

The Sentinel

***Human Rights Action :: Humanitarian Response :: Health :: Education ::
Heritage Stewardship :: Sustainable Development***

Week ending 1 October 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, a program of the GE2P2 Global Foundation, which is solely responsible for its content. Comments and suggestions should be directed to:

*David R. Curry
Editor, The Sentinel
President, GE2P2 Global Foundation
david.r.curry@ge2p2center.net*

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:: Week in Review

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

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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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Syria / Human Rights / Humanitarian Access / Health

Editor's Note

It was an extraordinary week of Security Council meetings focused on Syria, the Middle East, humanitarian access, continued bombing and other attacks on civilians, humanitarian and health care workers, and health facilities. We provide below selected transcripts and links to video of selected statements made at these meetings, and also refer you to the United Nations section of Agency Watch below for additional content.

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

New York, 29 September 2016 [EN/AR]

Mr. President,

Thank you very much indeed. Where to start? It is with raw grief, with dismay, intense sadness, frustration, and an unquenchable anger at the excess of sheer and unbridled horror – way beyond even the apex of horror of a fortnight ago – that I report today to you, the Security Council, on the ultimate humanitarian shame that is Syria today, and in east Aleppo in particular. The people of Syria – and most immediately, the people of east Aleppo – are being subjected to deprivation, disease and death in increasing numbers and with increasing ferocity. This is not an unforeseen result of forces beyond our control. This is due to the action of parties to the conflict and it is the direct result of inaction – be it through unwillingness or inability – by the international community, including most notably those present in this chamber.

It is now a legitimate question to ask whether there is any level of disaster and death that can be visited upon the Syrian people that might prompt the parties to this conflict, and by extension the international community, to identify a red line that will not be crossed. This is not a distant conflict in which we as a community have only a passing stake – this is a critical test of the capacity and willingness of those in this chamber to make a decision and take action. To manifestly uphold the words of the Charter of the UN to which all nations are bound: to save the Syrian people from the scourge of war.

Mr. President,

The last seven days have seen an intensification of attacks across the country. From airstrikes in Deir ez-Zour, to airstrikes and ground attacks in Aleppo, Hama, Homs, Idlib and Rural Damascus and other governorates, fighting has intensified despite a one-week lull when the cessation of hostilities was reinstated, albeit with violations on all sides.

Nowhere has the fighting been more intense in the last days than in east Aleppo...

Mr. President,

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As you heard me say before, there are few words left to describe the horrors for people living under siege. Theirs is a daily struggle for survival as they remain trapped and beyond our reach, subjected to collective punishment. This revolting situation in east Aleppo must, please, be the SOS, the Mayday call, to the international community, that they meet the criteria for besiegement, including: (1) being militarily encircled; (2) a lack of humanitarian access; and (3) lack of freedom of movement for civilians is clear. They now do - it is now besieged east Aleppo.

This is not based on conjecture, but the facts on the ground that I have just reported to you. The area is militarily encircled by Syrian forces. In addition, armed opposition groups continue to conduct military operations from within the city, placing those trapped within the city at greater and continued danger. Despite all our collective efforts which have been discussed in great detail in this Council, there has been virtually no humanitarian access through cross-border or cross-line actors since early July. It should be noted that this is as result of constraints by both the Syrian authorities and non-state armed groups. Furthermore, despite the assertion of there being "corridors" available, civilians wishing to travel in and out of eastern Aleppo are unable to do so in any significant numbers. You'd do the same, you just don't do it if you have nowhere to go voluntarily, and if the sniper is likely to take the shot any way. As we have long said, civilians cannot move when there are such levels of insecurity. We have also assessed this lack of movement based on the military presence at entry and exit points and specific security concerns, not just about sniper fire and detainment when traveling through humanitarian corridors that were established by the Russian Federation. The status of another 275,000 people besieged in Syria is truly unconscionable; we all must do everything possible to bring this medieval practice to an end once and for all. This means the number of people besieged in Syria has grown from 586,200 to 861,200, even after deducting the 4,000 who were required to leave Darayya as of late August. This is in addition to the millions of Syrians in hard-to-reach locations today.

Mr. President,

Besiegement is not a weapon of war; it is a flagrant, unjustifiable breach of the law – the law which the besieging parties have signed up to. As the Syrian people struggle for survival and a political solution remains out of reach, the best that communities under attack can immediately hope for is the indiscriminate attacks to stop and that humanitarian assistance can reach them. The role of humanitarians is not to be part of a political solution, but to provide food, shelter and the tools of survival to those in need, while that solution is sought. Those efforts – to protect the vulnerable, to deliver to communities in need, to step in to fill the gap where no alternative exists – were dealt a cruel blow last week.

After half a decade of conflict, it should not be necessary to explain to any party that the laws of war afford protection to humanitarian aid workers. In 2016, I should not have to brief this chamber on violence committed against those who are aligned to no side in this conflict, those who are willing to enter the most challenging environments imaginable to help those suffering beyond imagination. Yet last week, while leaders from around the world met to discuss the humanitarian crisis in Syria, we suffered a devastating attack on a humanitarian convoy...

Mr. President,

Syria is bleeding. Its citizens are dying. We all hear their cry for help. As humanitarians we are doing all we can. Last week world leaders came to New York, sat around this very table and met in ministerial level meetings, all with no tangible results. Instead, while the world leaders

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were meeting, violence actually increased – more civilians and more humanitarians were killed. It is time to place blame. It is time this Council stops tolerating the utter disregard for the most basic provisions of international humanitarian law.

So I call on the Council to act now, to do right by those who sacrificed their lives, and take whatever steps necessary to end this violence. The alternative simply does not bear considering. The depravity we see will only get worse. If the parties to this conflict won't, then the world's only hope is you: the collective, united will and measures of this Security Council. It is up to you to turn the tide, to create the conditions for aid to reach all in need. To end the sieges. To restore political dialogue. And to bring an end to the war.

[UN Security Council- 7777th Meeting - Middle East / Syria](#)

25 Sep 2016

[Video: 2:33:35]

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[Healthcare in armed conflict - Security Council, 7779th meeting](#)

28 Sep 2016

[Video:: 1:58:36]

[Ban Ki-moon \(UN Secretary-General\) on protection of civilians in armed conflict - Security Council, 7779th meeting](#)

28 Sep 2016 - Remarks by H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations, at the meeting of the Security Council on protection of civilians in armed conflict (healthcare in armed conflict).

[Video:: 07:59]

[Joanne Liu \(MSF\) on Protection of civilians in armed conflict - Security Council, 7779th meeting](#)

28 Sep 2016 - Remarks by Mrs. Joanne Liu, President of Médecins Sans Frontières at the 7779th meeting of the Security Council on the Protection of civilians in armed conflict. Theme: Healthcare in armed conflict.

[Video:: 06:47]

[Peter Maurer \(ICRC\) on Protection of civilians in armed conflict - Security Council, 7779th meeting](#)

28 Sep 2016 - Mr. Peter Maurer, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross at the Security Council 7779th meeting on Protection of civilians in armed conflict. Theme: Healthcare in armed conflict. SC Res 2286

[Video:: 08:08]

Transcript

Speech by ICRC president addressing attacks on health-care personnel, facilities and vehicles

Excellencies, Ladies and gentlemen, Dear colleagues,

We met in New York exactly 149 days ago, for the adoption of the resolution 2286, which many of us appreciated for its clarity in language, commitment to International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and design of concrete follow-up.

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In the five months that have passed since then, attacks on health-care personnel, facilities and vehicles have certainly not ceased.

The situation in many countries remains deeply alarming: in Syria for instance, on all sides of frontlines, health facilities and personnel regularly come under fire or are forced to close due to heavy clashes. Just a few hours ago, the two largest hospitals in Aleppo were reportedly attacked. Patients were killed. Medical staff were injured. And all across the country, many hospitals are no longer functional, leaving injured people with little hope of getting life-saving medical assistance. The violence, the disruption of electricity and water supplies and the lack of medicines have severely jeopardized access to health care.

In Yemen, one quarter of all health services are reportedly either destroyed or shut down, in a time when there are more injured people than ever. Just over a month ago, an MSF supported hospital in Hajjah Governorate was hit, killing 19 people.

And this is just the tip of the iceberg. The list continues: Afghanistan, South Sudan, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya, etc.

Unfortunately, the trends described previously, continue unabatedly. Neither did the behavior of actors on the battlefield change over the last couple of months, nor were belligerents seen to factor the humanitarian consequences more prominently into their military decision-making: health systems continue to disintegrate under the cumulative impact of violence, leaving millions of people in highly fragile conditions.

If we have not seen progress on the battlefield, at least here in the United Nations, the community of States has resolved to work on this issue.

Firstly, the ICRC is pleased to see the leadership of this Council reaffirming the continued validity of international humanitarian law (IHL) as the universally agreed framework for the protection of the wounded and sick and the delivery of medical care in armed conflict. We must remain confident and demonstrate through our actions, that even in the most trying circumstances, IHL remains relevant and can make a difference for people bearing the brunt of war.

Secondly, specific recommendations and measures for the protection of health care in conflict are now integrated in official resolutions. At the Red Cross and Red Crescent International Conference, the resolution to protect health care in armed conflict was unanimously adopted. The Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 2286; 85 countries supported this. We now have a very solid foundation from which to promote such measures.

But obviously, much more concrete action is necessary.

The ICRC takes note with appreciation of the letter the UNSG addressed to member States following up the adoption of Resolution 2286 and delineating a clear road map for implementation. We appreciate having been consulted on the content of the letter and for the opportunity to input.

From our perspective, close to victims and negotiating humanitarian access with weapon bearers on all sides, and from the information collected through the Red Cross Red Crescent

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Movement's Health Care in Danger initiative, we believe that there are four areas where concrete measures must be taken:

First, on legislation:

1. States must strengthen domestic legislation protecting access to health care, as is their obligation under international law.
2. They must ensure that national laws recognize the role of first responders, often staff and volunteers from national Red Cross Red Crescent societies;
3. And States must do everything in their power to enforce existing legal sanctions so that they act as a deterrent.

Secondly, on data collection:

4. We encourage States and other relevant actors to set up national and international systems to collect and analyze data on the occurrence of violence against health-care personnel, facilities, medical transports and patients;
5. And convene multi-stakeholder meetings to regularly share challenges and good practices on preventing and addressing acts of violence against the delivery of health care.

Thirdly, on accountability, I ask you:

6. To ensure that acts of violence against the delivery of health care, which amount to a grave breach of the Geneva Conventions, are penalized as such in domestic legal orders.
7. We would like to see the strengthening of capacities to enable full, prompt, impartial, independent and effective investigations, ensuring enhanced accountability and addressing the grievances of victims.

And lastly, on preparedness and prevention, we ask States and other relevant actors to:

8. Adopt contingency plans in anticipation of situations that could jeopardize the organization and provision of assistance to the sick and wounded.
9. And to develop practical measures for armed forces to minimize disruptions to health care services during the planning and conduct of military operations and incorporate them into orders, rules of engagement, training and standard operating procedures and other relevant documents.

I would like to renew ICRC's offer today to build a more constructive relationship of deep operational engagement, feedback, dialogue and corrective measures with all parties to conflicts, on the conducts of hostilities. This may eventually contribute to re-establish trust amongst belligerents that the law is not only applicable because of the sanctions and accountability processes attached to it, but a useful and necessary tool in the interest of all.

In this perspective let me just make the following comment: I do understand and respect the role of this Council to offer political positions and orientations with regard to international peace and security. In dealing with the issue of international humanitarian law and its implementation though, the Council must factor into its reflections, the importance of trust, confidence and consensus amongst belligerents, which can best be promoted through neutral intermediaries, able to maintain the confidence of the parties to conflict. It is important therefore that, while united around this table today, we understand and respect our respective roles and responsibilities as political and humanitarian actors.

Excellencies, Ladies and gentlemen,

149 days ago, this Council took historic measures, and your presence today is a testimony of your commitment to the protection of patients and health care workers everywhere.

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But meanwhile, men and women, girls and boys, doctors and nurses continue to run to the basements when they hear planes nearing. They continue to pull out their loved ones from the rubble of destroyed hospitals. They continue to fear armed men stopping their ambulances. Much stronger engagement is needed to turn your commitment into a reality on the ground, to make a real difference for people suffering in wars. I urge you to continue to push.

Thank you.

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WHO calls for immediate safe evacuation of the sick and wounded from conflict areas

WHO is also calling for a halt of attacks on health care workers and facilities.

News release

30 September 2016 | GENEVA - WHO is calling on belligerents in Syria to allow for the immediate and safe evacuation of the sick and wounded from all areas affected by the conflict, including eastern Aleppo. The Organization is also calling for a halt of attacks on health care workers and facilities.

"The situation is heart-rending and enraging," says WHO Director-General Margaret Chan. "With the relentless attacks on health workers and hospitals, the handful of doctors still alive cannot possibly cope. Hospital beds are too few, equipment has been destroyed, and essential medicines, including anaesthetics, are running out. Many patients needing emergency trauma care are children."

Dwindling supplies of food and water

More than 270 000 people are trapped in east Aleppo with dwindling supplies of food, water and fuel. Humanitarian organizations have not been allowed to deliver aid, including medical supplies from WHO since the besiegement of the city on 7 July. Within the past week, over 840 people have been injured, almost a third of them children, while the health facilities that would treat them are crumbling and understaffed. Fewer than 30 doctors remain in the east of the city, and only 6 partially-functional hospitals are in service.

WHO is calling on all parties in the conflict to:

- :: allow the immediate evacuation of the sick and wounded from all areas affected by the conflict, including eastern Aleppo;
- :: allow access to provide medicines, medical supplies, fuel and health personnel, to support overwhelmed staff in Aleppo;
- :: immediately halt all attacks on health workers, facilities and supplies;
- :: respect the safety and neutrality of health workers and health facilities;
- :: cease removal of critical supplies from deliveries of medical supplies.

"Attacking health care is both illegal and barbaric," says Dr Pete Salama, Executive Director of WHO's health emergencies programme. "Blocking whole populations from access to medical care, food and water is intolerable. It is inexcusable cruelty."

WHO and partners have positioned medical supplies for delivery into eastern Aleppo, but they have not been granted access. The organization has also developed strategies for medical evacuations as soon as this becomes possible. In the meantime, WHO will train first responders on trauma care via telephone and video calls.

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WHO: Recognizing health as a human right for refugees and migrants

25 September 2016 – War, conflict and persecution have forced millions of people to flee their homes and seek refuge and safety elsewhere. As of 2015, there were 250 million international migrants, of which 150 million are migrant workers. Also affected are particularly vulnerable groups of refugees (21.3 million) and internally displaced persons (40.8 million). Of these, 9.1 million refugees and 21 internally displaced persons (IDPs) originate from the Eastern Mediterranean Region, which carries the largest burden of refugees and IDPs globally.

Properly addressing the health needs of migrants and refugees improves their health, protects global public health, facilitates integration and contributes to social and economic development in the host country. Yet, while the health of migrants is a prerequisite for their positive contribution to inclusive growth and sustainable development, health has not been extensively included in debates outside the health sector or within the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, in particular goals 3.8 and 10.7 to ensure healthy lives for all and to leave no-one behind. Adopting a human rights-based approach means that the rights of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants and the right to health are integral to all priorities and actions.

On 19 September, the United Nations hosted the first high-level UN summit on “Addressing large movement of refugees and migrants” in which Member States endorsed the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, expressing the commitment and political will of world leaders to protect the rights of refugees and migrants, to save lives and share responsibility for large movements on a global scale. On the sidelines of the summit, representatives from the World Health Organization (WHO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) convened in New York to increase collaboration in addressing the urgent issue of health in the context of migration and forced displacement...

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Refugees / Asylum / Migration / IDPs

EU: Commissioner Stylianides in Turkey to launch largest ever EU humanitarian aid programme

26/09/2016

Today in Ankara, Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides has launched the EU's flagship humanitarian aid programme, which is set to provide a monthly electronic cash grant to benefit 1 million refugees in Turkey. The Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) aid project has an initial budget of €348 million and will be implemented by the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Turkish Red Crescent (Kizilay), in close collaboration with the Turkish Ministry of Family and Social Policy and the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD).

Speaking in Ankara, Commissioner Stylianides said "I'm confident that EU humanitarian aid will make a real difference for refugees in Turkey, helping one million people. The launch of our new programme here in Turkey today is a clear example of the strong partnership of the EU

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and Turkey in finding together new innovative ways to address one of the most important humanitarian challenges of our times."...

