126 participants** attended the two-day session. Participants came from **73 institutions** in **31 countries**.

Institutions (# attendees)

Harvard University	16
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health	6
CDC	5
University of Washington	4
George Institute for Global Health	3
ThinkWell	3
Results for Development	3
World Health Organization	3
Gavi	3
Makerere University	3
PRICELESS SA	3

Country of residence (# attendees)

United States	46
Switzerland	10
India	6
China	6
Netherlands	4
Indonesia	4
United Kingdom	4
Uganda	4
Australia	3
South Africa	3
Nigeria	3



DAY 1

Saturday, July 13th, 2019

DAY 2

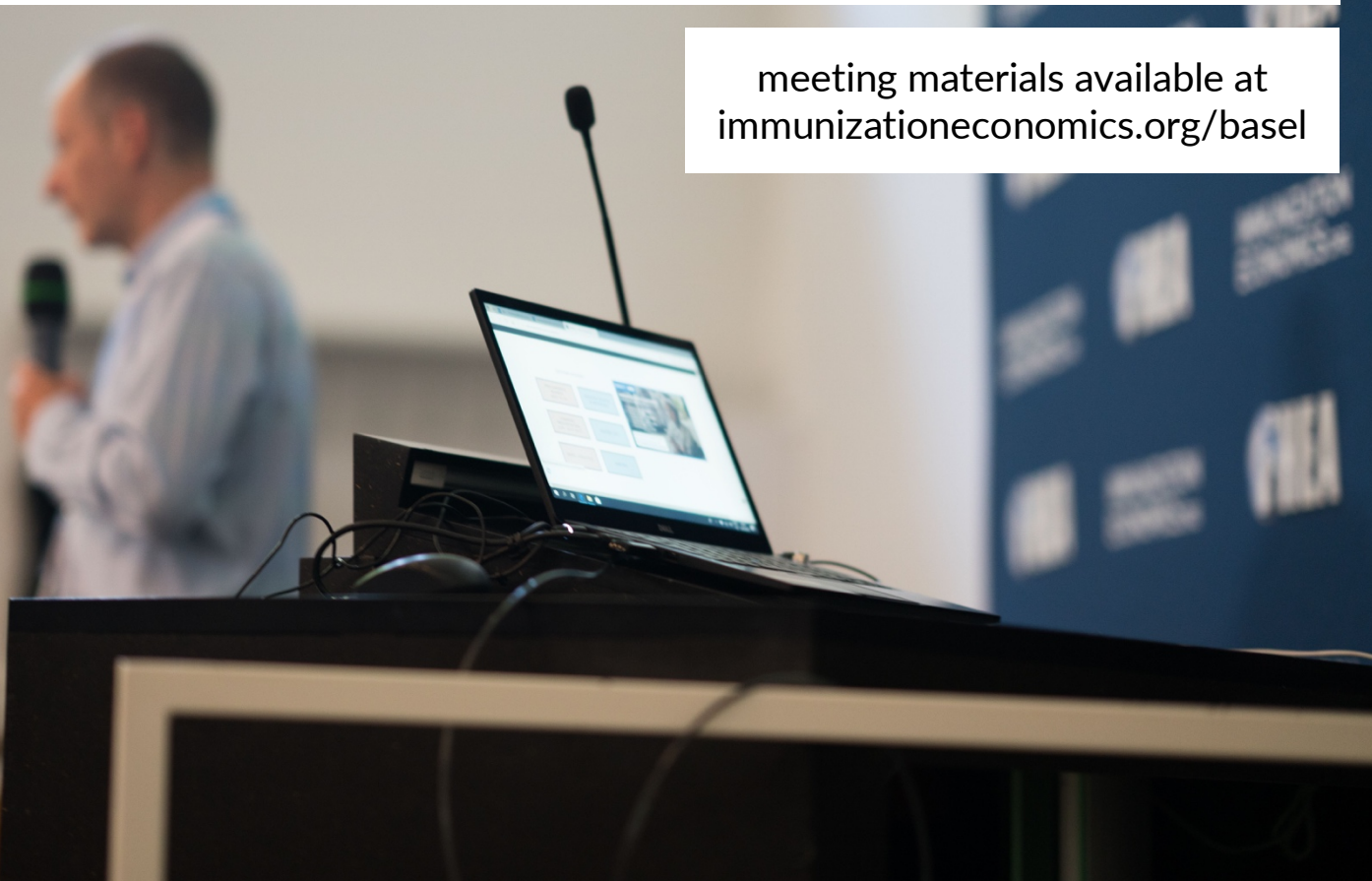
Sunday, July 14th, 2019

	7:30	Registration and Coffee / Breakfast + Poster viewing	
	8:00	Registration and Coffee / Breakfast + Poster viewing	
	8:30	Opening and framing: Dr. Stephen Resch	
Section #1: New costing exercises: findings and lessons learned	9:00	Immunization Costing: where are we now? - Nicolas Menzies (Harvard)	Section #4: Beyond the data - stakeholder engagement from local decision makers to global academics
	9:30	Research findings on immunization delivery costs from Vietnam, Tanzania, and Indonesia Annette Ozaltin (Thinkwell), Hoang Van Minh (Hanoi University of Public Health), Fatuma Manzi (Ifakara Health Institute), Amilia Megarini (Universitas Indonesia) Discussant: Vital Mogaasale (International Vaccine Institute)	
	10:00	Scaling up immunization programs: lessons from Intensified Mission Inradhanush, India Susmita Chatterjee (The George Institute for Global Health, India), Emma Clarke (Harvard)	
	10:30	Coffee Break	
Section #2: Hot topics - Advances in Immunization economics methodology	11:00	Community resource: costing methodology, practical guidance Stephen Resch (Harvard), Laura Boonstoppel (Thinkwell), Ann Levin (Independent Consultant) Discussant: Sarah Pallas (CDC)	Section #5: Future directions - the need of economic and financing evidence to support policymakers
