

The Sentinel

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

Week ending 13 February 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](#)***
- :: [Key Agency/IGO/Governments Watch](#) - Selected Updates from 30+ entities***
- :: [INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch](#) - Media Releases, Major Initiatives, Research***
- :: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) - Selected Updates***
- :: [Journal Watch](#) - Key articles and abstracts from 100+ peer-reviewed journals***

:: [Week in Review](#)

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

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News Release

Hilton Foundation Mourns Loss of Hilton Prize Director Judy M. Miller

Renowned nonprofit executive passes away in Los Angeles at the age of 77

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 11, 2016 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Philanthropist and activist Judy M. Miller, passed away on February 8, 2016 at her home in Los Angeles of natural causes. She was 77. Judy was known throughout the nonprofit community as a tireless advocate for vulnerable and disadvantaged people around the world. She served as Vice President and Director of the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize for 18 years, after a remarkable four-decade career in communications and marketing.

"Judy was a beloved member of our Foundation family and will be greatly missed," said Peter Laugharn, President and CEO at the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation. "We are very proud of her many accomplishments and will miss her dedication to discovering and advocating for nonprofit organizations that have made extraordinary advances in relieving human suffering."...

Chronicle of Philanthropy

February 12, 2016

Appreciation: Judy Miller's Leadership Made Hilton Prize Rigorous and Rewarding

By Tom Watson

Last fall at the Waldorf Astoria in New York, I watched as Judy Miller worked the room. The venerable Park Avenue pile was packed with philanthropic luminaries and social-sector leaders celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Hilton Humanitarian Prize, the world's largest philanthropic award, of which she was the longtime director. Former laureates told stories of challenge and redemption and impact as the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation justly marked one of the great philanthropic success stories in glamorous fashion.

Indefatigable, personally generous, insatiably curious, and possessed of the unmistakable glow that comes from organizing people and resources for the betterment of society, Judy was a true force in the world of American philanthropy. She didn't have her name on the front door, she rarely stepped into the spotlight, and she worked the inside game. But she made a path that made a difference.

Her death Monday at age 77 shocked and saddened the huge network of nonprofit leaders and change-makers long accustomed to her stoic presence and quiet leadership. This was a person who logged millions of miles visiting nonprofit programs around the world in the service of making the Hilton Prize the most rigorous (and rewarding) of program achievements. Judy delighted in stories of exotic and occasionally dangerous travel, and she took pride in just how hard it was to win a Hilton Prize.

Her record of service to philanthropy lives on in the Hilton laureates, a group that includes nonprofits that have been more innovative and had more impact than most others on the planet...

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World Humanitarian Summit

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

23-24 May 2016 :: Istanbul, Turkey

General Assembly: Briefing by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the occasion of the launch of his report for the World Humanitarian Summit (Informal meeting of the plenary)

9 Feb 2016 – [Video: 1:58:51]

Stephen O'Brien (OCHA) on the launch of the Secretary-General's report for the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) - Press Conference

9 Feb 2016 – [Video: 41:52]

Mr. Stephen O'Brien, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, briefed reporters on the launch of the Secretary-General's report for the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS).

One Humanity: Shared Responsibility

Report of the Secretary-General for the World Humanitarian Summit

Advance unedited copy :: 64 pages

General Assembly

Seventieth session

Item 73 (a)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Pdf: <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Secretary-General%27s%20Report%20for%20WHS%202016%20%28Advance%20Unedited%20Draft%29.pdf>

AGENDA FOR HUMANITY - Annex to the Report of the Secretary-General for the World Humanitarian Summit

The World Humanitarian Summit must be a turning point in the way we address the challenges facing our common humanity. The community of “we the peoples”—Governments, local communities, private sector, international organizations and aid providers, and the thousands of committed and compassionate individuals assisting in crises and disasters every day—will only succeed if we work with a unified sense of purpose to end crises and suffering. The Summit must lead to genuine change in the way we deliver assistance and reduce risk and vulnerability; in our commitment to respecting, promoting and implementing international law; in the progress we make in reaching those furthest left behind; in the way we commit to collective outcomes and based on comparative advantage; in the way we resolve to reduce the fragmentation of international assistance into unmanageable numbers of projects and activities; and in the greater investments we make to prevent and resolve conflicts and human suffering.

We must build on the commitments made in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by seizing the opportunity of this Summit to prevent and end suffering more decisively, and with more capacity, resolve and resources. We need to commit to working together collectively and coherently across political, cultural, religious and institutional divides. We need to inspire faith in national, regional and international solidarity and our willingness and capacity to prioritize humanity in our decision-making. Most importantly, we need to recognize people’s rights to live in safety, dignity and with the prospects to thrive as agents of their own destinies. Acting upon our individual and collective responsibilities must be our global commitment.

To this end, I urge you to commit to taking forward this Agenda for Humanity and use it as a framework for action, change and mutual accountability. I urge all stakeholders at the Summit to commit to implementing concrete initiatives aimed at making the Agenda a reality. Given the urgency of protecting and improving people's lives, and ending suffering experienced by millions today, we must commit to making immediate progress in implementing the Agenda over the next three years, measuring further progress thereafter. My report to the 71st session of the General Assembly on the outcomes of the Summit will reflect further on this and make recommendations on how to best implement and monitor the necessary strategic shifts and actions to make a decisive difference for people today and tomorrow.

Change will require a steady and determined effort to do better and overcome the structures and arrangements that we have been used to for decades. It will require a new and creative spirit of collaboration at all levels and openness to new and diverse partnerships. And it will require recognition that we must do far better in accepting our responsibilities for humanity, by ensuring an international order based on solidarity and collaboration - with people at its centre.

Today the values of the United Nations and the vision of humanity that we have agreed upon in its Charter and key instruments such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the humanitarian principles agreed upon by the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and reaffirmed by General Assembly resolution 46/182, the Millennium Declaration and most recently the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, is needed more than ever. Humanity is not just a moral imperative but also a strategic necessity. We must therefore act upon our individual and shared responsibilities. And we must start by making the strategic, operational and policy shifts identified in this Agenda for Humanity a reality, with a heightened sense of urgency and resolve.

Pdf [14 pages]:
<http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Agenda%20for%20Humanity.pdf>

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09/02/2016 –

UNODC Chief describes risk of 10,000 missing migrant children as "unacceptable"

Executive Director of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) says in speech on human trafficking that we have the tools to fight this crime, but greater cooperation needed among those countries facing human trafficking

New York/Vienna, 9 February 2016 - Reacting to a Europol warning that up to 10,000 unaccompanied migrant children travelling to Europe were missing, UNODC Executive Director, Yury Fedotov, said today that this situation was "clearly unacceptable, and international action is urgently needed".

Mr. Fedotov was speaking at an event in New York on human trafficking and the eradication of modern-day slavery through Sustainable Development, organized by the Belarus government, the Group of Friends United against Human Trafficking and UNODC. Other speakers included the President of the UN General Assembly, Mogens Lykketoft, and UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon.

The UNODC chief said solutions lay in fostering greater action and cooperation among every country affected by human trafficking. He underscored the importance of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its protocol against human trafficking and stressed that it provided the necessary tools for action.

But the problem, said Mr. Fedotov, is that many countries are not using these laws. He quoted UNODC research that four in 10 countries reported having less than 10 yearly convictions, with nearly 15 per cent having no convictions at all.

He also indicated that the share of children being trafficked was rising with the number of detected child victims now representing nearly one-third of all detected trafficking victims in the world.

Discussing a strategy to counter the traffickers, Mr. Fedotov said the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons offered a suitable plan, but funding was also needed.

He said the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons needed the strong support of countries. The Trust Fund has already supported 30 NGO projects, in 26 countries around the world, with grants worth US\$ 1.75 million.

Read the Executive Director's [full speech](#) at the event.

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International Day against the Use of Child Soldiers: Child Soldiers are Boys and Girls We Failed to Protect

SRSG/CAAC :: Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

12 Feb 2016

New York – As we mark the International Day against the Use of Child Soldiers, tens of thousands of boys and girls are associated with armed forces and groups in conflicts in over 20 countries around the world.

"Again this year, the multiplication of conflicts and the brutality of tactics of war have made children extremely vulnerable to recruitment and use," said Leila Zerrougui, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.

In the most recent Annual report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict, 56 of the 57 parties to conflict identified for grave violations against children are named because they are recruiting and using child soldiers.

Children are sent to the frontlines as combatants, but many are also used in functions that put their lives in danger such as cooks, porters, spies and informants. During their association with armed groups or forces, children are exposed to high levels of violence. They are witnesses, victims or forced to commit acts of brutality. In addition, a majority of girls, but also boys, are victims of rape and sexual violence. When they are captured or arrested for alleged association

with armed groups, too often, children are not treated primarily as victims and denied the protection guaranteed by international norms and standards of juvenile justice.

"Children who are released or escape often have a hard time finding their place in society, or can even be rejected by their communities. We must make it our common responsibility to ensure sufficient resources are available for reintegration to provide psychosocial support as well as education and vocational training. This is crucial to their future and to build peaceful societies," said Leila Zerrougui.

...The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, now ratified by 162 state parties, has played a crucial role to bring about this consensus. Leila Zerrougui invites all Member States who have not yet ratified the Optional protocol to do so as soon as possible.

"I invite everyone to start thinking about child soldiers as boys and girls we collectively failed to protect," said Leila Zerrougui. "We have an opportunity to end the recruitment and use of children in conflict. It is now our common responsibility to ask for urgent action to end grave violations against children and to dedicate the necessary attention and resources to reach our objective."

Additional information on the recruitment and use of children:

In Afghanistan, there is progress to end the recruitment and use of children in national security forces, but children continue to be recruited by armed groups such as the Taliban.

In the Central African Republic, children continue to be subjected to grave violations by all parties to the conflict. The UN has documented several thousand children recruited and used by armed groups since the beginning of the conflict. Children have been used in many ways. They have been sent to the frontlines as combatants, as informants or porters. Girls have been used for sexual purposes.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, there is steady progress in the implementation of the Action Plan signed with the United Nations to end the recruitment and use of children by the national security forces. Despite this positive development, children continued to be recruited and used by armed groups, most notably in eastern DR Congo. It is estimated that the ranks of some armed groups are composed of about 30% of children.

In Iraq and Syria, with the proliferation of armed groups and advances by ISIL, children remain vulnerable to recruitment. Reports have been received of armed groups targeting children as young as seven years of age, and forcibly recruiting children through coercion of family members and abductions.

In South Sudan, children continue to suffer the consequences of a brutal conflict and most of the progress previously achieved to protect them has been erased. We now see high levels of recruitment and use and call on all parties to take tangible action to honour their commitment to protect children.

In Yemen, the recruitment and use of children by all parties to the conflict has become widespread since the escalation of conflict in March 2015.

11 Feb 2016

Colombia: UN Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict Welcomes FARC-EP's Decision to End Child Recruitment

New York – The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Leila Zerrougui, welcomes yesterday's confirmation by the Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia-Ejército del Pueblo (FARC-EP) that they will stop the recruitment and use of children under 18...

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Statement on Data Sharing in Public Health Emergencies

The arguments for sharing data, and the consequences of not doing so, have been thrown into stark relief by the Ebola and Zika outbreaks.

In the context of a public health emergency of international concern, there is an imperative on all parties to make any information available that might have value in combatting the crisis.

We are committed to working in partnership to ensure that the global response to public health emergencies is informed by the best available research evidence and data, as such:

:: Journal signatories will make all content concerning the Zika virus free to access. Any data or preprint deposited for unrestricted dissemination ahead of submission of any paper will not pre-empt its publication in these journals.

:: Funder signatories will require researchers undertaking work relevant to public health emergencies to set in place mechanisms to share quality-assured interim and final data as rapidly and widely as possible, including with public health and research communities and the World Health Organisation.

We urge other organisations to make the same commitments. This commitment is in line with the consensus statement agreed at a WHO expert consultation on data sharing last year whereby researchers are expected to share data at the earliest opportunity, once they are adequately controlled for release and subject to any safeguards required to protect research participants and patients.

Signatories to the Statement

Academy of Medical Sciences, UK

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)

The British Medical Journal (BMJ)

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Canadian Institutes of Health Research

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Chinese Academy of Sciences

Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention

The Department of Biotechnology, Government of India

The Department for International Development (DFID)

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)

eLife

The Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

F1000

Fondation Mérieux

Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz)

The Institut Pasteur

Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)

The JAMA Network
The Lancet
Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF)
National Academy of Medicine
National Institutes of Health, USA
National Science Foundation, USA
The New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)
PLOS
Science Journals
South African Medical Research Council
Springer Nature
UK Medical Research Council
Wellcome Trust
ZonMw - The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development

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Zika virus [to 13 February 2016]

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

<http://www.who.int/emergencies/zika-virus/en/>

Situation report: Zika and potential complications - 12 February 2016

<http://www.who.int/emergencies/zika-virus/situation-report/en/>

Summary

- :: WHO has called for a coordinated and multisectoral response through an inter-agency Strategic Response Framework focusing on response, surveillance and research.
- :: 39 countries have reported locally acquired circulation of the virus since January 2007. Geographical distribution of the virus has steadily expanded.
- :: Six countries (Brazil, French Polynesia, El Salvador, Venezuela, Colombia and Suriname) have reported an increase in the incidence of cases of microcephaly and/or Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) in conjunction with an outbreak of the Zika virus. Puerto Rico and Martinique have reported cases of GBS associated with Zika virus infection without an increase of incidence. No scientific evidence to date confirms a link between Zika virus and microcephaly or GBS.
- :: Women's reproductive health has been thrust into the limelight with the spread of the Zika virus. The latest evidence suggests that Zika virus infection during pregnancy may be linked to microcephaly in newborn babies.
- :: WHO advice on travel to Zika-affected countries includes advice for pregnant women as well as women who are trying to become pregnant and their sexual partners.

[Read the full situation report](#)

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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 13 February 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases/Meetings Coverage

11 February 2016

SC/12238

Speakers Differ over Use of Sanctions as Security Council Considers Working Methods of Its Subsidiary Bodies

Speakers called today for greater transparency in the procedures and practices of committees established to monitor United Nations sanctions and improve communication with affected countries, as the Security Council held a general debate on the working methods of its subsidiary bodies.

11 February 2016

SG/SM/17531-AFR/3320

Secretary-General Condemns Attack on Nigerian Camp for Internally Displaced Persons, Reaffirms United Nations Support in Fight against Terrorism

9 February 2016

SG/SM/17525-HR/5292

Secretary-General, Launching Report at World Humanitarian Summit, Stresses Need to Move from Managing Crises to Preventing Them

8 February 2016

SG/A/1634*-BIO/4812*

Secretary-General Appoints Jane Holl Lute of United States as Special Coordinator on Improving United Nations Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 13 February 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases

Situation in Aleppo and other parts of Syria “grotesque” – Zeid

GENEVA (11 February 2016) – The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein on Thursday expressed “utmost alarm” at the rapidly worsening human rights situation in and around the city of Aleppo and other parts of Syria, where he said “shocking violations and abuses are committed on a daily basis.”

“I condemn these horrendous acts unequivocally,” he said. “The warring parties in Syria are constantly sinking to new depths, without apparently caring in the slightest about the death and destruction they are wreaking across the country. Women and children, the elderly, the wounded and sick, the people with disabilities are being used as bargaining chips and cannon fodder day after day, week after week, month after month. It is a grotesque situation.”