As of October 2016, monthly cash-transfers to electronic cards will be given to refugees in need across Turkey. The cash card is an efficient way of supporting families in purchasing what they most need, providing them the dignity of choice. Refugees will be empowered to feed and house their families, and to send their children to school. As the money will be spent in local markets, the new system will also boost the local economy.

The much needed humanitarian aid will reach one million refugees countrywide by the first quarter of 2017...

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Heritage Stewardship

ICC Trial Chamber VIII declares Mr Al Mahdi guilty of the war crime of attacking historic and religious buildings in Timbuktu and sentences him to nine years' imprisonment

Today, 27 September 2016, Trial Chamber VIII of the International Criminal Court (ICC) delivered its Judgment in the case of The Prosecutor v. Ahmad Al Faqi Al Mahdi. The Chamber unanimously found Mr Al Mahdi guilty beyond reasonable doubt as a co-perpetrator of the war crime consisting in intentionally directing attacks against religious and historic buildings in Timbuktu, Mali, in June and July 2012. The Chamber sentenced Mr Al Mahdi to nine years' imprisonment. The time he has spent in detention since his arrest upon the ICC warrant issued on 18 September 2015 will be deducted from the sentence...

Admission of guilt

On 22 August 2016, at the opening of the trial, Mr Al Mahdi admitted guilt to the war crime consisting in attacking 10 historic and religious monuments in Timbuktu, Mali, between around 30 June 2012 and 11 July 2012. In its Judgment, the Chamber was satisfied that the Accused understands the nature and consequences of the admission of guilt and that his admission was voluntarily made after sufficient consultation with Defence counsel and is supported by the facts of the case....

Mr Al Mahdi's role

In respect of the role played by Mr Al Mahdi, the Chamber considered that Mr Al Mahdi's contributions collectively qualify as essential.

The Chamber found that Mr Al Mahdi knew that he exercised joint control over the attack and was fully implicated in its execution. He was the head of the Hesbah, one of four primary institutions established by Ansar Dine and AQIM upon occupying Timbuktu. He had overall responsibility for the execution phase of the attack, supervising the execution of the operations, using the Hesbah's members and determining the sequence in which the buildings would be destroyed, making the necessary logistical arrangements and justifying the attack to the broader world through media interviews. He also was present at all of the attack sites, giving instructions and moral support, and he personally participated in the attack that led to the destruction of at least five sites.

Sentence

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To determine the nine-year sentence, the Chamber took into consideration the gravity of the crime, Mr Al Mahdi's culpable conduct and his individual circumstances. The Chamber also noted that, even if inherently grave, crimes against property are generally of less gravity than crimes against persons. The Chamber also considered that the targeted buildings were not only religious buildings but had also a symbolic and emotional value for the inhabitants of Timbuktu. The mausoleums of saints and mosques of Timbuktu were an integral part of the religious life of its inhabitants and constitute a common heritage for the community. They reflected their commitment to Islam and played a psychological role to the extent of being perceived as protecting the people of Timbuktu. Furthermore, all the sites but one were UNESCO World Heritage sites. As such, the attacks on them appear to be of particular gravity as their destruction does not only affect the direct victims of the crimes but also people throughout Mali and the international community.

UNESCO - [Timbuktu Trial: "A major step towards peace and reconciliation in Mali"](#)

27.09.2016 – UNESCO PRESS

The International Criminal Court (ICC) has recognized Ahmed Al-Faqi Al-Mahdi guilty of war crime and has sentenced him to 9 years in prison for his responsibility in the deliberate destruction in 2012 of nine mausoleums and the secret gate of the Sidi Yahia mosque in UNESCO's World Heritage site of Timbuktu (Mali).

"The decision of the International Criminal Court is a landmark in gaining recognition for the importance of heritage for humanity as a whole and for the communities that have preserved it over the centuries. It also supports UNESCO's conviction that heritage has a major role to play in reconstruction and peace building," said the Director-General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova

This historic decision, a first under the Rome Statute, is a crucial step to end impunity for the destruction of cultural heritage. It confirms earlier decisions taken by international jurisdictions and it amplifies them in a judgment entirely devoted to the destruction of cultural heritage. This is a major step for the strengthening of international justice and towards peace and reconciliation in Mali.

This case reminds us all of how heritage protection has become a major security issue, which cannot be delinked from the protection of human lives. Deliberate attacks on culture have become weapons of war in a global strategy of cultural cleansing seeking to destroy people as well as the monuments bearing their identities, institutions of knowledge and free thought.

"Immediately after the destruction in 2012, UNESCO alerted the international community and seized the International Criminal Court to ensure such crimes do not go unpunished. In the context of repeated violence against people and their heritage, this sentence of the International Criminal Court is a key element in the broader response to violent extremism," added the Director-General

UNESCO takes also this judgment as an encouragement to continue the work engaged over the last years to protect and rehabilitate heritage in Mali, in close cooperation with the UN peacekeeping force MINUSMA, and to preserve cultural diversity and human rights as a lasting foundation for peace, not only in Mali but also across the world.

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Governance

Jim Yong Kim Unanimously Reappointed to Second Term as World Bank Group President

N WASHINGTON, September 27, 2016— Executive Directors of the World Bank today agreed unanimously to reappoint Dr. Jim Yong Kim to a second five-year term as President of the World Bank Group, beginning July 1, 2017.

Executive Directors cited the achievements of Bank Group staff and management during Dr. Kim's first four years in office, and recognized his leadership and vision. Chairs acknowledged several accomplishments the institution has achieved during this time with strong Board support...

Statement by World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim on Appointment to a Second Five-Year Term

WASHINGTON, September 27, 2016 – World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim today issued the following statement upon being appointed by the Bank's Board of Executive Directors to a second five-year term, beginning July 1, 2017:

"I am humbled to have the honor of serving a second term as the head of this great institution. I am grateful to our Board for giving me the opportunity to continue building on our successes. We have accomplished so much over the past four years, thanks to the brilliance and hard work of the Bank's dedicated staff and management. The starting point for my work when I joined the Bank in 2012 was the setting of two ambitious new goals for the institution: to end extreme poverty by 2030, and to promote shared prosperity - boosting the income growth of the bottom 40 percent of the population in every developing country. In order to deliver on these goals, the Bank had to accelerate, become bolder and more agile, and reposition itself. We did this so that we could increase support for countries and deliver better results more quickly. I believe we are well on the way to achieving these important aims.

The challenges going forward remain large, with climate change, forced displacement, and pandemics threatening the gains we have made to improve the lives of billions. We will need to work even more closely with partners, and continue to find new and innovative ways to leverage scarce development resources effectively.

I believe that the World Bank Group is the greatest instrument for tackling global poverty in the world, with unmatched global knowledge and financial tools. I look forward to working with our professional and diverse staff, our partners, and our member countries to build a more inclusive world, free of poverty."

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Health

Region of the Americas is declared free of measles

Washington, D.C., 27 September 2016 (PAHO/WHO) – The Region of the Americas is the first in the world to have eliminated measles, a viral disease that can cause severe health problems,

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including pneumonia, brain swelling and even death. This achievement culminates a 22-year effort involving mass vaccination against measles, mumps and rubella throughout the Americas.

The declaration of measles' elimination was made by the International Expert Committee for Documenting and Verifying Measles, Rubella, and Congenital Rubella Syndrome Elimination in the Americas. The announcement came during the 55th Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), which is currently underway and is being attended by ministers of Health from throughout the Americas.

Measles is the fifth vaccine-preventable disease to be eliminated from the Americas, after the regional eradication of smallpox in 1971, poliomyelitis in 1994, and rubella and congenital rubella syndrome in 2015.

"This is a historic day for our region and indeed the world," said PAHO/WHO Director Carissa F. Etienne. "It is proof of the remarkable success that can be achieved when countries work together in solidarity towards a common goal. It is the result of a commitment made more than two decades ago, in 1994, when the countries of the Americas pledged to end measles circulation by the turn of the 21st century."...

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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 1 October 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases/Meetings Coverage

30 September 2016

SG/SM/18166

[Secretary-General Will Establish Internal Board of Inquiry to Probe Attack on United Nations-Syrian Arab Red Cross Relief Convoy](#)

29 September 2016

SC/12539

[As Humanitarian Catastrophe in Syria Continues, Under-Secretary-General Urges Security Council Find Common Humanity, End 'Unbridled Horror'](#)

Warning that "Syria is bleeding and its citizens are dying" in increasing numbers and with increasing ferocity, the United Nations top humanitarian official urged the Security Council today to find common humanity and restore the cessation of hostilities to protect civilians, save lives and end the "unbridled horror"

28 September 2016

SG/SM/18159-SC/12537

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[After Strikes on Syrian Hospitals, Secretary-General Says 'Even Slaughterhouse Is More Humane', Urging Action as Security Council Debates Health Care in Conflict](#)

28 September 2016

SC/12536

[Secretary-General Decries 'Affront to Shared Humanity', as Security Council Considers Military Targeting of Hospitals in Conflict Zones](#)

Ending attacks on medical workers, facilities and transports in conflict hotspots — including by several of its own permanent members — must remain an urgent priority for the Security Council, speakers emphasized today as the body convened to consider hospital bombings in embattled Aleppo, Syria's largest city.

25 September 2016

SC/12533

[Amid Bloodshed in Aleppo, Special Envoy for Syria Briefs Security Council, Calling on Russian Federation, United States to Save Ceasefire at 'Eleventh Hour'](#)

As the United States and the Russian Federation traded accusations in the Security Council today of misconduct in their handling of the crisis in Syria over the past two weeks, the United Nations top official addressing the conflict urged them to salvage their recent cessation of hostilities agreement before all hope was lost.

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 1 October 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases – "TOP NEWS"

[Opening remarks by UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein at a press conference during his mission to Colombia](#)

[The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: Zeid calls for alternatives to detention and expulsion of migrants](#)

[Press briefing note on Yemen](#)

[Human rights defenders: UN Special Rapporteur to probe their current situation in Australia](#)

[South Korea: UN rights expert calls for independent investigation into lethal use of water cannon](#)

[Cultural rights: UN expert to assess the current situation in Serbia and Kosovo*](#)

["Unsafe abortion is still killing tens of thousands women around the world" – UN rights experts warn](#)

[Jordan / Freedom of expression: UN rights expert condemns killing of journalist Nahed Hattar](#)

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 1 October 2016]

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

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No new digest content identified.

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

[to 1 October 2016]

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

Website not responding at inquiry

SRSR/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health [to 1 October 2016]

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Health/Pages/SRRightHealthIndex.aspx>

28 September 2016

[South Korea: UN rights expert calls for independent investigation into lethal use of water cannon](#)

27 September 2016

[UN rights experts urge Pakistan authorities to halt execution of a person with disabilities](#)

SRSR/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN OCHA [to 1 October 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases

29 Sep 2016

[Syrian Arab Republic: Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien Statement to the Security Council on Syria, New York, 29 September 2016 \[EN/AR\]](#)

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

28 Sep 2016

[Democratic People's Republic of Korea: DPRK: US\\$28.2 million urgently needed to provide immediate assistance to 600,000 people affected by Typhoon Lionrock](#)

28 Sep 2016

[occupied Palestinian territory: OCHA Flash Update: 33 structures demolished in the past three days in multiple incidents](#)

28 Sep 2016

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[Sudan: The United Kingdom contributes an additional £3 million to the Sudan Humanitarian Fund for 2016](#)

26 Sep 2016

[Central African Republic: OCHA Central African Republic: Humanitarian community in Central African Republic condemns attacks on its workers](#)

UNICEF [to 17 September 2016]

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

28 September 2016

[Mobile health teams help save children's lives in Yemen – UNICEF](#)

SANAA, 28 September 2016 – UNICEF and its partners have completed an ambitious drive to reach children and women in Yemen with critical health and nutrition services to save lives as the conflict continues.

[UNICEF more than doubles its funding appeal to provide life-saving assistance for children in northeast Nigeria](#)

ABUJA/DAKAR/NEW YORK, 29 September 2016 – UNICEF has revised its humanitarian appeal for Nigeria from US\$ 55 million to US\$ 115 million to assist an additional 750,000 people who can now be reached across conflict-affected areas in the northeast of the country.

["The murder of the innocents in Aleppo must stop" - UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake](#)

NEW YORK, 29 September 2016 – "In Aleppo, 96 children killed and 223 children injured in merciless attacks this week alone. Each one, a daughter or a son.

[Children in Aleppo trapped in "living nightmare" - UNICEF Deputy Executive Director Justin Forsyth](#)

NEW YORK, 28 September 2016 – At least 96 children have been killed and 223 have been injured in Eastern Aleppo since Friday, UNICEF said.

[UNICEF welcomes historic day for children of Colombia](#)

BOGOTÁ, 26 September 2016 – UNICEF welcomes today's official signing of a final accord between the Government of Colombia and FARC-EP, the country's largest armed opposition group, to end Colombia's five-decade war and build sustainable and long-lasting peace.

[The LEGO Group, the LEGO Foundation and UNICEF launch campaign to celebrate and inspire play and learning](#)

NEW YORK, 26 September 2016 – The LEGO Group, the LEGO Foundation and UNICEF today launch a new campaign to help celebrate parents' special play moments with their children and to inspire families to explore new ways to help young children play and learn.

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 1 October 2016]

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

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

Selected Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

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IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 1 October 2016]

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

09/30/16

[Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 302,486; Deaths at Sea: 3,502](#)

Italy - IOM reports that 302,486 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2016 through 28 September, arriving mostly in Greece and Italy.

[IOM Presents Findings on Nepal - India Migration Corridor Study](#)

09/30/16

Nepal - At a National Conference on Migration in Nepal this week, IOM presented findings from its recently concluded study on the socio economic and financial profile of migrants to India.

[IOM Trains 7,000 to Combat Human Trafficking in Mesoamerica](#)

09/30/16

Costa Rica - Students, government officials, non-governmental organizations and journalists are some of the nearly 7,000 people that in the last three years have participated in IOM's training and awareness programmes, addressing prevention of human trafficking in the Mesoamerican region.

WHO & Regional Offices [to 1 October 2016]

[Discrimination against older people is bad for health](#)

29 September 2016 – New analysis shows that negative attitudes towards older people are widespread, and that these attitudes affect the physical and mental health of older people. More than 83 000 people in 57 countries took part in a WHO survey, in which 60 % of respondents reported that older people are not respected. The lowest levels of respect were reported in high income countries.

[World Rabies Day](#)

Educate. Vaccinate. Eliminate.

Date: 28 September 2016

World Rabies Day is celebrated annually to raise awareness about rabies prevention and to highlight progress in defeating this horrifying disease. 28 September also marks the anniversary of Louis Pasteur's death, the French chemist and microbiologist, who developed the first rabies vaccine.

Today, safe and efficacious animal and human vaccines are among the important tools that exist to eliminate human deaths from rabies while awareness is the key driver for success of communities to engage in effective rabies prevention.

The theme for 2016 is Rabies: Educate. Vaccinate. Eliminate. which emphasises the two crucial actions that communities can do to prevent rabies. It also reflects the global target to eliminate all human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030.

Highlights

[Neglected tropical diseases: 979 million people treated in 2015 alone](#)

September 2016 – WHO has released data for 2015 showing that a record 979 million people benefited from large-scale treatment of at least 1 neglected tropical disease in 2015 alone. This

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unprecedented achievement may be the first time that so many people have been treated globally as part of a public health intervention in one single year.

[New financial arrangement improves WHO prequalification of medical products](#)

September 2016 – WHO, industry groups and key partners have agreed on a new financing arrangement to ensure the financial sustainability and quality of WHO's prequalification programme. The arrangement is based on an improved fee structure and aims to address global quality challenges in medical products.

[Region of the Americas is declared free of measles](#)

September 2016 --The Region of the Americas is the first in the world to have eliminated measles, a viral disease that can cause severe health problems, including pneumonia, blindness, brain swelling and even death. This achievement culminates a 22-year effort involving mass vaccination against measles, mumps and rubella throughout the Americas.

:: WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region AFRO

:: Immunization officers urged to strengthen efforts to reach every child with vaccines and other health services

Harare, 26 September 2016 – The World Health Organization has called for renewed efforts to reach every child in the African Region with vaccines and other health services. The call came at a meeting held in Harare, Zimbabwe for immunization officers from the East and Southern African sub-Region (ESA). Speaking at the event, Dr Felicitas Zawaira, Director of Family and Reproductive Health of the WHO Regional Office for Africa, said: "Immunization is one of the key interventions that contribute to averting a large proportion of preventable deaths and we need to prioritize the attainment of universal immunization coverage by 2020...