	11:30	The broader societal and economical impact of vaccination: framework, methodology, and quantification David Bloom, JP Sevilla, Maddalena Ferranna (Harvard)	
	12:00	Group photo Lunch + Poster viewing	
Session #3: Concurrent refresher course and capacity building sessions	13:00	Refresher Workshop: Economic Analysis for Immunization Programs Bill Padula, Shreena Malaviya (JHSPH)	Section #6: Beyond ad-hoc project - a platform for reference, information exchange and capacity building
	13:30	Interactive demonstration: Use and interpretation of Immunization Costing research Kelsey Vaughan, Annette Ozaltin (Thinkwell) User perspective: lessons learned working with the Immunization Delivery Cost Catalogue Frederic Debellut (PATH)	
	14:00	Refresher Workshop: Assessing productivity loss associated with immunization Libby Watts, Gaten de Broucker (JHSPH)	
	14:30	Interactive demonstration: Hands-on workshop on using the sampling optimizer Stephen Resch (Harvard)	
	15:00	Coffee Break	
	15:30	Innovative solutions to exchange information on Immunization Economics: nurturing an effective forum Panelists: Christian Suharlim* (immunizationeconomics.org), Grace Chee (LNCT)	
	16:00	Group activity, summary, and reflection: Logan Brenzel	
	16:30	Day 1 wrap-up and announcements	
	16:30	Award Ceremony + Closing	

6-8 pm HORS D'OEUVRES, MUSIC, & SOCIAL
Location: The historic jewel of 1730 Foesch-Hous and Private Rose Garden,
across University Hospital (Spitalstrasse 21, 4031 Basel, Switzerland)
Catered by Les Trois Rois, Coat and bag check available at the venue

* panel lead

meeting materials available at
immunizationeconomics.org/basel



“This was truly a comprehensive pre-congress session with plenty of opportunities for participation.”

