



معهد الصحة العامة والمجتمعية  
Institute of Community and Public Health



## Introduction to health economics training workshop

[Institute of community and Public Health](#), Birzeit University, West Bank –  
23-25 September 2019

**Background:** The Research for Health in Conflict in Middle East and North Africa project (R4HC-MENA [www.r4hc-mena.org](http://www.r4hc-mena.org), hereafter R4HC) aims to strengthen capacity for health research in the MENA region, with a focus on health, political economy of health, and complex non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as mental health and cancer and facilitate more effective translation of research into policy. A key objective of R4HC's political economy of health in conflict (PEOH) workstream is to strengthen capacity in health economics and political economy analysis in R4HC's focal jurisdictions: Jordan, Lebanon, the occupied Palestinian Territories (oPT) and Turkey.

This note outlines the structure and objectives of an introductory health economics training workshop to be held at Birzeit University in September 2019.

**Format:** 2.5-day training workshop

**Date:** Monday-Wednesday 23-25 September 2019

**Location:** Institute of Community and Public Health, Said Khoury Building for Development Studies, Birzeit University, West Bank

**Target audience:** Health researchers and public sector experts in the oPT with an interest in applying health economics methods in their work. It is expected that participants will have diverse backgrounds, primarily but not limited to public health, health services and health systems research, medicine and pharmacy or medical statistics. No prior knowledge of economics is required.

### Objectives:

- Introduce participants to fundamental health economics concepts and their relevance for health system decision-making
- Introduce participants to principles of measuring the costs and outcomes of health interventions
- Introduce participants to methods for the economic evaluation of health interventions
- Identify participants' perspectives on challenges to the application of health economics methods in their context and on future development priorities

### Learning outcomes:

- Describe key health economics concepts and their applications in setting health priorities
- Describe the main approaches and their corresponding steps for estimating the cost of health interventions
- Apply one costing approach using simplified data of a hypothetical health facility

- Describe the methodologies behind calculating quality-adjusted life years (QALYs) and disability-adjusted life years (DALYs)
- Describe the main types of economic evaluation used in healthcare and the elements of the Gates Reference Case for Economic Evaluation

**Indicative agenda** (the sessions and their sequence may be adjusted slightly, but the topics and structure will remain largely the same)

Day 1: Monday 23 September 2019	
Morning	<p><b>Welcome:</b> Introduction to the workshop</p> <p><b>What is health economics?</b> An overview of key concepts and methods</p> <p><b>Health economics, priority- setting and universal health coverage:</b> how do they fit together?</p>
Afternoon	<p><b>Estimating the costs of health interventions:</b> an introduction to essential concepts and main approaches</p> <p>Introducing the <b>Reference Case for Estimating the Costs of Global Health Services and Interventions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Practical exercise: identifying potential data sources for the costing reference case in the Palestinian context</li> </ul>
Day 2: Tuesday, 24 September 2019	
Morning	<p><b>Application of costing methods:</b> estimating unit costs based on (semi-) hypothetical health facility data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Practical exercise: Excel application in computer lab</li> </ul>
Afternoon	<p><b>Measuring health outcomes:</b> an introduction to QALYs and DALYs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Practical exercise: Excel application in computer lab</li> </ul>
Day 3: Wednesday, 25 September 2019	
Morning	<p><b>Bringing costs and outcomes together:</b> types of health economic evaluations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Case-study: applications of economic evaluation in the MENA region</li> </ul> <p>Introducing the <b>Gates Reference Case for Economic Evaluation</b></p> <p>Wrap-up and participants' feedback</p>

**Faculty:** the workshop will be delivered by Dr Adrian Gheorghe, Senior Health Economist, Imperial College London. Adrian has expertise and interest in health financing, the economic evaluation of public health interventions and the economic burden of disease. Prior to joining Imperial College, he held professional roles in development consulting (Oxford Policy Management), public administration (Ministry of Health in Romania) and academia (London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine). He has worked on health sector reform projects in sub-Saharan Africa, Central Asia, South Asia (Pakistan) and the Pacific Islands (Vanuatu). His publications list is [here](#).

Registration: To register for the training please use the following link no later than **Thursday 5-9-2019**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfdEc1XBGR8pAh9KZOW-zSaJOyZ4AX950sz5IV4b2Uu3t\\_9xA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfdEc1XBGR8pAh9KZOW-zSaJOyZ4AX950sz5IV4b2Uu3t_9xA/viewform)