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

:: Nearly all health targets of the Millennium Development Goals were achieved in the Americas (09/30/2016)

:: Health ministers adopt new plan for malaria elimination in the Americas (09/29/2016)

:: Countries of the Americas agree on plan to end AIDS and STIs as public health problems by 2030 (09/28/2016)

:: Region of the Americas is declared free of measles (09/27/2016)

:: PAHO recognizes Uruguay for defending tobacco control policies against commercial interests (09/26/2016)

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

:: WHO calls for stronger measures against Zika as Thailand confirms disease-related microcephaly

30 September 2016

:: Address air pollution and its growing disease burden as a priority: WHO

27 September 2016

WHO European Region EURO

:: WHO/Europe and Ministry of Health of Greece expand collaboration on health reform priorities 30-09-2016

:: New collaborating centre on cultural contexts of health at the University of Exeter 30-09-2016

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

:: Public health successes and missed opportunities - new report on alcohol-attributable deaths
28-09-2016
:: Release of WHO data on air pollution exposure and its health impact by country 27-09-2016

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: New financial arrangement improves WHO prequalification of medical products
30 September 2016
:: WHO releases country estimates on air pollution exposure and its health impact
27 September 2016
:: Recognizing health as a human right for refugees and migrants
25 September 2016

WHO Western Pacific Region

No new, unique announcements identified.

UNAIDS [to 1 October 2016]

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

[UNAIDS Executive Director appoints Monica Geingos, First Lady of Namibia, as a UNAIDS Special Advocate](#)

NEW YORK/GENEVA, 22 September 2016—The Executive Director of UNAIDS, Michel Sidibé, has appointed the First Lady of Namibia, Monica Geingos, as UNAIDS Special Advocate for Young Women and Adolescent Girls. She will champion the newly launched Start Free, Stay Free, AIDS Free agenda...

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 1 October 2016]

<http://www.unfpa.org/press/press-release>
No new digest content identified.

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 1 October 2016]

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter.html>
Selected Press Releases/Announcements

Sep 27, 2016

[Stronger Cooperation on Migration and Development with new Partnership between UNDP and IOM](#)

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) will collaborate even more closely on migration and development, after signing a statement of intent for strengthened cooperation.

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 1 October 2016]

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

UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) [to 1 October 2016]

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

October 1, 2016

[Looking back at ICSD 2016](#)

The 4th annual international conference on sustainable development was held from Sept 21 - 22 at Columbia University and the New School in New York. Hundreds of attendees from around the world came to hear heads of state and industry experts speak about the progress and challenges facing the SDGs.

[One Year After the Adoption of the SDGs: Reporting Progress and Facilitating Implementation](#)

September 30, 2016

Since 2012, the SDSN Leadership Council has met in New York in the lead up to the United Nations General Assembly. This year marked the one-year anniversary of the SDGs. The SDSN Secretariat, our SDSN Networks, and Leadership Council Members were in full swing, participating in discussions and events and assessing the progress made and [...]

[Universities Commit to the SDGs at Australia's Inaugural SDGs Summit](#)

September 29, 2016

On September 7, SDSN Australia/Pacific Network co-hosted the Australian SDGs Summit, the country's first high-level forum to advance the national implementation of the SDGs. SDSN Australia/Pacific used the occasion to announce its new landmark initiative, the University Commitment to the SDGs, which has already been signed by the heads of five of Australia's leading universities. [...]

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 1 October 2016]

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

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

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

No new digest content identified.

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme [to 1 October 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases/Announcements

30/09/2016

[Actions to Green the Financial System Have Doubled - But Further Transformation Still Needed](#)

[Apes Seizure Database reveals true extent of illegal trade](#)

Seizure records in the database date back to 2005, and include any removal of great apes from unlawful situations.

29/09/2016

[The Netherlands commits 12 million euros to UN Environment](#)

28/09/2016

UNISDR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 1 October 2016]

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

29 Sep 2016

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

[Record levels of carbon dioxide to fuel disasters](#)

History is being made this month on climate change and not in a good way. We have broken through the symbolic ceiling of 400 parts per million for carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and there seems to be no going back...

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 1 October 2016]

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

30 September 2016, New York

[Taking a stand against ageism](#)

Every year on 1 October, the international community comes together to commemorate the International Day of Older Persons. Ahead of this year's celebration, which will take place on 6 October at UN Headquarters in New York, we asked Rosemary Lane, Focal Point on Ageing in UN DESA's Division for Social Policy and Development, what ageism is and why it is so important to take a stand against it...

UNESCO [to 1 October 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases/News

30 September 2016

[IPDC Talks celebrate the first-ever International Day for Universal Access to Information](#)

27 Sep 2016

[Timbuktu Trial: "A major step towards peace and reconciliation in Mali"](#)

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 1 October 2016]

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

27/09/2016

[Statement by UNODC Executive Director Yury Fedotov on the formalization of the peace accord between the Colombian government and FARC-EP](#)

27/09/2016

[Statement by UNODC Executive Director Yury Fedotov on World Tourism Day](#)

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 1 October 2016]

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

Beirut, 30 September 2016

[Habitat III National Report for Lebanon launched](#)

The Habitat III National Report for Lebanon was launched during an event organized by the UN-Habitat Office in Lebanon and the Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR) recently at the General Directorate of Urban...

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 1 October 2016]

<http://www.fao.org/news/archive/news-by-date/2016/en/>

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

[New label for mountain products puts premium on biological and cultural diversity](#)

FAO's Mountain Partnership and Slow Food have launched a voluntary product label for mountain goods that's meant to improve market access for small highland producers from developing countries and highlight mountain products as distinct and sustainable.

29-09-2016

[Sustainable mechanization has much to offer in sub-Saharan Africa](#)

Feeding the burgeoning world population will require significant improvements in agricultural productivity, above all in Africa, and mechanization and appropriate mechanization strategies have a large role to play, according to a new report from FAO.

ILO International Labour Organization [to 1 October 2016]

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

Syrian Refugees and Labour Market

[ILO Turkey office provides skills training for 1,330 Syrian refugees and Turkish citizens](#)

29 September 2016

A national plan and new investments needed to respond to the growing number of refugees, ILO Country Director says.

Meeting of the BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers

[Guy Ryder welcomes BRICS countries' will to boost growth and decent work](#)

28 September 2016

Guy Ryder highlights the major contribution BRICS countries can make to foster strong, sustainable and inclusive growth.

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 1 October 2016]

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

30/9/16

[ICAO States' Action Plans programme for aviation CO2 reduction reaches 100 country threshold](#)

29/9/16

[New Aerospace Environmental Product Declaration Announced at ICAO World Aviation Forum](#)

27/9/16

[Multiple agreements realized for new aviation partnerships as ICAO concludes highly successful 2016 World Aviation Forum](#)

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 1 October 2016]

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

20/09/2016

[World Maritime Day 2016 – Shipping: indispensable to the world](#)

Today (29 September) IMO and the global maritime community celebrate the annual World Maritime Day

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 1 October 2016]

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[http://public.wmo.int/en/search?sort_by=changed&f\[0\]=type%3Anews](http://public.wmo.int/en/search?sort_by=changed&f[0]=type%3Anews)

Publish Date: 28 September 2016

[Winners of 2016 UNFCCC Momentum for Change Award Announced](#)

Thirteen game-changing initiatives from around the world were announced today as winners of the UNFCCC's Momentum for Change climate change award.

[Unprecedented Arctic change demands action](#)

Publish Date: 28 September 2016

WMO welcomes White House Arctic Science Ministerial 28 September 2016

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 1 October 2016]

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

Wednesday, 28 September 2016

[Governments should use voluntary sustainability standards to move towards sustainable development goals - report](#)

VIENNA – Governments should use voluntary sustainability standards to move towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), but they have not yet seized this opportunity, according to a new report released this week.

The report by the United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards (UNFSS) explores recent developments in this field and suggests that both governments and businesses must streamline fast-growing sustainability certification schemes.

The sheer number of such schemes, such as the Marine Stewardship Council, the Rainforest Alliance, and the Better Cotton Initiative, is growing fast, but their number and complexity overwhelms some developing country exporters, for whom they can act as a barrier to market entry...

The full report can be accessed [here](#)

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) [to 1 October 2016]

http://www.iso.org/iso/home/news_index.htm

No new digest content identified.

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 1 October 2016]

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

28 September 2016

[UNWTO calls for support to crisis-hit countries](#)

UNWTO Secretary-General Taleb Rifai called for increased cooperation between tourism source markets and destinations that have been affected by crises. Addressing the 20th Summit of the Federal Association of the German Tourism Industry (BTW) on 26 September in Berlin, Germany on the topic of 'Safe, Secure and Seamless Travel', Rifai said: "real crises are often magnified or distorted by crises of perception. We need to enhance our support to countries affected by crises as they recover and help them increase their resilience. Supporting these countries will benefit the whole tourism sector and the whole of society."

28 September 2016

[World Tourism Day 2016: Tourism leaders commit to advance Universal Accessibility](#)

About 500 delegates from 60 countries have convened in Bangkok, Thailand, to take part in the Official Celebrations of the World Tourism Day this year dedicated to the theme 'Tourism for

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all: Promoting Universal Accessibility.' Policy frameworks, capacity building, business strategies and awareness raising have been some of the areas tackled during the week of events that commenced on the 26th September with a 'Tourism and the Media' Session.

ITU International Telecommunications Union [to 1 October 2016]

<http://www.itu.int/en/mediacentre/Pages/default.aspx>

No new digest content identified.

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 1 October 2016]

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

Sep 30, 2016 PR/2016/794

[WIPO Director General Hails a Success for Visually Impaired People and International Community as Marrakesh Treaty Enters Into Force](#)

WIPO Director General Francis Gurry welcomed the entry into force of the Marrakesh Treaty which can now begin boosting the number of specially adapted texts for the benefit of blind and otherwise print-disabled people around the world. The "books for blind" treaty entered into force on September 30, 2016, three months after it gained the necessary 20 ratifications or accessions by WIPO member states.

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

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USAID [to 1 October 2016]

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

September 30, 2016

[USAID & Partners Announce \\$6 Billion to Expand Fight Against Neglected Tropical Diseases](#)

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) today announced new partnerships to help countries eliminate and control neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). Over the next five years new and expanded partnerships will provide 1.3 billion treatments, leverage \$6 billion in donated drugs, and prevent more than 585 million people from needing treatment for NTDs.

[USAID Announces U.S. Issuance of \\$1 Billion Loan Guarantee to the Government of Ukraine](#)

September 30, 2016

Yesterday USAID issued a \$1 billion loan guarantee from the United States to the Government of Ukraine to support the implementation of key economic and governance reforms necessary for Ukraine's democratic transition and sustainable economic recovery.

[Administrator Smith Delivers Keynote to Mark Success Fighting Neglected Tropical Diseases](#)

September 29, 2016

WASHINGTON, D.C. - On Friday, September 30, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) will hold an event commemorating 10 years of success fighting Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) at the Newseum at 6:30 PM in Washington. Through innovative private sector partnerships, this effort has delivered more than 1.6 billion treatments to prevent

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and treat seven of the most prevalent NTDs, reaching more than 743 million people in 25 countries. To date, every \$1 invested by USAID in NTDs leverages \$26 in pharmaceutical donations for mass treatment campaigns.

DFID [to 1 October 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases

[British High Commission Supports the Reform of Sierra Leone's Criminal and Seditious Libel Laws](#)

30 September 2016 FCO and DFID Press release

[Anti-Corruption Commission unveils 'Pay No Bribe' citizens' reporting platform](#)

27 September 2016 DFID and FCO Press release

ECHO [to 1 October 2016]

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

29/09/2016

[Statement by Commissioner Christos Stylianides on the urgent situation in Aleppo](#)

"The need for humanitarian access in Aleppo, Syria could not be more urgent. I am outraged by the unprecedented attacks that have targeted civilians and humanitarian infrastructures. With no sense of proportionality and restraint, the attacks have...

[Commissioner Stylianides in Turkey to launch largest ever EU humanitarian aid programme](#)

26/09/2016

Today in Ankara, Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides has launched the EU's flagship humanitarian aid programme, which is set to provide a monthly electronic cash grant to benefit 1 million refugees in Turkey...

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

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African Union [to 1 October 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]

September 28, 2016 | *Press Releases*

[Ground Breaking Ceremony for the AU Integrated Service Centre](#)

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 28 September 2016 – A ground breaking ceremony was held today for the AU Integrated Service Centre marking the strengthening cooperation between the AU and the People's Republic of China. The ceremony was held as part of the AU celebrations to commemorate the establishment of the African Union as per the Sirte Declaration of 9th September 1999.

The new complex is a grant from the People's Republic of China and represents yet another milestone in the continental developmental partnership strategy consolidated by the 2014 visit of the Chinese Prime Minister and the successful inauguration of the AUC Conference Centre (AUCCC)...

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ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 1 October 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 strengthens efforts to eliminate trafficking in persons](#)

JAKARTA, 28 September 2016 – The ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) launched the Regional Review on Laws, Policies and Practices within ASEAN related to the identification, management and treatment of victims of trafficking especially women and children today. The Regional Review aims to support the implementation of the ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children which was signed by the Heads of States at the 27th ASEAN Summit in November 2015. The Regional Review provides an accurate and up-to-date assessment of the current situations, good practices, and issues for consideration, as well as presenting recommendations for improvement in responses to victims of trafficking.

The Regional Review was enriched by the results of in-country researches conducted last year through desk reviews, key informant interviews, focused group discussions, and shelter visits. The Regional Review covers the entire spectrum of trafficking in persons including victim identification and referral, protection, support, and recovery assistance to victims, access to remedies, no detention/prosecution of victims for status offences, return and reintegration of victims, as well as prevention of trafficking. Emphasis is given to the importance of human rights-based approach in combating trafficking in persons and helping the victims...

[ASEAN promotes education and training for a brighter future](#)

SERDANG, 26 September 2016 - The two-day ASEAN Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Conference concluded today with the participation of over 200 representatives of TVET institutes, line ministries, stakeholders from ASEAN Member States and non-ASEAN countries, and ASEAN Secretariat. Participants discussed various issues such as industry involvement, dual TVET systems, inter-agency coordination in [...]

European Commission [to 1 October 2016]

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

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

Date: 30/09/2016

[Ministers approve EU ratification of Paris Agreement](#)

European Commission - Statement Brussels, 30 September 2016 In a historic move, EU ministers today approved the ratification of the Paris Agreement by the European Union. The decision was reached at an extraordinary meeting of the Environment Council in Brussels.

[Facility for Refugees in Turkey: EU signs grants worth €600 million to help refugees on education and health](#)

Date: 28/09/2016

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 28 September 2016 Today, the European Commission signed two direct grants worth €600 million to support Syrian refugees and host communities in Turkey in the areas of education and health.

[Delivering on migration and border management: Commission reports on progress made under the European Agenda on Migration](#)

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Navigation to Main Sections: :: [Week in Review](#) :: [Key Agency/IGO/Governments Watch](#) :: [INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch](#) :: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

Date: 28/09/2016

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 28 September 2016 The Commission is today reporting on the progress made on the EU's relocation and resettlement schemes and the implementation of the EU-Turkey Statement. At the same time, it is outlining the steps still needed to be taken by Greece in view...

[Questions & Answers: A coordinated EU approach for temporary internal border controls](#)

Date: 28/09/2016

European Commission - Fact Sheet Brussels, 28 September 2016 What has the Commission adopted today? The Commission has today adopted a report evaluating the implementation of the Council Recommendation of 12 May 2016, which allowed five countries (Schengen Member States Austria, Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Norway) to continue carrying out border controls at specific sections of their internal borders to address the exceptional circumstances that gave rise to the persistent risk of secondary movements of irregular migrants coming from Greece.

The Commission's report concludes that the temporary internal border controls carried out by the Schengen Member States concerned have remained within the conditions set by the Council in its Recommendation. The controls have been limited to what is strictly necessary and proportionate in light of the serious threat to public policy and internal security posed by the risk of secondary movements of irregular migrants entering via Greece. The Commission further concludes that there is currently no change of circumstances that would justify an amendment of the Recommendation at this stage...

