

The Sentinel

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

Week ending 3 October 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:

David R. Curry

Editor &

Founding Director

GE2P2 – Center for Governance, Evidence, Ethics, Policy, Practice

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

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

Contents *[click on link below to move to associated content]*

:: [Week in Review](#)

:: [Key Agency/IGO/Governments Watch](#) - Selected Updates from 30+ entities

:: [INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch](#) - Media Releases, Major Initiatives, Research

:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) -Selected Updates

:: [Journal Watch](#) - Key articles and abstracts from 100+ peer-reviewed journals

:: 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.

[Afghanistan: MSF Staff Killed, Hospital Partially Destroyed in Kunduz](#)

UPDATE (October 3; 6:45AM EST):

AFGHANISTAN: MSF INFORMED ALL FIGHTING PARTIES OF GPS COORDINATES

OCTOBER 3, 2015 — Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) condemns in the strongest possible terms the horrific bombing of its hospital in Kunduz, which was full of staff and patients. MSF wishes to clarify that all parties to the conflict, including in Kabul and Washington, were clearly informed of the precise location (GPS Coordinates) of the MSF

facilities in Kunduz, including the hospital, guesthouse, office and an outreach stabilization unit in Chardara northwest of Kunduz.

As it does in all conflict contexts, MSF communicated the precise locations of its facilities to all parties on multiple occasions over the past months, including most recently on September 29. The bombing in Kunduz continued for more than 30 minutes after American and Afghan military officials in Kabul and Washington were first informed by MSF that its hospital was struck. MSF urgently seeks clarity on exactly what took place and how this terrible event could have happened.

UPDATE ON HOSPITAL BOMBING CASUALTIES:

It is with deep sadness that we confirm so far the death of nine MSF staff members during the bombing last night of MSF's hospital in Kunduz. Latest casualty figures report 37 people seriously wounded, of whom 19 are MSF staff. Some of the most critically injured are being transferred for stabilization to a hospital in Puli Khumri, two hours' drive away. There are many patients and staff who remain unaccounted for. The numbers may grow as a clearer picture develops of the aftermath of this horrific bombing.

.....
.....

Refugees/Migrants/IDPs [to 3 October 2015]

Editor's Note:

The crises across the globe involving refugees, migrants and internally-displaced persons continue. We continue to track and present the numerous statements, analyses and calls to action from the IOM and other UN agencies, state actors, CSOs and INGOs in the respective "Watch" sections below. We highlight press releases by UNHCR and UNICEF below.

Refugee emergency in Europe: UNHCR appeals for USD 128 million

Press Releases, 1 October 2015

This year, over half a million people, the majority of them refugees, have crossed the Mediterranean Sea in search of safety in Europe. European countries have been struggling to deal with this influx of refugees and migrants. To respond to this emergency, UNHCR established a Special Mediterranean Initiative (SMI) and is working closely with the European Union and its member states, as well as with other countries in Europe, Africa and the Middle East affected by ongoing conflict and forced displacement of populations.

UNHCR revised today its appeal for funding for the SMI in 2015 and 2016. The total financial requirements from June 2015 to December 2016 now amount to USD 128 million. This Supplementary Appeal includes activities in Europe but also incorporates programmes in countries of asylum or transit in the Middle East and Africa.

UNHCR is planning for up to 700,000 people seeking safety and international protection in Europe in 2015. While it is difficult to estimate at this point, it is possible that there could be even greater numbers of arrivals in 2016. Planning is based for the moment on similar figures to 2015.

In light of the fast-evolving situation in Europe, and the need to move resources from one location to another in response to the flow of people currently seeking international protection in the region, UNHCR is appealing to donors to provide contributions that can be allocated as flexibly as possible.

The SMI Supplementary Appeal document can be downloaded here <http://bit.ly/1M3IwaP>

Conflicts, instability uproot over 4.5 million children in 5 countries: UNICEF

NEW YORK, 29 September 2015 – Conflicts and instability in five countries alone have uprooted at least 4.5 million children, UNICEF said on the eve of a United Nations high-level meeting on the global migrant and refugee crisis.

“Heartrending pictures have helped galvanize public attention around the fate of children caught in the European refugee crisis, but the issue goes far beyond the borders of Europe,” said Afshan Khan, Director of UNICEF Emergency Programmes. “The world is facing the largest refugee crisis since World War II, with millions of families forced to flee their homes due to conflict and persecution in countries like Afghanistan, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan or Syria.”

Since the beginning of the year, more than half a million people have crossed the Mediterranean into Europe. About one fifth of those who have reached Europe’s shores are children.

But while the situation in Europe has grabbed the world’s attention, millions more refugees continue to be on the move:

- :: In Syria, a brutal conflict now well into its fifth year has forced more than 4 million people into refugee camps, makeshift shelters, and overstretched host communities in Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon and Turkey.

- :: In Afghanistan, the second major source of refugees worldwide, more than 2.6 million have fled the country.

- :: In Somalia, conflict, instability and a hunger crisis have pushed nearly 1 million Somalis – half of them children – out of their country.

- :: Nearly 666,000 people have fled the conflict in Sudan.

- :: Some 760,000 people, nearly two thirds of them children, have fled South Sudan since the current conflict erupted in December 2013.

Children in countries in conflict are under daily attack. They risk abduction, maiming, recruitment and death. Their journey to safety is fraught with dangers. Whether they are fleeing by sea or by road, they are often at the mercy of smugglers and have to carry the physical and psychological burdens of war, displacement and hostility.

The millions of children impacted by migration and forced displacement today require comprehensive, collaborative and sustainable responses.

UNICEF remains committed to providing vital support along children’s journeys in search of more secure futures, and in their countries of origin:

- :: In Syria, for example, UNICEF is helping provide water and sanitation services, keep children in school and conduct vaccination campaigns.

- :: Along the route to Europe, UNICEF has established children-friendly spaces and continues to advocate with host countries to prioritize children’s best interests.

- :: In developing countries not affected by conflict, UNICEF supports programmes to tackle underlining causes of poverty and lack of opportunities.



The Elders and Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect call upon the UN Security Council to act to prevent mass atrocity crimes

Gro Harlem Brundtland and Hina Jilani joined others in calling for members of the UN Security Council to work collaboratively to enforce international law.

" No government, no matter what the circumstances, should be allowed to commit mass atrocities and escape accountability."

26 September – At an event marking the opening of the 70th session of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly, The Elders and the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect urged the members of the UN Security Council to act more effectively to prevent mass atrocity crimes. The event, entitled Preventing mass atrocity crimes: how can the UN Security Council do better?, was held in New York. The Elders were represented by their Deputy Chair, Gro Harlem Brundtland, the former Prime Minister of Norway, and Hina Jilani, a leading activist in Pakistan's women's movement and international human rights defender.

Jean-Marie Guéhenno, President and CEO of International Crisis Group, and Salil Shetty, Secretary-General of Amnesty International, were panelists. UN Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson also made remarks. Dr Simon Adams, Executive Director of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, moderated the event.

Brundtland and Jilani made clear that the Permanent Five (P5) states must be more responsible in using their veto, especially during a crisis where people are threatened with genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing or crimes against humanity.

Gro Brundtland said:

"The veto power should not be seen as a 'right' or reward for the P5, but a mark of the heavy responsibilities these countries bear for the maintenance of international peace and security. This responsibility is particularly acute when the Security Council considers how to prevent mass atrocities."

Hina Jilani stated:

"No government, no matter what the circumstances, should be allowed to commit mass atrocities and escape accountability. The UN Security Council must put aside individual political interests and focus on a responsible, collaborative approach to the enforcement of international law."

The Elders have proposed four steps to strengthen the UN in its key task of maintaining peace and security worldwide, including a requirement that P5 members do not use their veto without explaining their decision and proposing an alternative plan in accordance with international law that can achieve the same goals.

The event comes as two complementary initiatives aimed at the UN Security Council have been launched. The first, by the governments of France and Mexico, calls for the P5 to refrain from using their veto in mass atrocity situations. The 26-member Accountability, Coherence and Transparency group of states has also launched a 'Code of Conduct' which applies to all Council

members – permanent and elected – as well as aspirant members, and urges them to not block action that seeks to prevent mass atrocity crimes.

Both initiatives are open to all UN member states for signatures of support, with a particular push in advance of the upcoming 70th anniversary of the UN on 24 October.

Dr Simon Adams, Executive Director of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, urged all Member States to support the complementary initiatives:

"This year is the seventieth anniversary of the UN and the tenth anniversary of the global commitment to the Responsibility to Protect. There is no more fitting time for the members of the UN to show they are able to overcome the politics of inaction and indifference."

.....
.....

Joint UN Statement: (ILO, OHCHR, UNAIDS Secretariat, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UN Women, WFP and WHO)

ENDING VIOLENCE AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER AND INTERSEX PEOPLE

United Nations entities call on States to act urgently to end violence and discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI)¹ adults, adolescents and children.

All people have an equal right to live free from violence, persecution, discrimination and stigma. International human rights law establishes legal obligations on States to ensure that every person, without distinction, can enjoy these rights. While welcoming increasing efforts in many countries to protect the rights of LGBTI people, we remain seriously concerned that around the world, millions of LGBTI individuals, those perceived as LGBTI and their families face widespread human rights violations. This is cause for alarm – and action.

Failure to uphold the human rights of LGBTI people and protect them against abuses such as violence and discriminatory laws and practices, constitute serious violations of international human rights law and have a far-reaching impact on society – contributing to increased vulnerability to ill health including HIV infection, social and economic exclusion, putting strain on families and communities, and impacting negatively on economic growth, decent work and progress towards achievement of the future Sustainable Development Goals. States bear the primary duty under international law to protect everyone from discrimination and violence.

These violations therefore require an urgent response by governments, parliaments, judiciaries and national human rights institutions. Community, religious and political leaders, workers' organizations, the private sector, health providers, civil society organizations and the media also have important roles to play. Human rights are universal – cultural, religious and moral practices and beliefs and social attitudes cannot be invoked to justify human rights violations against any group, including LGBTI persons.

PROTECTING INDIVIDUALS FROM VIOLENCE

States should protect LGBTI persons from violence, torture and ill-treatment, including by:

- :: Investigating, prosecuting and providing remedy for acts of violence, torture and ill-treatment against LGBTI adults, adolescents and children, and those who defend their human rights;
- :: Strengthening efforts to prevent, monitor and report such violence;

- :: Incorporating homophobia and transphobia as aggravating factors in laws against hate crime and hate speech;
- :: Recognizing that persecution of people because they are (or are perceived to be) LGBTI may constitute a valid ground for asylum, and not returning such refugees to a place where their life or freedom might be threatened.

The United Nations and others have documented widespread physical and psychological violence against LGBTI persons in all regions - including murder, assault, kidnapping, rape, sexual violence, as well as torture and ill-treatment in institutional and other settings. LGBTI youth and lesbian, bisexual and transgender women are at particular risk of physical, psychological and sexual violence in family and community settings. LGBTI persons often face violence and discrimination when seeking refuge from persecution and in humanitarian emergencies. They may also face abuse in medical settings, including unethical and harmful so-called "therapies" to change sexual orientation, forced or coercive sterilization, forced genital and anal examinations, and unnecessary surgery and treatment on intersex children without their consent. In many countries, the response to these violations is inadequate, they are underreported and often not properly investigated and prosecuted, leading to widespread impunity and lack of justice, remedies and support for victims. Human rights defenders combatting these violations are frequently persecuted and face discriminatory restrictions on their activities.

REPEALING DISCRIMINATORY LAWS

States should respect international human rights standards, including by reviewing, repealing and establishing a moratorium on the application of:

- :: Laws that criminalize same-sex conduct between consenting adults;
- :: Laws that criminalize transgender people on the basis of their gender expression;
- :: Other laws used to arrest, punish or discriminate against people on the basis of their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

In 76 countries, laws still criminalize consensual same-sex relationships between adults, exposing individuals to the risk of arbitrary arrest, prosecution, imprisonment – even the death penalty, in at least five countries. Laws criminalizing cross-dressing are used to arrest and punish transgender people. Other laws are used to harass, detain, discriminate or place restrictions on the freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. These discriminatory laws contribute to perpetuating stigma and discrimination, as well as hate crime, police abuse, torture and ill-treatment, family and community violence, and negatively affect public health by impeding access to health and HIV services.

PROTECTING INDIVIDUALS FROM DISCRIMINATION

States should uphold international human rights standards on non-discrimination, including by:

- :: Prohibiting discrimination against LGBTI adults, adolescents and children in all contexts – including in education, employment, healthcare, housing, social protection, criminal justice and in asylum and detention settings;
- :: Ensuring legal recognition of the gender identity of transgender people without abusive requirements;
- :: Combating prejudice against LGBTI people through dialogue, public education and training;

:: Ensuring that LGBTI people are consulted and participate in the design, implementation and monitoring of laws, policies and programmes that affect them, including development and humanitarian initiatives.

LGBTI people face widespread discrimination and exclusion in all contexts - including multiple forms of discrimination based on other factors such as sex, race, ethnicity, age, religion, poverty, migration, disability and health status. Children face bullying, discrimination or expulsion from schools on the basis of their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity, or that of their parents. LGBTI youth rejected by their families experience disproportionate levels of suicide, homelessness and food insecurity. Discrimination and violence contribute to the marginalization of LGBTI people and their vulnerability to ill health including HIV infection, yet they face denial of care, discriminatory attitudes and pathologization in medical and other settings. Transgender people are frequently denied legal recognition of their preferred gender or face abusive requirements such as forced sterilization, treatment or divorce to obtain it, without which they suffer exclusion and marginalization. The exclusion of LGBTI people from the design, implementation and monitoring of laws and policies that affect them perpetuates their social and economic marginalization.

UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT

Our organizations stand ready to support and assist Member States and other stakeholders as they work to address the challenges outlined in this statement including through constitutional, legislative and policy changes, strengthening of national institutions, and education, training and other initiatives to respect, protect, promote and fulfil the human rights of all LGBTI people.

September 2015

1 While this statement refers to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people, it should also be read to refer to other people who face violence and discrimination on the basis of their actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics, including those who may identify with other terms.

The statement is available in all 6 UN languages: [Arabic](#) / [Chinese](#) / [English](#) / [French](#) / [Russian](#) / [Spanish](#)

.....
.....

World report on ageing and health

WHO

September 2015 :: 260 pages

ISBN 978 92 4 069481 1 (PDF)

Pdf: http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/186463/1/9789240694811_eng.pdf?ua=1

Conclusion [initial chapter]

Current public-health approaches to population ageing have clearly been ineffective. The health of older people is not keeping up with increasing longevity (5, 9); marked health inequities are apparent in the health status of older people; current health systems are poorly aligned to the care that older populations require even in high income countries (17-21); long-term care models are both inadequate and unsustainable (Chapter 5); and physical and social

environments present multiple barriers and disincentives to both health and participation (Chapter 6) (90).

A new framework for global action is required. It will need to encompass the great diversity of older populations and address the inequities that lie beneath it. It must drive the development of new systems for health care and long-term care that are more in tune with the needs of older people, and it must ensure that all sectors focus on common goals so that action can be coordinated and balanced. Above all, it will need to transcend outdated ways of thinking about ageing, foster a major shift in how we understand ageing and health, and inspire the development of transformative approaches.

Because social change is ongoing and unpredictable, these cannot be prescriptive but, instead, should look to strengthen the ability of older people to thrive in the turbulent environment they are likely to live in.

This report offers a framework for this response. Chapter 2 explores what health might mean to an older person and how a public-health strategy might be framed to foster it. Chapter 3 uses this model as the basis for assessing health trends and priorities in older age. The final chapters explore in detail actions that might be taken in key sectors: Chapter 4 examines health systems, Chapter 5 examines long-term care systems, and Chapter 6 looks at the role of other sectors. However, throughout this report it is emphasized that all these aspects of an older person's environment need to work together in an integrated way if healthy ageing is to be achieved. Chapter 7, the final chapter, identifies the key steps that need to be taken next.

Conclusion [from chapter 7]

Comprehensive public-health action on ageing is urgently needed. Although there are major knowledge gaps, we have sufficient evidence to act now, and there is something that every country can do irrespective of its current situation or level of development.

The societal response to population ageing will require a transformation of health systems that moves away from disease-based curative models and towards the provision of older-person-centred and integrated care. It will require the development, sometimes from nothing, of comprehensive systems of long-term care. And it will require a coordinated response from many other sectors and multiple levels of government.

It must be built on a fundamental shift in our understanding of ageing to one that takes account of the diversity of older populations and responds to the inequities that often underlie ageing. And it will need to draw on better ways of measuring and monitoring the health and functioning of older populations.