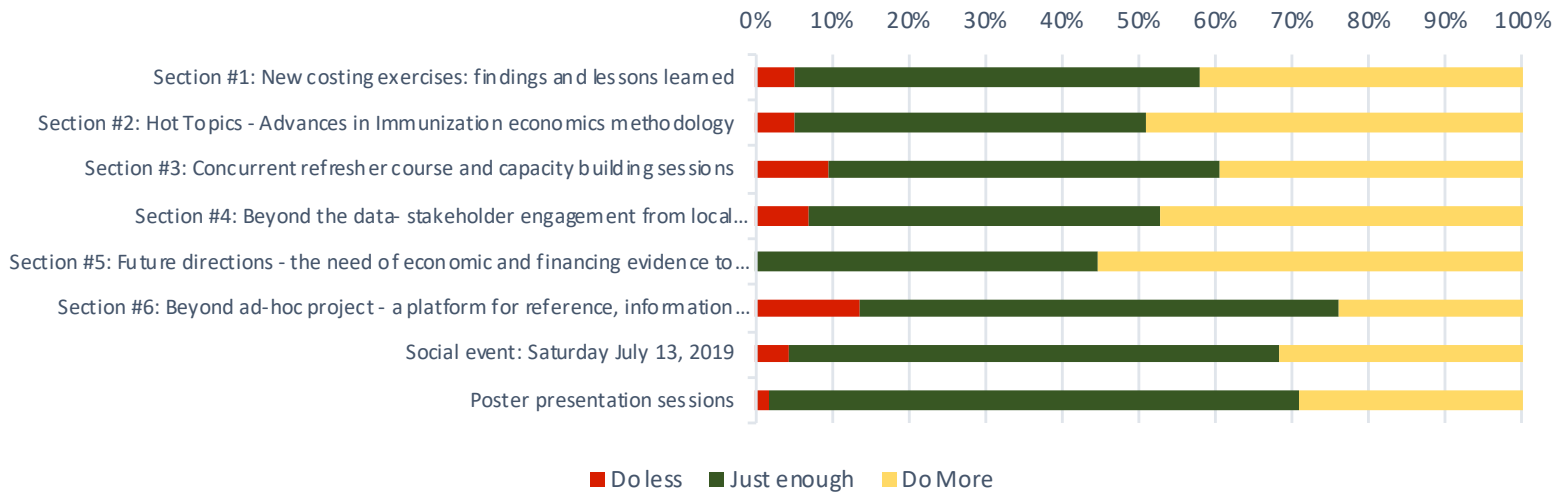
“outstanding speakers”

“comprehensive landscape”

[see full list of responses in annex A](#)



Participant recommendation for future convening (n=46-57)



Attendee background largely shapes interest

Participants from LMIC were more likely to recommend more contents on new costing exercises, refresher course, community resource, and poster presentation sessions. Participants from high-income countries recommended highlighting more contents in methodology, stakeholder engagement, policy support, and social event / networking.



*see full list of responses in annex B

87 % of all comments displayed positive tone



“cool use of technology”

“attendees of other pre-congresses were very jealous”

“I thought it was really really well done. Makes me want to engage more with this community.”

*see full list of responses in annex C



41 posters were presented by community members at iHEA

We thank community members who have submitted their abstracts and contents for judging. We received a total of 51 applications representing over 20 countries. Abstracts and materials were blindly judged by a panel of judges consisting of community members from Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, and an independent expert consultant.

Highest scoring posters:

- Carol Kanya (Uganda)
- Pempa (Bhutan)
- Krystal Lau (United Kingdom)
- Ryoko Sato (United States)
- Auliya Abdurrohlim Suwantika (Indonesia)

Best communication and design

- Gatien de Broucker
- Krystal Lau
- Cristina Garcia
- Ryoko Sato
- Auliya Abdurrohlim Suwantika
- William Lodge II



We also extended support to 13 poster submissions to mitigate their financial barrier and allow them (mostly from LMICs) to come to present their findings.

Mike Morrison (Michigan State University) served as the lead advisor to the poster session: the first full-conference rollout of the #betterposter design.



“simple and clear”

“easier to disseminate findings and discoveries”

“allowed me to engage with posters much more effectively”

The overwhelming majority of presenters and attendees prefer the #betterposter design due to its improved learning and dissemination experience.

