

The Sentinel

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

Week ending 30 January 2016

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

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

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*The Sentinel is also available as a pdf document linked from this page:
<http://ge2p2-center.net/>*

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:: [Week in Review](#)

A highly selective capture of strategic developments, research, commentary, analysis and announcements spanning Human Rights Action, Humanitarian Response, Health, Education, Holistic Development, Heritage Stewardship, 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.



Zika [to 30 January 2016]

[WHO to convene an International Health Regulations Emergency Committee on Zika virus and observed increase in neurological disorders and neonatal malformations](#)

WHO statement

28 January 2016

WHO Director-General, Margaret Chan, will convene an International Health Regulations Emergency Committee on Zika virus and observed increase in neurological disorders and neonatal malformations.

The Committee will meet on Monday 1 February in Geneva to ascertain whether the outbreak constitutes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. Decisions concerning the Committee's membership and advice will be made public on WHO's website.

Outbreak in the Americas

In May 2015, Brazil reported its first case of Zika virus disease. Since then, the disease has spread within Brazil and to 22 other countries and territories in the region.

Arrival of the virus in some countries of the Americas, notably Brazil, has been associated with a steep increase in the birth of babies with abnormally small heads and in cases of Guillain-Barré syndrome, a poorly understood condition in which the immune system attacks the nervous system, sometimes resulting in paralysis.

A causal relationship between Zika virus infection and birth defects and neurological syndromes has not been established, but is strongly suspected.

WHO action

WHO's Regional Office for the Americas (PAHO) has been working closely with affected countries since May 2015. PAHO has mobilized staff and members of the Global Outbreak and Response Network (GOARN) to assist ministries of health in strengthening their abilities to detect the arrival and circulation of Zika virus through laboratory testing and rapid reporting. The aim has been to ensure accurate clinical diagnosis and treatment for patients, to track the spread of the virus and the mosquito that carries it, and to promote prevention, especially through mosquito control.

The Organization is supporting the scaling up and strengthening of surveillance systems in countries that have reported cases of Zika and of microcephaly and other neurological conditions that may be associated with the virus. Surveillance is also being heightened in countries to which the virus may spread. In the coming weeks, the Organization will convene experts to address critical gaps in scientific knowledge about the virus and its potential effects on fetuses, children and adults.

WHO will also prioritize the development of vaccines and new tools to control mosquito populations, as well as improving diagnostic tests.

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Life-Saving Aid Still Locked Out of Besieged, Hard-to-Reach Areas in Syria, Top United Nations Humanitarian Official Tells Security Council

Security Council 7612th Meeting (AM)

27 January 2016 SC/12223

Despite repeated calls to the Security Council and the parties to the conflict in Syria, the humanitarian community remained without access to the majority of the estimated 4.6 million people living in besieged or hard-to-reach areas, the senior United Nations humanitarian official said today during a briefing to the 15-member body.

Stephen O'Brien, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator, said the continued suffering of the Syrian people could not be blamed on humanitarian organizations and staff, who stood ready to scale up assistance as soon as security conditions and more sustainable access would allow it. Rather, it was the failure of the parties and the international community, all of whom had allowed the conflict to continue for far too long...

Humanitarian missions to that town and to the similarly besieged areas of Zabadani, Foah and Kefraya — undertaken by the United Nations, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent over the last two weeks — had delivered sufficient food, medical and other aid to help more than 60,000 people for one month. However, medical supplies and teams were still urgently needed and humanitarian conditions in those areas remained severe, and the situation in Madaya was only the “tip of the iceberg”.

He went on to say that increasing numbers of people were living in areas that were besieged or hard to reach, and the continuing use of siege and starvation as weapons of war was “reprehensible”. In addition, the indiscriminate use of weapons against civilians, residential areas, aid supply routes, as well as civilian infrastructure protected under international law continued, “outrageously”, with total impunity, he noted, recalling that he had repeatedly asked the Council to demand that the parties to the conflict facilitate unhindered, unconditional and sustained access across Syria.

“But, this is simply not happening,” he continued. In 2015, just over 10 per cent of the 113 requests for interagency convoys had been successful. A further 10 per cent had been approved in principle, but could not proceed due to a lack of final approval, insecurity or lack of agreement on safe passage. Almost 75 per cent of requests had gone unanswered by the Government. “Such inaction is unacceptable for a Member State of the United Nations and a signatory of the United Nations Charter,” he stressed...

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World: UN emergency fund releases US\$100 million to assist millions of displaced and vulnerable people in nine underfunded crises

(Addis Ababa/New York, 29 January 2016) - United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today released US\$100 million from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) for severely underfunded aid operations in nine neglected emergencies. The funds will enable life-saving help for millions of people forced from their homes in Central and Eastern Africa, those

affected by conflict and food insecurity in Libya and Mali, and the most vulnerable and at risk of malnutrition in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"I am allocating US\$100 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund to meet critical humanitarian needs in nine underfunded emergencies," said the Secretary-General. "This funding is a lifeline for the world's most vulnerable people. It is a concrete demonstration of our shared commitment to leave no one behind."

Some \$64 million from the CERF allocation will allow humanitarian partners to respond to the displacement crises in Central and Eastern Africa caused by conflict and violence in South Sudan, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Urgently needed funds will help an estimated 1.7 million refugees, internally displaced people and host communities in Burundi (\$13 million), Ethiopia (\$11 million), Kenya (\$4 million), Sudan (\$7 million), Tanzania (\$11 million), and Uganda (\$18 million).

A further \$28 million will help relief agencies address the humanitarian needs of up to 350,000 people affected by conflict and food insecurity in Libya (\$12 million); and in Mali (\$16 million), where an estimated 300,000 people will be assisted, especially in the North.

An allocation of \$8 million will support urgent life-saving humanitarian assistance for more than 2.2 million vulnerable people in DPR Korea, including 1.8 million children who need urgent nutrition assistance.

"With so many crises competing for attention around the world many people in need are forgotten. These CERF grants will help sustain life-saving assistance and protection in emergencies where the needs of the most vulnerable communities are alarmingly high but the resources enabling us to respond remain low," said the Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien. "I thank our donors for their support to CERF so far in 2016. A strong and well-resourced CERF will help us focus on addressing the most critical needs."

CERF is one of the fastest and most effective ways to support rapid humanitarian response. The Fund pools donor contributions into a single fund so money is available to start or continue urgent relief work anywhere in the world at the onset of emergencies and for crises that have not attracted sufficient funding. Since 2006, 125 UN Member States and observers, private-sector donors and regional governments have supported the Fund. To date, CERF has allocated almost \$4.2 billion for humanitarian operations in 94 countries and territories.

OECD and UNHCR call for scaling up integration policies in favour of refugees

Watch: press conference with OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurría and UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi

28/01/2016 - The heads of the OECD and UNHCR, at a joint high-level Conference on the integration of beneficiaries of international protection in Paris today, have called on governments to scale up their efforts to help refugees integrate and contribute to the societies and economies of Europe.

In 2015, more than 1 million people crossed the Mediterranean Sea to look for international protection in Europe. In total, about 1.5 million claimed asylum in OECD countries in 2015. This is almost twice the number recorded in 2014 and the highest number ever. At the same time, asylum seekers represent only about 0.1% of the total OECD population, and, even in Europe, they represent less than 0.3% of the total EU population.

The OECD and UNHCR stressed not only the moral imperative but also the clear economic incentive to help the millions of refugees living in OECD countries to develop the skills they need to work productively and safely in the jobs of tomorrow.

"Far from a problem, refugees can and should be part of the solution to many of the challenges our societies confront," said OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurría at the joint Conference in Paris today. "They bring Hope: the hope of a better life and a better future for their children and ours. But to realise this potential, a substantial investment is needed to provide immediate support and help the refugees settle and adapt and develop their skills. It is a difficult and costly task in the short term, with a high pay-off for all in the medium to longer term" he said. "Our analysis demonstrates the benefits that well-managed migration can bring to the economies and societies of OECD countries. But this will largely depend on how well integration measures are designed and implemented. The earlier refugees get the required support, the better their integration prospects" Mr. Gurría added. (*[Read the full speech here](#)*)

"Integration is a dynamic two-way process which requires both the individual and society to make considerable efforts," UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi said. "In order to play a full role in the social, economic, and cultural life of their host country, refugees need to achieve equality of rights and opportunities. States have an important role in this process, ensuring that refugees play a positive and active part in the integration process, particularly in terms of the services provided to them and in ensuring that they are received by welcoming communities."

The OECD also released today a report [Making Integration Work: Refugees and others in need of protection](#), which provides the main lessons from the experience of OECD countries in fostering the integration of refugees. The report highlights many good practices to tackle key barriers and support lasting integration of refugees and their children. It stresses the importance of early intervention, including providing access to language courses, employment programmes and integration services as soon as possible, including for asylum seekers with high prospects to remain. It also stresses the need to help migrants settle where jobs are and not necessarily where housing is cheaper. The report also underlines the need to adapt integration programmes to reflect migrants' diversity in terms of skills and the specific needs of refugees.

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[UNHCR and partners seek over US\\$500mill for Nigeria and CAR refugee crises](#)

25 January 2016

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and its partners on Monday called on donor nations for more than half-a-billion dollars this year to help hundreds of thousands of people forced to flee

conflicts in Nigeria and the Central African Republic (CAR) and the host communities providing them with shelter and other basic services.

The two Regional Refugee Response Plans (RRRP), presented at a donor briefing in Yaoundé, Cameroon, include US\$198.76 million for 230,000 Nigerian refugees and some 284,300 members of host communities in Niger, Chad and Cameroon as well as US\$345.7 million for 476,300 CAR refugees and some 289,000 people hosting them in Chad, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Republic of Congo.

Both RRRPs cover needs in sectors such as protection, education, food security, health and nutrition, livelihoods, shelter, basic aid and water, hygiene and sanitation. The CAR appeal is being made by 25 organizations, including UNHCR and other UN agencies as well as NGOs. The Nigeria appeal is made by 28 organizations. UNHCR alone is seeking US\$189.54 million under the Central African Republic RRRP and US\$62.33 million for the Nigeria one...

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The Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan for Europe: Eastern Mediterranean and Western Balkans route :: January - December 2016

IOM, UNHCR and 65 other organizations

2016 :: 110 pages

Report pdf: http://rmrp-europe.unhcr.org/2016_RMRP_Europe.pdf

{Report excerpt¹}

p.12

Response Strategy

The regional RMRP presents a framework for an inter-agency response to the refugee and migrant mass flows into Europe through the Eastern Mediterranean and Western Balkans route. It sets out the overall strategic direction at the regional level, while building upon specific country chapters.

Besides cooperation with Governments, the RMRP will be implemented in close cooperation with the European Commission and relevant EU Agencies, including the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the EU (FRONTEX) and the European Asylum Support Office (EASO).

This response plan includes both a strategy and an appeal. The latter covers financial requirements to address major concerns in the areas of access to territory and asylum, to improve reception conditions and provide a protection-centered emergency assistance to people of concern, and to enable access to effective protection systems and durable solutions.

The RMRP will cover the needs of an integrated emergency response in Europe for twelve months in 2016, utilizing a planning figure of one million refugees and migrants arriving via sea from Turkey to Greece. It represents a coherent and predictable package of interventions based on standardized approaches and comparative advantages of involved partners.

The RMRP is also part of a comprehensive approach which includes a number of response plans and programmatic activities in refugee producing and transit countries.

Recognizing the primary leadership and responsibility of host governments, the strategic goals are:

1. To design and implement a response that supports, complements and builds Governments' existing capacity to ensure effective and safe access to asylum, protection and solutions in relevant countries, as well as manage migration in an orderly and dignified manner while protecting the human rights of all refugees and migrants.
2. To ensure that refugee and migrant women, girls, boys and men have access to protection and assistance in a participatory manner, with particular attention to specific needs. Protection-centred assistance should be delivered in a manner that respects the principle of non-discrimination; age, gender and diversity; is appropriate to the specific characteristics of the movement; and takes into account the needs of the local communities.
3. To strengthen national and local capacities and protection systems and ensure safe access to longer-term solutions for refugees and migrants who may become stranded, may want to apply for asylum, or may want to return voluntarily to their countries of origin. This includes a robust and protection-centred relocation scheme, as well as reinforced alternative legal pathways to protection, such as family reunification and resettlement.
4. To strengthen partnership and coordination within the humanitarian community and with governments, both in setting common goals and in establishing national-level coordination structures and information analysis, that ensure an efficient and coordinated response, including coordinated channels for citizen engagement to support the reception and integration of refugees and migrants....

Press Release

[IOM, UNHCR, Partners Seek USD 550 Million for Europe's Refugees and Migrants](#)

01/26/16

Switzerland - As continuing conflict in the Middle East and elsewhere drives people to seek refuge in Europe, IOM, UNHCR and some 65 other organizations yesterday appealed in Geneva to donors for USD 550 million to support the ongoing humanitarian response.

With global forced displacement at a record high of some 60 million people and increasingly impacting countries of the Global North, 2015 saw over a million refugees and migrants arriving in Europe by boat.

Around 850,000 of these crossed from Turkey to Greece, with most continuing through the Balkans and towards Austria, Germany, Sweden and other western European countries. The appeal aims at funding humanitarian operations in 2016 across the affected countries, with approximately half of the funds allocated for Greece.

Humanitarian operations will include aid and protection activities where people are arriving, including identifying those at heightened risk, registration, shelter, water and sanitation to bolster the capacity of frontline responders, including coastguards, border guards, police and support for affected communities. Help with relocation, resettlement and other regular solutions was also part of the appeal.



UNICEF launches US\$2.8 billion humanitarian appeal for children

Syria crisis causes spike in need for education in emergencies

GENEVA, 26 January 2016 – UNICEF is launching a US\$2.8 billion appeal to reach 43 million children in humanitarian emergencies worldwide.

For the first time ever, the largest portion of the appeal – 25 per cent – is going towards educating children in emergencies. This year UNICEF plans to dramatically increase the number of children in crises who are given access to education – from 4.9 million at the beginning of 2015 to 8.2 million in 2016. More than half - 5 million – will be Syrian children inside the country or in neighbouring countries.

“Millions of children are being robbed of their education,” says Afshan Khan, UNICEF’s Director of Emergency Programmes. “Education is a life-saving measure for children, providing them with the opportunity to learn and play, amidst the carnage of gunfire and grenades. This year, a quarter of our appeal is devoted to education. By educating the minds of children and young people we are building hope so they can envisage a better future for themselves, their families and their societies and help break the cycle of chronic crisis.”

UNICEF’s 2016 appeal has doubled since this time three years ago. The twin drivers of conflict and extreme weather are forcing growing numbers of children from their homes and exposing millions more to severe food shortages, violence, disease, abuse, as well as threats to their education.

Around 1 in 9 of the world’s children is now living in conflict zones. In 2015, children living in countries and areas affected by conflict were twice as likely to die of mostly preventable causes before they reached the age of five, than those in other countries.

Climate change is a growing threat, with over half a billion children living in extremely high flood occurrence zones and nearly 160 million living in high or extremely high drought severity zones. One of the strongest El Niño weather events on record poses further risk.

The number of people forced from their homes continues to grow, with Europe alone receiving more than 1 million refugees and migrants in 2015.

“In the past few months I have seen with my own eyes children pushed beyond the boundaries of human suffering in Burundi, northeast Nigeria and along the migrant and refugee route in Europe,” says Khan. “Across the world, millions of children have been forced to flee their homes due to violence and conflict. The global refugee crisis is also a protection crisis for children on the move, who are at increased risk of abuse, exploitation and trafficking.”

UNICEF’s Humanitarian Action for Children 2016 appeal targets a total of 76 million people, in 63 countries...

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Corruption Perceptions Index - 2015

Transparency International – Support provided by Ernst & Young

2016 :: 20 pages

Report and Infographics:

http://files.transparency.org/content/download/1952/12820/file/2015_CPI_ReportInfographicsZIP.zip

Press Release

[Corruption Perceptions Index 2015: Corruption still rife but 2015 saw pockets of hope](#)

27 January 2016

Transparency International calls on people everywhere to speak out against corruption. 2015 showed that people working together can succeed in the battle against corruption. Although corruption is still rife globally, more countries improved their scores in the 2015 edition of Transparency International's [Corruption Perceptions Index](#) than declined.

Overall, two-thirds of the 168 countries on the 2015 index scored below 50, on a scale from 0 (perceived to be highly corrupt) to 100 (perceived to be very clean).

Yet in places like Guatemala, Sri Lanka and Ghana, citizen activists in groups and on their own worked hard to drive out the corrupt, sending a strong message that should encourage others to take decisive action in 2016...

