

# ***The Sentinel***

## ***Human Rights Action: Humanitarian Response: Health: Holistic Development:: Sustainable Resilience***

***Week ending 19 September 2015***

*This weekly digest is intended to aggregate and distill key content from a broad spectrum of practice domains and organization types including key agencies/IGOs, NGOs, governments, academic and research institutions, consortiums and collaborations, foundations, and commercial organizations. We also monitor a spectrum of peer-reviewed journals and general media channels. The Sentinel's geographic scope is global/regional but selected country-level content is included. We recognize that this spectrum/scope yields an indicative and not an exhaustive product.*

*The Sentinel is a service of the [Center for Governance, Evidence, Ethics, Policy & Practice](#) (GE2P2), which is solely responsible for its content. Comments and suggestions should be directed to:*

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*Editor &*

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*The Sentinel is also available as a pdf document linked from this page:*

*<http://ge2p2-center.net/>*

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### ***:: Week in Review***

*A highly selective capture of strategic developments, research, commentary, analysis and announcements spanning Human Rights Action, Humanitarian Response, Health, Education, Holistic Development, Sustainable Resilience. Achieving a balance across these broad themes is a challenge and we appreciate your observations and ideas in this regard. This is not intended to be a "news and events" digest.*

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**Refugees/Migrants/IDPs** [to 19 September 2015]

#### ***Editor's Note:***

*The crises across the globe involving refugees, migrants and internally-displaced persons continue. The EU context has moved, in our view, to something just short of chaos. We*

*continue to track and present the numerous statements, analyses and calls to action from state actors, UN agencies and INGOs in the respective "Watch" sections below.*

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### **MDG Gap Task Force Report 2015: Taking Stock of the Global Partnership for Development**

18 September 2015 :: 92 pages

ISBN: 978-92-1-101317-7

Pdf – Full report/English:

[http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/mdg\\_gap/mdg\\_gap2015/2015GAP\\_FULLREPORT\\_EN.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/mdg_gap/mdg_gap2015/2015GAP_FULLREPORT_EN.pdf)

#### *Overview*

The 2015 Report continues to monitor the five core domains of the Global Partnership for Development, namely, official development assistance (ODA), market access (trade), debt sustainability, access to affordable essential medicines and access to new technologies, as prescribed by MDG 8. This year marks the last of the series of this monitoring process with a closing report tracking 15 years of the global partnership for development. As has been reported throughout the monitoring process, there have been significant positive developments pointing to an effective international partnership in the five domains, but several deficits in development cooperation have continuously highlighted the need for a rejuvenation of the global partnership for development.

The report finds that ODA increased substantially over the MDG period, although ODA to LDCs has declined in recent years. Additionally, global trade of goods and services expanded significantly over the last fifteen years to more than USD20 trillion, with improved levels of participation by developing countries. However, a key challenge of MDG 8 has been the failure of the international community to conclude the Doha Development Round after 13 years of negotiation. This failure has had ramifications for the potential of trade as an enabler of economic growth and development.

Debt relief initiatives have alleviated debt burdens of many developing countries, but the need for enhanced policies towards debt crisis prevention and resolution remains to address the concerns of other vulnerable countries whose debt problems remain unresolved.

Monitoring studies on access to affordable essential medicines have repeatedly shown that, in general, access remains insufficient and, in particular, that generic medicines are significantly less available in public health facilities than in private health facilities.

Finally, the report notes that access to new technologies, in particular information and communication technologies has grown tremendously since 2000 but these impressive gains observed during the MDG era continue to be marred by a digital divide between developed and developing countries.

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## **Ending the urban AIDS epidemic**

UN-Habitat [United Nations Human Settlements Programme], UNAIDS

2015 :: 56 pages

ISBN Number:(Volume) 978-92-1-132683-3

Pdf:

[http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media\\_asset/20150918\\_Ending\\_urban\\_AIDS\\_epidemic\\_en.pdf](http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/20150918_Ending_urban_AIDS_epidemic_en.pdf)

### **INTRODUCTION**

The world today is increasingly defined by its urban spaces. Cities form the bedrock of modern human progress by being home to the largest and most dynamic economies; by incubating talent, creativity and innovation; and by having young, mobile, diverse populations. More than half of the global population currently lives in urban areas.

Urbanization is a powerful driver of development. It has generated economic growth and prosperity in many countries and it has been the driving force behind improved health and social, cultural and political change. Nevertheless, urban growth and development are also associated with many challenges, and city leaders routinely face the difficult task of allocating limited resources to contend with a range of development issues, including maintaining and developing infrastructure, improving living conditions (including within slums and deprived neighbourhoods), creating jobs and expanding the provision of basic health and social services.

Urban dynamics such as unplanned high population density, high mobility, informal settlements and a high concentration of marginalized, fragile and stigmatized communities also create and exacerbate vulnerability to HIV infection.

The global trend of rapidly increasing urbanization, especially in low- and middle-income countries, calls for renewed efforts to address urban epidemics of HIV, tuberculosis and other health challenges as an urgent development concern. Although cities often have resources, public and private health systems, legal authority and the capacity for innovation and service delivery, they sometimes struggle to design and implement focused, effective and rights-based AIDS responses, often leaving behind the most vulnerable and marginalized populations.

Recent advances in science, accumulated implementation experience, stronger institutions, political commitment, civil society and community activism, global solidarity and associated resources offer an opportunity to end the AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030. This goal is reflected in the UNAIDS Fast-Track approach, which requires rapidly scaling up and focusing the implementation and delivery of proven, high-impact HIV prevention and treatment services: an approach that urban leaders are increasingly adopting.

Cities are critical to these collective efforts to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030. They provide decision-making, political commitment, norm-setting and service delivery. Cities are central to bringing a paradigm shift to the AIDS response—a concerted move towards shared responsibility between national and city authorities and community-based organizations in support of local leadership and local evidence to transform the social, political and economic determinants of HIV risk and vulnerability. National planning approaches that recognize and foster the strategic importance of cities in the AIDS response will help to ensure that cities have the necessary financial, technical and political support to lead and tailor their own responses.

This report provides an overview of the HIV epidemics in urban and city contexts: it explores why cities often account for large proportions of the national HIV burden and examines the critical opportunity to fast-track the response towards ending the AIDS epidemic.

The report argues that cities should increasingly assume a leadership role in the urban AIDS response, with targeted support from national and global partners. City leaders have a unique opportunity to seize the dynamism, innovation and transformative force of the AIDS response—led by people living with HIV—to overcome urban challenges of social exclusion, inequality and extreme poverty. This would establish renewed efforts for an urban health approach that serves the evolving needs of cities and the people who live and work within them.

#### *Press Release*

#### **UN-Habitat and UNAIDS call for renewed efforts to address HIV in urban areas**

NAIROBI/GENEVA, 18 September 2015—A new report by UN-Habitat and UNAIDS urges cities to do more to respond to HIV epidemics in urban areas. The report outlines that cities and urban areas are particularly affected by HIV, with the 200 cities most affected by the epidemic estimated to account for more than a quarter of all people living with HIV around the world.

The report, [\*Ending the urban AIDS epidemic\*](#), was launched in Nairobi, Kenya, by the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, Joan Clos, and the Executive Director of UNAIDS, Michel Sidibé. It reveals that in many countries, rapidly growing cities are home to more than half of all people living with HIV and that many are facing challenges in ensuring access to HIV services.

“Although cities often have resources, viable health systems and the capacity for innovation and service delivery, they sometimes struggle to design and implement focused, effective and rights-based AIDS responses, often leaving behind the most vulnerable and marginalized populations,” said Mr Clos. “Cities are central to bringing a paradigm shift to the AIDS response—a concerted move towards shared responsibility between national and city authorities and community-based organizations in support of local leadership and local evidence to transform the social, political and economic determinants of HIV risk and vulnerability.”

The report highlights that city leaders have a unique opportunity to seize the dynamism, innovation and transformative force of the AIDS response to not only expand HIV services in cities but also address other urban challenges, including social exclusion, inequality and extreme poverty.

“Cities can lead change,” said Mr Sidibé. “As centres for innovation, cities can broker broad partnerships and use their vast resources to provide an inclusive, effective response to HIV based on evidence and grounded in human rights—to leave no one behind.”

In almost half (94) of the 200 cities most affected, HIV is transmitted mainly through unprotected heterosexual sex. In the remaining 106 cities, sex work, unprotected sex between men and injecting drug use are the main drivers of the epidemics. In the Asia-Pacific region, about 25% of all people living with HIV are estimated to reside in 31 major cities, while in western and central Europe, an estimated 60% of all people living with HIV reside in just 20 cities.

According to the new report, data from 30 countries that have conducted nationally representative household-based population surveys show that HIV prevalence among people 15–49 years old living in urban areas is higher than among those living in rural areas in most countries.

Even in countries that are still predominantly rural, cities are often home to disproportionate numbers of people living with HIV. For example, urban areas account for only 18% of Ethiopia's population but for almost 60% of people living with HIV nationally.

The report outlines the need for cities to establish renewed efforts for an urban health approach that serves the evolving needs of cities and the people who live and work within them. It adds that these measures would help reach the UNAIDS Fast-Track Targets to end the AIDS epidemic as a global health threat by 2030.

The UNAIDS Fast-Track approach requires rapidly scaling up and focusing the implementation and delivery of proven, high-impact HIV prevention and treatment services: an approach that increasingly relies on urban leadership.

A number of countries have introduced specific legislation, national policies or strategies to respond to the needs of people living with and affected by HIV. However many countries continue to lag behind in allocating adequate resources and implementing inclusive and urban-friendly HIV programmes.

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### **Students, Computers and Learning: Making The Connection**

OECD

September 15, 2015 :: 204 pages

ISBN 978-92-64-23955-5 (PDF):

<http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/deliver/9815021e.pdf?itemId=/content/book/9789264239555-en&mimeType=application/pdf>

#### *Abstract*

Are there computers in the classroom? Does it matter? *Students, Computers and Learning: Making the Connection* examines how students' access to and use of information and communication technology (ICT) devices has evolved in recent years, and explores how education systems and schools are integrating ICT into students' learning experiences. Based on results from PISA 2012, the report discusses differences in access to and use of ICT – what are collectively known as the “digital divide” – that are related to students' socio-economic status, gender, geographic location, and the school a child attends. The report highlights the importance of bolstering students' ability to navigate through digital texts. It also examines the relationship among computer access in schools, computer use in classrooms, and performance in the PISA assessment. As the report makes clear, all students first need to be equipped with basic literacy and numeracy skills so that they can participate fully in the hyper-connected, digitised societies of the 21st century.

#### *Excerpt from Executive Summary*

In 2012, 96% of 15-year-old students in OECD countries reported that they have a computer

at home, but only 72% reported that they use a desktop, laptop or tablet computer at school. Only 42% of students in Korea and 38% of students in Shanghai-China reported that they use computers at school – and Korea and Shanghai-China were among the top performers in the digital reading and computer-based mathematics tests in the OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) in 2012. By contrast, in countries where it is more common for students to use the Internet at school for schoolwork, students' performance in reading declined between 2000 and 2012, on average.

These findings, based on an analysis of PISA data, tell us that, despite the pervasiveness of information and communication technologies (ICT) in our daily lives, these technologies have not yet been as widely adopted in formal education. But where they are used in the classroom, their impact on student performance is mixed, at best. In fact, PISA results show no appreciable improvements in student achievement in reading, mathematics or science in the countries that had invested heavily in ICT for education.

As these results show, the connections among students, computers and learning are neither simple nor hard-wired; and the real contributions ICT can make to teaching and learning have yet to be fully realised and exploited. But as long as computers and the Internet continue to have a central role in our personal and professional lives, students who have not acquired basic skills in reading, writing and navigating through a digital landscape will find themselves unable to participate fully in the economic, social and cultural life around them. Amidst the decidedly mixed messages that are drawn from the PISA data, a few critical observations emerge...

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### **Youth and transferable skills: an evidence gap map**

3ie Evidence Gap Map Report 2

International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)

September 2015 :: 60 pages

Rankin, K, Cameron, DB, Ingraham, K, Mishra, A, Burke, J, Picon, M, Miranda, J and Brown, AN

Pdf: [http://www.3ieimpact.org/media/filer\\_public/2015/09/01/egm2-youth\\_and\\_transferable\\_skills.pdf](http://www.3ieimpact.org/media/filer_public/2015/09/01/egm2-youth_and_transferable_skills.pdf)

#### *Executive summary*

Transferable skills, also referred to as soft skills and life skills, provide youth with the tools and confidence to succeed in terms of employment, health and personal well-being. This report summarises the findings of an evidence gap map on transferable skills programming for youth in low- and middle-income countries, as part of a project funded by the MasterCard Foundation and the MacArthur Foundation. Evidence gap maps created by the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation are visual representations of how much impact evaluation evidence exists for a given sector or policy issue according to the types of programmes evaluated and outcomes measured.

The youth and transferable skills evidence gap map contains 90 completed impact evaluations coded across 24 intervention categories and 15 outcome categories. The framework for the map was developed through a consultative process involving stakeholders from several agencies and organisations. The 90 impact evaluations yield 609 occurrences in the map,

reflecting that many studies evaluate multiple interventions (or programmes that combine elements of multiple intervention categories) and many others measure effect sizes for outcomes across multiple outcome categories.

We present extensive analysis on the evidence we found, looking at not only the interventions used and outcomes measured but also at the methodology, location, considerations of gender and out-of-school youth and more.

The greatest prevalence of evidence is for skills courses at school, which are limited-time, special topic additions to the school day. There are also impact evaluations for a wide range of alternative learning pathways, such as peer-to-peer approaches. The most common outcomes measured are related to individual learning and behaviour. We found only one study that measures outcomes at the institutional level. This report provides an overview of this analysis, while a related scoping paper discusses the evidence base on a deeper level as well as the wider literature on this subject.

By exploring the clusters of existing evidence as well as the gaps, we suggest promising questions for research synthesis and priority questions for future impact evaluation investments. Promising questions include skills courses at school and transferable skills training combined with technical vocational education and training outside of the classroom. Priority questions for future impact evaluation investments include other kinds of transferable skills programming connected to the formal education system as well as testing of learner-centred interventions targeted to transferable skills.

We conclude that there are multiple gaps of evidence in categories important to stakeholders. While ongoing studies are beginning to focus on transferable skills more directly, ultimately more evidence is needed on this topic in low- and middle-income countries.

### *Overview*

Policymakers, programme implementers and educators recognise that the skills a young person needs to succeed in today's world go beyond technical know-how in an employment setting. Transferable skills, also referred to as soft skills and life skills, provide youth with critically needed tools to be able to succeed in terms of employment, health and personal well-being.

This report by Rankin et al. presents a 3ie evidence gap map that catalogues the full body of impact evaluation evidence for transferable skills interventions in low- and middle-income countries. The map is built on a framework developed in consultation with key stakeholders. The report documents the methods used for search, screening, and coding studies and examines evidence clusters and gaps identified on the map.

The map reveals a few evidence clusters where synthesis research could be promising, including skills courses inserted in schools and TVET combined with transferable skills training. There is more evidence for the effect of interventions on individual learning and behaviour outcomes than for demographic and employment outcomes. There are significant gaps in evidence for several intervention categories, including teacher training programs and curriculum reform, learner-centred teaching, and institutional management and capacity building.

3ie has recently developed a new interactive and dynamic online platform which allows users to explore the evidence included in a particular EGM, with links to user-friendly summaries of all studies.

View the [youth and transferable skills evidence gap map](#) on this interactive platform. 3ie also produced a scoping paper that reviews the supply of and demand for evidence from impact evaluations and systematic reviews on youth and transferable skills interventions. It reveals several areas where a high demand for evidence combined with low or moderate supply of evidence suggest the need for further research.

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### **Global financial development report 2015-2016 : long-term finance**

World Bank Group

September 2015 :: 211 pages

ISBN (electronic): 978-1-4648-0471-7

Pdf: <http://www->

[wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSPContentServer/WDSP/IB/2015/08/24/090224b0830909e9/1\\_0/Rendered/PDF/Global0financi0000long0term0finance.pdf](http://wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSPContentServer/WDSP/IB/2015/08/24/090224b0830909e9/1_0/Rendered/PDF/Global0financi0000long0term0finance.pdf)

#### *Abstract*

Long-term finance plays an important role in economic development. Extending the maturity structure of finance is often considered to be at the core of sustainable financial development. Long-term finance, frequently defined as all funding for a time frame exceeding one year, may contribute to faster growth, greater welfare, shared prosperity, and enduring stability in two important ways: by reducing rollover risks for borrowers, thereby lengthening the horizon of investments and improving performance, and by increasing the availability of long-term financial instruments, thereby allowing households and firms to address their lifecycle challenges.

This report seeks to contribute to the policy discussion on long-term finance. It provides stylized facts on the use and provision of long-term finance and examines both new and older evidence on the use of long-term finance and its economic impact. The report provides a careful review and synthesis of recent and ongoing research, identifying those policies that work to promote long-term finance and those that do not, as well as areas where more evidence is still needed. This report brings new data and research and draws on available insights and experience to contribute to the policy discussion.

#### *Overview*

*Global Financial Development Report 2015/2016* is the third in a World Bank series. It provides a unique contribution to financial sector policy debates, building on novel data, surveys, research, and wide-ranging country experience, with emphasis on emerging markets and developing economies. The report's findings and policy recommendations are relevant for policy makers; staff of central banks, ministries of finance, and financial regulation agencies; nongovernmental organizations and donors; academics and other researchers and analysts; and members of the finance and development community.

This year's report focuses on long-term finance—equity or debt financing with maturity exceeding one year—and establishes its importance for economic development. Extending the maturity structure of finance is often considered to be at the core of sustainable financial development. It is needed for private sector construction of plants and investment in machinery and equipment, as well as financing infrastructure investments. Without long-term finance households cannot invest in housing or education, or benefit from higher long-term returns on their savings. Attempts at directly boosting the supply of long-term finance have not been free of controversy, and have sometimes led to substantial costs to taxpayers.

The report emphasizes that governments and international bodies must focus on reforms that help overcome market failures and institutional and policy weaknesses. They must also improve risk and information sharing, and promote financial literacy and consumer protection.

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### **Conrad N. Hilton Foundation Announces the Creation of a Groundbreaking, Formal Network of Global Humanitarian Organizations: The Hilton Prize Coalition**

(Los Angeles) Sept. 15, 2015 – The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, one of the world's leading Foundations working to improve the lives of disadvantaged and vulnerable people throughout the world, announced a \$2 million commitment to launch the next groundbreaking force in the humanitarian sector – The Hilton Prize Coalition. This new grant will formalize the unique coalition comprised of many of the first 19 Hilton Humanitarian Prize-winning organizations and kick-start the implementation of two new signature initiatives: the Hilton Prize Laureates Fellowship Program, designed to inspire a new generation of humanitarian leaders, and the Disaster Resiliency and Response Program, created to help Prize laureates combine forces to leverage their work partnerships, and to improve services and programs in the field.