“Since the latest offensive by Government forces began last week in the Governorate of Aleppo, reportedly accompanied by numerous air strikes by Russian and Syrian aircraft, some

51,000 civilians have been displaced and a further 300,000 are at risk of being placed under siege," Zeid said, adding that dozens of civilians have reportedly been killed since 1 February. "We have also received numerous reports of destruction of civilian infrastructure, including at least three clinics and two bakeries since the launch of this latest round of hostilities," he said. The High Commissioner stressed that hundreds of thousands of civilians in other parts of Syria are also facing dire humanitarian conditions, particularly those under sieges imposed both by Government forces and affiliated armed groups, and by armed opposition groups, including ISIL....

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 13 February 2016]

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

Selected Announcements

CRC call for submissions on its General Comment on Children in Street Situations

Must be received by 12 April 2016.

The Committee on the Rights of the Child has decided to develop a General Comment on children in street situations. The experiences, opportunities and challenges facing children in street situations clearly vary widely across different regions and between different groups of children. The Committee is therefore seeking submissions from States parties, civil society and other interested bodies, in all regions and from a wide range of perspectives, to inform the drafting process...consultation events will be held for children from street situations and adults working with them from different regions in 2016.

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

[to 13 February 2016]

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Children/Pages/ChildrenIndex.aspx>

12 February 2016

Boko Haram: Make 'liberated areas' truly safe for returnees, UN experts urge Nigeria

GENEVA (12 February 2016) – United Nations human rights experts* today urged the Government of Nigeria to ensure that the areas they claim to have liberated from Boko Haram forces are truly safe for people displaced by the violence, enabling them to return home. They also called for camps, both formal and informal, for internally displaced persons (IDPs), to be adequately protected, and stressed that all returns should be voluntary and coordinated.

The experts' appeal comes after a series of brutal attacks by Boko Haram on villages in north-eastern Nigeria that included an attempt to storm an informal IDP settlement near the village of Dalori, where more than 90 people, predominantly women and children, are believed to have been killed. In addition, according to reports, on Tuesday two female suicide bombers attacked the site for internally displaced Nigerians at Dikwa, located some 90 kms west of the Borno capital, Maiduguri, killing more than 50 people and injuring dozens...

SRSG/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict [to 13 February 2016]

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

12 Feb 2016

International Day against the Use of Child Soldiers: Child Soldiers are Boys and Girls we Failed to Protect

11 Feb 2016

Colombia: UN Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict Welcomes FARC-EP's Decision to End Child Recruitment

No new digest content identified.

SRSG/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN OCHA [to 13 February 2016]

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

12 Feb 2016

Syrian Arab Republic: Letter to the Editor of Foreign Affairs [EN/AR]

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: Syrian Arab Republic
Regarding the article: "Aiding Disaster: How the United Nations' OCHA Helped Assad and Hurt Syrians in Need" (published 1 February 2016 in 'Snapshot', Foreign Affairs) Dr. Sparrow's article highlights the grim reality for civilians enduring a brutal war in Syria, where millions are subject to the political and military interests of the parties and their supporters.

12 Feb 2016

Syrian Arab Republic: Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien Statement on Syria, New York, 12 February 2016 [EN/AR]

10 Feb 2016

occupied Palestinian territory: \$571 million funding appeal to address humanitarian needs in Palestine during 2016 [EN/AR]

09 Feb 2016

South Sudan: South Sudan: Humanitarian partners urgently require funding in race against time during the dry season

08 Feb 2016

Syrian Arab Republic: Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien - Statement on Syria

UNICEF [to 13 February 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases

Central African Republic: UNICEF calls upon presidential candidates to make a strong commitment to children

BANGUI, Central African Republic, 12 February, 2016 – As Central African voters prepare to cast their ballot on Sunday to elect their next President and members of Parliament, UNICEF is

asking the candidates to place the interests of children at the heart of the political agenda by making strong commitments and investing in survival, education and child protection.

Humanitarian ceasefire and access to Syrian civilians urgently needed – aid agencies

NEW YORK, 10 February 2016 -160 humanitarian agencies are appealing for immediate ceasefire and unimpeded, sustained access to bring lifesaving relief to those affected by worsening violence in Syria.

UNICEF and WHO help fight Lassa Fever outbreak in Benin

COTONOU, Benin, 10 February 2016 – Alarmed by an outbreak of deadly Lassa Fever, UNICEF and World Health Organization officials in Benin are scaling up an emergency response to help prevent further spread of the disease.

Statement on children following the Australian High Court finding on offshore detention of asylum seekers

BANGKOK, 9 February 2016 – “The Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which Australia is a signatory, underscores that the best interests of a child must be a primary consideration in all decisions and actions affecting that child.

UN agencies warn of escalating food crisis in South Sudan

JUBA, South Sudan, 8 February 2016 – South Sudan is facing unprecedented levels of food insecurity, as 2.8 million people – nearly 25 percent of the country’s population – remain in urgent need of food assistance, and at least 40,000 people are on the brink of catastrophe, three UN agencies warned today.

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 13 February 2016]

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

Press Releases

11 February 2016

UNHCR urges Central European leaders to show solidarity with refugees ahead of the V4 Summit

Budapest, 11 February 2016

UNHCR urges Central European leaders to show solidarity with refugees ahead of the V4 Summit

The UN Refugee Agency is urging leaders in Central Europe to show greater solidarity with desperate refugees who seek sanctuary in the continent as war, conflict and extremism force millions out of their homes.

UNHCR's call comes ahead of the Visegrad Group Summit in Prague on February 15, where leaders from the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia will discuss regional issues, including the ongoing refugee crisis. Bulgaria and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are also invited to participate...

9 February 2016

UNHCR Statement on the Situation in Turkey

Geneva/ Ankara – UNHCR expresses its gratitude for the generosity shown by the Turkish authorities and people towards the Syrian refugees they have been hosting for the last five years. UNHCR appreciates that Turkey is continuing to give access to humanitarian and medical cases despite the increasingly complex situation in northern Syria. In view of the recent displacement in Aleppo province and the extreme vulnerabilities, UNHCR is encouraging authorities to ensure a broader access to Turkish territory for all those in need of international protection in line with the long-standing Turkish open-border policy.

Turkey is already hosting over 2.5 million Syrians and shouldering the greatest responsibility in sheer numbers in this humanitarian international crisis. While UNHCR stands ready to assist authorities to manage and care for new arrivals of refugees, and has pre-positioned relief items in Turkey close to the Syrian border accordingly, far greater support is required to address the magnitude of needs. UNHCR is therefore also calling on the international community to swiftly and meaningfully increase support to Turkey.

IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 13 February 2016]

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

02/12/16

Mediterranean Migrant and Refugee Arrivals Top 83,000 in 2016

Greece - Migrant and refugee arrivals in Europe in 2016 yesterday reached an estimated 83,201, with some 77,303 of those arriving in the Greek islands from Turkey.

IOM Boosts Aid to Over 15,000 People Fleeing Violence in Northern Syria

02/12/16

Syria - Intensified fighting in Syria's northern provinces is causing a growing number of Syrians to flee their homes.

IOM Provides Body Bags to Libyan Red Crescent for Drowned Migrants

02/12/16

Libya - As the political crisis in Libya worsens, ongoing violence continues to trigger large scale displacement.

Low Education, Unemployment Drive Irregular Migration among Somali Youth

02/12/16

Somalia - Low levels of education and insecurity is fueling youth unemployment and migration in Somalia, according to a new IOM study released in Nairobi yesterday (11/2.)

UN Women [to 13 February 2016]

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

Date: 12 February 2016

Egyptian women are key to driving Egypt's growth

During the UN Women Executive Board First Regular Session of 2016, a special discussion on 9 February featured a briefing on how UN Women is helping transform the lives of Egyptian women.

On mission in the Netherlands, UN Women Executive Director calls for action to protect women and girls fleeing from conflict

Date: 12 February 2016

During Ms. Mlambo-Ngcuka's four-day visit to The Netherlands, she also met with high-level officials, women's groups, private sector partners and ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda. She also visited a women's shelter and support centre and took part in a discussion on women's economic empowerment.

Executive Board discusses humanitarian response and Flagship Programme Initiatives at its First Regular Session of 2016

Date: 10 February 2016

Convening for the first time in 2016, the UN Women Executive Board engaged in an interactive session that comprised of a strong focus on the entities operations in the field.

Women and girls imperative to science and technology agenda

Date: 10 February 2016

In an op-ed ahead of International Day of Women and Girls in Science, UN Women Deputy Executive Director Lakshmi Puri writes about the importance of including women and girls "as creators and decision-makers in spheres that are transforming our everyday world".

WHO & Regionals [to 13 February 2016]

Disease Outbreak News (DONs)

- :: [12 February 2016](#) - Yellow Fever – Angola
- :: [12 February 2016](#) - Zika virus infection – United States of America
- :: [12 February 2016](#) - Microcephaly – United States of America
- :: [12 February 2016](#) - Guillain-Barré syndrome – Colombia and Venezuela
- :: [10 February 2016](#) - Human infection with avian influenza A(H7N9) virus – China
- :: [8 February 2016](#) - Guillain-Barré syndrome – Brazil
- :: [8 February 2016](#) - Guillain-Barré syndrome – France - Martinique
- :: [8 February 2016](#) - Zika virus infection – Maldives
- :: [8 February 2016](#) - Zika virus infection – Region of the Americas

Highlights

Assistive technologies for the elderly and disabled

11 February 2016 -- WHO has launched a global survey to gather views on the most necessary and useful assistive technologies, such as hearing aids and wheelchairs. The survey will feed into the first ever WHO mandated list of essential assistive technologies. Governments can use the list to plan and focus efforts to help populations acquire the 50 priority products, thereby improving the everyday lives of the elderly and people living with disabilities.

Deworming campaign targets 270 million children in one day

February 2016 -- An estimated 270 million children across India have received deworming medicine (albendazole) as part of a drive to eliminate intestinal parasitic infections – a widespread problem that affects children's development.

First WHO Global Meeting of National NCD Programme Directors and Managers

February 2016 -- WHO is organizing the First Global Meeting of National NCD Programme Directors and Managers from 15 to 17 February 2016 in Geneva, at the WHO Executive Board Room.

India launches plan to eliminate malaria

February 2016 -- India's Ministry of Health launched an ambitious national roadmap to eliminate malaria. The National Framework for Malaria Elimination in India 2016-2030, aims to reduce malaria case incidence and deaths to 0 over the next 15 years.

:: WHO Regional Offices

WHO African Region AFRO

:: [Official visit of WHO Regional Director for Africa, Dr Moeti to Gabon](#)

Brazzaville/Libreville, 12 February 2016 - The WHO Regional Director for Africa, Dr Matshidiso Moeti is in Libreville, Gabon, for a 5 day official visit and to participate in the 7th Conference of Health Ministers of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), which begins today...

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

No new digest content identified.

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

:: [WHO lauds India's de-worming initiative](#) 10 February 2016

WHO European Region EURO

No new digest content identified.

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: [WHO welcomes unprecedented international support for Syrians](#)

10 February 2016

:: [WHO and Ministry of Health endorse joint action to meet health needs and challenges in Iraq](#)

10 February 2016

WHO Western Pacific Region

No new digest content identified.

UNAIDS [to 13 February 2016]

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

12 February 2016

[UNAIDS calls for 20 billion condoms by 2020](#)

...UNAIDS is calling for increased investments by donors and governments for the promotion and distribution of male and female condoms in order to ensure everyone has access to condoms to protect themselves and their partners from HIV, STIs and unintended pregnancies.

...UNAIDS is working together with the United Nations Population Fund and other partners to support renewed investment in condom programming and to accelerate the scale-up of their use in the countries where most new STIs are occurring. The new UNAIDS 2016–2021 Strategy has set an ambitious global target to increase the availability of condoms to 20 billion per year by 2020 in low- and middle-income countries and "to achieve 90% condom use during the most recent sexual activity with a non-regular partner."

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 13 February 2016]

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

Press Release

8 February 2016

Kenyan journalist wins first UNFPA/Guardian award for FGM reporting

UNITED NATIONS, New York – Diana Kendi Makale, a journalist from Kenya, was selected as the winner of the first Efua Dorkenoo Pan African Award for Reportage on Female Genital Mutilation.

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 13 February 2016]

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

Feb 11, 2016

Helen Clark: Statement at UNGA Special Event on LDCs and Agenda 2030

UN Trusteeship Council Chamber - New York, USA

Middle class in Eastern Europe and Central Asia tripled in size since 2001

Feb 9, 2016

The middle class in Eastern Europe and Central Asia swelled from about 33 million people in 2001 to 90 million in 2013, a UNDP study says.

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 13 February 2016]

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

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

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

United Nations Statistical Commission- 47th Session (2016)

The documents of the forty-seventh session of the Statistical Commission, to be held in New York from 8 - 11 March 2016 are [available here](#).

[47th session documents](#)

Third meeting of the IAEG-SDGs

30 MAR - 1 APR 2016 Mexico City

The third meeting of the [Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators \(IAEG-SDGs\)](#), will be held from 30 March to 1 April 2016 in Mexico City, Mexico. The meeting will be hosted jointly by the [National Institute of Statistics and Geography \(INEGI\)](#) and the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico](#).

Meeting objectives

:: Establishment of a tier system for indicators

:: Establishment of procedures for the methodological review of indicators, including approval mechanisms of needed revisions

:: Development of global reporting mechanisms, including identifying entities responsible for compiling data for global reporting on individual indicators and discussing data flow from the national to the global level
:: Discussion of the work plan and next steps

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme [to 13 February 2016]

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

12/02/2016

Trash-Burning Cookstoves at Nairobi Slums Offer Glimpse of Green Development Opportunities

How a community in Nairobi's Kibera slum overcame management challenges to clean up their neighbourhood, embrace a new source of energy, create green jobs and make some money in the process.

Countries Agree Ambitious Conservation Measures for Mediterranean

40th anniversary of Barcelona Convention celebrated with strong commitments on biodiversity protection, sustainable consumption and climate change adaptation.

12/02/2016

World Humanitarian Summit must be 'turning point' in cooperation to tackle crises - UN chief

10/02/2016

Urgent Measures Required to Save Sharks from Extinction

The second Meeting of Signatories to the Convention on Migratory Species Sharks MOU will take place in San José, Costa Rica, from 15 to 19 February.

08/02/2016

UNISDR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 13 February 2016]

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

10 February 2016, New York

Protecting languages, preserving cultures

The world's indigenous languages are under threat of disappearing, with one language dying every two weeks and many more at risk. To address the question on how to maintain the roughly 6000 indigenous languages, UN DESA's Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD), Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, organised an expert group meeting on indigenous languages on 19-21 January in New York.

UNESCO [to 13 February 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases/News

15 February 2016

UNESCO Director-General speaks on preventing violent extremism at The Wilson Center

15 February 2016

International Day of Women and Girls in Science

[website]

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 13 February 2016]

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

12/02/2016 –

Statement of UNODC Executive Director Yury Fedotov on Italian criminal investigation known as "Glauco 1"

11/02/2016 –

UNODC Chief says civil society collaboration has led to greater access to drug treatment and care

09/02/2016 –

UNODC Chief describes risk of 10,000 missing migrant children as "unacceptable"
[see Week in Review above for additional detail]

08/02/2016 –

Only one out of six drug users globally receives treatment, says UNODC Chief

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 13 February 2016]

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

Posted February 12, 2016

Academics and chairs of East African professional bodies discuss architecture and urban planning

Machakos, 11 February 2016 – Deans, senior lecturers of architecture schools and chairs of professional bodies of East Africa last week congregated in the Kenyan town of Machakos to discuss education for sustainability in architecture and urban planning.