The results

:: The index covers perceptions of public sector corruption in 168 countries.

:: Denmark took the top spot for the 2nd year running, with North Korea and Somalia the worst performers, scoring just 8 points each.

:: Top performers share key characteristics: high levels of press freedom; access to budget information so the public knows where money comes from and how it is spent; high levels of integrity among people in power; and judiciaries that don't differentiate between rich and poor, and that are truly independent from other parts of government.

:: In addition to conflict and war, poor governance, weak public institutions like police and the judiciary, and a lack of independence in the media characterise the lowest ranked countries.

:: The big decliners in the past 4 years include Libya, Australia, Brazil, Spain and Turkey. The big improvers include Greece, Senegal and UK.

:: The Corruption Perceptions Index is based on expert opinions of public sector corruption. Countries' scores can be helped by open government where the public can hold leaders to account, while a poor score is a sign of prevalent bribery, lack of punishment for corruption and public institutions that don't respond to citizens' needs.

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[**Global Risks Report 2016**](#)

World Economic Forum

11 Edition :: 103 pages

Pdf: http://www3.weforum.org/docs/GRR/WEF_GRR16.pdf

Overview

Now in its 11th edition, The Global Risks Report 2016 draws attention to ways that global risks could evolve and interact in the next decade.

The Global Risks Report 2016 features perspectives from nearly 750 experts on the perceived impact and likelihood of 29 prevalent global risks over a 10-year timeframe. The risks are divided into five categories: economic, environmental, geopolitical, societal and technological.

The report also examines the interconnections among the risks, and through that analysis explores three areas where global risks have the greatest potential to impact society. These are the concept of the “(dis)empowered citizen”, the impact of climate change on food security, and the potential of pandemics to threaten social cohesion.

The report also takes an in-depth look at the how the global security landscape could evolve in the future; sharing the outcomes of a year-long study to examine current trends and possible driving forces for the future of international security.

Introduction

Over the past decade, The Global Risks Report has expanded its scope from analysing the interconnected and rapidly evolving nature of global risks to also putting forward actionable solutions and calling for public-private collaboration in strengthening resilience. Now in its 11th edition, the Report describes a world in which risks are becoming more imminent and have wide-ranging impact: tensions between countries affect businesses; unresolved, protracted crises have resulted in the largest number of refugees globally since World War II; terrorist attacks take an increasing toll on human lives and stifle economies; droughts occur in California and floods in South Asia; and rapid advances in technologies are coupled with ever-growing cyber fragilities and persistent unemployment and underemployment.

Implications of sweeping digitization (also termed the “Fourth Industrial Revolution”), ranging from transformations that are the result of rising cyber connectivity to the potential effects of innovations on socioeconomic equality and global security, remain far from fully understood. At the same time, climate change is unequivocally happening, and there is no turning back time.

The increasing volatility, complexity and ambiguity of the world not only heightens uncertainty around the “which”, “when”, “where” and “who” of addressing global risks, but also clouds the solutions space. We need clear thinking about new levers that will enable a wide range of stakeholders to jointly address global risks, which cannot be dealt with in a centralized way.

Taken together, this calls for a resilience imperative - an urgent necessity to find new avenues and more opportunities to mitigate, adapt to and build resilience against global risks and threats through collaboration among different stakeholders.

By putting the resilience imperative at its core, this year’s Global Risks Report combines four parts to present an analysis of different aspects of global risks - across both global risks and stakeholders - focused as much on the search for solutions as on the analysis of the risks themselves.

Part 1 analyses the difference in risk perceptions over different time horizons and the perceived interconnections among risks, as visualized in the Global Risks Landscape 2016, all based on the Global Risks Perception Survey, which combines the views of different stakeholders. Three risk interconnection clusters stand out:

- :: climate change in relation to water and food crises;
- :: the growing challenges of the rising number of displaced people worldwide; and,
- :: what the Fourth Industrial Revolution means in an era of economic risks.

Part 2 discusses the implications of a changing international security landscape and identifies the drivers that are at work and the implications for addressing global risks. Inspired by the

results of The Global Risks Report 2015 and the continued instability of the global security situation, it lays out alternative and plausible futures that could materialize unless there is a change in how we respond and manage the forces at play.

Part 3 explores three risks clusters that have the potential to challenge social stability. For each of these "Risks in Focus", it describes three existing, practical initiatives that could help to build resilience. The concept of the (dis)empowered citizen is introduced to describe the tensions created by growing cyber connectivity that empowers citizens at the same time as they feel increasingly disenfranchised from traditional decision-making processes. The second contribution further explores one impact of climate change: coupled with rising population growth, it is threatening food security. Finally, in the wake of the Ebola crisis, the potential of pandemics to threaten social cohesion is discussed.

Part 4 applies the resilience imperative to one specific stakeholder - the business community - with an analysis at country and regional levels. Drawing on a unique data set of more than 13,000 business leaders in 140 economies, it explores the differing landscape of global risks across regions and offers a deep-dive into five of the six most cited global risks worldwide. Its aim is to inform the discussion of which risks to prioritize in order to build resilience within businesses.

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World Economic Forum – 2016

Editor's Note:

The annual World Economic Forum generates a good number of strategic announcements, new research studies and commentary. We provide additional selected press releases below – see initial aggregation in last week's edition.

Bank CEOs and Policy-makers Join Taskforce to Study Future of Global Financial System at Davos

News 26 Jan 2016

::: Mark Carney, Governor, Bank of England and Chairman of the Financial Stability Board (FSB), and Professor Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum, announced on the 26th January the creation of a high-level Taskforce to address the future of the global financial system

::: The Taskforce, which met for the first time in Davos, comprises eight senior decision-makers from Citigroup, BlackRock, HSBC, Bank of America, Reserve Bank of India, IMF, Chinese University of Hong Kong

::: The group will focus on the inclusion of emerging market economies in the global financial system, technology-enabled innovation and the economic cost-benefit of post-crisis regulatory reforms as outlined [here](#)

A Key Challenge of the Fourth Industrial Revolution: Staying Human – and Humane

News 23 Jan 2016

::: Rapid technological advances, including the proliferation of artificial intelligence, challenge individuals to maintain their essential humanity

:: More than 2,500 business, government and civil society leaders from over 100 countries participated in the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2016, which drew to a close

Davos-Klosters, Switzerland, 23 January 2016 – As the world surges into the Fourth Industrial Revolution – a new age of interactive technologies, artificial intelligence and automation – a key challenge for individuals will be to understand and retain their very essence, their humanity, leading scientists and thought leaders on society and law said in the closing panel session of the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2016. Being able to master the technologies of the Fourth Industrial Revolution must be an essential part of that, the panellists agreed. Said Henry T. Greely, the Deane F. and Kate Edelman Johnson Professor of Law at Stanford University in the US: “All of us need to begin to understand and grapple with how we want to shape these technologies.”

“We are competing with artificial intelligence,” asserted Meeting Co-Chair Amira Yahyaoui, Founder and Chair of citizens action group Al Bawsala in Tunisia and a member of the World Economic Forum’s Global Shaper community of leaders in their twenties. “We really have to show we are the good ones. So the discussion of ethics and value has never been more essential than it is today.” Justine Cassell, Associate Dean, Technology, Strategy and Impact, in the School of Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon University in the US, countered: “I don’t think of robots as competitors. I think of them as collaborators to help us do what we wish to do but can’t do alone and help us to be part of a larger community.”

Robots and artificial intelligence will force people to hone human skills that were much more important generations ago in the days of very low tech. “Empathy, respect – those skills will be effective for the workplace of the future,” Cassell reckoned. “It is through comparison with robots that we will know what it is to be human.”...

Improving the Outlook for Science Depends on Basic Research and Better Use of Talent

News 23 Jan 2016

:: Sustaining basic research requires more support from business, academia and government

:: Improving opportunities for women and interdisciplinary connections can better leverage existing science knowledge

Cautious Optimism for 2016 Global Economy

News 23 Jan 2016

:: Despite a new year marked by volatility, global growth will be modest and uneven

:: Modest optimism is accompanied by significant downside risks

:: Monetary policy divergence is not a major concern

:: Markets overreacted to China’s transition

Redefine the Future by Using Technology to Create Opportunities and Bridge Gaps

News 23 Jan 2016

:: The central challenge in the Fourth Industrial Revolution is whether technology can be harnessed for systems change and drive progress towards a zero-carbon, zero-poverty world

:: Short-termism and the narrow shareholder approach should be replaced by management and decision-making that take into account the long view and the broader interests of all stakeholders

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:: Agency/Government/IGO Watch

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

United Nations – Secretary General, Security Council, General Assembly

[to 30 January 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases/Meetings Coverage

29 January 2016

SC/12229

Security Council Press Statement on Haiti

The following Security Council press statement was issued today by Council President Elbio Rosselli (Uruguay):

The members of the Security Council expressed their strong concern regarding the developments leading to the indefinite postponement of the final round of elections in Haiti, scheduled to have taken place on 27 December 2015 and postponed, for the second time, to 24 January.

The members of the Security Council expressed their concern that the delay in elections may undermine Haiti's ability to address the security, economic and social challenges it faces, and strongly encouraged the Executive, the Parliament and the relevant political actors to come to an agreement by 7 February, providing a Haitian-led and owned road map for the swift conclusion of the current electoral cycle to allow the Haitian people the opportunity to vote for their elected representatives in a free, fair, inclusive and transparent contest...

The members of the Security Council reiterated their strong condemnation of any attempt to destabilize the electoral process, in particular by force, and urged all candidates, their supporters, political parties and other political actors to remain calm, refrain from unlawful violence or any action that can further disrupt the electoral process and political stability, resolve any electoral disputes through established legal mechanisms and to hold those responsible for such violence accountable...

29 January 2016

SG/SM/17499-AFR/3315

Secretary-General Stresses Development, Good Governance Can Prevent Terrorism, in Remarks to African Union Peace and Security Council

29 January 2016

SC/12227

President Put Optimistic, Positive 'Spin' on Situation in Burundi, Security Council Visiting Mission to Africa Reports

President Pierre Nkurunziza of Burundi had portrayed an optimistic and positive picture of recent developments in his country, while the radical opposition camp had expressed concern that "genocide was in the making", France's representative told the Security Council today during a briefing on its visiting mission to Burundi and Ethiopia from 21 to 23 January.

27 January 2016

GA/PAL/1358

Palestinian Rights Committee Critical to Keeping International Spotlight on Troubling Situation, Secretary-General Says at Start of 2016 Session

Palestinians were losing hope after nearly 50 years of occupation by Israel, but despite the challenges, the United Nations remained committed to creating the conditions for the resumption of meaningful negotiations, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon told the Palestinian Rights Committee today as it opened its 2016 session.

27 January 2016

SC/12223

Life-Saving Aid Still Locked Out of Besieged, Hard-to-Reach Areas in Syria, Top United Nations Humanitarian Official Tells Security Council

Despite repeated calls to the Security Council and the parties to the conflict in Syria, the humanitarian community remained without access to the majority of the estimated 4.6 million people living in besieged or hard-to-reach areas, the senior United Nations humanitarian official said today during a briefing to the 15-member body.

26 January 2016

SC/12219

Act Now to Prevent Two-State Solution from 'Slipping Away Forever', Secretary-General Warns during Security Council Debate

With a relentless wave of extremist terror gripping the Middle East, Israelis and Palestinians had an opportunity to restore hope to a region torn apart by intolerance and cruelty, Secretary-General Ban-Ki Moon told the Security Council today, urging it to "act now" to prevent the two-State solution from slipping away forever.

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 30 January 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases

More allegations of sexual abuse of children by foreign soldiers in the Central African Republic

29 January 2016

UN expert group urges the US to address legacies of the past, police impunity and racial injustice crisis

WASHINGTON D.C. (29 January 2016) – The legacy of enslavement in the United States of America remains a serious challenge as there has been no real commitment to recognition and reparations for people of African descent, a United Nations expert panel has said today at the end of its second official visit* to the country.

From 9 to 29 January, a delegation of the UN Working Group of experts on people of African descent visited Washington D.C., Baltimore, Jackson- Mississippi, Chicago, and New York City to address current concerns, and assess progress made in the fight against racial discrimination, Afrophobia, xenophobia, and protecting and promoting the human rights of African- Americans.

"Despite substantial changes since the end of the enforcement of Jim Crow and the fight for civil rights, ideology ensuring the domination of one group over another continues to negatively impact the civil, political, economic, social, cultural and environmental rights of African

Americans today," said human rights expert Mireille Fanon Mendes France, who currently heads the group of experts...

South Korea's democracy project threatened by regression on assembly and association rights – UN expert

SEOUL (29 January 2016) – United Nations Special Rapporteur Maina Kiai today commended the Republic of Korea's "impressive achievements," but underlined that its journey to democracy is not yet over. At the end of his first official visit* to the country, Mr. Kiai warned that the democracy project is still being threatened by a decline on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association.

"The project of building democracy and human rights in South Korea is not over; indeed it never truly is, in any nation," said the independent expert mandated by the UN Human Rights Council to monitor and promote the realization of the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association worldwide. "What we have is a structure, and our solemn task as governments and citizens is to continually build upon that structure, strengthening the foundation and cultivating its resilience."

While the Special Rapporteur applauded the Government's many human rights achievements, he also highlighted "a trend of gradual regression on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association – not a dramatic shutdown of these rights, but a slow, creeping inclination to degrade them."

UN and African experts urge Sierra Leone's President to save millions of women's lives by signing the 2015 Safe Abortion Bill

GENEVA (28 January 2016) – A group of United Nations and African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights Commission human rights experts* today urge the President of Sierra Leone, Ernest Bai Koroma, to sign the 2015 Safe Abortion Bill for it to enter into force without further delay. They warned that reluctance towards the decriminalization of abortion by some parties, including religious organizations, has resulted in delays in signing the Bill, as the President sent it back to Parliament for reconsideration.

The 2015 Safe Abortion Bill, passed by Parliament last December, is aimed at ensuring women's and adolescents' access to safe services regarding abortion and authorizes the termination of a pregnancy under any circumstances up to 12 weeks and in cases of incest, rape, fetal impairment as well as when the woman's health is at risk, up to 24 weeks.

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 30 January 2016]

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

Selected Announcements

Committee on the Rights of the Child holds informal meeting with States to discuss new working methods and other issues

27 January 2016

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

[to 30 January 2016]

<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 30 January 2016]
<https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/virtual-library/press-release-archive/>
No new digest content identified.

SRSG/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 30 January 2016]
<http://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/media/press-releases/>
No new digest content identified.

UN OCHA [to 30 January 2016]
<http://www.unocha.org/media-resources/press-releases>
29 Jan 2016

World: UN emergency fund releases US\$100 million to assist millions of displaced and vulnerable people in nine underfunded crises [EN/AR]

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: World, Burundi, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Mali, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania (Addis Ababa/New York, 29 January 2016) - United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today released US\$100 million from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) for severely underfunded aid operations in nine neglected emergencies. The...

27 Jan 2016

Eritrea: Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Kyung-wha Kang, concludes visit to Eritrea, urging greater support for vulnerable communities

27 Jan 2016

Syrian Arab Republic: Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien Statement to the Security Council on Syria, New York, 27 January 2016

27 Jan 2016

Sudan: Statement attributable to the United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Sudan, Ms. Marta Ruedas, on the recent conflict in Darfur [EN/AR]

27 Jan 2016

Afghanistan: Humanitarian Community Appeals for US\$393 Million in 2016 to Target 3.5 Million Afghans in Need [EN/Dari/Pashto]

25 Jan 2016

Cameroon: Launch of response plans to help people in Cameroon & refugees across the region

UNICEF [to 30 January 2016]

http://www.unicef.org/media/media_89711.html

Selected Press Releases

Series from "The Lancet" provides more evidence that breastfeeding is lifesaving – UNICEF

WASHINGTON/NEW YORK, 29 January 2016 – A new series of papers just published by The Lancet provides evidence that improving breastfeeding practices could save the lives of over 820,000 children a year, 9 out of 10 of them infants under 6 months.

UNICEF launches US\$2.8 billion humanitarian appeal for children

GENEVA, 26 January 2016 – UNICEF is launching a US\$2.8 billion appeal to reach 43 million children in humanitarian emergencies worldwide.

[see Week in Review above for more details]

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 30 January 2016]

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

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

Press Releases

28 January 2016

UNHCR alarmed at the plight of refugees and migrants at Bulgaria borders

The UN Refugee Agency is extremely alarmed at reports of two dead bodies being found on the Bulgarian border with Serbia, last week. UNHCR is seeking further details after being alerted about the deaths by the Bulgarian Border Police. The two men, apparently, have died of cold while trying to cross into Serbia from Western Bulgaria.