Although these actions will inevitably require resources, they are likely to be a sound investment in society's future: a future that gives older people the freedom to live lives that previous generations could never have imagined.

Statements

[Statement by Toby Porter: HelpAge International pdf, 13kb](#)

[Statement by International Federation on Ageing pdf, 267kb](#)

Launch Release

WHO: Number of people over 60 years set to double by 2050; major societal changes required
News release

30 SEPTEMBER 2015 | GENEVA - With advances in medicine helping more people to live longer lives, the number of people over the age of 60 is expected to double by 2050 and will require radical societal change, according to a new report released by the WHO for the International Day of Older Persons (1 October).

"Today, most people, even in the poorest countries, are living longer lives," says Dr Margaret Chan, Director-General of WHO. "But this is not enough. We need to ensure these extra years are healthy, meaningful and dignified. Achieving this will not just be good for older people, it will be good for society as a whole."...

.....

Long-term care (LTC) protection for older persons: A review of coverage deficits in 46 countries

24 September 2015

ILO, Geneva

ESS Paper Series (SECSOC) - ESS 50

Xenia Scheil-Adlung

ISBN 9789221298533 :: 115 pages

Pdf: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---soc_sec/documents/publication/wcms_407620.pdf

Key messages [initial text]

:: This paper: (i) examines long-term care (LTC) protection in 46 developing and developed countries covering 80 per cent of the world's population; (ii) provides (data on LTC coverage for the population aged 65+; (iii) identifies access deficits for older persons due to the critical shortfall of formal LTC workers; (iv) presents the impacts of insufficient public funding, the reliance on unpaid informal LTC workers and high out-of-pocket payments (OOP); and (v) calls for recognizing LTC as a right, and mainstreaming LTC as a priority in national policy agendas given the benefits in terms of job creation and improved welfare of the population.

:: Due to the demographic ageing of the world's population the number of older persons in need of long-term care (LTC) is expected to grow significantly in all countries. However, for the time being the very limited information available on LTC protection such as coverage, access to services and shares of public and private financing does not allow policy makers to take informed decisions addressing current and future deficits. Against this background, this paper has developed for the first time internationally comparable global, regional and national data that provide estimates on deficits in long-term care (LTC) protection for persons aged 65 and over.

:: The study reveals that globally, the majority of countries do not provide any LTC protection. More than 48 per cent of the world's population is not covered by any national legislation. Another 46.3 per cent of the global population is largely excluded from coverage due to narrow means-testing regulations that force persons aged 65+ in need of LTC to become poor before they become eligible for LTC services. Only 5.6 per cent of the global population lives in

countries that provide LTC coverage based on national legislation to the whole population. Most seriously concerned by the public neglect of LTC needs for older persons are women.

Press Release

International Day of Older Persons

[More than half of the world's older persons lack quality long-term care](#)

A new ILO study reveals a global shortfall of 13.6 million care workers undermining the delivery of quality services to more than half of the world's older persons.

News | 01 October 2015

GENEVA (ILO News) – More than half of the global population aged 65 and above, representing 300 million people, is excluded from urgently needed long-term care (LTC), says the International Labour Organization (ILO).

The new study which covers 80 per cent of the world population aged 65 and over finds extreme deficits in social protection for older persons in need of long-term care due to a lack of 13.6 million LTC workers worldwide...

.....
.....

[Global initiative launched to counter the destruction and trafficking of cultural property by terrorist and organized crime groups](#)

New York / Vienna, 28 September 2015 - The "Protecting Cultural Heritage - An Imperative for Humanity" initiative was presented yesterday (27 September) by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Italy and Jordan with the participation of principals from UNODC, UNESCO and INTERPOL as well as ministers from a number of UN Member States on the sidelines of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly.

The main goal of the programme is to follow up on resolutions and decisions adopted by the UN Security Council, the UN General Assembly and other international bodies.

Throughout the last decade, the world has witnessed a sharp increase in terrorist attacks on, and destruction of, the cultural heritage of countries affected by armed conflict, as well as organized looting, illicit trafficking and sale of cultural objects on an unprecedented scale.

Terrorist groups are using these acts as a tactic of war to intimidate populations and governments. In addition, these acts aim to generate income for terrorist groups across the Middle East and beyond, which is then used to support their recruitment and operational efforts.

Rallying partners to enhance the protection of cultural heritage, Paolo Gentiloni, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy, said: "Cultural heritage is a reflection of human history, civilization and the coexistence of multiple peoples and their ways of life. Its protection is a shared responsibility of the international community, in the interest of future generations."...

UNODC Executive Director, Yury Fedotov, emphasized the importance of joining efforts in addressing the issue of the trafficking and the destruction of cultural property as "crimes that strike at the very core of our civilization and heritage"...

The Protecting Cultural Heritage initiative is a project open to all Member States, international organizations and partners wishing to join forces in support of the protection of cultural heritage from destruction and/or illicit trafficking.

This new initiative seeks to strengthen the Global Coalition for the protection of heritage launched earlier this year during the World Heritage Committee in Bonn (Germany). In order to raise awareness and multiply actions to counter this threat, the social media campaign #unite4heritage will also be enhanced...
UNODC Executive Director's full speech

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

* * * *

:: 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 – Secretary General, Security Council, General Assembly

[to 3 October 2015]

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

Selected Press Releases/Meetings Coverage

3 October 2015

GA/11701

[Concluding Debate, General Assembly Speakers Call on United Nations to Invoke Compassion, Dignity amid Waves of Refugees, War, Climate Threats](#)

In addressing the world's enormous challenges — serving waves of refugees in the Mediterranean, brokering necessary peace in the Middle East and managing the "existential" threat of climate change — speakers in the General Assembly today called on the United Nations to invoke the spirit that had underpinned its historic founding 70 years ago: one of compassion and dignity.

30 September 2015

GA/11695

[Palestinian Flag-Raising at United Nations, Global Refugee Crisis among Top Issues during Day Three of General Assembly Debate](#)

As the Palestinian flag was raised outside United Nations Headquarters in New York for the first time, President Mahmoud Abbas appealed to the General Assembly for support to see an independent State of Palestine take its rightful place among the community of nations.

27 September 2015

GA/11691

[World Leaders Call for 'New Chapter' in Global Growth as General Assembly Concludes Sustainable Development Goals Summit](#)

United States President Barack Obama today joined other world leaders in calling for a "new chapter" in global development — to be manifested in the 17 newly adopted Sustainable Development Goals — as the General Assembly closed its special summit on the adoption of the 2030 Agenda.

2 October 2015

L/T/4443

[Treaty Event Concludes at Headquarters with Actions to Advance Rights of Child, Cooperation to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism](#)

On the side-lines of the busy seventieth general debate at United Nations Headquarters, 24 Member States undertook 31 treaty actions in an annual four-day event that ended yesterday.

1 October 2015

SG/SM/17172-DEV/3198

[Voice of Least Developed Countries Must Be Heard in All Decision-Making, Norm-Setting Processes, Secretary-General Tells Ministerial Meeting](#)

Following are UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's remarks, as prepared for delivery, at the ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, in New York today.

30 September 2015

DSG/SM/902-REF/1216

['We Must Reject Politics of Division and Fear,' Deputy Secretary-General Tells Migration Event, Urging All to Build Bridges, Not Walls](#)

Following are UN Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson's closing remarks at the high-level event "Strengthening cooperation on migration and refugee movements in the perspective of the new development agenda", in New York today.

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 3 October 2015]

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

Selected Press Releases/Announcements

[Human Rights Council concludes thirtieth session after adopting 29 resolutions, two presidential statements and one decision](#)

10/2/2015

[Re-think our cities – UN expert calls for older persons' accessibility to all urban settings](#)

9/29/2015

[Twelve UN agencies issue unprecedented joint statement on rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender & intersex people](#)

9/29/2015

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 3 October 2015]

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/Pages/CRCIndex.aspx>

[UN Committee hails Somalia's ratification of Convention on the Rights of the Child](#)

2 October 2015

[Committee on the Rights of the Child concludes seventieth session](#)

2 October 2015

Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

[to 3 October 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 3 October 2015]

<https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/virtual-library/press-release-archive/>

02 Oct 2015

[Joint statement on Somalia's ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child](#)

SRSG/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 3 October 2015]

<http://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/media/press-releases/>

02 Oct [UN Special Representative welcomes Joint Communiqué between Colombian Government and FARC-EP on victims](#)

28 Sep [Six years on, UN Special Representative urges continued efforts to end impunity for sexual violence crimes committed on 28 September 2009 in Guinea](#)

UN OCHA [to 3 October 2015]

<http://www.unocha.org/media-resources/press-releases>

02 Oct 2015

[Central African Republic: Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency relief Coordinator Stephen O'Brien - Statement on the Central African Republic](#)

(New York, 2 October 2015): I am extremely alarmed by the recent upsurge in violence in the Central African Republic (CAR) and by attacks on humanitarian premises. Ongoing violence by armed groups is preventing humanitarian organizations from reaching more than 42,000 women, men and children who have fled for their lives in the past few days in the capital, Bangui...

01 Oct 2015

[Democratic Republic of the Congo: Sud-Kivu : les autorités ont déclaré l'épidémie de choléra dans la Zone de santé d'Uvira](#)

01 Oct 2015

[Dominican Republic: Aeropuerto Internacional del Cibao realizará un diagnóstico de sus capacidades de recepción de ayuda humanitaria y procesos de coordinación interinstitucional en caso de desastres](#)

01 Oct 2015

[Iraq: Global leadership required to help millions in Iraq](#)

(New York, 1 October 2015) At a high-level meeting yesterday on the margins of the 70th United Nations General Assembly, the United States of America, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) called for greater engagement from the international community on the dire humanitarian...

29 Sep 2015

[Central African Republic: Central African Republic: Humanitarian Coordinator strongly condemn attacks against humanitarian organizations and calls for free movement of aid workers](#)

UNICEF [to 3 October 2015]

http://www.unicef.org/media/media_78364.html

Selected press release and news notes

[Joint statement on Somalia's ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child](#)

NEW YORK, 2 October 2015 – "Somalia's ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child is a significant and very welcome step toward realizing the rights of the country's 6.5 million children.

[Six months of violence in Yemen leave more than 500 children dead, some 1.7 million at risk of malnutrition: UNICEF](#)

GENEVA/SANA'A, Yemen, 2 October 2015 – Six months of unremitting violence in Yemen have left at least 505 children dead, 702 injured and more than 1.7 million at risk of malnutrition, UNICEF said today.

[Safer learning for more than 2 million children caught in Syrian conflict](#)

NEW YORK/BRUSSELS, 1 October 2015 – More than 2 million children whose lives have been torn apart by the conflict in Syria will have better access to education in safe environments through an agreement signed today by the European Union (EU) and UNICEF.

[Conflicts, instability uproot over 4.5 million children in 5 countries: UNICEF](#)

NEW YORK, 29 September 2015 – Conflicts and instability in five countries alone have uprooted at least 4.5 million children, UNICEF said on the eve of a United Nations high-level meeting on the global migrant and refugee crisis.

[Fighting childhood malnutrition: Resource-rich African countries rise to the challenge](#)

NEW YORK, 28 September 2015 – The Republic of Congo, Guinea, Mali and Niger today announced a new fund for the fight against malnutrition. The announcement was made at the launch of UNITLIFE, a new innovative financing mechanism that uses micro levies from extractive industries to increase resources for the fight against malnutrition in sub-Saharan Africa.

[Pampers and UNICEF celebrate a decade together helping to save the lives of millions of children and mothers](#)

NEW YORK, 28 September 2015 - An estimated 500,000 newborn lives have been saved and 100 million women and their newborns protected from the deadly disease, maternal and newborn tetanus, thanks to a ten-year long partnership between Pampers® and UNICEF that helped achieve this milestone.

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 3 October 2015]
<http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/search?page=&comid=4a0950336&cid=49aea93a7d&scid=49aea93a40>
[Ministerial Meeting on the Comprehensive Solutions Strategy for Rwandan Refugees Joint Communiqué](#)

2 October 2015

[Refugee emergency in Europe: UNHCR appeals for USD 128 million](#)

1 October 2015

IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 3 October 2015]

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

Selected Press Releases

[Two Years on from Lampedusa Tragedy, IOM Reflects on Mediterranean Deaths](#)

10/02/15

Italy - Tomorrow (3rd October), Italy's Mediterranean island of Lampedusa will observe the second anniversary of a tragedy that took the lives of 368 migrants.

[IOM Deploys Experts to Aid Unaccompanied Egyptian Migrant Children in Greece](#)

10/02/15

Greece - On 26 August 2015, a boat with 240 migrants, 73 per cent of them unaccompanied children, put in a rescue call in international waters south of the island of Crete.

[Egyptian Workshop Addresses Legal Frameworks for the Protection of Unaccompanied Migrant Children](#)

10/02/15

Egypt - IOM has organized a two-day workshop attended by 45 Egyptian government officials and media representatives to discuss national and international legal frameworks for the protection of unaccompanied migrant children (UMCs).

[Mediterranean Western Balkans Update - New Numbers from Italy, Greece, the FYROM](#)

09/29/15

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia - IOM estimates that some 522,000 migrants and refugees have arrived in Europe by sea since the beginning of the year.

[Spreading Anti-Migrant Sentiment is Endangering Lives, IOM's Swing Warns World Leaders](#)

09/28/15

United Nations – At the opening of the 70th session of the United Nations General Assembly, IOM Director General William Lacy Swing warned that growing anti-migration sentiment in Europe is unnecessarily endangering the lives of migrants, while ignoring the overall benefit that migration has historically provided worldwide.

UN Women [to 3 October 2015]

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

Selected Press Releases

[Statement by Executive Director of UN Women Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka on Boko Haram](#)

Date : October 2, 2015

In light of this ongoing and deepening insecurity, UN Women welcomes the release of the report this week by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) on violations committed by Boko Haram. We underline the call to affected States and the international community to place gender equality at the heart of interventions. This is the only sustainable, systemic way to prevent and respond to the spread of violent extremism. Empowered women and empowered communities are the best defense against radicalization and further violence. We must engender counter-terrorism.

[Joint UN statement on Ending violence and discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people](#)

Date : October 1, 2015

On 29 September 2015, 12 UN entities released an unprecedented joint statement calling for an end to violence and discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people.

[Press release: World leaders agree: We must close the gender gap](#)

Date : September 27, 2015

Today, 27 September 2015, some 80 world leaders are convening at the United Nations to personally commit to ending discrimination against women by 2030 and announce concrete and measurable actions to kick-start rapid change in their countries. The event marks a historic first, with pledges delivered by Heads of State and Government.

WHO & Regionals [to 3 October 2015]

[Guideline on when to start antiretroviral therapy and on pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV](#)

WHO

September 2015 :: 78 pages :: English

ISBN: 978 92 4 150956 5

Pdf: http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/186275/1/9789241509565_eng.pdf?ua

Overview

This early-release guideline makes available two key recommendations that were developed during the revision process in 2015. First, antiretroviral therapy (ART) should be initiated in everyone living with HIV at any CD4 cell count. Second, the use of daily oral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is recommended as a prevention choice for people at substantial risk of HIV infection as part of combination prevention approaches. The first of these recommendations is based on evidence from clinical trials and observational studies released since 2013 showing that earlier use of ART results in better clinical outcomes for people living with HIV compared with delayed treatment. The second recommendation is based on clinical trial results confirming the efficacy of the ARV drug tenofovir for use as PrEP to prevent people from acquiring HIV in a wide variety of settings and populations.

The recommendations in this guideline will form part of the revised consolidated guidelines on the use of ARV drugs for treating and preventing HIV infection to be published by WHO in 2016. The full update of the guidelines will consist of comprehensive clinical recommendations together with revised operational and service delivery guidance to support implementation.

[Preventing and treating infections around childbirth](#)

October 2015 -- Bacterial infections around the time of childbirth (peripartum infections) account for about one tenth of maternal deaths globally. WHO's new recommendations help health professionals and policy makers reduce the global burden of maternal infections and their complications around the time of childbirth.