In addition, the Foundation announced that the monetary award for the Hilton Humanitarian Prize, the world's largest humanitarian prize for nonprofits, is being increased from \$1.5 million to \$2 million to commemorate its 20th Hilton Humanitarian Prize laureate, which will be announced in New York City on Oct. 14.

"For 20 years, the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize has proudly helped fuel the success of some of the world's most influential nonprofit organizations in their efforts to alleviate human suffering," said Conrad N. Hilton Chairman, President and CEO Steven M. Hilton. "The Foundation's investment to formalize the Hilton Prize Coalition furthers our support for such important humanitarian work by engaging the next generation of humanitarian leaders, and developing an innovative model to respond to disasters."

Each year, the Foundation reviews hundreds of nominations for notable nonprofit organizations from across the globe, and an independent, international panel of distinguished jurors makes the final selection after a rigorous vetting process. Nominations for the 2016 Hilton Humanitarian Prize will be accepted beginning on Sept. 28 and should be submitted through the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation website before Oct. 31.

"What's perhaps most unique and important about the Hilton Humanitarian Prize is the organic nature in which many of these organizations are now collaborating," said Conrad N. Hilton

Foundation Vice President and Prize Director Judy Miller. "The Hilton Humanitarian Prize Laureates met the leaders of the other Laureates through the Prize and recognized they had a unique opportunity to join forces in the field and demonstrate that greater leverage and efficiency was possible if they became a collective force where they had common goals. Through informal collaborations, they have found they can better utilize their resources and maximize the impact of their work. Now, they are formalizing their joint efforts by establishing the Hilton Prize Coalition. This coalition will promote the sharing of ideas and will help identify opportunities for partnership that further the missions of our Laureates."

The new Hilton Prize Coalition aims to establish: a common agenda whereby all participants share best practices in their respective fields; a list of common indicators used for learning and improvement; continuous, frequent and open communication; and backbone support with independent, funded staff dedicated to supporting and advancing the initiative.

The Hilton Prize Laureates Fellowship Program seeks to address the lack of professional mentorship and real-world training for young people that is often required as work experience, but that most students do not have when they enter the nonprofit sector. The program will provide a select group of graduate and undergraduate Fellows with a unique experience to learn from top-level nonprofit leaders and organizations and participate through both headquarters and fieldwork. With the goal of growing the program to 25 fellows annually, the Hilton Prize Coalition plans to expand and strengthen a global network of future humanitarian leaders. Following a pilot of this program in 2014, Global Impact, which acts as the Secretariat for the group, has secured partnerships with several leading universities to participate in the program.

The Disaster Resiliency and Response Program is a three-year pilot program aimed at developing an innovative, collaborative model that delivers timely and effective systems and processes, which should be in place before and after a disaster. The unique structure of this program not only helps the Laureates understand, adapt and respond to disaster situations immediately, but also provokes an analysis about how communities can become more resilient in the long-term wake of such disasters. Approximately 11 Laureate organizations have currently expressed interest in this program, and a Working Group has been formed to lead design and implementation efforts.

"Through these projects and their ongoing collaboration together, the Laureates, working in more than 150 countries, seek to leverage resources and expertise, and establish best practices and standards that can be shared with the global NGO and donor communities," Miller said. "Given today's global challenges, often many issues are simply too large or complex for any single organization to handle, but by teaming up, the Laureates are now able to work on larger issues or in countries that were before out of their scope of involvement. We are proud to support these efforts and believe these unique partnerships will make a strong contribution to the humanitarian field."

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**EBOLA/EVD** [to 19 September 2015]

*Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC); "Threat to international peace and security" (UN Security Council)*

## **Ebola Situation Report - 16 September 2015**

*[Excerpts]*

### **SUMMARY**

:: There were 5 confirmed cases of Ebola virus disease (EVD) reported in the week to 13 September, all of which were in Sierra Leone. Guinea recorded its first EVD-free week in over 12 months. All but one of the cases in Sierra Leone were registered contacts associated with the Kambia chain of transmission. A new confirmed case was also reported from the central Sierra Leonean district of Bombali, which has not reported a case for over 5 months. The case, a 16-year-old girl, had severe symptoms in the community for several days before being admitted to an Ebola treatment centre (ETC). There is considered to be a high-risk of further transmission associated with this case, and over 600 contacts have been identified so far. A rapid-response team has been deployed in order to minimise the risk of further transmission and establish the origin of infection. The total number of contacts under observation in Guinea and Sierra Leone has increased from approximately 1300 on 6 September to 1800 on 13 September. The vast majority of these contacts are located in the Sierra Leonean districts of Bombali and Kambia. Approximately 60 contacts are considered to be high-risk.

## **Ebola response phase 3: Framework for achieving and sustaining a resilient zero**

WHO

September 2015 :: 17 pages

Downloads: [Ebola response phase 3: Framework for achieving and sustaining a resilient zero pdf, 1.46](#)

### ***Overview***

The purpose of the Ebola response Phase 3 framework is to incorporate new knowledge and tools into the ongoing Ebola response and recovery work to achieve and sustain a "resilient zero". Phase 3 of the response builds upon the rapid scale-up of treatment beds, safe and dignified burial teams, and behaviour change capacities during Phase 1 (August-December 2014); and the enhanced capacities for case finding, contact tracing, and community engagement during Phase 2 (January-July 2015). This framework incorporates new developments and breakthroughs in Ebola control, from vaccines, diagnostics and response operations to survivor counselling and care.

Phase 3 objectives: Objective 1 - To accurately define and rapidly interrupt all remaining chains of Ebola transmission. Objective 2 - To identify, manage and respond to the consequences of residual Ebola risks.

[\*\[back to table of contents\]\*](#)

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## ***:: Agency/Government/IGO Watch***

*We will monitor a growing number of relevant agency, government and IGO organizations for key media releases, announcements, research, and initiatives. Generally, we will focus on regional or global level content recognizing limitation of space, meaning country-specific coverage is limited. Please suggest additional organizations to monitor.*

## **United Nations System Organizational Chart**

:: 8.5" x 11" / 216 x 279 mm :: 11" x 17" / 279 x 432 mm

### **United Nations – Secretary General, Security Council, General Assembly**

[to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.un.org/en/unpress/>

*Selected Press Releases/Meetings Coverage*

17 September 2015

SC/12050

[Global Community Must Protect War-Wearied Afghanistan amid Threats to Stability, Self-Reliance, Top United Nations Official Tells Security Council](#)

As the threats faced by Afghanistan's war-weary people did not all emanate from their own territory, they were entitled to international support, particularly from the region, in dealing with those pressing challenges, the top United Nations official in that country told the Security Council today.

17 September 2015

SC/12052-PAL/2196

[Security Council Press Statement on Situation in Jerusalem](#)

17 September 2015

SC/12051-AFR/3211

[Security Council Press Statement on Situation in Burkina Faso](#)

17 September 2015

SG/SM/17083-HR/5267

[Secretary-General, Welcoming Report by Human Rights Commission on Sri Lanka, Says Victims Demand No Less than 'a Full and Proper Reckoning'](#)

17 September 2015

SG/SM/17081-PKO/520

[Secretary-General Tells Troop Contributors No One with Past Record of Abuse Can Ever Serve United Nations, Outlining Plans for Victim Trust Fund](#)

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon's remarks at a meeting with Permanent Representatives of troop- and police-contributing countries on sexual exploitation and abuse, in New York today.

16 September 2015

SC/12046

[Syrian Conflict Marked by 'Utter Disregard' for Human Life, Relief Coordinator Tells Security Council, Requesting Added Funds for Life-Saving Operations](#)

The Security Council must not escape its responsibility to find a political solution to the Syrian conflict, as human suffering in that country had worsened, not diminished, a United Nations senior humanitarian affairs official told the 15-nation body today.

14 September 2015

GA/11679

[General Assembly Adopts, without Vote, 'Landmark' Decision on Advancing Efforts to Reform, Increase Membership of Security Council](#)

To a burst of applause, the General Assembly this morning adopted, without a vote, a text that sets the stage for negotiations on the long-pending issue of Security Council reform during the world body's seventieth session, with some hailing it as a "landmark" decision, and others calling it technical rather than substantive progress on an issue that most agreed must urgently be resolved.

**UN OHCHR** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/media.aspx?IsMediaPage=true>

[Human Rights Council concludes general debate on the promotion and protection of all human rights](#)

9/18/2015

The Human Rights Council this afternoon concluded its general debate on the promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.

In the general debate, speakers raised their concerns about the worsening incidences of violence against women, the resumed executions of death penalties in some countries, the plight of indigenous peoples in some countries, the global refugee crisis, arbitrary detention, freedom of opinion and expression, and freedom of association and religion, among others...

..Speaking in the general debate this afternoon were World Environment and Resources Council, Amnesty International, Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association, Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, Liberation, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Human Rights Watch, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Agence Internationale pour le Développement, Cameroon Youths and Students Forum for Peace, Africa Speaks, International Humanist and Ethical Union, Centre for Inquiry, World Jewish Congress, International Lawyers Org, British Humanist Association, Asian Legal Resource Centre, Comité Permanente por la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos, Save the Children International, Alliance Defending Freedom International, Victorious Youths Movement, Russian Public Institute of Public Law, Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik, Association Duneny, Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs, Comité internationale pour le Respect et l'Application de la Charte Africaine, International Service for Human Rights, Commission Africaine des Promoteurs de la Santé et des Droits de l'Homme, Colombian Commission of Jurists, African Development Association, Association of World Citizens, Women's Human Rights Institutional Association, Sikh Human Rights Group, The International Organization of Least Developed Countries, World Muslim Congress, American Civil Liberties Union, and Russian Peace Foundation.

At the end of the meeting, India, Myanmar, Chile, Malaysia and Pakistan spoke in right of reply....

[Hungary violating international law in response to migration crisis: Zeid](#)

GENEVA (17 September 2015) – UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein on Thursday said he was appalled at the recent actions and attitudes displayed by the Hungarian Government and authorities in relation to refugees and migrants, and also urged European institutions to resolve their impasse and take firm action to respond to the crisis in Hungary and elsewhere.

[Burkina Faso: Comment by UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein](#)  
9/17/2015

[Zeid urges creation of hybrid special court in Sri Lanka as UN report confirms patterns of grave violations](#)  
9/16/2015

**Committee on the Rights of the Child** [to 19 September 2015]  
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/Pages/CRCIndex.aspx>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography**  
[to 19 September 2015]  
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Children/Pages/ChildrenIndex.aspx>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**SRSG/CAAC** Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict [to 19 September 2015]  
<https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/virtual-library/press-release-archive/>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**SRSG/SVC** Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 19 September 2015]  
<http://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/media/press-releases/>  
17 Sep 2015  
[UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict urges support for tracing and return of Yazidi girls captured by ISIL](#)

**UN OCHA** [to 19 September 2015]  
<http://www.unocha.org/media-resources/press-releases>  
18 Sep 2015

[Niger: International community must match generosity of host communities in Niger](#)  
Toby Lanzer, the Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Sahel, today commended the immense generosity of Niger's communities and Government who host those fleeing the violence in neighboring northeast Nigeria. He welcomed efforts by humanitarian actors in support of national authorities and added that the international community must match the humanity...

17 Sep 2015  
[Syrian Arab Republic: Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien, Remarks to the Annual Meeting of Catholic aid agencies operating in Syria and Iraq](#)

16 Sep 2015

[Syrian Arab Republic: Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien, Statement to the Security Council on Syria - New York, 16 September 2015](#)

14 Sep 2015

[Central African Republic: Central African Republic: Humanitarian Coordinator expresses serious concerns on eviction of displaced persons in Bangui](#)

**UNICEF** [to 19 September 2015]

[http://www.unicef.org/media/media\\_78364.html](http://www.unicef.org/media/media_78364.html)

*Selected press release and news notes*

[The World Council of Churches and UNICEF sign global partnership to promote children's rights](#)

GENEVA/NEW YORK, 18 September 2015 – The World Council of Churches (WCC) and UNICEF signed a partnership today pledging to work together to support children's rights, with special initial focus on two major issues: violence against children and climate change.

[Over 1.4 million children forced to flee conflict in Nigeria and region](#)

DAKAR/GENEVA/NEW YORK, 18 September 2015 – A sharp increase in attacks by the armed group commonly known as Boko Haram has uprooted 500,000 children over the past five months, bringing the total number of children on the run in northeast Nigeria and neighbouring countries to 1.4 million, UNICEF said today.

[UNICEF: Refugee and migrant children in Hungary "need to be treated with dignity"](#)

NEW YORK, 18 September 2015 - "UNICEF is in touch with the Government of Hungary's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York to discuss how refugee and migrant children can be adequately protected in line with the country's commitments to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

[WHO/UNICEF report: Malaria MDG target achieved amid sharp drop in cases and mortality, but 3 billion people remain at risk](#)

LONDON, 17 September 2015 – Malaria death rates have plunged by 60 per cent since 2000, translating into 6.2 million lives saved, the vast majority of them children, according to a joint WHO-UNICEF report released today.

[Mortar attacks which killed children in Aleppo "reprehensible" -- UNICEF](#)

DAMASCUS, 16 September 2015 - "UNICEF condemns, in the strongest terms, yesterday's mortar attacks on civilian areas of Aleppo which reportedly killed at least 19 children including six in a UNICEF-supported child friendly space.

[Millions of children across conflict-hit Syria deprived of education](#)

GENEVA/DAMASCUS, Syria, 15 September 2015 - As children around the world return to school, there are more than two million in Syria who will not be able to join them. According to UNICEF, another 400,000 are at risk of dropping out as a result of conflict, violence and displacement.

[Progress made but more to be done to ensure all children are born free of HIV & syphilis in Asia-Pacific: UN](#)

BANGKOK, Thailand, 14 September 2015 - The Asia-Pacific region has made significant progress in efforts to eliminate HIV and syphilis, but thousands of mothers and children have yet to feel the benefits.

**UNHCR** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 19 September 2015]

[http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-](http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/search?page=&comid=4a0950336&cid=49aea93a7d&scid=49aea93a40)

[bin/texis/vtx/search?page=&comid=4a0950336&cid=49aea93a7d&scid=49aea93a40](http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/search?page=&comid=4a0950336&cid=49aea93a7d&scid=49aea93a40)

[UNHCR urges Europe to change course on refugee crisis](#)

16 September 2015

UNHCR reiterates its deep conviction that only a united European emergency response can address the present refugee and migration crisis. Individual measures by individual countries will not solve the problem but will make an already chaotic situation worse, further the suffering of people and increase tension amongst states at a time when Europe needs more solidarity and trust...

[UNHCR names Afghan refugee teacher Aqeela Asifi its 2015 Nansen Refugee Award winner](#)

15 September 2015

**IOM / International Organization for Migration** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.iom.int/press-room/press-releases>

*Selected Press Releases*

[IOM: Latest Data on Europe Migrant Emergency](#)

09/18/15

Switzerland - Through two and a half weeks of September, IOM teams have recorded total arrivals to Europe by sea in 2015 at 473,887 men, women and children.

[Haitian Migrants Returning from the Dominican Republic Faced with Drought, Poverty and Lack of Opportunities](#)

09/18/15

Haiti - Haiti's South-East department is one of the worst affected by the prolonged drought hitting the country.

[IOM Helps Vulnerable Ethiopian Migrants to Return Home from South Sudan](#)

09/18/15

South Sudan - The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is assisting vulnerable Ethiopian migrants stranded by the crisis in South Sudan to return home.

[Haiti Adopts National Migration Policy](#)

09/18/15

Haiti - The Government of Haiti, through a dedicated Migration Task Force, has validated its first National Migration Policy, with technical and financial support from IOM and the International Labor Organization (ILO).

[IOM Assists Syrian Migrants in Northern Mali](#)

09/18/15

Syria - On Wednesday, 16 September 2015, 36 Syrian migrants were identified by Malian forces in the Region of Gao. These migrants were transiting in this northern region of the country, apparently bound for Algeria.

#### [IOM Completes Evacuation of Over 15,000 South Sudanese in Gambella, Ethiopia](#)

09/18/15

Ethiopia - The International Organization for Migration (IOM) evacuated a total of 15,225 South Sudanese refugees who were staying in three different locations (Pagak, Burbiey, and Matar) in Gambella Region of Ethiopia.

#### [Flood Aid Reaches Worst-hit Families in Lao PDR](#)

09/15/15

Lao People's Democratic Republic - Flood affected families in isolated villages in central Lao PDR have received much needed relief supplies from the US Embassy, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and World Vision International Lao PDR, in partnership with the Department of Social Welfare.

#### [IOM and Qatar to Cooperate on Migrant Returns](#)

09/15/15

Nepal - IOM and the State of Qatar have signed a Memorandum of Understanding which will see them working together over the next two years to provide voluntary return and reintegration assistance to stranded migrants.

#### [IOM Mali Sponsors Community Mobilization and Training Activities against Ebola](#)

09/15/15

Mali - From September 10th to September 17th, 2015, IOM in collaboration with the International Medical Corps (IMC) is dispensing Ebola virus disease (EVD) sensitization and community mobilization training sessions in the regions of Kayes (Kita and Kenieba), Sikasso (Yanfolila) and Koulikoro (Kangaba).

#### [IOM Tunisia Begins Repatriation of Migrants Rescued at Sea in August](#)

09/15/15

Tunisia - Today (15 September) a group of 16 migrants – among 131 people rescued at sea by Tunisian authorities on 23 August – will be returning home with IOM's help.

#### **UN Women** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.unwomen.org/news/stories>

*Selected Press Releases*

#### [G7 Forum says women are essential to foster the global economy](#)

Date : September 17, 2015

At the G7 Forum for Dialogue with Women on 16 and 17 September in Berlin, German Chancellor Angela Merkel met with female leaders from around the world to discuss women's empowerment at an international level. In a declaration agreed upon during the meeting, the group called on leaders from the business, political and academic sectors as well as civil society to foster women's economic empowerment, and urged the G7 to make women's issues a permanent feature of its agenda.

[Statement by UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka on the migrant and refugee crisis](#)

Date : September 17, 2015

There is an urgent need for humanitarian action to address the specific needs of women and girls and to involve them as equal partners in the migrant and refugee crisis.

[Malawi Chief annuls 330 child marriages](#)

Date : September 17, 2015

In a country where half of girls are married before age 18, UN Women played a key role in lobbying for a new law that raises the legal age to wed, while raising awareness and working with traditional leaders to annul marriages.