25 January 2016

OECD and UNHCR call for scaling up integration policies in favour of refugees

[see Week in Review above for more detail]

25 January 2016

UNHCR and partners seek over US\$500mill for Nigeria and CAR refugee crises

IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 30 January 2016]

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

01/29/16

Migrant Arrivals in Europe in 2016 Top 55,000, Over 200 Deaths

Greece - IOM estimates that 55,528 migrants and refugees crossed the Mediterranean to enter Europe during the first 28 days of 2016 – a rate of nearly 2,000 per day.

IOM to Cooperate with Business Advisory Firm on Migrant Labour Standards

01/29/16

Thailand - IOM has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with global accounting firm Grant Thornton, focussing on bringing together the best of both organisations to assist migrant labourers across Southeast Asia.

IOM Holds Policy Dialogue in South Korea on Nepali Remittances

01/29/16

Republic of Korea - A policy dialogue and capacity building workshop on how to better use remittances for sustainable development in Nepal brought together Nepali and South Korean government officials, academics and civil society in Seoul on 26-28 January.

IOM, UNHCR, Partners Seek USD 550 Million for Europe's Refugees and Migrants

01/26/16

Switzerland - IOM, UNHCR and some 65 other organizations appealed in Geneva to donors for USD 550 million to support the ongoing humanitarian response.

Migrant Arrivals in Greece Top 45,000 through January 25: IOM

01/26/16

Greece - Since the beginning of 2016, IOM estimates that 45,361 migrants and refugees have arrived in Greece by sea.

Irregular Migration in Horn of Africa Increases in 2015

01/26/16

Kenya - In 2015 five countries in the Horn of Africa experienced a marked increase in irregular migration by land and sea from a year earlier.

IOM Aids Most Vulnerable Displaced Families from Yemen's Taizz City

01/26/16

Yemen - IOM Yemen reports that the security situation in Yemen's Taizz governorate continues to deteriorate, with continuous armed clashes through residential areas, especially in an enclave comprising three districts in Taizz City.

IOM Provides Cash Aid to Flood-Displaced Households in Malawi

01/26/16

Malawi - IOM Malawi, with funding from the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO), is distributing cash grants this week to complement Malawi Government efforts to support families affected by the 2015 floods.

UN Women [to 30 January 2016]

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

Date: 29 January 2016

Landless women farmers receive land tenancy for the first time in Pakistan

UN Women Pakistan, in collaboration with local partners Baanh Beli and Gorakh Foundation, is working with 1,214 vulnerable rural women farmers to acquire land tenancy rights from their feudal and tribal landholders.

Women mediators promote peace in Burundi

Date: 25 January 2016

As political turmoil intensifies, over 500 Burundian women are working as community peace mediators, actively helping to avert over 5,000 conflicts.

Statement by UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, on the establishment of a High-Level Panel for Women's Economic Empowerment

Date: 25 January 2016

UN Women welcomes this strong commitment to work together to provide thought leadership and mobilize action on the critical issues of improving economic outcomes for women, and promoting women's leadership in driving sustainable, inclusive and environmentally sensitive economic growth.

WHO & Regionals [to 30 January 2016]

Increased breastfeeding could save 800,000 children and US\$ 300 billion

29 January 2016 -- New studies find that despite strong health and economic benefits from breastfeeding, few children are exclusively breastfed until 6 months, as recommended by WHO. Globally, an estimated 1 in 3 infants under 6 months are exclusively breastfed – a rate that has not improved in 2 decades.

Libya conflict leaves nearly 2 million in need of health care

January 2016 -- Peace talks have stalled in Libya, leaving millions of people in urgent need of health care. A total of US\$ 50 million is required to meet critical health needs.

Disease Outbreak News (DONs)

- :: [29 January 2016](#) – Zika virus infection – United States of America - United States Virgin Islands
- :: [29 January 2016](#) – Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus – Lao People's Democratic Republic
- :: [29 January 2016](#) – Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) – Thailand
- :: [27 January 2016](#) – Lassa Fever – Nigeria
- :: [27 January 2016](#) – Zika virus infection – Dominican Republic
- :: [26 January 2016](#) – Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) – Saudi Arabia
- :: [26 January 2016](#) – Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) – United Arab Emirates
- :: [26 January 2016](#) – Human infection with avian influenza A(H5N6) virus – China

WHO Regional Offices

WHO African Region AFRO

[Workshop on Exchange of Best Practices to Reaching Every District/Community, equity and integration of child survival interventions in ESA commences](#)

Cape Town, 25 January 2016 – A historic five-day workshop organized jointly by WHO, UNICEF and JSI, MCSP/USAID on Exchange of Best Practices to Reaching Every District/Community (REC), equity and integration of child survival interventions in East and Southern African (ESA) kicked off on Monday 25 January, 2016 in Cape Town, South Africa.

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

- :: [New evidence in The Lancet shows more benefits of breastfeeding](#) (01/30/2016)
- :: [PAHO urges governments to implement public policies that can prevent more than one-third of cancers](#) (01/29/2016)
- :: [PAHO Director briefs global health authorities on Zika virus in the Americas](#) (01/28/2016)

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

:: [Thailand confirms MERS CoV in traveler, WHO cautions against continued risk of importation](#)
24 January 2016:

WHO European Region EURO

- :: [Zika virus: risk of importation increases, but risk of spread in Europe remains extremely low during winter](#) 29-01-2016
- :: [Food marketing, children's rights and Professor Cyrus Cooper on the life-course approach in the latest Public Health Panorama](#) 28-01-2016
- :: [Statement - After causing the 2009 pandemic, A\(H1N1\) circulates as a seasonal human influenza virus. The influenza vaccine will protect against it](#) 26-01-2016
- :: [Global recommendations to stop childhood obesity launched](#) 25-01-2016

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

- :: [Optimism on Pakistan's progress on polio](#) 30 January 2016
- :: [WHO acknowledges Saudi progress in control of Middle East respiratory syndrome](#) 26 January 2016

WHO Western Pacific Region

No new digest content identified.

UNAIDS [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 30 January 2016]

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

Press Release

25 January 2016

Global leaders call for greater access to family planning

UNITED NATIONS, New York – President Joko Widodo, of the Republic of Indonesia, Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, the Executive Director of UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, and numerous global leaders at the [International Conference on Family Planning](#) in Nusa Dua, Indonesia, called for urgent action to increase access to family planning services worldwide, which will support the implementation of the new development agenda.

"I wish that at this conference we can discuss the main foundations necessary to build the planet that we want by 2030," said President Widodo. "A future that ensures all women and girls are empowered to choose whether and when they want to have children and space their births, so that mothers and their babies have better opportunities for better lives."

"Family planning is about women's right and their capacity to take decisions about their health and well-being, contributing to the objectives of FP2020," said Dr. Osotimehin. "It is a most significant investment to promote human capital development, combat poverty and harness a demographic dividend, thus contributing to equitable and sustainable economic development within the context of the Sustainable Development Goals."...

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 30 January 2016]

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

Jan 29, 2016

[UNDP outlines 2016 plans for Syria crisis response](#)

UNDP is planning a continued focus on resilience and livelihoods in its work on behalf of the most vulnerable in Syria and in neighboring countries struggling to cope with the impacts of the Syria crisis.

[Search for a New Beginning: Perceptions of Truth, Justice, Reconciliation and Healing in South Sudan](#)

Jan 28, 2016

A groundbreaking survey in South Sudan seeking views on how to deal with the country's violent past has found significant support for perpetrators of violence to face trial, and for those missing or killed to be honoured publicly.

[Japan and UNDP kick start US\\$15 million Caribbean Climate Change Project](#)

Jan 28, 2016

The Government of Japan and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) launched a US\$15 million Japan-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership (J-CCCP) today.

[Helen Clark: Speech on 2015 UNDP Human Development Report on Work](#)

Jan 27, 2016 Cadieux Auditorium - Ottawa, Canada

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 30 January 2016]

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

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

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

28 JAN 2016

[IAEG-SDG - Briefing to the General Assembly on the global SDG indicator framework](#)

[see Week in Review above for more detail]

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme [to 30 January 2016]

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

27/01/2016

[UNEP Deputy Chief Calls for Measures to Protect Africa's Natural Resources](#)

At a retreat of the AU Executive Council Ibrahim Thiaw discussed fighting illegal trade in wildlife with African Foreign Ministers

UNISDR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 30 January 2016]

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

29 Jan 2016

A new science partnership to confront disaster risk

The first UNISDR Science and Technology Conference closed today with agreement among 700 scientists and disaster risk experts to launch a new Science and Technology Partnership comprising over 65 agencies, networks and organizations.

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 30 January 2016]

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

29 January 2016

Secretary-General appoints group to support technology facilitation mechanism

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today announced the appointment of a group of 10 experts to support the Technology Facilitation Mechanism launched at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015...

UNESCO [to 30 January 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases/News

28.01.2016

UNESCO and Iran Stress Urgency of Protecting Cultural Heritage

25.01.2016

UNESCO Director-General and Heads of agencies discuss means to strengthen the fight against illicit trafficking

The UNESCO Director-General, Irina Bokova, convened a videoconference call at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, with the respective Heads of INTERPOL, International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and World Customs Organization (WCO), to measure progress and identify future collaborative actions, in close coordination with the United Nations Security Council Sanctions Monitoring Team (UNSMT), for the effective implementation of the United Security Council Resolution 2199 and 2253 (2015) on the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural objects.

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 30 January 2016]
<http://www.ifad.org/media/press/index.htm>

29 January 2016 –

Cameroon receives US\$1 million grant from United Nations agency to promote aquaculture entrepreneurship

28 January 2016 –

United Nations agency provides US\$33.8 million to boost agriculture sector in the Democratic Republic of Congo

28 January 2016 –

Independent evaluation shows IFAD-supported investment improves the quality of life of rural poor in Turkey

ILO International Labour Organization [to 30 January 2016]

<http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/lang--en/index.htm>

Refugee crisis

International community must help host countries meet challenge of Syria refugee crisis, says ILO Director-General

29 January 2016

As jobs and employment take centre stage in the global response to the Syria refugee crisis, ILO chief Guy Ryder visits Jordan to examine first-hand the effects of the massive refugee influx on the labour market, and to discuss employment options for refugees and the communities that host them.

Interview with Sharan Burrow, General Secretary of ITUC

What are the challenges and opportunities for Unions in 2016?

27 January 2016

The trade union movement faces significant challenges in 2016, in particular the respect of workers' rights in many countries. Sharan Burrow, General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) talks about the challenges and opportunities for unions in 2016.

Meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Labour and Employment

Labour and Employment Ministers of the BRICS countries adopted a joint declaration

26 January 2016

On 25–26 January, at the initiative of the Russian Federation, the first ever meeting of BRICS Ministers of Labour and Employment was held in the city of Ufa, in order to discuss the areas of cooperation in the field of labour relations and employment, social security and social integration in the group's member states.

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 30 January 2016]

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

29/1/16

Important Progress on Aircraft CO2 Standard, Aviation MBM Expected, as ICAO Environment Committee Sits For Landmark 10th Meeting

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 30 January 2016]
<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/Home.aspx>

15/01/2016

Criteria for entry into force of BWM Convention not yet reached – further ratifications needed

IMO is in a position to confirm that the November ratifications did not trigger the Ballast Water Management Convention's entry into force.

12/01/2016

EC funding gives green light to ambitious IMO energy-efficiency project

Network of regional maritime technology cooperation centres to be established through €10 million funding contribution.

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 30 January 2016]
<https://www.wmo.int/media/news>

27 January 2016

WHO-WMO Brief on Health and ENSO

The joint World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and World Health Organization (WHO) Climate and Health Office has issued a briefing paper about health and the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) as part of a wider WHO effort to review the current health risks and responses of the El Niño event in high risk countries.

The ongoing El Niño event is one of the three strongest since 1950 and is the strongest since 1997-1998, according to WMO. It is contributing to extreme weather patterns around the world and combined with long-term climate change to fuel record global surface temperatures in 2015.

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 30 January 2016]
<http://www.unido.org/news-centre/news.html>

Wednesday, 27 January 2016

Japan contributes JPY 300 million to further strengthen UNIDO's low carbon technology transfer programme for Africa

VIENNA – The Government of Japan is expanding its contribution to the Low Carbon Low Emission Clean Energy Technology (LCET) Programme implemented by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), specifically in Africa.

The programme aims to promote the rapid deployment and dissemination of new low carbon technologies across the world.

The second replenishment of JPY 300 million (around USD 2.5 million) will help further strengthen activities in Ethiopia and Kenya...

...The LCET programme focuses on fostering inclusive and sustainable industrial development through enhancing productivity, creating new jobs, boosting the use of clean and affordable energy, and providing training to the local communities. It offers new opportunities for introducing innovative financing mechanisms such as the Government of Japan's Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM), which aims to facilitate the global diffusion of low-carbon technologies and products in developing countries...

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 30 January 2016]

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

28 January 2016

UNWTO Statement on the Zika Virus

UNWTO is closely monitoring the situation and in close contact with WHO and the relevant tourism authorities.

25 January 2016

Tourism Ministers discuss collaboration between tourism and security

Ministers of Tourism and High Level officials from 86 countries gathered in Madrid to discuss the development of closer collaboration mechanisms between tourism and security administrations to ensure a safe, secure and seamless travel framework (Madrid, 22 January 2016)

25 January 2016

Accessible tourism: a right and a business opportunity

With the objective of highlighting the best accessibility practices that the private sector has implemented, the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) organized, in cooperation with the ONCE Foundation, an event on "Accessible Tourism as an Effective Business Strategy" held in the context of FITUR (Madrid, 22 January 2016).

ITU International Telecommunications Union [to 30 January 2016]

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

28 January 2016

ITU's 2nd Global Forum on Emergency Telecommunications adopts ICT strategies to reduce impact of natural disasters

Forum recognizes the key role of information & communication technologies in preventing and mitigating disaster impact

Kuwait City, 28 January 2016 – Over 500 participants from 70 countries attending ITU's 2nd Global Forum on Emergency Telecommunications: Saving Lives (GET2016, Kuwait City, 26-28 January), underscored the importance of ICTs in disaster early warning and response through the launch of two important new global initiatives, the ITU Network of Volunteers for Emergency Telecommunications and the Global Emergency Fund for Rapid Response.

Held at Kuwait City's Regency Hotel, the GET2016 forum discussed trends and emerging technological innovations, financing mechanisms, country case studies, challenges in deploying ICTs in disaster zones, climate change issues and the role of the private sector and other non-state stakeholders. It also featured a series of exhibits featuring solutions for the most effective use of ICT in emergencies.

ICTs play a critical role in disaster risk reduction. Paragraph 33 of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction emphasizes the importance of investing in, developing, maintaining and strengthening early warning systems, disaster risk and emergency communications, social technologies and hazard-monitoring telecommunication systems. It also stresses the importance of promoting the resilience of new ICT infrastructure...

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 30 January 2016]

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

2016-01-28

Message of the CBD Executive Secretary, Braulio F. de Souza Dias, on the occasion of World Wetlands Day, 2 February 2016

:::::

US Department of State [to 30 January 2016]

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2016/index.htm>

No new digest content identified.

USAID [to 30 January 2016]

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

January 28, 2016

Power Africa Launches Roadmap to 60 Million Connections and 30,000 MW by 2030

Today at the Powering Africa Summit, Power Africa partners launched a roadmap to meet President Obama's goals of adding 30,000 megawatts and 60 million connections across sub-Saharan Africa by 2030.

USAID, Partners Announce Winners of Wildlife Crime Tech Challenge, Sourcing Science and Technology Solutions to Halt Illegal Wildlife Trade

January 27, 2016

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and its partners have announced 16 prize winners under the Wildlife Crime Tech Challenge. USAID will award \$10,000 to each winner and provide technical support to help them advance their solutions to stamp out illegal trade in wildlife. Winners are eligible to compete for one of four Grand Prizes worth as much as \$500,000. USAID will use Grand Prizes to target and invest in the most promising solutions.

