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Session: VIII

6th Life Sciences Innovation Forum - Draft Recommendations and Conclusions

Submitted by: Chair



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Life Sciences Innovation Forum VI

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Recommendations and Conclusions

Enablers of Investment Checklist

- LSIF recommends that Ministers and Leaders endorse the Checklist.
 - Encourage economies to volunteer to fill out the Checklist.
- LSIF recommends that Ministers and Leaders support the use of an independent facilitator to guide economies in filling out the Checklist.
 - Recommend that we seek partial funding from APEC for the independent facilitators.

Recommendations and Conclusions

Investment in Innovation Study

- APEC economies should recognize that investment in health innovation, broadly defined, now needs to be considered as a central plank of economic development strategy.
- Outlays on health innovation should be considered as an investment in future development rather than a cost, and should be assessed using the disciplines appropriate to investment.
- APEC ministers should encourage the undertaking of economy specific studies of the costs and benefits of enhanced investment in health innovation, so as to identify the priority set of innovations for each economy and the likely returns to investing in them.
- LSIF will establish a small group of economies to meet and respond to the study, drawing in local experts and finance/budget/economic planning officials.

Further work in the APEC LSIF context:

Investment in Innovation Study

- Literature review and empirical analysis need to be undertaken to identify priority innovations, where possible on an economy-specific basis.
- The methodology presented needs to be further developed to take better account of the necessity of investments in innovations in health systems and infrastructure.
- Given the experience of many APEC economies, the study should be broadened to include innovation in relation to communicable as well as chronic diseases.
- Economies are encouraged to undertake economy specific studies of the returns to increased investment in health innovation, and LSIF will assist such studies as possible.
- Vaccine implementation case study. It is proposed that a case study be established to examine the
 return on investment in preventative interventions such as vaccines.

Recommendations and Conclusions

Research and Innovation

- Cohort studies. The Forum expresses its strong support for the ongoing, self-funded population and biomarker projects. The need for extensive investment in education to create an informed basis for such population studies is also recognized.
- Health consequences of environmental change. LSIF recognizes the
 possibility that ongoing environmental change may have important health
 impacts, which need to be studied further. It requests the Planning Group
 to take this matter up further with the APEC Health Task Force.
- Overlapping epidemiological transition. This issue is recognized as an important one for many APEC economies, which may raise special problems. It is proposed that a virtual working party of LSIF be set, involving interested economies, to explore these issues further.

Recommendations and Conclusions

Harmonization

- LSIF recommends that Ministers and Leaders endorse and support the establishment of the APEC Harmonization Centre
- LSIF supports the proposed feasibility study of the exchange between economies of evaluation reports.
- LSIF agrees to established a Regulatory Steering Committee within the LSIF structure.