[Implementing the EU-Turkey Statement – Questions and Answers](#)

Date: 28/09/2016

European Commission - Fact Sheet Brussels, 28 September 2016 On 18 March 2016, EU Heads of State or Government and Turkey agreed to end the irregular migration from Turkey to the EU and replace it instead with legal channels of resettlement of refugees to the European Union.

[EU pushes for further tightening of wildlife trade rules at global summit on wildlife conservation](#)

Date: 23/09/2016

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 23 September 2016 On 24th September, representatives of 182 countries and the EU will gather at the 17th Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES CoP17) in Johannesburg, South Africa to agree tangible measures to better protect...

[EU position for the 17th Conference of the Parties \(CoP\) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora \(CITES\)](#)

Date: 23/09/2016

European Commission - Fact Sheet Brussels, 23 September 2016 Questions and Answers See also: Press release What is the EU's position on ivory trafficking? The EU is concerned about the current levels of ivory trafficking and elephant poaching and is at the forefront of international efforts to tackle this problem.

OECD [to 1 October 2016]

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

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

28-September-2016

[Carbon pricing efforts are falling short, but even modest collective action can deliver significant progress, OECD says](#)

Current carbon prices are falling short of the levels needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions driving climate change, but even moderate price increases could have a significant impact, according to new OECD research.

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 1 October 2016]

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

September 27, 2016

[The Mission to Support the Peace Process in Colombia \(MAPP/OAS\): \[History\]](#)

September 26, 2016

[Peace Agreement in Colombia: Statement from the OAS Secretary General](#)

Today is a day the world will not forget. The peace agreement in Colombia is a milestone applauded by all the countries of the hemisphere and the world.

Peace for Colombia is peace for everyone.

I congratulate the government of President Juan Manuel Santos and the leaders and members of the FARC-EP for the determination and the conviction to put an end to more than half a century of armed confrontation through dialogue.

Colombia has shown that, when dialogue is results-oriented, convictions are strong and the objective worthwhile, the impossible becomes possible.

During the last 12 years, the OAS has closely accompanied peace efforts in Colombia, and we will continue to do so in the post-conflict stage.

The government has requested that the Mission of Support for the Peace Process (MAPP/OAS) continue its deployment in the territories most affected by the armed conflict.

In this new period, we will focus on monitoring those dynamics that pose risks, threats and challenges to the peace.

Yesterday, today and always, we are committed to peace and we will continue to be committed to Colombia.

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 1 October 2016]

<http://www.oic-oci.org/oicv3/news/?lan=en>

[Selected Press Releases, Announcements]

[The Organization of Islamic Cooperation Strongly Condemns Brazen Airstrikes on Aleppo](#)

The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Iyad Ameen Madani, has vigorously condemned the unrelenting bombing of civilians in Aleppo, Syria. He just as strongly denounced the shelling of humanitarian aid convoys, causing the death and injury of hundreds of civilians, and exacerbating the desperate humanitarian situation and widespread havoc in the city.

25/09/2016

Group of 77 [to 1 October 2016]

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

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

[Statement by H.E. General Prayut Chan-o-cha \(Ret.\), Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand and Chair of the Fortieth Annual Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 at the interactive dialogue on **Sufficiency Economy Philosophy for SDGs** \(New York, 23 September 2016\)](#)

UNCTAD [to 1 October 2016]

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

01 Oct 2016 –

[Illegal trade accelerates wild plant extinctions, more transparency needed](#)

29 Sep 2016 –

[Voluntary standards can accelerate the world towards the SDGs](#)

28 Sep 2016 –

[To make fisheries more sustainable, trade community must end the pointless subsidies](#)

27 Sep 2016 –

[Technology opens new opportunity, policy makers must prepare for disruption](#)

WTO - World Trade Organisation [to 1 October 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]

29 September 2016

WTO PUBLIC FORUM

[Public Forum stresses the role of trade in empowering women](#)

Participants in the 2016 Public Forum agreed that a combination of capacity building, financing, government policies and networking is needed for women to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by trade

A session organized by the permanent missions of the United Kingdom and Australia and the International Trade Centre (ITC) concluded that trade can only be truly inclusive if women worldwide are empowered. Despite the economic gains offered by trade, only one in five exporting companies are owned by women and 90 per cent of countries have at least one law discriminating against women, said Arancha González, the Executive Director of the [ITC](#). The session also highlighted that many women lack confidence and the technical and financial capacity to engage in trade...

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IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 1 October 2016]

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

23 September 2016

No new digest content identified.

International Court of Justice [to 1 October 2016]

<http://www.icj-cij.org/presscom/index.php?p1=6&p2=1>

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

No new digest content identified.

International Criminal Court (ICC) [to 1 October 2016]

Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity

<https://www.icc-cpi.int/>

27 September 2016

[ICC Trial Chamber VIII declares Mr Al Mahdi guilty of the war crime of attacking historic and religious buildings in Timbuktu and sentences him to nine years' imprisonment](#)

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

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World Bank [to 1 October 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]

[Africa's Economic Growth Continues to Falter, Yet Some Countries Show Signs of Resilience](#)

WASHINGTON, September 29, 2016— After slowing to 3 percent in 2015, economic growth in Sub-Saharan Africa is expected to fall further to 1.6 percent in 2016, the lowest level in over two decades. The sharp...

Date: September 29, 2016 Type: Press Release

[Statement by World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim on Appointment to a Second Five-Year Term](#)

WASHINGTON, September 27, 2016 – World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim today issued the following statement upon being appointed by the Bank's Board of Executive Directors to a second five-year term,...

Date: September 27, 2016 Type: Press Release

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

[Jim Yong Kim Unanimously Reappointed to Second Term as World Bank Group President](#)

WASHINGTON, September 27, 2016— Executive Directors of the World Bank today agreed unanimously to reappoint Dr. Jim Yong Kim to a second five-year term as President of the World Bank Group, beginning July...

Date: September 27, 2016 Type: Press Release

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

[\\$300 million to Improve Employment Opportunities for Jordanians and Syrian Refugees](#)

WASHINGTON, September 27, 2016 – A US\$300 million World Bank Group program will support Jordan's efforts to improve the investment climate, attract investors, reform the country's labor market and grant...

Date: September 27, 2016 Type: Press Release

IMF [to 1 October 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]

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

Policy

[Stronger Emerging Market Corporate Governance Enhances Financial Resilience](#)

September 29, 2016

- :: Improved corporate governance over past two decades
- :: Governance bolsters resilience to financial shocks
- : Corporate governance can strengthen firms' balance sheets

Stronger corporate governance and investor protection can enhance the resilience of emerging market economies to global financial shocks, and strengthen corporate balance sheets, according to new research from the International Monetary Fund.

Corporate governance and investor protection encompass rules and practices at both the country and firm level, which help ensure that the suppliers of finance to companies get a return on their investment.

In the latest research for the Global Financial Stability Report, the IMF said that corporate governance and investor protection have generally improved in emerging market economies over the past two decades, and that these developments have helped bolster the resilience of their financial systems. Although this new study focuses on emerging market economies, corporate governance and investor protection issues are also of importance for advanced economies, according to the IMF...

[Read the report](#)

African Development Bank Group [to 1 October 2016]

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

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

30/09/2016

[Towards enhancing the legal capacity of African government officials](#)

"The challenges many African governments face in negotiations are made worse by the interdependent nature of government systems which requires targeted skills in specified sectors complemented by better coordination when it comes to negotiating transactions for governments. Also, some governments are in a difficult position because they are stuck with poorly negotiated contracts. How should governments deal with agreements that have no spill over effect of investment? A negotiating strategy which provides a framework within which governments can look for common elements and models that can be used to their advantage is important." stated Falou Samb, Special Advisor to the President Senegal on Trade and Investments in Senegal.

[Studies on West African corridors highlight improved performance and need for short term high impact projects to consolidate gains](#)

30/09/2016 - Results from a performance analysis study, conducted on three West African corridors – involving consultation with actors such as countries, customs, corridor management organisations, transporters, etc., were unveiled at a regional coordination meeting convened, today, in Abidjan by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the ATWA project.

[Leaders stress support for creating decent employment for youth in Africa](#)

26/09/2016 - Leaders on Tuesday expressed the need for African countries to urgently embark on programs to create decent job opportunities for the youth on the continent. Speaking in New York in a high-level side event organized by the New Partnership for Africa's

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Development (NEPAD) on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly, the leaders concurred that lack of decent employment opportunities for African youth was a recipe for disaster and that African governments needed to act quickly avert a crisis in the continent.

[MDG Transition Report: Reliable statistics and integrated policy approach key to successful SDG and Agenda 2063 implementation](#)

26/09/2016 - African countries will need better data, statistics, and policy coordination to ensure successful implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and congruence with the African Union's Agenda 2063.

Asian Development Bank [to 1 October 2016]

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

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

News Releases

27 September 2016

[Philippines Growth to Remain Strong on Investment, Consumption – ADB Study](#)

Robust growth is set to continue in the Philippines in 2016 and 2017 on the back of strong investment, private consumption, and the government plan to accelerate investment in infrastructure and human capital, says a new ADB study.

27 September 2016

[Growth in Developing Asia Steady, Despite Global Headwinds – ADB](#)

Developing Asia is expected to grow steadily despite external pressures and should meet earlier forecasts for 2016 and 2017, aided by resilience in the region's two largest economies—the PRC and India.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank [to 1 October 2016]

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

[We generally limit coverage to regional or Asia-wide initiatives, recognizing that a number of •
09/29/2016

[AIIB's Board of Directors Approves Loans to Finance Energy Projects in Pakistan and Myanmar](#)

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 1 October 2016]

https://www.ifad.org/newsroom/press_release/list/tags/y2016

29 September 2016

[UN agency calls for targeted policies and investments to end rural poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

27 September 2016

[Member States to nominate candidates for next IFAD President](#)

26 September 2016

[Farmer Field School in Tonga continues to break new ground in the Pacific for training young farmers](#)

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:: INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch

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

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

Amref Health Africa_ [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Aravind Eye Care System [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

BRAC [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

CARE International [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Clubhouse International [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Danish Refugee Council [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

ECPAT [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Fountain House [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Handicap International [to 1 October 2016]

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

Posted on September 29, 2016 1:07 PM

Thousands of Syrian refugees in Lebanon regain strength and mobility thanks to partnership

On August 31st, 2016, Handicap International and the United States Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) completed a year-long partnership, during which the organization was able to provide assistance to thousands of Syrian refugees in Lebanon, thanks to funding provided by PRM...

Posted on September 28, 2016 5:00 AM

New report: violent attacks forcing millions of Syrians to flee

Silver Spring, MD--A new report identifies indiscriminate bombings as the overriding factor forcing millions of Syrians to flee their homes. Qasef: Escaping the bombing takes an intimate look at the worst humanitarian crisis since World War II. Based on interviews with Syrian refugees in July 2016, a document review, and expert interviews, the report identifies the large scale use of explosive weapons in populated areas as the most significant cause of the mass displacement of Syrians. More than 10.9 million Syrians have been affected, equivalent to more than half of the country's population...

[Download the report here](#)

Heifer International [to 1 October 2016]

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

September 26, 2016

New US\$4 million program for dairy hubs in East Africa

ZANZIBAR, Tanzania

Heifer International is partnering with the U.N.'s International Fund for Agricultural Development to launch a \$4 million program for dairy farmers in East Africa.

HelpAge International [to 1 October 2016]

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

Posted: 30 September 2016

Older men and women stand up against ageism around the world

Older activists from more than 45 countries across the world will join the United Nation's call to "take a stand against ageism" on International Day of Older Persons.

ICRC [to 1 October 2016]

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

Selected News Releases, Reports and Articles

Speech by ICRC president addressing attacks on health-care personnel, facilities and vehicles

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Speech given by Mr Peter Maurer, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, addressing attacks on health-care personnel, facilities and vehicles, at the UN Security Council Briefing in New York on 28 September 2016.

28-09-2016 | Article

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

New era for Colombia but humanitarian challenges remain

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) welcomes the peace agreement between the Colombian Government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army (FARC-EP).

26-09-2016 | News release

International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement calls on States to seize unprecedented opportunity to advance nuclear disarmament

On the occasion of this year's International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement renews its call on States to begin negotiations on a treaty to prohibit the use of and completely eli

26-09-2016 | News release

IFRC [to 1 October 2016]

<http://www.ifrc.org/en/news-and-media/press-releases/>

30 September 2016

More help needed for DPRK flood survivors as winter closes in

26 September 2016

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement calls on States to seize an unprecedented opportunity to advance nuclear disarmament

25 September 2016

IFRC calls for disaster funds to be released early to transform humanitarian response to El Niño and climate-related crises

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 1 October 2016]

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

Statement

The IRC responds to Governor Abbott's callous withdrawal of Texas from the Refugee Resettlement Program

September 30, 2016

Press Release

Dozens injured as IRC-supported hospital hit by shelling in Eastern Aleppo

September 28, 2016

IRCT [to 1 October 2016]

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

News

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Parcours d'Exil: Providing torture victims with a path to safety for 15 years

26 September 2016

Islamic Relief [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified

Landsea [to 1 October 2016]

<http://www.landesa.org/press-and-media-categories/press-releases/>

No new digest content identified.

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 1 October 2016]

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

Press release

September 30, 2016

MSF To Syrian Government and Its Allies: Stop Indiscriminate Bombing in Aleppo

Amman/New York, September 30, 2016—The international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) demands that the Syrian government and allied governments halt the indiscriminate bombing that has killed and wounded hundreds of civilians—many of them children—over the past week in Aleppo.

Press release

Doctors Without Borders Brings Interactive, Outdoor Exhibit on the Refugee Crisis to Washington, D.C.

September 28, 2016

"Forced From Home" Interactive Exhibit and Tour Opens in Front of the Washington Monument, Experienced Aid Workers Provide First-Hand Accounts of Global Refugee Crisis

Press release

Nigeria: Disastrous Living Conditions More Deadly Than Violence

September 27, 2016

Conflict-affected populations in Borno state need emergency food aid now

ABUJA, NIGERIA/NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 28, 2016—The humanitarian emergency in northeastern Nigeria is reaching catastrophic levels, and a massive relief effort is needed immediately in remote areas as well as in the state capital, said the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) today...

Mercy Corps [to 1 October 2016]

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

Colombia, September 25, 2016

Mercy Corps: Continued Investment in Colombia Essential for Lasting Peace

Despite historic agreement, millions in need of humanitarian assistance

BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA – Ahead of a national referendum on a historic peace agreement between the government of Colombia and the FARC that was signed today, the global organization Mercy Corps urges international donors to continue investing to support

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

humanitarian relief efforts in Colombia. After fifty-two years of conflict there are 6.9 million Colombians internally displaced, the highest number in the world...

Operation Smile [to 1 October 2016]

<http://www.operationsmile.org/press-office>

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 1 October 2016]

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

30 September 2016

Oxfam closely monitoring hurricane Matthew, now a category four in the Caribbean

Oxfam staff is monitoring the situation of Hurricane Matthew closely and is preparing for an eventual evaluation of damages in Cuba, Haiti, Colombia and Dominican Republic.

Murder and eviction: the global land rush enters new more violent phase

26 September 2016

Millions of people face being displaced from their homes as new data shows land sales covering an area the size of Germany are now under contract, warns Oxfam.

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 1 October 2016]

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

Selected News

The Colombian people's historic choice

Thale Solnørdal Jenssen|Published 30. Sep 2016

After four years of peace talks, Colombia's president and FARC signed a peace agreement this week. On Sunday 2 October, the Colombian people will vote "yes" or "no" to the agreement.

Developing cash experts in the field

Ida Sem Fossvik|Published 30. Sep 2016

A new pilot scheme means NORCAP experts can receive training in cash transfer programming while applying their skills on mission.

The goal is to strengthen and increase technical expertise on cash transfer programming, by ensuring that more experts are confident in using the method and able to apply it to various contexts and responses.

So far, six NORCAP experts, with a background from water, sanitation and hygiene, logistics, shelter and protection have applied to be part of the training scheme, which aims to combine theoretical training with practical placements.

ACAPS provide the backdrop for TRIPLEX training

Ida Sem Fossvik|Published 28. Sep 2016|Edited 29. Sep 2016

ACAPS has been involved in organising one of the biggest humanitarian field exercises, TRIPLEX, this week. ACAPS and NORCAP experts have also participated in the training.

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The TRIPLEX is a five-day training where humanitarians, governments, military and volunteers participate in order to practice the international humanitarian response in a simulated sudden-onset emergency scenario.