WHO Regional Offices

WHO African Region AFRO

Progress on the strategic actions to make better health and well-being a reality for Africans

A new report highlighting progress made on the strategic actions initiated by Dr Moeti Matshidiso, the WHO Regional Director for Africa to make better health and well-being a reality for Africans has been released. The report titled: 'Leading change for an enhanced performance - My first 100 days in Office' shows the key actions undertaken and the progress made in the five priority areas identified by the Regional Director during her mandate:

Official visit of Dr Moeti to Centre for Disease Control - 30 September 2015

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

World population over 60 is set to double by 2050; major societal changes required (09/30/2015)

International Coalition Urges Final Push to Eliminate River Blindness from the Americas (09/29/2015)

Former minister of health of El Salvador María Isabel Rodríguez is named a PAHO Health Hero of the Americas (09/29/2015)

Strong health systems, effective leadership, and universal access are key to facing health challenges in the Americas (09/28/2015)

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

Make healthy heart choices. Take action to reduce heart disease in women 29 September 2015

Let's end rabies together 28 September 2015

WHO European Region EURO

Healthy ageing requires a life-course approach 01-10-2015

Ukrainian doctors trained in communicating about polio and vaccines 29-09-2015

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

WHO project targets early detection, management of heart disease in Lebanon September 2015

WHO Western Pacific Region

No new digest content identified.

UNAIDS [to 3 October 2015]

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

[UNAIDS welcomes new World Health Organization guidelines on the use of antiretroviral medicines](#)

30 September 2015 |

[Ending violence and discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people](#)

29 September 2015 |

[World leaders call for accelerated action and smarter investments to Fast-Track the end of the AIDS epidemic](#)

27 September 2015 |

[UNAIDS welcomes bold new HIV prevention and treatment targets from PEPFAR](#)

26 September 2015 |

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 3 October 2015]

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

[UNDP Supports Civil Society in Yemen to Document Human Rights Violations](#)

Oct 2, 2015

UNDP together with UN WOMEN and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has started training Yemeni civil society organizations to independently document human rights violations and provide psychosocial support to victims of the ongoing conflict.

[Note to Correspondents on Central African Republic](#)

Oct 2, 2015

UN Member States today expressed their support for peace and stability in the Central African Republic (CAR) during a high-level meeting held on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly. The purpose of the meeting was to maintain political momentum in the country beyond the transition and obtain comprehensive support for the implementation of the most critical and immediate outcomes of the Bangui Forum.

[UNDP lends Support to Small Island States to develop Climate Targets](#)

Oct 1, 2015

On September 28-29, representatives from Pacific islands convened in Samoa to discuss their countries' Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs), capping an eighteen-month effort to prepare developing countries for the upcoming climate conference in Paris.

["From People to People" - UNDP launches Digital Good platform to enable individuals worldwide to help achieve Sustainable Development Goals](#)

Sep 29, 2015

The United Nations Development Programme launched its Digital Good interactive platform today, the first global resource enabling people worldwide to fund local and global efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which were adopted by the UN General Assembly on 25 September 2015

[Helen Clark: Speech at the launch of the Central African Forest Initiative \(CAFI\)](#)

Sep 29, 2015 New York, USA

[Central African Countries and International Partners Launch Initiative to Prevent Tree Loss, Boost Incomes in Rainforest facing Increased Deforestation](#)

Sep 29, 2015

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 3 October 2015]

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>

SDGs: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics>

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 3 October 2015]

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

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

<http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/>

[First meeting of the HLG](#)

7 OCT 2015

A summary of the comments from IAEG-SDG members and observers received through the open consultation on the List of Indicator Proposals is now available.

25 SEP 2015 - A document containing a summary of comments received on the [List of Indicator Proposals of 11 August 2015](#) during the two rounds of consultations with members and

observers of the Inter-agency and Expert group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators has been [posted online](#).

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme [to 3 October 2015]

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

Selected Press Releases

[Governments, Intergovernmental Organizations, Industry and Civil Society Join Forces for a Chemical-Safe World by 2020](#)

Achieving sound management of chemicals could prevent over 1 million deaths per year globally and massively contribute to realizing the Sustainable Development Goals.

02/10/2015

[Brazil Joins the Convention on Migratory Species](#)

The Accession of Brazil, one of the World's Mega-Biodiverse Nations, Increases CMS Membership to 122

01/10/2015

[Five Inspirational Environmental Leaders Receive Champions of the Earth Award at Close of Sustainable Development Goals Summit](#)

Prime Minister of Bangladesh, National Geographic Society, Unilever CEO, Brazilian Cosmetics Firm and South African Anti-Poaching Unit All Lauded
28/09/2015

UNISDR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 3 October 2015]

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

Selected Press Releases

[DRR key for stemming crises: UN leader](#)

30 Sep 2015

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction is a key element in global efforts to stem the rise in humanitarian crises and shape a new global development and climate change agenda over the next 15 years, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said here today.

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 3 October 2015]

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

[On International Day, UN highlights urban sustainability and inclusiveness of older persons](#)

1 October 2015, New York

The United Nations is today urging countries to improve older persons' accessibility to urban infrastructure, facilities and services as two phenomena – rapid urbanization and ageing populations – are combining to dramatically change the face the world's cities in the coming decades.

UNESCO [to 3 October 2015]

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

02.10.2015 - ODG

[UNESCO's Role in UN's Action to Counter and Prevent Violent Extremism](#)

On 30 September, at UNHQ in New York, UNESCO Director-General briefs US government officials on UNESCO's role in the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF).

02.10.2015

[Global initiative launched to counter the destruction and trafficking of cultural property by terrorist and organized crime groups](#)

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 3 October 2015]

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

01/10/2015 –

[Statement of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Executive Director, Yuriy Fedotov, at the high-level event on migration and refugee flows](#)

28/09/2015 –

[Global initiative launched to counter the destruction and trafficking of cultural property by terrorist and organized crime groups](#)

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 3 October 2015]

<http://unhabitat.org/media-centre/news/>

[Young people of the world elect a new UN-Habitat Youth Advisory Board](#)

Nairobi 1 October 2015—A total of 93,000 votes were cast to elect the sixteen new members of the UN-Habitat Youth Advisory Board. Twelve youth, 6 men and 6 women, representing six regions of the world, will take up...

Posted October 1, 2015

[UN-Habitat and Japan help 180,000 to rebuild community infrastructure facilities in Sri Lanka](#)

Colombo, 2 October 2015: With funding from the Government of Japan, UN-Habitat has supported 180,000 people in 120 villages in Sri Lanka's Northern districts to construct community infrastructure facilities. "Project for Rehabilitation of Community Infrastructure and Facilities..."

Posted October 1, 2015

[European Union and UN-Habitat sign an agreement on Afghanistan's Municipal Governance Support Programme](#)

Kabul 1 October 2015 – The European Union and UN-Habitat have signed the USD 14 million Municipal Governance Support Programme (MGSP) agreement to support nine Afghan cities with spatial planning, municipal governance and land management. The Programme aims...

Posted October 1, 2015

[Unpacking Metropolitan Governance for Sustainable Development Discussion paper published](#)

29 September 2015 – UN-Habitat and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) are happy to announce the release of the joint study "Unpacking Metropolitan Governance for Sustainable Development".

Posted September 29, 2015

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 3 October 2015]

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

[New partnership to promote sustainable mechanization of agriculture](#)

FAO and the European Agricultural Machinery Industry Association CEMA, an international non-profit organisation, today forged a new partnership that aims to promote wider use of sustainable agricultural mechanization in developing countries.

2-10-2015

[Nepal enshrines the Right to Food in new constitution](#)

President Ram Baran Yadav unveiled the long-awaited new constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal on 20 September 2015, which recognizes the Right to Food as a fundamental right of the citizens of Nepal.

1-10-2015

[FAO-ECLAC: Latin America and the Caribbean is exemplary region in fight against hunger](#)

In the framework of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, FAO's Director-General, José Graziano da Silva, and the Executive Secretary of ECLAC, Alicia Bárcena met with members of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC, in Spanish) Quartet, to review the state of food and nutrition security in the region and discuss how to address the challenges ahead.

29-09-2015

Central African Forest Initiative launched

FAO welcomed the launch of a new Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) aimed at supporting the implementation of essential reforms and enhance investments to effectively address the drivers of deforestation in Central Africa.

29-09-2015

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 3 October 2015]

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

2 October 2015

UN agency head to highlight need for investment in smallholder agriculture at BRICS Agrobusiness Forum

28 September 2015

IFAD and CAF commit to reducing poverty and hunger in rural Latin America

New York, 28 September 2015 – On the heels of the adoption of the world's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the UN Summit, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and CAF - the development bank of Latin America - signed an agreement today to further strengthen their collaborative efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger in rural areas...

ILO International Labour Organization [to 3 October 2015]

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

International Day of Older Persons

More than half of the world's older persons lack quality long-term care

A new ILO study reveals a global shortfall of 13.6 million care workers undermining the delivery of quality services to more than half of the world's older persons.

News | 01 October 2015

GENEVA (ILO News) – More than half of the global population aged 65 and above, representing 300 million people, is excluded from urgently needed long-term care (LTC), says the International Labour Organization (ILO).

The new study which covers 80 per cent of the world population aged 65 and over finds extreme deficits in social protection for older persons in need of long-term care due to a lack of 13.6 million LTC workers worldwide...ILO study LTC protection for older persons: A review of coverage deficits in 46 countries

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 3 October 2015]

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

[ICAO Secretary General Makes Strong Case for Aviation as UN Adopts New 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)

MONTREAL, 28 SEPTEMBER 2015 – The Secretary General of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Dr. Fang Liu, put forward her global community's strong case for increased aviation development this past weekend during the Plenary Session of the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit held in New York.

"ICAO is here to underscore the role of air transport in connecting the world, generating sustainable prosperity, and transforming lives," stressed Secretary General Liu. "Our goal is to ensure that governments in every region of the world understand that safe, rapid and reliable global connectivity is essential to realizing this ambitious and visionary 2030 Agenda."..

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 3 October 2015]

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

[Sustainable Development Goals Adopted](#)

[28 September 2015](#)

Weather, climate and water-related information and services will make a cross-cutting contribution to promotion of the newly adopted Sustainable Development Goals. WMO will work closely with its Members and National and Meteorological and Hydrological Services to improve both the provision and use of these services and maximize their full socio-economic benefits.

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 3 October 2015]

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

[UNWTO welcomes the G20 Tourism Ministers' commitment to promote more and better jobs](#)

[1 October 2015](#)

UNWTO welcomes the Declaration issued by the G20 Tourism Ministers (T.20) committing to advance initiatives that promote more and better jobs and contribute to the objectives of the G20 of promoting "inclusive and robust growth". The 6th T.20 Ministers Meeting was held in Antalya on 30 September under the Turkish Presidency of the G20.

[UNWTO partners with UnionPay International](#)

[28 September 2015](#)

The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and UnionPay International have signed a partnership agreement to collaborate on consumer behavior research, enhancing the cooperation between the tourism and financial sectors, improving the competitiveness of tourism destinations through upgraded financial services and holding of international events.

ITU International Telecommunications Union [to 3 October 2015]

http://www.itu.int/net/pressoffice/press_releases/index.aspx?lang=en#.VF8FYcl4WF8

[ITU launches annual award recognizing leadership in sustainable development through ICTs](#)

Celebrating the power of information and communications technology to drive the global 2030 development agenda

New York, 27 September 2015 – ITU emphasized the vital role that information and communication technology (ICT) will play in meeting the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) at a special award ceremony held at UN Headquarters, New York yesterday which officially recognized nine Heads of State/Heads of Government for their efforts to improve access to ICT networks and services.

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 3 October 2015]

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

[Report of the workshop of the Network of Laboratories for the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms](#)

2015-10-01

[With 66 ratifications, Parties to the CBD show their commitment to the Nagoya Protocol](#)

Montreal, 28 September 2015 – Two new ratifications this month to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization brings the total number of ratifications to the ground-breaking treaty under the Convention on Biological Diversity to 66.

Since its entry into force on 12 October 2014, the Nagoya Protocol has received 11 additional ratifications from the following countries: Cambodia, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Mauritania and the Republic of the Congo. The ratifications come from diverse regions of the world indicating broad support for this treaty....

.....

US Department of State

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

10/02/15

[Joint Declaration on the Recent Military Actions of the Russian Federation in Syria;](#)

Office of the Spokesperson; Washington, DC

09/30/15

[Background Briefing on the UN Meeting on Migration and Refugees;](#)

Office of the Spokesperson; Palace Hotel; New York City

09/30/15

[New Humanitarian Assistance for Iraq](#); Office of the Spokesperson; Washington, DC

09/30/15

[TechWomen 2015: Connecting Women Leaders in STEM from the Middle East, Central Asia, and Africa](#);

Office of the Spokesperson; Washington, DC

09/28/15

[Harnessing the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development: U.S. Government Commitments and Collaboration with the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data](#);

Office of the Spokesperson; Washington, DC

09/27/15

[Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and Leave No One Behind](#);

Secretary of State John Kerry; Ford Foundation; New York City

USAID [to 3 October 2015]

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

[USAID Announces Support for African Coffee Sector on International Coffee Day](#)

October 1, 2015

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) announced a \$1.8 million partnership with Michigan State University to help the African Great Lakes region maintain its international position in the coffee market. Today, the first ever International Coffee Day, provides an opportunity to reflect on how the coffee in your cup is connected to the lives of smallholder farmers in low income countries around the world. This partnership launches the Feed the Future African Great Lakes Region Coffee Support Program that will help coffee farmers in Rwanda support their families.

[Statement from USAID Acting Administrator Lenhardt on Humanitarian Access in Yemen](#)

September 28, 2015

The United States remains deeply concerned by the increasingly dire humanitarian situation in Yemen, where millions of people now face pre-famine conditions. A collapsing health system is allowing rapid spread of dengue fever and other diseases, and child malnutrition is reaching alarming levels.

DFID [to 3 October 2015]

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

Selected Announcements

[UK boosts humanitarian aid for victims of conflict in Central African Republic](#)

Published 2 October 2015 Press release DFID

[UK responds to looming food crisis in Malawi](#)

Published 2 October 2015

Press release

DFID and Scotland Office

[PM announces £300 million fund for Caribbean infrastructure](#)

Published 30 September 2015 Press release DFID, UKEF and Number 10

[UK steps up support for Iraqi victims of ISIL](#)

Published 29 September 2015 Press release DFID

[Data matters: the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data](#)

Published 29 September 2015 Speech DFID

Speech by International Development Secretary Justine Greening at the launch of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data.

ECHO [to 3 October 2015]

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

[Commissioner Stylianides deplores the death of several people in the bombing of an MSF-run hospital in Kunduz](#)

03/10/2015

EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Christos Stylianides, has issued the following statement: "I am deeply shocked to learn about the death of at least nine staff members of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in the bombing of a...

[New EU knowledge centre for improved disaster risk management](#)

01/10/2015

The European Commission has launched a new knowledge centre to support EU Member States in responding to emergencies, and preventing and reducing the impact of disasters. The new Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre will help make better use...

[Ukraine: Commissioner Stylianides calls for unhindered humanitarian access](#)

28/09/2015

EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides has issued the following statement: "The decision of the de facto authorities of certain areas of the Luhansk region to remove humanitarian aid agencies from territories...

.....

African Union [to 3 October 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.29.2015 [Africa actively and fully participated in SDGs, must own it](#)

Sep.29.2015 [AUC Chairperson joins world leaders to commit to gender equality and women's empowerment](#)

Sep.28.2015 [High Level Event on SDGs: Africa's Perspective, Launch of the 2015 Africa MDGs report and 2015 Africa Economic Outlook](#)

Sep.28.2015 [TICAD VI High – Level pre-event “Africa’s Transformation through Industrial Development and Implementation of Agenda 2063”](#)

Sep.27.2015 [Africa Must Industrialize - Joint Communiqué by the AUC, OSAA, ECA, and UNIDO](#)

The African Development Bank Group [to 3 October 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 supports improved electricity access in Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Gambia and Senegal](#)

bbb01/10/2015 - The African Development Bank approved on Wednesday, September 30, 2015 a €121.5-million package to the Gambia River Basin Development Organization (OMVG) to improve electricity access and provide renewable, clean and affordable energy in The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal.

[AfDB approves US \\$120-million corporate loan to Ghana Airports Company - First private sector investment in Ghana’s transport sector](#)

01/10/2015 - On September 30, 2015, the Board of Directors of the African Development Bank (AfDB) approved a US \$120-million corporate loan to support Ghana Airports Company Limited’s (GACL) capital investment programme. The programme entails the construction of a new terminal at Kotoka International Airport (KIA) in Accra, and rehabilitation of other airports managed by GACL including Kumasi, Tamale, Ho and Wa Airports. The loan is the first private-sector investment that the AfDB has financed in Ghana’s transport sector.

[AfDB approves US \\$428 million in energy and infrastructure, transport and water projects in eight African countries](#)

30/09/2015 - The Board of Directors of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) on Wednesday, September 30, 2015 approved combined loans and grants amounting to US \$428.43 million to finance projects in energy, infrastructure, transport and water and sanitation in eight African counties – Ghana, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Senegal and Côte d’Ivoire.