**WHO & Regionals** [to 19 September 2015]

[Addressing noncommunicable diseases in emergencies](#)

16 September 2015 -- Due to ongoing humanitarian crisis in Ukraine people struggle to receive treatment for noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) such as cancer, lung and heart disease and diabetes. Working closely with the Ukrainian Ministry of Health and partners, WHO provides emergency kits with training materials to treat these diseases in the field.

:: [WHO Regional Offices](#)

[WHO African Region AFRO](#)

*No new digest content identified.*

[WHO Region of the Americas PAHO](#)

:: [PAHO/WHO and U.S. National Park Service partner to connect people to parks for better health](#) (09/18/2015)

[Countries of the Americas agree to step up action toward rabies elimination](#) (09/17/2015)

[Wellness Week in the Americas, Sept. 12-19, will focus on "Healthy Parks, Healthy People"](#) (09/14/2015)

[WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO](#)

:: [Regional Committee adopts resolution on cancer prevention, control](#)

WHO Regional Committee meeting, which ended on 11 September, adopted six resolutions on priority areas. The countries resolved to strengthen cancer prevention and control programme, tobacco control, preparedness to respond to emergencies and outbreaks, anti-microbial resistance, community based health services and patient safety for sustainable Universal Health Coverage. [Press Release](#)

[WHO European Region EURO](#)

:: [Day 4 highlights: RC65 adopts new tuberculosis action plan and closes](#) 17-09-2015

:: [Refugee crisis in Europe: update on the situation and WHO response](#) 17-09-2015

Vilnius and Copenhagen, 14 September 2015

In response to the growing numbers of refugees and migrants arriving in the European Region, WHO supports countries by offering medical supplies, assessing national preparedness to assist people in need, training personnel at points of entry in public health and migration matters, and providing information materials.

Senior government officials of the 53 Member States in the WHO European Region discussed the public health impact of large-scale migration during the 65th session of the Regional Committee for Europe in Vilnius, Lithuania. They called for continued involvement and support from WHO to respond adequately to the public health implications of large influxes of people by conducting additional assessments in countries and by providing policy advice on contingency planning, training of health personnel and delivery of supplies. It was decided that a high-level WHO conference would be organized as soon as possible to agree on a common public health approach to large-scale migration in the Region.

"As refugee and migration movements escalate and the migratory routes change, more European countries face this challenge," said Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab, WHO Regional Director for Europe. "Today more than ever, this situation calls for a regional, comprehensive and systematic public health response. As refugees and migrants move, intercountry coordination must be strengthened across the European Region, as well as with the countries of origin and transit."...

:: [Day 3 highlights: adoption of strategy on physical activity and roadmap for tobacco control](#) 16-09-2015

:: [WHO European Region Member States commit to denormalizing tobacco](#) 16-09-2015

:: [European ministers of health adopt strategy to tackle physical inactivity in 53 WHO Member States](#) 16-09-2015

:: [European countries review progress and synergize efforts for control of vaccine-preventable diseases](#)

14-09-2015

Three days of discussion and sharing of experience among national immunization programme managers, WHO, partners and international experts on 1–3 September 2015 brought into full focus the challenges facing the European Region in the area of immunization and progress towards implementation of the European Vaccine Action Plan at national level. Over 130 delegates from 47 Member States of the European Region gathered in Antwerp, Belgium, to discuss remaining barriers to full immunization in Europe and the actions needed to achieve regional goals, such as elimination of measles and rubella and maintenance of the Region's polio-free status.

"The European Vaccine Action Plan (EVAP) embodies regional commitment to immunization, and this meeting offers immunization programme managers the chance to voice their opinions and experience, interact with each other and WHO staff and work together to translate EVAP strategies into national priorities and actions," said Dr Pierre van Damme, Professor of Vaccinology at the University of Antwerp and chair of the European Technical Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (ETAGE), with reference to the interactive approach taken at the meeting. The format included panels, small group discussion and question-and-answer sessions....

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: [Malaria MDG target achieved amid sharp drop in cases and mortality, but 3 billion people remain at risk](#) 17 September 2015

:: [Improving the health of women, children and adolescents](#) 14 September

WHO Western Pacific Region

:: [UN: Progress made but more to be done to ensure all children are born free of HIV & syphilis in Asia-Pacific](#)

BANGKOK, 14 September 2015 – The Asia–Pacific region has made significant progress in efforts to eliminate the transmission of HIV and syphilis, but thousands of mothers and children have yet to feel the benefits. Addressing this gap will be a key area for discussion at the 10th Asia-Pacific United Nations Parent-to-Child Transmission of HIV and Syphilis Task Force meeting in Beijing, China, this week. [Read the joint news release](#)

**UNAIDS** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/>

[UN-Habitat and UNAIDS call for renewed efforts to address HIV in urban areas](#)

18 September 2015 |

[Lithuania confirms no restrictions on entry, stay and residence for people living with HIV](#)

18 September 2015 |

[UNAIDS and Kenya launch data and technology partnership to Fast-Track progress towards ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030](#)

17 September 2015 |

**UNFPA** United Nations Population Fund [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.unfpa.org/press/press-release>

*No new digest content identified.*

**UNDP** United Nations Development Programme [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter.html>

[High-level event to cast spotlight on localizing the Sustainable Development Goals](#)

Sep 18, 2015

NDP, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea and OECD, will convene a high-level event entitled "A New Rural Development Paradigm and the Inclusive and Sustainable New Communities Model inspired by the Saemaul Undong" during the United Nations Summit for the Adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

[Global partnership needs to be revitalized to tackle inequality and implement the new sustainable development agenda, says new UN report](#)

Sep 18, 2015

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) achieved significant progress over the past 15 years, but persistent gaps in official development assistance and an insufficient access to markets, affordable medicines and new technologies have highlighted the need for a rejuvenation of the global partnership for development, according to a new report launched today by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

[Helen Clark: Speech at Release of MDG Gap Task Force Report 2015 Launch](#)

Sep 18, 2015 United Nations - New York, USA

**UN Division for Sustainable Development** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/default.htm>  
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/commission.htm>  
<http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/>

[Second meeting of the IAEG-SDGs](#)

26 - 28 OCT 2015 Bangkok

*Meeting objectives*

- :: Review the list of possible global indicators
- :: Discuss the global indicator framework, interlinkages across targets and critical issues including data disaggregation
- :: Discuss the work plan and next steps

**UNEP** United Nations Environment Programme [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.unep.org/newscentre/?doctypeID=1>

*Selected Press Releases*

[Transformative Business Leader to Receive United Nations Champion of the Earth Award](#)

Unilever CEO, Paul Polman recognized for leading business world towards a new model of sustainable growth

18/09/2015 00:00:00

[UN Launches Open Access Information Portal on Concepts and Frameworks of Environmental Law](#)

A new tool aims to ensure policy makers, citizens and researchers around the world have up-to-date and timely access to environmental law

18/09/2015 00:00:00

[Ahead of Historic SDGs Summit, UNEP and CalPERS Call for Policy Overhaul to Align Institutional Investment with Sustainable Development](#)

*Only days ahead of the historic summit to adopt the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*  
14/09/2015

London, 14 September 2015 - Only days ahead of the historic summit to adopt the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a new UN study calls on regulators to implement proactive policies that build institutional investment frameworks, institutions and culture with sustainability at their core.

"Financial Reform, Institutional Investors and Sustainable Development: A review of current policy initiatives and proposals for further progress" was produced by the United Nations Environment Programme Inquiry into the Design of a Sustainable Financial System (UNEP Inquiry) and the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS). </p>

[Download Full Report](#)

Henry Jones, Chair of Investment Committee, CalPERS, said: "At CalPERS we have no doubt that our focus on sustainability is entirely consistent with our fiduciary duty - indeed it is an essential part of it."

"Where doubts on this score remain, they must be dispelled," he added. "And we need institutions that have the knowledge, the skills and the ways of working that are required to embed sustainability in their investments - to manage the risks it brings, and to capitalize upon the opportunities it offers. We hope every country will reflect on how it can best address these challenges."

With an estimated annual financing gap of up to US \$7 trillion a year in infrastructure investments alone, the global financial system, worth more than US \$300 trillion, has a potential to transform the international economic landscape to better serve the needs of humanity...

#### [Bangladesh Prime Minister Wins Top United Nations Environmental Prize for Policy Leadership](#)

14/09/2015 00:00:00

**UNISDR** UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.unisdr.org/archive>

*Selected Press Releases*

#### [Sandstorm causes health problems](#)

14 Sep 2015

Health services across the region continue to deal with the impact of the severe sandstorm which hit the Middle East last week, sweeping across Lebanon, Syria and Palestine, causing casualties and sending dozens to hospitals, as health risks particularly respiratory problems increased. Other countries in the region, like Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia, were affected by the clouds of dust and sand causing flight delays and disrupting school activities.

**UN DESA** United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/news.html>

#### [Global partnerships to tackle inequality and implement new sustainable development agenda](#)

18 September 2015, New York

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) achieved significant progress over the past 15 years, but persistent gaps in official development assistance and an insufficient access to markets, affordable medicines and new technologies have highlighted the need for a rejuvenation of the global partnership for development, according to a new report launched today by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

**UNESCO** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://en.unesco.org/news>

#### [Expert meeting convened by UNESCO to validate Guidelines on the Inclusion of Learners with Disabilities in Open and Distance Learning](#)

16 September 2015

New Guidelines on the inclusion of learners with disabilities in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) are soon to be launched by UNESCO. These Guidelines aim to promote the systematic inclusion and use of accessibility aspects via open solutions (Open Educational Resources - OER, Free and Open Source Software - FOSS and Open Access to Scientific Information - OA) in Open and Distance Learning (ODL). They also highlight the key roles and obligations of educational stakeholders – Governments, Institutions as well as Quality Assurance and Recognition bodies in making accessibility a reality for learners with disabilities.

[E-learning training on Handicap, knowledge and ICT launched at UNESCO](#)

16 September 2015

An e-learning open access training for professionals, families and others working with people with disabilities launches at UNESCO Headquarters on September 18.

[First Regional Pan-Arab Consultation on Open Access to Scientific Information and Research](#)

16 September 2015

[UNESCO Director-General deplores destruction of parts of ancient city of Baraqish, calls for protection of Yemen's heritage](#)

13 September 2015

**UNODC** United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press/allpress.html?ref=fp>

18/09/2015 –

[Experts discuss threats, responses to global drug problem with eye to 2016 UN-wide meeting](#)

Mexico City / Vienna, 18 September 2015 - At an international conference currently being held in Mexico City, Government officials and experts from several United Nations entities, regional bodies and civil society organizations have gathered to discuss their experiences in addressing the harmful social consequences of illicit drug markets, such as violence, prison overcrowding, exclusion and the weakening of the social fabric of communities. The meeting takes place in the lead up to the April 2016 [United Nations General Assembly Special Session](#) on the world drug problem (UNGASS).

18/09/2015 –

[Despite challenges, Afghanistan strengthens its effectiveness against narcotics, UNODC Chief informs Security Council](#)

**UN-HABITAT** United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 19 September 2015]

<http://unhabitat.org/media-centre/press-releases/>

[UN-Habitat, UNAIDS joint report maps cities with highest HIV positive people](#)

Nairobi, 18 September 2015—A new joint report by UN-Habitat and UNAIDS has identified 200 cities likely to have the largest number of people living with HIV and estimated that together, these cities—which are located in 63 countries—accounted for more than one quarter of the estimated 35 million people living with HIV globally in 2013.

At the same time the report, titled Ending the Urban Aids Epidemic, says that cities should increasingly assume a leadership role in the urban AIDS response, with targeted support from national and global partners...

[UN-Habitat's Design Labs enters collaboration with the Dutch Creative Industries Fund](#)

Nairobi 16 September 2015- On 15 September the Dutch Creative Industries Fund signed an agreement with UN-Habitat's Global Network of Urban Planning and Design Labs to support cities with urban planning and design. Under the title "Designing a...

Posted September 16, 2015

[Mexico meeting births Urban Poverty Stakeholders lobby](#)

Monterrey, 15 September 2015—At the end of an international seminar recently held in Monterrey, Mexico, the participants came up with the lobby, the “Latin American Community of Urban Poverty Stakeholders”. The Community is an open and voluntary...

**FAO** Food & Agriculture Organization [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.fao.org/news/archive/news-by-date/2015/en/>

[Major crop losses in Central America due to El Niño](#)

Prolonged dry weather associated with the El Niño phenomenon has severely reduced this year's cereal outputs in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, putting a large numbers of farmers in need of agricultural assistance as the subregion tries to recover amidst ongoing dryness, FAO said today.

14-09-2015

**IFAD** International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.ifad.org/media/press/index.htm>

18 September 2015

[US\\$120 million initiative to economically transform rural areas in Pakistan](#)

**ILO** International Labour Organization [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.ilo.org/global/lang--en/index.htm>

*Sustainable Development Goals*

[Grow the economy with a well-balanced diet](#)

14 September 2015

ILO Deputy Director-General Gilbert Houngbo shows the connection between decent work, acceptable living standards and economic growth, which together will help achieve several other sustainable development goals.

**ICAO** International Civil Aviation Organization [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.icao.int/Newsroom/Pages/pressrelease.aspx>

[ICAO and UNWTO Enhance Cooperation In Support Of New UN Sustainable Development Goals](#)

14/9/15

**IMO** International Maritime Organization [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/Home.aspx>

*No new digest content identified.*

**WMO** World Meteorological Organization [to 19 September 2015]

<https://www.wmo.int/media/?q=news>

[International Ozone Day 2015](#)

16 September 2015

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, an important milestone in the protection of the ozone layer. The theme for the celebration of the anniversary and this year's International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, marked on 16 September is, "30 years of healing the ozone together." The theme is supported by the slogan, "Ozone: All there is between you and UV."

The International Ozone Day is an annual event that commemorates the date of the signing, in 1987, of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. In the last three decades, the Vienna Convention and its Montreal Protocol have galvanized 197 nations to work together on phasing out ozone-depleting substances, thus protecting the ozone layer for this and future generations and contributing significantly to global efforts to address climate change.

**UNIDO** United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.unido.org/en/news-centre/news.html>

*No new digest content identified.*

**UNWTO** World Tourism Organization [to 19 September 2015]

<http://media.unwto.org/news>

[Financing of Tourism for Development: a holistic approach needed](#)

17 September 2015

The need to have an holistic approach to financing of tourism for development was one of the key conclusions of the event held on the topic on the sidelines of the 21st UNWTO General Assembly. The horizontal nature of the sector and its many linkages to other activities along the value chain requires that the international community develops an approach to tourism financing that promotes cross-sector cooperation and solutions (Medellín, Colombia, 15 September 2015).

[UNWTO and ICAO enhance cooperation in support of the UN Sustainable Development Goals](#)

15 September 2015

UNWTO and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) have announced a new joint strategic statement on Tourism and Air Transport for Development (Medellín, Colombia, 14 September 2015).

**ITU** International Telecommunications Union [to 19 September 2015]

[http://www.itu.int/net/pressoffice/press\\_releases/index.aspx?lang=en#.VF8FYcl4WF8](http://www.itu.int/net/pressoffice/press_releases/index.aspx?lang=en#.VF8FYcl4WF8)

[ITU tackles financial inclusion for 2 billion people](#)

*ITU focus group on Digital Financial Services hosts telco and financial services regulators from across the globe in Kuala Lumpur*

Geneva, 16 September 2015 – Almost a year after its launch, the [ITU Focus Group on Digital Financial Services](#) (DFS) for Financial Inclusion is preparing to host its global meeting to discuss how the international telecommunications and financial services communities can work together to tackle one of the world's most challenging social and economic issues: access to formal financial services by the world's poorest two billion people.

The Focus Group, incorporating 60 organizations from some 30 countries, aims to bridge the gap between telecommunications and financial services regulators, and the private and public

sectors. Representatives from across the DFS ecosystem will pragmatically address some of the major issues currently preventing DFS from serving the unbanked.

Four working groups have been established, led by a balanced composition of regulatory authorities, operators and consumer protection organizations. They are developing a set of operational recommendations, tools and solutions that will fast track policy reform to support numerous developing countries in implementing the financial inclusion strategy and promoting DFS at scale. Initial findings will be discussed in Kuala Lumpur from 30 September to 2 October and at the next meeting in Geneva in December. Final reports are expected to be published late in 2016...

**WIPO** World Intellectual Property Organization [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.wipo.int/pressroom/en/>

[Global Innovation Index 2015: Switzerland, UK, Sweden, Netherlands, USA are Leaders](#)

Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Sweden, the Netherlands and the United States of America are the world's five most innovative nations, according to the Global Innovation Index 2015 PDF, 2015 Global Innovation Index, while China, Malaysia, Viet Nam, India, Jordan, Kenya, and Uganda are among a group of countries outperforming their economic peers.

Sep 17, 2015 [PR/2015/780](#)

**CBD** Convention on Biological Diversity [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.cbd.int/press-releases/>

[The Law and Environment Ontology \(LEO\), a new knowledge tool for MEAs and the environmental community](#)

Geneva, 15 September 2015 A United Nations initiative is set to improve access for policy makers, journalists, researchers and the general public to environmental treaties. The Law and Environment Ontology (LEO) portal seeks to provide an overview of concepts, definitions and synonyms in conventions as well as the relationship between different Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs).

LEO draws from the information tools Ecolex, Faolex and InforMEA, which together cover more than 105,000 national laws, 2000 cases, almost 5,000 national reports, 500 action plans, more than 2000 global, regional and bilateral environmental conventions and 10,000 decisions of their governing bodies. It contains information displayed as maps, info-graphics and text...

:: The new website tool can be visited at: <http://leo.informea.org>

:: The e-learning tool can be visited at: <http://e-learning.informea.org/>

:: The InforMEA Portal can be found at: <http://www.informea.org>

::::::

**US Department of State**

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2015/index.htm>

09/15/15 [International Day of Democracy](#);

Secretary of State John Kerry; Washington, DC

**USAID** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases>

### [U.S. Announces Additional Humanitarian Aid for Yemen](#)

September 16, 2015

The United States announced today more than \$89 million in additional humanitarian aid to help people affected by the ongoing conflict in Yemen. This brings the total U.S. humanitarian assistance for this crisis to nearly \$170 million in fiscal year 2015.

**DFID** [to 19 September 2015]

<https://www.gov.uk/government/latest?departments%5B%5D=department-for-international-development>

*Selected Announcements*

[Ebola heroes recognised with parliamentary march](#)

Published 16 September 2015 News story DFID, DH and MOD

[UK doubles education support for refugees in Lebanon over next 3 years](#)

Published 14 September 2015 Press release DFID and Number 10

[Home Office Minister with responsibility for Syrian refugees appointed](#)

Published 14 September 2015 Press release DCLG, DFID, Home Office and Number 10

**ECHO** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://ec.europa.eu/echo/en/news>

[More EU aid for South Sudan as humanitarian situation worsens](#)

18/09/2015

The European Commission has released an aid package of €15 million amid an increasingly deteriorating humanitarian situation in South Sudan. The funding brings the total EU humanitarian aid for the country to nearly €300 million so far in 2015.