*results of full analysis forthcoming

The community forum (n=36) identified key priorities to shape future focus and work investments:





Participants also provided feedback and recommendations to improve existing immunizationeconomics.org forum

“having the website as a one-stop-shop, including projects beyond those BMGF funded”

“vaccine economics related grant/funding news update”

“monthly webinars”
“mentoring”
“education and training”

“narratives drive policy”
“feature success stories”

“allow community to feel ownership”
“promote members of the community and their work”

*see full list of analyses in annex D

We thank our collaborators for co-organizing the Immunization Economics pre-congress session:

Decades of Vaccine Economics - Johns Hopkins University
Teaching Vaccine Economics Everywhere - Johns Hopkins University
Learning Network for Countries in Transition - Results for Development
Immunization Costing Action Network - ThinkWell
Value of Vaccination Research Network - Harvard University
Expanded Program on Immunization Costing - Harvard University
Mark Jit - LSHTM

We also thank the iHEA governing committee, the local organizing committee, and the University of Basel for their tireless support and for creating a platform that allows the Special Interest Group to thrive. Financial support for the pre-congress is provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

For further information, please email Chris Suharlim (csuharlim@mail.harvard.edu)



Annex A

Q: What are the strengths of this Immunization Economics pre-congress session? (please elaborate)

General themes:

- [26] Topics, panels, and sessions
- [19] Networking experience
- [16] Organization and logistics
- [14] Speakers
- [8] Learning experience



List of responses:

- lots of different concepts covered; really good overview of immunization economics and what is happening
- learn more on new issues of economic tools for immunization program.
- well coordinated, helps networking
- Bringing many communities together
- It is very focused on immunization
- The diverse attendees, w/r/t focus of work, sector, geography, and years of experience.
- it was broad touching upon wide range of topics
- rich in information
- The people and communication
- Bringing everyone together allowing for experience sharing and networking
- Great
- Bringing key people together. Not having registration fee.
- The theory and practice of the refresher course and lots of expertise in one room.
- Great opportunity to meet people and learn a lot. The meeting was so beautifully organized!!!
- Great speakers
- well-organized and informative
- I think it was a really nice mixture of research lecture, issues panel, social event, breakout
- good variation of presentation from diverse geographics.
- great content, good mix of country and global, academic and practice perspectives
- Brought up lots of up-to-date discussion. very interactive.
- All immunization costing partners participate (most)
- networking during poster session
- Immunization costing exercises
- Sessions were timed right, diversity of speakers, food
- the vision of future
- good venue for presenting new avenues of research
- it was good to be able to interact with people working in this area, as well as hear updates of their work
- able to meet people of the community
- well organized and smooth. great use of technology and interesting presentation styles.
- the diversity of voices, topics, and resources covered. I like that the slides are all available online
- thank you for bringing together this community. It was great to share and discuss the current state of vaccine economics
- well-organized, very participatory and collaborative, great social event
- very nice flow of topics and well-organized panels
- accessible to those w/ less immunization econ background
- community of diverse, passionate, intelligent experts
- outstanding speakers
- create/strengthen community; cross-talk of people in same area
- brings together lots of people with common interests, good array of subject-relevant talks
- wide variety of topics covered with an interesting variety of presenters
- cross section of ideas for panels
- very well organized
- networking
- information on new tools, evidence and opportunity to meet and understand current needs
- excellent science communication
- Timely presentation, motivation of members, good number of participants
- efficient in time use
- This was truly a comprehensive pre-congress session with plenty of opportunities for participation.
- Great avenue to learn about all the facets of vaccination economics
- Bring together top researchers from all around the world in immunization economics to exchange knowledge and experience.
- gave a rather comprehensive landscape on what had happened in the area of work, what are the future research questions. I really enjoyed the geogia session where we heard directly information needs from the MoF.
- well-organized
- Just long enough (2 days), many different speakers, different fields covered
- Chris! use of innovation, technology

Highlighted recommendation for future conveners:

- The need posters to be displayed in break area for greater visibility, or dedicated poster time. Potentially consider short presentation session for poster presenters
- Both researchers and consumers of research (including policy makers) suggested that voices from LMIC should be better represented
- Improve availability and use of costing tools, potentially consider developing a session on their use

List of responses:

- Panel discussions were great; would love to have more. the reception was great too!
- more time to exercise the tools
- more capacity building
- A bit too much on costing, and less on other aspects of health economics (health systems, economic evaluation, econometrics etc.)
- please include some issues about the demand side of immunization
- More breakout sessions/parallel sessions to better cater to specific interests.
- more country level presentations
- more time for discussion
- hard to have interactive sessions with the full group
- Keep developing me interactive aspects of session. Avoid covering topics that are also in main conference.
- more updated data sharing
- Make the content more new research focused.
- Stick to the time in the program.
- dedicated poster presentation sessions
- engage more youngsters
- might be nice to have more parallel breakout sessions
- longer presentation times 45 min too short . some presenters plugged to their main ihea presentations but I'm not attending the main session so would have been nice to hear whole presentation.
- not enough time to see them with conversations over lunch and coffee breaks-- may have needed a poster session that did not overlap with a meal/break
- Reach more people
- having coffee break and drinks in poster area so crowd will be around the posters
- Each participant/group to work on an immunization economics research project for which the platform can provide technical support
- Bring in more policymakers from different settings
- sharing more practical information and experience from different countries
- would be nice to hear more from/about end-users of economic research
- also invite people from other fields
- it would be good to have more stakeholder/user representation in panels
- more hands-on session; keep presentations on time and targeted to a more general audience with varying levels of expertise. some sessions were too technical for this session
- hearing more from in-country stakeholders who would use the data
- sessions should end on time, few to none sockets to recharge laptops
- more short oral presentations, fewer larger ones with more time for Q&A and discussion
- better presentation skills and talking more slow/simple across complex topics; more hands-on opportunities with tools and resources to connect participants
- more costing sessions
- perhaps lecture hall is wrong format for discussions
- more structural poster presentation, mentoring sessions, awards
- gradually increasing complexity of topics; some of the complex methodology was lost in sessions with simpler analysis approaches
- focus on a charge, some group work, more country representation and voice
- keep it up!
- more session on innovation of data/methodology
- more speakers from governments
- proceedings with possibility to be a contributor
- improvement-- time allocated to panelists for full discussion
- Increase emphasis on country level researchers. Too high a concentration of of academics and global level topics.
- More research outside the HSPH/Johns Hopkins network being featured
- some technical sessions were very basic, they can increase the level
- More country people/users of data, what they need.
- Time keeping, not on the weekend, greater variety in presenters, more time for posters, longer coffee breaks (30 mins), water bottles

Annex D

List of responses:

- Narratives drive policy. We need success stories where solid economics work saved lives and money. Horror stories also needed
- Share or link to data collection and analysis tools for costs, COI, CEA
- More interaction
- Learning and application!
- more communication between the people who consume research and the people who create it. what are the important questions that need to be answered?
- Allow community to feel ownership over the content
- Forums to share the work the community is doing to help reduce duplication of efforts and promote collaboration
- Feature “success stories” of how tools have been used in LMICs
- it will be helpful to have new tool instruction training videos available.
- Making connections between members
- share the experience of counters in procurement, coverage and economic analysis
- Sharing update data & make the specific policy brief to the key stakeholders
- Needs to keep current and have sufficient scale. Needs a permanent home. More member organizations.
- Education Curriculum and training
- Better reach/include users of our research (country decision makers, global decision makers)
- Mentoring
- Amplify challenges and successes from low and middle income countries
- Make sure to get the feedback from the community to improve for the future (demand-driven)
- Learning about successful stakeholders engagement
- Having the website as a one-stop-shop, including organizations/projects beyond those BMGF funded
- Provide concrete guidance on how to support LMICs in translating strategic priorities into operational plans in the face of considerations of long-term financial sustainability
- Engage more doctoral students and early career researchers and encourage them to act as agents of science communication and translating the data into common person's language.
- Resource library of published work, grey lit, tools, etc.
- vaccine economics related grant/funding news update
- share the advocacy methods and policies in countries
- Success stories. Promote/feature Community of Practice members. Make it valuable for CoP members to be engaged
- Monthly Webinar Sessions
- Profile members of the community and their work
- public datasets
- Monthly Webinars
- Training and learning on how to translate evidence and build the storyline