[Senegal showcased by the AfDB for sustainability in Rural Water and Sanitation, Sustainable Development Goal number 6](#)

28/09/2015 - The African Development Bank and the Senegalese Ministry for Water Resources and Sanitation have fine-tuned their planning of a new US \$54-million program to improve access to water and sanitation in the most challenging rural regions of the country. High on the agenda of priorities is the alignment with the just-launched UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). SDG number 6 pledges availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 3 October 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 3 October 2015]

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

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

[The Commission deplores the death of several people in the bombing of an MSF-run hospital in Kunduz](#)

Date: 03/10/2015

European Commission - Statement Brussels, 3 October 2015 Commissioner Stylianides expresses condolences to the families of the victims affected by the bombing of a hospital in Kunduz earlier today and calls on all parties to the conflict to respect international humanitarian law and protect medical facilities.

[EU-UNICEF: Safer learning for more than 2 million children caught in Syrian conflict](#)

Date: 01/10/2015

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 1 October 2015 More than 2 million children whose lives have been torn apart by the conflict in Syria will have better access to education in safe environments through an agreement signed today by the European Union (EU) and UNICEF.

[Commission holds Colloquium on combatting antisemitism and anti-Muslim hatred, as survey shows 50% of Europeans believe religious discrimination is widespread](#) 

Date: 01/10/2015

European - Press release Commission Brussels, 1 October 2015 On 1-2 October, the European Commission hosts the first Annual Colloquium on Fundamental Rights, in Brussels. First Vice-President Frans Timmermans and Commissioner Věra Jourová will lead discussions on how to fight antisemitism and anti-Muslim hatred in Europe and foster tolerance and...

[Questions and Answers: additional funding to address the refugee crisis](#)  

Date: 30/09/2015

European Commission - Fact Sheet Brussels, 30 September 2015 Questions and Answers - additional funding to address the refugee crisis The Commission announced an additional €801 million euro for the refugee crisis last week.

OECD [to 3 October 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]

[CEOs and governments should treat digital security as an economic risk](#)

Digital security risk should be treated as an economic rather than a technical issue, and should be part of an organisation's overall risk management and decision-making, according to a new OECD Recommendation to member countries.

1-October-2015

[OECD to launch How's Life? at World Statistics and Policy Forum](#)

Improving people's well-being – not just boosting economic growth - should be a central objective for policy-makers, says the OECD.
29-September-2015

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 3 October 2015]

http://www.oas.org/en/media_center/press_releases.asp

No new digest content identified.

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 3 October 2015]

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

Selected Press Releases

[Madani to the Security Council: OIC takes a four-prong approach to addressing the challenges in MENA region](#)

In his statement to the Security Council in the open debate on "Settlement of conflicts in the Middle East and North Africa and countering terrorist threat in the region," in connection with the agenda item "Maintenance of international peace and security", the Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Iyad Ameen Madani, stressed that as a committed and strategic partner of the UN system and of the international community, the OIC exerts every possible effort to bring remedies to these intertwined and daunting challenges the MENA region is witnessing...

01/10/2015

[OIC Secretary General Announces Establishment of Messaging Center to Counter Extremist Propaganda and OIC Center for Cyber Security](#)

The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Iyad Ameen Madani announced the establishment of a Messaging Center at the General Secretariat that aims at countering extremist discourse and propaganda. This was made by the Secretary General during his statement at the Leaders' Summit on Countering ISIL and Violent Extremism, which was opened by US President Barack Obama at the UNGA on 29 September 2015...

01/10/2015

Group of 77 [to 3 October 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 3 October 2015]

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

26 Sep 2015 –

[OECD and UNCTAD announce partnership to help realize the new 2030 agenda for sustainable development](#)

World Trade Organisation [to 3 October 2015]

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]

2 October 2015

WTO PUBLIC FORUM

[World prices for agricultural goods will “remain flat or decline in the next ten years”](#)

The current growth in agricultural production, especially in Africa, could mean that in the next ten years world prices for food will remain flat or even decline, according to a session devoted to agriculture at the Public Forum on 1 October. Food security, agricultural subsidies and the participation of farmers in global value chains were also discussed.

IMF [to 3 October 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 3 October 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]

[Speech by World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim: Shared Prosperity: Equal Opportunity for All](#)

Date: October 1, 2015...

[Governments Should Focus on Shared Prosperity to Address Inequality—World Bank Group President](#)

Kim rejects “trickle-down” economics in favor of inclusive growth

WASHINGTON, October 1, 2015—World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim today called on governments looking to address growing inequality to work on boosting “shared prosperity,” with a strong focus on improving the lives of the bottom 40 percent of populations in developing countries.

“How are we going to address the problem of inequality? At the World Bank Group, we attack it using a term that suggests a solution -- shared prosperity,” Kim stated. “In our work with governments, we support efforts to ensure that everyone benefits from growth, not just those who already control or have access to capital.”

Speaking at the United States Institute of Peace in advance of the World Bank-IMF Annual Meetings, being held this year in Lima, Peru, Kim pointed to the civil society organization Oxfam as effectively laying out one way to view the challenges of inequality...

[Open Data Gaining Momentum in Africa](#)

Some 450 policy makers, government officials, academics, development practitioners, and representatives from civil society and the private sector from 39 countries gathered in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania for the first-ever [Africa Open Data Conference](#). During the event, earlier this month, participants discussed and shared their experiences on Open Data in Africa, how it can

be best put into use, how to build the necessary technical skills, and how successes can be translated across sectors and countries..

Date: September 29, 2015 Type: Feature Story

[Australia and the World Bank Group Join Forces to Boost Investment in Indo-Pacific Countries](#)

NEW YORK, September 27, 2015—A new World Bank Group program launched today by the Government of Australia will help countries in the Indo-Pacific region boost and attract potential foreign direct investments...

Date: September 27, 2015 Type: Press Release

IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 3 October 2015]

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

[Pacific parliaments provide latest backing for Common Principles](#)

29 SEPTEMBER 2015

Seven parliaments from the Pacific Island countries – Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu - have provided a regional impetus to the Common Principles for Support to Parliament with a formal endorsement. Their backing, and that of the Israeli Knesset now brings the number of endorsements by national parliaments, parliamentary assemblies and partner organizations to 96. The Common Principles, aimed at improving the quality of parliamentary development support, were put together by a group of parliaments and parliamentary development entities and are the result of more than four decades of experience on parliamentary development. Coordinated by IPU, they encourage the parliamentary community to work together more effectively when planning, designing and providing support. Parliaments and organizations wishing to add their endorsement can notify the IPU Secretariat.

[IPU Assembly puts spotlight on migration amid global crisis](#)

29 SEPTEMBER 2015

Against the backdrop of an unprecedented flow of people into Europe and displacement crises around the world, MPs will examine the moral and economic imperative for fairer, smarter and more humane migration at IPU's 133rd Assembly in Geneva from 17-21 October. Rising xenophobia combined with the ongoing impact of the global economic crisis continue to be at odds with the reality of regional demographics, skills shortages and an increasingly mobile workforce when defining national policies on migration. With nearly 60 million people either a refugee, asylum-seeker or displaced by the end of 2014 according to UNHCR, thought will be given to how best to handle large flows of asylum-seekers and ensure protection.

International Criminal Court (ICC)

http://www.icc-cpi.int/en_menus/icc/Pages/default.aspx

[Statement of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Fatou Bensouda, regarding the recent upsurge of violence in the Central African Republic](#)

30/09/2015

The resurgence of violence in Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic, after a period of relative calm is a development which causes great concern. The current situation appears extremely precarious with reports of serious violence and allegations of conduct that

could potentially constitute serious crimes, committed against the civilian population and humanitarian workers.

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

*

*

*

*

:: 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 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

Aravind Eye Care System [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

BRAC [to 3 October 2015]

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

30 September 2015

[Chevron Bangladesh Launches Enterprise Development Pilot with BRAC](#)

Chevron Bangladesh today announced the launch of an 18-month pilot for an enterprise development programme. The initiative, to be implemented by BRAC, will be for the communities of the Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar gas field locations where Chevron operates. It is part of the five-year Bangladesh Partnership Initiative (BPI), a \$10M commitment that was formally launched in September 2014 to support economic development...

...It is anticipated that the programme will reach approximately 20,000 beneficiaries, and up to 1,500 enterprises will be established during its lifespan.

CARE International [to 3 October 2015]

<http://www.care-international.org/news/press-releases.aspx>

[Climate Action Powers Up the Global Goals](#)

GLOBAL

28 SEPTEMBER 2015

CARE International calls upon Head of States gathered in New York to show global leadership and clear commitment for a strong Paris climate agreement and domestic action, which will ensure a better life for current and future generations.

Casa Alianza [to 3 October 2015]

Covenant House [to 3 October 2015]

<http://www.casa-alianza.org.uk/news>

<https://www.covenanthouse.org/>

No new digest content identified.

Danish Refugee Council [to 3 October 2015]

<http://drc.dk/news/archive/>

No new digest content identified.

ECPAT [to 3 October 2015]

<http://www.ecpat.net/news>

No new digest content identified.

Fountain House [to 3 October 2015]

<http://www.fountainhouse.org/about/news-press>

No new digest content identified.

Handicap International [to 3 October 2015]

http://www.handicap-international.us/press_releases

No new digest content identified.

Heifer International [to 3 October 2015]

<http://www.heifer.org/about-heifer/press/press-releases.html>

[Heifer International Weekly](#)

Tuesday, Sep. 29, 2015

HelpAge International [to 3 October 2015]

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

[Older activists take part in umbrella action to campaign for the protection of human rights](#)

Older people in more than 50 countries will come together today (1 October) on the International Day of Older Persons to celebrate ageing and draw attention to the issues they face. Among the actions planned, campaigners will be sheltering under umbrellas to symbolise the protection of their rights.

Posted: 01 October 2015

[Major shift in focus on healthy ageing is welcomed, says HelpAge International](#)

HelpAge International welcomes a major shift in thinking on health in older age, with the release of the WHO's World Report on Ageing and Health today.
Posted: 29 September 2015

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 3 October 2015]

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

30 Sep 2015

[Central African Republic: Deadly Clashes Force Tens of Thousands to Flee, Limit Humanitarian Response](#)

30 Sep 2015

[As White House announces 85,000 ceiling for refugees in 2016, IRC Renews Call on US Government to Resettle an Additional 100,000 Syrian Refugees This Year](#)

28 Sep 2015

[Testimony of the Rt. Hon. David Miliband: Senate Foreign Relations Committee](#)

Senate Foreign Relations Committee Hearing on "The US Role and Strategy in the Middle East: The Humanitarian Crisis" 28 Sep 2015

Testimony of the Rt. Hon. David Miliband President and CEO of the International Rescue Committee

28 Sep 2015

[Reproductive Health for Burundian Refugees: In Demand But Out of Reach](#)

ICRC [to 3 October 2015]

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

[Afghanistan: ICRC condemns bombing of MSF hospital in Kunduz](#)
[News release](#)

03 October 2015

Kabul/Geneva (ICRC) - The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is deeply shocked by the bombing of the MSF hospital in Kunduz, and strongly condemns such violence against patients, medical workers and facilities.

[Philippines: Doctors trained in treatment of weapon-wounded patients](#)
[News release](#)

02 October 2015

Manila (ICRC) – Over 30 surgeons, anaesthesiologists and physicians from private and government hospitals are participating in a three-day training course to enhance their capacity to treat patients wounded by weapons or explosives.

[Yemen: Two volunteers of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement killed in airstrike](#)
[Statement](#)

30 September 2015

Joint statement International Committee of the Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Yemen Red Crescent Society, Geneva / Sana'a.

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is shocked and saddened by the deaths of its two volunteers working with the Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS). Qaed Faisal, 28, and Omar Fareh, 31, were both killed along with other civilians during an airstrike in the Al-Swaida area of Taiz. On the same day, more than 130 people were reportedly killed in an airstrike while attending a wedding celebration in the Al-Mocha area of Taiz. "It is another tragic event for all of us at the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. Since March, we have lost a total eight staff and volunteers in Yemen," said Mr Fuad Al-Makhazy, Secretary General of the Yemen Red Crescent Society. The two latest victims had been volunteers with the YRCS for more than eight years.

[Central African Republic : Humanitarian access needed, as situation deteriorates in Bangui](#)
[News release](#)

29 September 2015

Bangui / Geneva - The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is alarmed by the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic (CAR), following days of violence. The ICRC says aid workers must be given access to help those in need and the civilian population and infrastructure, especially medical personnel and facilities, should not be targeted.

IRCT [to 3 October 2015]

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

News

[Scientific Symposium: Abstract submission deadline extended to 15 October](#)

30 September 2015

News

[BALAY: Providing a home for torture survivors for 30 years](#)

30 September 2015

Islamic Relief [to 3 October 2015]

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

[Help for refugees in Germany](#)

Refugees in Germany have received food, clothing, hygiene items and children's toys, thanks to Islamic Relief and our big hearted supporters.

[undated]

Protracted conflict and instability in the Middle East and North Africa is fuelling the worst refugee crisis of our time. As humanitarian funding falls short, refugees are undertaking gruelling and dangerous journeys to reach safety in Europe.

As part of [our Mediterranean Refugee Crisis response](#), Islamic Relief is providing much needed aid to refugees in Germany.

In four cities, 1,025 refugee families received 2.5 kilogram packages of Qurbani meat, to help them celebrate the important religious festival. In addition, nearly 5,000 Eid gifts have been given out: children in six cities received an Eid gift bag containing sweets and toys.

[Age and Disability Capacity Programme in Humanitarian Crises](#)

October 1, 2015

Efforts are being made to better understand and respond to the needs of older people and people with disabilities in humanitarian crises.

Islamic Relief has been chosen to be part of a three-year programme developed by a number of different organisations, academics and government bodies.

One in eight people in the world today are aged 60 or older, and 15 per cent of the world's population live with a disability. By 2050, two billion – roughly one fifth – of the world's population will be aged older than 60. In conflicts and natural disasters, the risk of disability increases, yet the specific needs of people who have a disability or are older are often overlooked.¹

The three-year project, named Age and Disability Capacity Programme (ADCAP), has already developed a set of Minimum Standards for Age and Disability Inclusion in Humanitarian Action, interactive e-learning for humanitarian workers, and open access materials for face-to-face training. Islamic Relief has employed an Age and Disability Inclusion Advisor, and will be working to ensure its humanitarian response builds in best practice when responding to their needs.

Research carried out by HelpAge International, which is leading the initiative, found a number of concerns shared by many older people in humanitarian contexts...

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 3 October 2015]

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

Press Release

[Afghanistan: MSF Demands Explanations After Deadly Airstrikes Hit Hospital in Kunduz](#)

October 03, 2015

Kabul/Brussels. 3 October 2015: The international medical organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) condemns in the strongest possible terms the horrific aerial bombing of its hospital in Kunduz, Afghanistan. Twelve staff members and at least seven patients, including three children, were killed; 37 people were injured including 19 staff members. This attack constitutes a grave violation of International Humanitarian Law.

Press release

[MSF Applauds World Health Organization Move Toward Treatment for Everyone With HIV](#)

September 30, 2015

GENEVA/JOHANNESBURG—The international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières today applauded the new guidelines from the World Health Organization (WHO) that all people be offered antiretroviral treatment immediately after testing positive for [HIV](#). But MSF warned that turning this new recommendation into reality would require dramatically increased support from donors and governments.

Press release

[CAR: Scores Wounded and Emergency Medical Care Blocked by Violence in Bangui](#)

September 29, 2015

BANGUI, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC—An eruption of retaliatory violence has engulfed the capital of [Central African Republic \(CAR\)](#) following the killing of a motorcycle taxi driver on September 26, wounding scores of people and blocking access to emergency medical care, the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) said today.

Press release

[At Obama-Modi Meeting in New York, MSF Urges India to Protect Affordable Medicines for Millions](#)

September 28, 2015

NEW YORK—As US president Barack Obama and Indian prime minister Narendra Modi meet in New York today, Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) warned that US pressure on India to change its intellectual property policies could result in millions of people around the world losing their lifeline of affordable medicines.

Field news

[Afghanistan: MSF Staff Killed, Hospital Partially Destroyed in Kunduz](#)

October 02, 2015

UPDATE (October 3; 6:45AM EST):

AFGHANISTAN: MSF INFORMED ALL FIGHTING PARTIES OF GPS COORDINATES

Field news

[Afghanistan: MSF Hospital Overwhelmed With Wounded After Heavy Fighting in Kunduz](#)

September 29, 2015

A Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières' (MSF) trauma hospital has been overwhelmed with wounded patients since heavy fighting between government and opposition forces engulfed Kunduz city on Monday.