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 13 February 2016]

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

12-02-2016

Making agricultural biotechnologies work for family farmers

The symposium focuses mainly on the broad range of biotechnologies that could result in yield increases, better nutritional qualities, and improved productivities of crops, livestock, fish and trees on which family farmers' food systems, nutrition and livelihoods depend.

El Niño set to have a devastating impact on southern Africa's harvests and food security

Southern Africa is currently in the grip of an intense drought that has expanded and strengthened since the earliest stages of the 2015-2016 agricultural season, driven by one of the strongest El Niño events of the last 50 years.

11-02-2016

FAO calls for international action on antimicrobial resistance

Antimicrobial resistance" or AMR is "one of the greatest threats to public health worldwide" and calls for a globally coordinated effort to counter the risks it poses to food security, FAO Deputy Director General Helena Semedo warned European ministers of health and agriculture at a conference on antibiotic resistance in Amsterdam.

10-02-2016

Zika: FAO Director-General says agency is ready to contribute to international efforts

As the leading UN agency on animal health and pest control, FAO can assist affected nations with targeted interventions while ensuring that people and the environment are not exposed to health and other risks stemming from the inappropriate use of potentially dangerous chemicals.

9-02-2016

UN agencies warn of escalating food crisis in South Sudan

South Sudan is facing unprecedented levels of food insecurity, as 2.8 million people - nearly 25 percent of the country's population - remain in urgent need of food assistance, and at least 40,000 people are on the brink of catastrophe, three UN agencies warned today.

8-02-2016

Somalia continues to face large-scale food insecurity compounded by poor rainfall and drought

Somalia will continue to face large-scale food insecurity between now and June 2016 as a result of poor rainfall and drought conditions in several areas, trade disruptions, and a combination of protracted and new population displacements.

8-02-2016

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

ILO International Labour Organization [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 13 February 2016]

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

12/2/16

[United Nations Secretary-General Underscores Aviation's Vital Role in Sustainable Development and Climate Change](#)

11/2/16

[ICAO Coordinating with World Health Organization on Zika Response](#)

MONTRÉAL, 11 FEBRUARY 2016 – The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) is continuing to coordinate on the air transport aspects of the global Zika virus response. Under the lead World Health Organization (WHO), ICAO is undertaking close cooperation with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), Airports Council International (ACI) and other UN and aviation agencies.

Standard guidance material on the use of insecticides for aircraft (aircraft disinsection) is provided through the WHO's Guide to Hygiene and Sanitation in Aviation and Aircraft Disinsection Insecticides guide, as well as its Guidelines for Testing the Efficacy of Insecticide Products Used in Aircraft. Additional guidance material specifically related to the Zika virus can be found on the [WHO website](#)...

8/2/16

[New ICAO Aircraft CO2 Standard One Step Closer To Final Adoption](#)

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 13 February 2016]

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

08/02/2016

[States urged to ratify compensation regime for Hazardous and Noxious Cargoes](#)

HNS 2010 treaty covering the transport of hazardous and noxious substances by ship will complement existing liability and compensation regimes.

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 13 February 2016]

<https://www.wmo.int/media/news>

No new digest content identified.

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 13 February 2016]

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

09 February 2016

[Empowering women to advance inclusive and sustainable industrial development in the MENA region](#)

CASABLANCA, 9 February 2016 – Boosting employment among women living in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, ways of promoting women to managerial positions, removing gender wage gaps, and other activities relating to women empowerment were today discussed during an event in Casablanca.

It was organized by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Government of Italy, and the Union For Mediterranean (UfM), who since 2015 lead a strategic partnership that promotes women economic empowerment in the MENA region with the help of a project titled "Women economic empowerment for inclusive and sustainable industrial development"...

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

ITU International Telecommunications Union [to 13 February 2016]

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

12.02.2016

[World Radio Day focuses on role of radio in disaster management](#)

ITU reiterates commitment to effective and rapid response in emergencies

Geneva, – World Radio Day on 13 February brings attention to the role of radio in managing disasters and recovery in their aftermath.

Radio is recognized as a low-cost medium, specifically suited to reach remote communities and is especially effective in reaching people affected by disasters when other means of communication are disrupted. Terrestrial radio broadcasts are effective in providing timely, relevant and practical information to people who are confused and demoralised by the impact of a crisis. Broadcast information is particularly useful in situations where physical access is difficult and aid responders may take several days or weeks to reach affected communities...

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 13 February 2016]

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

2016-02-15

[Nagoya Protocol expected to reach milestone 100 ratifications in 2016](#)

Montreal, 15 January 2016 – Following accession by Slovakia on 29 December 2015, the total number of ratifications to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization now stands at 70.

:::::

USAID [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

DFID [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

ECHO [to 13 February 2016]

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

08/02/2016

EU delivers in-kind assistance to Greece to help with the refugee crisis

Despite the harsh winter conditions, the flow of refugees and migrants from Turkey into Greece remains high. Every day, between 2 000 and 3 000 people land on Greek islands and they need basic emergency assistance.

African Union [to 13 February 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]

February 10, 2016

African Union to launch the African Economic Platform with governments, private sector and higher education sector

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 13 February 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]

ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Statement on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's Rocket Launch

10 February 2016

ASEAN has learned of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK) rocket launch on 7 February 2016.

ASEAN follows closely the situation in the Korean Peninsula and shares common concern of the international community over the recent developments in the said region.

ASEAN strongly urges the DPRK to comply with all the relevant UNSC resolutions.

ASEAN reaffirms its full support for the early resumption of the Six Party Talks and to bring about the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula through peaceful means.

ASEAN reiterates the importance of dialogue and constructive engagement for maintaining peace and security in the Korean Peninsula.

European Union [to 13 February 2016]

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

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

Implementing the European Agenda on Migration: Progress on Priority Actions

Date: 10/02/2016

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 10 February 2016 In view of next week's European Council, the Commission is today reporting on the implementation of the priority actions under the European Agenda for Migration and highlighting key areas where immediate action is needed to restore control.

Implementing the European Agenda on Migration: Commission reports on progress in Greece, Italy and the Western Balkans

Date: 10/02/2016

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 10 February 2016 Implementing the European Agenda on Migration: Commission reports on progress in Greece, Italy and the Western Balkans Today the Commission reported on progress made on measures to tackle the refugee and migration crisis in Italy, Greece and along the Western Balkans...

Managing the Refugee Crisis: Commission reports on implementation of EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan

Date: 10/02/2016

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 10 February 2016 Managing the Refugee Crisis: Commission reports on implementation of EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan On 29 November 2015, at the EU-Turkey summit, Turkey and the EU activated the Joint Action Plan aimed at stepping up cooperation for the support of Syrian refugees...

OECD [to 13 February 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]

9-February-2016

New data show importance of quality as well as quantity of jobs and how both evolved during crisis

Good pay, labour market security and a decent working environment can go hand in hand with high employment, according to new OECD findings on the quality of jobs in 45 countries.

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 13 February 2016]

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

February 12, 2016 E-016

Member Countries Recognize Contribution of OAS Mission to Reaching of Agreement in Haiti

The Permanent Council of the Organization of American States (OAS) today received the report of the Special Mission to Haiti deployed last week, and recognized its contributions to the achievement of an agreement on a transition government and toward finding democratic solutions in the country.

The [report](#) presented by the Chief of Mission and Chair of the Council, the Ambassador of Antigua and Barbuda to the OAS, Ronald Sanders, detailed the successful conclusion of the Mission, having been witness to the agreement reached by Haitian political actors. Under the terms of the agreement, the Parliament will elect an interim President for a period of 120 days and will confirm a Prime Minister by consensus.

The second round of the presidential elections, the final step in the conclusion of the electoral process, will take place on April 24...

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 13 February 2016]

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

12/02/2016

OIC Secretary General participates in the Syria Support Group meeting in Munich

The OIC Secretary General, Mr. Iyad Ameen Madani took part in the meeting of the International Syria Support Group (ISSG), which gathered in Munich, Germany on Thursday, 11 February 2016, in which the OIC is member.

Group of 77 [to 13 February 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]

Remarks on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by Ms. Pilanya Niyomthai, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations, at briefing on the second phase of the ECOSOC Dialogue on Longer-Term Positioning of the UN Development System in the context of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (New York, 12 February 2016)

Intervention on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by Mr. Thaweechot Tatiyapermpoon, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations, at the Special Thematic Event on Building Synergy and Coherence in the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Panel I (New York, 11 February 2016)

Remarks delivered by H.E. Mr. Virachai Plasai, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations, Chair of the Group of 77, at the launch of the Report of the Secretary-General for the World Humanitarian Summit (New York, 9 February 2016)

Statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by Ms. Pilanya Niyomthai, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations, at the Briefing to exchange views on the modalities and organisational arrangements of the High-level Midterm Review of the Istanbul Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries (New York, 8 February 2016)

UNCTAD [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

World Trade Organisation [to 13 February 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]

No new digest content identified.

IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 13 February 2016]

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

8 FEBRUARY 2016

[South Asia Speakers' Summit pledges action on tobacco and SDGs](#)

Speakers of Parliament from across South Asia have pledged to step up action to curb tobacco use, which kills more than 1.5 million people in the region every year. The

commitment is part of a comprehensive declaration by the Speakers after a summit on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), internationally agreed targets which include ending extreme poverty and hunger and improving global health by 2030.

The Speakers, from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives and Sri Lanka, pledged wide action to advance the SDGs, reflecting the crucial role of parliaments in making the goals a reality through their key functions of passing laws, overseeing the work of government, allocating budgets and representing citizens...

International Criminal Court (ICC) [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

World Bank [to 13 February 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]

More Money and Better Service Delivery: A Winning Combination for Achieving Drinking Water and Sanitation Targets

WASHINGTON, February 12, 2015 — In addition to money, strong institutions, accountability and mechanisms that turn investment into effective services for people who need it, are critical to achieving...

Date: February 12, 2016 Type: Press Release

World Bank Group Headquarters Attains EDGE Assess Certification for Gender Equality

WASHINGTON/GENEVA, February 11, 2016 - The World Bank Group headquarters in Washington, DC, has earned the first level of EDGE certification, EDGE Assess, taking an important step in achieving gender equality....

Date: February 11, 2016 Type: Press Release

Malnutrition is Widespread Enough to Threaten Economic Returns in Some ECA Countries

MOSCOW, February 11, 2016 - The Global Nutrition Report 2015 was discussed during the Conference dedicated to the issues of rural development, climate change and food security. The Report is the result...

Date: February 11, 2016 Type: Press Release

IMF [to 13 February 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]

February 11, 2016

Press Release: IMF Executive Board Statement on the Managing Director's Selection Process

...“The period for submitting nominations for the position of the next Managing Director closed on Wednesday, February 10. One candidate, current Managing Director Christine Lagarde, has been nominated...”

African Development Bank Group [to 13 February 2016]

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

12/02/2016

Stakeholders gather in Abidjan to advance Sustainable Energy for All in Africa

Over 100 stakeholders from Government, private sector, civil society, and international organizations gathered in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, for the annual Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) Africa workshop.

Gender, Energy and Clean Cooking Solutions on the agenda at SE4ALL 3rd Annual Workshop

12/02/2016 - On Thursday, February 11, the African Development Bank's (AfDB) Office of the Special Envoy on Gender (SEOG), in collaboration with the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) Africa Hub, the International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy (ENERGIA) and the ECOWAS Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), organized an event that focused on Gender, Energy and Clean Cooking Solutions.

AfDB launches first Africa Visa Openness Index ahead of Africa CEO Forum

12/02/2016 - The African Development Bank has launched the first Africa Visa Openness Index, which shows how Africa remains largely closed off to African travellers. On average Africans need visas to travel to 55% of other African countries, can get visas on arrival in only 25% of other countries and don't need a visa to travel to just 20% of other countries on the continent.

Asian Development Bank [to 13 February 2016]

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

12 February 2016

ADB President Announces \$10 Billion Funding for Indonesia Over Next 5 Years

ADB President Takehiko Nakao today met with Indonesian President Joko Widodo. Mr. Nakao announced that ADB will boost lending from \$740 million annually to as much as \$2 billion a year, or \$10 billion over the next 5 years.

9 February 2016

ADB Provides \$400 Million to Support Philippines CCT Program

ADB has approved a \$400 million loan to help the Philippines further expand its flagship conditional cash transfer program, which provides regular health and education grants to millions of the country's poorest households.

9 February 2016

President Nakao Signs Partnership Framework with Australia

ADB President Takehiko Nakao today signed a new framework for cooperation to reinforce ADB's partnership with Australia to reduce poverty and achieve inclusive and sustainable economic growth in Asia and the Pacific.

8 February 2016

ADB, IFC to Help Extend Mobile Telecom Services Across Myanmar

ADB and IFC are providing loans of \$300 million to Ooredoo Myanmar for the rollout of a mobile telecommunication network across Myanmar.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

* * * *

:: 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 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Aravind Eye Care System [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

BRAC [to 13 February 2016]

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

Graduation: What's next for ultra-poor programmes?

Results are in: Research shows that BRAC's one-shot, 'big-push' intervention targeting the ultra-poor with assets and skills can lift extreme households onto a more sustainable path out of poverty. In this blog we presented updated findings on the long-term impact and sustainability of the approach from studies showcased at the recent IGC-BRAC conference: Tackling extreme poverty: Evidence from the field.

CARE International [to 13 February 2016]

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

12th Feb 2016 Syria

"Cessation of hostilities" welcome, but at what price?

CARE response to "cessation of hostilities" in Syrian conflict

CARE mobilizing aid as civilians flee advancing military and airstrikes in north and south

10th Feb 2016 Syria

The international aid agency, CARE, is mobilizing additional supplies to assist civilians trapped in the on-going conflict in Syria, which has escalated in recent weeks with military advances on major centers held by opposition forces.

Aid agencies: Impacted by war, 88 percent of Syrians in the south living in extreme poverty

8th Feb 2016 Jordan

Aid agencies CARE, NRC and RFSAN (FAO, iMMAP) release "The Forgotten South: Food Security and Livelihoods in southern Syria".

Casa Alianza [to 13 February 2016]

Covenant House [to 13 February 2016]

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

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

No new digest content identified.

Clubhouse International [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Danish Refugee Council [to 13 February 2016]

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

13.02.16

Better conditions meet refugees in Greece

Since mid-December the Danish Refugee Council has been working to support the Greek Authorities in improving the reception conditions at Moria site on Lesvos Island.

12.02.16

DRC opens representation in Brussels

The Danish Refugee Council is opening its first office in Brussels. Together with the DRC Representation in Geneva, the initiative is an important step in DRC's strategic advocacy work on behalf of conflict-affected refugees and internally displaced people.

08.02.16

DRC on emergency standby in Turkey

More than 25,000 Syrians have been fleeing Aleppo the last days. Some of them are stranded at the Turkey border. While some aid is provided in the other side of the border, the Danish Refugee Council is standby and ready to support and assist new comers in Turkey.

ECPAT [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Fountain House [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Handicap International [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Heifer International [to 13 February 2016]

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

Tuesday, Feb. 09, 2016

Heifer International Weekly

HelpAge International [to 13 February 2016]

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

Posted: 11 February 2016

Implications of ageing trend still needed in humanitarian response

The UN Secretary-General is to be commended for recognising older people's needs in humanitarian responses, but more needs to be done, says HelpAge International.