Pact [to 1 October 2016]

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

September 27, 2016

[With Pact's support, Cambodian banks commit to developing sustainable financing principles](#)

The Association of Banks in Cambodia (ABC) has taken its first major step toward sustainable lending practices by committing to develop sustainable finance principles and integrate environmental and social safeguards and lending standards into banks' business decisions.

Partners In Health [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

PATH [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Plan International [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Save The Children [to 1 October 2016]

[http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpI4E/b.9357111/k.C14B/Press Releases 2016 /apps/nl/newsletter2.asp](http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpI4E/b.9357111/k.C14B/Press_Releases_2016/apps/nl/newsletter2.asp)

September 30, 2016

[Aleppo's Children Not Safe from Bunker-busting Bombs as Even Underground Schools Have to Close](#)

['Mack & Moxy' Episode Developed with Save the Children to Stream on Netflix Starting Oct. 1](#)

September 29, 2016

[Yemen Hospitals Run Out of Medicine for Dangerously Malnourished Children](#)

September 27, 2016

[Students Rebuild Launches "Youth Uplift" Challenge With Save the Children and Global Nomads Group](#)

September 26, 2016

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SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 1 October 2016]

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

28.09.2016

SOS Children's Villages concerned for Damascus village

SOS Children's Villages International announced today that Syrian government forces have occupied its village in Damascus, a day after children and employees were evacuated amid intensified fighting. More

28.09.2016

SOS Children's Villages moves to help drought-hit Ethiopia and Malawi

SOS Children's Villages is working to help vulnerable families in Ethiopia and Malawi with nutritional and other emergency assistance in response to one the worst droughts to hit eastern and southern Africa in decades. More

Tostan [to 1 October 2016]

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

September 29, 2016

A Letter to the Tostan Global Family

In a letter from the 2015 Annual Report, Tostan's Board Chair Dr. Cheikh Mbacke describes what it was about Tostan that stood out to him, after over a decade in the field, and why he joined Tostan's efforts to "nourish the most valuable resources we have on the African continent: the minds and spirits of the people who live here."

Women for Women International [to 1 October 2016]

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

September 30, 2016 | Huffington Post

Colombian Women Take Unprecedented Role in Peace Negotiations

A historic milestone occurred this week that many thought was impossible: the government of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) rebel movement signed a peace agreement.

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Freedom House [to 1 October 2016]

<https://freedomhouse.org/news>

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research

Press Releases

Kenya: Assessment Of Civil Liberties, Political Rights

September 29, 2016

Freedom House today released a report assessing Kenya's progress towards improving government accountability, promoting civic liberties, human rights, rule of law and transparency over a three-year

Transparency International [to 1 October 2016]

<http://www.transparency.org/news/pressreleases/>

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Navigation to Main Sections: :: [Week in Review](#) :: [Key Agency/IGO/Governments Watch](#) :: [INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch](#)
:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

*Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research
Report*

New report on the Afghan Government's anti-corruption efforts ahead of Brussels donor summit

29 Sep 2016

From promises to action: Assessing Afghanistan's progress on anti-corruption reviews the anti-corruption commitments of the Afghan National Unity Government and highlights those commitments that, if achieved, would most likely lead to meaningful progress in tackling corruption in Afghanistan

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ChildFund Alliance [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

CONCORD [to 1 October 2016]

<http://concordeurope.org/news-and-events/>

[European NGO confederation for relief and development]

Sep 26, 2016

What will the European Consensus on Development mean for people with disabilities?

by Seamus Jeffreson

CONCORD Director was asked by the CONCORD member working on improving the quality of life of people with disabilities, CBM International, for his reflections on the upcoming European Consensus on Development and its impact on people with disabilities.

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 1 October 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 1 October 2016]

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

News Andrew Whitley 29 September 2016

Ethical leadership: a global challenge and opportunity

Our CEO Andrew Whitley reflects on a busy month during which The Elders launched a new report in Germany on refugees and mass migration, and held several meetings and discussions in and around the UN General Assembly in New York, including with senior UN officials on Syria and with resettled refugees at the International Rescue Committee.

Press release 28 September 2016

The Elders mourn the loss of Shimon Peres

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*Navigation to Main Sections: :: [Week in Review](#) :: [Key Agency/IGO/Governments Watch](#) :: [INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch](#)
:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)*

The Elders' statement on the passing of Shimon Peres, former President of Israel and Nobel Peace laureate.

Videos 26 September 2016

Why is Universal Health Coverage vital to achieving the health SDG?

Recognising the vital role health plays in the realisation of the wider Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Kofi Annan is joined by fellow Elders Gro Harlem Brundtland and Ernesto Zedillo in this short video calling on governments to honour their commitments.

END Fund [to 1 October 2016]

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

Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements

No new digest content identified.

Gavi [to 1 October 2016]

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

New York, 22 September 2016

HealthRight International honours Seth Berkley for leadership in global health

HealthRight International, an organisation dedicated to delivering health care to marginalised communities around the world, has honoured Gavi CEO, Dr. Seth Berkley, for his career as a leader in global health.

The group's annual Health & Human Rights Awards Dinner brought together human rights and public health professionals, leaders from civil society, media, politics and the business community.

In addition to honouring Dr. Berkley, HealthRight International also recognised the accomplishments of Dr. Eva Metalios. The Medical Director of the Bronx Human Rights Clinic & the Montefiore Medical Centre Residency Program in Primary Care and Social Internal Medicine, Dr. Metalios treats torture survivors and trains other doctors to perform forensic exams on those who have faced violent persecution.

Dr. Lyndon Haviland, a global public health expert and advocate who has worked for many years with Dr. Berkley, presented the award by citing how he has combined expertise and passion in his work. He "will jump into the deep end of any pool to make it possible for all of us to deliver on the value proposition: that every child, everywhere, every person in every country deserves a life of dignity and health," she said...

Global Fund [to 1 October 2016]

<http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news/?topic=&type=NEWS;&country=>

No new digest content identified.

Hilton Prize Coalition [to 1 October 2016]

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

An Alliance of Hilton Prize Recipients

Selected News Releases

No new digest content identified.

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

ICVA -International Council of Voluntary Agencies

<https://icvanetwork.org/>

September, 2016

ICVA Bulletin #7/8 July and August 2016

InterAction [to 1 October 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."

September 27, 2016

A New Research Agenda and Examples From the Field

Author: Sreya Panuganti

Start Network [to 1 October 2016]

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

[Consortium of British Humanitarian Agencies]

No new digest content identified.

Muslim Charities Forum [to 1 October 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.

29th September 2016

[Applications Now Open] The 1st Muslim Charities Forum Humanitarian Awards 2017

29th September 2016

The Muslim Charities Forum's Humanitarian Awards 2017, the first of its kind, aims to celebrate and recognise the remarkable achievements of the British Muslim charity sector. The Awards and Dinner ceremony will take place in January 2017 and we are delighted to now open applications for the...

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Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP) [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

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Navigation to Main Sections: :: [Week in Review](#) :: [Key Agency/IGO/Governments Watch](#) :: [INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch](#) :: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

CHS Alliance [to 1 October 2016]
<http://chsalliance.org/news-events/news>
No new digest content identified.

EHLRA/R2HC [to 1 October 2016]
<http://www.elrha.org/resource-hub/news/>
No new digest content identified.

Global Humanitarian Assistance (GHA) [to 1 October 2016]
<http://www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org/>
Report Synopsis

Displacement, Democratic Republic of the Congo

Date: 2016/09/28

28 September 2016 we responded to a funding alert for the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), raised in response to the high number of South Sudanese refugees entering the country.

As of 22 September, UNHCR had registered some 13,000 South Sudanese refugees, while over 10,000 are still to be registered. Refugee numbers have surpassed humanitarian response capacity in some provinces, and new arrivals are further increasing humanitarian need. According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)'s Financial Tracking Service (FTS), donors have committed/contributed US\$405.4 million of humanitarian assistance to DRC since the start of 2016. In addition, US\$14.7 million of requirements for DRC are also set out under the South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan – this entire amount is currently unmet.

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

The Sphere Project [to 1 October 2016]
<http://www.sphereproject.org/news/>
No new digest content identified.

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 1 October 2016]
<https://phap.org/>
1 October 2016

NGO access to UN funding focus of second session in learning stream with ICVA

In the first session of the learning stream on humanitarian funding, the complexity of the UN system was identified as one of the main challenges for NGO access to funding. On 12 October, the second session of this series of live online learning events will focus in on some of these challenges...

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Center for Global Development [to 1 October 2016]
<http://www.cgdev.org/page/press-center>
Publications

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Glimpsing the End of Economic History? Unconditional Convergence and the Missing Middle Income Trap - Working Paper 438

10/1/16

Sutirtha Roy , Martin Kessler and Arvind Subramanian

This paper suggests a reinterpretation of global growth—encompassing notions of unconditional convergence and the middle income trap—in the past 50 years through the lens of growth theory. The last 20-30 years have been a golden era of convergence, challenging the new conventional wisdom of secular stagnation.

To Control Migration Flows and Defeat Human Smuggling, Sell Visas

10/1/16

Alice Mesnard and Emmanuelle Auriol

Policymakers in most OECD countries face the challenge that they must fight people smuggling while retaining control of migration flows. An innovative policy of selling visas combined with enforced sanctions on employers and employees for illegal working can control migration flows and put smugglers out of business.

CSIS

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

Accessed 1 October 2016

Report

Militancy and the Arc of Instability

September 27, 2016 | By Jennifer G. Cooke, Thomas M. Sanderson

An arc of instability stretching across Africa's Sahel region, an area of strategic interest for the United States and its allies, is plagued by violent extremist organizations (VEOs). These organizations, including Boko Haram, al Qaeda, and other terror groups, have metastasized and present a serious threat to regional stability. Now these VEOs are transitioning. Under sustained pressure from French and regional security forces, and reeling from the loss of senior leaders, many of these groups feel backed into a corner. Despite setbacks, the groups continue to plague the region. To enhance policymakers' understanding of these threats and how to respond to them, CSIS experts from the Africa Program and Transnational Threats Project conducted field-based and scholarly research examining the broad range of factors at play in the region. This research provides little ground for optimism. Chronic underdevelopment, political alienation, failed governance and corruption, organized crime, and spillover from Libya help foster and sustain violent extremists throughout the Sahel.

ODI [to 1 October 2016]

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

Research reports and studies

Resilience Scan: April-June 2016

Research reports and studies | September 2016 | Thomas Tanner, Emma Lovell, Florence Pichon and Pandora Batra

This resilience scan summarises writing and debates in the field of resilience during the second quarter (April to June) of 2016.

Brexit: implications for climate change commitments

Briefing papers | September 2016 | Andrew Scott

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This briefing outlines how the commitments necessary to ensure that the goals of the Paris Agreement can be met will be affected by the UK leaving the EU.

Climate resilient planning toolkit

Toolkits | September 2016 | Mariana Matoso and Guy Jobbins

A toolkit to improve resilience of Basic Service Delivery Systems designed to develop and deliver health, education, water and sanitation hardware interventions.

Urban Institute [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

World Economic Forum [to 1 October 2016]

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

Selected Media Releases, Research

News 29 Sep 2016

Global Competitiveness Report 2016-2017

Geneva, Switzerland, 29 September 2016 –

The World Economic Forum launched its Global Competitiveness Report 2016 on 28 September.

The report finds that declining openness is threatening growth and prosperity. Monetary stimulus measures, such as quantitative easing are not enough to sustain growth and must be accompanied by competitiveness reforms. For emerging economies, updated business practices and investment in innovation are now as important as infrastructure, skills and efficient markets. Switzerland, Singapore and the United States remain the world's most competitive economies. China, ranked 28th among the 139 economies covered by the report, remains top among the BRICS grouping.

Full report: <http://wef.ch/gcr16>

News 28 Sep 2016

Declining Openness a Major Threat to Global Competitiveness

:: The Global Competitiveness Report 2016-2017 finds declining openness is threatening growth and prosperity

:: Monetary stimulus measures such as quantitative easing are not enough to sustain growth and must be accompanied by competitiveness reforms

:: For emerging economies, updated business practices and investment in innovation are now as important as infrastructure, skills and efficient markets

:: Switzerland, Singapore and the United States remain the world's most competitive economies; India is the highest rising economy, climbing 16 places

:: Access the full report, infographics, videos and more [here](#)

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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,

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humanitarian response and development spheres of action. This Watch section is not intended to be exhaustive, but indicative.

Aga Khan Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Annie E. Casey Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Clinton Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Ford Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

GHIT Fund [to 1 October 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.

Grameen Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

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

Our News

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Watch the Hilton Humanitarian Prize Event

September 27, 2016

This is a pre-recorded live stream of this year's Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize.

IKEA Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

<https://www.ikeafoundation.org/category/press-releases/>

No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 1 October 2016]

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

Research [September 30, 2016]

Programming the Immune System to Attack Tumors

HHMI researchers have learned to program T cells as if they were "microscopic robots" -- to sense inputs and to respond.

Kellogg Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

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

Sep. 29, 2016

WKCF supports community engagement campaign around new series on EPIX that addresses inequality in America

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., - The W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKCF) is supporting community engagement efforts for the micro-documentary series *America Divided*, which examines the sharp rise of inequality over the past 40 years. The series will debut on TV on Friday, Sept. 30, on EPIX.

Support for *America Divided*'s community engagement campaign is part of the foundation's long-term commitment to racial equity, by promoting authentic and inclusive narratives to shift the national discourse and the perceptions that contribute to the racial disparities in health, education and economic security for children and families...

MacArthur Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Blue Meridian Partners

<http://www.emcf.org/capital-aggregation/blue-meridian-partners/>

Blue Meridian Partners is a new capital aggregation collaboration that plans to invest at least \$1 billion in high-performance nonprofits that are poised to have truly national impact for economically disadvantaged children and youth.

No new digest content identified.

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

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

September 28, 2016

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Data wranglers wanted: new Data Task Force to improve synthesis outcomes

The National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS) is launching an innovative "Data Task Force" to support synthesis research with a new \$2.1 million grant from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. In contrast to mining Big Data, synthesis research recognizes the value of small, information rich datasets generated by scientists all over the world. However, collecting, combining, and "wrangling" these many discrete data sets for synthesis presents a daunting challenge.

"Combining heterogeneous data from many sources presents significant technical difficulties, not to mention the cultural hurdles associated with getting data providers to hand over their data," says Carly Strasser, Ph.D., a program officer for science at the Moore Foundation. "NCEAS' 21 years of leadership in synthesis science, cutting-edge informatics approaches and well-regarded data management tools will help to ensure the Data Task Force's success in overcoming these barriers." ...

Open Society Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Pew Charitable Trusts [to 1 October 2016]

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

No new digest content identified.

Rockefeller Foundation [to 1 October 2016]

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

September 26, 2016

Future Cities Accelerator Receives More Than 600 Proposals, Marking Close of Application Period for the Urban Challenge

The Accelerator, Powered by The Rockefeller Foundation & Unreasonable Institute, Seeks to Address Urban Challenges

Applicants From Dozens of Cities Across the US Have The Opportunity to Win \$100,000 Each to Scale Programs Improving Lives of Poor or Vulnerable in Cities

BOULDER, CO—The Future Cities Accelerator, powered by The Rockefeller Foundation and Unreasonable Institute, has received more than 600 proposals from dozens of cities around the country. Over the next several months, Unreasonable Institute and select mentors will evaluate applications beginning with an analysis of their proposal, followed by phone interviews with a smaller subset of applicants and will culminate with in-person site visits for applicant finalists. The 10 winners will receive \$100,000 in funding, nine months of support, guidance from world-renowned mentors including Tom Chi, formerly of Google X and Co-Founder of Google Glass; Dan Rosen, Founder and President of Mosaic; Becky Margiotta, Co-Founder of The Billions Institute along with others, and attendance to a five-day intensive bootcamp led by Unreasonable Institute in Denver. Winners will be announced in early January 2017...

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Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 1 October 2016]
<http://www.rwjf.org/en/about-rwjf/newsroom/news-releases.html>
No new digest content identified.

Science Philanthropy Alliance [to 1 October 2016]
<http://www.sciencephilanthropyalliance.org/what-we-do/news/>
"...a group of organizations working together to increase philanthropic support for basic scientific research on a global basis..."
No new digest content identified.