DFID [to 30 January 2016]

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-international-development>

30 January 2016

Government makes public support for Syria go twice as far

DFID Press release

Hurd: Ethiopia agreement will help us transform Africa's solar market

29 January 2016 DFID Press release

ECHO [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

:::::

African Union [to 30 January 2016]

<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]

January 30, 2016 Press Releases

[President Idriss Deby Itno of Chad has Been Elected New Chairperson of the African Union](#)

January 30, 2016 Press Releases

[26th African Union Assembly meeting opens with calls for human rights, particularly women's rights under Agenda 2063, peace, and development](#)

January 30, 2016 | Press Releases

[Summit Recognises Winners of the African Union Kwame Nkrumah Continental Scientific Awards 2015 Edition](#)

January 29, 2016 | Press Releases

[AU Commissioner Moustapha Sidiki Kaloko for Social Affairs brief the press on Migration, Campaign on Ending Child Marriage in Africa and ASEOWA](#)

January 27, 2016 | Press Releases

[5th Intergenerational Dialogue: voices of the youth and particularly young women need to be heard and their views incorporated in policy priorities](#)

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 30 January 2016]

<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]

[Cambodia, Singapore Deposit Instrument of Ratification of the ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons](#)

JAKARTA, 25 January 2016 – Cambodia and Singapore have deposited their respective Instruments of Ratification for the ASEAN Convention Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (ACTIP) with H.E. Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN. The ACTIP, which was signed by the ASEAN Leaders at the 27th ASEAN Summit in November 2015...

European Union [to 30 January 2016]

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

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

Date: 28/01/2016

[Trade policy promotes sustainability and human rights](#)

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 28 January 2016 Report highlights progress and shortcomings in 14 countries that benefited from privileged conditions of access to the EU market. The European Commission and the EU High Representative published today the first report on the concrete effects of the GSP+, the EU trade..

Commission discusses draft Schengen Evaluation Report on Greece

Date: 27/01/2016

European - Press release Commission Brussels, 27 January 2016 Commission discusses draft Schengen Evaluation Report on Greece The College of Commissioners has today, in view of the findings and their significance, taken note and discussed a draft Schengen Evaluation Report on Greece.

State of Play: Measures to Address the Refugee Crisis

Date: 25/01/2016

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 25 January 2016 State of Play: Measures to Address the Refugee Crisis Updated on 25 January The European Agenda on Migration adopted by the Commission in May 2015 set out the need for a comprehensive approach to migration management.

OECD [to 30 January 2016]

<http://www.oecd.org/newsroom/publications/documents/bydate/>

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

28-January-2016

OECD and UNHCR call for scaling up integration policies in favour of refugees

The heads of the OECD and UNHCR, at a joint high-level Conference on the integration of beneficiaries of international protection in Paris today, have called on governments to scale up their efforts to help refugees integrate and contribute to the societies and economies of Europe.

27-January-2016

A boost to transparency in international tax matters: 31 countries sign tax co-operation agreement to enable automatic sharing of country by country information

As part of continuing efforts to boost transparency by multinational enterprises (MNEs), 31 countries signed today the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement (MCAA) for the automatic exchange of Country-by-Country reports. The signing ceremony marks an important milestone towards implementation of the OECD/G20 BEPS Project and a significant increase in cross-border cooperation on tax matters.

[see Week in Review above for more detail]

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 30 January 2016]

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

January 27, 2016

OAS to Send Special Mission to Haiti to Assess Situation following Suspension of Elections

The Organization of American States (OAS) will send a Special Mission to assess the situation in Haiti in response to a request by Haitian President Michel Martelly, according to an

agreement reached today by the Permanent Council of the institution.

The Chair of the Council and Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda, Ronald Sanders, specified that the Mission will be sent by the Secretary General of the OAS, Luis Almagro, and that its work will include engaging in "a dialogue with all appropriate parties." The Secretary General said that the "mandate and the limits" under which the Mission will act "must be set by the legitimate government of Haiti at this moment. Any other action beyond that would be an intervention that Haiti does not want, and that we want even less."

Secretary General Almagro explained that the successful conclusion of the electoral process in Haiti is critically important, and therefore the dates for the second round of voting in the presidential elections should be set as soon as possible. "It is of fundamental importance that there be an election, and not a plebiscite or a referendum on a single candidate," he said. Meanwhile, he added, "Haitians should agree on a mechanism for a clearly defined period of time, as short as possible," within a plan endorsed by the Supreme Court of Justice.

For his part, the Permanent Representative of Haiti to the OAS, Bocchit Edmond, said the request by his government for a high level OAS mission was motivated by "the goal of helping the actors to get together to avoid the country falling into an institutional vacuum and chaos."

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 30 January 2016]

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

28/01/2016

OIC Expresses Hope of Positive Outcome for the Geneva 3 Negotiations to Resolve Syria Crisis

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) expressed hope that "Geneva 3" Conference on Syria to be held tomorrow, Friday, 29 January 2016 would lead to constructive and positive results that contribute to the settlement of the Syrian crisis whose serious repercussions have cast a shadow on Syria and the region as a whole...

26/01/2016

Workshop to review mechanisms of the OIC's Plan for the Advancement of Women

The General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has called on all of its Subsidiary, Specialized and Affiliated Organs that specialize in women issues to participate in a specialist workshop to review the mechanisms of the OIC's Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women (OPAAW) on 28-29 January 2016 to be held at the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) in Istanbul, Turkey...

Group of 77 [to 30 January 2016]

<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 30 January 2016]

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

Press Releases

Growth in global imports of information and communications technology slows to five-year low

Geneva, 29 January 2016 – Global imports of information and communications technology (ICT) goods grew by only 1% in 2014, the latest year for which figures are available, the lowest rate of growth compared to the preceding five years, newly released UNCTAD data show. Developing countries, and those countries changing from a centrally planned economy to a market economy, accounted for more than half (57%) of total global imports, which reached a value of \$2.1 trillion...

World Trade Organisation [to 30 January 2016]

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]

28 January 2016

INTERNATIONAL TRADE STATISTICS

WTO releases new statistical profiles on global value chains

The WTO has released new statistical profiles on global value chains (GVCs) for 61 economies. These profiles, available on the WTO website, bring together a set of indicators on trade taking place within GVCs.

IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 30 January 2016]

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

28 JANUARY 2016

Rwanda MPs urge action on civil registration

MPs in Rwanda have held a meeting with leaders of key government ministries as part of a drive to improve healthcare for women, children and adolescents. The country has made progress in cutting some maternal deaths, but more needs to be done in other areas such as reducing the number of children dying. The meeting discussed the urgent need for new and efficient systems to collect accurate information on births, marriages and deaths...

Mauritanian MPs create action plan for equality

28 JANUARY 2016

Women MPs in Mauritania have created an action plan to push forward work on gender equality. It followed training in Nouakchott on strategic planning on the work of the women's caucus in parliament involving about 40 female MPs, civil society organizations and government officials...

Integrating gender into Ivorian parliamentary work

28 JANUARY 2016

Promoting gender equality in the work of Côte d'Ivoire's Parliament has received a major boost, with the staging of a workshop for parliamentary staff. Fifty employees, including 18 women, took part in a three-day event, which equipped staff to integrate gender issues into the work of parliament. It focused on building a common understanding of what a gender perspective means for women and men, and devising ways to implement this approach in the day-to-day work of parliament...

Kenya community events boost gender equality target

28 JANUARY 2016

Hundreds of citizens and local leaders around Kenya have attended community outreach events to promote awareness and support for the constitutional requirement of women MPs accounting for at least one third of all MPs in the country, and proposals to achieve this...

Turkish Parliament launches equality "role model" mission

28 JANUARY 2016

A project to ensure gender equality is placed at the heart of Turkey's parliamentary work has been launched. Working alongside IPU and UN Women, Turkey's Grand National Assembly will support women's leadership and ensure equality becomes a mainstream issue in all parliamentary business. Through the project, funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the Grand National Assembly is aiming to become a role model on gender equality, with changes benefiting not just female MPs but also their male counterparts, parliamentary staff and commissions...

Major health promotion role for IPU President

28 JANUARY 2016

IPU President Saber Chowdhury has accepted an invitation to join a high-level group *on Every Woman Every Child*, a global movement led by the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

Asian summit focuses on cutting tobacco deaths

28 JANUARY 2016

A summit of Speakers of Parliament from South Asia will explore practical ways to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with a particular focus on improving health by cutting tobacco use. The Speakers will aim to identify ways to cut deaths from non-communicable diseases (NCDs) from the current annual toll of 38 million people by one third by 2030...

....The event, in the Bangladeshi capital Dhaka on 30-31 January, is being organized by IPU and the Bangladeshi Parliament in cooperation with the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, an international non-profit organization.

International Criminal Court (ICC) [to 30 January 2016]

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

28/01/2016

Trial of Laurent Gbagbo and Charles Blé Goudé opens at International Criminal Court

Messrs Laurent Gbagbo and Charles Blé Goudé are charged with crimes against humanity - murder, rape, serious injury and persecution committed in Abidjan following the presidential elections in Côte d'Ivoire in 2010.

World Bank [to 30 January 2016]

<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]

Agribusiness rules lag in agriculture dependent countries

WASHINGTON, January 28, 2016 – Countries where agriculture is a major economic activity have greater room for improving key regulations that govern the agribusiness sector, a new World Bank report finds....

Date: January 28, 2016 Type: Press Release

World Bank Lowers 2016 Forecasts for 37 of 46 Commodity Prices, Including Oil

Further economic slowdown in major emerging economies could push commodity markets lower

WASHINGTON, January 26, 2016— The World Bank is lowering its 2016 forecast for crude oil prices to \$37 per barrel...

Date: January 26, 2016 Type: Press Release

PPP Knowledge Lab: MDBs' Collaboration Brings You the First-ever Comprehensive Online Resource for Public-Private Partnerships

Multilateral development agencies from around the world have collaborated to produce the PPP Knowledge Lab, the first comprehensive online resource that pools the knowledge and experience of industry leaders...

Date: January 25, 2016 Type: Feature Story

[See Week in Review above more detail]

IMF [to 30 January 2016]

<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]

January 29, 2016

Press Release: Conference on Small Middle-Income Countries in Sub-Saharan Africa: Joint Statement by Deputy Managing Director Min Zhu and Governor Linah Mohohlo of the Bank of Botswana

... “We had a very productive set of discussions on the economic outlook and policy challenges facing small middle-income countries (SMICs) in sub-Saharan Africa. This group of countries has made significant progress in terms of maintaining macroeconomic stability and sustaining high growth over the past two decades. However, a number of challenges have recently emerged and, beyond the importance of maintaining their hard earned gains in terms of economic stability, there is scope to rethink their growth strategies and move forward with bold complementary reforms that could facilitate their transition to high-income status.

“For countries that depend heavily on commodity exports, the near-term environment has deteriorated as both global demand and prices have declined. And while some countries have previously built savings that can help them cushion the slowdown, other countries have seen their fiscal positions deteriorate rapidly at a time when external financing conditions have tightened. Notably, the slowdown of the South African economy could also adversely affect the countries in the region...

African Development Bank Group [to 30 January 2016]

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

29/01/2016

Senior Management changes at the African Development Bank

As part of a refocusing of strategy, the African Development Bank has announced the departure of the following executives effective February 1, 2016: the Vice-President for Agriculture, Water, Human Development, Governance and Natural Resources, Aly Abou-Sabaa; the Secretary General and Vice-President, Cecilia Akintomide; the Vice-President for Infrastructure, Private Sector and Regional Integration, Solomon Asamoah; the General Counsel and Director of Legal Services, Kalidou Gadio; and the Director of Communications and External Relations, Joel Serunkuma Kibazo.

Burundian refugees to benefit from \$1 million AfDB emergency assistance

29/01/2016 - The Government of Rwanda and the African Development Bank (AfDB) on Wednesday, January 27, 2016, signed a US \$1-million (RWF 753-million) emergency assistance grant to Burundian refugees in Rwanda.

AfDB launches project to strengthen the aviation sector in Central and West Africa

28/01/2016 - On January 26, 2016, the African Development Bank and representatives of the Central and West African economic communities inaugurated a major project to improve the safety, security and efficiency of air transport in the sub-region.

AfDB lends Morocco \$112.3 million to improve the Tangier-Casablanca-Marrakech railway route

27/01/2016 - On Wednesday, January 27, 2016, in Abidjan, the Board of Directors of the African Development Bank (AfDB) approved a loan of US \$112.3 million to Morocco for the improvement of infrastructure on the Tangier-Casablanca-Marrakech railway route.

Asian Development Bank [to 30 January 2016]

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

25 Jan 2016 | News Release

ADB Private Sector Financing Tops \$2.6 Billion in 2015, Up 37% Year-on-Year

ADB approved a record \$2.6 billion of new financing and investments for the private sector in 2015, a 37% increase from a year earlier and 62% higher than in 2013.

25 Jan 2016 | News Release

Asia-Pacific PPP Project Preparation Facility Launches Operations

MANILA, PHILIPPINES - The Asia-Pacific Project Preparation Facility (AP3F), a multi-donor trust fund managed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to help developing Asia and the Pacific prepare, structure, and place bankable public-private partnership (PPP) projects in the market, launched its operations today.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank [to 30 January 2016]

<http://www.aiib.org/html/NEWS/>

No new digest content identified.

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:: INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch

We will monitor media releases and other announcements around key initiatives, new research and major organizational change from a growing number of global NGOs, collaborations, and initiatives across the human rights, humanitarian response and development spheres of action.

This Watch section is intended to be indicative, not exhaustive. We will not include fund raising announcements, programs events or appeals, and generally not include content which is primarily photo-documentation or video in format.

Amref Health Africa [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Aravind Eye Care System [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

BRAC [to 30 January 2016]

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

BRAC USA Newsletter - January 2016

...We have ambitious plans for the coming year including addressing the effects of climate change, using proven approaches to end ultra-poverty, and enabling women and girls to create better lives for themselves and their families...

CARE International [to 30 January 2016]

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

28 JANUARY 2016

El Niño: Urgent need for support as drought affects 14 million people in Southern Africa

MOZAMBIQUE

About 14 million people in Southern Africa are already facing hunger, and the situation is expected to deteriorate further as multiple countries in the region bear the impact of the El Niño weather system.

26 JANUARY 2016

CARE: Freezing temperatures and increased trafficking severely threaten safety of refugees along Balkan route

SERBIA

Biting winds and freezing temperatures of up to minus 10 degrees Celsius pose severe health risks for refugees in the Western Balkans. At the same time, increased activities by smugglers put those already exhausted from their journey at risk of being abused and injured.

25 JANUARY 2016

Snowstorms slam the Middle East, striking already vulnerable Syrians

SYRIA

Agencies warn that only a complete end to the six-month old siege and guarantees for sustained aid deliveries alongside humanitarian services will alleviate the crisis in these areas.

Casa Alianza [to 30 January 2016]

Covenant House [to 30 January 2016]

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

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

January 27, 2016

Exciting New Plan Will Better Serve New York City's Homeless Youth

In this Crain's New York article, learn about a partnership between Covenant House and NYC that could lead to more help for homeless youth.

Clubhouse International

<http://www.clubhouse-intl.org/news.html>

Posted on January 13, 2016

Meet Our New Executive Fellows

Fountain House is thrilled to welcome our three new Executive Fellows – Bethany Vukusic, Francesco Baglioni, and Jenny Erdman! The three fellows come from clubhouses in Michigan, Italy, and Iowa, respectively. The Executive Fellowship prepares new clubhouse directors to succeed anywhere in the world, and equips them with the requisite organizational and programmatic knowledge and skill sets.

Danish Refugee Council [to 30 January 2016]

<https://www.drc.dk/news>

No new digest content identified.

ECPAT [to 30 January 2016]

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

28 January 2016

ECPAT e-Bulletin

Fountain House [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Handicap International [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Heifer International [to 30 January 2016]

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

Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2016

[Heifer International Weekly](#)

HelpAge International [to 30 January 2016]

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

Posted: 26 January 2016

[**African leaders urged to adopt protocol on the rights of older people**](#)

African heads of state are being urged to adopt a protocol on older people's rights by organisations representing older people across the continent, at the 26th Summit of the African Union meeting in Ethiopia this week.

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 30 January 2016]

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

Posted by The IRC on January 29, 2016

[**Syria crisis: Give refugees a chance to rebuild their lives \[IRC Policy Briefs\]**](#)

The IRC has launched a series of policy briefs examining the challenges Syrian refugees in host countries like Jordan and Lebanon face in finding employment and earning the income they need to rebuild their lives.

ICRC [to 30 January 2016]

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

30 January 2016

[**Afghanistan: Thousands received life-saving assistance in 2015**](#)

Article

Ongoing conflict and violence continues to devastate the lives of hundreds of thousands of Afghan people.

In 2015, we provided basic aid, such as clean water and medical care, to those most in need across Afghanistan. Our teams also visited detainees to monitor their living conditions and treatment, and worked tirelessly to help to reconnect families separated by the conflict.

27 January 2016

[**Data Protection in Humanitarian Action**](#)

Article

The [Brussels Privacy Hub](#) at the Vrije Universiteit Brussels (VUB) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) intend to run a project exploring the relationship between data protection law and humanitarian action.