[Statement by EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides on the attack on civilian areas of Aleppo](#)

18/09/2015

The European Commission strongly condemns the recent mortar attack on civilian areas of Aleppo which killed at least 19 children.

[EU's Civil Protection Mechanism helps Hungary cope with refugee influx](#)

14/09/2015

Last Friday, Hungary activated the EU's Civil Protection Mechanism. This will allow Hungarian authorities to benefit from material support to help cope with the influx of refugees and asylum seekers. The European Commission's Emergency Response...

.....

**African Union** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.au.int/en/>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

Sep.18.2015 [Partnership meeting for implementing the African Water Vision 2025](#)

Sep.17.2015 [The African Union rejects as Null and Void the announcement by the military of the "dismissal" of the President of the Transition in Burkina Faso](#)

Sep.15.2015 [Message of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Dr. Nkosazana C Dlamini-Zuma, on the Occasion of the International Day of Democracy, 2015](#)

### **The African Development Bank Group** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

[AfDB Unveils "New Deal for Energy in Africa."](#)

*A blueprint to get rid of Africa's energy poverty by 2025*

17/09/2015 - The African Development Bank Group (AfDB) unveiled its landmark initiative to solve Africa's huge energy deficit by 2025 at a High Level Stakeholder Consultative Meeting attended by business and political leaders at its headquarters in Abidjan on 17 September 2015.

The "New Deal for Energy in Africa," which charts the way for a transformative partnership on energy focuses on mobilizing support and funding for the initiative from five key areas.

Firstly, the AfDB would significantly expand its support towards energy in Africa; development partners would also be obliged to scale up on-going efforts while countries must also expand their share of financing going into the energy sector and at the same time demonstrate stronger political will to ensure success of the Deal. Development partners would also be required to work together and coordinate their efforts to drive critical policy and regulatory reforms of the energy sector to improve incentives for accelerated investments...

### **ASEAN** Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.asean.org/news>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

*No new digest content identified.*

### **European Union** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://europa.eu/rapid/search-result.htm?query=18&locale=en&page=1>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives]*

[EU increases humanitarian aid to South Sudan](#)

Date: 18/09/2015

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 18 September 2015 The European Commission has released an additional aid package of €15 million amid an increasingly deteriorating humanitarian situation in South Sudan. The funding brings the total EU humanitarian aid for the country to nearly €300 million so far in 2015.

[Funding of migration-related activities in the Southern Neighbourhood region](#)

Date: 17/09/2015

European Commission - Fact Sheet Brussels, 17 September 2015 Updated with the most recent data available on 17 September 2015 The Global Approach on Migration and Mobility

(GAMM) adopted in 2011 provides the general framework for the EU engagement in migration in the EU's Southern Neighbourhood.

#### [Funding to main migration-related activities in the Western Balkans and Turkey](#)

Date: 17/09/2015

European Commission - Fact Sheet Brussels, 17 September 2015 Updated with the most recent data available on 17 September 2015 For candidate countries (Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey) and potential candidates (Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo), the EU provides both financial and technical support.

#### [European Commission Statement following the vote of the European Parliament in favour of an emergency relocation mechanism for a further 120,000 refugees](#)

Date: 17/09/2015

- European Commission Statement Brussels, 17 September 2015 European Commission Statement following vote of the European Parliament in favour of an emergency relocation mechanism for 120,000 refugees Today, the European Parliament has taken an important step by voting in favour of the Commission's proposal for relocation from Italy, Greece and...

#### **OECD** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.oecd.org/newsroom/publicationsdocuments/bydate/>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

#### [Sub-par global growth and slowdown in emerging economies requires a shift in policy action](#)

16-September-2015

Economic recovery is progressing in the world's advanced economies, but stagnating world trade and deteriorating conditions in financial markets are curbing growth prospects in many of the major emerging economies, according to the OECD's latest Interim Economic Outlook.

#### [New approach needed to deliver on technology's potential in schools](#)

15-September-2015

Schools have yet to take advantage of the potential of technology in the classroom to tackle the digital divide and give every student the skills they need in today's connected world, according to the first OECD PISA assessment of digital skills.

#### **Organization of American States (OAS)** [to 19 September 2015]

[http://www.oas.org/en/media\\_center/press\\_releases.asp](http://www.oas.org/en/media_center/press_releases.asp)

#### [WFP and OAS Team Up to Work on Migration, Protection, and Preparedness in the Americas](#)

E-235

September 17, 2015

The Executive Director of the UN World Food Programme (WFP), Ertharin Cousin, and the Secretary General of the Organization of American State (OAS), Luis Almagro, today signed an agreement to intensify their joint efforts to improve the food security and nutrition of the people of the Americas.

Almagro and Cousin discussed future collaboration on issues of migration, social protection, and emergency preparedness and response to promote the inclusion of food security and nutrition in the Inter-American dialogue. They also agreed to promote debate in OAS forums on

the reinforcement of social-protection systems to mitigate and offset the impact of shocks.

Upon signing the agreement, Secretary General Almagro highlighted that "this is not a problem specific to any one country, it is a problem and responsibility that affects us all, and therefore demands a united response. In the Americas, we can provide an example of civility and humanism, and indeed it is our duty to advocate for such an approach."...

**Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.oic-oci.org/oicv2/news/>

*Selected Press Releases*

[OIC to Hold an Emergency Ministerial Meeting on Al-Quds at the Request of Saudi Arabia](#)

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) received a request from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to hold an emergency meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States to discuss the Israeli violations in the occupied city of Al-Quds and ways to stop the Israeli aggressions on Al-Aqsa Mosque....

19/09/2015

[OIC Expresses Dismay at Harsh Treatment of Syrian Refugees by Hungarian Authorities](#)

The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation has expressed shock and dismay at the harsh and unacceptable treatment by the Hungarian Police using tear gas and water canon to disperse protesting Syrian refugees who sought to enter the country from Serbia....

17/09/2015

[Final Communiqué of the Open-ended Emergency Meeting on the Syrian Refugee Crisis](#)

An Emergency Open-ended Meeting of the Executive Committee at the level of Permanent Representatives on the humanitarian crisis in Syria was convened on 13th September 2015 at the General Secretariat in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to discuss the dramatic escalation of the tragedy of the Syrian refugees in the region and beyond. H.E. the OIC Secretary General delivered a statement on the grave situation in Syria and the humanitarian conditions plaguing the Syrian refugees and IDPs, after which the Chairs of the OIC Summit and CFM made a statements followed by interventions by representatives of the Member States....

13/09/2015

**Group of 77** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.g77.org/>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**UNCTAD** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://unctad.org/en/Pages/AllPressRelease.aspx>

*No new digest content identified.*

**World Trade Organisation** [to 19 September 2015]

[http://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news_e.htm)

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

[DG Azevêdo: a package of issues for Nairobi may be within reach](#)

17 September 2015

Director-General Roberto Azevêdo convened a meeting of all WTO members in Geneva today to report on the current state of play in negotiations on the remaining issues of the Doha Development Agenda. Members are working towards delivering negotiated outcomes at the WTO's 10th Ministerial Conference which will be held in Nairobi from 15-18 December this year. Director-General Azevêdo reported in detail to members on a range of discussions which he had had with different members, and groups of members, over recent weeks.

**IMF** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.imf.org/external/news/default.aspx>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**World Bank** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/all>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

[World Bank and Switzerland to Support South African Cities](#)

PRETORIA, September 18, 2015 — The World Bank Group and the Embassy of Switzerland today signed a \$9 million Trust Fund agreement to support South Africa's efforts to improve the performance of its large cities by making them more inclusive, productive and sustainable.

Executed by the World Bank, this Trust Fund will help provide technical assistance, evidence based analysis and strengthen the capacity of the country's eight metropolitan municipalities through the Cities Support Program (CSP), a South African government urban initiative, coordinated by the National Treasury...

Date: September 18, 2015 Type: Press Release

[New Uniform Insolvency Act Can Help African SMEs Improve Access to Finance in 17 Countries](#)

With support from the World Bank Group, 17 African countries, members of the Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa (OHADA), adopted a Uniform Insolvency Act last week in Côte d'Ivoire.

This new law replaces the previous 1998 law which was widely believed to be lacking key features of a modern insolvency regime, particularly as regards reorganization proceedings and the treatment of creditors.

Date: September 16, 2015 Type: Feature Story

[Women's Insurance Market Represents Trillion-Dollar Opportunity, Report Finds](#)

WASHINGTON, September 16, 2015 — The insurance industry is expected to earn up to US\$1.7 trillion from women alone by 2030, presenting a major new opportunity for sustainable and inclusive growth, a new report released today by IFC, a member of the World Group, finds.

She for Shield: Insure Women to Better Protect All was co-developed by IFC, AXAGroup, and Accenture. It presents a first-of-its-kind study of the women's insurance market in the emerging economies of Brazil, China, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Thailand, and Turkey.

Date: September 16, 2015 Type: Feature Story

### Syrian Refugee Crisis: What we watch in horror on the nightly news has been unfolding for years in the Middle East

Ferid Belhaj, Country Director for Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria

Today, the world has woken-up to the reality that some countries in the Middle East have been living through for the past three years. The unbearably tragic picture of the Syrian toddler, Aylan, lying face down on a beach in Turkey has driven home the tragic fate of millions of refugees fleeing the unspeakable violence caused by the Syrian war. It is a crisis of civilization and humanity.

When violence in Syria erupted about four years ago, people started moving from their country to neighboring lands, mainly to Jordan and Lebanon, two countries with their own economic, demographic, social and political woes. These two countries have taken the incredibly bold decision to not turn their heads away and pretend they don't see anything wrong. Neither country has signed the Geneva Convention on refugees, but both are abiding by it...

Date: September 15, 2015 Type: Opinion

### Shortage of Long-Term Finance Blunts Progress in Developing Countries

*Long-term finance is essential for households, firms and sustainable development.*

WASHINGTON, September 14, 2015—A shortage of long-term financing since the 2008 crisis is choking the investment-backed growth of companies in developing countries and hampering the ability of credit-worthy families to borrow for education and housing needs and escape poverty, a new World Bank report warned today.

At the global level, this shortage of long-term financing also means that despite appeals by the Group of Twenty (G-20) and other key international groups, developing countries are struggling to mobilize the billions of dollars in financing they need to build badly-needed infrastructure in order to grow their national and regional economies.

According to the new report: 'Global Financial Development Report 2015-2016: Long-term Financing,' extending the maturity structure of finance is considered to be at the core of sustainable financial development....

The full report and supporting data are available: [www.worldbank.org/financialdevelopment](http://www.worldbank.org/financialdevelopment).

Date: September 14, 2015 Type: Press Release

### **IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.ipu.org/english/news.htm>

#### Geneva celebrates Democracy Day for first time

14 SEPTEMBER 2015

The Swiss canton of Geneva, home to IPU's headquarters, is celebrating International Day of Democracy on 15 September with a week of events that includes bringing Swiss youth together with young MPs. It is the first time that any Swiss canton has officially marked the occasion.

[\[back to table of contents\]](#)

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## **:: INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch**

*We will monitor media releases and other announcements around key initiatives, new research and major organizational change from a growing number of global NGOs, collaborations, and initiatives across the human rights, humanitarian response and development spheres of action. This Watch section is intended to be indicative, not exhaustive. We will not include fund raising announcement, programs or appeals.*

### **Amref Health Africa** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://amref.org/news/news/>

*No new digest content identified.*

### **Aravind Eye Care System** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.aravind.org/default/currentnewscontent>

*No new digest content identified.*

### **BRAC** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.brac.net/#news>

[Issue 43 Poverty, Protection and Exclusion in Rural Bangladesh](#)

13 September 2015

#### *Abstract*

Social protection is one of the key strategies of fighting against long-lasting and intergenerational poverty in Bangladesh. The concept has significantly evolved both in scale and scope in recent times. Targeted pro-poor interventions in public services and safety net programmes have been scaled up. However, access to institutions is an issue of grave concern especially for poor people. Although, recent years have witnessed almost 100 per cent school enrolment, drop out rate is still high especially among the ultra poor children. Advocacy is BRAC's latest tool to address the critical issues of accessibility and utilisation of resources by the ultra poor. Looking at social protection interventions through the conceptual lens of 'social exclusion', this study seeks to understand how and why the poorest face constraints in gaining access to public services and entitlements, and why the ultra poor children discontinue regular schooling and drop out from primary education. Built on a mixed method approach, the study identifies a number of important mechanisms through which the poorest are excluded from their entitlements. There are a number of mediating processes through which they are included, but allegedly often in the elites' terms and conditions. Besides, the study highlights a number of critical factors that force children to discontinue schooling.

**CARE International** [to 19 September 2015]  
<http://www.care-international.org/news/press-releases.aspx>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**Danish Refugee Council** [to 19 September 2015]  
<http://drc.dk/news/archive/>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**Casa Alianza** [to 19 September 2015]  
**Covenant House** [to 19 September 2015]  
<http://www.casa-alianza.org.uk/news>  
<https://www.covenanthouse.org/>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**ECPAT** [to 19 September 2015]  
<http://www.ecpat.net/news>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**Fountain House** [to 19 September 2015]  
<http://www.fountainhouse.org/about/news-press>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**Handicap International** [to 19 September 2015]  
[http://www.handicap-international.us/press\\_releases](http://www.handicap-international.us/press_releases)  
[Handicap International hails declaration of landmine-free Mozambique](#)  
Posted on September 17, 2015 10:24 AM

Mozambique was officially declared mine-free on Thursday, Sept. 17. As one of the country's main mine operators, Handicap International hailed the announcement as a victory for the people of Mozambique. Liberated from this threat, which has caused thousands of casualties, Mozambicans can finally turn the page on this chapter of their history, and enjoy the opportunities for growth that were previously impossible with so many landmines present.

From the start of demining operations in 1998, Handicap International was a key mine actor in Mozambique. Over a period of 17 years, the organization demined more than 16 million square meters of land, and neutralized 6,000 anti-personnel mines and 5,000 explosive remnants of war using a demining process combining people, dogs and machines...

**Heifer International** [to 19 September 2015]  
<http://www.heifer.org/about-heifer/press/press-releases.html>  
[Heifer International Weekly](#)  
*[undated]*

**HelpAge International** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.helpage.org/newsroom/press-room/press-releases/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**IRC International Rescue Committee** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.rescue.org/press-release-index>

[David Miliband on Lesbos: discarded life jackets and deflated boats speak to the desperation of refugees](#)

Posted by The IRC on September 17, 2015

Last weekend on the island of Lesbos, IRC president David Miliband met some of the thousands of refugees fleeing to Europe.

**ICRC** [to 19 September 2015]

<https://www.icrc.org/en/whats-new>

[South Sudan: First there was war, now fire](#)

Juba, 18 September 2015 - Since Thursday, the ICRC and South Sudan Red Cross (SSRC) emergency action teams have been working tirelessly around the clock to help victims of the fuel truck explosion in Maridi which claimed the lives of over 170 people.

18-09-2015 | News release

[Zimbabwe: Protecting health care during SADC peace support operations](#)

A seminar aimed at identifying best practices to improve access to essential health services during peace support operations recently brought together 17 experts from 11 southern African countries.

18-09-2015 | News release

[South Africa: 15th Annual Regional Seminar on International Humanitarian Law - Summary Report](#)

Representatives from 16 Southern African countries gathered in South Africa from 18 to 21 August 2015 for the 15th Annual Regional International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Seminar, co-hosted by the Department of International Relations and Cooperation of

18-09-2015 | Article

[What is IHL?](#)

Extract from ICRC publication "International humanitarian law: answers to your questions"

International humanitarian law (IHL) regulates relations between States, international organizations and other subjects of international law.

18-09-2015 | Article

[Sudan: ICRC committed to expanding humanitarian activities](#)

Dominik Stillhart, the director of operations at the ICRC, today concluded a visit to Sudan where he discussed the scope of the ICRC's humanitarian work with government representatives and the Sudanese Red Crescent Society.

17-09-2015 | News release

[Refugees and migrants have the right to respect and protection](#)

Much world attention has recently focused on the tragedies and vulnerability of refugees and migrants as they desperately seek a way to escape conflict and hardship and find a place of safety.

17-09-2015 | Article

#### [Lake Chad: Red Cross seeks to improve coordinated response to humanitarian crisis](#)

The Red Cross began a two-day regional meeting in Abuja today aimed at improving its coordinated response to the Lake Chad crisis.

16-09-2015 | News release

#### [ICRC in Sri Lanka - Evolving humanitarian action](#)

At the beginning, we visited people detained in connection with the uprising of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna, to ensure their welfare.

16-09-2015 | Video

#### [Yemen: The safety net above the chasm below](#)

Suffering does not change face. It is as perennial as bloody human conflict. I saw that recently in Yemen. Article by Peter Maurer, president of the ICRC, published on the 15 September 2015 in Newsweek

16-09-2015 | Article

#### [Philippines: Water and sanitation crucial for displaced communities](#)

Armed clashes that erupted between armed groups in February forced a large number of families to flee their homes in many municipalities of Maguindanao.

16-09-2015 | Article

#### [Philippines: Helping farmers in North Cotabato](#)

Getting to Renibon in the municipality of Pigkawayan in North Cotabato entails at least an hour of driving through unpaved roads, and navigating streams and rivers.

16-09-2015 | Article

#### [Philippines: Bouncing back from despair](#)

As part of its mandate, the ICRC supports the medical treatment of people wounded in armed conflict – without distinction.

16-09-2015 | Article

#### [Ukraine: New cash assistance for displaced people without regular income](#)

The ongoing conflict in Ukraine has forced many civilians to flee the areas where fighting is taking place and to seek refuge in more peaceful areas.

15-09-2015 | News release

#### [Austria: Separated refugee family reunited in Salzburg](#)

Refugee families often get split up during their long journey to safety – but the Red Cross Tracing service with its world-wide network is specialized in finding missing persons. The first tracing office for refugees in Austria opened on 8 September

15-09-2015 | Article

#### [Health care in detention, managing scabies outbreaks in prison settings](#)

This booklet contains detailed practical advice for containing outbreaks of scabies in places of detention.

15-09-2015 | Publication

#### [Physical rehabilitation programme - Annual Report 2014](#)

Access to physical rehabilitation is important from both human rights and human development perspectives.

15-09-2015 | Publication

#### [Fundamental Principles Anniversary: ICRC hosts conference of prominent humanitarians and academics](#)

The ICRC is hosting a two-day conference, bringing together prominent humanitarians and academics to reflect critically on the history of humanitarian action.