SDG Philanthropy Platform

<http://sdgfunders.org/conversation/>
SDG Philanthropy Platform is a collaboration between philanthropy and the greater international development community led by Foundation Center, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, and supported by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, Ford Foundation and the MasterCard Foundation, the Brach Family Foundation, and other key organizations such as Asociación de Fundaciones Empresariales (AFE) in Colombia, Brach Family Charitable Foundation, CAF America, Council on Foundations, East Africa Association of Grantmakers (EAAG), European Foundation Centre, Filantropi Indonesia (FI), GlobalGiving, The Humanitarian Forum, World Congress of Muslim Philanthropists, and Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmaker Support (WINGS).
28-9-2016

Data for a Better South African Philanthropy

Data is at the centre of many current debates in the development sector. Certainly, data on philanthropy, grantmaking and donor funding is in hugely short supply in South Africa.

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
<http://www.sloan.org/press-room/>
No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 1 October 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.

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American Journal of Infection Control

October 2016 Volume 44, Issue 10, p1083-1196, e167-e182

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

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

October 2016 Volume 51, Issue 4, p411-636, e91-e118

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

Volume 106, Issue 10 (October 2016)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

September 2016; 95 (3)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Annals of Internal Medicine

20 September 2016, Vol. 165. No. 6

<http://annals.org/issue.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

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

(Accessed 1 October 2016)

[No new content]

BMC Health Services Research

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

(Accessed 1 October 2016)

Research article

[Awareness and implementation of nine World Health Organization's patient safety solutions among three groups of healthcare workers in Oman](#)

The pressing need to reduce burgeoning poor safety measures affecting millions worldwide has alerted World Health Assembly to set-up mechanisms to increase patient safety. In response to such needs, World Heal...

Ahmed Al-Mandhari, Ibrahim Al-Zakwani, Samir Al-Adawi, Samra Al-Barwani and Lakshmanan Jeyaseelan

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BMC Health Services Research 2016 16:533
Published on: 30 September 2016

Research article

[Evaluation of medicine retail outlets for sale of typhoid fever vaccine among adults in two urban and rural settings in western Kenya: a proof-of-concept study](#)

Private sector medicine outlets are an important provider of health services across the developing world, and are an untapped means of distributing and selling vaccines outside of childhood immunization progra...

Julius Ho, Gladys Odhiambo, Lucy W. Meng'anyi, Rosemary M. Musuva, Joseph M. Mule, Zakayo S. Alaly, Maurice R. Odiere, Pauline N. Mwinzi and Lisa Ganley-Leal

BMC Health Services Research 2016 16:527

Published on: 29 September 2016

Research article

["I go I die, I stay I die, better to stay and die in my house": understanding the barriers to accessing health care in Timor-Leste](#)

Despite public health care being free at the point of delivery in Timor-Leste, wealthier patients access hospital care at nearly twice the rate of poorer patients. This study seeks to understand the barriers d...

Jennifer A. Price, Ana I. F. Sousa Soares, Augustine D. Asante, Joao S. Martins, Kate Williams and Virginia L. Wiseman

BMC Health Services Research 2016 16:535

Published on: 30 September 2016

Research article

[A qualitative synthesis of the positive and negative impacts related to delivery of peer-based health interventions in prison settings](#)

Peer interventions involving prisoners in delivering peer education and peer support in a prison setting can address health need and add capacity for health services operating in this setting. This paper repor...

Jane South, James Woodall, Karina Kinsella and Anne-Marie Bagnall

BMC Health Services Research 2016 16:525

Published on: 29 September 2016

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 1 October 2016)

Research article

[Loss to follow-up and HIV incidence in female sex workers in Kaiyuan, Yunnan Province China: a nine year longitudinal study](#)

Longitudinal studies of female sex workers (FSWs) are vulnerable to loss to follow-up (LTFU) due to this population's high mobility and low willingness to self-identify as FSWs. LTFU in cohort studies is a cri...

Yingying Su, Guowei Ding, Kathleen H. Reilly, Jessie L. Norris, Huixin Liu, Zheng Li, Guixiang Wang, Ganggang Fang and Ning Wang

BMC Infectious Diseases 2016 16:526

Published on: 29 September 2016

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BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 1 October 2016)

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 1 October 2016)

[No new content]

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 1 October 2016)

Commentary

[Medicine shortages: a commentary on causes and mitigation strategies](#)

Swathi Iyengar, Lisa Hedman, Gilles Forte and Suzanne Hill

BMC Medicine 2016 14:124

Published on: 29 September 2016

Abstract

Shortages of medicines and vaccines have been reported in countries of all income levels in recent years. Shortages can result from one or multiple causes, including shortages of raw materials, manufacturing capacity problems, industry consolidation, marketing practices, and procurement and supply chain management. Existing approaches to mitigate shortages include advance notice systems managed through medicine regulatory authorities, special programmes that track medicines, and interventions to improve efficiency of the medicine supply chain. Redistribution of supplies at the national level can mitigate some shortages in the short term. International redistribution and exceptional regulatory approvals may be used in limited circumstances, with the understanding that such approaches are complex and may introduce cost and quality risks. If it is necessary to prioritise patients to receive a medicine that is in shortage, evidence-based practice should be used to ensure optimal allocation. Important steps in reducing medicine shortages and their impact include identifying medicines that are most at risk, developing reporting systems to share information on current and emerging shortages, and improving data from medicine supply chains.

Forum

[The disease of corruption: views on how to fight corruption to advance 21st century global health goals](#)

Tim K. Mackey, Jillian Clare Kohler, William D. Savedoff, Frank Vogl, Maureen Lewis, James Sale, Joshua Michaud and Taryn Vian

BMC Medicine 2016 14:149

Published on: 29 September 2016

Abstract

Corruption has been described as a disease. When corruption infiltrates global health, it can be particularly devastating, threatening hard gained improvements in human and economic development, international security, and population health. Yet, the multifaceted and complex nature of global health corruption makes it extremely difficult to tackle, despite its enormous

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costs, which have been estimated in the billions of dollars. In this forum article, we asked anti-corruption experts to identify key priority areas that urgently need global attention in order to advance the fight against global health corruption. The views shared by this multidisciplinary group of contributors reveal several fundamental challenges and allow us to explore potential solutions to address the unique risks posed by health-related corruption. Collectively, these perspectives also provide a roadmap that can be used in support of global health anti-corruption efforts in the post-2015 development agenda.

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 1 October 2016)

Research article

[eRegistries: indicators for the WHO Essential Interventions for reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health](#)

Electronic health registries – eRegistries - can systematically collect relevant information at the point of care for reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH). However, a suite of process and outc...

Vicki Flenady, Aleena M. Wojcieszek, Ingvild Fjeldheim, Ingrid K. Friberg, Victoria Nankabirwa, Jagrati V. Jani, Sonja Myhre, Philippa Middleton, Caroline Crowther, David Ellwood, David Tudehope, Robert Pattinson, Jacqueline Ho, Jiji Matthews, Aurora Bermudez Ortega, Mahima Venkateswaran...

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth 2016 16:293

Published on: 30 September 2016

Research article

[Perinatal health care services for imprisoned pregnant women and associated outcomes: a systematic review](#)

Women are an increasing minority of prisoners worldwide, and most are of childbearing age. Prisons offer unique opportunities for improving the pregnancy outcomes of these high-risk women, and no systematic re...

Eleanor Bard, Marian Knight and Emma Plugge

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth 2016 16:285

Published on: 29 September 2016

Research article

[eRegistries: governance for electronic maternal and child health registries](#)

The limited availability of maternal and child health data has limited progress in reducing mortality and morbidity among pregnant women and children. Global health agencies, leaders, and funders are prioritiz...

Sonja L. Myhre, Jane Kaye, Lee A. Bygrave, Margunn Aanestad, Buthaina Ghanem, Patricia Mechael and J. Frederik Frøen

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth 2016 16:279

Published on: 23 September 2016

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 1 October 2016)

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Navigation to Main Sections: :: [Week in Review](#) :: [Key Agency/IGO/Governments Watch](#) :: [INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch](#)
:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

Research article

Extreme weather events in developing countries and related injuries and mental health disorders - a systematic review

Due to climate change, extreme weather events have an incremental impact on human health. Injuries and mental health disorders are a particular burden of disease, which is broadly investigated in high income c...

Elisabeth Rataj, Katharina Kunzweiler and Susan Garthus-Niegel

BMC Public Health 2016 16:1020

Published on: 29 September 2016

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 1 October 2016)

[No new relevant content]

BMJ Open

2016, Volume 6, Issue 9

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 94, Number 10, October 2016, 709-784

<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/94/10/en/>
EDITORIALS

Valuing older people: time for a global campaign to combat ageism

Alana Officer, Mira Leonie Schneiders, Diane Wu, Paul Nash, Jotheeswaran Amuthavalli

Thiyagarajan & John R Beard

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.16.184960>

RESEARCH

Adding interventions to mass measles vaccinations in India

Mira Johri, Stéphane Verguet, Shaun K Morris, Jitendar K Sharma, Usha Ram, Cindy Gauvreau, Edward Jones, Prabhat Jha & Mark Jit

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.15.160044>

Abstract

Objective

To quantify the impact on mortality of offering a hypothetical set of technically feasible, high-impact interventions for maternal and child survival during India's 2010–2013 measles supplementary immunization activity.

Methods

We developed Lives Saved Tool models for 12 Indian states participating in the supplementary immunization, based on state- and sex-specific data on mortality from India's Million Deaths Study and on health services coverage from Indian household surveys. Potential add-on interventions were identified through a literature review and expert consultations. We quantified the number of lives saved for a campaign offering measles vaccine alone versus a campaign

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offering measles vaccine with six add-on interventions (nutritional screening and complementary feeding for children, vitamin A and zinc supplementation for children, multiple micronutrient and calcium supplementation in pregnancy, and free distribution of insecticide-treated bednets).

Findings

The measles vaccination campaign saved an estimated 19 016 lives of children younger than 5 years. A hypothetical campaign including measles vaccine with add-on interventions was projected to save around 73 900 lives (range: 70 200–79 300), preventing 73 700 child deaths (range: 70 000–79 000) and 300 maternal deaths (range: 200–400). The most effective interventions in the whole package were insecticide-treated bednets, measles vaccine and preventive zinc supplementation. Girls accounted for 66% of expected lives saved (12 712/19 346) for the measles vaccine campaign, and 62% of lives saved (45 721/74 367) for the hypothetical campaign including add-on interventions.

Conclusion

In India, a measles vaccination campaign including feasible, high-impact interventions could substantially increase the number of lives saved and mitigate gender-related inequities in child mortality.

Research

Estimation of child vaccination coverage at state and national levels in India

Pankaj Bhatnagar, Satish Gupta, Rakesh Kumar, Pradeep Halder, Raman Sethi & Sunil Bahl
<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.15.167593>

Abstract

Objective

To review the data, for 1999–2013, on state-level child vaccination coverage in India and provide estimates of coverage at state and national levels.

Methods

We collated data from administrative reports, population-based surveys and other sources and used them to produce annual estimates of vaccination coverage. We investigated bacille Calmette–Guérin vaccine, the first and third doses of vaccine against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis, the third dose of oral polio vaccine and the first dose of vaccine against measles. We obtained relevant data covering the period 1999–2013 for each of 16 states and territories and the period 2001–2013 for the state of Jharkhand – which was only created in 2000. We aggregated the resultant state-level estimates, using a population-weighted approach, to give national values.

Findings

For each of the vaccinations we investigated, about half of the 253 estimates of annual coverage at state level that we produced were based on survey results. The rest were based on interpolation between – or extrapolation from – so-called anchor points or, more rarely, on administrative data. Our national estimates indicated that, for each of the vaccines we investigated, coverage gradually increased between 1999 and 2010 but then levelled off.

Conclusion

The delivery of routine vaccination services to Indian children appears to have improved between 1999 and 2013. There remains considerable scope to improve the recording and reporting of childhood vaccination coverage in India and regular systematic reviews of the coverage data are recommended.

Research

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Essential medicines for cancer: WHO recommendations and national priorities

Jane Robertson, Ronald Barr, Lawrence N Shulman, Gilles B Forte & Nicola Magrini
<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.15.163998>

Research

Neonatal mortality within 24 hours of birth in six low- and lower-middle-income countries

Abdullah H Baqui, Dipak K Mitra, Nazma Begum, Lisa Hurt, Seyi Soremekun, Karen Edmond, Betty Kirkwood, Nita Bhandari, Sunita Taneja, Sarmila Mazumder, Muhammad Imran Nisar, Fyezah Jehan, Muhammad Ilyas, Murtaza Ali, Imran Ahmed, Shabina Ariff, Sajid B Soofi, Sunil Sazawal, Usha Dhingra, Arup Dutta, Said M Ali, Shaali M Ame, Katherine Semrau, Fern M Hamomba, Caroline Grogan, Davidson H Hamer, Rajiv Bahl, Sachiyo Yoshida & Alexander Manu
<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.15.160945>

PERSPECTIVES

Negotiating prices of drugs for rare diseases

S  verine Henrard & Francis Arickx
<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.15.163519>

Child Care, Health and Development

September 2016 Volume 42, Issue 5 Pages 603–773
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/cch.v42.5/issuetoc>
[Reviewed earlier]

Complexity

September/October 2016 Volume 21, Issue S1 Pages 1–632
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cplx.v21.6/issuetoc>
[Reviewed earlier]

Conflict and Health

<http://www.conflictandhealth.com/>
[Accessed 1 October 2016]
[No relevant content identified]

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases

October 2016 - Volume 29 - Issue 5 pp: v-vi,433-537
<http://journals.lww.com/co-infectiousdiseases/pages/currenttoc.aspx>
[Reviewed earlier]

Developing World Bioethics

August 2016 Volume 16, Issue 2 Pages 61–120
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dewb.2016.16.issue-2/issuetoc>
[Reviewed earlier]

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

Development in Practice

Volume 24, Number 8

<http://www.developmentinpractice.org/journals/volume-24-number-8>

[Reviewed earlier]

Development Policy Review

September 2016 Volume 34, Issue 5 Pages 621–757

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dpr.2016.34.issue-5/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology

Volume 11, Issue 8, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness

Volume 10 - Issue 04 - August 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Disasters

October 2016 Volume 40, Issue 4 Pages 589–815

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/disa.2016.40.issue-4/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Emergency Medicine Journal

September 2016, Volume 33, Issue 9

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Volume 22, Number 10—October 2016

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemics

Volume 16, In Progress (September 2016)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

End of Life Journal

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Navigation to Main Sections: :: [Week in Review](#) :: [Key Agency/IGO/Governments Watch](#) :: [INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch](#)
:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

2016, Volume 6, Issue 1
<http://eolj.bmj.com/content/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemiology and Infection

Volume 144 - Issue 12 - September 2016
<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayIssue?jid=HYG&tab=currentissue>
[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & International Affairs

Spring 2016 (Issue 30.1) | March 10, 2016
<http://www.ethicsandinternationalaffairs.org/2016/spring-2016-issue-30-1/>
[Reviewed earlier]

The European Journal of Public Health

Volume 26, Issue 4, 1 August 2016
<http://eurpub.oxfordjournals.org/content/26/4>
[Reviewed earlier]

Eurosurveillance

Volume 21, Issue 39, 29 September 2016
<http://www.eurosurveillance.org/Public/Articles/Archives.aspx?PublicationId=11678>
[New issue; No relevant content identified]

Food Policy

Volume 64, In Progress (October 2016)
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03069192>
[Reviewed earlier]

Food Security

Volume 8, Issue 4, August 2016
<http://link.springer.com/journal/12571/8/4/page/1>
[Springer site down for maintenance]

Forum for Development Studies

Volume 43, Issue 2, 2016
<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/sfds20/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Genocide Studies International

Volume 10, Issue 1, Spring 2016

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

<http://www.utpjournals.press/toc/gsi/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP)

September 2016 | Volume 4 | Issue 3

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

VIEWPOINTS

Moving Medicine, Moving Minds: Helping Developing Countries Overcome Barriers to Outsourcing Health Commodity Distribution to Boost Supply Chain Performance and Strengthen Health Systems

Senegal and other developing countries are improving access to health commodities by outsourcing supply chain logistics to private providers. To achieve broader, lasting reform, we must support further adoption of the outsourced model; assist country-led cost-benefit analyses; and help governments build capacity to manage contracts and overcome other barriers.