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 13 February 2016]

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

Latest Press Releases

12 Feb 2016

Clooneys Speak to Syrian Refugees in Meeting with International Rescue Committee

11 Feb 2016

Increase in airstrikes and ongoing sieges "making a mockery" of international efforts to help Syrians, says aid agency

10 Feb 2016

Katherine Farley, Tracy R. Wolstencroft elected Co-Chairs of International Rescue Committee

08 Feb 2016

"This loss of life is avoidable." IRC reacts to 33 more lives lost in Aegean Sea

08 Feb 2016

The International Rescue Committee supports Federal Court's denial of request to prevent Syrian refugees from resettling in Texas

ICRC [to 13 February 2016]

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

13-02-2016 | News release

Philippines: Red Cross extends assistance to people affected by Typhoon Melor

The Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement has scaled up its humanitarian assistance to tens of thousands of families who have lost their homes and livelihoods after the onslaught of Typhoon Melor (local name: Nona).

Yemen: Desperately needed medical supplies reach Taiz

Sana'a/Geneva - A team from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has managed to enter the city of Taiz, one of the worst-affected places in Yemen's fighting, and deliver life-saving medical supplies.

13-02-2016 | News release

Yemen: Staggering crisis, insufficient response

Dominik Stillhart, director of operations at the ICRC has just concluded a three-day visit to war-torn Yemen. "I am appalled by what Yemenis are having to endure," said Mr Stillhart.

11-02-2016 | News release

Our humanitarian action in Colombia

While the peace talks between the Colombian government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia – People's Army (FARC-EP) are making headway, there is no respite from the everyday armed violence in Colombia.

11-02-2016 | Article

Syria: Aid stepped up amidst heavy fighting in Aleppo province

As the humanitarian situation deteriorates in northern Syria, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has said it is increasing the amount of aid for people caught up in the latest round of violence.

10-02-2016 | News release

Georgia/South Ossetia: Ninth meeting held in Ergneti to seek answers on fate of missing persons from conflicts of 1990s and 2008

ICRC – The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has chaired the ninth meeting of the coordination mechanism for clarifying the fate and whereabouts of people who have been missing since the conflicts of the 1990s and August 2008 and their

10-02-2016 | News release

Liberia: Armed Forces of Liberia receive international humanitarian law manual

The ICRC has donated 480 copies of a new training manual on the law of armed conflict to the Armed Forces of Liberia.

09-02-2016 | News release

IRCT [to 13 February 2016]

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

News

[Two decades of fostering social and mental wellbeing in Sri Lanka](#)

11 February 2016

News

[IRCT submits forensic evidence to the ECOWAS Court of Justice](#)

09 February 2016

Statements & declarations

[Turkey must respect the right to health and life of civilians in the Southeast – Open letter to Prime Minister Davutoğlu and the Turkish government](#)

09 February 2016

News

[20 years of EMPATHY in Georgia](#)

09 February 2016

Islamic Relief [to 13 February 2016]

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

February 12, 2016

[Empowerment through sports and education](#)

Sports and education have played a part in empowering people who feel stigmatized by disability.

In Chechnya, Islamic Relief has been working with the Chechen Union of Visually Handicapped to set up a learning centre for people who are blind or have severe problems with their eyesight...

[Undated]

[Increasing aid to displaced Syrians after need escalates](#)

More than 70,000 people are living in desperate conditions on the Turkish border with Syria after military action newly displaced tens of thousands of people.

Around 40,000 of these have come from Aleppo city, in north-west Syria, following the escalating government assault earlier this year.

Islamic Relief is providing emergency aid to those who are now living on the Turkish border with no shelter and little food...

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 13 February 2016]

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

Press Releases

[NATO's Response to Migration is Dangerously Myopic](#)

February 11, 2016

Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) issued the following statement today from Aurelie Ponthieu, MSF humanitarian affairs advisor on displacement, after NATO announced its response to migration in the Aegean Sea:

Press release

Pharma Company Attempt to Secure Patents for Key HIV Drugs Opposed in India

February 10, 2016

Delhi/New York—A patient living with HIV in India has filed an application to try to block ViiV Healthcare from being granted patents on two new critical HIV drugs, the medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) announced today.

Press release

Syria: Escalation of Conflict in Azaz District Could Have Dire Consequences

February 10, 2016

Medical services disrupted in many areas and basic aid lacking for 30,000 newly displaced people.

Field News

Syria: Thousands Newly Displaced Amid Violence

February 09, 2016

In Aleppo governorate, Syria, thousands of people have fled north toward Azaz town and the border with Turkey in recent days. Approximately 23,000 new arrivals are in urgent need of emergency shelter and support near the Bab el Salamah border crossing, in addition to tens of thousands of displaced people already in areas near the border.

Field news

MSF-Supported Hospital Hit by Airstrikes in Southern Syria

February 09, 2016

Airstrikes hit a Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)-supported hospital in Dara'a Governorate in southern Syria, killing three people and wounding at least six, including a nurse, says MSF.

Mercy Corps [to 13 February 2016]

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

Press releases

Syria: Mercy Corps on Syria Cease-fire: Why Wait One Week?

February 11, 2016 Portland, Oregon – We are encouraged by the apparent breakthrough in negotiations on Syria and hopeful that it will pave the way to a permanent cease-fire and, eventually, a lasting peace. A cessation of hostilities by all parties to the conflict will allow for humanitarian access to the millions of innocent Syrian civilians trying to survive a seemingly endless war.

Mercy Corps Urges Passage of Legislation to Advance Global Food Security

February 8, 2016 Washington, DC — The global organization Mercy Corps urges U.S. lawmakers to pass the Global Food Security Act (GFS) (HR 1567/S 1252), which will create a comprehensive strategy to address hunger and promote lasting food security around the world. With 795 million people going to bed hungry every night, it is vital that Congress support efforts

to help vulnerable families grow and obtain nutritious food that will help them become stronger and more resilient.

Operation Smile [to 13 February 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 13 February 2016]
<http://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/pressreleases>
11 February 2016

Central African Republic's new president must prioritize the issue of civilian protection - with the support of the international community

Voters in Central African Republic will this Sunday vote in a new president whose first task must be to end the violence which continues to devastate the country, and to provide better protection for its exhausted population.

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 13 February 2016]
<http://www.nrc.no/>

Iraq

Thousands of civilians flee Anbar
(12.02.2016)

As operations to retake opposition-held areas in Ramadi and Fallujah continue, thousands of civilians are forced to flee their homes. "Aid agencies are struggling to provide assistance due to the sudden increase in newly displaced families from towns inside Anbar governorate," NRC's Area Manager in Baghdad, Anja Riiser says...

South Sudan

The struggle for peace
(12.02.2016)

If the security situation does not improve soon, we will miss our opportunity to move supplies and effectively prepare for the overwhelming humanitarian needs before rainy season arrives, writes Melody Knight, NRC's Conflict and Policy Analyst in South Sudan.

Turkey

Syrians freeze at the Turkish border
(11.02.2016)

NRC is concerned for the thousands of civilians at the border of Turkey, as the humanitarian situation worsens. We are currently working around the clock to provide internally displaced Syrian families with tents and emergency aid.

Pact [to 13 February 2016]

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

February 11, 2016

Plummeting commodity prices increase risk of 'conflict minerals' in consumer electronic devices

Washington, D.C.

A steep fall in worldwide mineral prices is jeopardizing the operational traceability system designed to both stem 'conflict minerals' and protect vulnerable artisanal miners in Africa's Great Lakes region.

At risk are rollbacks, suspensions and even closure of the iTSCI traceability and due diligence system that Pact has helped governments to implement in more than 800 mines, ensuring the livelihoods of more than 60,000 artisanal miners in Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and Burundi.

Prices for tin, tungsten, and tantalum – 3T minerals that are used in all smartphones, computers, and airliners – have plummeted over the past year. While miners all over the world face the same price squeeze, the impact is magnified in central Africa where producers have to meet exceptionally strict requirements for due diligence if they are to trade on the international market. Central African miners and traders are at a commercial disadvantage and have to cut their own cost, including levies that self-fund the system during normal market conditions...

Partners In Health [to 13 February 2016]

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

Feb 12, 2016

Meet a Leader Transforming Nursing in Haiti

Posted on February 12, 2016

Chief Nursing Officer Beatrice Romela supports nurses in all of PIH's health facilities in Haiti.

PATH [to 13 February 2016]

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

Press release | February 12, 2016

PATH and Siemens Foundation partner to launch Ingenuity Fellowships

A global health opportunity for university students in science, technology, engineering, and math

Announcement | February 08, 2016

PATH partners with Health Affairs to highlight importance of accelerated action on global immunization goals

Theme issue and policy discussion mark the midpoint of the Decade of Vaccines

Plan International [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Save The Children [to 13 February 2016]

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

February 10, 2016

President Budget Request Mixed Picture: Raises Concern for Continued Progress for Mothers and Children Worldwide

American Households Not Prepared for Disasters, Not Confident That Children's Needs Will be Met

February 9, 2016

Ticking Clock on Ethiopia Drought: Foreign Donors Must Pledge \$245m in Next Three Weeks to Avoid Break in Food Aid Pipeline by End of April

February 10, 2016

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Tostan [to 13 February 2016]

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

February 9, 2016

International Day for the Abandonment of FGC: A Photo Essay

On this year's International Day for the Abandonment of female genital cutting (FGC), Tostan partnered with the Senegalese government, UNFPA and UNICEF...

Women for Women International [to 13 February 2016]

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

February 12, 2016 | Digital Journal

Abdoulaye Toure: A life dedicated to women's empowerment

Sharing his experiences confronting gender inequality during his childhood, WfWI-DRC Country Director Abdoulaye Toure discusses how it inspired his lifelong passion to work for women's empowerment. In the most insecure regions of the DRC, Toure and his team are working to provide social and economic empowerment training opportunities for women, and engage men to support women's equality.

How Do People Live and Cope in the Midst of Violent Conflict?

February 11, 2016 | NPR's TED Radio Hour

WfWI Founder Zainab Salbi discusses what it means to endure through violent conflict and the lessons she learned from her own life growing up in Iraq in the midst of war and from women survivors in WfWI's programs. Sharing stories and anecdotes, Salbi explains how the women she has met find their own resistance to conflict, and the resilience and strength to help their families and children move forward.

:::::

ChildFund Alliance [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

CONCORD [to 13 February 2016]

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

[European NGO confederation for relief and development]

No new digest content identified.

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 13 February 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]

No new digest content identified.

The Elders [to 13 February 2016]

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

Press release 11 February 2016

[Lesley-Anne Knight retires as CEO of The Elders](#)

The Chair of the Elders, Kofi Annan, today announced the retirement effective 18 March 2016 of Ms Lesley-Anne Knight, the Chief Executive Officer of The Elders

END Fund [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Gavi [to 13 February 2016]

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

11 February 2016

[Japan commits US\\$ 18.5 million to support immunisation in Ebola-affected region](#)

Pledge from G7 President will help revitalise immunisation services and strengthen health systems.

TOKYO, 10 February 2016 – The Government of Japan has committed US\$ 18.5 million to help Gavi restore immunisation services in Ebola-affected countries. The contribution, which is for 2016 and is Japan's largest to Gavi to date, will also support the strengthening of health systems in 13 countries, including Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, where thousands of children missed out on routine vaccinations during the Ebola outbreak.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Seiji Kihara, made the announcement ahead of a meeting in Tokyo last Thursday with new Gavi Board Chair Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala. Japan's commitment means that all members of the G7, which will be chaired this year by Japan, have now made pledges to Gavi to support childhood immunisation for the 2016 to 2020 period.

Japan's contribution will help Gavi support work to trace children who missed out on immunisation in the Ebola-hit countries and ensure they are reached through catch-up programmes. The new funding will also help strengthen health systems in the Ebola-affected West Africa region, including purchasing new cold chain equipment to ensure vaccines are stored at the correct temperatures...

Global Fund [to 13 February 2016]

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

11 February 2016

Global Fund Congratulates India on Launch of Malaria Elimination Framework

NEW DELHI - The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria praised India's leadership and vision for launching an ambitious national framework to eliminate malaria by 2030, and called the country's significant progress against the disease an example in global health.

With the support of many partners, India has seen a dramatic decline in malaria rates and malaria deaths. Through combined interventions that include rapid diagnostic tests, artemisinin-based combination therapy, long-lasting insecticidal nets and indoor residual spraying, India is projected to achieve a fall in case incidence of 50-75 percent between 2000 and 2015.

"India is showing others that with commitment, partnership and innovative strategies we can eliminate malaria," Mark Dybul, Executive Director of the Global Fund, said during the presentation of the National Framework for Malaria Elimination in India 2016-2030 and the Operational Guidelines for Malaria Elimination in India. "This framework is a hugely important step that gets us closer towards that goal."

J.P. Nadda, Minister of Health and Family Welfare of India, stressed his country's engagement to eliminate the disease. "I can only assure you that the Government of India fully stands committed to the malaria elimination program, with the support of all stakeholders," said Nadda.

During a two-day meeting that brought together the Government of India, WHO, academics and the Indian and global public health sector, partners discussed strategies and implementation of the framework, innovation and research, health system strengthening, and shared experiences for malaria elimination.

Under the framework, India aims to eliminate malaria (zero indigenous cases) throughout the entire country by 2030, and maintain malaria-free status in areas where malaria transmission has been interrupted and prevent re-introduction of malaria. Elimination will be undertaken in a phased manner, with states with low incidence rates first, followed by the high-incidence ones. The framework is in line with the Asia Pacific Leaders' Malaria Alliance Malaria Elimination Roadmap for 2030...

09 February 2016

U.S. Demonstrates Strong Commitment to Global Health

GENEVA - The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria expressed deep appreciation for President Barack Obama's request for US\$1.35 billion for the Global Fund in his 2017 budget proposal, calling it a demonstration of great commitment to global health.

"We are privileged to call the United States our partner in efforts to end HIV, tuberculosis and malaria as epidemics," said Mark Dybul, Executive Director of the Global Fund. "The U.S. has shown extremely strong leadership and continues to rally support from countries and partners worldwide to reach our common goals."

The United States is the largest supporter of the Global Fund, contributing nearly one-third of overall funding, and connecting it to other U.S.-led efforts on global health. Ground-breaking work by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) includes the launch of DREAMS, an ambitious partnership to reduce HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women in 10 African countries. The Global Fund also works closely with the President's Malaria Initiative and with USAID on tuberculosis, to leverage and expand joint efforts...

Hilton Prize Coalition [to 13 February 2016]

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

An Alliance of Hilton Prize Recipients

No new digest content identified.

InterAction [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Locus

<http://locusworld.org/>

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

No new digest content identified.

Start Network [to 13 February 2016]

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

[Consortium of British Humanitarian Agencies]

No new digest content identified.

Muslim Charities Forum [to 13 February 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.

[Briefing on Muslim Charities Forum Delegation to Turkey/Syria Border](#)

10th February 2016

Andrew Mitchell MP, Clare Short alongside Muslim Charities Forum Chairman Dr Hany El-Banna OBE and Operations Manager Omayma El Ella were all part of a briefing at the House of Commons on our recent delegation to the Turkey/Syria border.

Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP) [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

CHS Alliance [to 13 February 2016]

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

11/02/2016

Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) launches in Bangla

The Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) has been launched in Bangla at a seminar in Dhaka, after its development during a year-long participatory process that included field testing. CHS Alliance Executive Director, Judith Greenwood joined the panel discussion on Accountability and Quality Management in Humanitarian Actions: Bangladesh Perspective.