Field news

[Afghanistan: Influx of Wounded Patients in Kunduz](#)

September 28, 2015

A trauma center run by Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in Kunduz, Afghanistan, is treating an influx of wounded patients today...

Field news

[Syria: MSF Supports Measles Campaign in Kobane](#)

September 28, 2015

The international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) supported the Kobane Health Administration in implementing a nine-day measles vaccination campaign in the Kobane canton of northern Syria in August.

Field news

[CAR: 21 Dead, 100+ Wounded in Bangui Violence](#)

September 27, 2015

Yesterday, violence erupted again in Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic, following the killing of a Muslim man during the early morning. In total, 21 deaths have been reported and more than 100 people were wounded, although the real number could be even higher.

Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) teams working in the city's Mpoko camp, Castor hospital and Hôpital General activated mass casualty plans to cope with an influx of wounded. MSF received 75 wounded patients in all, and the teams stabilized patients and performed 15 surgeries.

Field news

[Greece: MSF Assists in Creating a Refugee Transit Camp](#)

September 25, 2015

A team of Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) logisticians has helped build a transit camp with capacity to accommodate more than 1,000 people in the Idomeni area of Greece, close to the border with the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM). MSF has set up four large 240–square meter tents and two 45–square meter tents to be used for medical activities. The camp is also equipped with basic water and sanitation facilities.

Mercy Corps [to 3 October 2015]

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

[Understanding the Drivers of Violence](#)

New Research Uncovers Surprising Reasons Some Jordanians Join Extremist Groups in Syria and Iraq

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29, 2015 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Relatively large numbers of Jordanians have been drawn to violent causes in Syria and Iraq, with some estimating the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan contributes more fighters per capita to ISIS and Al-Qaeda than any other country. Understanding the reasons why Jordanians are choosing to fight for violent extremist groups could go a long way toward helping to prevent future recruitment. A new [research brief](#) by the global organization [Mercy Corps](#) finds some rather surprising justifications behind the movement.

The most common justification for joining the war in Syria was to protect Sunni women and children. Nearly all those interviewed identified crimes committed by Shi'ites in Syria against Sunni women as the predominant rallying cause...

Operation Smile [to 3 October 2015]

<http://www.operationsmile.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 3 October 2015]

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

[A new fundraising campaign for supporting coffee farmers](#)

1 October 2015

Oxfam is launching a new campaign called "Coffee4Change" to raise funds for its work with coffee farmers and workers around the world. The campaign begins Oct 1 to coincide with the inaugural International Coffee Day.

[Super El Niño and climate change cause crop failures putting millions at risk of hunger](#)

1 October 2015

At least ten million poor people face hunger this year and next due to droughts and erratic rains, influenced by climate change and the likely development of a 'super El Niño'.

[200 million in Latin America at risk of poverty again](#)

30 September 2015

The richest 1% in Latin America and the Caribbean owns 41% of the region's total wealth and if this trend continues, in only 8 years' time the progress that has been achieved there in reducing poverty could drastically reverse, warns Oxfam today. On average, the annual income of Latin American billionaires is almost 5,000 times greater than that of the region's poorest people.

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 3 October 2015]

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

Ukraine

[Norwegian Refugee Council stops activities in opposition-controlled areas](#)

02. oktober 2015

Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) has ceased activities in opposition-controlled areas in Luhansk oblast in Eastern Ukraine. The organisation has also closed its office in Luhansk city and withdrawn its remaining staff.

Central African Republic

[Urgent need for assistance](#)

02. oktober 2015

Thousands of people displaced by the recent fighting in the Central African Republic are in urgent need of clean water, emergency shelter and medical assistance, but humanitarian organisations are still blocked from accessing several camps for the displaced.

Mediterranean

[Helping refugees in Europe](#)

02. oktober 2015

NRC is currently represented in the Mediterranean by 16 experts deployed from NRC's stand-by roster NORCAP. A majority of the experts are field protection officers who are engaged in various important activities, based on the most immediate needs in the areas they are deployed to.

Pact [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

Partners In Health [to 3 October 2015]

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

Oct 02, 2015

[Managing Pain and Adding Comfort: A Day in Atupere Phiri's Life](#)

PATH [to 3 October 2015]

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

Announcement | October 01, 2015

[PATH announces leader for its devices and tools program](#)

Dr. David Shoultz to direct its longstanding, lifesaving devices work

PATH has named Dr. David Shoultz, currently the leader of its drug development program, to expand his leadership role to include PATH's devices and tools program. Based in PATH's Seattle headquarters, he will assume this new role on October 1, 2015.

Plan International [to 3 October 2015]

<http://plan-international.org/about-plan/resources/media-centre>

No new digest content identified.

Save The Children [to 3 October 2015]

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

[Accenture's US\\$4.5 Million Grant to Save the Children Will Help Secure Jobs for 28,000 Indonesian and Filipino Youth](#)

Jakarta, Indonesia (Sept. 29, 2015) —

[Accenture](#) and the Accenture Foundations have made a US\$4.5 million grant to Save the Children to help the nonprofit provide job skills training to 47,000 at-risk youth in Indonesia and the Philippines.

Accenture's contribution will enable Save the Children to secure jobs and self-employment for 28,000 of these youth and help the nonprofit develop new web-based and mobile training platforms to deliver e-learning. The grant will strengthen links between trainers, employers and government to match more youth to available jobs.

Accenture also will provide pro-bono consulting services to help Save the Children launch a database system that will better measure impact of its programs and ultimately put more youth into jobs...

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

Tostan [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

Women for Women International [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

.....

ChildFund Alliance [to 3 October 2015]

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

[ChildFund International honoured by the Clinton Global Initiative.](#)

[Undated]

Author: Child Fund Alliance

ChildFund International was among a group of organizations honored at the 2015 Clinton Global Citizen Awards for its tremendous leadership in responding to the Ebola crisis over the past year.

In 2014 ChildFund joined with Airlink, a rapid-response relief organization that links airlines with nonprofits, and other partners in a CGI Commitment to Action to build an Air Bridge to West Africa. Through this collaboration, ChildFund helped to fill three planes with critically needed medical supplies and was one of the first organizations to equip teams on the ground to take action in the hardest-hit areas of Liberia and Sierra Leone.

ChildFund also responded to the unique needs of children who lost one or both parents to Ebola by opening the first facility dedicated to their care. ChildFund's nine Interim Care Centers in Sierra Leone and Liberia provided children with safe quarantine facilities as well as food, health care and trauma counseling while also working with those countries' governments to return the children to family care. Through partnerships with Airlink and other CGI members, ChildFund was able to send 10 ocean containers filled with supplies to keep these facilities well stocked and health workers in three countries, including Guinea, well protected.

"These 24 incredible organizations ... more than answered the call for help. Together they mounted a truly extraordinary effort. They mustered more than 500 tons of commodity support, lent thousands and thousands of hours of essential coordinating help and direct service on the ground," said Chelsea Clinton, Vice Chair of the Clinton Foundation...

CONCORD [to 3 October 2015]

European NGO confederation for relief and development

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

No new digest content identified..

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 3 October 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 3 October 2015]

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

Press release 25 September 2015

[The Elders and Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect call upon the UN Security Council to act to prevent mass atrocity crimes](#)

Gro Harlem Brundtland and Hina Jilani joined others in calling for members of the UN Security Council to work collaboratively to enforce international law.

[Read the statement](#)

END Fund [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

Gavi [to 3 October 2015]

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

[New polio vaccine introduced to accelerate polio eradication in Afghanistan](#)

More than one million children to benefit from the new polio vaccine

Kabul 30 September 2015 – As part of the Government of [Afghanistan](#)'s ongoing efforts to eradicate polio and strengthen routine immunization, H.E Dr. Ferozuddin Feroz, Minister of Public Health of Afghanistan, today formally introduced the [Inactivated Polio Vaccine \(IPV\)](#) into the schedule of routine vaccinations programme for all children under the age of one.

Today's introduction of IPV into the routine immunisation schedule in Afghanistan is part of a worldwide roll-out of the vaccine across 126 countries – the largest and fastest globally coordinated vaccine introduction project in history. It is funded as part of the budget of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), and support is channeled through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, WHO and UNICEF.

The vaccine is now available free of charge at all health facilities in the country...

[Gavi welcomes global goals and renews call for immunisation indicator](#)

Inclusion of globally recognised indicator vital for measuring impact of SDG3

Geneva, 28 September 2015 – Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance today renewed calls for an immunisation indicator to be included in the monitoring framework for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Gavi is committed to playing its part in the ambitious efforts to end poverty by 2030 and welcomes the adoption of the goals....

Global Fund [to 3 October 2015]

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

News

[Global Fund Welcomes New WHO Guidelines for HIV Treatment](#)

30 September 2015

... "The two recommendations are critically important and very timely to moving us towards the fast track treatment and prevention goals and to achieve the end of the HIV epidemic by 2030 as called for by the recently adopted Sustainable Development Goals," said Mark Dybul, Executive Director of the Global Fund.

News

[Global Fund Welcomes Action by PEPFAR on Girls and Women](#)

26 September 2015

Hilton Prize Laureates [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

InterAction [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

Start Network [to 3 October 2015]

http://www.start-network.org/news-blog/#.U9U_O7FR98E

[Consortium of British Humanitarian Agencies]

[Start Network launches new funding mechanisms for humanitarian response](#)

September 28, 2015

Posted by [Helen James](#) in [News](#).

New York – The Start Network has committed to prototype new financial models to ensure that the right solutions are funded at the right time to enable the best possible solutions to humanitarian crises.

In a future of great complexity and uncertainty, the humanitarian financing system must evolve in order to meet the needs of crisis-affected people. Today, crises are more frequent, more widespread and affect growing number of people. 70% of front-line crisis relief is provided by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society actors, but these organisations are constrained by outdated funding distribution models.

Money exists for disasters but the system is slow, reactive and inefficient. In humanitarian crises attention from institutional donors and the general public is often triggered by media headlines. By the time these crises hit the headlines, they have already escalated to a point where many lives have been lost.

Faster response requires a more proactive and systematic approach to financial preparedness. Building on the success of the Start Fund – The first NGO-managed pooled fund for rapid humanitarian response – The Start Network has committed to build new funding mechanisms that can channel predictable and quick resources to frontline NGOs and their civil society partners.

This includes:

- 1 – The first loan facility for NGOs working in humanitarian emergencies
- 2 – Insurance products that will finance work to prevent the escalation of food crises in highly-vulnerable countries
- 3 – Catastrophe bonds that will finance the containment and control of emerging potential pandemics...

Muslim Charities Forum [to 3 October 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.

.....

Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP) [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

CHS International Alliance [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

EHLRA/R2HC [to 3 October 2015]

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

[HIF Call for Proposals](#)

29.09.2015

Do you have a creative solution to humanitarian needs – an innovation that could help people in crises? The Humanitarian Innovation Fund (HIF), managed by ELRHA ELRHA, supports organisations and individuals to identify, nurture and share innovative and scalable solutions to the challenges facing effective humanitarian assistance.

The HIF is pleased to announce that its 10th call for applications is open. Over the past five years we have awarded over 60 grants to organisations working across the humanitarian system, from developing a rapid response wheelchair package to improving menstrual hygiene in emergency contexts...

Global Humanitarian Assistance (GHA) [to 3 October 2015]

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

[Drought in Central America](#)

Report Synopsis

Date: 2015/09/29

On the 28 of September 2015 we responded to a funding alert in response to drought in three countries in Central America's 'dry corridor': El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. For the second year in a row food insecurity in the three countries has intensified due to the impact of drought and failed harvests associated with the impact of the El Niño phenomenon.

According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)'s Financial Tracking Service (FTS), donors have committed or contributed US\$0.2 million of humanitarian assistance to El Salvador, US\$5.7 million to Honduras, and US\$11.2 million to Guatemala so far in 2015. While there is currently no UN-coordinated appeal for El Salvador there are Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) for Honduras and Guatemala requesting US\$13.2 million and US\$23.8 million from donors, respectively. The majority of requirements in both appeals have been requested for food security, 72% of total requirements in the Guatemala ERP and 68% for Honduras. For both appeals 42% of the total requirements have currently been met.

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

ODI [to 3 October 2015]

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

["Revolutionary Effort" needed to achieve new global development goals](#)

News | 29 September 2015

World leaders must adopt radical approaches if they are meet the new universal development goals to be endorsed the UN General Assembly this month, warns the Overseas Development Institute.

[Projecting progress: reaching the SDGs by 2030](#)

Research reports and studies

September 2015

[Susan Nicolai](#), [Chris Hoy](#), [Tom Berliner](#) and Thomas Aedy

This flagship report offers the first systematic attempt to project progress across the full Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) agenda, showing where – if current trends continue – the world will be in 15 years' time. Our findings serve as a wake-up call on just how much more effort will be needed to reach the new goals.

Gathering together the best available projections, we provide a 'scorecard' against 17 targets – one per goal. This shows that, without increased effort, none of the goals and examined targets will be met. The scorecard reveals how much faster progress will need to be, classing targets as needing 'reform', 'revolution' and 'reversal'.

The greatest cause for optimism can be found in projections on ending extreme poverty, economic growth in least-developed countries and halting deforestation – we are on course to get more than halfway towards each of these targets by 2030. A larger number of targets, including much of the Millennium Development Goal's 'unfinished business', will need to speed progress by multiples of current rates to see success in time. A final cluster requires outright reversal in trajectories; this includes reducing inequality, limiting slum populations, combating climate change, reducing waste, and protecting marine environments.

Our scorecard is based on global projections, but the level of change needed varies widely across regions and countries. Sub-Saharan Africa is set to be furthest behind. While more substantial progress is likely across South Asia, East Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America, each of these regions will have their own struggles. The biggest environmental impacts are likely to stem from emerging and developed economies.

While our scorecard reveals shortfalls, there is much to be hopeful about. A closer look at recent top-performing countries shows that if others were able to make similar rates of progress, we would get much closer to reaching the goals. Early actions are needed to raise national ambitions and strengthen a focus on equity.

[Universal energy access: can we make it sustainable?](#)

Briefing papers | September 2015 | Ilmi Granoff; James Ryan Hogarth

This policy brief shows that universal energy access would largely be a win-win for the climate and poverty reduction.

[Protracted displacement: uncertain paths to self-reliance in exile](#)

Briefing papers | September 2015 | Nicholas Crawford, John Cosgrave, Simone Haysom and Nadine Walicki

There are 60 million refugees and internally displaced persons around the world. This policy brief outlines trends in displacement and how to better support self-reliance and sustainable livelihoods.

[10 things to know about refugees and displacement](#)

Briefing papers | September 2015 | John Cosgrave, Nicholas Crawford and Irina Mosel

New infographics to address myths and misconceptions about refugees and internally displaced people.

[Sub-Saharan Africa and international equity: policy approaches to enhancing its role in economic development](#)

Working and discussion papers | September 2015 | Judith E. Tyson

International private equity offers an unprecedented opportunity to accelerate economic development in sub-Saharan Africa. It has been the fast growing capital flow to the region with more than \$50 billion annually and a 20 percent of cross-border capital flows....

The Sphere Project [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 3 October 2015]

<https://phap.org/>

Upcoming Events

6 Oct 2015

[PHAP Online Learning Series on Humanitarian Law and Policy – Independence: Practical dilemmas of principled action](#)

6 Oct 2015

[World Humanitarian Summit – Live online discussion on practical dilemmas of principled action: Independence](#)

8 Oct 2015

[Online briefing: Realities of Being Principled in Today's Field Operations](#)

14 Oct 2015

[PHAP Online Learning Series on Humanitarian Law and Policy – Unpacking the concept of direct participation in hostilities](#)

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

*

*

*

*

:: 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 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

Clinton Foundation [to 3 October 2015]

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

Press Release

[CGI Annual Meeting Attendees Make 123 New Commitments to Action to Positively Impact the Lives of More Than 15 Million People](#)

September 29, 2015

President Bill Clinton and Chelsea Clinton Look to the Future of Impact on Final Day of 2015 CGI Annual Meeting. To date, over 3,400 commitments have been made, improving the lives of over 430 million people in more than 180 countries...

Ford Foundation [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 3 October 2015]

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

[Homelessness in LA: Living in a state of emergency](#)

By Steven M. Hilton, September 30, 2015

It's no secret: We're living in a time of crisis. While I'm encouraged by the bold leadership of Mayor Garcetti and City Council members in [declaring a state of emergency](#) over the problem of homelessness, their commitment of \$100 million signals just the first step in combating one of the great scourges of Los Angeles, the City of Angels...

IKEA Foundation [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 3 October 2015]

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

Research [October 1, 2015]

[Study Examines Scale of Gene Mutations in Human Neurons](#)

New research indicates individual human neurons may harbor up to 1,000 genetic mutations.