Priya Agrawal, Iain Barton, Roberto Dal Bianco, Dana Hovig, David Sarley, Prashant Yadav
Glob Health Sci Pract 2016;4(3):359-365. <http://dx.doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-16-00130>

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Successful Implementation of a Multicountry Clinical Surveillance and Data Collection System for Ebola Virus Disease in West Africa: Findings and Lessons Learned

Despite resource and logistical constraints, International Medical Corps cared for thousands at 5 Ebola treatment units in Liberia and Sierra Leone between 2014 and 2015 while collecting hundreds of data points on each patient. To facilitate data collection and global reporting in future humanitarian responses, standardized data forms and databases, with clear definitions of clinical and epidemiological variables, should be developed and adopted by the international community.

Reshma Roshania, Michaela Mallow, Nelson Dunbar, David Mansary, Pranav Shetty, Taralyn Lyon, Kacey Pham, Matthew Abad, Erin Shedd, Anh-Minh A Tran, Sarah Cundy, Adam C Levine
Glob Health Sci Pract 2016;4(3):394-409. <http://dx.doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-16-00186>

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

A Randomized Controlled Trial of a Trauma-Informed Support, Skills, and Psychoeducation Intervention for Survivors of Torture and Related Trauma in Kurdistan, Northern Iraq

Providing survivors of torture, imprisonment, and/or military attacks with a counseling program that includes support, skills and psychoeducation by well-trained and supervised community mental health workers can result in moderate yet meaningful improvements in depression and dysfunction.

Judith Bass, Sarah McIvor Murray, Thikra Ahmed Mohammed, Mary Bunn, William Gorman, Ahmed Mohammed Amin Ahmed, Laura Murray, Paul Bolton
Glob Health Sci Pract 2016;4(3):452-466. First published online September 8, 2016.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-16-00017>

ABSTRACT

Supportive counseling type interventions are frequently provided to meet the mental health needs of populations in emergency and post-conflicts contexts, but it has seldom been rigorously evaluated. Existing evaluations from low- and middle-income countries provide mixed

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evidence of effectiveness. While Iraqi Kurdistan experienced relative stability following the fall of Saddam Hussein's government, the population in the northern Dohuk region has continued to experience periodic violence due to conflicts with neighboring Turkey as well as more recent ISIS-associated violence. We evaluated the impact of a trauma-informed support, skills, and psychoeducation intervention provided by community mental health workers (CMHWs) on depressive symptoms and dysfunction (primary outcomes) as well as post-traumatic stress, traumatic grief, and anxiety symptoms (secondary outcomes). Between June 2009 and June 2010, 295 adults were screened; 209 (71%) met eligibility criteria (trauma exposure and a symptom severity score indicating significant distress and functional impairment, among others) and consented to participate. Of these, 159 were randomized to supportive counseling while 50 were randomized to a waitlist control condition. Comparing average symptom severity scores post-treatment among those in the intervention group with those in the waitlist control group, the supportive counseling program had statistically and clinically significant impacts on the primary outcomes of depression (Cohen's *d*, 0.57; *P* = .02) and dysfunction (Cohen's *d*, 0.53; *P* = .03) and significant but smaller impacts on anxiety. Although studies by the same research team of psychotherapeutic interventions in other parts of Kurdistan and in southern Iraq found larger effects, this study adds to the global research literature on mental health and psychosocial support and shows that a well-trained and supervised program of trauma-informed support, skills, and psychoeducation that emphasizes the therapeutic relationship can also be effective.

Progress in Harmonizing Tiered HIV Laboratory Systems: Challenges and Opportunities in 8 African Countries

Countries have had mixed results in adhering to laboratory instrument procurement lists, with some limiting instrument brand expansion and others experiencing substantial growth in instrument counts and brand diversity. Important challenges to advancing laboratory harmonization strategies include:

- :: Lack of adherence to procurement policies
- :: Lack of an effective coordinating body
- :: Misalignment of laboratory policies, treatment guidelines, and minimum service packages

Jason Williams, Farouk Umaru, Dianna Edgil, Joel Kuritsky

Glob Health Sci Pract 2016;4(3):467-480. <http://dx.doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-16-00004>

Global Public Health

Volume 11, Issue 9, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 1 October 2016]

Research

Improving Ghana's mental healthcare through task-shifting- psychiatrists and health policy directors perceptions about government's commitment and the role of community mental health workers

Vincent Israel Opoku Agyapong, Conor Farren and Eilish McAuliffe

Published on: 1 October 2016

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

Health Affairs

September 2016; Volume 35, Issue 9

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

Issue Focus: Payment Reforms, Prescription Drugs & More

[Reviewed earlier]

Health and Human Rights

Volume 18, Issue 1, June 2016

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

Special Section: Tuberculosis and the Right to Health

in collaboration with the International Human Rights Clinic, University of Chicago Law School

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Economics, Policy and Law

Volume 11 - Issue 03 - July 2016

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/health-economics-policy-and-law/latest-issue>

Articles

[The future of Indian Health Services for native Americans in the United States: an analysis of policy options and recommendations](#)

Published online: 06 May 2016, pp. 397-414

Tiffany Henley, Maureen Boshier

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S1744133116000141>

Abstract

The passage of the Affordable Care Act in the United States has opened a policy window for the establishment of an independent Medicaid agency for the Navajo Nation. This article explores several policy options to improve health care services for Native Americans. Although there is a lack of scholarly research on the impact of healthcare reform and the effectiveness of current health care programs for American Indians, policymakers should utilize evidence-based research to inform policy decisions.

Debate

[Clarifying the role of values in cost-effectiveness](#)

Published online: 13 April 2016, pp. 439-443

Michael K. Gusmano, Gregory Kaebnick

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S1744133116000062>

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 31 Issue 8 October 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems

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

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

[Accessed 1 October 2016]
[No new relevant content]

Human Rights Quarterly

Volume 38, Number 3, August 2016
<http://muse.jhu.edu/issue/33958>
[Reviewed earlier]

Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics (formerly Human Vaccines)

Volume 12, Issue 8, 2016
<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/khvi20/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Humanitarian Exchange Magazine

Number 67 September 2016
<http://odihpn.org/magazine/humanitarian-innovation/>
[Reviewed earlier]

IDRiM Journal

Vol 6, No 1 (2016)
<http://idrimjournal.com/index.php/idrim/issue/view/15>
IDRiM Conference Special Issue Articles
[Reviewed earlier]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

<http://www.idpjournals.com/content>
[Accessed 1 October 2016]
[No new content]

International Health

Volume 8 Issue 5 September 2016
<http://inthehealth.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>
COMMENTARIES

People-centred health systems: building more resilient health systems in the wake of the Ebola crisis

Fred P. Martineau

Int. Health (2016) 8 (5): 307-309 doi:10.1093/inthehealth/ihw029

Abstract

The 2014–2016 West African Ebola outbreak demonstrated the extent to which local social and political dynamics shape health system responses to crises such as epidemics. Many post-Ebola health system strengthening programmes are framed around a notion of health system ‘resilience’ that focuses on global rather than local priorities and fails to account for key local social dynamics that shape crisis responses. Post-crisis health system strengthening efforts

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require a shift towards a more 'people-centred' understanding of resilience that attends to the people, relationships and local contexts that constitute health systems and the practices that produce crisis responses.

REVIEW

Development of drugs for severe malaria in children

Phaik Yeong Cheah, Michael Parker, and Arjen M. Dondorp

Int. Health (2016) 8 (5): 313-316 doi:10.1093/inthealth/ihw038

Abstract

Over 90% of deaths attributable to malaria are in African children under 5 years old. Yet, new treatments are often tested primarily in adult patients and extrapolations have proven to be sometimes invalid, especially in dosing regimens. For studies in severe malaria an additional complication is that the decline in severe malaria in adult patients precludes sufficiently powered trials in adults, before the intervention can be tested in the ultimate target group, paediatric severe malaria. In this paper we propose an alternative pathway to the development of drugs for use in paediatric severe malaria. We argue that following the classical phase I and II studies, small safety and efficacy studies using well-chosen surrogate endpoints in adult severe malaria be conducted, instead of larger mortality endpoint trials. If the drug appears safe and promising small pilot studies in paediatric severe malaria using the same endpoints can follow. Finally, with carefully observed safeguards in place to ensure high ethical standards, promising candidate interventions can be taken forward into mortality endpoint, well-powered, large paediatric studies in African children with severe malaria. Given the available research capacity, limited numbers of prudently selected interventions can be studied in phase III trials, and adaptive designs should be considered.

Lessons learnt from TB screening in closed immigration centres in Italy

Anna Crepet, Ernestina Repetto, Ahmad Al Rousan, Monica Sané Schepisi, Enrico Girardi, Tullio Prestileo, Luigi Codecasa, Silvia Garelli, Salvatore Corrao, Giuseppe Ippolito, Tom Decroo, and Barbara Maccagno

Int. Health (2016) 8 (5): 324-329 doi:10.1093/inthealth/ihw025

Abstract

Background Between June 2012 and December 2013 Médecins Sans Frontières launched a pilot project with the aim of testing a strategy for improving timely diagnosis of active pulmonary TB among migrants hosted in four centres of identification and expulsion (CIE) in Italy.

Methods This is a descriptive study. For active TB case finding we used an active symptom screening approach among migrants at admission in four CIE's. Here we describe the feasibility and the yield of this programme.

Results Overall, 3588 migrants were screened, among whom 87 (2.4%) had a positive questionnaire. Out of 30 migrants referred for further investigations, three were diagnosed as having TB, or 0.1% out of 3588 individuals that underwent screening. Twenty-five (29%, 25/87) migrants with positive questionnaires were not referred for further investigation, following the doctors' decision; however, for 32 (37%, 32/87) migrants the diagnostic work-out was not completed. In multivariate analyses, being over 35 years (OR 1.7; 95% CI 1.1–2.6) and being transgender (OR 4.9; 95% CI 2.1–11.7), was associated with a positive questionnaire.

Conclusions TB screening with symptom screening questionnaires of migrants at admission in closed centres is feasible. However, to improve the yield, follow-up of patients with symptoms or signs suggestive for TB needs to be improved.

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Not forgetting severe mental disorders in humanitarian emergencies: a descriptive study from the Philippines

Ana Cecilia Andrade de Moraes Weintraub, Mariana Gaspar Garcia, Elisa Birri, Nathalie Severy, Marie-Christine Ferir, Engy Ali, Katie Tayler-Smith, Dinah Palmera Nadera, and Mark Van Ommeren

Int. Health (2016) 8 (5): 336-344 doi:10.1093/inthealth/ihw032

Abstract

Background Severe mental disorders are often neglected following a disaster. Based on Médecins Sans Frontières' (MSF) experience of providing mental health (MH) care after the 2013 typhoon in the Philippines, we describe the monthly volume of MH activities and beneficiaries; characteristics of people seeking MH care; profile and outcomes of people with severe mental disorders; prescription of psychotropic medication; and factors facilitating the identification and management of individuals with severe mental disorders.

Methods A retrospective review of programme data was carried out.

Results In total, 172 persons sought MH care. Numbers peaked three months into MSF's intervention and decreased thereafter. Of 134 (78%) people with complete data, 37 (28%) had a severe mental disorder, often characterised by psychotic symptoms (n=24, 64%) and usually unrelated to the typhoon (n=32, 86%). Four people (11%) were discharged after successful treatment, two (5%) moved out of the area, 20 (54%) were referred for follow-up on cessation of MSF activities and 10 (27%) were lost-to-follow-up. Psychotropic treatment was prescribed for 33 (75%) people with mental disorders and for 11 with non-severe mental disorders.

Conclusions This study illustrates how actors can play an important role in providing MH care for people with severe mental disorders in the aftermath of a disaster.

International Human Rights Law Review

Volume 5, Issue 1, 2016

<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/22131035/5/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction

Volume 18, Pages 1-266 (September 2016)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/22124209/18>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Epidemiology

Volume 45 Issue 3 June 2016

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

[New issue: No relevant content identified]

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

September 2016 Volume 50, p1-90 Open Access

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology

Volume 23, Issue 6, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Migration Review

Fall 2016 Volume 50, Issue 3 Pages 535–824, e33–e49

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/imre.2016.50.issue-3/issuetoc>

Special Focus Areas in this Issue:

:: IMMIGRANTS IN WESTERN EUROPE: EDUCATION, MARRIAGE, ATTITUDES, AND UNEMPLOYMENT

:: IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCES IN NORTH AMERICA AND AUSTRALIA: UNIONIZATION, DACA, WEIGHT, EDUCATIONAL EXPECTATIONS, AND MATERNAL DEPRESSION

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

July 2016 - Volume 14 - Issue 2 pp: 96-186

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

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

September 27, 2016, Vol 316, No. 12

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

Viewpoint

[Hepatitis C Virus—From Discovery to Cure: The 2016 Lasker-DeBakey Clinical Medical Research Award](#)

Ralf F. W. Bartenschlager, PhD; Charles M. Rice, PhD; Michael J. Sofia, PhD

Includes: Supplemental Content

JAMA Pediatrics

September 2016, Vol 170, No. 9

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

[Reviewed earlier]

JBI Database of Systematic Review and Implementation Reports

August 2016 - Volume 14 - Issue 8

pp: 1-322

<http://journals.lww.com/jbisrir/Pages/currenttoc.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Community Health

Volume 41, Issue 5, October 2016

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10900/41/5/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

October 2016, Volume 70, Issue 10

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development

Volume 6 Issue 2 2016 ISSN: 2044-1266

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/jchmsd/6/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Development Economics

Volume 123, In Progress (November 2016)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03043878/123>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Environmental Management

Volume 183, Part 1, Pages 1-342 (1 December 2016)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03014797>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

October 2016, Volume 70, Issue 10

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Human Trafficking

Volume 2, Issue 3, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Ethics

Volume 12, Issue 2, 2016

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjge20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Infectious Diseases (JGID)

July-September 2016 Volume 8 | Issue 3 Page Nos. 95-126

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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

Volume 27, Number 3, August 2016

<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/33980>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Volume 6 Issue 2 2016

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/jhlscm/6/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Volume 18, Issue 5, October 2016

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10903/18/5/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies

Volume 14, Issue 3, 2016

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

Special Issue: Social Mobilization and Political Participation in the Diaspora During the "Arab Spring"

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Infectious Diseases

Volume 214 Issue 8 October 15, 2016

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

[New issue; No relevant digest content identified]

Journal of International Development

August 2016 Volume 28, Issue 6 Pages 825–1010

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jid.v28.6/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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics

October 2016, Volume 42, Issue 10

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<http://jme.bmj.com/content/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Operations Management

Volume 46, Pages 1-94 (September 2016)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02726963>

Special Issue on Supply Chain Management in Emerging Markets

[New issue; No relevant digest content identified]

Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews

Volume 3, Issue 3 (2016)

<http://digitalrepository.aurorahealthcare.org/jpcrr/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (JPIDS)

Volume 5 Issue 1 October 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pediatrics

September 2016 Volume 176, p1-228

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Public Health Policy

Volume 37, Issue 1 Supplement, September 2016

<http://link.springer.com/journal/41271/37/1/suppl/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Royal Society – Interface

01 June 2016; volume 13, issue 119

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

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The Lancet

Oct 01, 2016 Volume 388 Number 10052 p1349-1446 e7-e10

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

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

Lancet Global Health

Oct 2016 Volume 4 Number 10 e663-e760

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

Editorial

Financing for health: where there's a will...

The Lancet Global Health

Open Access

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X\(16\)30226-1](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(16)30226-1)

On Aug 23, WHO quietly released a report that should be essential reading for all. Coming 15 years after the Abuja Declaration by African governments to commit to spending 15% of annual domestic budgets on health, concludes with a stark analysis: "For every US\$100 that goes into state coffers in Africa, on average US\$16 is allocated to health, only US\$10 is in effect spent, and less than US\$4 goes to the right health services."

The analysis is a timely reminder that the issue of domestic health financing is not simply a function of economic development. Indeed, the report shows clearly that increased gross domestic product (GDP) in Africa over the past 15 years has rarely led to increased government spending on health, and current figures show that the average proportion of public expenditure on health of 10% applies to countries across all levels of the income spectrum. In fact DR Congo, at a GDP of \$476, allocates 11% of public expenditure to health, whereas Botswana, with its 13 times greater GDP of \$6041 allocates only 9%.

The 2016 Africa Data Report released by the advocacy organisation ONE on the same day presents complementary findings, including an analysis of the amount spent on health per capita. The High-level Taskforce on Innovative International Financing for Health Systems calculated that the amount of spending necessary to provide a package of key basic health services in low-income countries is \$54 (in 2005 prices). The ONE report illustrates the vast range of current per-capita health spending across sub-Saharan Africa, with eight countries spending at least double this figure, but 29 countries spending less than half of it.

