On an international scale, the recommended vaccination uptake for a population is 95%. In the WHO-European region, there are two main barriers hindering efforts toward reaching that goal: vaccine access and hesitancy. These barriers are at the kernel of ImmuHubs’s mission. ImmuHubs (Innovative Immunization Hubs, https://immunisationhubs.eu/) is a European consortium aiming to strategize, institute, and sustain diverse immunization strategies that involve collaboration with current European stakeholders, co-funding from the European Union, and a highly focused and diverse team ranging across global borders. The ImmuHubs Project is split into 6 unique Work Packages, including WP1 - Management, WP2 - Dissemination, WP3 - Evaluation, WP4 - ImmuHubs, WP5 - Literacy, and WP6 - Technology. Leveraging a plethora of resources and creativity at hand, ImmuHubs hopes to increase vaccination uptake among disadvantaged, isolated, and difficult-to-reach population groups in the WHO-European Region, thereby improving overall community health beyond the COVID-19 pandemic. An early task in the project that launched in May 2021 has been a systematic review of under-vaccinated populations in the WHO-European Region. Preliminary results indicate that more innovative strategies are desperately needed to increase vaccination coverage among disadvantaged population groups; factors for low uptake and access include lack of risk perception, vaccine literacy, and vaccination benefits. We also find that innovative and target community-specific initiatives and digital and analog tools should be leveraged in efforts in increasing vaccination uptake globally. Preliminary results indicate that more innovative strategies are desperately needed to increase vaccination coverage among disadvantaged population groups; factors for low uptake and access include lack of risk perception, vaccine literacy, and vaccination benefits. We also find that innovative and target community-specific initiatives and digital and analog tools should be leveraged in efforts in increasing vaccination uptake globally.

AUTHORS
Winifred Ekezie, MPH, PhD; Samy Awwad, AS, AA, AA; Arja Krauchenberg, BA, MA; Barbara Rath, MD, PhD, HDR

TITLE
ImmuHubs: Reducing Transmission of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases

ABSTRACT
On an international scale, the recommended vaccination uptake for a population is 95%. In the WHO-European region, there are two main barriers hindering efforts toward reaching that goal: vaccine access and hesitancy. These barriers are at the kernel of ImmuHubs’s mission. ImmuHubs (Innovative Immunization Hubs, https://immunisationhubs.eu/) is a European consortium aiming to strategize, institute, and sustain diverse immunization strategies that involve collaboration with current European stakeholders, co-funding from the European Union, and a highly focused and diverse team ranging across global borders. The ImmuHubs Project is split into 6 unique Work Packages, including WP1 - Management, WP2 - Dissemination, WP3 - Evaluation, WP4 - ImmuHubs, WP5 - Literacy, and WP6 - Technology. Leveraging a plethora of resources and creativity at hand, ImmuHubs hopes to increase vaccination uptake among disadvantaged, isolated, and difficult-to-reach population groups in the WHO-European Region, thereby improving overall community health beyond the COVID-19 pandemic. An early task in the project that launched in May 2021 has been a systematic review of under-vaccinated populations in the WHO-European Region. Preliminary results indicate that more innovative strategies are desperately needed to increase vaccination coverage among disadvantaged population groups; factors for low uptake and access include lack of risk perception, vaccine literacy, and vaccination benefits. We also find that innovative and target community-specific initiatives and digital and analog tools should be leveraged in efforts in increasing vaccination uptake globally. Preliminary results indicate that more innovative strategies are desperately needed to increase vaccination coverage among disadvantaged population groups; factors for low uptake and access include lack of risk perception, vaccine literacy, and vaccination benefits. We also find that innovative and target community-specific initiatives and digital and analog tools should be leveraged in efforts in increasing vaccination uptake globally.

COMMUNITY PARTNER
ImmuHubs

CATEGORY
Improving Health Equity, Healthcare Access, Service, and Quality, Promotion of Health Awareness and Healthcare Access Through Education, Building Capacity Locally and Globally