The provision of services to vulnerable persons by organizations working in humanitarian emergencies such as armed conflicts, other situations of violence, migration, natural disasters, and epidemics requires the collection and processing of a great deal of, often highly sensitive, personal data. To deal with humanitarian emergencies, it is in many cases necessary for personal data to flow between the concerned countries.

There is also increasing interest from both the humanitarian world, and the donors supporting it, in identifying innovative ways of providing better, and more efficient humanitarian assistance. This often involves exploring the possibilities offered by new technologies.

At the same time, as data protection and privacy laws develop at a faster pace, there is a lack of capacity and expertise to analyse how developing data protection and privacy rules actually apply to data collected for humanitarian purposes, particularly when adopting new technologies. This requires the identification of clear guidance in respect of data processing in humanitarian action. This should be developed based on the key principles set out in international human rights law and international humanitarian law, the 1990 UN Guidelines for the Regulation of Computerized Personal Data Files, and other relevant instruments relating to privacy and data protection, as well as humanitarian action guidelines and principles.

26 January 2016

[**ICRC in Yemen: Our work in 2015**](#)

Article

25 January 2016

[**Enable Makeathon: Inspiring innovative solutions to help people with disabilities**](#)

Article

Of the world's seven billion people, one billion are living with disabilities. Physical disabilities often limit a person's mobility and dexterity. But beyond these challenges for the individual, physical disabilities impact family members, society and the overall healthcare system. Meeting the complex needs of persons with physical disabilities is a societal responsibility- one that we can all contribute to.

Initiated by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and its partners, the 'Enable Makeathon' is a global project aimed at creating new assistive devices for persons with disabilities living in rural settings- both in India and across the world...

News release

23 January 2016

[**Ukraine crisis: Best practices in dead body recovery discussed in Lugansk**](#)

Kiev / Lugansk (ICRC) – Today the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) held a round-table discussion in the town of Lugansk on ways of identifying the dead and handling their bodies respectfully.

IRCT [to 30 January 2016]

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

News

[**IRCT launches manual on setting up and running a rehabilitation centre in a Libyan context**](#)

29 January 2016

The IRCT and its partners are proud to launch a new manual, 'Establishing and Operating Rehabilitation Centres for Victims of Torture and Organised Violence', which provides guidelines on organisational and therapeutic procedures applicable to Libya, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and beyond.

Written in Arabic, the manual is made up of 10 chapters which include guidance on capacity development, developing protocols for treating torture victims, emergency management and

functional referral systems and monitoring and evaluation. The manual was written by an international multi-disciplinary team of experienced practitioners and academics and scientifically reviewed by a panel of experts in the field of torture rehabilitation from the region...

News

[IRCT: Turkey must immediately ensure full protection of human rights defenders](#)

28 January 2016

The IRCT expresses its grave concern about the recent arrest of 20 university academics. Among the arrested is Dr Ümit Biçer, who is on the board of IRCT's Turkish member centre, the Human Rights Foundation Turkey (HRFT), and is a leading international expert in forensic documentation of torture and ill-treatment.

The arrest is alleged to be a direct response to a [joint statement](#) issued by 1,128 academics from Turkey and abroad, calling for an end to the curfews imposed on certain districts in Turkey, which have led to severe human rights violations, including extrajudicial executions...

News

[Scientific Symposium: Additional call for abstracts](#)

27 January 2016

Islamic Relief [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

[MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières](#) [to 30 January 2016]

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

Press Releases

[MSF Alert: Five Epidemics to Watch](#)

January 25, 2016

Five diseases with the potential to become epidemics in 2016 are being highlighted by the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), as the World Health Organization's executive board meets in Geneva this week.

Press Releases

[Yemen: Health Facilities Under Attack, Severely Limiting Access to Care](#)

January 25, 2016

The conflict in Yemen is being waged with total disregard for the rules of war, the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) declared today, following the latest attack on one of its health facilities.

Field News

[CAR: No Hope of Returning Home](#)

January 27, 2016

A nervous calm prevails as the Central African Republic (CAR) awaits the final round of presidential elections, due to take place in early February. Renewed outbreaks of

intercommunal violence have kept the population on edge in recent months, with many fearing that tensions could flare anew at any moment. The worsening security situation has also crushed hopes of returning home for some 450,000 people who were displaced internally by violence, along with a similar number of refugees who fled to neighboring countries.

Mercy Corps [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Operation Smile [to 30 January 2016]

<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 30 January 2016]

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

28 January 2016

Millions at risk as Ethiopia suffers worst drought in a generation

The Ethiopian government estimates that 10.2 million people will need humanitarian assistance this year after more than 12 months of erratic or failed rains have caused the worst drought in Ethiopia since the mid-1980s. Ethiopia is one of a number of countries struggling to cope with the effects of one of the strongest El Niños on record.

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Pact [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Partners In Health [to 30 January 2016]

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

Jan 29, 2016

Cervical Cancer Program Expands in Haiti

Cervical cancer is the most common cancer in women in Haiti, and the second leading cause of cancer deaths among the same group, according to the ICO Information Centre on HPV and Cancer, a data clearinghouse.

This is true in a day and age when cervical cancer can largely be prevented and treated through timely vaccinations and regular gynecological exams. There is no reason that can't be true in Haiti.

In November, Zanmi Lasante, as Partners In Health is known in Haiti, launched a two-year program that will dramatically increase its capacity to vaccinate young girls and screen and treat women for cervical cancer. Over the next 24 months, staff will vaccinate 20,000 girls in St. Marc, Mirebalais, and Belladère against human papillomavirus (HPV), a disease that causes virtually all cervical cancer. They will also screen 20,000 more women for cervical cancer in St. Marc and the surrounding area, while boosting efforts to screen and treat women in Mirebalais and Belladère.

Additional staff will be hired and equipment and materials will be purchased to meet increased demand for these gynecological services, most of which will be provided at St. Nicholas Hospital in St. Marc. Pap smears, biopsies, and colposcopy—a procedure used to closely examine the cervix—will also be available for women whose initial tests indicate they may have cancer...

Jan 28, 2016

Need to Know: Zika Virus

The Zika virus has been reported in 23 countries and territories so far, including Haiti and Mexico, where Partners In Health has thousands of staff and serves thousands more patients on a daily basis. Dr. Joia Mukherjee, PIH's chief medical officer and an infectious disease expert, answers key questions about the virus. [Read More ▶](#)

Jan 27, 2016

Study Finds Poverty Spread Ebola

A study quantifies how poor areas of Monrovia increased transmission of Ebola in 2014.

PATH [to 30 January 2016]

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

Announcement | January 29, 2016

UPDATE: PATH extends call for applications to organize key regional caucuses at the Women Deliver 4th Global Conference

Regional caucuses will bring together diverse stakeholders to identify ways to advance global goals for women and girls

Plan International [to 30 January 2016]

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

28 January 2016

Plan International responding to Zika virus as outbreak spreads 'explosively'

Plan International is responding to the Zika virus in several communities in the Americas as concerns grow over its "explosive" spread.

Zika virus has been steadily spreading across the region and has now affected 23 countries and territories. The virus has no cure nor any preventive vaccine. It is being linked to hundreds of cases of babies born with unusually small heads in Brazil and has caused considerable alarm.

Plan International implements programmes in 12 countries in the region and is responding in communities in some of the affected countries. The organisation's efforts have been centred around public health promotion and mosquito control measures.

Public awareness activities are key as cases of the Zika virus can be reduced dramatically when people take action in their own communities.

"Public awareness activities are key as cases of the Zika virus can be reduced dramatically when people take action in their own communities," said Raul Rodriguez, Plan International's Regional Humanitarian Manager for the Americas...

Save The Children [to 30 January 2016]

http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpI4E/b.9357111/k.C14B/Press_Releases_2016/apps/nl/newsletter2.asp

No new digest content identified.

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 30 January 2016]

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

29.01.2016

SOS Youth Ambassador takes to global stage

- As the 2016 ECOSOC Youth Forum gets under way at United Nations headquarters in New York next week, SOS Children's Villages is helping young people to be heard.

27.01.2016

Health check: Winter conditions take toll on refugee children

- Dr Abdul Salam Sabbouh is a Syrian-born physician who studied medicine in then-Yugoslavia. Today, working with the Macedonian Red Cross in a field clinic provided by SOS Children's Villages, he is on the front line in helping refugees.

Tostan [to 30 January 2016]

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

January 27, 2016

Challenging Gender Roles through Engaged Fatherhood

Many studies have shown that the involvement of men in early childhood development (ECD) is extremely beneficial to a child's social, emotional and cognitive growth. Fathers who are involved and playful with their infants have children with higher IQs, improved linguistic abilities, greater capacity for empathy, decreased gender stereotypes, and are all-round better prepared to succeed in school.

In Senegal, strict ideas around gender roles and gendered divisions of labor have meant that for a long time, raising children has been exclusively considered women's work. Men, on the other hand, are thought of primarily as providers for the family and ready disciplinarians. As "head of the household," it's not uncommon for a man to make decisions without consulting the rest of the family, maintain distance from his young children and have little involvement in their education.

However, Tostan's Reinforcement of Parental Practices (RPP) program is calling into question these very practices with remarkable results...

Women for Women International [to 30 January 2016]

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

January 22, 2016 | The Diane Rehm Show

Afghanistan's Romeo and Juliet and How They Escaped an Honor Killing

WfWI's Noorjahan Akbar joins Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations Gayle Tzemach Lemmon and New York Times reporter and author Rod Nordland to discuss his new book *The Lovers: Afghanistan's Romeo and Juliet*. Drawing from her personal experience, Akbar shares how women in Afghanistan are working to counter patriarchal norms and claim their own agency and power to make the choices that affect their lives.

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ChildFund Alliance [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

CONCORD [to 30 January 2016]

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

[European NGO confederation for relief and development]

No new digest content identified.

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 30 January 2016]

<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]

27/12/2015

Flooding in north of England

Flooding in the north of England, Wales and some other areas of Britain has caused extensive disruption and driven hundreds of people from their homes.

23/10/2015

Nepal fuel crisis hampers relief response as winter approaches

:: Six months on DEC appeal totals £85 million

:: DEC funds help member agencies reach 900,000 people with aid

More than 400,000 people in the high mountains of Nepal are facing a winter of sub-zero temperatures without adequate shelter and supplies, nearly six months after the devastating earthquake struck the country on 25 April 2015, the DEC said today.

The Elders [to 30 January 2016]

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

News 29 January 2016

The Elders urge African Union to maintain efforts for peace and justice in Burundi

The Elders have written to the Chairperson of the African Union, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, in support of her efforts to bring peace and justice to Burundi, and urged her to press for a credible international security presence in the country.

News 27 January 2016

Still fit for purpose? Elders' UN proposals take centre stage at Sciences Po

Martti Ahtisaari and Lakhdar Brahimi discussed The Elders' proposals for strengthening the UN at the Sciences Po event which included contributions from several possible candidates for the next Secretary-General and touched on issues from terrorism to the refugee crisis, development challenges and the weakness of international institutions.

END Fund [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Gavi [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Global Fund [to 30 January 2016]

<http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news/>

News

Dutch Postcode Lottery Supports TB Programs for Syrian Refugees

28 January 2016

AMSTERDAM - The Dutch Postcode Lottery announced a contribution of €2.5 million to the Global Fund to support the fight against tuberculosis among Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will match the contribution from the Dutch Postcode Lottery.

"Partnerships like this allow us to better focus on leaving no one behind, regardless of their status, circumstance, or ethnic and religious background," said Mark Dybul, Executive Director of the Global Fund. "TB is a serious challenge, and collective efforts to reduce it are ultimately connected with achieving quality access to health care by all."

Marieke van Schaik, Managing Director of the Dutch Postcode Lottery, said: "We are honored to grant this award to the Global Fund to support the work that the organization is doing in emergency situations."

The Global Fund partnership, through the Emergency Fund special initiative, provides access to funds in emergency situations connected with HIV, TB or malaria. The Emergency Fund currently supports the provision and continuity of essential TB prevention, diagnosis and treatment services in Lebanon and Jordan, and will be expanded to Iraq.

News

Global Fund Hails New Malaria Investment

25 January 2016

GENEVA - The Global Fund welcomes a significant new investment against malaria by the United Kingdom and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Announced today in Liverpool by George Osborne, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the funding of £3 billion over the next five years will support research and other efforts to eliminate malaria.

The new fund will accelerate gains made against the mosquito-borne disease. Global efforts have already achieved a 60 percent decline in deaths since 2000, when malaria killed one

million people, mostly young children. Yet today's announcement underscored the need to expand efforts to eliminate this preventable disease.

The fund will receive £500 million a year from Britain's overseas aid budget for the next five years, as well as US\$200 million a year from the Gates Foundation to support research and development and accelerate malaria elimination efforts...

Hilton Prize Coalition [to 30 January 2016]

<http://prizecoalition.charity.org/>

An Alliance of Hilton Prize Recipients

No new digest content identified.

InterAction [to 30 January 2016]

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

Jan 26, 2016

InterAction Vice President Joel Charny Selected to Lead Norwegian Refugee Council USA

WASHINGTON – On Dec. 17, 2015, InterAction Vice President of Humanitarian Policy & Practice Joel Charny was selected as the first director for Norwegian Refugee Council USA.

Locus

<http://locusworld.org/>

"Locus is a movement focused on engaging those we serve, practitioners, the private sector, donors and government to drive adoption of locally owned, integrated solutions."

No new digest content identified.

Start Network [to 30 January 2016]

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

[Consortium of British Humanitarian Agencies]

No new digest content identified.

Muslim Charities Forum [to 30 January 2016]

<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 30 January 2016]

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

[Undated]

We are doing national NGOs research in Colombia, Lebanon and Nepal

One of the most striking findings of the State of the Humanitarian System (SOHS) 2015 report is that 4 out of 5 of the 4,480 humanitarian organisations are national NGOs working in country. These organisations have not only increased in numbers, but also in influence. There has been a growing recognition that national NGOs and civil society organisations should lead future humanitarian responses for them to be more relevant, timely and effective.

Although lots of research has addressed the need for an increased role for national NGOs in humanitarian response, the research, advocacy and evaluative pieces are commissioned and elaborated on from the perspective of international actors, primarily international NGOs.

In 2015 ALNAP embarked on new research into national and local NGOs to find out more about the work they do in disaster and emergency response, from their perspective. What are their priorities and commitments? What motivates and guides their decisions and activities? The project will seek to fill the current gap in understanding around what humanitarian action looks like in national NGOs' own terms.

Through interviews with a wide range of organisations across the humanitarian sector – from DRR and WASH, to livelihoods and organisations of self-mobilised affected-people – in three countries with diverse needs and experiences (Colombia, Lebanon and Nepal), this project will produce an in-depth qualitative study of the national and local NGO landscape.

To ensure this research will be truly reflecting the perceptions of the NGOs, ALNAP will be pioneering the use of Grounded Theory in the humanitarian field. This approach is more exploratory and hypothesis generating, rather than other approaches that test, validate or refute pre-established assumptions or hypotheses.

CHS Alliance [to 30 January 2016]

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

26/01/2016

CHS now available in Nepali

The Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) is now available in Nepali.

EHLRA/R2HC [to 30 January 2016]

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

28.01.2016

WASH in emergencies: the problems explored

The Humanitarian Innovation Fund (HIF) has a dedicated fund for accelerating innovation in emergency water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in crisis contexts.

Global Humanitarian Assistance (GHA) [to 30 January 2016]

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

Report Synopsis

Syria – Conflict and food insecurity in rural Damascus

Date: 2016/01/27

On 26 January 2016 we responded to a funding alert for escalating food insecurity and increased risk of malnutrition for people trapped in under siege conditions in the towns of Moadamiyet al-Sham and Daraya in rural Damascus, Syria. According to the UN Office for the

Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) 4.5 million people in Syria are considered hard to reach, of which at least 400,000 are totally besieged.

The inhabitants of Moadamiyat al-Sham and Daraya are trapped under siege conditions, and since December 2015 access to the towns has been completely closed. Food insecurity is escalating particularly for the most vulnerable people and the risk of malnutrition is rising particularly amongst children.

In 2016, for the fifth year in a row, the requirements set out in the UN-coordinated appeal in response the emergency within Syria have risen, now totalling US\$3.2 billion.

According to the UN OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS), seven donors have reported commitments/contributions totalling US\$21.5 million to Syria since the start of 2016. This funding picture is likely to change significantly in the coming weeks following the Syria pledging conference that will be held on 5 February in London, UK.