10/02/2016

Save the date: Protection from Sexual Exploitation & Abuse (PSEA) conference 2016, Bangkok

We are pleased to announce that the CHS Alliance will organise a conference on PSEA on 5 September 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand, focusing on good practices in investigations of allegation of SEA by aid workers.

08/02/2016

CHS Guidance Notes and Indicators now available in Arabic, English, French and Spanish

Following the launch of the CHS Guidance Notes and Indicators in English and French, this document is now available in Arabic and Spanish.

EHLRA/R2HC [to 13 February 2016]

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

08.02.2016

Call for Proposals to open in June

The Research for Health in Humanitarian Crises (R2HC) 4th Call for Proposals will open later this year, in June 2016.

Global Humanitarian Assistance (GHA) [to 13 February 2016]

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

Report Synopsis

Uganda – influx of refugees from South Sudan

Date: 2016/02/09

On 8 February 2016 we responded to a funding alert in response to the influx of South Sudanese refugees into Uganda.

Since the outbreak of hostilities at the end of 2013, the number of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda has steadily increased, reaching an estimated 170,000 by the end of 2015. However, there has been a sharp rise in the number of new refugees in January 2016: according to UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 9,519 South Sudanese refugees arrived between 1 and 24 January 2016.

According to the United Nation's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA)'s Financial Tracking Service (FTS), donors have not yet committed/contributed any funding in 2016 for the South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP). Outside of the appeal, the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO), Denmark and Sweden have committed/contributed US\$5.8 million to Uganda.

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

The Sphere Project [to 13 February 2016]

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

12 February 2016 | *Sphere Project*

What applying humanitarian principles and standards looks like in real life

From dilemmas in applying humanitarian principles at field level to organisational obstacles that hinder collective accountability and governmental reluctance to abide by humanitarian standards, a range of concrete challenges were candidly discussed during a side event to the latest Sphere Board meeting.

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 13 February 2016]

<https://phap.org/>

11 February 2016

PHAP to host NGO discussion on Secretary-General's Report for the WHS

:::::

Center for Global Development [to 13 February 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases, Blog Posts, Publications

No new digest content identified.

ODI [to 13 February 2016]

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

Research Reports

Journeys to Europe: the role of policy in migrant decision-making

Research reports and studies | February 2016 | Jessica Hagen-Zanker and Richard Mallett
New research on journeys migrants take and the capacity of national migration policies to influence peoples' decisions.

Banking on resilience: building capacities through financial services inclusion

Briefing papers, Research reports and studies | February 2016 | Anna Haworth, Camille Frandon-Martinez, Virginie Fayolle and Emily Wilkinson

Financial inclusion has the potential to help vulnerable groups in developing countries become more resilient to climate extremes and global warming.

Who is being left behind in sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and Latin America?

Research reports and studies | February 2016 | Alainna Lynch, Tom Berliner, Chiara Mariotti, Tanvi Bhatkal and Laura Rodriguez Takeuchi

These papers set out the first step towards implementing the 'leave no one behind' agenda: identifying marginalised communities

Urban Institute [to 13 February 2016]

<http://www.urban.org/about/media>

No new digest content identified.

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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 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Annie E. Casey Foundation [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Clinton Foundation [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Ford Foundation [to 13 February 2016]
<http://www.fordfoundation.org/?filter=News>
No new digest content identified.

GHIT Fund [to 13 February 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.
No new digest content identified.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 13 February 2016]
<http://www.hewlett.org/newsroom/search>
No new digest content identified.

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 13 February 2016]
<http://www.hiltonfoundation.org/news>
New Release
[Hilton Foundation Mourns Loss of Hilton Prize Director Judy M. Miller](#)
Renowned nonprofit executive passes away in Los Angeles at the age of 77
LOS ANGELES, Feb. 11, 2016 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Philanthropist and activist Judy M. Miller, passed away on February 8, 2016 at her home in Los Angeles of natural causes. She was 77. Judy was known throughout the nonprofit community as a tireless advocate for vulnerable and disadvantaged people around the world. She served as Vice President and Director of the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize for 18 years, after a remarkable four-decade career in communications and marketing.
[see [Week in Review](#) above for additional detail]

Grameen Foundation [to 13 February 2016]
<http://www.grameenfoundation.org/news-events/press-room>
No new digest content identified.

IKEA Foundation [to 13 February 2016]
<http://www.ikeafoundation.org/news/>
No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 13 February 2016]
<https://www.hhmi.org/news>
Research [February 11, 2016]
[Breakable Genes May Promote Disease and Brain Cell Diversity](#)

HHMI researchers have identified 27 genes in brain stem cells that are prone to a type of DNA damage called double-strand breaks.

Research [February 9, 2016]

Mice with Cystic Fibrosis Mutations Pass Acid Test

New study suggests why mice with cystic fibrosis mutations can stave off bacterial infections in their lungs.

Kellogg Foundation [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

MacArthur Foundation [to 13 February 2016]

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

Publication

Plan Proposed to Stabilize Illinois Finances

Published February 11, 2016

The Civic Federation, a MacArthur grantee, has proposed a comprehensive three-year plan to address Illinois' ongoing financial crisis with spending limits and revenue enhancements. More than seven months into the current fiscal year, Illinois continues to operate without a budget, and the Federation stresses that if current revenue and expenditure policies continue, the state will aggregate a backlog of debt reaching \$25.9 billion by the end of FY2019.

Publication

Voluntary Consensus Standards Can Establish Efficient and Safe Nuclear Operations

Published February 9, 2016

The increase of climate change and energy security concerns are resulting in countries looking to nuclear power for electricity needs, according to a study by the Stimson Center, a recipient of the MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions. With an increase in nuclear demand, security measures need to be incorporated into new builds to reduce the chances and consequences of nuclear incidents. The report outlines a plan to implement nuclear security and safety into international agreements, and recommends that a business case for nuclear security be facilitated by policymakers and governments. Stimson's report suggests that voluntary consensus standards should be established with stakeholders to ensure efficient nuclear.

Publication

Peace Agreement Success Depends on Inclusion of Natural Resources

Published February 9, 2016

A study by Forest Trends, recipient of the MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions, suggests that the failure of peace agreements is largely due to the lack of natural resource management. The report finds that resources such as oil, gas, timber and diamonds have become a significant factor in armed conflicts and can lead to the eradication of peace agreements. To avoid natural resources fueling further conflict, they must not be viewed solely as a commodity or winnings from war, the study finds. Resources are vitally important to local

livelihoods, and carry high cultural, social, and ecosystem value that peace agreements must recognize.

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Open Society Foundation [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 13 February 2016]

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

February 11, 2016

Remembering Robin Chandler Duke, a Champion for Women's Rights

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation remembers the extraordinary life of Robin Chandler Duke, former Trustee of the Foundation who passed away on February 6 at the age of 92. Robin served on the Foundation's Board of Trustees from 1989 through 2000. Until the end of her life, she campaigned for women's reproductive rights and was a tireless advocate for improving access to contraception, family planning, education, and health care in the United States and abroad...

Packard Foundation and Caring for Colorado Establish New Partnership in Pueblo

February 10, 2016

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation and the Caring for Colorado Foundation are pleased to announce that they have entered into an exciting new partnership to continue and strengthen the Packard Foundation's community grantmaking in Pueblo, Colorado...

Quality Innovation Challenge Finalists

February 9, 2016

At the 2016 International Conference on Family Planning, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation hosted its second Quality Innovation Challenge – a global call for creative ideas to improve quality in sexual and reproductive health and rights for adolescents and youth.

Packard Foundation Joins Blue Meridian Partners

February 8, 2016

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation is joining the Blue Meridian Partners, a collaborative-funding model with a goal of investing at least \$1 billion in high-performance nonprofits that are poised to have truly national impact...

Pew Charitable Trusts [to 13 February 2016]

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

Press Release

Pew: Laws Governing Mobile Payments Leave Room for Error

Analysis conducted on mobile payments points to legal gaps, ambiguities, and overlap
February 10, 2016 - Consumer Banking

WASHINGTON—The Pew Charitable Trusts released an issue brief today describing the uncoordinated and uncertain regulatory environment surrounding the use of mobile devices to make payments. The brief highlights the significant risks to consumers at each stage of the mobile payments process—contracting for services, using mobile devices to make payments, and tracking transactions after making payments.

The brief, "Mobile Payments: Regulatory Gaps, Ambiguities, and Overlap Summary Report," summarizes the findings of a white paper commissioned by Pew and authored by Mark E. Budnitz, professor emeritus at the Georgia State University College of Law.

Issue Brief: [Mobile Payments](#) - Regulatory gaps, ambiguities, and overlap

Rockefeller Foundation [to 13 February 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 13 February 2016]

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

Tue Feb 09 10:07:00 EST 2016

[RWJF Names Donald F. Schwarz, MD, MPH, MBA as Vice President, Program](#)

Donald F. Schwarz has been named vice president, Program. In this role, Schwarz will help guide the Foundation's strategies and work closely with colleagues, external partners and community leaders to build a Culture of Health in America.

Wellcome Trust [to 13 February 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.pnpsc.com/cadmus/testvol.asp?year=2015&journal=ajdm>

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Infection Control

February 2016 Volume 44, Issue 2, p125-252, e9-e14

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

February 2016 Volume 50, Issue 2, p129-294, e33-e64

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

Volume 106, Issue 2 (February 2016)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Health Services Research

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

(Accessed 13 February 2016)

Research article

Inequalities in utilization of maternal and child health services in Ethiopia: the role of primary health care

Solomon Tessema Memirie, Stéphane Verguet, Ole F. Norheim, Carol Levin and Kjell Arne Johansson

BMC Health Services Research 2016 16:51

Published on: 12 February 2016

Abstract

Background

Health systems aim to narrow inequality in access to health care across socioeconomic groups and area of residency. However, in low-income countries, studies are lacking that systematically monitor and evaluate health programs with regard to their effect on specific inequalities. We aimed to measure changes in inequality in access to maternal and child health (MCH) interventions and the effect of Primary Health Care (PHC) facilities expansion on the inequality in access to care in Ethiopia.

Methods

The Demographic and Health Survey datasets from Ethiopia (2005 and 2011) were used. We calculated changes in utilization of MCH interventions and child morbidity. Concentration and horizontal inequity indices were estimated. Decomposition analysis was used to calculate the contribution of each determinant to the concentration index.

Results

Between 2005 and 2011, improvements in aggregate coverage have been observed for MCH interventions in Ethiopia. Wealth-related inequality has remained persistently high in all surveys. Socioeconomic factors were the main predictors of differences in maternal and child health services utilization and child health outcome. Utilization of primary care facilities for selected

maternal and child health interventions have shown marked pro-poor improvement over the period 2005–2011.

Conclusions

Our findings suggest that expansion of PHC facilities in Ethiopia might have an important role in narrowing the urban-rural and rich-poor gaps in health service utilization for selected MCH intervention.

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 13 February 2016)

Research article

Measuring the potential of individual airports for pandemic spread over the world airline network

Glenn Lawyer

BMC Infectious Diseases 2016 16:70

Published on: 9 February 2016

Abstract

Background

Massive growth in human mobility has dramatically increased the risk and rate of pandemic spread. Macro-level descriptors of the topology of the World Airline Network (WAN) explains middle and late stage dynamics of pandemic spread mediated by this network, but necessarily regard early stage variation as stochastic. We propose that much of this early stage variation can be explained by appropriately characterizing the local network topology surrounding an outbreak's debut location.

Methods

Based on a model of the WAN derived from public data, we measure for each airport the expected force of infection (AEF) which a pandemic originating at that airport would generate, assuming an epidemic process which transmits from airport to airport via scheduled commercial flights. We observe, for a subset of world airports, the minimum transmission rate at which a disease becomes pandemically competent at each airport. We also observe, for a larger subset, the time until a pandemically competent outbreak achieves pandemic status given its debut location. Observations are generated using a highly sophisticated metapopulation reaction-diffusion simulator under a disease model known to well replicate the 2009 influenza pandemic. The robustness of the AEF measure to model misspecification is examined by degrading the underlying model WAN.

Results

AEF powerfully explains pandemic risk, showing correlation of 0.90 to the transmission level needed to give a disease pandemic competence, and correlation of 0.85 to the delay until an outbreak becomes a pandemic. The AEF is robust to model misspecification. For 97 % of airports, removing 15 % of airports from the model changes their AEF metric by less than 1 %.

Conclusions

Appropriately summarizing the size, shape, and diversity of an airport's local neighborhood in the WAN accurately explains much of the macro-level stochasticity in pandemic outcomes.

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 13 February 2016)

Debate

Ebola vaccine development plan: ethics, concerns and proposed measures

Morenike Oluwatoyin Folayan, Aminu Yakubu, Bridget Haire and Kristin Peterson

Published on: 8 February 2016

Abstract

Background

The global interest in developing therapies for Ebola infection management and its prevention is laudable. However the plan to conduct an emergency immunization program specifically for healthcare workers using experimental vaccines raises some ethical concerns. This paper shares perspectives on these concerns and suggests how some of them may best be addressed.

Discussion

The recruitment of healthcare workers for Ebola vaccine research has challenges. It could result in coercion of initially dissenting healthcare workers to assist in the management of EVD infected persons due to mistaken beliefs that the vaccine offers protection. It could also affect equity and justice. For example, where people who are not skilled health care professionals but who provide care to patients infected with Ebola (such as in home care settings) are not prioritized for vaccination. The possibility of study participants contracting Ebola infection despite the use of experimental vaccine, and the standard of care they would receive, needs to be addressed clearly, transparently and formalized as part of the ethics review process. Future access to study products in view of current status of the TRIPS agreement needs to be addressed. Finally, broad stakeholder engagement at local, regional and international levels needs to be promoted using available communication channels to engage local, regional and international support. These same concerns are applicable for current and future epidemics.

Summary

Successful Ebola vaccine development research requires concerted efforts at public dialogue to address misconceptions, equity and justice in participant selection, and honest discussions about risks, benefits and future access. Public dialogue about Ebola vaccine research plans is crucial and should be conducted by trusted locals and negotiated between communities, researchers and ethics committees in research study sites.

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 13 February 2016)

[No new relevant content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 13 February 2016)

Research article

Improved pregnancy outcomes with increasing antiretroviral coverage in South Africa

An improvement in birth outcomes is likely associated with the increased coverage of triple antiretroviral treatment for pregnant women. And untreated HIV infected women and women who do not seek antenatal care should be considered most at risk for poor birth outcomes.

Theron Moodley, Dhayendre Moodley, Motshedisi Sebitloane, Niren Maharaj and Benn Sartorius

Published on: 11 February 2016

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 13 February 2016)

Research article

Effects of parent and child behaviours on overweight and obesity in infants and young children from disadvantaged backgrounds: systematic review with narrative synthesis

Catherine Georgina Russell, Sarah Taki, Rachel Laws, Leva Azadi, Karen J. Campbell, Rosalind Elliott, John Lynch, Kylie Ball, Rachael Taylor and Elizabeth Denney-Wilson

BMC Public Health 2016 16:151

Published on: 13 February 2016

Abstract

Background

Despite the crucial need to develop targeted and effective approaches for obesity prevention in children most at risk, the pathways explaining socioeconomic disparity in children's obesity prevalence remain poorly understood.

Methods

We conducted a systematic review of the literature that investigated causes of weight gain in children aged 0–5 years from socioeconomically disadvantaged or Indigenous backgrounds residing in OECD countries. Major electronic databases were searched from inception until December 2015. Key words identified studies addressing relationships between parenting, child eating, child physical activity or sedentary behaviour and child weight in disadvantaged samples.