14-09-2015 | News release

#### [Syria: A people ignored, a land destroyed](#)

The lifeless body of a toddler found recently on a Turkish beach, whom the world would come to know as Aylan Kurdi, was from Kobane (Ain al-Arab), Syria.

14-09-2015 | Article

#### [Nepal: Injured people and medical transports must be protected in all circumstances](#)

Statement by Nepal Red Cross Society, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) (Kathmandu) The Red Cross in Nepal expresses its deep concern at increased incidents of

13-09-2015 | News release

#### [Yemen: a country in turmoil, growing humanitarian needs](#)

We at the ICRC have been working across the front lines in Yemen to help hundreds of thousands of people in need, despite worsening security conditions, in what has become one of the world's most acute humanitarian emergencies. Article by Robert Mar

13-09-2015 | Article

**IRCT** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.irct.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Islamic Relief** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.islamic-relief.org/category/news/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/news-stories/press/press-releases>

*Press Release*

[Nigeria: Cholera Spreads in Camps for Displaced People in Borno State](#)

September 17, 2015

ABUJA, NIGERIA/PARIS—A cholera outbreak is underway in camps for people displaced by the conflict with Boko Haram in Nigeria's Borno state, the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) said today, calling for other humanitarian organizations to join the effort...

#### [MSF Reinforces Activities in Serbia After Hungary Border Closure](#)

September 16, 2015

Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) has reinforced its teams on the Serbian side of the border with Hungary following the closure of the Hungarian border, which is leading to a rapidly increasing number of refugees stranded on the Serbian side. Part of the MSF team that was [working in Roszke \(Hungary\) for the last several weeks](#) is currently supporting the teams in Horgos (Serbia) now that the Roszke camp is empty.

#### *Field news*

#### [Greece: MSF Provides Care to Shipwreck Survivors](#)

September 15, 2015

On Sunday September 13, a wooden boat carrying more than 130 refugees and migrants sank off the Greek island of Farmakonisi. Thirty four people lost their lives, amongst them four babies and 11 children. The people who survived the shipwreck were brought by the Greek Coast guard to the neighboring island of Leros. An MSF team from Kos was sent to Leros immediately to provide mental health support and medical care to survivors.

#### **Mercy Corps** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.mercycorps.org/press-room/releases>

#### [Mercy Corps to Congress: Syrian Refugees Worse Off Than a Year Ago](#)

Syria, September 16, 2015

*Global organization calls for swift action in Syria and Iraq to relieve spiraling humanitarian crises*

Washington, DC — In testimony before the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, a senior official with the global organization Mercy Corps tells of deteriorating humanitarian and security conditions in Syria and Iraq and warns of even greater troubles ahead. Michael Bowers, Vice President for Humanitarian Leadership and Response, highlights the spiraling humanitarian crises in both Syria and Iraq against the backdrop of the rise of the Islamic State. Bowers' appearance comes within days of his return from Lesbos, Greece, a landing spot for many refugees fleeing to Europe...

#### **Operation Smile** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.operationssmile.org/press-room>

:: [Program Schedule](#)

*Here's what we're doing worldwide to make a difference in the lives of children who deserve every opportunity for safe surgical care.*

#### **OXFAM** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/pressreleases>

#### [Solidarity with Syrian refugees and perspective needed from European leaders needed](#)

18 September 2015

The number of refugees arriving in Europe needs to be put in perspective, Oxfam said today, calling on wealthy states to help refugees and poor communities in countries neighboring Syria.

**Norwegian Refugee Council** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.nrc.no/>

*Statement on Europe's Refugee Crisis*

[European leaders must act now](#)

(18.09.2015)

The European Union and its Member States should urgently take clear and unified steps to address Europe's refugee and migrant crisis. The divisions and delays until now are exacerbating a problem that the continent can and must resolve.

*Nansen Refugee Award 2015*

[Nansen Refugee Award to Afghan refugee teacher](#)

(15.09.2015)

A life-long servant to the cause of education for refugee girls in Pakistan, Aqeela Asifi has been awarded the 2015 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award.

"Asifi is a courageous woman who has created hope for many young girls in desperate circumstances", said Secretary General of NRC, Jan Egeland.

**Pact** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.pactworld.org/press-releases>

[Systemic change still far off, but 'space is opening up' for civil society improvements in Belarus, panel says](#)

Corinne Reilly | September 17, 2015

Although significant challenges remain, civil society improvements are taking place in Belarus, according to a panel of experts who spoke Sept. 10 in Washington, D.C. They described the changes as fragile but important, as many civic activities happening in the country today were unimaginable as recently as a few years ago.

**Partners In Health** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.pih.org/blog>

*No new digest content identified.*

**PATH** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.path.org/news/index.php>

*Press release* | September 17, 2015

[Seattle Children's, PATH, and the UW School of Dentistry nominated for \\$250,000 award to fund research and development of lifesaving device for infants who can't nurse](#)

The Neonatal Intuitive Feeding Technology (NIFTY™ cup) has the potential to save or improve the lives of millions of infants in low-resource settings who are unable to breastfeed.

**Plan International** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://plan-international.org/about-plan/resources/media-centre>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**Save The Children** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpI4E/b.6150563/k.D0E9/Newsroom.htm>

[In Serbia One In Four Refugee Children Arrive Alone, Save the Children Reports](#)

Belgrade, Serbia (Sept. 18, 2015) — Save the Children is stepping up its emergency response to the refugee crisis in Serbia, where more than 25,000 children have arrived this year alone, including at least 5,753 unaccompanied minors.

Based on the latest data provided to UNHCR by the Serbian government, Save the Children estimates that there has been a 66 percent increase in the arrival of unaccompanied minors in Serbia between July and August this year alone, with more than one in four recently-arrived children having been separated from their parents and families, leaving them particularly at risk of trafficking, abuse, and exploitation...

[More Than Half of All School Attacks Have Been in Syria, New Data Shows](#)

FAIRFIELD, Conn. (Sept. 16, 2015) — More than half of all attacks on schools worldwide in the last four years have occurred in Syria, according to Save the Children, compounding the humanitarian crisis that has already forced four million Syrian refugees to flee to camps in overcrowded surrounding states, or onwards towards Europe...

[Google's Global Public Giving Campaign to Support Assistance for Child Refugees](#)

Sept. 15, 2015

**SOS-Kinderdorf International** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/about-sos/press/press-releases>

[SOS Children's Villages Germany increasing capacity for refugees](#)

17.09.2015 - With decades of experience supporting vulnerable families and children without parental care, including many asylum seekers, SOS Children's Villages Germany is gearing up to provide homes and help for more refugees.

[Unaccompanied refugee children given SOS homes in Austria](#)

15.09.2015 - More than 30 refugee children and young people who came into Austria without their parents or caregivers have already found new homes through SOS Children's Villages in Austria. Plans are underway to provide homes for at least 70 more before the end of the year.

**Tostan** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.tostan.org/latest-news>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Women for Women International** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.womenforwomen.org/press-releases>

*No new digest content identified.*

.....

**ChildFund Alliance** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://childfundalliance.org/news/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**CONCORD** [to 19 September 2015]

*European NGO confederation for relief and development*

<http://www.concordeurope.org/news-room>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Disasters Emergency Committee** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.dec.org.uk/media-centre>

*[Action Aid, Age International, British Red Cross, CAFOD, Care International, Christian Aid, Concern Worldwide, Islamic Relief, Oxfam, Plan UK, Save the Children, Tearfund and World Vision]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**The Elders** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://theelders.org/news-media>

*News* Martti Ahtisaari 17 September 2015

[A decent start](#)

In our first of seven films leading up to the launch of the Sustainable Development Goals, Martti Ahtisaari describes his object and what fairness means to him. Join in the discussion yourself on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

[Read our first blog about fairness](#)

*Guest blog* Frances Stewart 16 September 2015

[One flaw in the Sustainable Development Goals may make the difference between success and failure](#)

Frances Stewart, Emeritus Professor of development economics at the University of Oxford and former Chair of the United Nations Committee for Development Policy, wonders if the weak coupling between economic growth and sustainability will do enough to change our reliance on non-renewable energy.

*Opinion* Gro Harlem Brundtland, Graça Machel 15 September 2015

[Securing a sustainable future](#)

Writing for [Project Syndicate](#), Gro Harlem Brundtland and Graça Machel call on world leaders attending the launch of the Sustainable Development Goals in September to commit to putting the words of the Goals into action, justly and effectively.

**END Fund** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.end.org/news>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Gavi** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.gavialliance.org/library/news/press-releases/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Global Fund** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/mediacenter/newsreleases/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Hilton Prize Laureates** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://prizelaureates.charity.org/about-us/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**InterAction** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.interaction.org/media-center/press-releases>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Start Network** [to 19 September 2015]

[http://www.start-network.org/news-blog/#.U9U\\_O7FR98E](http://www.start-network.org/news-blog/#.U9U_O7FR98E)

*[Consortium of British Humanitarian Agencies]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Muslim Charities Forum** [to 19 September 2015]

<https://www.muslimcharitiesforum.org.uk/media/news>

*[An umbrella organisation for Muslim-led international NGOs based in the UK. It was set up in 2007 and works to support its members through advocacy, training and research, by bringing charities together. Our members have a collective income of £150,000,000 and work in 71 countries.]*

*No new digest content identified.*

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**Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP)** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.alnap.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**CHS International Alliance** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://chsalliance.org/news-events/news>

[Video: the humanitarian and development sector welcomes the launch of the CHS Alliance](#)

16/09/2015

In the lead-up to the London launch of the CHS Alliance, we're excited to share a video of key humanitarian and development organisations highlighting their support for the Alliance.

**EHLRA/R2HC** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.elrha.org/resource-hub/news/>

[ELRHA strategy 2016-2020: stakeholder consultation](#)

18/09/2015

ELRHA is developing its strategy for 2016-2020 and we want your input. Take part in our stakeholder consultation below! Create your own user feedback survey

**Global Humanitarian Assistance (GHA)** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org/>

[Displacement in Colombia](#)

*Report Synopsis*

Date: 2015/09/18

On 16 September 2015 we responded to a funding alert in response to displacement in the departments of Norte de Santander, Arauca, La Guajira and Vichada in Colombia.

Due to political disputes between Venezuela and Colombia, an approximately 21,434 people are thought to have been deported or returned to Colombia since 21 August. UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) estimates a further 19,952 Colombians have returned without having registered as deported. A total of 1,482 are registered as deported to Colombia at crossings.

According to the UN OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS), donors have committed or contributed US\$49.5 million of humanitarian assistance to Colombia so far in 2015. The European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) department is the top donor, having contributed or committed US\$23.6 million to the crisis.

So far in 2015, US\$3 million has been disbursed to the affected Norte de Santander, Arauca and Vichada departments of Colombia, of which 13% is for assistance to displaced populations. Out of total funding in 2015, US\$9.9 million is allocated to support displaced populations elsewhere in the country...

[Read our full analysis of the current funding situation.](#)

**ODI** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.odi.org/media>

[Give people cash, not goods, to make humanitarian aid more effective](#)

News | 13 September 2015

Humanitarian assistance could be more effective, more efficient and more transparent if aid was given in the form of cash directly to people struggling to survive in crises, according to a high-level panel of experts in a new report published by the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) and the Center for Global Development (CGD).

Providing cash means that limited humanitarian aid can go further to help more people in need. That means greater value for money for taxpayers. Cash is also less wasteful as it means aid recipients can decide for themselves exactly what they most need.

The panel found that cash-based aid programmes can improve accountability and transparency of aid while also helping to support local markets and industries.

"Humanitarian organisations owe it to aid recipients and taxpayers to deliver the best possible aid programmes. As the report outlines, cash transfers have the potential to reduce vulnerability, help rebuild lives, and deliver value for money. As part of a broader menu that includes partnerships with the private sector, investment in digital technology, and the development of a more inclusive humanitarian system, cash transfers can transform the effectiveness of humanitarian aid at a time of unprecedented need," said Kevin Watkins, Executive Director of ODI...

### **The Sphere Project** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.sphereproject.org/news/>

*No new digest content identified.*

### **Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP)** [to 19 September 2015]

<https://phap.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

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### **:: Foundation/Major Donor Watch**

*We will primarily monitor media releases announcing key initiatives and new research from a growing number of global foundations and donors engaged in the human rights, humanitarian response and development spheres of action. This Watch section is not intended to be exhaustive, but indicative.*

### **BMGF - Gates Foundation** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/Media-Center/Press-Releases>

*No new digest content identified.*

### **Clinton Foundation** [to 19 September 2015]

<https://www.clintonfoundation.org/press-releases-and-statements>

*Press Release*

[Too Small to Fail Expands Focus on Early Language & Brain Development to Include Early Math](#)

September 16, 2015

Partnerships with ZERO TO THREE and Highlights for Children, Inc will provide resources to encourage parents and caregivers to talk and engage in conversations about developmentally appropriate math concepts with their children

### **Ford Foundation** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.fordfoundation.org/newsroom>

*No new digest content identified.*

**William and Flora Hewlett Foundation** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.hewlett.org/newsroom/search>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Conrad N. Hilton Foundation** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.hiltonfoundation.org/news>

*Press Release*

[Conrad N. Hilton Foundation Announces the Creation of a Groundbreaking, Formal Network of Global Humanitarian Organizations: The Hilton Prize Coalition](#)

September 15, 2015 By Media Contact

The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation Announces an Increase to the Hilton Humanitarian Prize and a Grant to the Hilton Prize Coalition [*see Week in Review treatment above*]

**IKEA Foundation** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.ikeafoundation.org/news/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute** [to 19 September 2015]

<https://www.hhmi.org/news>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Kellogg Foundation** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.wkcf.org/news-and-media#pp=10&p=1&f1=news>

*No new digest content identified.*

**MacArthur Foundation** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.macfound.org/>

*Publication*

[Assessing American Attitudes on Foreign Policy](#)

Published September 17, 2015

American public opinion on foreign policy, including on issues like immigration, climate change, and advancing U.S. global interests, is sharply divided among Republicans, Democrats, and Independents, according to a [survey](#) from The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. The survey shows that despite historic differences on issues that even a decade ago were more bipartisan, the American public remains committed to engagement in the world, with 64 percent of Americans supporting an active U.S. role in world affairs.

*Publication*

[Identifying Evidence Gaps in Secondary Education](#)

Published September 17, 2015

Research by [3ie](#), supported by MacArthur in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation, identifies evidence gaps in the application of transferable skills programs in low- and middle-income countries. Transferable skills provide youth with critically needed tools for success in employment, health, and personal well-being. The [scoping paper](#) and [report](#) reveal needs for evidence in several categories, including teacher training programs and curriculum reform, learner-centered teaching, and institutional management and capacity building.

**Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation** [to 19 September 2015]

<https://www.moore.org/newsroom/press-releases>

[Sustainable ranching program receives 11.5 million Euros to reduce deforestation in Brazil](#)

September 17, 2015

[Instituto Centro de Vida](#) (ICV) has announced that [Novo Campo](#), a sustainable cattle ranching initiative in Brazil's Mato Grosso state, received an investment of 11.5 million Euros from the Althelia Climate Fund to support the program's efforts to increase economic, social and environmental performance of local ranches...

[Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation awards \\$2.3M for plant disease resistance](#)

September 15, 2015

PALO ALTO, Calif. Sept. 15, 2015 — The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation awarded \$2.3M to the [Two Blades Foundation](#) (2Blades), a charitable organization that supports the development of durable disease resistance in crop plants and their deployment in agriculture. Four well-recognized research teams will investigate plant immunity...

**Open Society Foundation** [to 19 September 2015]

[http://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/termsearch/8175/listing?f\[0\]=type%3Anews](http://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/termsearch/8175/listing?f[0]=type%3Anews)

[European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture Endorsed by Council of Europe](#)

September 16, 2015News

The 47 member states of the Council of Europe will join the initiative to establish a European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture. This decision means that the Council of Europe will be a cofounder of the Institute, next to the Open Society Foundations and the Alliance for the European Roma Institute, a coalition of Roma civil society organizations, activists, and artists. Zeljko Jovanovic, director of the Open Society Roma Initiatives Office, said, "The European Roma Institute will be a place to encourage the resilience and creative power of Roma communities across Europe; it will help create a sense of pride among Roma and respect for Roma among all Europeans."...

**David and Lucile Packard Foundation** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.packard.org/news/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Pew Charitable Trusts** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/about/news-room/press-releases>

[Pew Scholar Stephen Elledge Wins 2015 Lasker Award](#)

September 17, 2015

Stephen Elledge, Ph.D., an investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, professor at Harvard Medical School and 1991 Pew scholar, has been named co-winner of the 2015 Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award for his groundbreaking work to uncover how cells respond to damaged DNA. First given in 1945, the Lasker Award is considered one of the world's highest scientific honors and is given to scientists who have made significant contributions to the "understanding, diagnosis, treatment, cure, and prevention of human disease."

Elledge, who shares the prize with Evelyn Witkin of Rutgers University, discovered that cells have a massive signaling network for sensing and repairing DNA damage. Human cells encounter damaged DNA every day, and if the damage is not repaired quickly it can lead to mutations in genes that typically protect us from diseases such as cancer. Elledge's work identified the mechanisms for response that keep our genes intact, and his discoveries pave the way to a greater understanding of how these diseases occur...

**Rockefeller Foundation** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/newsroom>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.rwjf.org/en/about-rwjf/newsroom/news-releases.html>

[Three Lessons on Improving Quality of Care in Communities](#)

Sep 15, 2015, 10:16 AM, Posted by [Anne Weiss](#)

Aligning Forces for Quality not only transformed care in 16 communities, but it provided insights to help shape efforts building a national Culture of Health through high value care.

**Wellcome Trust** [to 19 September 2015]

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/News/2015/index.htm>

[Wellcome Trust announces three Engagement Fellows for 2015](#)

Three new Engagement Fellows will be taking up Wellcome Trust Engagement Fellowships in September 2015. Bella Starling, Delia Muir and Steve Cross have been awarded the two year Fellowships, with plans to work on projects that will take the field of public engagement in new and exciting directions.