Kellogg Foundation [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

MacArthur Foundation [to 3 October 2015]

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

Publication

[Using Housing Policy to Promote Economic Mobility](#)

Published September 30, 2015

A [report](#) by the [Urban Institute](#), supported by the MacArthur Foundation's How Housing Matters initiative, identifies a range of evidence-based housing policies that can be used to promote economic opportunity and upward mobility. The report is rooted in the increasing body of research findings that opportunity is tied to place. It proposes a menu of federal, state and local policy tools highlighting how housing policy can enable people to have both choices about where they live and opportunities wherever they choose to call home.

[Meet the 2015 MacArthur Fellows](#)

These 24 delightfully diverse MacArthur Fellows are shedding light and making progress on critical issues, pushing the boundaries of their fields, and improving our world in imaginative, unexpected ways," said MacArthur President Julia Stasch. "Their work, their commitment, and their creativity inspire us all.

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

Open Society Foundation [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

Pew Charitable Trusts [to 3 October 2015]

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

[Pew Praises New Zealand's Announcement of Kermadecs Marine Sanctuary](#)

September 28, 2015 Press Release

WELLINGTON, New Zealand—The Pew Charitable Trusts applauds the government of New Zealand for its commitment, announced today, to create a 620,000-square-kilometre (239,383-square-mile) fully protected marine sanctuary in the Kermadec region. Located in the South Pacific about 1,000 kilometres (620 miles) northeast of New Zealand's North Island, the Kermadecs are home to a wide array of species and serve as an important migratory pathway for marine mammals making seasonal journeys between tropical and cooler waters...

Rockefeller Foundation [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 3 October 2015]

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

[Collaborating Across Sectors to Grow Healthy Kids](#)

Sep 30, 2015, 1:21 PM, Posted by [Alonzo L. Plough](#)

Schools are usually considered to be part of a system separate from the health care system, but they play an important role in building a Culture of Health. See how cross-sector collaborations can ensure children strong starts to healthy, productive lives. [U.S.]

Wellcome Trust [to 3 October 2015]

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

No new digest content identified.

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

*

*

*

*

:: 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>

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Infection Control

October 2015 Volume 43, Issue 10, p1027-1146, e61-e66

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

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

October 2015 Volume 49, Issue 4, p493-660, e23-e52

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

[Encouraging Influenza Vaccination Among Text4baby Pregnant Women and Mothers](#)

Elizabeth T. Jordan, Jessica A. Bushar, Juliette S. Kendrick, Pamela Johnson, Jiangxia Wang

p563–572

Published online: July 29 2015

Abstract

Introduction

Pregnant women, postpartum women, and infants are at high risk for complications from influenza. From October to November 2012, Text4baby, a free national text service for pregnant women and mothers of infants aged <1 year, implemented a module of interactive messages encouraging maternal influenza vaccination. A program evaluation examined whether a text-based reminder or tailored education improved self-reported influenza vaccination or intent to be vaccinated later in the influenza season among Text4baby participants.

Methods

Nearly one third (28,609/89,792) of enrollees responded to a text asking about their vaccination plans. Those planning to receive vaccination were randomly assigned to receive an encouragement message or an encouragement message plus the opportunity to schedule a reminder (n=3,021 at follow-up). Those not planning to be vaccinated were randomly assigned to receive general education or education tailored to their reason for non-vaccination (n=3,820 at follow-up). The effect of the enhanced messages was assessed using multinomial logistic regression in 2013–2014.

Results

A reminder increased the odds of vaccination at follow-up among mothers (AOR=2.0, 95% CI=1.4, 2.9) and of continued intent to be vaccinated later in the season (pregnant, AOR=2.1, 95% CI=1.4, 3.1; mother, AOR=1.7, 95% CI=1.1, 2.5). Among mothers not planning to be vaccinated because of cost, those who received a tailored message about low-cost vaccination had higher odds of vaccination at follow-up (AOR=1.9, 95% CI=1.1, 3.5). Other tailored messages were not effective.

Conclusions

Text reminders and tailored education may encourage influenza vaccination among this vulnerable population; both have now been incorporated into Text4baby.

American Journal of Public Health

Volume 105, Issue S4 (October 2015)

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

The Combined Effects of the Expansion of Primary Health Care and Conditional Cash Transfers on Infant Mortality in Brazil, 1998–2010

Frederico C. Guanaís, PhD

Frederico C. Guanaís is with the Social Protection and Health Division, Inter-American Development Bank, Washington, DC.

Abstract

Objectives. I examined the combined effects of access to primary care through the Family Health Program (FHP) and conditional cash transfers from the Bolsa Familia Program (BFP) on postneonatal infant mortality (PNIM) in Brazil.

Methods. I employed longitudinal ecological analysis using panel data from 4583 Brazilian municipalities from 1998 to 2010, totaling 54 253 observations. I estimated fixed-effects ordinary least squares regressions models with PNIM rate as the dependent variable and FHP, BFP, and their interactions as the main independent variables of interest.

Results. The association of higher FHP coverage with lower PNIM became stronger as BFP coverage increased. At the means of all other variables, when BFP coverage was 25%,

predicted PNIM was 5.24 (95% confidence interval [CI] = 4.95, 5.53) for FHP coverage = 0% and 3.54 (95% CI = 2.77, 4.31) for FHP coverage = 100%. When BFP coverage was 60%, predicted PNIM was 4.65 (95% CI = 4.36, 4.94) when FHP coverage = 0% and 1.38 (95% CI = 0.88, 1.89) when FHP coverage = 100%.

Conclusions. The effect of the FHP depends on the expansion of the BFP. For impoverished, underserved populations, combining supply- and demand-side interventions may be necessary to improve health outcomes.

Preparedness for Natural Disasters Among Older US Adults: A Nationwide Survey

Tala M. Al-rousan, MD, Linda M. Rubenstein, PhD, and Robert B. Wallace, MD, MSc

The authors are with the Department of Epidemiology, University of Iowa College of Public Health, Iowa City.

Abstract

Objectives. We sought to determine natural disaster preparedness levels among older US adults and assess factors that may adversely affect health and safety during such incidents.

Methods. We sampled adults aged 50 years or older (n = 1304) from the 2010 interview survey of the Health and Retirement Study. The survey gathered data on general demographic characteristics, disability status or functional limitations, and preparedness-related factors and behaviors. We calculated a general disaster preparedness score by using individual indicators to assess overall preparedness.

Results. Participant (n = 1304) mean age was 70 years (SD = 9.3). Only 34.3% reported participating in an educational program or reading materials about disaster preparation. Nearly 15% reported using electrically powered medical devices that might be at risk in a power outage. The preparedness score indicated that increasing age, physical disability, and lower educational attainment and income were independently and significantly associated with worse overall preparedness.

Conclusions. Despite both greater vulnerability to disasters and continuous growth in the number of older US adults, many of the substantial problems discovered are remediable and require attention in the clinical, public health, and emergency management sectors of society.

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 3 October 2015)

Research article

Maternal and reproductive health financing in Burundi: public-sector contribution levels and trends from 2010 to 2012

Claire Chaumont, Carmen Muhorane, Isabelle Moreira-Burgos, Ndereye Juma, Leticia Avila-Burgos BMC Health Services Research 2015, 15:446 (1 October 2015)

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 3 October 2015)

[No new relevant content identified]

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 3 October 2015)

Research article

Assessing the detection, reporting and investigation of adverse events in clinical trial protocols implemented in Cameroon: a documentary review of clinical trial protocols

Akoh Walter Ebile^{13*}, Jerome Ateudjieu¹²³, Martin Ndinakie Yakum¹³, Marceline Ngounoue Djuidje⁴⁵ and Pierre Watcho¹

* Corresponding author: Akoh W Ebile ebileakoh@yahoo.com

Author Affiliations

BMC Medical Ethics 2015, 16:67 doi:10.1186/s12910-015-0061-5

Published: 29 September 2015

Abstract

Background

International guidelines recommend ethical and scientific quality standards for managing and reporting adverse events occurring during clinical trials to competent research ethics committees and regulatory authorities. The purpose of this study was to determine whether clinical trial protocols in Cameroon are developed in line with national requirements and international guidelines as far as detecting, reporting and investigating of adverse events is concerned.

Methods

It was a documentary review of all approved clinical trial protocols that were submitted at the Cameroon National Ethics Committee for evaluation from 1997 through 2012. Data were extracted using a preconceived and validated grid. Protocol review process targeted the title, abstract, objectives, methodology, resources, and the chapter on safety.

Results

In total, 106 (4.9 %) clinical trial protocols were identified from 2173 protocols seen in the archive and 104 (4.8 %) included for review. Seventy six (73.1 %) trials did not include the surveillance of adverse events as part of their objective. A total of 91 (87.5 %) protocols did not budget for adverse event surveillance, 76 (73.1 %) did not have a data safety management board (DSMB), 11(10.6 %) included insurance for participants, 47 (45.2 %) did not include a case definition for serious adverse events, 33 (31.7 %) described procedures to detect adverse events, 33 (31.7 %) described procedure for reporting and 22 (21.2 %) described procedure for investigating adverse events.

Discussions

Most clinical trial protocols in Cameroon are developed to focus on benefits and pay little attention to harms. The development of national guidelines can improve the surveillance of adverse events in clinical trial research conducted in Cameroon. Adverse events surveillance tools and a budget are critical for an adequate planning for adverse event surveillance when developing trial protocols.

Conclusion

Clinical trial protocols submitted in the Cameroon National Ethics Committee do not adequately plan to assess adverse events in clinical trial protocols. In order to improve on the safety of participants and marketed drug, there is a need to develop national guidelines for clinical trials by the government, and to improve evaluation procedures and monitoring of ongoing trials by the ethics committee.

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 3 October 2015)

[No new relevant content identified]

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 3 October 2015)

Research article

[Mortality changes after grants from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria: an econometric analysis from 1995 to 2010](#)

Isabel Yan, Eline Korenromp, Eran Bendavid BMC Public Health 2015, 15:977 (28 September 2015)

Abstract

Background

Since its founding in 2002, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (Global Fund) has become the dominant multilateral health financier in low- and middle-income countries. The health impact of the Global Fund remains unknown because existing evaluations measure intermediate outcomes or do not account for preexisting and counterfactual trends.

Methods

We conducted an econometric analysis of data from all countries eligible to receive Global Fund grants from 1995 to 2010, prior to and during the Global Fund's activities. We analyzed three outcomes: all-cause adult (15–59 years), all-cause under-five, and malaria-specific under-five mortality. Our main exposure was a continuous longitudinal measure of Global Fund disbursements per capita. We used panel fixed effect regressions, and analyzed mortality trends controlling for health spending, health worker density (a measure of health system capacity), gross domestic product, urbanization, and country fixed-effects.

Results and discussion

We find that following Global Fund disbursements, adult mortality rate declined by 1.4 % per year faster with every \$10 per capita increase in disbursements ($p = 0.005$). Similarly, malaria-specific under-five mortality declined by 6.9 % per year faster ($p = 0.033$) with every \$10 high per capita Global Fund disbursements. However, we find no association between Global Fund support and all-cause under-five mortality. These findings were consistent after subanalyses by baseline HIV prevalence, adjusting for effects of concurrent health aid from other donors, and varying time lags between funding and mortality changes.

Conclusions

Grants from the Global Fund are closely related to accelerated reductions in all-cause adult mortality and malaria-specific under-five mortality. However, up to 2010 the Global Fund has not measurably contributed to reducing all-cause under-five mortality.

Research article

Evaluation of mass drug administration in the program to control imported lymphatic filariasis in Thailand

Tanaporn Toothong, Mathuros Tipayamongkhogul, Nawarat Suwannapong, Saravudh Suvannadabba BMC Public Health 2015, 15:975 (28 September 2015)

Research article

Individual and community level determinants of childhood full immunization in Ethiopia: a multilevel analysis

Samir Abadura, Wondwosen Lerebo, Usha Kulkarni, Zeleke Mekonnen BMC Public Health 2015, 15:972 (28 September 2015)

Abstract

Background

Expanded program on immunization is one of the most successful and cost effective public health interventions that protect children against vaccine preventable diseases. The full childhood immunization coverage in many parts of Ethiopia is far from optimal. Hence, the main objective of this study was to assess factors associated with childhood full immunization in Ethiopia.

Methods

The data source for this study was the 2011 Ethiopian Demographic and Health Survey. Multilevel regression analysis techniques were used to conduct the analysis. Accordingly a two level multilevel regression analysis model was built with individuals (level 1) nested with in communities (level 2).

Results

A total of 4983 children aged 12–59 months nested within 520 clusters were included in the analysis. According to the analysis results, in the year 2011, 26 % of children less than 5 years old were fully immunized in Ethiopia. Being born at health institutions, higher level of maternal education, media exposure, region of residence and residing in communities possessing higher maternal antenatal care services utilization were positively associated with childhood full immunization. In contrary to this, the number children aged less than 5 years in the household was negatively associated with childhood full immunization. The random effect results indicated that 21 % of the variation among the communities was due to community level factors.

Conclusions

It was found that various individual and contextual factors were associated with childhood full immunization. In addition, significant community level variation remains after having controlled individual and community level factors which is an indicative of a need for further research on community level factors. Hence, utilizing multilevel modeling in determining the effect of both individual and contextual level factors simultaneously had brought an important output which may help planners, policy and decision makers to emphasize on both individuals and communities in which they live.

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 3 October 2015)

Research article

The contribution of case study design to supporting research on Clubhouse psychosocial rehabilitation

Toby Raeburn^{1*}, Virginia Schmied¹, Catherine Hungerford² and Michelle Cleary¹

Author Affiliations

1 School of Nursing and Midwifery, Western Sydney University, Penrith 2751, NSW, Australia

2 School of Nursing, Midwifery, and Indigenous Health, Faculty of Science, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, NSW, Australia

BMC Research Notes 2015, 8:521 doi:10.1186/s13104-015-1521-1

Published: 1 October 2015

Abstract

Background

Psychosocial Clubhouses provide recovery-focused psychosocial rehabilitation to people with serious mental illness at over 300 sites in more than 30 countries worldwide. To deliver the services involved, Clubhouses employ a complex mix of theory, programs and relationships, with this complexity presenting a number of challenges to those undertaking Clubhouse research. This paper provides an overview of the usefulness of case study designs for Clubhouse researchers; and suggests ways in which the evaluation of Clubhouse models can be facilitated.

Results

The paper begins by providing a brief explanation of the Clubhouse model of psychosocial rehabilitation, and the need for ongoing evaluation of the services delivered. This explanation is followed by an introduction to case study design, with consideration given to the way in which case studies have been used in past Clubhouse research. It is posited that case study design provides a methodological framework that supports the analysis of either quantitative, qualitative or a mixture of both types of data to investigate complex phenomena in their everyday contexts, and thereby support the development of theory. As such, case study approaches to research are well suited to the Clubhouse environment. The paper concludes with recommendations for future Clubhouse researchers who choose to employ a case study design.

Conclusions

While the quality of case study research that explores Clubhouses has been variable in the past, if applied in a diligent manner, case study design has a valuable contribution to make in future Clubhouse research.

Research article

Text message interventions for follow up of infants born to mothers positive for Chagas disease in Tucumán, Argentina: a feasibility study

Gabriela Cormick, Alvaro Ciganda, Maria Cafferata, Michael Ripple, Sergio Sosa-Estani, Pierre Buekens, José Belizán, Fernando Althabe BMC Research Notes 2015, 8:508 (29 September 2015)

BMJ Open

2015, Volume 5, Issue 10

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

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

British Medical Journal

23 September 2015 (vol 351, issue 8027)

<http://www.bmj.com/content/351/8027>
[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 10, October 2015, 665-740

<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/93/10/en/>

EDITORIALS

Improving mental health care in humanitarian emergencies

Peter Ventevogel, Mark van Ommeren, Marian Schilperoord & Shekhar Saxena

doi: 10.2471/BLT.15.156919

a. Public Health Section, Division of Programme Management and Support, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 94 Rue de Montbrillant, 1202 Geneva, Switzerland.

b. Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland.

Correspondence to Peter Ventevogel (email: ventevog@unhcr.org).

Bulletin of the World Health Organization 2015;93:666-666A. doi:

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.15.156919>

The mental health needs of people affected by emergencies are significant, but often overlooked by health-care providers.¹ The world is facing an unprecedented number of humanitarian emergencies arising from conflict and disasters. In 2014, nearly 60 million people were forcibly displaced due to conflict, the highest number on record.² Climatic and geological hazards continue to take their toll, as seen recently following the devastating earthquake in Nepal, cyclone in Vanuatu and flooding in China, Malawi and Myanmar.