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

The Sphere Project [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 30 January 2016]

<https://phap.org/>

27 January 2016

[**PHAP is updating its strategy – your input is needed**](#)

::::::

Center for Global Development [to 30 January 2016]

<http://www.cgdev.org/page/press-center>

Selected Press Releases, Blog Posts, Publications

No new digest content identified.

ODI [to 30 January 2016]

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

Research Reports

[**Accelerating access to electricity in Africa with off-grid solar**](#)

Research reports and studies | January 2016 | Andrew Scott, Johanna Diecker, Kat Harrison, Charlie Miller, James Ryan Hogarth and Susie Wheeldon

An assessment of the impact of solar household systems and the market and policy environment for the growth of the solar off-grid market in sub-Saharan Africa.

[**Unlocking resilience through autonomous innovation**](#)

Working and discussion papers | January 2016 | Aditya Bahadur and Julian Doczi

This paper looks at autonomous, local, approaches to innovation which can be implemented to reduce people's vulnerability to natural, social and political shocks.

The European Union's Global Strategy: sustainable development and EU external action

Working and discussion papers | January 2016 | Mikaela Gavas, Christine Hackenesch, Svea Koch, James Mackie and Simon Maxwell

This briefing note addresses the challenges and opportunities related to the drafting of the European Union (EU) Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy.

Neutrality and solidarity in Nordic humanitarian action

Working and discussion papers | January 2016 | Carl Marklund

Although small, the Nordic countries have historically had a large and distinctive impact on humanitarian action.

China's balancing act

Research reports and studies | January 2016 | Phyllis Papadavid

This report examines the impact of the internationalisation of the renminbi (RMB) on the global economy.

World Economic Forum [to 30 January 2016]

<https://agenda.weforum.org/news/>

[See Week in Review above for additional announcements on the WEF in Davos earlier in January]

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:: Foundation/Major Donor Watch

We will primarily monitor press/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.

Aga Khan Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

<http://www.akdn.org/pr.asp>

No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Annie E. Casey Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

<http://www.aecf.org/contact/newsroom/>

No new digest content identified.

Clinton Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

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

Press Release

New Programs and Partnerships to Advance Health and Wellness in the United States Announced at Fifth Annual Health Matters Activation Summit

January 25, 2016

Indian Wells, CA – Today, the Clinton Health Matters Initiative (CHMI), an initiative of the Clinton Foundation, held its Fifth Annual Health Matters Activation Summit. The Summit brought together 450 leaders in healthcare, public policy, business, technology, education, and professional sports in an action-oriented dialogue on what's working and what more can be done to improve the health and well-being of communities across the United States.

The Summit, sponsored by Tenet Healthcare Corporation, included plenary discussions led by President Clinton and Clinton Foundation President Donna Shalala on the quest for longevity and our rising death rates, addressing health disparities through technology and innovation, the inclusion of girls and women in sports to improve their health, and how communities and local organizations are driving and developing scalable solutions that are also best suited to meet local needs...

Ford Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

<http://www.fordfoundation.org/?filter=News>

No new digest content identified.

GHIT Fund [to 30 January 2016]

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

GHIT was set up in 2012 with the aim of developing new tools to tackle infectious diseases that devastate the world's poorest people. Other funders include six Japanese pharmaceutical companies, the Japanese Government and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

2016.01.26 Publication

Forbes JAPAN: A special feature on the GHIT Fund

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Grameen Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

<http://www.grameenfoundation.org/news-events/press-room>

No new digest content identified.

IKEA Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 30 January 2016]

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

Science Education [January 28, 2016]

Sean B. Carroll Wins Lewis Thomas Prize

Biologist, educator, and author Sean B. Carroll honored with prestigious literary prize.

Rockefeller University established the Lewis Thomas Prize for Writing about Science to honor the rare individuals who bridge the worlds of science and the humanities.

Kellogg Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

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

Jan. 28, 2016

WKKF leads a broad coalition to launch Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation process aimed at addressing centuries of racial inequities in the United States

BATTLE CREEK, Mich. – The W.K. Kellogg Foundation launched its next step in pursuit of racial equity for the nation, an unprecedented Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT) enterprise that will help communities embrace racial healing and uproot conscious and unconscious beliefs in the hierarchy of human value. Over the last nine years, the nation's sixth largest private foundation invested more than \$200 million in organizations working to heal racial divides and eradicate structural bias in their communities.

Already, more than 70 diverse organizations and individuals ranging from the National Civic League to the YWCA USA to the National Congress of American Indians are partners in the TRHT process. This broad coalition seeks to move the nation beyond dialogues about race and ethnicity to unearthing historic and contemporary patterns that are barriers to success, healing those wounds and creating opportunities for all children.

"Our nation looks at far too many people as deficits, instead of assets," said La June Montgomery Tabron, WKKF's president and CEO. "Entrenched beliefs create an uneven disbursement of opportunities that give advantages when it comes to jobs, education, housing, civic participation and health. TRHT follows a proven and structured process for implementing change that can allow all children to matter and have opportunities to succeed."

Through its work with the America Healing initiative, WKKF has supported approximately 1,000 national and community organizations representing Native American, African American, Latino, Asian American, Pacific Islander, Arab American and white communities, which want to jettison the antiquated belief in the hierarchy of human value that limits the even distribution of opportunities throughout the nation...

MacArthur Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

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

Publication

Assessing Health and Demographics in India

Published January 25, 2016

A large part of India has shown substantial improvement in the health of its citizens, according to the first phase of results from the fourth National Family Health Survey. The

survey, conducted by the [International Institute for Population Sciences](#) with support from MacArthur and other funders, shows declines in child malnutrition and maternal mortality rates in the 13 states and two union territories covered by the survey's first phase. The report also shows that women are marrying later and prioritizing a focus on education and employment.

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

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

Press Releases

[Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation names new chief program officer](#)

January 27, 2016

The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation today announced the appointment of Aileen Lee as chief program officer for environmental conservation. In the coming months, Lee will take leadership of the team responsible for distributing nearly \$100 million per year to protect critical ecosystems globally.

Press Releases

[Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation taps Guillermo Castilleja, Ph.D., as strategic advisor](#)

January 27, 2016

The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation today announced the creation of a senior fellow role and the appointment of Guillermo Castilleja, Ph.D. In this role, Castilleja will serve as a special advisor to the president of the \$6.5 billion private foundation.

Open Society Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

<https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/issues/media-information>

January 28, 2016

[The Hashtag That Stymied Corruption in Kyrgyzstan](#)

by Shamil Ibragimov

By making information about public spending visible, watchdogs are shaming away government waste.

In October 2015, Kyrgyzstan's parliament announced it had ordered 120 new chairs at a cost of 2.6 million soms, or over US\$34,000. News of the extravagant purchase price sparked a backlash.

Social media users noted that the extravagant purchase makes them skeptical of promises to reduce spending. A virtual flash mob inundated social media networks with hundreds of photos of their own armchairs and office chairs under the hashtags #mychair and #120armchairs. The public shaming proved effective, and the order was canceled...

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Pew Charitable Trusts [to 30 January 2016]

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

Press Release

Poll Reveals Ohio Parents' Concerns About Short School Lunch Periods

January 28, 2016 Press Release

Kids' Safe and Healthful Foods Project

WASHINGTON—Almost half (48 percent) of Ohio voters with children in K-12 public schools think that students do not have enough time to eat lunch at school, according to a statewide survey released today by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and The Pew Charitable Trusts.

Press Release

Pew: Consumers See Mobile Payments as Helpful but Potentially Troublesome

January 28, 2016 Press Release

Consumer Banking

WASHINGTON—A new issue brief from The Pew Charitable Trusts finds that consumers are interested in using mobile payments for speed and convenience but also have concerns about security of their personal information.

The issue brief, "Is This the Future of Banking? Focus Group Views on Mobile Payments," is based on focus groups convened by Pew in May 2015 with smartphone owners who have bank accounts but have not tried mobile payments; those who have bank accounts and have used mobile payments; and those who do not have a bank account (the "unbanked")...

Issue Brief: Is This the Future of Banking?

Pdf: http://www.pewtrusts.org/~/media/Assets/2016/01/CB_FutureBankingIssueBrief.pdf

Jan 2016 :: 15 pages

Rockefeller Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

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

January 25, 2016

FACT SHEET: The Administration Announces Historic Commitments to Build Climate Resilient Communities

Under President Obama's leadership, the United States has taken more action to combat climate change than ever before. In addition to working to cut carbon ...

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 30 January 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 30 January 2016]

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/News/2016/index.htm>

No new digest content identified.

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:: Journal Watch

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

recommendation from readers. We selectively provide full text of abstracts and other content but note that successful access to some of the articles and other content may require subscription or other access arrangement unique to the publisher. Please suggest additional journals you feel warrant coverage.

American Journal of Disaster Medicine

Summer 2015, Volume 10, Number 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Infection Control

January 2016 Volume 44, Issue 1, p1-124, e1-e7

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

January 2016 Volume 50, Issue 1, p1-128, e1-e32

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

Volume 106, Issue 1 (January 2016)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

January 2016; 94 (1)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Health Services Research

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

(Accessed 30 January 2016)

Research article

[Prevalence and predictive factors for renouncing medical care in poor populations of Cayenne, French Guiana](#)

Access to health care is a global public problem. In French Guiana, there exists social inequalities which are specially marked amongst immigrants who make up a third of the population.

Larissa Valmy, Barbara Gontier, Marie Claire Parriault, Astrid Van Melle, Thomas Pavlovsky, Célia Basurko, Claire Grenier, Maylis Douine, Antoine Adenis and Mathieu Nacher

BMC Health Services Research 2016 16:34

Published on: 28 January 2016

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 30 January 2016)

Research article

[Adult pertussis is unrecognized public health problem in Thailand](#)

Nirada Siriyakorn, Pornvimon Leethong, Terapong Tantawichien, Saowalak Sripakdee, Anusak Kerdsin, Surang Dejsirilert and Leilani Paitoonpong

BMC Infectious Diseases 2016 16:25

Published on: 25 January 2016

Abstract

Background

Although pertussis has been considered a disease of childhood, it is also recognized as an important respiratory tract infection in adolescents and adults. However, in countries with routine vaccination against pertussis with high coverage, pertussis is not usually taken into consideration for the etiology of prolonged cough in adults. Previous studies in a variety of populations in developed countries have documented that pertussis is quite common, ranging from 2.9 to 32 % of adolescents and adults with prolonged cough. The anticipation and early recognition of this change in the epidemiology is important because the affected adolescents and adults act as reservoirs of the disease and source of infection to the vulnerable population of infants, for whom the disease can be life threatening. We conducted a prospective study to determine the prevalence of pertussis in Thai adults with prolonged cough.

Methods

Seventy-six adult patients with a cough lasting for more than 2 weeks (range, 14–180 days) were included in the present study. The data regarding medical history and physical examination were carefully analyzed. Nasopharyngeal swabs from all patients were obtained for the detection of deoxyribonucleic acid of *Bordetella pertussis* by the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) method. Paired serum samples were collected and tested for IgG antibody against pertussis toxin by using an ELISA method.

Results

Of 76 adult patients, 14 patients (18.4 %) with the mean age of 59 (range, 28–85) years and the mean duration of cough of 34 (range, 14–120) days had laboratory evidence of acute pertussis infection. One patient was diagnosed by the PCR method, while the rest had serological diagnosis. Whooping cough is a significantly associated symptom of patients with chronic cough who had laboratory evidence of pertussis. ($p < .05$, odds ratio 3.75, 95 % confidence interval: 1.00,14.06)

Conclusion

Pertussis is being increasingly recognized as a cause of prolonged, distressing cough among adults in Thailand. This result addresses the need of pertussis vaccination in Thai adults for preventing transmission to a high risk group such as newborn infants.

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 30 January 2016)

[No new relevant content identified]

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 30 January 2016)

[No new relevant content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 30 January 2016)

Research article

[The impact of a community driven mass media campaign on the utilisation of maternal health care services in rural Malawi](#)

Collins O. F. Zamawe, Masford Banda and Albert N. Dube

Published on: 27 January 2016

Research article

[Systematic review to understand and improve care after stillbirth: a review of parents' and healthcare professionals' experiences](#)

2.7 million babies were stillborn in 2015 worldwide; behind these statistics lie the experiences of bereaved parents.

Alison Ellis, Caroline Chebsey, Claire Storey, Stephanie Bradley, Sue Jackson, Vicki Flenady, Alexander Heazell and Dimitrios Siassakos

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth 2016 16:16

Published on: 25 January 2016

BMC Public Health

<http://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles>

(Accessed 30 January 2016)

[No new relevant content identified]

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 30 January 2016)

[No new relevant content identified]

BMJ Open

2016, Volume 6, Issue 1

<http://bmjopen.bmjjournals.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

British Medical Journal

21 January 2016 (vol 352, issue 8041)

<http://www.bmjjournals.org/content/352/8041>
[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 94, Number 1, January 2016, 1-76
<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/94/1/en/>
[Reviewed earlier]

Complexity
January/February 2016 Volume 21, Issue 3 Pages 1–88
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cplx.v21.3/issuetoc>
[New issue; No relevant content identified]

Conflict and Health
<http://www.conflictandhealth.com/>
[Accessed 30 January 2016]
[No new content]

Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation
<http://www.resource-allocation.com/>
(Accessed 30 January 2016)
Review

[Economic evaluations of interventions to reduce neonatal morbidity and mortality: a review of the evidence in LMICs and its implications for South Africa](#)

Mandy Maredza, Lumbwe Chola and Karen Hofman

Abstract

Background

Newborn mortality, comprising a third of all under-5 deaths, has hardly changed in low and middle income countries (LMICs) including South Africa over the past decade. To attain the MDG 4 target, greater emphasis must be placed on wide-scale implementation of proven, cost-effective interventions. This paper reviews economic evidence on effective neonatal health interventions in LMICs from 2000–2013; documents lessons for South African policy on neonatal health; and identifies gaps and areas for future research.

Methods

A narrative review was performed in leading public health databases for full economic evaluations conducted between 2000 and 2013. Data extraction from the articles included in the review was guided by the Consolidated Health Economic Evaluation Reporting Standards

(CHEERS) checklist, and the quality of the included economic evaluations was assessed using the Quality of Health Economics Studies Instrument (QHES).

Results

Twenty-seven economic evaluations were identified, from South East Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, with those from sub-Saharan Africa primarily focused on HIV/AIDS. Packages of care to prevent neonatal mortality were more cost-effective than vertical interventions. A wide variability in methodological approaches challenges the comparability of study results between countries. In South Africa, there is limited cost-effectiveness evidence for the interventions proposed by the National Perinatal Morbidity and Mortality Committee.

Conclusions

Neonatal strategies have a strong health system focus but this review suggests that strengthening community care could be an additional component for averting neonatal deaths. While some evidence exists, having a more complete understanding of how to most effectively deploy scarce resources for neonatal health in South Africa in the post-2015 era is essential.

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases

February 2016 - Volume 29 - Issue 1 pp: v-vi, 1-98

<http://journals.lww.com/co-infectiousdiseases/pages/currenttoc.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

Developing World Bioethics

December 2015 Volume 15, Issue 3 Pages iii–iii, 115–275

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Development in Practice

Volume 26, Issue 1, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Development Policy Review

January 2016 Volume 34, Issue 1 Pages i–ii, 5–174

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dpr.2016.34.issue-1/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology

Volume 11, Issue 1, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness

Volume 9 - Issue 06 - December 2015

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Disasters

January 2016 Volume 40, Issue 1 Pages 1–182

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/disa.2016.40.issue-1/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Emergency Medicine Journal

January 2016, Volume 33, Issue 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemics

Volume 15, In Progress (June 2016)

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

[No new relevant content]

End of Life Journal

2016, Volume 6, Issue 1

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

[No new relevant content]

Epidemiology and Infection

Volume 144 - Issue 02 - January 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

The European Journal of Public Health

Volume 25, Issue 6, 1 December 2015

<http://eurpub.oxfordjournals.org/content/25/6>

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Policy

Volume 59, In Progress (February 2016)

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

[No new relevant content identified]

Food Security

Volume 7, Issue 6, December 2015
<http://link.springer.com/journal/12571/7/6/page/1>
[Reviewed earlier]

Forum for Development Studies
Volume 42, Issue 3, 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)
December 2015 | Volume 3 | Issue 4
<http://www.ghspjournal.org/content/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health Governance
<http://blogs.shu.edu/ghg/category/complete-issues/spring-autumn-2014/>
[Accessed 30 January 2016]
[No new content]

Global Public Health
Volume 11, Issue 3, 2016
<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rgph20/current>
Articles
[Developing collaborative approaches to international research: Perspectives of new global health researchers](#)
Paula Godoy-Ruiz, Donald C. Cole, Lindsey Linters & Kwame McKenzie
pages 253-275
Open access
DOI:10.1080/17441692.2014.999814
Abstract
Within a global context of growing health inequities, the fostering of partnerships and collaborative research have been promoted as playing a critical role in tackling health inequities and health system problems worldwide. Since 2004, the Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research (CCGHR) has facilitated annual Summer Institutes for new global health researchers aimed at strengthening global health research competencies and partnerships among participants. We sought to explore CCGHR Summer Institute alumni perspectives on the Summer Institute experience, particularly on the individual research pairings of Canadian and

low- and middle-income countries researchers that have characterised the program. The results reveal that the Summer Institute offered an enriching learning opportunity for participants and worked to further their collaborative projects through providing dedicated one-on-one time with their international research partner, feedback from colleagues from around the world and mentorship by more senior researchers. Positive individual relationships among researchers, as well as the existence of institutional collaborations, employer and funding support, and agendas of local and national politicians were factors that have influenced the ongoing collaboration of partners. There is a need to more fully examine the interplay between individual and institutional-level collaborations, as well as their social and political contexts.