17 September 2015.

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## **:: Journal Watch**

*The Sentinel will track key peer-reviewed journals which address a broad range of interests in human rights, humanitarian response, health and development. It is not intended to be exhaustive. We will add to those monitored below as we encounter relevant content and upon recommendation from readers. We selectively provide full text of abstracts and other content*

*but note that successful access to some of the articles and other content may require subscription or other access arrangement unique to the publisher. Please suggest additional journals you feel warrant coverage.*

## **American Journal of Disaster Medicine**

Spring 2015, Volume 10, Number 2

<http://pnpcsw.pnpco.com/cadmus/testvol.asp?year=2015&journal=ajdm>

### *Article*

### **Assessment of the accuracy of the Medical Response to Major Incidents (MRMI) course for interactive training of the response to major incidents and disasters**

Kristina Lennquist Montán, RN; Per Örtengren, MD, PhD; Sten Lennquist, MD, PhD

Spring 2015; pages 93-107

### *Abstract*

#### Background and aims:

The benefit of simulation models for interactive training of the response to major incidents and disasters has been increasingly recognized during recent years and a variety of such models have been reported. However, reviews of this literature show that the majority of these reports have been characterized by significant limitations regarding validation of the accuracy of the training related to given objectives. In this study, precourse and postcourse self-assessment surveys related to the specific training objectives, as an established method for curriculum validation, were used to validate the accuracy of a course in Medical Response to Major Incidents (MRMI) developed and organized by an international group of experts under the auspices of the European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery.

#### Methods:

The studied course was an interactive course, where all trainees acted in their normal roles during two full-day simulation exercises with real time and with simultaneous training of the whole chain of response: scene, transport, the different functions in the hospital, communication, coordination, and command. The key component of the system was a bank of magnetized casualty cards, giving all information normally available as a base for decisions on triage and primary management. All treatments were indicated with attachments on the cards and consumed time and resources as in reality. The trainees' performance was recorded according to prepared protocols and a measurable result of the response could be registered. This study was based on five MRMI courses in four different countries with altogether 235 participants from 23 different countries. In addition to conventional course evaluations and recording of the performance during the 2 exercise days, the trainees' perceived competencies related to the specific objectives of the training for different categories of staff were registered on a floating scale 1-10 in self-assessment protocols immediately before and after the course. The results were compared as an indicator of to which extent the training fulfilled the given objectives. These objectives were set by an experienced international faculty and based on experiences from recent major incident and disasters.

#### Results:

Comparison of precourse and postcourse self-assessments of the trainees' perceived knowledge and skills related to the given objectives for the training showed a significant increase in all the registered parameters for all categories of participating staff. The average increase was for prehospital staff 74 percent ( $p < 0.001$ ), hospital staff 65 percent ( $p < 0.001$ ), and staff in coordinating/administrative functions 81 percent ( $p < 0.001$ ).

#### Conclusions:

The significant differences in the trainees' self-assessment of perceived competencies between the precourse and postcourse surveys indicated that the methodology in the studied course model accurately responded to the specific objectives for the different categories of staff.  
DOI:10.5055/ajdm.2015.0194

*Article*

**Modernizing stockpiles of medical countermeasures against smallpox: Benefits, risks, and knowledge gaps**

Martin B. Oleksiewicz, DVM, PhD; Nina R. Steenhard, DVM, PhD; John-Erik Stig Hansen, MD, DMSc

Spring 2015; pages 109-120

*Abstract*

Objective: New smallpox medical countermeasures are entering the marketplace, offering the opportunity to modernize existing stockpiles. However, new smallpox countermeasures are developed under the animal rule, meaning that human efficacy data are lacking, and human safety data may be limited. Also, stockpile modernization would require prioritization of increasingly limited public funds. Approaches to address these issues are needed. Methods: Smallpox vaccine data were gathered by literature search. The financial value of vaccination in the face of an outbreak was evaluated using a threat-based cost/benefit analysis model, involving i) estimation of the efficacy of new smallpox vaccines based on available clinical data on virus-neutralizing seroconversion in vaccinees, ii) estimation of the likelihood for a smallpox outbreak in Denmark, and iii) estimation of the expected life-saving effects of postevent vaccination. Results: The authors estimated that i) the likelihood of a smallpox outbreak in Denmark is very low (one event in 200,000 years), ii) the expected efficacy of currently available and new vaccines is 95 and 75 percent, respectively, iii) the expected frequency of serious side effects from vaccination is between 100 and 10,000 fold lower for new than for existing vaccines, depending on modes of action. Conclusions: Despite the very low likelihood for a smallpox outbreak, the potentially large consequences combined with the protective effect of vaccination make maintenance of the smallpox vaccine stockpile justified and valuable. For vaccination in the face of a smallpox outbreak, a high efficacy rather than a lowered rate of adverse effects would maximize the number of lives saved.

DOI:10.5055/ajdm.2015.0195

*Article*

**The Ebola Spatial Care Path(TM): Accelerating point-of-care diagnosis, decision making, and community resilience in outbreaks**

Gerald J. Kost, MD, PhD, MS, FACB; William J. Ferguson, MS; Jackie Hoe; Anh-Thu Truong; Arirat Banpavichit, MS, MBA; Surin Kongpila, MS

Spring 2015; pages 121-143

*Abstract*

Objectives:

To present a vision where point-of-care testing (POCT) accelerates an Ebola Spatial Care Path™ (SCP) and future molecular diagnostics enable facilitated-access self-testing (FAST POC); to design an alternate care facility (ACF) for the SCP; to innovate an Ebola diagnostic center (DC); and to propel rapid POCT to the frontline to create resilience that stops future outbreaks.

Design:

PubMed, literature, and web searches. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Medicine Without Frontiers, and World Health Organization

(WHO) document analyses. Investigations in China, the Philippines, Thailand, and the United States. Review of SE Asia, US, and West Africa isolation-treatment centers. Innovation of a SCP, ACF, and DC suitable for American and other communities.

Outcomes:

The authors designed an ACF and DC to integrate SCP principles for urgent Ebola care. FDA emergency use authorizations for Ebola molecular diagnostics were discovered, but no portable, handheld, or self-contained molecular POC instruments are yet available, although feasible. The WHO initiated design criteria and an acceptance protocol for testing. Financial investment in POCT will downsize Ebola outbreaks.

Conclusions:

POCT is facilitating global health. Now, global health problems are elevating POCT to new levels of importance for accelerating diagnosis and evidence-based decision making during disease outbreaks. Authorities concur that rapid diagnosis has potential to stop disease spread. With embedded POCT, strategic SCPs planned by communities fulfill CDC recommendations. POC devices should consolidate multiplex test clusters supporting patients with Ebola in isolation. The ultimate future solution is FAST POC. New technologies offer minimally significant risks. Diagnostic centers in ACFs and transportable formats also will optimize Ebola SCPs. Key words: alternate care facility, biosafety cabinet, diagnostic center, empowerment, facilitated-access self-testing, hemorrhagic fever, isolation, near-patient testing, needs assessment, newdemic, outbreak, personal protective equipment, persons under investigation, point-of-care culture, POC technologies, POC testing, return on investment, small-world network, treatment center DOI:10.5055/ajdm.2015.0196

### **American Journal of Infection Control**

September 2015 Volume 43, Issue 9, p905-1026, e47-e59

<http://www.ajicjournal.org/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **American Journal of Preventive Medicine**

September 2015 Volume 49, Issue 3, Supplement 2, S125-S218

<http://www.ajpmonline.org/current>

***Theme: Evidence-Based Behavioral Counseling Interventions as Clinical Preventive Services: Perspectives of Researchers, Funders, and Guideline Developers***

Edited by Robert J. McNellis, Susan J. Curry

[Reviewed earlier]

### **American Journal of Public Health**

Volume 105, Issue 9 (September 2015)

<http://ajph.aphapublications.org/toc/ajph/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene**

September 2015; 93 (3)

<http://www.ajtmh.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **BMC Health Services Research**

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmchealthservres/content>

(Accessed 19 September 2015)

*Research article*

### **Challenges in the provision of healthcare services for migrants: a systematic review through providers' lens**

Rapeepong Suphanchaimat, Kanang Kantamaturapoj, Weerasak Putthasri, Phusit Prakongsai  
BMC Health Services Research 2015, 15:390 (17 September 2015)

#### *Abstract*

##### **Background**

In recent years, cross-border migration has gained significant attention in high-level policy dialogues in numerous countries. While there exists some literature describing the health status of migrants, and exploring migrants' perceptions of service utilisation in receiving countries, there is still little evidence that examines the issue of health services for migrants through the lens of providers. This study therefore aims to systematically review the latest literature, which investigated perceptions and attitudes of healthcare providers in managing care for migrants, as well as examining the challenges and barriers faced in their practices.

##### **Methods**

A systematic review was performed by gathering evidence from three main online databases: Medline, Embase and Scopus, plus a purposive search from the World Health Organization's website and grey literature sources. The articles, published in English since 2000, were reviewed according to the following topics: (1) how healthcare providers interacted with individual migrant patients, (2) how workplace factors shaped services for migrants, and (3) how the external environment, specifically laws and professional norms influenced their practices. Key message of the articles were analysed by thematic analysis.

##### **Results**

Thirty seven articles were recruited for the final review. Key findings of the selected articles were synthesised and presented in the data extraction form. Quality of retrieved articles varied substantially. Almost all the selected articles had congruent findings regarding language and cultural challenges, and a lack of knowledge of a host country's health system amongst migrant patients. Most respondents expressed concerns over in-house constraints resulting from heavy workloads and the inadequacy of human resources. Professional norms strongly influenced the behaviours and attitudes of healthcare providers despite conflicting with laws that limited right to health services access for illegal migrants.

##### **Discussion**

The perceptions, attitudes and practices of practitioners in the provision of healthcare services for migrants were mainly influenced by: (1) diverse cultural beliefs and language differences, (2) limited institutional capacity, in terms of time and/or resource constraints, (3) the contradiction between professional ethics and laws that limited migrants' right to health care. Nevertheless, healthcare providers addressed such problems by partially ignoring the immigrants' precarious legal status, and using numerous tactics, including seeking help from civil society groups, to support their clinical practice.

##### **Conclusion**

It was evident that healthcare providers faced several challenges in managing care for migrants, which included not only language and cultural barriers, but also resource constraints

within their workplaces, and disharmony between the law and their professional norms. Further studies, which explore health care management for migrants in countries with different health insurance models, are recommended.

#### *Research article*

#### **A systematic review of social, economic and diplomatic aspects of short-term medical missions**

Paul Caldron, Ann Impens, Milena Pavlova, Wim Groot BMC Health Services Research 2015, 15:380 (15 September 2015)

#### *Abstract*

##### Background

Short-term medical missions (STMMs) represent a grass-roots form of aid, transferring medical services rather than funds or equipment. The objective of this paper is to review empirical studies on social, economic and diplomatic aspects of STMMs.

##### Methods

A systematic literature review was conducted by searching PubMed and EBSCOhost for articles published from 1947–2014 about medical missions to lower and middle income countries (LMICs). Publications focused on military, disaster and dental service trips were excluded. A data extraction process was used to identify publications relevant to our objective stated above.

##### Results

PubMed and EBSCOhost searches provided 4138 and 3262 articles respectively for review. Most articles that provide useful information have appeared in the current millennium and are found in focused surgical journals. Little attention is paid to aspects of volunteerism, altruism and philanthropy related to STMM activity in the literature reviewed (1 article). Evidence of professionalization remains scarce, although elements including guidelines and tactical instructions have been emerging (27 articles). Information on costs (10 articles) and commentary on the relevance of market forces (1 article) are limited. Analyses of spill-over effects, i.e., changing attitudes of physicians or their communities towards aid, and characterizations of STMMs as meaningful foreign aid or strategic diplomacy are few (4 articles).

##### Conclusions

The literature on key social, economic and diplomatic aspects of STMMs and their consequences is sparse. Guidelines, tactical instructions and attempts at outcome measures are emerging that may better professionalize the otherwise unregulated activity. A broader discussion of these key aspects may lead to improved accountability and intercultural professionalism to accompany medical professionalism in STMM activity.

#### **BMC Infectious Diseases**

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcinfectdis/content>

(Accessed 19 September 2015)

[No new relevant content identified]

#### **BMC Medical Ethics**

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcmedethics/content>

(Accessed 19 September 2015)

#### *Debate*

**Ethical oversight in quality improvement and quality improvement research: new approaches to promote a learning health care system**

Kevin Fiscella, Jonathan Tobin, Jennifer Carroll, Hua He, Gbenga Ogedegbe BMC Medical Ethics 2015, 16:63 (17 September 2015)

**BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth**

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcpregnancychildbirth/content>

(Accessed 19 September 2015)

[No new relevant content identified]

**BMC Public Health**

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcpublichealth/content>

(Accessed 19 September 2015)

*Research article*

**Subjective health of undocumented migrants in Germany – a mixed methods approach**

Anna Kuehne, Susann Huschke, Monika Bullinger BMC Public Health 2015, 15:926 (19 September 2015)

*Research article*

**Experiencing 'pathologized presence and normalized absence'; understanding health related experiences and access to health care among Iraqi and Somali asylum seekers, refugees and persons without legal status**

Mei Fang, Judith Sixsmith, Rebecca Lawthom, Ilana Mountian, Afifa Shahrin BMC Public Health 2015, 15:923 (19 September 2015)

*Research article*

**Socioeconomic inequalities in non-communicable diseases and their risk factors: an overview of systematic reviews**

Isolde Sommer, Ursula Griebler, Peter Mählke, Kylie Thaler, Kathryn Bouskill, Gerald Gartlehner, Shanti Mendis BMC Public Health 2015, 15:914 (18 September 2015)

**BMC Research Notes**

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcresnotes/content>

(Accessed 19 September 2015)

[No new relevant content identified]

**BMJ Open**

2015, Volume 5, Issue 9

<http://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**British Medical Journal**

28 August 2015 (vol 351, issue 80254)  
<http://www.bmj.com/content/351/8025>  
[New issue; No relevant content identified]

### **Brown Journal of World Affairs**

Volume XXI Issue 1 Fall–Winter 2014  
<http://brown.edu/initiatives/journal-world-affairs/>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Bulletin of the World Health Organization**

Volume 93, Number 9, September 2015, 589-664  
<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/93/9/en/>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Complexity**

July/August 2015 Volume 20, Issue 6 Pages C1–C1, 1–97  
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cplx.v20.6/issuetoc>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Conflict and Health**

<http://www.conflictandhealth.com/>  
[Accessed 19 September 2015]

*Debate*

#### **[Coincident polio and Ebola crises expose similar fault lines in the current global health regime](#)**

Calain P and Abu Sa'Da C Conflict and Health 2015, 9:29 (16 September 2015)

*Research*

#### **[Conflict, displacement and sexual and reproductive health services in Mali: analysis of 2013 health resources availability mapping system \(HeRAMS\) survey](#)**

Tunçalp Ö, Fall IS, Phillips SJ, Williams I, Sacko M, Touré OB, Thomas LJ and Say L Conflict and Health 2015, 9:28 (14 September 2015)

### **Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation**

<http://www.resource-allocation.com/>  
(Accessed 19 September 2015)

*Research*

#### **[Matching comprehensive health insurance reimbursements to their real costs: the case of antenatal care visits in a region of Peru](#)**

Cobos Muñoz D, Hansen KS, Terris-Prestholt F, Cianci F, Pérez-Lu JE, Lama A and García PJ Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation 2015, 13:16 (19 September 2015)

## **Developing World Bioethics**

August 2015 Volume 15, Issue 2 Pages ii–iii, 59–114

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dewb.2015.15.issue-2/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Development in Practice**

Volume 25, Issue 7, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cdip20/current>

Articles

### **Overcoming poverty and inequality: Rwanda's progress towards the MDGs**

DOI:10.1080/09614524.2015.1073691

Pamela Abbott, Roger Sapsford\* & John Rwirahira

pages 921-934

Published online: 02 Sep 2015

#### *Abstract*

Despite the 1994 genocide there has been annual growth in Rwanda every year since 2000. Poverty has decreased; while the MDG target of 23.8% is unlikely to be met by 2015, the future looks hopeful. The goal of reducing hunger is measured by underweight children – already down to target – and extreme poverty – likely to hit the target. Key to success is reducing dependency on the land, but a majority of the population still depend on their farm or plot. However, hitting targets for reducing poverty is not the same thing as abolishing it, and achieving targets does not necessarily solve problems.

#### *Articles*

### **NGOs as intermediaries in post-disaster rural reconstruction: findings from research in India**

DOI:10.1080/09614524.2015.1072132

Bipasha Baruah\*

pages 951-965

Published online: 02 Sep 2015

#### *Abstract*

Drawing upon research conducted in Gujarat, India, this article identifies the potential and limitations for NGOs to serve as intermediaries (between beneficiaries, governments, and international relief/development organisations) on post-disaster rural reconstruction projects. Findings reveal that NGOs can play important roles in facilitating the design and construction of high-quality, culturally appropriate housing; revitalising and diversifying livelihoods; and reducing physical and social vulnerability to future disasters. NGOs should have clearly defined roles, responsibilities, and accountability measures in post-disaster reconstruction projects, but they also need a certain amount of autonomy to protect their organisational philosophies and flexibility to make day-to-day decisions.

#### *Articles*

### **Strengthening public health supply chains in Ethiopia: PEPFAR-supported expansion of access and availability**

DOI:10.1080/09614524.2015.1069794

Daniel Tadesse\*, David Jamieson & Logan Cochrane

pages 1043-1056

Accepted: 22 Jun 2015

Published online: 02 Sep 2015

### *Abstract*

When the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)-supported Supply Chain Management System (SCMS) programme began working in Ethiopia in 2006, the estimated population of people living with HIV exceeded one million, while only 24,000 were on treatment and only 50 treatment sites were in operation. SCMS and other key partners entered into this context to support the Ethiopian government in significantly strengthening the public health supply chain system, with the aim of increasing the availability and accessibility of pharmaceutical products. The country now has 1,047 treatment sites and is nearing complete treatment coverage. This article discusses how priorities were set among many competing challenges from 2006 until 2014, and how the four-step strategy of build, operate, transfer, and optimise has resulted in a successful partnership.