Although estimated rates of mental disorder after conflict vary due to differences in context and study methods, a meta-analysis of methodically stronger surveys indicate average rates of 15–20% for depression and post-traumatic stress disorder.³ This is in line with projected rates of mental disorder after disasters.⁴ In humanitarian emergencies, mental health complaints are diverse in nature and severity.

First, grief and acute stress are usually transient psychological reactions to adversity and loss. These require a basic, supportive psychosocial response.⁵ Yet, when these reactions interfere with daily functioning – as is the case when people develop associated symptoms of insomnia, enuresis or hyperventilation – general health-care providers (e.g. non-specialized physicians, clinical officers and nurses) need to know how to manage this.

Second, common mental disorders, such as depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and prolonged grief disorder, may be triggered by extreme stressors (e.g. trauma and loss). These disorders may become chronic and undermine the functioning of individuals and communities, which is essential for their survival and socioeconomic recovery. Health-care providers need to

know how to manage these problems and how to distinguish mental disorders from widespread emotional distress that is common in emergency settings.⁶

Third, pre-existing chronic psychoses, bipolar disorder, intellectual disability and epilepsy can cause significant vulnerability in the chaos of an emergency. People with these conditions are at particular risk of neglect, abandonment, abuse, interruption of maintenance medication and lack of access to health services. Moreover, triggered by the stress of adversity, people with a history of severe mental disorder may experience a relapse or exacerbation of existing symptoms.⁷

Finally, acute health risks and social problems due to alcohol and drug use can be magnified in humanitarian settings;⁸ health-care providers need to be able to manage harmful use of alcohol and drugs as well as life-threatening withdrawal.⁵

There is consensus that humanitarian assistance should address mental health and psychosocial issues through intersectoral action.^{5,9} Currently, most health agencies do not routinely address these needs, though the programmes of Médecins Sans Frontières and the International Medical Corps are notable exceptions. Many international humanitarian organizations initiate important community-based psychosocial support interventions outside the health sector (e.g. child-friendly spaces, linking vulnerable people to resources) but ignore clinical intervention through health services.¹⁰ A recent analysis of records from 90 refugee camps confirms that mental health care is rarely provided: the average consultation rate across all camps for mental, neurological and substance use conditions was 4.3 visits per 1000 persons per month,¹¹ while the estimated prevalence rate of these conditions is much higher.⁴

To address these gaps in service provision, the World Health Organization and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees have released the *mhGAP Humanitarian Intervention Guide*.¹² This practical tool will help enable health-care providers in assessing and offering first-line management of mental, neurological and substance use conditions in humanitarian emergencies. The new guide is adapted from the *mhGAP Intervention Guide*¹³ a widely-used evidence-based manual for the management of these conditions.

During humanitarian crises, health systems tend to be overwhelmed and unable to meet the demand for basic services. Often, existing supportive care systems in the communities have been damaged. Human resources tend to be overstretched, with limited time for training. Access to specialists for referral and support is typically limited, while medication supply lines may be disrupted. Therefore, it is important to determine how interventions with proven efficacy can be most effectively scaled up in emergencies and refugee settings.¹⁴ We call upon all humanitarian health actors to implement agreed policy on mental health care¹⁵ and routinely include and evaluate clinical mental health care in their basic package of primary health services.¹² This will help to reduce mental suffering and improve the well-being and functioning of people affected by armed conflicts and disasters.¹⁶
[References via title link above]

Research

Availability and affordability of new medicines in Latin American countries where pivotal clinical trials were conducted

Núria Homedes & Antonio Ugalde

Abstract

Objective

To assess whether new pharmaceutical products approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 2011 and 2012 were registered, commercialized and sold at affordable prices in the Latin American countries where they were tested.

Methods

We obtained a list of new molecular entities (new pharmaceutical products) approved by the FDA in 2011 and 2012. FDA medical reviews indicated the countries where pivotal clinical trials had been conducted. The registration status of the products was obtained from pharmaceutical registers; pharmaceutical companies confirmed their availability in national markets and local pricing observatories provided the price of medicines in retail pharmacies. Affordability was assessed as the cost of a course of treatment as a proportion of monthly income. Information on safety and efficacy was gathered from independent drug bulletins.

Findings

Of an expected 114 registrations, if the 33 products had been registered in all the countries where tested, only 68 (60%) were completed. Eight products were registered and commercialized in all countries but 10 had not been registered in any of the countries. With one exception, products for which we obtained pricing information ($n = 18$) cost more than the monthly minimum wage in all countries and 12 products cost at least five times the monthly minimum wage.

Conclusion

Many pharmaceutical products tested in Latin America are unavailable and/or unaffordable to most of the population. Ethical review committees should consider the local affordability and therapeutic relevance of new products as additional criteria for the approval of clinical trials. Finally, clinical trials have opportunity costs that need to be assessed.

Research

Evaluating the quality and use of economic data in decisions about essential medicines

Corrina Moucheraud, Veronika J Wirtz & Michael R Reich

Abstract

Objective

To evaluate the quality of economic data provided in applications to the World Health Organization (WHO) Model List of Essential Medicines and to evaluate the role of these data in decision-making by the expert committee that considers the applications.

Methods

We analysed applications submitted to the WHO Expert Committee on the Selection and Use of Essential Medicines between 2002 and 2013. The completeness of data on the price and cost-effectiveness of medicines was extracted from application documents and coded using a four-point scale. We recorded whether or not the expert committee discussed economic information and the outcomes of each application. Associations between the completeness of economic data and application outcomes were assessed using χ^2 tests.

Findings

The expert committee received 134 applications. Only eight applications (6%) included complete price data and economic evaluation data. Many applicants omitted or misinterpreted the economic evaluation section of the application form. Despite the lack of economic data, all applications were reviewed by the committee. There was no significant association between the completeness of economic information and application outcomes. The expert committee tried to

address information gaps in applications by further review and analysis of data related to the application.

Conclusion

The World Health Organization should revise the instructions to applicants on economic data requirements; develop new mechanisms to assist applicants in completing the application process; and define methods for the use of economic data in decision-making.

Complexity

September/October 2015 Volume 21, Issue 1 Pages C1–C1, 1–386

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cplx.v21.1/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Conflict and Health

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

[Accessed 3 October 2015]

Research

[Internal displacement and the Syrian crisis: an analysis of trends from 2011–2014](#)

Doocy S, Lyles E, Delbiso TD, Robinson CW and The IOCC/GOPA Study Team Conflict and Health 2015, 9:33 (1 October 2015)

Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

<http://www.resource-allocation.com/>

(Accessed 3 October 2015)

[No new content]

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>

[Reviewed earlier]

Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology

Volume 10, Issue 6, 2015

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness

Volume 9 / Issue 05 / October 2015

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

Ebola Special Section

Several articles surveying the Ebola epidemic and response strategies

[Reviewed earlier]

Disasters

October 2015 Volume 39, Issue 4 Pages 611–810

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/disa.2015.39.issue-4/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Emergency Medicine Journal

October 2015, Volume 32, Issue 10

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

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

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 5, 1 October 2015

<http://eurpub.oxfordjournals.org/content/25/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Policy

Volume 56, *In Progress* (October 2015)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Security

Volume 7, Issue 5, October 2015

<http://link.springer.com/journal/12571/7/5/page/1>

Original Paper

Factors that transformed maize productivity in Ethiopia

Tsedeke Abate, Bekele Shiferaw, Abebe Menkir, Dagne Wegary, Yilma Kebede...

Original Paper

Assessing the relative importance of dairy products to family nutrition in mixed crop-livestock production systems of Ethiopia

Sintayehu Yigrem, Dr. André Markemann, Girma Abebe, Joseph O. Ogutu

Original Paper

Using time series structural characteristics to analyze grain prices in food insecure countries

Frank Davenport, Chris Funk

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>

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health Governance

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

[Accessed 3 October 2015]

[No new content]

Global Public Health

Volume 10, Issue 9, 2015

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 3 October 2015]

Research

Islamist insurgency and the war against polio: a cross-national analysis of the political determinants of polio

Kennedy J, McKee M and King L Globalization and Health 2015, 11:40 (30 September 2015)

Abstract

Background

There is widespread agreement that civil war obstructs efforts to eradicate polio. It is suggested that Islamist insurgents have a particularly negative effect on vaccination programmes, but this claim is controversial.

Methods

We analyse cross-national data for the period 2003–14 using negative binomial regressions to investigate the relationship between Islamist and non-Islamist insurgency and the global distribution of polio. The dependent variable is the annual number of polio cases in a country according to the WHO. Insurgency is operationalized as armed conflict between the state and an insurgent organization resulting in ≥ 25 battle deaths per year according to the Uppsala Conflict Data Programme. Insurgencies are divided into Islamist and non-Islamist insurgencies. We control for other possible explanatory variables.

Results

Islamist insurgency did not have a significant positive relationship with polio throughout the whole period. But in the past few years – since the assassination of Osama bin Laden in 2011– Islamist insurgency has had a strong effect on where polio cases occur. The evidence for a relationship between non-Islamist insurgency and polio is less compelling and where there is a relationship it is either spurious or driven by ecological fallacy.

Conclusions

Only particular forms of internal armed conflict – those prosecuted by Islamist insurgents – explain the current global distribution of polio. The variation over time in the relationship between Islamist insurgency and polio suggests that Islamist insurgent's hostility to polio vaccinations programmes is not the result of their theology, as the core tenets of Islam have not changed over the period of the study. Rather, our analysis indicates that it is a plausibly a reaction to the counterinsurgency strategies used against Islamist insurgents. The assassination of Osama bin Laden and the use of drone strikes seemingly vindicated Islamist insurgents' suspicions that immunization drives are a cover for espionage activities.

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 30 Issue 8 October 2015

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

[Rewards and challenges of providing HIV testing and counselling services: health worker perspectives from Burkina Faso, Kenya and Uganda](#)

Sarah Bott, Melissa Neuman, Stephane Helleringer, Alice Desclaux, Khalil El Asmar, Carla Makhoul Obermeyer,

and the MATCH (Multi-country African Testing and Counselling for HIV) Study Group

Health Policy Plan. (2015) 30 (8): 964-975 doi:10.1093/heapol/czu100

[Increasing socioeconomic inequality in childhood undernutrition in urban India: trends between 1992–93, 1998–99 and 2005–06](#)

Abhishek Kumar, Divya Kumari, and Aditya Singh

Health Policy Plan. (2015) 30 (8): 1003-1016 doi:10.1093/heapol/czu104

[Evidence on access to medicines for chronic diseases from household surveys in five low- and middle-income countries](#)

Catherine E Vialle-Valentin, Brian Serumaga, Anita K Wagner, and Dennis Ross-Degnan

Health Policy Plan. (2015) 30 (8): 1044-1052 doi:10.1093/heapol/czu107

[Ten best resources for conducting financing and benefit incidence analysis in resource-poor settings](#)

Virginia Wiseman, Augustine Asante, Jennifer Price, Andrew Hayen, Wayne Irava, Joao Martins, Lorna Guinness, and Stephen Jan

Health Policy Plan. (2015) 30 (8): 1053-1058 doi:10.1093/heapol/czu108

[Free Full Text \(HTML\)](#)

[Food sovereignty, food security and health equity: a meta-narrative mapping exercise](#)

Anelyse M. Weiler, Chris Hergesheimer, Ben Brisbois, Hannah Wittman, Annalee Yassi, and Jerry M. Spiegel

Health Policy Plan. (2015) 30 (8): 1078-1092 doi:10.1093/heapol/czu109

[Free Full Text \(HTML\)](#)

Health Research Policy and Systems

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

[Accessed 3 October 2015]

Research

[Health systems research for policy change: lessons from the implementation of rapid assessment protocols for diabetes in low- and middle-income settings](#)

David Beran, J. Miranda, Maria Cardenas, Maryam Bigdeli *Health Research Policy and Systems* 2015, 13:41 (1 October 2015)

Human Rights Quarterly

Volume 37, Number 3, August 2015

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>

[Reviewed earlier]

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>

[No new content]

International Health

Volume 7 Issue 3 October 2015

<http://inthealth.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

<http://www.ijidonline.com/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Mass Emergencies & Disasters

August 2015 (VOL. 33, NO. 2)

<http://www.ijmed.org/issues/33/2/>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology

Volume 22, Issue 5, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/tsdw20/current#.VSj2SpMw1hX>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Migration Review

Fall 2015 Volume 49, Issue 3 Pages 555–839, e17–e32

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/imre.2015.49.issue-3/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 22/29, 2015, Vol 314, No. 12

<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/issue.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

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>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Development Economics

Volume 116, Pages 1-266 (September 2015)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03043878/115>

[Reviewed earlier]

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Volume 5 Issue 2 2015

<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>

[Reviewed earlier]

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 [Reviewed earlier]

[Reviewed earlier]

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-2/issuetoc>

Special Issue: SYMPOSIUM: Intersections in Reproduction: Perspectives on Abortion and Assisted Reproductive Technologies

[Reviewed earlier]

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

Oct 03, 2015 Volume 386 Number 10001 p1311-1418 e14-e16

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/issue/current>

Editorial

[Towards 2030: counting and accountability matter](#)

The Lancet

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(15\)00396-7](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)00396-7)

Summary

The UN Summit for the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) concluded last week amid ongoing criticism and open admission that the private sector heavily influenced the process. The SDGs, however, are here to stay, and provide an opportunity for broader accountability in health and development. Many of the targets under SDG goal three “to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages”, rely directly on measures of mortality. These include reducing the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100 000 livebirths, and reducing neonatal mortality to at least 12 per 1000 livebirths and under-5 mortality to 25 per 1000 livebirths.

Comment

[Choosing indicators for the health-related SDG targets](#)

Christopher J L Murray

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(15\)00382-7](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)00382-7)

Summary

In the era of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), regular reporting of specific health indicators drew public and policy attention, and ultimately resources, to causes such as maternal and child health. On Sept 25–27, 2015, the UN Sustainable Development Summit was held in New York, NY, USA, leading to the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the UN General Assembly. On the basis of the lessons learned from the MDGs, the

indicators chosen for each SDG target will probably determine the amount of action and attention each target receives.

Comment

Oral cholera vaccines in endemic countries

Maureen O'Leary, Kim Mulholland

Published Online: 08 July 2015

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(15\)60246-X](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)60246-X)

Summary

More than 1 billion people are at risk of cholera in endemic countries, with an estimated 2·9 million cases and 95 000 deaths per year.¹ A further 87 000 cases and 2500 deaths occur in non-endemic countries.² Climate change, war, natural disasters, population movement, and urbanisation complicate efforts to control the disease. Although clean water, sanitation, and behaviour change will ultimately be the most critical factors in cholera prevention and control,³ these are difficult to implement in many cholera-endemic countries and a more immediate solution is needed.

Articles

Feasibility and effectiveness of oral cholera vaccine in an urban endemic setting in Bangladesh: a cluster randomised open-label trial

Firdausi Qadri, Mohammad Ali, Fahima Chowdhury, Ashraf Islam Khan, Amit Saha, Iqbal Ansary Khan, Yasmin A Begum, Taufiqur R Bhuiyan, Mohiul Islam Chowdhury, Md Jasim Uddin, Jahangir A M Khan, Atique Iqbal Chowdhury, Anisur Rahman, Shah Alam Siddique, Muhammad Asaduzzaman, Afroza Akter, Arifuzzaman Khan, Young Ae You, Ashraf Uddin Siddik, Nirod Chandra Saha, Alamgir Kabir, Baizid Koorshid Riaz, Shwapon Kumar Biswas, Farzana Begum, Leanne Unicomb, Stephen P Luby, Alejandro Cravioto, John D Clemens

Published Online: 08 July 2015

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(15\)61140-0](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)61140-0)

Summary

Background

Cholera is endemic in Bangladesh with epidemics occurring each year. The decision to use a cheap oral killed whole-cell cholera vaccine to control the disease depends on the feasibility and effectiveness of vaccination when delivered in a public health setting. We therefore assessed the feasibility and protective effect of delivering such a vaccine through routine government services in urban Bangladesh and evaluated the benefit of adding behavioural interventions to encourage safe drinking water and hand washing to vaccination in this setting.

Methods

We did this cluster-randomised open-label trial in Dhaka, Bangladesh. We randomly assigned 90 clusters (1:1:1) to vaccination only, vaccination and behavioural change, or no intervention. The primary outcome was overall protective effectiveness, assessed as the risk of severely dehydrating cholera during 2 years after vaccination for all individuals present at time of the second dose. This study is registered with ClinicalTrials.gov, number [NCT01339845](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT01339845).

