

2025 IUSSP General Assembly Webinar
13 November 2025
14:00-15:30 CET (Paris)
Meeting Minutes

The IUSSP General Assembly was held virtually via Zoom on 13 November from 14:00 – 15:30 CET. This document provides a summary of the key messages, decisions, and discussions held during the 2025 IUSSP General Assembly. For details, please read the background documents, and PowerPoint presentation slide or view the video of the General Assembly.

1. Opening Remarks — Shireen Jejeebhoy (see [transcript](#))

Outgoing President Shireen Jejeebhoy opened the Assembly by welcoming participants and reflecting on IUSSP's achievements over the past four years. She highlighted:

- Strengthened scientific programming, including 24 scientific panels and numerous seminars, webinars, and training events as well as high-quality publications and special issues in Genus, Population and Development Review, and Studies in Family Planning.
- Successful convening of IPC 2025 in Brisbane with approximately 1,300 registered participants from nearly 100 countries.
- Receipt of the 2025 UN Population Award recognizing IUSSP's global leadership.
- Expansion of activities for early-career demographers, including the Early Career Panel and new Early Career Awards.
- Increased collaboration with regional population associations and the addition of new institutional members.

She also noted major challenges, including shifting donor priorities, diminishing core funding, and restrictive academic environments. She closed by expressing deep gratitude to the Council, Bureau, and Secretariat.

2. Report on IUSSP activities and financial situation (2021-2024) by the Secretary General and Treasurer — Nico van Nimwegen

Nico van Nimwegen presented an overview of IUSSP activities and finances and asked those seeking more details to refer to the background materials shared before the meeting ([background report](#) and [presentation slides](#)). Below is a summary of the key points made in his presentation:

- Confirmation of a **high volume of scientific outputs, strong engagement of 24 Scientific panels, including 2 recently created panels**, and continued international collaboration notably with the Standing Committee on Demographic Terminology that works jointly with CODATA, a committee of the International Science Council).
- Recognition of the **UN Population Award** as a milestone ahead of the Union's 100th anniversary in 2028
- Presentation of **IUSSP Awards** and members receiving those awards: **IUSSP Laureate Award**, IUSSP's annual lifetime achievement award, the **IUSSP Mattei Dogan Award for Comparative Demography**, awarded at the IPC (once every 4 years) aimed at excellent mid-career researchers whose work draws on international comparisons, and the biennial **IUSSP Early Career Award** initiated in 2023 in collaboration with the

regional population associations (UAPS for Africa, ALAP for Latin America, APA for Asia & the Pacific, EAPS for Europe, and PAA for North America), with five awardees in 2023 and five in 2025.

- A large number of successful **scientific activities** that include training, research and development of materials and publications carried out by IUSSP panels and including special projects funded by the Gates Foundation and IDRC-Canada that were completed or begun in the past 4-years.
- A successful in-person **IPC 2025 organized 13-18 July in Brisbane, Australia** with the Australian Population Association. The conference had strong attendance and high-quality sessions, despite global challenges of reduced funding for scientific research and long-distance travel, and visa challenges for some participants, that resulted in many withdrawn presentations compared with previous conferences. With support from UNFPA and the Gates Foundation, IUSSP offered partial travel grants to 270 participants; 200 of the support recipients were able to accept funding and travel to attend the conference. Nico thanked the 300 reviewers, conveners and session organizers who ensured the scientific quality of the conference sessions, as well as the hard work of the IUSSP Secretariat, President of the International Organizing Committee, Ann Evans, and the Coordinator for the National Organizing Committee, Edith Gray, and all the volunteers and team in Australia who worked to ensure a seamless and smooth event in Brisbane, Australia and also organized a set of training workshops beforehand. Currently we are projecting a financial loss on the conference to be covered by reserves.
- **Membership trends** show a decline over the past decade but stabilization in recent years, as IUSSP experienced the usual membership boost that occurs with the IPC. The free 4-year student associate membership was replaced with a low-cost fee for a 4-year student associate membership as the free membership offer was unsustainable. Despite this change, student associate membership remains strong. We have notably lost members from Latin America. Overall, the gender balance is good, women represent more than half of student members at 57%, while men constitute 54% of regular members. IUSSP faces the same challenges as many professional associations. Committing to membership in a professional association is no longer a natural step in somebody's career, so we will have to work harder to involve and invite new generations to join.
- IUSSP launched an **Institutional affiliation program** in 2024 and we are proud to welcome six institutions and hope more will join. The program gives institutions a stronger voice in IUSSP, reinforcing its relevance to the discipline, and also contributing to the long-term sustainability of IUSSP.
- **IUSSP outreach and dissemination** includes the **IUSSP quarterly bulletin**, weekly issues of **N-IUSSP**, which members should consider as a place to submit summaries of their recent work. The **IUSSP website** where reports, articles, working papers, and training materials can be accessed. IUSSP also regularly sends out **email announcements** to members with calls for papers, employment, grant and research opportunities in the field. IUSSP also posts on Blue Sky and Facebook. IUSSP Panels have published **special issues** in *Genus*, *Population and Development Review* and *Studies in Family Planning*.
- **Finances:** IUSSP finances remain stable, with €2.1M in reserves. Over that last 4 years income slightly exceeded expenses and we have been able to set some funds in reserves during this period. IUSSP Income, however, relies heavily on grants. Trends show a