### **Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology**

Volume 10, Issue 6, 2015

<http://informahealthcare.com/toc/idt/current>

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

### **Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness**

Volume 9 - Issue 04 - August 2015

<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayIssue?jid=DMP&tab=currentissue>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Disasters**

July 2015 Volume 39, Issue 3 Pages 407–609

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/disa.2015.39.issue-3/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Emergency Medicine Journal**

September 2015, Volume 32, Issue 9

<http://emj.bmj.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Epidemics**

Volume 13, *In Progress* (December 2015)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/17554365>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **End of Life Journal**

2015, Volume 5, Issue 1

<http://eolj.bmj.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Epidemiology and Infection**

Volume 143 - Issue 14 - October 2015

<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayIssue?jid=HYG&tab=currentissue>

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/17554365>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **The European Journal of Public Health**

Volume 25, Issue 4, 19 September 2015

<http://eurpub.oxfordjournals.org/content/25/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Food Policy**

Volume 56, *In Progress* (October 2015)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03069192>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Food Security**

Volume 7, Issue 4, August 2015

<http://link.springer.com/journal/12571/7/4/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Forum for Development Studies**

Volume 42, Issue 2, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/sfds20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Genocide Studies International**

Volume 9 No. 1, Spring 2015

<http://www.utpjournals.press/toc/gsi/current>

***Issue Focus: The Ottoman Genocides of Armenians, Assyrians, and Greeks***

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP)**

September 2015 | Volume 3 | Issue 3

<http://www.ghspjournal.org/content/current>

*EDITORIALS*

**[Women's Groups to Improve Maternal and Child Health Outcomes: Different Evidence Paradigms Toward Impact at Scale](#)**

The Care Group model, with relatively intensive international NGO implementation at moderate scale, appears successful in a wide variety of settings, as assessed by high-quality evaluation with rich program learning. Another women's group approach—Participatory Women's Groups—has also been implemented across various settings but at smaller scale and assessed using rigorous RCT methodology under controlled—but less naturalistic—conditions with generally, although not uniformly, positive results. Neither approach, as implemented to date, is directly applicable to large-scale integration into current public programs. Our challenge is to distill the elements of success across these approaches that empower women with knowledge, motivation, and increased self-efficacy—and to apply them in real-world programs at scale. *Glob Health Sci Pract* 2015;3(3):323-326. <http://dx.doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-15-00251>

### **Institutional Care of Children in Low- and Middle-Income Settings: Challenging the Conventional Wisdom of Oliver Twist**

Whether institutions or extended families are better suited to care for orphans depends on the specific circumstances. Reported rates of traumatic experiences among orphans and vulnerable children are high in both institutions and extended families; improving the quality of care for such children should be the paramount priority in all settings.

Paula Braitstein

*Glob Health Sci Pract* 2015;3(3):330-332. First published online August 25, 2015.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-15-00228>

#### *ORIGINAL ARTICLES*

### **Care Groups I: An Innovative Community-Based Strategy for Improving Maternal, Neonatal, and Child Health in Resource-Constrained Settings**

Care Groups use volunteers to motivate mothers to adopt key MCH behaviors. The volunteers meet as a group every 2–4 weeks with a paid facilitator to learn new health promotion messages. Key ingredients of the approach include: peer-to-peer health promotion, selection of volunteers by the mothers, a manageable workload for the volunteers (no more than 15 households per volunteer), frequent (at least monthly) contact between volunteers and mothers, and regular supervision of the volunteers.

Henry Perry, Melanie Morrow, Sarah Borger, Jennifer Weiss, Mary DeCoster, Thomas Davis, Pieter Ernst

*Glob Health Sci Pract* 2015;3(3):358-369. <http://dx.doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-15-00051>

### **Care Groups II: A Summary of the Child Survival Outcomes Achieved Using Volunteer Community Health Workers in Resource-Constrained Settings**

Care Group projects resulted in high levels of healthy behavior, including use of oral rehydration therapy, bed nets, and health care services. Accordingly, under-5 mortality in Care Group areas declined by an estimated 32% compared with 11% in areas with child survival projects not using Care Groups.

Henry Perry, Melanie Morrow, Thomas Davis, Sarah Borger, Jennifer Weiss, Mary DeCoster, Jim Ricca, Pieter Ernst

*Glob Health Sci Pract* 2015;3(3):370-381. <http://dx.doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-15-00052>

### **Prevalence and Incidence of Traumatic Experiences Among Orphans in Institutional and Family-Based Settings in 5 Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Longitudinal Study**

Contrary to some conventional wisdom, in this large study that randomly sampled orphans and separated children from 5 countries, prevalence of reported traumatic events was no worse among those institutionalized than among those in family-based care. Reported incidence of physical or sexual abuse was actually higher for those in family-based care. Understanding the specific context, and elements contributing to potential harm and benefits in both family-based and institutional care, are essential to promoting the best interest of the child.

Christine L Gray, Brian W Pence, Jan Ostermann, Rachel A Whetten, Karen O'Donnell, Nathan M Thielman, Kathryn Whetten

Glob Health Sci Pract 2015;3(3):395-404. First published online August 25, 2015.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-15-00093>

### *Abstract*

#### Background:

Policy makers struggling to protect the 153 million orphaned and separated children (OSC) worldwide need evidence-based research on the burden of potentially traumatic events (PTEs) and the relative risk of PTEs across different types of care settings.

#### Methods:

The Positive Outcomes for Orphans study used a 2-stage, cluster-randomized sampling design to identify 1,357 institution-dwelling and 1,480 family-dwelling orphaned and separated children in 5 low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) in sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. We used the Life Events Checklist developed by the National Center for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder to examine self-reported PTEs among 2,235 OSC ages 10–13 at baseline. We estimated prevalence and incidence during 36-months of follow-up and compared the risk of PTEs across care settings. Data collection began between May 2006 and February 2008, depending on the site.

#### Results:

Lifetime prevalence by age 13 of any PTE, excluding loss of a parent, was 91.0% (95% confidence interval (CI)=85.6, 94.5) in institution-dwelling OSC and 92.4% (95% CI=90.3, 94.0) in family-dwelling OSC; annual incidence of any PTE was lower in institution-dwelling (23.6% [95% CI=19.4, 28.7]) than family-dwelling OSC (30.0% [95% CI=28.1, 32.2]). More than half of children in institutions (50.3% [95% CI=42.5, 58.0]) and in family-based care (54.0% [95% CI=50.2, 57.7]) had experienced physical or sexual abuse by age 13. Annual incidence of physical or sexual abuse was lower in institution-dwelling (12.9% [95% CI=9.6, 17.3]) than family-dwelling OSC (19.4% [95% CI=17.7, 21.3]), indicating statistically lower risk in institution-dwelling OSC (risk difference=6.5% [95% CI=1.4, 11.7]).

#### Conclusion:

Prevalence and incidence of PTEs were high among OSC, but contrary to common assumptions, OSC living in institutions did not report more PTEs or more abuse than OSC living with families. Current efforts to reduce the number of institution-dwelling OSC may not reduce incidence of PTEs in this vulnerable population. Protection of children from PTEs should be a primary consideration, regardless of the care setting.

### **Improved Reproductive Health Equity Between the Poor and the Rich: An Analysis of Trends in 46 Low- and Middle-Income Countries**

In light of advocacy efforts to reach the poorest with better health services, an examination of recent history reveals that overall the poor-rich gap in contraceptive use is already narrowing substantially, and more so where family planning programs are stronger. For most of 18 other reproductive health indicators, the gap is also narrowing. However, contraceptive use gaps in many sub-Saharan African countries have not diminished, calling for strong family planning program efforts to improve equity.

John Ross

Glob Health Sci Pract 2015;3(3):419-445. First published online September 7, 2015.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-15-00124>

#### *INNOVATIONS*

#### **Remote Sensing of Vital Signs: A Wearable, Wireless "Band-Aid" Sensor With Personalized Analytics for Improved Ebola Patient Care and Worker Safety**

This wireless sensor technology, currently being field-tested in an Ebola Treatment Unit in Sierra Leone, monitors multiple vital signs continuously and remotely. When connected with enhanced analytics software, it can discern changes in patients' status much more quickly and intelligently than conventional periodic monitoring, thus saving critical health care worker time and reducing exposure to pathogens.

Steven R Steinhubl, Mark P Marriott, Stephan W Wegerich

Glob Health Sci Pract 2015;3(3):516-519. <http://dx.doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-15-00189>

#### **Global Health Governance**

<http://blogs.shu.edu/ghg/category/complete-issues/spring-autumn-2014/>

[Accessed 19 September 2015]

[No new relevant content]

#### **Global Public Health**

Volume 10, Issue 9, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rgph20/current>

##### *Original Articles*

#### **Cancer control capacity in 50 low- and middle-income countries**

DOI:10.1080/17441692.2015.1007469

Rolando Camacho, Cecilia Sepúlveda, Diogo Neves, Marion Piñeros, Maria Villanueva, Jean-Marie Dangou, Ibtihal Fadhil, Gauden Galea, Renu Garg & Silvana Luciani  
pages 1017-1031

#### **Trust matters: A narrative literature review of the role of trust in health care systems in sub-Saharan Africa**

DOI:10.1080/17441692.2015.1019538

Lise Rosendal Østergaard

pages 1046-1059

#### **Grandmothers as gatekeepers? The role of grandmothers in influencing health-seeking for mothers and newborns in rural northern Ghana**

DOI:10.1080/17441692.2014.1002413

Mira L. Gupta, Raymond Akawire Aborigo, Philip Baba Adongo, Sarah Rominski, Abraham Hodgson, Cyril M. Engmann & Cheryl A. Moyer  
pages 1078-1091

#### **Globalization and Health**

<http://www.globalizationandhealth.com/>

[Accessed 19 September 2015]  
[No new content]

### **Health Affairs**

September 2015; Volume 34, Issue 9

<http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/current>

**Issue Theme: Noncommunicable Diseases: The Growing Burden**

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Health and Human Rights**

Volume 17, Issue 1 June 2015

<http://www.hhrjournal.org/>

***Special Section on Bioethics and the Right to Health***

in collaboration with the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Health Economics, Policy and Law**

Volume 10 - Special Issue 04 - October 2015

<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayIssue?jid=HEP&tab=currentissue>

**SPECIAL ISSUE: 10th Anniversary Issue**

### **Health Policy and Planning**

Volume 30 Issue 7 September 2015

<http://heapol.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Health Research Policy and Systems**

<http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content>

[Accessed 19 September 2015]

[No new content]

### **Human Rights Quarterly**

Volume 37, Number 3, August 2015

[http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/human\\_rights\\_quarterly/toc/hrq.37.3.html](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/human_rights_quarterly/toc/hrq.37.3.html)

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Human Service Organizations Management, Leadership & Governance**

Volume 39, Issue 4, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wasw21/current>

**[Empowering Human Services Organizations to Embrace Evidence-Informed Practice: International Best Practices](#)**

DOI:10.1080/23303131.2015.1050141

Katharine A. Dill & Wes Shera

pages 323-338

*Abstract*

Human services organizations are increasingly using knowledge as a mechanism for implementing change. Knowledge emerging from many sources that may include academic publications, gray literature, and service user and practitioner wisdom contributes toward informing best practice. The question is how do we harness this knowledge to make practice more effective? This article synthesizes the lessons learned from eight international organizations that have made a commitment to knowledge mobilization as an important priority in their mission and operation. The article provides a conceptual model, tools, and resources to help human services organizations create strategies for building, enhancing, or sustaining their knowledge mobilization efforts. The article describes a flexible blueprint for human services organizations to leverage knowledge mobilization efforts at all levels of service delivery.

**Humanitarian Exchange Magazine**

Issue 64 June 2015

<http://www.odihpn.org/humanitarian-exchange-magazine/issue-64>

[Reviewed earlier]

**IDRiM Journal**

Vol 5, No 1 (2015) June 2015

<http://idrimjournal.com/index.php/idrim/issue/view/13>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Infectious Diseases of Poverty**

<http://www.idpjournal.com/content>

[Accessed 19 September 2015]

[No new content]

**International Health**

Volume 7 Issue 19 September 2015

<http://inthehealth.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**International Human Rights Law Review**

Volume 4, Issue 1, 2015

<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/22131035/4/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

**International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction**

Volume 13, In Progress (September 2015)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/22124209/13>  
[Reviewed earlier]

**International Journal of Infectious Diseases**

September 2015 Volume 38, In Progress  
[Reviewed earlier]

**International Journal of Mass Emergencies & Disasters**

March 2015 (VOL. 33, NO. 1)  
<http://www.ijmed.org/issues/33/1/>  
[Reviewed earlier]

**International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology**

Volume 22, Issue 5, 2015  
<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/tsdw20/current#.VSj2SpMw1hX>

*Original Articles*

**[Social and environmental impacts of agricultural cooperatives: evidence from Ethiopia](#)**

DOI:10.1080/13504509.2015.1052860  
Dagne Mojoab\*, Christian Fischera & Terefe Degefac  
pages 388-400

*Abstract*

Cooperatives are considered as potential organizational vehicles for sustainable development due to their multiple objectives and diverse roles. In particular, a lot is expected from agricultural cooperatives since they depend mainly on natural resource-based activities where sustainability issues are central concerns. Using household survey data of 305 coffee farmers from Ethiopia, the impacts of cooperative membership on farmers' social and environmental performances are examined. Findings, based on propensity scores matching, show a significant positive impact of cooperatives on members' social capital including trust, commitment and satisfaction, and on human capital such as training sessions received and experiences gained. However, farmers' environmental performance is negatively associated with membership contrary to expectations. The findings suggest further efforts that need to be made by agricultural cooperatives to improve the environmental performance of farmers, while the accumulated human and social capitals are encouraging and can ease future collective actions toward cares for the environment and future generations.

*Original Articles*

**[The role of ruminant animals in sustainable livestock intensification programs](#)**

DOI:10.1080/13504509.2015.1075441  
Luis Orlando Tedeschia\*, James Pierre Muirb, David Greg Rileya & Danny Gene Foxc  
pages 452-465

*Abstract*

Food supply has improved considerably since the eighteenth century industrial revolution, but inadequate attention has been given to protecting the environment in the process. Feeding a growing world population while reducing the impact on the environment requires immediate

and effective solutions. Sustainability is difficult to define because it embodies multifaceted concepts and the combination of variables that make a production system sustainable can be unique to each production situation. Sustainability represents the state of a complex system that is always evolving. It is an intrinsic characteristic of the system that needs to be shaped and managed. A sustainable system has the ability to coexist with other systems at a different output level after a period of perturbation. Resilience is the ability of a system to recover and reestablish a dynamic equilibrium after it has been perturbed. Sustainable intensification (SI) produces more output(s) through the more efficient use of resources while reducing negative impact on the environment; it provides opportunities for increasing animal and crop production per area while employing sustainable production alternatives that fully consider the three pillars of sustainability (planet, people, and profit). Identifying the most efficient animals and feeding systems is the prerequisite to successful applications of sustainable livestock intensification programs. Animal scientists must develop strategies that forecast the rate and magnitude of global changes as well as their possible influences on the food production chain. System modeling is a powerful tool because it accounts for many variables and their interactions involved in identifying sustainable systems in each situation.

### **International Migration Review**

Summer 2015 Volume 49, Issue 2 Pages 271–552, e1–e16

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/imre.2015.49.issue-2/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Intervention** – Journal of Mental Health and Psychological Support in Conflict Affected Areas  
July 2015 - Volume 13 - Issue 2 pp: 104-198

<http://journals.lww.com/interventionjnl/pages/currenttoc.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **JAMA**

September 15, 2015, Vol 314, No. 11

<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/issue.aspx>

*Viewpoint* / September 15, 2015

#### **[The Response to Ebola—Looking Back and Looking Ahead](#)[The 2015 Lasker-Bloomberg Public Service Award](#)**

FREE

JAMA. 2015;314(11):1115-1116. doi:10.1001/jama.2015.11645.

The 2015 Lasker-Bloomberg Public Service Award is given to Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF) for its bold response and leadership in fighting the Ebola outbreak in Africa. This Viewpoint describes the challenges involved in responding to this outbreak and the importance of ongoing research and preparedness efforts.

*Viewpoint* | September 15, 2015

#### **[Vaccination and the Lasker Awards - Enduring Legacies](#)**

Anthony S. Fauci, MD<sup>1</sup>; David M. Morens, MD<sup>1</sup>; Hilary D. Marston, MD, MPH<sup>1</sup>

Author Affiliations

JAMA. 2015;314(11):1119-1120. doi:10.1001/jama.2015.9807.

Dr Fauci and coauthors discuss the Lasker Awards that have been granted to scientists for discoveries underlying vaccine development.

*Extract*

Since 1945, the Lasker Foundation has recognized research advances with the greatest potential to improve global human health.<sup>1</sup> Therefore, it is entirely fitting that vaccines, which save millions of lives every year worldwide, should feature so prominently in the history of the awards. Many Lasker Awards have been granted to scientists for discoveries underlying vaccine development, from basic microbiology to specific vaccine design. More recently, public health practitioners have joined the ranks of their basic science counterparts as the Lasker Foundation has recognized facilitators of vaccine delivery to those most in need...

*Global Health*

**[Global Help for Post-Ebola Recovery in West Africa](#)**

M. J. Friedrich

**[Outcomes of HIV Vaccine Related to Genetic Variation](#)**

M. J. Friedrich

**[Poor Sanitation Practices Associated With Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes](#)**

M. J. Friedrich

**JAMA Pediatrics**

September 2015, Vol 169, No. 9

<http://archpedi.jamanetwork.com/issue.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Asian Development**

Vol 1, No 1 (2015)

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Community Health**

Volume 40, Issue 5, October 2015

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10900/40/4/page/1>

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

**Journal of Development Economics**

Volume 116, Pages 1-266 (September 2015)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03043878/115>

**[Watchdogs of the Invisible Hand: NGO monitoring and industry equilibrium](#)**

Original Research Article

Pages 28-42

Gani Aldashev, Michela Limardi, Thierry Verdier

*Abstract*

Globalization has been accompanied by rising pressure from advocacy non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on multinational firms to act in socially-responsible manner. We analyze how NGO pressure interacts with industry structure, using a simple model of NGO-firm

interaction embedded in an industry environment with endogenous markups and entry. We explain three key empirical patterns in developing-country industries under activist pressure: the degree of exit under more intense activist pressure, the differential response of industries to NGO activism, and the general rise of NGO activism following globalization.

### **All in the family: Explaining the persistence of female genital cutting in West Africa**

Original Research Article

Pages 252-265

Marc F. Bellemare, Lindsey Novak, Tara L. Steinmetz

#### ***Abstract***

Why does female genital cutting (FGC) persist in certain places but has declined elsewhere? We study the persistence of FGC—proxied for by whether survey respondents are in favor of the practice continuing—in West Africa. We use 38 repeated cross-sectional country-year data sets covering 310,613 women aged 15 to 49 in 13 West African countries for the period 1995–2013. The data exhibit sufficient within-household variation to allow controlling for the unobserved heterogeneity between households, which in turn allows determining how much variation is due to factors at the levels of the individual, household, village, and beyond. Our results show that on average, 87% of the variation in FGC persistence can be attributed to household- and individual-level factors, with contributions from those levels of variation ranging from 71% in Nigeria in 2011 to 93% in Burkina Faso in 2006. Our results also suggest that once invariant factors across women aged 15 to 49 in the same household are accounted for, women who report having undergone FGC in West Africa are on average 16 percentage points more likely to be in favor of the practice.