Results

A total of 32 articles met the inclusion criteria. The Mixed Methods Appraisal Tool quality rating for the studies ranged from 25 % (weak) to 100 % (strong). Studies predominantly reported on relationships between parenting and child weight (n = 21), or parenting and child eating (n = 12), with fewer (n = 8) investigating child eating and weight. Most evidence was from socioeconomically disadvantaged ethnic minority groups in the USA. Clustering of diet, weight and feeding behaviours by socioeconomic indicators and ethnicity precluded identification of independent effects of each of these risk factors.

Conclusions

This review has highlighted significant gaps in our mechanistic understanding of the relative importance of different aspects of parent and child behaviours in disadvantaged population groups.

Research article

What is positive youth development and how might it reduce substance use and violence? A systematic review and synthesis of theoretical literature

Chris Bonell, Kate Hinds, Kelly Dickson, James Thomas, Adam Fletcher, Simon Murphy, G. J. Melendez-Torres, Carys Bonell and Rona Campbell

BMC Public Health 2016 16:135

Published on: 10 February 2016

Abstract

Background

Preventing adolescent substance use and youth violence are public health priorities. Positive youth development interventions are widely deployed often with the aim of preventing both. However, the theorised mechanisms by which PYD is intended to reduce substance use and violence are not clear and existing evaluated interventions are under-theorised. Using innovative methods, we systematically searched for and synthesised published theoretical literature describing what is meant by positive youth development and how it might reduce substance use and violence, as part of a broader systematic review examining process and outcomes of PYD interventions.

Methods

We searched 19 electronic databases, review topic websites, and contacted experts between October 2013 and January 2014. We included studies written in English, published since 1985 that reported a theory of change for positive youth development focused on prevention of smoking, alcohol consumption, drug use or violence in out-of-school settings. Studies were independently coded and quality-assessed by two reviewers.

Results

We identified 16 studies that met our inclusion criteria. Our synthesis suggests that positive youth development aims to provide youth with affective relationships and diverse experiences which enable their development of intentional self-regulation and multiple positive assets. These in turn buffer against or compensate for involvement in substance use and violence. Existing literature is not clear on how intentional self-regulation is developed and which specific positive assets buffer against substance use or violence.

Conclusions

Our synthesis provides: an example of a rigorous systematic synthesis of theory literature innovatively applying methods of qualitative synthesis to theoretical literature; a clearer understanding of how PYD might reduce substance use and violence to inform future interventions and empirical evaluations.

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 13 February 2016)

[No new relevant content identified]

BMJ Open

2016, Volume 6, Issue 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

British Medical Journal

13 February 2016 (vol 352, issue 8044)

<http://www.bmjjournals.org/content/352/8044>

[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 2, February 2016, 77-156
<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/94/2/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>
[Reviewed earlier]

Conflict and Health

<http://www.conflictandhealth.com/>
[Accessed 13 February 2016]
Research

[Psychometric properties and reliability of the Assessment Screen to Identify Survivors Toolkit for Gender Based Violence \(ASIST-GBV\): results from humanitarian settings in Ethiopia and Colombia](#)

Alexander Vu, Andrea Wirtz, Kiemanh Pham, Sonal Singh, Leonard Rubenstein, Nancy Glass and Nancy Perrin

Published on: 9 February 2016

Abstract

Background

Refugees and internally displaced persons who are affected by armed-conflict are at increased vulnerability to some forms of sexual violence or other types of gender-based violence. A validated, brief and easy-to-administer screening tool will help service providers identify GBV survivors and refer them to appropriate GBV services. To date, no such GBV screening tool exists. We developed the 7-item ASIST-GBV screening tool from qualitative research that included individual interviews and focus groups with GBV refugee and IDP survivors. This study presents the psychometric properties of the ASIST-GBV with female refugees living in Ethiopia and IDPs in Colombia.

Methods

Several strategies were used to validate ASIST-GBV, including a 3 month implementation to validate the brief screening tool with women/girls seeking health services, aged ≥ 15 years in Ethiopia (N = 487) and female IDPs aged ≥ 18 years in Colombia (N = 511).

Results

High proportions of women screened positive for past-year GBV according to the ASIST-GBV: 50.6 % in Ethiopia and 63.4 % in Colombia. The factor analysis identified a single dimension, meaning that all items loaded on the single factor. Cronbach's $\alpha = 0.77$. A 2-parameter logistic IRT model was used for estimating the precision and discriminating power of each item. Item difficulty varied across the continuum of GBV experiences in the following order (lowest to highest): threats of violence (0.690), physical violence (1.28), forced sex (2.49), coercive sex for survival (2.25), forced marriage (3.51), and forced pregnancy (6.33). Discrimination results

showed that forced pregnancy was the item with the strongest ability to discriminate between different levels of GBV. Physical violence and forced sex also have higher levels of discrimination with threats of violence discriminating among women at the low end of the GBV continuum and coercive sex for survival among women at the mid-range of the continuum.

Conclusion

The findings demonstrate that the ASIST-GBV has strong psychometric properties and good reliability. The tool can be used to screen and identify female GBV survivors confidentially and efficiently among IDPs in Colombia and refugees in Ethiopia. Early identification of GBV survivors can enable safety planning, early referral for treatment, and psychosocial support to prevent long-term harmful consequence of GBV.

Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

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

(Accessed 13 February 2016)

[No new content]

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 2, 2016

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

Articles

Supporting farmer participation in formal seed systems: lessons from Tharaka, Kenya

Megan Mucioki, Gordon M. Hickey, Lutta Muhammad & Timothy Johns

pages 137-148

DOI:10.1080/09614524.2016.1131812

Published online: 10 Feb 2016

ABSTRACT

This article examines contemporary challenges of formal seed sector participation for resource-poor farmers in Tharaka and engages in a wider discussion of national seed policy and formal seed sector development in Kenya. While many farmers reported utilising modern seed varieties developed by the formal seed sector, the majority of these were introduced through seed aid and maintained through seed saving, supporting seed system integration strategies. Building on these findings, the article discusses ways in which national seed policy in Kenya might be

refined to better meet national and regional development goals focused on decreasing the incidence of hunger and poverty.

African solutions to African problems and the Ebola virus disease in Nigeria

Nathaniel Umukoro

pages 149-157

DOI:10.1080/09614524.2016.1133563

Published online: 10 Feb 2016

ABSTRACT

Africa grapples with the world's most serious public health crisis, but this article shows that there are public health solutions that work in the African setting. When the Ebola virus disease outbreak was announced in Nigeria in July 2014, some public health specialists worried that an apocalyptic outbreak would sweep through the vast slums of Lagos. The words "Ebola" and "Lagos" in the same sentence were viewed as a dangerous combination, due to the large population of Lagos and the inefficient health care system in the city. Contrary to this view, the outbreak of Ebola virus disease was successfully contained in Nigeria. This article focuses on the factors that were responsible for this success. It examines strategies developed within Nigeria that help to ensure the successful containment of the disease. The paper identifies lessons that can be learnt by other countries from the Nigerian experience.

Practical Note

Management and safety of a medical mission: occupational hazards of volunteering

Aidan Tan, Yuke Tien Fong, Sweet Far Ho, Boon Keng Tay & Yeow Leng Chua

pages 251-257

DOI:10.1080/09614524.2016.1131245

Published online: 10 Feb 2016

ABSTRACT

Medical aid missions involve travel to conflict or danger zones, posing safety risks in addition to the usual occupational risks arising from daily medical work. The note reports on a volunteer mission, using personal reports, anecdotal experiences, and the formal annual report to undertake an assessment similar to worksite assessments for hazards and control measures. Hazards were found to be prevalent, including physical noise and heat, infectious exposure from patients and local vectors, poor water sanitation, and psychosocial stress from unfamiliar environments and large patient numbers with limited means. Implementable preventative measures include increasing awareness with appropriate protective equipment usage and safety guidelines. Mission planning and management should also involve occupational health input.

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 3, 2016

<http://informahealthcare.com/toc/itd/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/dis.2016.40.issue-1/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Emergency Medicine Journal

February 2016, Volume 33, Issue 2

<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 04 - March 2016

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

Original Papers

Other respiratory infections

Shelter crowding and increased incidence of acute respiratory infection in evacuees following the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake and tsunami

T. KAWANO, Y. TSUGAWA, K. NISHIYAMA, H. MORITA, O. YAMAMURA and K. HASEGAWA

SUMMARY

Although outbreaks of acute respiratory infection (ARI) at shelters are hypothesized to be associated with shelter crowding, no studies have examined this relationship. We conducted a retrospective study by reviewing medical records of evacuees presenting to one of the 37 clinics at the shelters in Ishinomaki city, Japan, during the 3-week period after the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake and tsunami in 2011. On the basis of a locally weighted scatter-plot smoothing technique, we categorized 37 shelters into crowded (mean space <5·5 m²/per person) and non-crowded (≥5·5 m²) shelters. Outcomes of interest were the cumulative and

daily incidence rate of ARI/10 000 evacuees at each shelter. We found that the crowded shelters had a higher median cumulative incidence rate of ARI [5·4/10 000 person-days, interquartile range (IQR) 0–24·6, $P = 0\cdot04$] compared to the non-crowded shelters (3·5/10 000 person-days, IQR 0–8·7) using Mann–Whitney U test. Similarly, the crowded shelters had an increased daily incidence rate of ARI of 19·1/10 000 person-days (95% confidence interval 5·9–32·4, $P < 0\cdot01$) compared to the non-crowded shelters using quasi-least squares method. In sum, shelter crowding was associated with an increased incidence rate of ARI after the natural disaster.

The European Journal of Public Health

Volume 26, Issue 1, 1 February 2016

<http://eurpub.oxfordjournals.org/content/26/1>

Viewpoints

[Europe's migration challenges: mounting an effective health system response](#)

Govin Permanand, Allan Krasnik, Hans Kluge, Martin McKee

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckv249> 3-4 First published online: 1 February 2016

Extract

Health systems are at the forefront of the response to the ongoing humanitarian crisis facing refugees and other migrants fleeing to Europe, both as a first point of contact for arrivals and later during their resettlement and beyond. (The term 'migrant' is used here with the understanding that there are numerous groups that fall within this categorization, but which are distinct in terms of their status, e.g. asylum-seeker, refugee, undocumented migrant, economic migrant, family-reunited migrant, etc., where a specific group is mentioned by name, it is in a context where this specificity is required.) Yet even if the scale of migration is new, at least in the post-war period, some European countries have considerable experience of sudden large-scale immigration, whether from Algeria to France in the 1960s, East African Asians coming to the United Kingdom in the 1970s, refugees from former Yugoslavia in the 1990s and, more recently, across the Mediterranean to Italy, Malta and Spain. However, few lessons seem to have been learnt, and European health systems vary greatly in their ability to respond to this new challenge.¹ The situation is complicated further by differences in formal entitlement to health care,² even though it is now clear that restricting access costs more money in the long run.³ The challenges facing undocumented migrants are particularly alarming, as many of those now moving either fall into this category already or will soon do so if their applications for asylum are rejected.

Even where migrants are entitled to care they may face many barriers. These include language barriers and inadequate information about their rights and how to claim them...

[Europe's response to the refugee crisis: why relocation quotas will fail to achieve 'fairness' from a health perspective](#)

Kayvan Bozorgmehr, Joachim Szecsenyi, Christian Stock, Oliver Razum

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckv246> 5-6 First published online: 1 February 2016

Extract

EU refugee law is deficient—this has become obvious as thousands of refugees cross the Mediterranean and EU borders to reach a safe destination. Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel calls for a scheme of compulsory relocation of refugees to EU member states to achieve a 'fair' distribution¹ based on 'objective, quantifiable and verifiable criteria' such as GDP, population size and unemployment rates.² While we strongly believe that providing international protection

to refugees is a collective duty of EU member states, we argue that the concept of their 'fair' (but factually enforced) relocation across the EU is flawed and may ultimately be detrimental from a public health perspective.

First, if fairness is defined as the product of a quota based on a contract between EU member states, the interests of non-contractors (here refugees) remain neglected—a dilemma inherent in contractarian concepts of fairness.3...

Food Policy

Volume 59, In Progress (February 2016)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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 13 February 2016]

[No new content]

Global Public Health

Volume 11, Issue 3, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 13 February 2016]

Research

Sexual and reproductive health of young people with disability in Ethiopia: a study on knowledge, attitude and practice: a cross-sectional study

Tigist Alemu Kassa, Tobias Luck, Assegedech Bekele and Steffi G. Riedel-Heller

Published on: 10 February 2016

Abstract

Background

As is common in developing countries, in Ethiopia young people with disabilities (YPWD) are more likely than the general population to be illiterate, unemployed and impoverished. They often lack equal access to information and education for reasons ranging from barriers regarding physical access to services to varied special learning needs. Very little is known about knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) of YPWD regarding sexual and reproductive health (SRH) related issues. We, therefore, aimed to assess the KAP of 426 YPWD in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Methods

A cross-sectional survey was conducted in 2012. Data were collected by trained interviewers using a structured questionnaire covering socio-demographic information, as well as information on KAP regarding SRH.

Results

Only 64.6 % of YPWD were aware of SRH services. Radio and TV were mentioned as the main sources of information by 62.2 % of the participants. 77.9 % had never had a discussion about SRH topics with their parents. Even though 96.7 % of the respondents had heard about HIV, 88 % had poor knowledge about ways of preventing HIV. Perception of the risk of getting infected with HIV was found to be generally low in YPWD; only 21.6 % believed that they were at risk of acquiring HIV.

Conclusions

Our study, in general, demonstrated that there is a lack of comprehensive knowledge, appropriate practice and favorable attitude of YPWD regarding different SRH-related issues. Our findings thus clearly indicate the need for strategies and programs to raise SRH-related awareness and to help YPWD to develop the appropriate skills and attitudes needed for a healthy reproductive life.

Health Affairs

February 2016; Volume 35, Issue 2

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

Issue Focus: Vaccines

Vaccine Discovery, Production, And Delivery

Alan R. Weil

Extract

Vaccines are a bit like a wonder drug. A shot or two is all it takes to prevent premature death or a lifetime of disability. What more do we need to know? Quite a lot, it turns out. The gap

between the potential vaccines offer and what we actually achieve is determined by myriad social, economic, political, and health system factors.

As Seth Berkley, CEO of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, notes in an interview in these pages: "Vaccines do not deliver themselves." They also don't finance their own development or distribution, educate the public about their benefits, or eliminate income disparities in access to health services.

The complex environment in which vaccines are discovered, produced, and delivered is the theme of this month's *Health Affairs*.

Health and Human Rights

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 31 Issue 1 February 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems

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

[Accessed 13 February 2016]

Research

A multiple case study of intersectoral public health networks: experiences and benefits of using research

Anita Kothari, Charmaine McPherson, Dana Gore, Benita Cohen, Marjorie MacDonald and Shannon L. Sibbald

Published on: 11 February 2016

Research

Setting priorities in health research using the model proposed by the World Health Organization: development of a quantitative methodology using tuberculosis in South Africa as a worked example

Damian Hacking and Susan Cleary

Published on: 9 February 2016

Human Rights Quarterly

Volume 38, Number 1, February 2016

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/human_rights_quarterly/toc/hrq.38.1.html

Articles

Rigorous Morality: Norms, Values, and the Comparative Politics of Human Rights

pp. 1-20

Todd Landman

ABSTRACT:

This article argues that there is a strong role for empirical analysis to be used to address fundamental normative questions. Using human rights as an example, the article shows that the evolution of the international regime of human rights provides a standard against which country level performance can be both judged and explained through the application of empirical approaches in comparative politics. It argues further that different kinds of human rights measures (events, standards, surveys, and official statistics) and comparative methods (large-N, small-N, and single-country studies) offer systematic ways in which to map, to explain, and to understand the variation in human rights abuse around the world. The comparative politics of human rights is a prime example of how the "is" of the world can be used to address the "ought" of international human rights theory, philosophy, and law. The example of human rights analysis in comparative politics shows a strong role for value-based and problem-based research that remains systematic in its approach while at the same time producing outputs that are of public value.