significant decrease in funding available for scientific and core operations and IUSSP will face substantial future challenges due to declining donor support.

- Nico noted that **IUSSP accounting** is overseen by an external CPA, Florence Reboul, and our accounts are audited by Forvis and Mazars (see [Independent Auditor Report to the GA](#)). Forvis and Mazar's contract ends with the 2024 accounts. Given they know IUSSP well and are well respected as auditors in the French association sector, the **Council voted to renew their 6-year contract for the annual audit.**

Conclusion: Nico closed with personal reflections on his eight years as Secretary General, thanking volunteers, donors, Secretariat staff, and the global demography community.

3. Open General Discussion

During the open discussion members expressed gratitude for the work of the Council and Secretariat and reflected on innovative ways to engage members, make IUSSP more visible and relevant for younger members and those in the Global South, and adapt to rapid changes in the academic environment and new communication channels. Members were encouraged to reach out to the incoming Council and Secretariat on ideas for future activities.

4. Vote to Approve the Secretary General's Report on the activities and finances for 2021-2024.

- **Members approved the report with a 97% majority.**

5. "Meet and greet" Breakout Sessions with IUSSP Scientific Panels

Participants joined small-group discussions with panel representatives to learn about ongoing work and opportunities for involvement. The following IUSSP Scientific Panels had a breakout room where they presented their panels activities to members with each Panel getting 5-15 members joining:

1. Abortion Research
2. Declining Mortality and Multi-morbidity at Death
3. Early Career Perspectives
4. Kinship Structures, Dynamics and Inequalities
5. Lifetime Migration
6. Population Dynamics under Global Conflict and Climate Change
7. Population Registers, Ethics and Human Rights
8. Priorities in International Migration Research
9. Rethinking FP Measurement with a Reproductive Justice and Rights Lens
10. IUSSP Standing Committee on Demographic Terminology

6. Introduction of the incoming Council and 2029 Committee on Nominations

Incoming President Laura Wong introduced the [2026-2029 Council](#), announced Shireen Jejeebhoy's election as Honorary President, and introduced the [2029 Nominations Committee](#).

Laura emphasized the challenges ahead, the need for renewed engagement, and the central role of scientific panels in driving IUSSP's mission. The incoming Council will also be organizing celebrations for IUSSP's 100th anniversary in 2028. She encouraged young demographers to take initiative in proposing new panels and strengthening the Union.

7. IPC 2029 — Barcelona

Albert Esteve, Council member 2022-2025 and 2026-2029, announced that IPC 2029 will take place in Barcelona, hosted jointly by the Centre for Demographic Studies (CED) and Universitat Pompeu Fabra. He introduced **Mariona Lozano**, Research Fellow at CED, who will be coordinating the organizing of IPC2029 for the Barcelona National Organizing Committee.

Mariona Lozano presented [key details of plans for the 2029 conference](#). These include:

- Tentative Dates: 23–27 July 2029
- Venue: Ciutadella campus of UPF, which is adjacent to the beach and has a space that is perfect for accommodating a conference like the IPC with many large classrooms equipped with audio-visual equipment for hybrid courses.
- Opening ceremony planned for an iconic Barcelona cultural venue
- Plans for hybrid/streamed sessions to accommodate large plenaries

8. Closing Remarks

Incoming President Laura Wong closed the Assembly by thanking the outgoing leadership, particularly Shireen Jejeebhoy and Nico van Nimwegen, the secretariat staff, and the global community IUSSP members and especially those volunteering their time to work on IUSSP scientific panels and activities. She reaffirmed her commitment to leading IUSSP through a period of transformation, with an emphasis on collaboration, innovation, and support for young demographers.

The meeting was adjourned at 15:30.