Findings

Of 268 896 people present at baseline, we analysed 267 270: 94 675 assigned to vaccination only, 92 539 assigned to vaccination and behavioural change, and 80 056 assigned to non-intervention. Vaccine coverage was 65% in the vaccination only group and 66% in the vaccination and behavioural change group. Overall protective effectiveness was 37% (95% CI lower bound 18%; $p=0\cdot002$) in the vaccination group and 45% (95% CI lower bound 24%;

p=0.001) in the vaccination and behavioural change group. We recorded no vaccine-related serious adverse events.

Interpretation

Our findings provide the first indication of the effect of delivering an oral killed whole-cell cholera vaccine to poor urban populations with endemic cholera using routine government services and will help policy makers to formulate vaccination strategies to reduce the burden of severely dehydrating cholera in such populations.

Funding

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Series

Counting births and deaths

Civil registration and vital statistics: progress in the data revolution for counting and accountability

Carla AbouZahr, Don de Savigny, Lene Mikkelsen, Philip W Setel, Rafael Lozano, Erin Nichols, Francis Notzon, Alan D Lopez

Counting births and deaths

Are well functioning civil registration and vital statistics systems associated with better health outcomes?

David E Phillips, Carla AbouZahr, Alan D Lopez, Lene Mikkelsen, Don de Savigny, Rafael Lozano, John Wilmoth, Philip W Setel

Counting births and deaths

A global assessment of civil registration and vital statistics systems: monitoring data quality and progress

Lene Mikkelsen, David E Phillips, Carla AbouZahr, Philip W Setel, Don de Savigny, Rafael Lozano, Alan D Lopez

Counting births and deaths

Towards universal civil registration and vital statistics systems: the time is now

Carla AbouZahr, Don de Savigny, Lene Mikkelsen, Philip W Setel, Rafael Lozano, Alan D Lopez

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>
[Reviewed earlier]

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>
[Reviewed earlier]

Nature

Volume 525 Number 7570 pp425-558 24 September 2015
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

October 1, 2015 Vol. 373 No. 14
<http://www.nejm.org/toc/nejm/medical-journal>

[International Health Care Systems: Transforming Turkey's Health System — Lessons for Universal Coverage](#)

R. Atun

In 2003, Turkey embarked on ambitious health system reform to overcome major inequities in health outcomes and to protect all citizens against financial risk. Within 10 years, it had achieved universal health coverage and notable improvements in outcomes and equity.

Editorial

[Treatment of Chagas' Disease — Time Is Running Out](#)

James H. Maguire, M.D.

N Engl J Med 2015; 373:1369-1370 October 1, 2015 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMe1510170

Highly successful public health interventions in Latin America and widespread migration from rural areas to cities and countries where *Trypanosoma cruzi* is not endemic have markedly reduced the number of persons who are chronically infected with the protozoan parasite. However, 5 million to 6 million persons remain infected, and in at least 20% of these persons, chronic Chagas' cardiomyopathy either is present or will develop. These persons are at high risk

for heart failure, arrhythmias, and other life-threatening complications.^{1,2} Current recommendations call for antitrypanosomal treatment for most infected persons,^{3,4} but until now there has not been a randomized, controlled trial of the effect of antiparasitic treatment on cardiac outcomes...

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly

October 2015; 44 (5)

<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 3 October 2015]

[Identifying and Describing the Impact of Cyclone, Storm and Flood Related Disasters on Treatment Management, Care and Exacerbations of Non-communicable Diseases and the Implications for Public Health](#)

September 28, 2015 · Research article

Abstract

Introduction: Over the last quarter of a century the frequency of natural disasters and the burden of non-communicable diseases (NCD) across the globe have been increasing. For individuals susceptible to, or chronically experiencing, NCDs this has become a significant risk. Disasters jeopardize access to essential treatment, care, equipment, water and food, which can result in an exacerbation of existing conditions or even preventable death. Consequently, there is a need to expand the public health focus of disaster management to include NCDs. To provide a platform for this to occur, this article presents the results from a systematic review that identifies and describes the impact of cyclone, flood and storm related disasters on those susceptible to, or experiencing, NCDs. The NCDs researched were: cardiovascular diseases; cancers; chronic respiratory diseases; and diabetes.

Methods: Four electronic publication databases were searched with a date limit of 31 December 2014. The data was analyzed through an aggregation of individual papers to create an overall data description. The data was then grouped by disease to describe the impact of a disaster on treatment management, exacerbation, and health care of people with NCDs. The PRISMA checklist was used to guide presentation of the research.

Results: The review identified 48 relevant articles. All studies represented developed country data. Disasters interrupt treatment management and overall care for people with NCDs, which results in an increased risk of exacerbation of their illness or even death. The interruption may be caused by a range of factors, such as damaged transport routes, reduced health services, loss of power and evacuations. The health impact varied according to the NCD. For people with chronic respiratory diseases, a disaster increases the risk of acute exacerbation. Meanwhile, for people with cancer, cardiovascular diseases and diabetes there is an increased risk of their illness exacerbating, which can result in death.

Conclusion: Cyclone, flood and storm related disasters impact on treatment management and care for people with NCDs. Possible consequences include exacerbation of illness, complications or even death. There is now a need to expand traditional disaster approaches by public health to incorporate NCDs. This must be guided by the major NCDs identified by the World Health Organization and implemented in-line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction: 2015-2030. This includes understanding all the factors that influence both direct and indirect (preventable) morbidity and mortality related to NCDs during and after disasters. Once achieved, disaster planners and public health professionals will be in a position to develop and implement effective mitigation strategies

PLoS Currents: Outbreaks

<http://currents.plos.org/outbreaks/>

(Accessed 3 October 2015)

[No new content]

PLoS Medicine

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

(Accessed 3 October 2015)

[Value of Information: A Tool to Improve Research Prioritization and Reduce Waste](#)

Cosetta Minelli, Gianluca Baio

Editorial | published 29 Sep 2015 | PLOS Medicine

10.1371/journal.pmed.1001882

[Initial text]

At a time when the scale of investments has raised justifiable concerns about the ability of ongoing research to fulfill expectations [1], the long-run sustainability of research programs will depend on demonstration of value for money. Yet, there has been remarkably little recognition of the need to formally assess research value for money in funding allocation by national governments, funding agencies, and research institutions.

Currently, research priorities are mostly decided using subjective approaches based on consensus among experts, decision makers, and other stakeholders, which tend to lack transparency and may be unduly influenced by special interest groups. More objective measures have been developed based either on the burden of disease or on variations in clinical practice [2]. Prioritization of diseases with the highest burden (morbidity, mortality, or aggregate

societal costs) is useful in selecting general areas of neglect [3], but does not help identify what research should be undertaken within these areas. Prioritizing research in areas of disagreement in clinical practice can help practitioners decide between different clinical strategies and, by clarifying what is best practice, reduce variations. In the “clinical variations” method, priorities are defined based on welfare losses due to disagreement [4], with a cost-effectiveness element added in the “payback from research” method (“payback” referring to future savings as a result of the research investment) [5,6]. Setting research priorities based on variations in clinical practice, however, may not be ideal. Scientific uncertainty is not the only cause of clinical variations, which can also be due to poor implementation of research findings. Arguably, only the first should be addressed through additional research, and the second should be dealt with using more efficient means to promote good practice [7].

A decision-theoretic tool, known as “Value of Information” (VOI) [8,9], has been proposed to tackle the complexities of research prioritization in a more comprehensive way. Despite having been promoted and used for over a decade by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) in the United Kingdom [7], VOI is still relatively unknown to the medical scientific community...

Effectiveness of a Home-Based Counselling Strategy on Neonatal Care and Survival: A Cluster-Randomised Trial in Six Districts of Rural Southern Tanzania

Claudia Hanson, Fatuma Manzi, Elibariki Mkumbo, Kizito Shirima, Suzanne Penfold, Zelee Hill, Donat Shamba, Jennie Jaribu, Yuna Hamisi, Seyi Soremekun, Simon Cousens, Tanya Marchant, Hassan Mshinda, David Schellenberg, Marcel Tanner, Joanna Schellenberg

Research Article | published 29 Sep 2015 | PLOS Medicine

10.1371/journal.pmed.1001881

Abstract

Background

We report a cluster-randomised trial of a home-based counselling strategy, designed for large-scale implementation, in a population of 1.2 million people in rural southern Tanzania. We hypothesised that the strategy would improve neonatal survival by around 15%.

Methods and Findings

In 2010 we trained 824 female volunteers to make three home visits to women and their families during pregnancy and two visits to them in the first few days of the infant’s life in 65 wards, selected randomly from all 132 wards in six districts in Mtwara and Lindi regions, constituting typical rural areas in Southern Tanzania. The remaining wards were comparison areas. Participants were not blinded to the intervention. The primary analysis was an intention-to-treat analysis comparing the neonatal mortality (day 0–27) per 1,000 live births in intervention and comparison wards based on a representative survey in 185,000 households in 2013 with a response rate of 90%. We included 24,381 and 23,307 live births between July 2010 and June 2013 and 7,823 and 7,555 live births in the last year in intervention and comparison wards, respectively. We also compared changes in neonatal mortality and newborn care practices in intervention and comparison wards using baseline census data from 2007 including 225,000 households and 22,243 births in five of the six intervention districts. Amongst the 7,823 women with a live birth in the year prior to survey in intervention wards, 59% and 41% received at least one volunteer visit during pregnancy and postpartum, respectively. Neonatal mortality reduced from 35.0 to 30.5 deaths per 1,000 live births between 2007 and 2013 in the five districts, respectively. There was no evidence of an impact of the intervention on neonatal survival (odds ratio [OR] 1.1, 95% confidence interval [CI] 0.9–1.2, $p = 0.339$). Newborn care practices reported by mothers were better in intervention than in comparison

wards, including immediate breastfeeding (42% of 7,287 versus 35% of 7,008, OR 1.4, CI 1.3–1.6, $p < 0.001$), feeding only breast milk for the first 3 d (90% of 7,557 versus 79% of 7,307, OR 2.2, 95% CI 1.8–2.7, $p < 0.001$), and clean hands for home delivery (92% of 1,351 versus 88% of 1,799, OR 1.5, 95% CI 1.0–2.3, $p = 0.033$). Facility delivery improved dramatically in both groups from 41% of 22,243 in 2007 and was 82% of 7,820 versus 75% of 7,553 (OR 1.5, 95% CI 1.2–2.0, $p = 0.002$) in intervention and comparison wards in 2013. Methodological limitations include our inability to rule out some degree of leakage of the intervention into the comparison areas and response bias for newborn care behaviours.

Conclusion

Neonatal mortality remained high despite better care practices and childbirth in facilities becoming common. Public health action to improve neonatal survival in this setting should include a focus on improving the quality of facility-based childbirth care.

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

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

(Accessed 3 October 2015)

[No new relevant content identified]

PLoS One

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

[Accessed 3 October 2015]

The State of Health in Older Adults in Japan: Trends in Disability, Chronic Medical Conditions and Mortality

Shinya Ishii, Sumito Ogawa, Masahiro Akishita

Research Article | published 02 Oct 2015 | PLOS ONE

10.1371/journal.pone.0139639

Overcoming Stagnation in the Levels and Distribution of Child Mortality: The Case of the Philippines

Raoul Bermejo, Sonja Firth, Andrew Hodge, Eliana Jimenez-Soto, Willibald Zeck

Research Article | published 02 Oct 2015 | PLOS ONE

10.1371/journal.pone.0139458

Changes in Meningococcal Strains in the Era of a Serogroup C Vaccination Campaign: Trends and Evolution in Belgium during the Period 1997–2012

Wesley Mattheus, Germaine Hanquet, Jean-Marc Collard, Raymond Vanhoof, Sophie Bertrand

Research Article | published 01 Oct 2015 | PLOS ONE

10.1371/journal.pone.0139615

PLoS Pathogens

<http://journals.plos.org/plospathogens/>

(Accessed 3 October 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 3 October 2015)

Biological Sciences - Ecology:

Global biogeography of human infectious diseases

Kris A. Murray, Nicholas Preston, Toph Allen, Carlos Zambrana-Torrel, Parvaz R. Hosseini, and Peter Daszak

PNAS 2015 ; published ahead of print September 28, 2015, doi:10.1073/pnas.1507442112

Significance

Understanding the distributions of infectious diseases is a central public and global health objective. We show that human infectious diseases exhibit striking biogeographic grouping patterns at a global scale, reminiscent of "Wallacean" zoogeographic patterns. This result is surprising, given the global distribution and unprecedented connectivity of humans as hosts and the homogenizing forces of globalization; despite these factors, infectious disease assemblages remain fundamentally constrained in their distributions by ecological barriers to dispersal or establishment. Biogeographic processes thus appear to provide an overarching context in which other factors promoting infectious disease emergence and spread are set. We use outbreaks of Ebola virus to illustrate how such patterns could be leveraged to provide a "head start" or added focus for risk management activities.

Abstract

The distributions of most infectious agents causing disease in humans are poorly resolved or unknown. However, poorly known and unknown agents contribute to the global burden of disease and will underlie many future disease risks. Existing patterns of infectious disease co-occurrence could thus play a critical role in resolving or anticipating current and future disease threats. We analyzed the global occurrence patterns of 187 human infectious diseases across 225 countries and seven epidemiological classes (human-specific, zoonotic, vector-borne, non-vector-borne, bacterial, viral, and parasitic) to show that human infectious diseases exhibit distinct spatial grouping patterns at a global scale. We demonstrate, using outbreaks of Ebola virus as a test case, that this spatial structuring provides an untapped source of prior information that could be used to tighten the focus of a range of health-related research and management activities at early stages or in data-poor settings, including disease surveillance, outbreak responses, or optimizing pathogen discovery. In examining the correlates of these spatial patterns, among a range of geographic, epidemiological, environmental, and social factors, mammalian biodiversity was the strongest predictor of infectious disease co-occurrence overall and for six of the seven disease classes examined, giving rise to a striking congruence between global pathogeographic and "Wallacean" zoogeographic patterns. This clear biogeographic signal suggests that infectious disease assemblages remain fundamentally constrained in their distributions by ecological barriers to dispersal or establishment, despite the homogenizing forces of globalization. Pathogeography thus provides an overarching context in which other factors promoting infectious disease emergence and spread are set.

Social Sciences - Political Sciences:

Naturalization fosters the long-term political integration of immigrants

Jens Hainmueller, Dominik Hangartner, and Giuseppe Pietrantuono

PNAS 2015 ; published ahead of print September 28, 2015, doi:10.1073/pnas.1418794112

Significance

The political integration of immigrant minorities is one of the most pressing policy issues many countries face today. Despite heated debates, there exists little rigorous evidence about whether naturalization fosters or dampens the integration of immigrants into the political fabric of the host society. Our study provides new causal evidence on the long-term effects of naturalization on political integration. Our research design takes advantage of a natural experiment in Switzerland that allows us to separate the independent effect of naturalization from the nonrandom selection into naturalization. We find that in our sample, naturalization caused long-lasting improvements in political integration, with immigrants becoming likely to vote and attaining considerably higher levels of political efficacy and political knowledge.

Abstract

Does naturalization cause better political integration of immigrants into the host society? Despite heated debates about citizenship policy, there exists almost no evidence that isolates the independent effect of naturalization from the nonrandom selection into naturalization. We provide new evidence from a natural experiment in Switzerland, where some municipalities used referendums as the mechanism to decide naturalization requests. Balance checks suggest that for close naturalization referendums, which are decided by just a few votes, the naturalization decision is as good as random, so that narrowly rejected and narrowly approved immigrant applicants are similar on all confounding characteristics. This allows us to remove selection effects and obtain unbiased estimates of the long-term impacts of citizenship. Our study shows that for the immigrants who faced close referendums, naturalization considerably improved their political integration, including increases in formal political participation, political knowledge, and political efficacy.

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/content>

[Accessed 3 October 2015]

[No new content]

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

September 2015 Volume 35, Issue 9 Pages 1593–1763

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.2015.35.issue-9/issuetoc>

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

Science

2 October 2015 vol 350, issue 6256, pages 1-132

<http://www.sciencemag.org/current.dtl>

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

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 3 October 2015]

[No new content]

Sustainability

Volume 7, Issue 9 (September 2015), Pages 11360-12973

<http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/7/9>

[Reviewed earlier]

TORTURE Journal

Volume 25, Nr. 1, 2015

<http://www.irct.org/torture-journal>

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine and Health

Vol. 43(2015) No. 3

https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/browse/tmh/43/0/_contents

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

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/YHRDLJcurrentissue.htm>
[Reviewed earlier]

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

#

The Sentinel is a service of the Center for Governance, Evidence, Ethics, Policy, Practice [\[ge2p2\]](#) which is solely responsible for its content, and is an open access publication, subject to the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>). Copyright is retained by ge2p2.

#