Articles

Alternative accounting in maternal and infant global health

Vincanne Adams, Sienna R. Craig & Arlene Samen

DOI:10.1080/17441692.2015.1021364

pages 276-294

Abstract

Efforts to augment accountability through the use of metrics, and especially randomised controlled trial or other statistical methods place an increased burden on small nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) doing global health. In this paper, we explore how one small NGO works to generate forms of accountability and evidence that may not conform to new metrics trends but nevertheless deserve attention and scrutiny for being effective, practical and reliable in the area of maternal and infant health. Through an analysis of one NGO and, in particular, its organisational and ethical principles for creating a network of safety for maternal and child health, we argue that alternative forms of (ac)counting like these might provide useful evidence of another kind of successful global health work

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 30 January 2016]

[No new relevant content]

Health Affairs

January 2016; Volume 35, Issue 1

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

High-Cost Populations, Medicaid, Spending & More

[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 17, Issue 2 December 2015

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

Special Issue: Evidence of the Impact of Human Rights-Based Approaches to Health

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Economics, Policy and Law

Volume 11 - Issue 01 - January 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 30 Issue 10 December 2015

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[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems

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

[Accessed 30 January 2016]

[No new relevant content]

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Volume 37, Number 4, November 2015

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[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 39, Issue 5, 2015

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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Number 65 November 2015

http://odihpn.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/HE_65_web.pdf

Special Feature: The Crisis in Iraq

[Reviewed earlier]

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Vol 5, No 2 (2015)

<http://idrimjournal.com/index.php/idrim/issue/view/14>

[Reviewed earlier]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

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

[Accessed 30 January 2016]

[No new relevant content]

International Health

Volume 8 Issue 1 January 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Human Rights Law Review

Volume 4, Issue 2, 2015

<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/22131035/4/2>

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International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction

Volume 14, Part 4, Pages 323-564 (December 2015)

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January 2016 Volume 42, p1-74

<http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712%2815%29X0012-9>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology

Volume 23, Issue 2, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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Winter 2015 Volume 49, Issue 4 Pages 843–1070, e33–e48

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/imre.2015.49.issue-4/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Intervention – Journal of Mental Health and Psychological Support in Conflict Affected Areas

November 2015 - Volume 13 - Issue 3 pp: 200-296

<http://journals.lww.com/interventionjnl/pages/currrenttoc.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

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January 26, 2016, Vol 315, No. 4

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

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

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January 2016, Vol 170, No. 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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Vol 1, No 1 (2015)

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Community Health

February 2016, Issue 1, Pages 1-205

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10900/41/1/page/1>

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

Journal of Development Economics

Volume 118, Pages 1-298 (January 2016)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03043878/118>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Human Trafficking

Volume 1, Issue 4, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/uhmt20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

January 2016, Volume 70, Issue 1

<http://jech.bmjjournals.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 11, Issue 3, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjge20/.U2V-Elf4L01#.VAJEj2N4WF8>

Forum: The Sustainable Development Goals

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Infectious Diseases (JGID)

October-December 2015 Volume 7 | Issue 4 Page Nos. 125-174

<http://www.jgid.org/currentissue.asp?sabs=n>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved (JHCPU)

Volume 27, Number 1, February 2016

https://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_health_care_for_the_poor_and_underserved/toc/hpu.27.1.html

Original Papers

Ideological vs. Instrumental Barriers to Accessing Formal Mental Health care in the Developing World: Focus on South-eastern Nigeria

pp. 157-175

Ugo Ikwuka, Niall Galbraith, Ken Manktelow, Josephine Chen-Wilson, Femi Oyebode, Rosemary C. Muomah, Anuli Igboaka

Original Papers

Estimates of Mental Health Problems in a Vulnerable Population within a Primary Care Setting

pp. 308-326

Darrell L. Hudson, Kimberly A. Kaphingst, Merriah A. Croston, Melvin S. Blanchard, Melody S. Goodman

Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Volume 5 Issue 3 2015

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/jhlscm/5/3>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Volume 18, Issue 1, February 2016

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10903/18/1/page/1>

Original paper

HPV Vaccine Awareness, Barriers, Intentions, and Uptake in Latina Women

Julia Lechuga, Lina Vera-Cala...

Abstract

Latina women are at heightened risk of cervical cancer incidence and mortality. The human papillomavirus (HPV) is the principal cause of the majority of cervical cancer cases. A vaccine that protects against HPV was licensed in 2006. Eight years post-licensure, mixed research findings exist regarding the factors that predict vaccine uptake in Latinas. We conducted a population-based phone survey with a random sample of 296 Latinas living in a Midwestern U.S. City. Intention to vaccinate was significantly associated with health care provider recommendations, worry about side effects, knowing other parents have vaccinated, perceived severity of HPV, and worry that daughter may become sexually active following vaccination. Worry that daughter may become sexually active was the only factor related to vaccine uptake. Findings suggest that training providers to discuss the low risk of severe side effects, consequences of persistent HPV, and sexuality related concerns with Latino women may encourage vaccination.

Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies

Volume 13, Issue 4, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wimm20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Infectious Diseases

Volume 213 Issue 3 February 1, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of International Development

January 2016 Volume 28, Issue 1 Pages 1–158

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jid.v28.1/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics

Winter 2015 Volume 43, Issue 4 Pages 673–913

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jlme.2015.43.issue-4/issuetoc>

Special Issue: SYMPOSIUM: Harmonizing Privacy Laws to Enable International Biobank Research: Part I

[14 articles]

Journal of Medical Ethics

January 2016, Volume 42, Issue 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (JPIDS)

Volume 4 Issue 4 December 2015

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Public Health Policy

Volume 37, Issue 1 (February 2016)

<http://www.palgrave-journals.com/jphp/journal/v37/n1/index.html>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Royal Society – Interface

01 January 2016; volume 13, issue 114

<http://rsif.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/current>

[New issue; No relevant content]

Knowledge Management for Development Journal

Vol 11, No 2 (2015)

<http://journal.km4dev.org/journal/index.php/km4dj/index>

Papers

Data sharing and use of ICTs in agriculture: working with small farmer groups in Colombia

Fanny Cecile Howland, Luis Armando Muñoz, Simone Staiger, James Cock, Sophie Alvarez

Abstract

This article describes the experience of analyzing groups of Colombian fruit farmers' capacity to collect information and their interest and ability to take advantage of the opportunities offered by information and communication technologies (ICTs). Three cycles were designed to understand the attitudes, skills, and current practices of fruit growers and to define the necessary conditions for effective information sharing. The three cycles involved individual farmers, farmer groups meeting face to face, and virtual meeting with farmer groups. The results contribute to the design of strategies for farmer engagement in the knowledge-sharing online platform of the AES-CE (Acronym in Spanish for Sharing Experiences for Site Specific Agriculture) project, designed to assist growers in improved decision making through sharing of multiple types of information from multiple sources. We find that farmers understand the usefulness of record keeping, but data collection is often imposed externally, and records are not generally used to better manage production. Farmers, overall, were positive towards information sharing and understand the benefits of using information from a wider environment, shared through an ICT platform, but shortage of skills in using these technologies is a serious limiting factor to expansion to a broader scale. We discuss future strategies that can be used to the design and implement ICT platforms which farmers can use to share information and improve their management.

Papers

Mainstreaming as a knowledge process: new lessons from mainstreaming gender, disability and sexual diversity

Saskia C. van Veen, Petra Staal, Rob van Poelje

Abstract

Mainstreaming is a strategy to enhance citizen participation of marginalised groups. In development practice, various mainstreaming issues have caught the attention of development organisations that shows their commitment to initiate inclusive development practice. However, influencing societal change by inclusive practices is difficult and requires a knowledge process to co-create socially robust knowledge. This paper brings together the knowledge and experiences from existing literature and from three cases on mainstreaming, namely from gender, disability inclusions and sexual diversity. We show how capacity development and knowledge co-creation at non-governmental organisations (NGOs) can be a lever for the inclusion of marginalised groups in society. The lessons learned may help development practitioners to reinforce and strengthen their emancipating work.

The Lancet

Jan 30, 2016 Volume 387 Number 10017 p403-504

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

Editorial

Ebola's legacy: UK deficits and their global lessons

The Lancet

Summary

A devastating [report](#) on the UK's lessons from Ebola was published this week by the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee. Much of the blame for the world's lacklustre response to Ebola has been laid at the door of WHO. But the committee also found surprising weaknesses in the UK's application of science to global health emergencies. It makes important recommendations for corrective action. Although targeted towards the UK, the committee's findings will also likely apply to other high-income countries involved in the response to Ebola.

Articles

[**Global, regional, and national levels and trends in maternal mortality between 1990 and 2015, with scenario-based projections to 2030: a systematic analysis by the UN Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter-Agency Group**](#)

Leontine Alkema, Doris Chou, Daniel Hogan, Sanqian Zhang, Ann-Beth Moller, Alison Gemmill, Doris Ma Fat, Ties Boerma, Marleen Temmerman, Colin Mathers, Lale Say, United Nations Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter-Agency Group collaborators, technical advisory group

Summary

Background

Millennium Development Goal 5 calls for a 75% reduction in the maternal mortality ratio (MMR) between 1990 and 2015. We estimated levels and trends in maternal mortality for 183 countries to assess progress made. Based on MMR estimates for 2015, we constructed projections to show the requirements for the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of less than 70 maternal deaths per 100 000 livebirths globally by 2030.

Methods

We updated the UN Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter-Agency Group (MMEIG) database with more than 200 additional records (vital statistics from civil registration systems, surveys, studies, or reports). We generated estimates of maternal mortality and related indicators with 80% uncertainty intervals (UIs) using a Bayesian model. The model combines the rate of change implied by a multilevel regression model with a time-series model to capture data-driven changes in country-specific MMRs, and includes a data model to adjust for systematic and random errors associated with different data sources.

Results

We had data for 171 of 183 countries. The global MMR fell from 385 deaths per 100 000 livebirths (80% UI 359–427) in 1990, to 216 (207–249) in 2015, corresponding to a relative decline of 43·9% (34·0–48·7), with 303 000 (291 000–349 000) maternal deaths worldwide in 2015. Regional progress in reducing the MMR since 1990 ranged from an annual rate of reduction of 1·8% (0·0–3·1) in the Caribbean to 5·0% (4·0–6·0) in eastern Asia. Regional MMRs for 2015 ranged from 12 deaths per 100 000 livebirths (11–14) for high-income regions to 546 (511–652) for sub-Saharan Africa. Accelerated progress will be needed to achieve the SDG goal; countries will need to reduce their MMRs at an annual rate of reduction of at least 7·5%.

Interpretation

Despite global progress in reducing maternal mortality, immediate action is needed to meet the ambitious SDG 2030 target, and ultimately eliminate preventable maternal mortality. Although the rates of reduction that are needed to achieve country-specific SDG targets are ambitious for most high mortality countries, countries that made a concerted effort to reduce maternal mortality between 2000 and 2010 provide inspiration and guidance on how to accomplish the acceleration necessary to substantially reduce preventable maternal deaths.

Funding

National University of Singapore, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, USAID, and the UNDP/UNFPA/UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction.

Series

Breastfeeding

Breastfeeding in the 21st century: epidemiology, mechanisms, and lifelong effect

Cesar G Victora, Rajiv Bahl, Aluísio J D Barros, Giovanny V A França, Susan Horton, Julia Krasevec, Simon Murch, Mari Jeeva Sankar, Neff Walker, Nigel C Rollins, The Lancet Breastfeeding Series Group

Breastfeeding

Why invest, and what it will take to improve breastfeeding practices?

Nigel C Rollins, Nita Bhandari, Nemat Hajeebhoy, Susan Horton, Chessa K Lutter, Jose C Martines, Ellen G Piwoz, Linda M Richter, Cesar G Victora, The Lancet Breastfeeding Series Group

The Lancet Infectious Diseases

Jan 2016 Volume 16 Number 1 p1-130 e1-e9

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 20, Issue 1, January 2016

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10995/20/1/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

January 2016; 36 (1)

<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 529 Number 7586 pp255-432 21 January 2016

http://www.nature.com/nature/current_issue.html

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

Nature Medicine

January 2016, Volume 22 No 1 pp1-113

<http://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v22/n1/index.html>

[Reviewed earlier]

New England Journal of Medicine

January 28, 2016 Vol. 374 No. 4

<http://www.nejm.org/toc/nejm/medical-journal>

Editorial

[Sharing Clinical Trial Data — A Proposal from the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors](#)

Darren B. Taichman, M.D., Ph.D., Joyce Backus, M.S.L.S., Christopher Baethge, M.D., Howard Bauchner, M.D., Peter W. de Leeuw, M.D., Jeffrey M. Drazen, M.D., John Fletcher, M.B., B.Chr., M.P.H., Frank A. Frizelle, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.A.C.S., Trish Groves, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.Psych., Abraham Haileamlak, M.D., Astrid James, M.B., B.S., Christine Laine, M.D., M.P.H., Larry Peiperl, M.D., Anja Pinborg, M.D., Peush Sahni, M.B., B.S., M.S., Ph.D., and Sinan Wu, M.D.

N Engl J Med 2016; 374:384-386

January 28, 2016

DOI: 10.1056/NEJMMe1515172

The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) believes that there is an ethical obligation to responsibly share data generated by interventional clinical trials because participants have put themselves at risk. In a growing consensus, many funders around the world — foundations, government agencies, and industry — now mandate data sharing. Here we outline the ICMJE's proposed requirements to help meet this obligation. We encourage feedback on the proposed requirements. Anyone can provide feedback at www.icmje.org by 18 April 2016.

The ICMJE defines a clinical trial as any research project that prospectively assigns people or a group of people to an intervention, with or without concurrent comparison or control groups, to study the cause-and-effect relationship between a health-related intervention and a health outcome. Further details may be found in the Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals at www.icmje.org.

As a condition of consideration for publication of a clinical trial report in our member journals, the ICMJE proposes to require authors to share with others the deidentified individual-patient data (IPD) underlying the results presented in the article (including tables, figures, and appendices or supplementary material) no later than 6 months after publication. The data underlying the results are defined as the IPD required to reproduce the article's findings, including necessary metadata. This requirement will go into effect for clinical trials that begin to enroll participants beginning 1 year after the ICMJE adopts its data-sharing requirements. (The ICMJE plans to adopt data-sharing requirements after considering feedback received to the proposals made here.)

Enabling responsible data sharing is a major endeavor that will affect the fabric of how clinical trials are planned and conducted and how their data are used. By changing the requirements of the manuscripts we will consider for publication in our journals, editors can help foster this endeavor. As editors, our direct influence is logically, and practically, limited to those data underpinning the results and analyses we publish in our journals.

The ICMJE also proposes to require that authors include a plan for data sharing as a component of clinical trial registration. This plan must include where the researchers will house the data and, if not in a public repository, the mechanism by which they will provide others access to the data, as well as other data-sharing plan elements outlined in the 2015 Institute of Medicine Report (e.g., whether data will be freely available to anyone upon request or only after application to and approval by a learned intermediary, whether a data use agreement will be required).¹ ClinicalTrials.gov has added an element to its registration platform to collect data-sharing plans. We encourage other trial registries to similarly incorporate mechanisms for the registration of data-sharing plans. Trialists who want to publish in ICMJE member journals (or nonmember journals that choose to follow these recommendations) should choose a registry that includes a data-sharing plan element as a specified registry item or allows for its entry as a free-text statement in a miscellaneous registry field. As a condition of consideration for publication in our member journals, authors will be required to include a description of the data-sharing plan in the submitted manuscript. Authors may choose to share the deidentified IPD underlying the results presented in the article under less restrictive, but not more restrictive, conditions than were indicated in the registered data-sharing plan.