Uncloaking Secrecy: International Human Rights Law in Terrorism Cases

pp. 58-84

Jeffrey Davis

Abstract

ABSTRACT:

When those swept up in counterterrorism operations try to hold governments accountable for rights violations, legal secrecy doctrines such as the "state secrets privilege" and "public interest immunity" frequently derail their efforts. This article shows the effects of legal secrecy doctrines on efforts to hold officials accountable for rights violations in counterterrorism cases. It sets out the limits imposed by international human rights law on these secrecy doctrines, and it explores how these limits are handled in US and British courts. Finally, it sets out requirements in order for legal secrecy practices to comply with international human rights law.

Reaching the Tipping Point?: Emerging International Human Rights Norms Pertaining to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

pp. 134-163

Elizabeth Baisley

ABSTRACT:

This article challenges a few assumptions about emerging international norms pertaining to sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). First, although UN experts and expert bodies were the first to address SOGI issues at the UN, they have not been the most progressive. Second, social movement actors have not always been the most effective norm entrepreneurs. Third, although states are often accused of failing to take action on SOGI issues, there is a clear, emerging pattern of state involvement and progress. The norms constructed by states are less radical than those constructed by UN experts and civil society organizations, but they are more effective.

Human Service Organizations Management, Leadership & Governance

Volume 40, Issue 1, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Humanitarian Exchange Magazine

Number 65 November 2015

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

Special Feature: The Crisis in Iraq

[Reviewed earlier]

IDRiM Journal

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 13 February 2016]

[No new 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>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction

Volume 15, In Progress (March 2016)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/22124209/15>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

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]

International Migration Review

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/currenttoc.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

February 9, 2016, Vol 315, No. 6

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

[New issue: No relevant content identified]

JAMA Pediatrics

February 2016, Vol 170, No. 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Asian Development

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>

[Reviewed earlier]

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.bmj.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Ethics

Volume 11, Issue 3, 2015

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjge20/.U2V-Elf4L0I#.VAJEj2N4WF8>

Forum: The Sustainable Development Goals

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Infectious Diseases (JGID)

January-March 2016 Volume 8 | Issue 1 Page Nos. 1-56

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

SPECIAL ARTICLE**The emergence of zika virus as a global health security threat: A review and a consensus statement of the INDUSEM Joint working Group (JWG)**

DOI: 10.4103/0974-777X.176140

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Abstract

The Zika virus (ZIKV), first discovered in 1947, has emerged as a global public health threat over the last decade, with the accelerated geographic spread of the virus noted during the last 5 years. The World Health Organization (WHO) predicts that millions of cases of ZIKV are likely to occur in the Americas during the next 12 months. These projections, in conjunction with suspected Zika-associated increase in newborn microcephaly cases, prompted WHO to declare public health emergency of international concern. ZIKV-associated illness is characterized by an incubation period of 3-12 days. Most patients remain asymptomatic (i.e., ~80%) after

contracting the virus. When symptomatic, clinical presentation is usually mild and consists of a self-limiting febrile illness that lasts approximately 2-7 days. Among common clinical manifestations are fever, arthralgia, conjunctivitis, myalgia, headache, and maculopapular rash. Hospitalization and complication rates are low, with fatalities being extremely rare. Newborn microcephaly, the most devastating and insidious complication associated with the ZIKV, has been described in the offspring of women who became infected while pregnant. Much remains to be elucidated about the timing of ZIKV infection in the context of the temporal progression of pregnancy, the corresponding *in utero* fetal development stage(s), and the risk of microcephaly. Without further knowledge of the pathophysiology involved, the true risk of ZIKV to the unborn remains difficult to quantify and remediate. Accurate, portable, and inexpensive point-of-care testing is required to better identify cases and manage the current and future outbreaks of ZIKV, including optimization of preventive approaches and the identification of more effective risk reduction strategies. In addition, much more work needs to be done to produce an effective vaccine. Given the rapid geographic spread of ZIKV in recent years, a coordinated local, regional, and global effort is needed to generate sufficient resources and political traction to effectively halt and contain further expansion of the current outbreak.

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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>

[Reviewed earlier]

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

February 2016, Volume 42, Issue 2

<http://jme.bmjjournals.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>

[Reviewed earlier]

Knowledge Management for Development Journal

Vol 11, No 2 (2015)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

The Lancet

Feb 13, 2016 Volume 387 Number 10019 p619-716 e20

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

Editorial

[Australia's immigration centres are no place for children](#)

The Lancet

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(16\)00317-2](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(16)00317-2)

Summary

Last week, the High Court in Australia ruled that the country was within its constitutional rights to detain asylum seekers offshore. This ruling is scandalously objectionable not only for the health and wellbeing of individuals seeking asylum or refuge in Australia, but also for the more than 260 people, including children, on the mainland who are now at risk of deportation.

Comment

[A crucial time for public health preparedness: Zika virus and the 2016 Olympics, Umrah, and Hajj](#)

Published Online: 06 February 2016

[Habida Elachola, Ernesto Gozzer, Jiatong Zhuo, Ziad A Memish](#)

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(16\)00274-9](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(16)00274-9)

Series

Ending preventable stillbirths

[Stillbirths: recall to action in high-income countries](#)

Vicki Flenady, Aleena M Wojcieszek, Philippa Middleton, David Ellwood, Jan Jaap Erwich, Michael Coory, T Yee Khong, Robert M Silver, Gordon C S Smith, Frances M Boyle, Joy E Lawn, Hannah Blencowe, Susannah Hopkins Leisher, Mechthild M Gross, Dell Horey, Lynn Farrales, Frank Bloomfield, Lesley McCowan, Stephanie J Brown, K S Joseph, Jennifer Zeitlin, Hanna E Reinebrant, Claudia Ravaldi, Alfredo Vannacci, Jillian Cassidy, Paul Cassidy, Cindy Farquhar, Euan Wallace, Dimitrios Siassakos, Alexander E P Heazell, Claire Storey, Lynn Sadler, Scott Petersen, J Frederik Frøen, Robert L Goldenberg, The Lancet Ending Preventable Stillbirths study group, The Lancet Stillbirths In High-Income Countries Investigator Group

Ending preventable stillbirths

[Stillbirths: ending preventable deaths by 2030](#)

Luc de Bernis, Mary V Kinney, William Stones, Petra ten Hoope-Bender, Donna Vivio, Susannah Hopkins Leisher, Zulfiqar A Bhutta, Metin Gülmезoglu, Matthews Mathai, Jose M Belizán, Lynne Franco, Lori McDougall, Jennifer Zeitlin, Address Malata, Kim E Dickson, Joy E Lawn, The Lancet Ending Preventable Stillbirths Series study group, The Lancet Ending Preventable Stillbirths Series Advisory Group

The Lancet Infectious Diseases

Feb 2016 Volume 16 Number 2 p131-264 e10-e21

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Global Health

Feb 2016 Volume 4 Number 2 e69-e136

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

Editorial

Stillbirths: still neglected?

Zoë Mullan

Summary

5 years ago, *The Lancet* published a groundbreaking (and taboo-breaking) Series on stillbirths. Its powerful mix of advocacy and hard data attracted more media attention than perhaps any other Series, and made waves on numerous levels, from the individual to the intergovernmental. Working closely with countries and WHO, the Series authors fought to bring “out of the shadows” the unacceptable toll of intrapartum stillbirths in low-income countries, the addressable differences in stillbirth rates between countries with advanced health systems, and the deplorable absence of such devastating events from global tracking efforts such as those of the UN, the Millennium Development Goals, and the Global Burden of Disease.

Comment

Success of rotavirus vaccination in Africa: good news and remaining questions

Timo Vesikari

Borders and migration: an issue of global health importance

James Smith, Leigh Daynes

Articles

National, regional, and worldwide estimates of stillbirth rates in 2015, with trends from 2000: a systematic analysis

Hannah Blencowe, Simon Cousens, Fiorella Bianchi Jassir, Lale Say, Doris Chou, Colin Mathers, Dan Hogan, Suhail Shiekh, Zeshan U Qureshi, Danzhen You, Joy E Lawn, *The Lancet Stillbirth Epidemiology Investigator Group*

Summary

Background

Previous estimates have highlighted a large global burden of stillbirths, with an absence of reliable data from regions where most stillbirths occur. The Every Newborn Action Plan (ENAP) targets national stillbirth rates (SBRs) of 12 or fewer stillbirths per 1000 births by 2030. We estimate SBRs and numbers for 195 countries, including trends from 2000 to 2015.

Methods

We collated SBR data meeting prespecified inclusion criteria from national routine or registration systems, nationally representative surveys, and other data sources identified through a systematic review, web-based searches, and consultation with stillbirth experts. We modelled SBR (≥ 28 weeks' gestation) for 195 countries with restricted maximum likelihood estimation with country-level random effects. Uncertainty ranges were obtained through a bootstrap approach.

Findings

Data from 157 countries (2207 datapoints) met the inclusion criteria, a 90% increase from 2009 estimates. The estimated average global SBR in 2015 was 18·4 per 1000 births, down from 24·7 in 2000 (25·5% reduction). In 2015, an estimated 2·6 million (uncertainty range 2·4–3·0 million) babies were stillborn, giving a 19% decline in numbers since 2000 with the slowest progress in sub-Saharan Africa. 98% of all stillbirths occur in low-income and middle-income countries; 77% in south Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

Interpretation

Progress in reducing the large worldwide stillbirth burden remains slow and insufficient to meet national targets such as for ENAP. Stillbirths are increasingly being counted at a local level, but

countries and the global community must further improve the quality and comparability of data, and ensure that this is more clearly linked to accountability processes including the Sustainable Development Goals.

Funding

Save the Children's Saving Newborn Lives programme to The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.

Effect of pentavalent rotavirus vaccine introduction on hospital admissions for diarrhoea and rotavirus in children in Rwanda: a time-series analysis

Fidele Ngabo, Jacqueline E Tate, Maurice Gatera, Celse Rugambwa, Philippe Donnen, Philippe Lepage, Jason M Mwenda, Agnes Binagwaho, Umesh D Parashar

Summary

Background

In May, 2012, Rwanda became the first low-income African country to introduce pentavalent rotavirus vaccine into its routine national immunisation programme. Although the potential health benefits of rotavirus vaccination are huge in low-income African countries that account for more than half the global deaths from rotavirus, concerns remain about the performance of oral rotavirus vaccines in these challenging settings.

Methods

We conducted a time-series analysis to examine trends in admissions to hospital for non-bloody diarrhoea in children younger than 5 years in Rwanda between Jan 1, 2009, and Dec 31, 2014, using monthly discharge data from the Health Management Information System. Additionally, we reviewed the registries in the paediatric wards at six hospitals from 2009 to 2014 and abstracted the number of total admissions and admissions for diarrhoea in children younger than 5 years by admission month and age group. We studied trends in admissions specific to rotavirus at one hospital that had undertaken active rotavirus surveillance from 2011 to 2014. We assessed changes in rotavirus epidemiology by use of data from eight active surveillance hospitals.

Findings

Compared with the 2009–11 prevaccine baseline, hospital admissions for non-bloody diarrhoea captured by the Health Management Information System fell by 17–29% from a pre-vaccine median of 4051 to 2881 in 2013 and 3371 in 2014, admissions for acute gastroenteritis captured in paediatric ward registries decreased by 48–49%, and admissions specific to rotavirus captured by active surveillance fell by 61–70%. The greatest effect was recorded in children age-eligible to be vaccinated, but we noted a decrease in the proportion of children with diarrhoea testing positive for rotavirus in almost every age group.

Interpretation

The number of admissions to hospital for diarrhoea and rotavirus in Rwanda fell substantially after rotavirus vaccine implementation, including among older children age-ineligible for vaccination, suggesting indirect protection through reduced transmission of rotavirus. These data highlight the benefits of routine vaccination against rotavirus in low-income settings.

Funding

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and the Government of Rwanda.

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 20, Issue 2, February 2016

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10995/20/2/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

February 2016; 36 (2)

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

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

The Milbank Quarterly

A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy

December 2015 Volume 93, Issue 4 Pages 651–883

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1468-0009.2015.93.issue-4/issuetoc>

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

Nature

Volume 530 Number 7589 pp129-248 11 February 2016

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

Editorials

Benefits of sharing

A swift and effective response to emerging infectious diseases demands that researchers have ready access to the latest data on the pathogens responsible. There is still a long way to go to ensure this.

Nature Medicine

February 2016, Volume 22 No 2 pp115-217

<http://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v22/n2/index.html>

Nature Medicine / Editorial

A windfall for US biomedical science

doi:10.1038/nm.4048

Published online

04 February 2016

In December, the US government approved a \$2 billion increase in the budget of the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) for the 2016 fiscal year. With that increase comes relief, optimism and the pressure to spend wisely.

New England Journal of Medicine

February 11, 2016 Vol. 374 No. 6

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

Perspective

A World Free of Polio — The Final Steps

Manish Patel, M.D., and Walter Orenstein, M.D.

N Engl J Med 2016; 374:501-503

February 11, 2016

DOI: 10.1056/NEJMmp1514467

Audio Interview

Interview with Dr. Walter Orenstein on the final steps in the global effort to eradicate polio.
(8:37) [Listen](#) [Download](#)

Global polio-eradication efforts have led to a dramatic decrease in polio cases, from an estimated 350,000 cases in 125 countries in 1988 to 72 cases in 2015. As of January 2016, endemic transmission of polio caused by wild polioviruses (WPVs) had been interrupted in all countries except Pakistan and Afghanistan. Indeed, the Global Commission for Certification of the Eradication of Poliomyelitis recently certified that type 2 wild poliovirus, one of three strains responsible for centuries of human paralysis and disfigurement, has been eradicated. Type 2 poliovirus now exists only in laboratories and in trivalent oral polio vaccine (tOPV) in an attenuated form, though in rare circumstances it surfaces in the community, through persistent transmission, in the form of outbreaks of vaccine-derived viruses. Getting to this point has not been easy. Sustaining our wins and traversing the last mile of the eradication journey calls for escalation of global immunization activities on an unprecedented scale.

Oral polio vaccine (OPV) has been the lynchpin of successful control of paralytic polio. However, in very rare instances, it has been associated with cases of paralysis caused by vaccine-associated paralytic polio (VAPP) or circulating vaccine-derived polioviruses (cVDPVs) — the latter when the viruses included in the vaccine have mutated over time, acquiring the neurovirulence and transmissibility of WPV. For this reason, it is of paramount importance to discontinue the use of OPV after polio eradication has been certified. Since the last case of naturally occurring type 2 WPV in 1999, continued use of OPV2 (the type 2 component of tOPV) has paralyzed an estimated 1600 to 3200 people with VAPP and more than 600 people with type 2 cVDPV.¹ Because routine use of type 2-containing vaccine is no longer needed, the global community has a moral imperative to discontinue it as soon as programmatically feasible. Because WPV types 1 and 3 have not yet been eradicated, however, the phased withdrawal of OPV antigens will begin with a shift from tOPV (containing types 1, 2, and 3) to bivalent OPV (bOPV, containing types 1 and 3).