### **Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health**

October 2015, Volume 69, Issue 10

<http://jech.bmj.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Journal of Global Ethics**

Volume 11, Issue 2, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjge20/.U2V-Elf4L0l#.VAJEj2N4WF8>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Journal of Global Infectious Diseases (JGID)**

July-September 2015 Volume 7 | Issue 3 Page Nos. 95-124

<http://www.jgid.org/currentissue.asp?sabs=n>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved (JHCPU)**

Volume 26, Number 3, August 2015

[https://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal\\_of\\_health\\_care\\_for\\_the\\_poor\\_and\\_underserved/toc/hpu.26.3.html](https://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_health_care_for_the_poor_and_underserved/toc/hpu.26.3.html)

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management**

Volume 5 Issue 2

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/jhlscm/5/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health**

Volume 17, Issue 5, October 2015

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10903/17/4/page/1>

*Original paper*

### **Factors Associated with Healthcare Utilization Among Arab Immigrants and Iraqi Refugees**

D. Elsouhag, B. Arnetz, H. Jamil, M. A. Lumley...

*Abstract*

Arab migrants—both immigrants and refugees—are exposed to pre- and post- migration stressors increasing their risk for health problems. Little is known, however, about rates of, or factors associated with, healthcare utilization among these two groups. A sample of 590 participants were interviewed approximately 1 year post-migration to the United States. Factors associated with healthcare utilization, including active and passive coping strategies, were examined using logistic regressions. Compared to national healthcare utilization data, immigrants had significantly lower, and refugees had significantly higher rates of healthcare utilization. Being a refugee, being married, and having health insurance were significantly associated with medical service utilization. Among refugees, less use of psychological services was associated with the use of medications and having problem-focused (active) strategies for dealing with stress. Healthcare utilization was significantly higher among refugees, who also reported a greater need for services than did immigrants

### **Does Integrated Care Affect Healthcare Utilization in Multi-problem Refugees?**

Carol C. White, Craig A. Solid, James S. Hodges, Deborah H. Boehm

*Abstract*

A history of trauma is common in refugee populations and appropriate treatment is frequently avoided. Using a convenience sample of 64 patients in a Somali primary care clinic, a culture and trauma specific intervention was developed to address retention into appropriate treatment. One goal of the intervention was to improve the rate of engagement in psychotherapy after a mental health referral and to test the effect of psychotherapy on health care utilization using a staged primary care clinical tool. Forty-eight percent of patients given a mental health referral engaged in psychotherapy. Patients engaging in psychotherapy had higher baseline utilization and over 12 months trended towards less emergency room use and more primary care. Our findings suggest that the intervention improved referral and retention in mental health therapy for East African refugee women.

## **Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies**

Volume 13, Issue 3, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wimm20/current#.VQS0KOFnBhW>

**Special Issue: Social Work and Migration in Europe**

**(Dis)Empowering New Immigrants and Refugees Through Their Participation in Introduction Programs in Sweden, Denmark, and Norway**

Ariana Guilherme Fernandes

pages 245-264

**Journal of Infectious Diseases**

Volume 212 Issue 7 October 1, 2015

<http://jid.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of International Development**

August 2015 Volume 27, Issue 6 Pages 717–880

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jid.v27.6/issuetoc>

***Special Issue: The Post-2015 Moment: Towards Sustainable Development Goals and a New Global Development Paradigm***

[Reviewed earlier]

**The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics**

Summer 2015 Volume 43, Issue 2 Pages 174–430

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jlme.2015.43.issue-1/issuetoc>

***Special Issue: SYMPOSIUM: Intersections in Reproduction: Perspectives on Abortion and Assisted Reproductive Technologies***

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

**Journal of Medical Ethics**

September 2015, Volume 41, Issue 9

<http://jme.bmj.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (JPIDS)**

Volume 4 Issue 3 September 2015

<http://jpids.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Public Health Policy**

Volume 36, Issue 3 (August 2015)

<http://www.palgrave-journals.com/jphp/journal/v36/n3/index.html>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of the Royal Society – Interface**

06 August 2015; volume 12, issue 109

<http://rsif.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Knowledge Management for Development Journal**

Vol 11, No 1 (2015)

<http://journal.km4dev.org/journal/index.php/km4dj/index>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **The Lancet**

Sep 19, 2015 Volume 386 Number 9999 p1109-1210 e9-e14

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/issue/current>  
*Editorial*

#### **Women are the key to sustainable development**

The Lancet

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(15\)00248-2](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)00248-2)

*Summary*

On Sept 25–27, UN member states will meet at the UN General Assembly in New York to adopt a new roadmap—17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—for progress to 2030. Goal 3 is dedicated to health and consists of nine main targets, including reductions in maternal and child mortality, substance misuse, and road traffic accidents. However, many other goals—eg, water and sanitation, poverty reduction, and climate change—are also health related. How can this ambitious agenda be achieved? A Lancet Commission published in today's issue has an answer: ensure women are healthy and have equity in all aspects of life.

*Comment*

#### **A Lancet Commission on sexual and reproductive health and rights: going beyond the Sustainable Development Goals**

Ann Starrs

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(15\)00250-0](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)00250-0)

*Comment*

#### **Promoting women's health for sustainable development**

Jim Yong Kim, Timothy Evans

Published Online: 04 June 2015

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(15\)60942-4](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)60942-4)

*Summary*

As the world reflects on the progress made in the two decades since the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action<sup>1</sup> and the Beijing Platform of Action<sup>2</sup> and prepares to adopt the Sustainable Development Goals, the report of the Lancet Commission on Women and Health<sup>3</sup> is a powerful reminder that much work remains to be done. The Commission's extensive review of the evidence and compelling synthesis should serve as an important reference point for policy makers and practitioners as they begin to implement the post-2015 development agenda.

*Comment*

#### **Valuing the health and contribution of women is central to global development**

Melinda Gates

Published Online: 04 June 2015

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(15\)60940-0](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)60940-0)

### *Summary*

During my mother's four pregnancies, her health was viewed as a way to improve the wellbeing of her children. Between the time that my mother had her children and I had mine, more attention was paid to the health of women themselves—and particularly their survival. This concern with maternal health and survival, especially for women in low-income countries, led to the launch of the Safe Motherhood Initiative in 1987, the first global effort to focus the world's attention on maternal health. Since then, women's health has expanded to encompass sexual and reproductive health and, more recently, the complex interplay of factors throughout the life course, which are explored in the Lancet Commission on Women and Health.

### *The Lancet Commissions*

#### **Women and Health: the key for sustainable development**

Dr Ana Langer, MD, Afaf Meleis, PhD, Felicia M Knaul, PhD, Rifat Atun, MBBS, Meltem Aran, PhD, Héctor Arreola-Ornelas, MS, Zulfiqar A Bhutta, PhD, Agnes Binagwaho, MMed [Ped], Ruth Bonita, PhD, Jacquelyn M Caglia, MPH, Mariam Claeson, MD, Justine Davies, MD, France A Donnay, MD, Jewel M Gausman, MHS, Caroline Glickman, MIM, Annie D Kearns, MS, Tamil Kendall, PhD, Rafael Lozano, MD, Naomi Seboni, PhD, Gita Sen, PhD, Siriorn Sindhu, DNSc, Miriam Temin, MS, Julio Frenk, MD

Published Online: 04 June 2015

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(15\)60497-4](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)60497-4)

### *Summary*

Girls' and women's health is in transition and, although some aspects of it have improved substantially in the past few decades, there are still important unmet needs. Population ageing and transformations in the social determinants of health have increased the coexistence of disease burdens related to reproductive health, nutrition, and infections, and the emerging epidemic of chronic and non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Simultaneously, worldwide priorities in women's health have themselves been changing from a narrow focus on maternal and child health to the broader framework of sexual and reproductive health and to the encompassing concept of women's health, which is founded on a life-course approach.

### **The Lancet Global Health**

Sep 2015 Volume 3 Number 9 e501-e576

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/issue/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **The Lancet Infectious Diseases**

Sep 2015 Volume 15 Number 9 p987-1114

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/issue/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Maternal and Child Health Journal**

Volume 19, Issue 9, September 2015

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10995/19/9/page/1>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Medical Decision Making (MDM)**

October 2015; 35 (7)

<http://mdm.sagepub.com/content/current>

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

### **The Milbank Quarterly**

A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy

September 2015 Volume 93, Issue 3 Pages 447–649

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/milq.2015.93.issue-3/issuetoc>

*Op-Ed*

#### **The Future of the World Health Organization: Lessons Learned From Ebola**

LAWRENCE O. GOSTIN\*

Article first published online: 8 SEP 2015

DOI: 10.1111/1468-0009.12134

*Original Investigation*

#### **The Institutional Effects of Incarceration: Spillovers From Criminal Justice to Health Care**

JASON SCHNITTKER<sup>1,\*</sup>, CHRISTOPHER UGGEN<sup>2</sup>, SARAH K.S. SHANNON<sup>3</sup> and SUZY MAVES MCEL RATH<sup>2</sup>

Article first published online: 8 SEP 2015

DOI: 10.1111/1468-0009.12136

*Abstract*

Context

This study examines the spillover effects of growth in state-level incarceration rates on the functioning and quality of the US health care system.

Methods

Our multilevel approach first explored cross-sectional individual-level data on health care behavior merged to aggregate state-level data regarding incarceration. We then conducted an entirely aggregate-level analysis to address between-state heterogeneity and trends over time in health care access and utilization.

Findings

We found that individuals residing in states with a larger number of former prison inmates have diminished access to care, less access to specialists, less trust in physicians, and less satisfaction with the care they receive. These spillover effects are deep in that they affect even those least likely to be personally affected by incarceration, including the insured, those over 50, women, non-Hispanic whites, and those with incomes far exceeding the federal poverty threshold. These patterns likely reflect the burden of uncompensated care among former inmates, who have both a greater than average need for care and higher than average levels of uninsurance. State-level analyses solidify these claims. Increases in the number of former inmates are associated simultaneously with increases in the percentage of uninsured within a state and increases in emergency room use per capita, both net of controls for between-state heterogeneity.

## Conclusions

Our analyses establish an intersection between systems of care and corrections, linked by inadequate financial and administrative mechanisms for delivering services to former inmates.

## **Nature**

Volume 525 Number 7569 pp289-418 17 September 2015

[http://www.nature.com/nature/current\\_issue.html](http://www.nature.com/nature/current_issue.html)

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

## **Nature Medicine**

September 2015, Volume 21 No 9 pp963-1101

<http://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v21/n9/index.html>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **New England Journal of Medicine**

September 17, 2015 Vol. 373 No. 12

<http://www.nejm.org/toc/nejm/medical-journal>

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

## **Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly**

August 2015; 44 (4)

<http://nvs.sagepub.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration**

OxMo Volume 5, No. 1 – August 2015

<http://oxmofm.com/current-issue/>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Pediatrics**

September 2015, VOLUME 136 / ISSUE 3

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/current.shtml>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Pharmacoeconomics**

Volume 33, Issue 9, September 2015

[http://link.springer.com/journal/40273/33/9/page/1 \](http://link.springer.com/journal/40273/33/9/page/1)

[Reviewed earlier]

## **PLOS Currents: Disasters**

<http://currents.plos.org/disasters/>

[Accessed 19 September 2015]

### **[Hospital Disaster Preparedness Tools: a Systematic Review](#)**

September 14, 2015 · [Research article](#)

**Aim:** Evaluating hospital disaster preparedness is one the best ways for hospital accreditation. The aim of this study was to evaluate the quality of outcome measure that offer the level of measurement, reliability and validity that are known as the ' psychometric properties' of the current hospital disaster preparedness tools.

**Methods:** In total, 140 studies were retrieved. Studies which had been published from 2000 to 2014 and had used hospital disaster preparedness tools were appraised by using the PRISMA guideline. The content quality and the quality of the psychometric properties of the retrieved tools were assessed by using the World Health Organization Criteria for Hospital Preparedness as well as the COSMIN criteria.

**Findings:** Only 33 studies met the inclusion criteria. In total, eleven hospital disaster preparedness tools had been used in these 33 studies. These tools mainly focused on evaluating structural and non-structural aspects of hospital preparedness and paid little attention, if any, to the key functional aspect.

**Conclusion:** Given the paramount importance of evaluating hospital disaster preparedness and the weaknesses of current preparedness evaluation tools, valid and reliable tools should be developed by using experts' knowledge and experience through the processes of tool development and psychometric evaluation.

### **PLoS Currents: Outbreaks**

<http://currents.plos.org/outbreaks/>

(Accessed 19 September 2015)

[No new content]

### **PLoS Medicine**

<http://www.plosmedicine.org/>

(Accessed 19 September 2015)

[No new relevant content identified]

### **PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases**

<http://www.plosntds.org/>

(Accessed 19 September 2015)

[No new relevant content identified]

### **PLoS One**

<http://www.plosone.org/>

[Accessed 19 September 2015]

### **[Learning without Borders: A Review of the Implementation of Medical Error Reporting in Médecins Sans Frontières](#)**

Leslie Shanks, Karla Bil, Jena Fernhout

Research Article | published 18 Sep 2015 | PLOS ONE

10.1371/journal.pone.0137158

**The Unrecognized Burden of Influenza in Young Kenyan Children, 2008-2012**

Meredith L. McMorrow, Gideon O. Emukule, Henry N. Njuguna, Godfrey Bigogo, Joel M. Montgomery, Bryan Nyawanda, Allan Audi, Robert F. Breiman, Mark A. Katz, Leonard Cosmas, Lilian W. Waiboci, Jazmin Duque, Marc-Alain Widdowson, Joshua A. Mott  
Research Article | published 17 Sep 2015 | PLOS ONE  
10.1371/journal.pone.0138272

**The Economics of Epidemic Diseases**

Nicola Dimitri  
Research Article | published 15 Sep 2015 | PLOS ONE  
10.1371/journal.pone.0137964

**PLoS Pathogens**

<http://journals.plos.org/plospathogens/>  
(Accessed 19 September 2015)  
[No new relevant content identified]

**PNAS - Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America**

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/>  
(Accessed 19 September 2015)

**Environmental liability: A missing use for ecosystem services valuation**

Jacob Phelps**a,b,1**, Carol Adaire Jones**c**, John A. Pendergrass**c**, and Erik Gómez-Baggeth**und,e**  
Author Affiliations

*Extract*

The PNAS 100th Anniversary Special Feature on natural capital and ecosystem services highlights a range of opportunities and challenges to operationalize these concepts to strengthen environmental governance (1). However, the issue's focus is largely on the role these concepts play in ex ante decision-making, and overlooks their role in informing courtroom liability suits for ex post environmental damages.

Liability provisions are based on the "polluter pays" principle, and hold responsible parties financially liable for environmental damages. This enables recoveries to restore or replace injured ecosystem services and to compensate for environmental harms. These costs rarely appear in company balance sheets (hence, neither in macroeconomic accounts), unless they are claimed through court cases or unless state regulations mandate the internalization of environmental damages. We believe this omission reflects an important gap in mainstream thinking about ecosystem services and natural capital accounting.

**Prehospital & Disaster Medicine**

Volume 30 - Issue 04 - August 2015

<https://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayIssue?jid=PDM&tab=currentissue>  
[Reviewed earlier]

**Public Health Ethics**

Volume 8 Issue 2 July 2015

<http://phe.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

***Special Symposium: Migrant Health***

[Reviewed earlier]

**Qualitative Health Research**

October 2015; 25 (10)

<http://qhr.sagepub.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Refugee Survey Quarterly**

Volume 34 Issue 3 September 2015

<http://rsq.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Reproductive Health**

<http://www.reproductive-health-journal.com/supplements/12/S1>

[Accessed 19 September 2015]

[No new relevant content identified]

**Resilience: International Policies, Practices and Discourses**

Volume 3, Issue 2, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/resi20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Revista Panamericana de Salud Pública/Pan American Journal of Public Health (RPSP/PAJPH)**

June 2015 Vol. 37, No. 6

<http://www.paho.org/journal/>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Risk Analysis**

August 2015 Volume 35, Issue 8 Pages 1389–1592

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.2015.35.issue-8/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Science**

18 September 2015 vol 349, issue 6254, pages 1257-1408

<http://www.sciencemag.org/current.dtl>

*Policy Forum*

*Environmental Science*

**Reform forest fire management**

M. P. North<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, S. L. Stephens<sup>3</sup>, B. M. Collins<sup>1,3</sup>, J. K. Agee<sup>4</sup>, G. Aplet<sup>5</sup>, J. F. Franklin<sup>4</sup>, P. Z. Fulé<sup>6</sup>

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Globally, wildfire size, severity, and frequency have been increasing, as have related fatalities and taxpayer-funded firefighting costs (1). In most accessible forests, wildfire response prioritizes suppression because fires are easier and cheaper to contain when small (2). In the United States, for example, 98% of wildfires are suppressed before reaching 120 ha in size (3). But the 2% of wildfires that escape containment often burn under extreme weather conditions in fuel-loaded forests and account for 97% of fire-fighting costs and total area burned (3). Changing climate and decades of fuel accumulation make efforts to suppress every fire dangerous, expensive, and ill advised (4). These trends are attracting congressional scrutiny for a new approach to wildfire management (5). The recent release of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (NCWFMS) (6) and the U.S. Forest Service's (USFS's) current effort to revise national forest (NF) plans provide openings to incentivize change. Although we largely focus on the USFS, which incurs 70% of national firefighting costs (7), similar wildfire policies and needed management reforms are relevant throughout the United States and fire-prone areas worldwide.

**Social Science & Medicine**

Volume 140, Pages 1-146 (September 2015)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02779536/140>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Stability: International Journal of Security & Development**

<http://www.stabilityjournal.org/articles>

[accessed 19 September 2015]

[No new relevant content]

**Sustainability**

Volume 7, Issue 7 (July 2015), Pages 8051-9752

<http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/7/7>

[Reviewed earlier]

**TORTURE Journal**

Volume 25, Nr. 1, 2015

<http://www.ircct.org/torture-journal>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Tropical Medicine and Health**

Vol. 43(2015) No. 2  
[https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/browse/tmh/43/0/\\_contents](https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/browse/tmh/43/0/_contents)  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Tropical Medicine & International Health**

October 2015 Volume 20, Issue 10 Pages 1257–1404  
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tmi.2015.20.issue-7/issuetoc>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **UN Chronicle**

Vol. LII Nos. 1 & 2 2015 September 2015  
<http://unchronicle.un.org/>

#### **The United Nations at 70**

This special double issue of the UN Chronicle celebrates the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations under the theme "Strong UN. Better World." A select group of eminent contributors highlight key moments and achievements, challenges and obstacles and the role played by the United Nations during the past 70 years. They also reflect upon the future and what would make the Organization stronger and better able to serve humanity.

### **Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies**

*An International Interdisciplinary Journal for Research, Policy and Care*  
Volume 10, Issue 3, 2015  
<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rvch20/current#.Uzg2bFcWNdc>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **World Heritage Review**

n°77 - June 2015  
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/77>  
**Special Issue on Iraq**  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Yale Human Rights & Development Law Journal**

Volume XIV, Issue 2  
<http://www.law.yale.edu/academics/YHRDL/currentissue.htm>  
[Reviewed earlier]

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