The ICMJE already requires the prospective registration of all clinical trials prior to enrollment of the first participant. This requirement aims, in part, to prevent selective publication and selective reporting of research outcomes, and to prevent unnecessary duplication of research effort. Including a commitment to a data-sharing plan is a logical addition to trial registration that will further each of these goals. Prospective trial registration currently includes documenting the planned primary and major secondary end points to be assessed, which enables identification of incomplete reporting as well as post hoc analyses. Declaring the plan for sharing data prior to their collection will further enhance transparency in the conduct and reporting of clinical trials by exposing when data availability following trial completion differs from prior commitments.

Sharing clinical trial data, including deidentified IPD, requires planning to ensure appropriate ethics committee or institutional review board approval and the informed consent of study participants. Accordingly, we will defer these requirements for 1 year to allow investigators, trial sponsors, and regulatory bodies time to plan for their implementation.

Just as the confidentiality of trial participants must be protected (through the deidentification of IPD), and the needs of those reasonably requesting data met (through the provision of useable data), the reasonable rights of investigators and trial sponsors must also be protected. The ICMJE proposes the following to safeguard these rights. First, ICMJE editors will not consider the deposition of data in a registry to constitute prior publication. Second, authors of secondary analyses using these shared data must attest that their use was in accordance with the terms (if any) agreed to upon their receipt. Third, they must reference the source of the data using a unique identifier of a clinical trial's data set to provide appropriate credit to those who generated it and allow searching for the studies it has supported. Fourth, authors of secondary

analyses must explain completely how theirs differ from previous analyses. In addition, those who generate and then share clinical trial data sets deserve substantial credit for their efforts. Those using data collected by others should seek collaboration with those who collected the data. However, because collaboration will not always be possible, practical, or desired, an alternative means of providing appropriate credit needs to be developed and recognized in the academic community. We welcome ideas about how to provide such credit.

Data sharing is a shared responsibility. Editors of individual journals can help foster data sharing by changing the requirements of the manuscripts they will consider for publication in their journals. Funders and sponsors of clinical trials are in a position to support and ensure adherence to IPD-sharing obligations. If journal editors become aware that IPD-sharing obligations are not being met, they may choose to request additional information; to publish an expression of concern; to notify the sponsors, funders, or institutions; or in certain cases, to retract the publication.

In the rare situation in which compliance with these requirements is impossible, editors may consider authors' requests for exceptions. If an exception is made, the reason(s) must be explained in the publication.

Sharing data will increase confidence and trust in the conclusions drawn from clinical trials. It will enable the independent confirmation of results, an essential tenet of the scientific process. It will foster the development and testing of new hypotheses. Done well, sharing clinical trial data should also make progress more efficient by making the most of what may be learned from each trial and by avoiding unwarranted repetition. It will help to fulfill our moral obligation to study participants, and we believe it will benefit patients, investigators, sponsors, and society.

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly

December 2015; 44 (6)

<http://nvs.sagepub.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration

OxMo – Vol. 5, No. 2

<http://oxmofm.com/current-issue/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Pediatrics

January 2016, VOLUME 137 / ISSUE 1

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/137/1?current-issue=y>

[Reviewed earlier]

PharmacoEconomics

Volume 33, Issue 12, December 2015

<http://link.springer.com/journal/40273/33/12/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

PLOS Currents: Disasters

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

[Accessed 30 January 2016]

[Evacuation During Hurricane Sandy: Data from a Rapid Community Assessment](#)

January 29, 2016 · Research Article

Introduction: In anticipation of Hurricane Sandy in 2012 New York City officials issued mandatory evacuation orders for evacuation Zone A. However, only a small proportion of residents complied. Failure to comply with evacuation warnings can result in severe consequences including injury and death. To better ascertain why individuals failed to heed pre-emptive evacuation warnings for Hurricane Sandy we assessed factors that may have affected evacuation among residents in neighborhoods severely affected by the storm.

Methods: Data from a mental health needs assessment survey conducted among adult residents in South Brooklyn, the Rockaways, and Staten Island from December 13-18, 2012 was assessed. Several disasters related questions were evaluated, and prevalence estimates of evacuation and evacuation timing by potential factors that may influence evacuation were estimated. Measures of association were assessed using chi-square and t-test.

Results: Our sample consisted of 420 residents of which, only 49% evacuated at any time for Sandy. Evacuation was higher among those who witnessed trauma to others related to the World Trade Center attacks (66% vs. 40%, $p=0.024$). Those who reported extensive household damage after Sandy, had a higher rate of evacuation than those with minimal damage (83% vs. 30%, $p<0.001$). Among those who evacuated, evacuation before the storm was lower among residents living on higher floors (56% vs. 22%, $p=0.022$).

Discussion: Given that warnings to evacuate were issued before Sandy made landfall, evacuation among residents in South Brooklyn, the Rockaways and Staten Island, while higher than the overall Zone A evacuation rate, was less than optimal. Continued research on evacuation behaviors is needed, particularly on how timing affects evacuation. A better understanding may help to reduce barriers, and improve evacuation compliance.

[Immediate Needs and Concerns among Pregnant Women During and after Typhoon Haiyan \(Yolanda\)](#)

January 25, 2016 · Research Article

Introduction: Pregnant and postpartum women are especially vulnerable to natural disasters. These women suffer from increased risk of physical and mental issues including pregnant related problems. Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda), which hit the Philippines affected a large number of people and caused devastating damages. During and after the typhoon, pregnant women were forced to live in particularly difficult circumstances. The purpose of this study was to determine concerns and problems regarding public health needs and coping mechanisms among pregnant women during and shortly after the typhoon.

Methods: This study employed a cross-sectional design utilizing focus group discussions (FGDs). Participants were 53 women (mean age: 26.6 years old; 42 had children) from four affected communities who were pregnant at the time of the typhoon. FGDs were conducted 4 months after the typhoon, from March 19 to 28, 2014, using semi-structured interviews. Data were analyzed using the qualitative content analysis.

Result: Three themes were identified regarding problems and concerns during and after the typhoon: 1) having no ideas what is going to happen during the evacuation, 2) lacking essentials to survive, and 3) being unsure of how to deal with health concerns. Two themes were identified as means of solving issues: 1) finding food for survival and 2) avoiding diseases to save my family. As the pregnant women already had several typhoon experiences without any major problems, they underestimated the catastrophic nature of this typhoon. During the typhoon, the women could not ensure their safety and did not have a strong sense of crisis management. They suffered from hunger, food shortage, and poor sanitation. Moreover, though the women had fear and anxiety regarding their pregnancy, they had no way to resolve these concerns. Pregnant women and their families also suffered from common health problems for which they would usually seek medical services. Under such conditions, the pregnant woman cooperated with others for survival and used their knowledge of disease prevention.

Discussion: Pregnant women experienced difficulties with evacuation, a lack of minimum survival needs, and attending to their own health issues. Pregnant women were also concerned about needs and health issues of their families, particular, when they had small children. Collecting accurate information regarding the disaster and conducting self-sustainable preparation prior to the disaster among pregnant women will help them to protect their pregnancy status, thereby improving their families' chance of survival during and after disasters

PLoS Currents: Outbreaks

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

(Accessed 30 January 2016)

[Historical Parallels, Ebola Virus Disease and Cholera: Understanding Community Distrust and Social Violence with Epidemics](#)

January 26, 2016 · Discussion

In the three West African countries most affected by the recent Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreak, resistance to public health measures contributed to the startling speed and persistence of this epidemic in the region. But how do we explain this resistance, and how have people in these communities understood their actions? By comparing these recent events to historical precedents during Cholera outbreaks in Europe in the 19th century we show that these events have not been new to history or unique to Africa. Community resistance must be analysed in context and go beyond simple single-variable determinants. Knowledge and respect of the cultures and beliefs of the afflicted is essential for dealing with threatening disease outbreaks and their potential social violence.

PLoS Medicine

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

(Accessed 30 January 2016)

Editorial

[Can Data Sharing Become the Path of Least Resistance?](#)

The PLOS Medicine Editors

Published: January 26, 2016

DOI: 10.1371/journal.pmed.1001949

Initial text

The year 2016 could be the year when medical research converges on data sharing as a universal standard, if recent events, reflected in several PLOS Medicine articles this month, are a good indication. Attaining that standard, however, may take a little longer...

Strategies to Prevent Cholera Introduction during International Personnel Deployments: A Computational Modeling Analysis Based on the 2010 Haiti Outbreak

Joseph A. Lewnard, Marina Antillón, Gregg Gonsalves, Alice M. Miller, Albert I. Ko, Virginia E. Pitzer

Research Article | published 26 Jan 2016 | PLOS Medicine

10.1371/journal.pmed.1001947

Abstract

Background

Introduction of *Vibrio cholerae* to Haiti during the deployment of United Nations (UN) peacekeepers in 2010 resulted in one of the largest cholera epidemics of the modern era. Following the outbreak, a UN-commissioned independent panel recommended three pre-deployment intervention strategies to minimize the risk of cholera introduction in future peacekeeping operations: screening for *V. cholerae* carriage, administering prophylactic antimicrobial chemotherapies, or immunizing with oral cholera vaccines. However, uncertainty regarding the effectiveness of these approaches has forestalled their implementation by the UN. We assessed how the interventions would have impacted the likelihood of the Haiti cholera epidemic.

Methods and Findings

We developed a stochastic model for cholera importation and transmission, fitted to reported cases during the first weeks of the 2010 outbreak in Haiti. Using this model, we estimated that diagnostic screening reduces the probability of cases occurring by 82% (95% credible interval: 75%, 85%); however, false-positive test outcomes may hamper this approach. Antimicrobial chemoprophylaxis at time of departure and oral cholera vaccination reduce the probability of cases by 50% (41%, 57%) and by up to 61% (58%, 63%), respectively. Chemoprophylaxis beginning 1 wk before departure confers a 91% (78%, 96%) reduction independently, and up to a 98% reduction (94%, 99%) if coupled with vaccination. These results are not sensitive to assumptions about the background cholera incidence rate in the endemic troop-sending country. Further research is needed to (1) validate the sensitivity and specificity of rapid test approaches for detecting asymptomatic carriage, (2) compare prophylactic efficacy across antimicrobial regimens, and (3) quantify the impact of oral cholera vaccine on transmission from asymptomatic carriers.

Conclusions

Screening, chemoprophylaxis, and vaccination are all effective strategies to prevent cholera introduction during large-scale personnel deployments such as that precipitating the 2010 Haiti outbreak. Antimicrobial chemoprophylaxis was estimated to provide the greatest protection at the lowest cost among the approaches recently evaluated by the UN.

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

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

(Accessed 30 January 2016)

[No new relevant content]

PLoS One

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

[Accessed 30 January 2016]

[Assessing Progress towards Public Health, Human Rights, and International Development Goals Using Frontier Analysis](#)

Jeanne Luh, Ryan Cronk, Jamie Bartram

Research Article | published 26 Jan 2016 | PLOS ONE

10.1371/journal.pone.0147663

71/journal.pone.0145548

Abstract

Indicators to measure progress towards achieving public health, human rights, and international development targets, such as 100% access to improved drinking water or zero maternal mortality ratio, generally focus on status (i.e., level of attainment or coverage) or trends in status (i.e., rates of change). However, these indicators do not account for different levels of development that countries experience, thus making it difficult to compare progress between countries. We describe a recently developed new use of frontier analysis and apply this method to calculate country performance indices in three areas: maternal mortality ratio, poverty headcount ratio, and primary school completion rate. Frontier analysis is used to identify the maximum achievable rates of change, defined by the historically best-performing countries, as a function of coverage level. Performance indices are calculated by comparing a country's rate of change against the maximum achievable rate at the same coverage level. A country's performance can be positive or negative, corresponding to progression or regression, respectively. The calculated performance indices allow countries to be compared against each other regardless of whether they have only begun to make progress or whether they have almost achieved the target. This paper is the first to use frontier analysis to determine the maximum achievable rates as a function of coverage level and to calculate performance indices for public health, human rights, and international development indicators. The method can be applied to multiple fields and settings, for example health targets such as cessation in smoking or specific vaccine immunizations, and offers both a new approach to analyze existing data and a new data source for consideration when assessing progress achieved.

PLoS Pathogens

<http://journals.plos.org/plospathogens/>

(Accessed 30 January 2016)

[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 30 January 2016)

[No new relevant content identified]

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 30 - Issue 06 - December 2015

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Preventive Medicine

Volume 82, Pages 1-118 (January 2016)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00917435/82>

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Ethics

Volume 8 Issue 3 November 2015

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

Special Symposium: Antimicrobial Resistance

[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

January 2016; 26 (2)

<http://qhr.sagepub.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 34 Issue 4 December 2015

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Reproductive Health

<http://www.reproductive-health-journal.com/content>

[Accessed 30 January 2016]

[No new content]

Revista Panamericana de Salud Pública/Pan American Journal of Public Health

(RPSP/PAJPH)

September 2015 Vol. 38, No. 3

<http://www.paho.org/journal/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Risk Analysis

December 2015 Volume 35, Issue 12 Pages 2121–2228

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.2015.35.issue-12/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Science

29 January 2016 Vol 351, Issue 6272
<http://www.sciencemag.org/current.dtl>

EDITORIAL

Global science engagement

Geraldine Richmond

Summary

In rural Laos, more than 50% of newborns will be stunted by age 2 due to chronic malnourishment. Worldwide, 161 million children under the age of 5, many of them in Africa and Asia, suffered irreversible stunting as of 2013. The developed world is not immune. As recently as 2010, stunting affected 8 to 9% of babies enrolled in U.S. federal food-subsidy programs. Next week in Washington, DC, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS is the publisher of Science) will convene its annual meeting (11 to 15 February), where world leaders will discuss food security and other major challenges that lie ahead in both the science and international policy arenas.

Policy Forum

Conservation Ecology

How can higher-yield farming help to spare nature?

Ben Phalan^{1,*}, Rhys E. Green^{1,2}, Lynn V. Dicks¹, Graziela Dotta³, Claire Feniuk¹, Anthony Lamb¹, Bernardo B. N. Strassburg^{4,5}, David R. Williams¹, Erasmus K. H. J. zu Ermgassen¹, Andrew Balmford¹

Summary

Expansion of land area used for agriculture is a leading cause of biodiversity loss and greenhouse gas emissions, particularly in the tropics. One potential way to reduce these impacts is to increase food production per unit area (yield) on existing farmland, so as to minimize farmland area and to spare land for habitat conservation or restoration. There is now widespread evidence that such a strategy could benefit a large proportion of wild species, provided that spared land is conserved as natural habitat (1). However, the scope for yield growth to spare land by lowering food prices and, hence, incentives for clearance ("passive" land sparing) can be undermined if lower prices stimulate demand and if higher yields raise profits, encouraging agricultural expansion and increasing the opportunity cost of conservation (2, 3). We offer a first description of four categories of "active" land-sparing mechanisms that could overcome these rebound effects by linking yield increases with habitat protection or restoration (table S1). The effectiveness, limitations, and potential for unintended consequences of these mechanisms have yet to be systematically tested, but in each case, we describe real-world interventions that illustrate how intentional links between yield increases and land sparing might be developed.

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 148, Pages 1-172 (January 2016)
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02779536/148>
[Reviewed earlier]

Stability: International Journal of Security & Development

<http://www.stabilityjournal.org/articles>
[accessed 30 January 2016]

[No new content]

Stanford Social Innovation Review

Winter 2016 Volume 14, Number 1

<http://ssir.org/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Sustainability

Volume 8, Issue 1 (January 2016), Articles 1-

<http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/8/1>

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

TORTURE Journal

Volume 25, Nr. 2, 2015

<http://www.irct.org/Default.aspx?ID=5768>

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine and Health

Vol. 43(2015) No. 4

https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/browse/tmh/43/0/_contents

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine & International Health

January 2016 Volume 21, Issue 1 Pages 1–156

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tmi.2016.21.issue-1/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

UN Chronicle

Vol. LII No. 3 2015 December 2015

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

Sustainable Energy

This issue focuses on sustainable energy, and explores topics such as universal energy access, increasing the use of renewable energy, improved energy efficiency and the nexus between energy and development.

Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies

An International Interdisciplinary Journal for Research, Policy and Care

Volume 10, Issue 4, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rvch20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

World Heritage Review

n°77 - October 2015

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/77>

[Reviewed earlier]

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