Global cessation of OPV2 use poses a low but real risk of outbreaks of cVDPV2 or WPV infections associated with declining immunity to type 2 poliovirus.² The overarching strategy for reducing this risk is to maximize immunity against type 2 before and after withdrawal of the vaccine and to prepare for an appropriate outbreak response. Doing so requires a comprehensive, multipronged approach (see [table](#) Risks and Risk-Mitigation Strategies for Switching from Trivalent Oral Polio Vaccine (tOPV) to Bivalent OPV (bOPV).).

First, it is important to stop current cVDPV2 outbreaks in advance of the switch, through aggressive tOPV vaccination in any place where cVDPV2 is detected. Programs with lower routine coverage will have to boost type 2 immunity through additional tOPV campaigns just before OPV2 withdrawal.² A high level of immunity, especially OPV2-induced intestinal immunity, will prevent sustained transmission of vaccine viruses, which could lead to generation of new cVDPV2s.

Second, all countries should have access to enough inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) to administer at least one dose to all children through the routine immunization program. IPV provides immunity against all three polioviruses without generating any infectious vaccine-associated polioviruses. Introduction of IPV is intended to provide some immunity against type 2 viruses in

new birth cohorts to mitigate future outbreaks of type 2 WPV and type 2 cVDPVs, should the viruses be reintroduced.³ IPV, however, may not prevent cVDPV2 emergence, which will be greatest during the first 6 to 12 months after OPV2 withdrawal.

Third, there had to be certified eradication of type 2 WPV, which has been accomplished.

Fourth, all countries must have destroyed type 2 WPV or securely contain it in essential laboratory and vaccine-production facilities by the end of 2015 and must do the same with OPV2 within 3 months after it is withdrawn.

Fifth, a global stockpile of monovalent type 2 OPV should be available to control outbreaks of type 2 polio, should type 2 viruses be reintroduced.

Finally, leaders of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) should finalize a protocol for surveillance of and response to such outbreaks.

Recently, the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) reviewed progress on these readiness indicators.^{1,4} All high-risk countries are on track for introducing IPV. Supply shortages will delay introduction by a few months in some low-risk countries but are unlikely to increase the short-term risk of cVDPV2. SAGE also recommended accelerating implementation of the containment plan. Overall, it determined that the benefits of withdrawing OPV2 outweighed the risks, reaffirming the decision to proceed with the global switch from tOPV to bOPV between April 17 and May 1, 2016. Furthermore, it reiterated that OPV2 withdrawal must be synchronized worldwide. A prolonged, staggered withdrawal would pose a risk of continuous generation of cVDPV2s and potential exportation of these viruses to regions or countries with susceptible children born after the switch. Withdrawal of OPV2 during the seasonally low-transmission month of April further reduces the risk of type 2 polio outbreaks.

Switching from tOPV to bOPV may sound simple, but synchronization requires global coordination on an unprecedented scale. To use bOPV in routine immunization, all countries must either license a bivalent vaccine or accept one that is prequalified by the World Health Organization. Recent trial data and use of bOPV in campaigns since 2009 indicate that it is safe and more immunogenic to types 1 and 3 than is tOPV.⁵ Multilevel efforts to manage the global supply of OPV have begun, including discontinuation of tOPV production, scale-up of bOPV production, initiation of interactions between procurement agencies or manufacturers and countries, management of countrywide tOPV inventories to ensure that stocks are adequate until the switch and to track collection and destruction afterward, and allocation of funds for procuring bOPV. Fundamentally, countries will strive to avoid having either excess or insufficient quantities of tOPV leading up to the switch and to ensure the availability of bOPV after the switch.

Coordinated communication among global health organizations, countries, manufacturers, and funders is imperative to ensure synchronized OPV2 withdrawal with minimal disruption in vaccination services to children worldwide. Successful synchronization also requires GPEI leaders and countries to monitor the timely completion of preparatory steps both globally and within each country (e.g., managing of tOPV inventories; bOPV licensure, procurement, and shipment; securing of financial resources; establishment of communication; and training of logisticians, health workers, and monitors). Equally, if not more, important, however, will be the

monitoring of outcomes of withdrawal of the vaccine in April 2016. Although it is nearly impossible to monitor every vaccination service point — India alone has more than 26,000 — a targeted monitoring strategy for high-risk areas, such as facilities storing large stocks of tOPV, could provide further reassurance of low risk of cVDPV2 reemergence. Countries will need to dispose of residual tOPV stocks using their existing pharmaceutical-waste-disposal procedures to avoid continued use of the discontinued vaccine.

More preparation for the switch is required in the coming months, and for completing polio eradication in the coming years. But collaboration in eradication efforts has reached a high point never before achieved by the immunization community. Getting here has required tireless effort and practical innovation in science, policy, and implementation. Capitalizing on the gains made to date should push overall polio eradication over the finish line and may pave the way for measles eradication and future global health initiatives.

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly

February 2016; 45 (1)

<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

February 2016, VOLUME 137 / ISSUE 2

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/137/2?current-issue=y>

From the American Academy of Pediatrics

Medical Countermeasures for Children in Public Health Emergencies, Disasters, or Terrorism

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Pediatrics Feb 2016, 137 (2) 1-9; DOI: 10.1542/peds.2015-4273

Abstract

Significant strides have been made over the past 10 to 15 years to develop medical countermeasures (MCMs) to address potential disaster hazards, including chemical, biological, radiologic, and nuclear threats. Significant and effective collaboration between the pediatric health community, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, and federal partners, such as the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Federal Emergency Management Agency, National Institutes of Health, Food and Drug Administration, and other federal agencies, over the past 5 years has resulted in substantial gains in addressing the needs of children related to disaster preparedness in general and MCMs in particular. Yet, major gaps still remain related to MCMs for children, a population highly vulnerable to the effects of exposure to such threats, because many vaccines and pharmaceuticals approved for use by adults as MCMs do not yet have pediatric formulations, dosing information, or safety information. As a result, the nation's stockpiles and other caches

(designated supply of MCMs) where pharmacotherapeutic and other MCMs are stored are less prepared to address the needs of children compared with those of adults in the event of a disaster. This policy statement provides recommendations to close the remaining gaps for the development and use of MCMs in children during public health emergencies or disasters. The progress made by federal agencies to date to address the needs of children and the shared commitment of collaboration that characterizes the current relationship between the pediatric health community and the federal agencies responsible for MCMs should encourage all child advocates to invest the necessary energy and resources now to complete the process of remedying the remaining significant gaps in preparedness.

Pediatrics Perspectives

Planning for Research on Children During Public Health Emergencies

Laura J. Faherty, Sonja A. Rasmussen, Nicole Lurie

Pediatrics Feb 2016, 137 (2) 1-4; DOI: 10.1542/peds.2015-3611

Extract

The recent Ebola epidemic exposed critical knowledge gaps about the disease and its impact on different populations, particularly children, which hindered the public health and medical response. For instance, unanswered questions remain about the natural history of Ebola virus disease in young children and its transmissibility in breast milk. Other emerging infectious diseases, such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), remind us that there will always be another pathogen lurking around the corner. Public health emergencies (PHEs) resulting from natural disasters are increasing in ferocity and frequency.¹ How can we ensure that we address our current knowledge gaps to better prepare for future disasters?

Awareness of the need to integrate scientific research into PHE response is growing,² but the discussion of research involving children has been limited. Although several efforts have addressed the unique physical and socio-emotional needs of children in PHEs,^{3,4} pediatric research during PHEs has been lacking, resulting in significant knowledge gaps for children compared to adults. Conducting research, especially in children, without interfering with the PHE response is challenging. The present article discusses the importance of including children in PHE research and proposes components of a robust infrastructure that need to be in place to facilitate this research.

Barriers to Including Children in PHE Research

Including children in PHE research presents special challenges, including issues with recruitment, informed consent, and enrollment.^{3,5} Institutional review boards (IRBs) have more stringent requirements for inclusion of children in research than for adults.⁶ A life course ...

Stakeholder Views of Clinical Trials in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Systematic Review

Pathma D. Joseph, Patrina H.Y. Caldwell, Allison Tong, Camilla S. Hanson, Jonathan C. Craig
Pediatrics Feb 2016, 137 (2) 1-19; DOI: 10.1542/peds.2015-2800

Abstract

CONTEXT: Clinical trials are necessary to improve the health care of children, but only one-quarter are conducted in the low- to middle-income countries (LMICs) in which 98% of the global burden of disease resides.

OBJECTIVE: To describe stakeholder beliefs and experiences of conducting trials in children in LMICs.

DATA SOURCES: Electronic databases were searched to August 2014.

STUDY SELECTION: Qualitative studies of stakeholder perspectives on conducting clinical trials among children in LMICs.

DATA EXTRACTION: Findings were analyzed by using thematic synthesis.

RESULTS: Thirty-nine studies involving 3110 participants (children [n = 290], parents or caregivers [n = 1609], community representatives [n = 621], clinical or research team members [n = 376], regulators [n = 18], or sponsors [n = 15]) across 22 countries were included. Five themes were identified: centrality of community engagement (mobilizing community, representatives' pivotal role, managing expectations, and retaining involvement); cognizance of vulnerability and poverty (therapeutic opportunity and medical mistrust); contending with power differentials (exploitation, stigmatization, and disempowerment); translating research to local context (cultural beliefs, impoverishment constraints, and ethical pluralism); and advocating fair distribution of benefits (health care, sponsor obligation, and collateral community benefits).

LIMITATIONS: Studies not published in English were excluded.

CONCLUSIONS: Conducting trials in children in LMICs is complex due to social disadvantage, economic scarcity, idiosyncratic cultural beliefs, and historical disempowerment, all of which contribute to inequity, mistrust, and fears of exploitation. Effective community engagement in recruiting, building research capacities, and designing trials that are pragmatic, ethical, and relevant to the health care needs of children in LMICs may help to improve the equity and health outcomes of this vulnerable population.

PharmacoEconomics

Volume 34, Issue 1, January 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

PLOS Currents: Disasters

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

[Accessed 13 February 2016]

[No new content]

PLoS Currents: Outbreaks

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

(Accessed 13 February 2016)

[No new content]

PLoS Medicine

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

(Accessed 13 February 2016)

[Effect of Short-Term Supplementation with Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food or Micronutrients for Children after Illness for Prevention of Malnutrition: A Randomised Controlled Trial in Nigeria](#)

Saskia van der Kam, Nuria Salse-Ubach, Stephanie Roll, Todd Swarthout, Sayaka Gayton-Toyoshima, Nma Mohammed Jiya, Akiko Matsumoto, Leslie Shanks

Research Article | published 09 Feb 2016 | PLOS Medicine
10.1371/journal.pmed.1001952

Effect of Short-Term Supplementation with Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food or Micronutrients for Children after Illness for Prevention of Malnutrition: A Randomised Controlled Trial in Uganda

Saskia van der Kam, Stephanie Roll, Todd Swarthout, Grace Edyegu-Otelu, Akiko Matsumoto, Francis Xavier Kasujja, Cristian Casademont, Leslie Shanks, Nuria Salse-Ubach
Research Article | published 09 Feb 2016 | PLOS Medicine
10.1371/journal.pmed.1001951

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<http://www.plosntds.org/>
(Accessed 13 February 2016)
[No new relevant content]

PLoS One

<http://www.plosone.org/>
(Accessed 13 February 2016)
[No new relevant content]

PLoS Pathogens

<http://journals.plos.org/plospathogens/>
(Accessed 13 February 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 13 February 2016)
Social Sciences - Sustainability Science:

Measuring the value of groundwater and other forms of natural capital

Eli P. Fenichel, Joshua K. Abbott, Jude Bayham, Whitney Boone, Erin M. K. Haacker, and Lisa Pfeiffer
PNAS 2016 ; published ahead of print February 8, 2016, doi:10.1073/pnas.1513779113

Significance

Economists have long argued, with recent acceptance from the science and policy community, that natural resources are capital assets. Pricing of natural capital has remained elusive, with the result that its value is often ignored, and expenditures on conservation are treated as costs rather than investments. This neglect stems from a lack of a valuation framework to enable apples to apples comparisons with traditional forms of capital. We develop such an approach and demonstrate it on Kansas' groundwater stock. Between 1996 and 2005, groundwater withdrawal reduced Kansas' wealth approximately \$110 million per year. Wealth lost through

groundwater depletion in Kansas is large, but in a range where offsetting investments may be feasible.

Abstract

Valuing natural capital is fundamental to measuring sustainability. The United Nations Environment Programme, World Bank, and other agencies have called for inclusion of the value of natural capital in sustainability metrics, such as inclusive wealth. Much has been written about the importance of natural capital, but consistent, rigorous valuation approaches compatible with the pricing of traditional forms of capital have remained elusive. We present a guiding quantitative framework enabling natural capital valuation that is fully consistent with capital theory, accounts for biophysical and economic feedbacks, and can guide interdisciplinary efforts to measure sustainability. We illustrate this framework with an application to groundwater in the Kansas High Plains Aquifer, a rapidly depleting asset supporting significant food production. We develop a 10-y time series (1996–2005) of natural capital asset prices that accounts for technological, institutional, and physical changes. Kansas lost approximately \$110 million per year (2005 US dollars) of capital value through groundwater withdrawal and changes in aquifer management during the decade spanning 1996–2005. This annual loss in wealth is approximately equal to the state's 2005 budget surplus, and is substantially more than investments in schools over this period. Furthermore, real investment in agricultural capital also declined over this period. Although Kansas' depletion of water wealth is substantial, it may be tractably managed through careful groundwater management and compensating investments in other natural and traditional assets. Measurement of natural capital value is required to inform management and ongoing investments in natural assets.

Perspective: Do geographically isolated wetlands influence landscape functions?

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Abstract

Geographically isolated wetlands (GIWs), those surrounded by uplands, exchange materials, energy, and organisms with other elements in hydrological and habitat networks, contributing to landscape functions, such as flow generation, nutrient and sediment retention, and biodiversity support. GIWs constitute most of the wetlands in many North American landscapes, provide a disproportionately large fraction of wetland edges where many functions are enhanced, and form complexes with other water bodies to create spatial and temporal heterogeneity in the timing, flow paths, and magnitude of network connectivity. These attributes signal a critical role for GIWs in sustaining a portfolio of landscape functions, but legal protections remain weak despite preferential loss from many landscapes. GIWs lack persistent surface water connections, but this condition does not imply the absence of hydrological, biogeochemical, and biological exchanges with nearby and downstream waters. Although hydrological and biogeochemical connectivity is often episodic or slow (e.g., via groundwater), hydrologic continuity and limited evaporative solute enrichment suggest both flow generation and solute and sediment retention. Similarly, whereas biological connectivity usually requires overland dispersal, numerous organisms, including many rare or threatened species, use both GIWs and downstream waters at different times or life stages, suggesting that GIWs are critical elements of landscape habitat mosaics. Indeed, weaker hydrologic connectivity with

downstream waters and constrained biological connectivity with other landscape elements are precisely what enhances some GIW functions and enables others. Based on analysis of wetland geography and synthesis of wetland functions, we argue that sustaining landscape functions requires conserving the entire continuum of wetland connectivity, including GIWs.

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Volume 31 - Issue 01 - February 2016

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[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 83, Pages 1-76 (February 2016)

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[New issue; No relevant content identified]

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Volume 34 Issue 4 December 2015

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12 February 2016 Vol 351, Issue 6274

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