In many cases, health has actually been shifted further down the agenda as a country's financial prosperity has increased. The WHO report's authors put this down to several factors, including poor coordination between ministries of health and finance; unstable funding flows (both domestic and donor) that hamper health sector planning, contribute to poor performance, and thus compound health's lower priority; and continued low revenue generation through taxation even as GDP rises, leaving little "fiscal space" for allocation to health.

Beyond health sector allocation, however, the WHO report highlights an all-too-commonplace failure to actually spend the money set aside for health. The authors estimate that, across Africa, 10–30% of budgets authorised to be devoted to health remain unspent, particularly funds destined for infrastructure. These failures seem to come down to a fundamental deficiency in public expenditure management, and are an obvious yet under-recognised target for analysis and reform.

Finally, the report drills down into the question of spending prioritisation within the health sector itself. Evidence shows that recent increases in health expenditure in Africa have not tended to favour expansion of primary care services nor those most accessible to poorer people. Indeed, less than 40% of public expenditure is estimated to be spent on primary care in most African countries. Furthermore, even when coverage has expanded, subsidisation has not necessarily followed, resulting in a continued skewing of catastrophic expenditure towards the lowest income sectors. The quality of the services provided is another crucial issue, the report

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finds, since bellwether indicators such as maternal mortality ratio can vary from less than 250 to almost 1500 per 100 000 livebirths for the same level of health expenditure (in this case \$200 per capita).

What are the recommendations, then? Revenue (ie, tax) collection is a key target for strengthening, and, as outlined in a recent [blog by José Luis Castro](#), tobacco taxation is a prime candidate. Castro points to the Philippines' "sin tax" reform as a model: not only does it simplify the country's previously complex tax structure and enshrine it in law, it directs the proceeds towards a defined health benefit—ie, the country's universal health-care programme. Such identification of defined benefits and alignment with appropriate payment mechanisms is another key recommendation of the WHO report, and feeds into the need for better engagement between ministries of health and finance and cultivation of long-term, sustainable sources of health financing. Castro praises the Philippines' then Undersecretary of Finance, Jeremias Paul, for bridging the gap, and calls for more such role models to come forward. President Xi Jinping of China's recent [public statement](#) that health authorities alone cannot ensure a healthy populace was a landmark step: which African leader will follow?

Comment

[Global trends in vaccination coverage](#)

Published: 25 August 2016

Michiel van Boven, Alies van Lier

Universal vaccination programmes have greatly reduced the burden of infectious diseases in both developing and developed countries.^{1, 2, 3} In the 1960s and 1970s, these reductions led to optimism that a victory in the battle against infectious diseases could be within reach. Unfortunately, even though the benefits of most childhood vaccinations are scientifically unquestioned, vaccination coverage rates are far from 100% in many countries, and show substantial variation. Early detection of trends and an improved understanding of underlying mechanisms are paramount to be able to improve vaccination policies.

In *The Lancet Global Health*, Alexandre de Figueiredo and colleagues⁴ take a step in this direction with their time-series analysis of trends in vaccine coverage and a suite of socioeconomic and demographic factors across 190 countries over 30 years. The main aim was to gauge where and when vaccination coverage might fall below levels that are safe for prevention of epidemic transmission, and to correlate such decreases with underlying socioeconomic and demographic factors.

The investigators used WHO–UNICEF coverage estimates of three doses of diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTP3) vaccination and obtained [data from Gapminder](#). By use of a statistical framework based on Gaussian process regression and a newly developed vaccine performance index, which forecasts that vaccination coverage will be at a safe level (90%) in the near future, the analyses yield some interesting results next to the basic fact that worldwide coverage has increased. For instance, gross domestic product (GDP) and government health spending correlate most strongly with vaccination coverage in Eastern Mediterranean countries between 1980 and 2010, whereas primary school completion correlates most strongly with vaccination coverage in Africa (more so than does GDP). The analyses also provide a list of countries with high to low vaccine performance indices, showing that many of the countries at the low end of the list are in sub-Saharan Africa, the Indian subcontinent, and southeast Asia. From a global public health perspective, the list provides an objective measure that can be used to prioritise

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countries or regions where efforts to increase vaccination coverage are expected to be most efficient.

Notably, although vaccination coverage correlates well with GDP and schooling in many regions of the world, this is not the case any more in Europe and, to a lesser extent, North America. Here, no socioeconomic factors correlated with high coverage, and one argument is that once the basic necessities of life are available, other factors such as social attitudes to vaccination might become more important.[5](#), [6](#) Because of the focus on socioeconomic factors, de Figueiredo and colleagues' findings cannot add much more than speculation to this argument, and it will be interesting to see the outcomes when the set of variables is extended to encompass social indicators that might shape vaccine hesitancy.[7](#)

With a focus on global immunisation patterns and the relation with socioeconomic factors, the investigators have painted a picture with broad brushes, one that cannot hope to unravel patterns that are important in specific regions or countries and for particular diseases. Examples are the difficulties encountered in the push towards eradication of polio in Afghanistan and Pakistan driven by war and extreme ideologies,[8](#) the struggle to achieve elimination of measles in Europe given vaccine refusal in clustered religious and anthroposophical groups, and the perceived lack of safety of the human papillomavirus vaccine fuelled by adverse events after vaccination.[9](#) These examples show that a full understanding of local coverage patterns requires data and analyses at the local level.

Technically, the vaccine performance index might have to be developed further. The index provides an aggregate measure that takes both vaccination coverage and changes in coverage into account. One could argue that in its current form the vaccine performance index punishes countries with systematically high but volatile vaccination coverage (eg, Norway) quite strongly. In fact, low vaccine performance indices in these countries might be due to reporting bias or small sample sizes (in cases when a national registry is not available). Indeed, in developing countries, precise figures for vaccination coverage are often not available, and estimation of vaccination coverage is not always straightforward.[10](#), [11](#) Future developments will probably have to incorporate the uncertainty in vaccination coverage estimates to prevent artificial increases in the precision of the correlations.

Overall, de Figueiredo and colleagues have provided a laudable analysis of the link between vaccination coverage rates and demographic and socioeconomic factors at the global scale. In addition to providing an overview of trends and potential explanations, an important merit of the study is that it forces us to think about the factors that determine vaccination coverage now and in the future...

Articles

[Forecasted trends in vaccination coverage and correlations with socioeconomic factors: a global time-series analysis over 30 years](#)

Alexandre de Figueiredo, Iain G Johnston, David M D Smith, Sumeet Agarwal, Heidi J Larson, Nick S Jones

Summary

Background

Incomplete immunisation coverage causes preventable illness and death in both developing and developed countries. Identification of factors that might modulate coverage could inform effective immunisation programmes and policies. We constructed a performance indicator that

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could quantitatively approximate measures of the susceptibility of immunisation programmes to coverage losses, with an aim to identify correlations between trends in vaccine coverage and socioeconomic factors.

Methods

We undertook a data-driven time-series analysis to examine trends in coverage of diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTP) vaccination across 190 countries over the past 30 years. We grouped countries into six world regions according to WHO classifications. We used Gaussian process regression to forecast future coverage rates and provide a vaccine performance index: a summary measure of the strength of immunisation coverage in a country.

Findings

Overall vaccine coverage increased in all six world regions between 1980 and 2010, with variation in volatility and trends. Our vaccine performance index identified that 53 countries had more than a 50% chance of missing the Global Vaccine Action Plan (GVAP) target of 90% worldwide coverage with three doses of DTP (DTP3) by 2015. These countries were mostly in sub-Saharan Africa and south Asia, but Austria and Ukraine also featured. Factors associated with DTP3 immunisation coverage varied by world region: personal income (Spearman's $\rho=0.66$, $p=0.0011$) and government health spending (0.66 , $p<0.0001$) were informative of immunisation coverage in the Eastern Mediterranean between 1980 and 2010, whereas primary school completion was informative of coverage in Africa (0.56 , $p<0.0001$) over the same period. The proportion of births attended by skilled health staff correlated significantly with immunisation coverage across many world regions.

Interpretation

Our vaccine performance index highlighted countries at risk of failing to achieve the GVAP target of 90% coverage by 2015, and could aid policy makers' assessments of the strength and resilience of immunisation programmes. Weakening correlations with socioeconomic factors show a need to tackle vaccine confidence, whereas strengthening correlations point to clear factors to address.

Funding

UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council.

The Lancet Infectious Diseases

Oct 2016 Volume 16 Number 10 p1085-1202 e202-e240

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

Editorial

[Time for global political action on antimicrobial resistance](#)

The Lancet Infectious Diseases

Comment

[A malaria vaccine in children with HIV](#)

James G Beeson, Freya J I Fowkes

Plasmodium falciparum is the major cause of malaria cases and deaths globally, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa where HIV is also highly prevalent.^{1,2} The primary target population of a malaria vaccine is young children, and more than 2 million children in sub-Saharan Africa are infected with HIV.² Therefore, many HIV-infected children could benefit from a malaria vaccine, especially because HIV might increase the risk and severity of malaria.^{3,4} In The Lancet Infectious Diseases, Lucas Otieno and colleagues⁵ now report the findings of a randomised controlled trial of RTS,S/AS01, the most advanced malaria vaccine, in HIV-infected children...

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Comment

Age of human papillomavirus vaccination?

Philip E Castle, Emily A Burger

Evidence is overwhelming to show that prophylactic human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines are very safe and highly efficacious in the prevention of HPV infections and related cervical precancerous lesions detected by cytology in clinical trials and HPV-vaccinated populations. These precancerous lesions, when detected by cytology and treated in a timely manner, have been credited with reductions in cervical cancer incidence and mortality. Thus, it is simply a matter of time before HPV vaccination will be shown to reduce cervical cancer and other HPV-related cancers...

Articles

Comparison of artesunate–mefloquine and artemether–lumefantrine fixed-dose combinations for treatment of uncomplicated Plasmodium falciparum malaria in children younger than 5 years in sub-Saharan Africa: a randomised, multicentre, phase 4 trial

Sodiomon B Sirima, Bernhards Ogutu, John P A Lusingu, Ali Mtoro, Zakayo Mrango, Alphonse Ouedraogo, Jean Baptiste Yaro, Kevin Omondi Onyango, Samwel Gesase, Ernest Mnkande, James Samwel Ngocho, Isabelle Ackermann, François Aubin, Joelle Vanraes, Nathalie Strub, Gwenaëlle Carn

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Open Access

Summary

Background

WHO recommends combinations of an artemisinin derivative plus an antimalarial drug of longer half-life as treatment options for uncomplicated Plasmodium falciparum infection. In Africa, artemether–lumefantrine is the most widely used artemisinin-based combination therapy, whereas artesunate–mefloquine is used infrequently because of a perceived poor tolerance to mefloquine. WHO recommends reconsideration of the use of artesunate–mefloquine in Africa. We compared the efficacy and safety of fixed-dose artesunate–mefloquine with that of artemether–lumefantrine for treatment of children younger than 5 years with uncomplicated P falciparum malaria.

Methods

We did this multicentre, phase 4, open-label, non-inferiority trial in Burkina Faso, Kenya, and Tanzania. Children aged 6–59 months with uncomplicated malaria were randomly assigned (1:1), via a computer-generated randomisation list, to receive 3 days' treatment with either one or two artesunate–mefloquine tablets (25 mg artesunate and 55 mg mefloquine) once a day or one or two artemether–lumefantrine tablets (20 mg artemether and 120 mg lumefantrine) twice a day. Parasitological assessments were done independently by two microscopists who were blinded to treatment allocation. The primary outcome was the PCR-corrected rate of adequate clinical and parasitological response (ACPR) at day 63 in the per-protocol population. Non-inferiority was shown if the lower limit of the 95% CI for the difference between groups was greater than –5%. Early vomiting was monitored and neuropsychiatric status assessed regularly during follow-up. This study is registered with ISRCTN, number ISRCTN17472707, and the Pan African Clinical Trials Registry, number PACTR201202000278282.

Findings

945 children were enrolled and randomised, 473 to artesunate–mefloquine and 472 to artemether–lumefantrine. The per-protocol population consisted of 407 children in each group. The PCR-corrected ACPR rate at day 63 was 90·9% (370 patients) in the artesunate–

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mefloquine group and 89·7% (365 patients) in the artemether–lumefantrine group (treatment difference 1·23%, 95% CI –2·84% to 5·29%). At 72 h after the start of treatment, no child had detectable parasitaemia and less than 6% had fever, with a similar number in each group (21 in the artesunate–mefloquine group vs 24 in the artemether–lumefantrine group). The safety profiles of artesunate–mefloquine and artemether–lumefantrine were similar, with low rates of early vomiting (71 [15·3%] of 463 patients in the artesunate–mefloquine group vs 79 [16·8%] of 471 patients in the artemether–lumefantrine group in any of the three dosing days), few neurological adverse events (ten [2·1%] of 468 vs five [1·1%] of 465), and no detectable psychiatric adverse events.

Interpretation

Artesunate–mefloquine is effective and safe, and an important treatment option, for children younger than 5 years with uncomplicated *P falciparum* malaria in Africa.

Funding

Agence Française de Développement, France; Department for International Development, UK; Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands; European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership; Fondation Arpe, Switzerland; Médecins Sans Frontières; Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Switzerland.

Articles

Safety and immunogenicity of RTS,S/AS01 malaria vaccine in infants and children with WHO stage 1 or 2 HIV disease: a randomised, double-blind, controlled trial

Lucas Otieno, Martina Oneko, Walter Otieno, Joseph Abuodha, Emmanuel Owino, Chris Odero, Yolanda Guerra Mendoza, Ben Andagalu, Norbert Awino, Karen Ivinson, Dirk Heerwegh, Nekoye Otsyula, Maria Oziemkowska, Effua Abigail Usuf, Allan Otieno, Kephass Otieno, Didier Leboulleux, Amanda Leach, Janet Oyieko, Laurence Slutsker, Marc Lievens, Jessica Cowden, Didier Lapiere, Simon Kariuki, Bernhards Ogutu, Johan Vekemans, Mary J Hamel

Summary

Background

Malaria remains a major global public health concern, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. The RTS,S/AS01 malaria candidate vaccine was reviewed by the European Medicines Agency and received a positive scientific opinion; WHO subsequently recommended pilot implementation in sub-Saharan African countries. Because malaria and HIV overlap geographically, HIV-infected children should be considered for RTS,S/AS01 vaccination. We therefore aimed to assess the safety of RTS,S/AS01 in HIV-infected children at two sites in western Kenya.

Methods

We did a randomised, double-blind, controlled trial at the clinical trial sites of the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI)–Walter Reed Army Institute of research in Kisumu and the KEMRI/US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Siaya. Eligible participants were infants and children aged from 6 weeks to 17 months with WHO stage 1 or 2 HIV disease (documented positive by DNA PCR), whether or not they were receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART). We randomly assigned participants (1:1) to receive three doses of either RTS,S/AS01 or rabies vaccine (both 0·5 mL per dose by intramuscular injection), given once per month at 0, 1, and 2 months. We did the treatment allocation using a web-based central randomisation system stratified by age (6 weeks–4 months, 5–17 months), and by baseline CD4% (<10, 10–14, 15–19, and ≥20). Data were obtained in an observer-blind manner, and the vaccine recipient, their parent or carer, the funder, and investigators responsible for the assessment of endpoints were all masked to treatment allocation (only staff responsible for the preparation and administration of the vaccines were aware of the assignment and these individuals played no other role in the study). We provided ART, even if the participants were not receiving ART before the study, and

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daily co-trimoxazole for prevention of opportunistic infections. The primary outcome was the occurrence of serious adverse events until 14 months after dose 1 of the vaccine, assessed in the intention-to-treat population. This trial was registered at [ClinicalTrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT01148459), number [NCT01148459](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT01148459).

Findings

Between July 30, 2010, and May 24, 2013, we enrolled 200 children to our study and randomly assigned 99 to receive RTS,S/AS01 and 101 to receive rabies vaccine. 177 (89%) of the 200 children enrolled completed 14 months of follow-up. Serious adverse events were noted in 41 (41·4%, 95% CI 31·6–51·8) of 99 RTS,S/AS01 recipients and 37 (36·6%, 27·3–46·8) of 101 rabies-vaccine recipients (relative risk 1·1, 95% CI 0·8–1·6). 20 (20·2%, 95% CI 12·8–29·5) of 99 RTS,S/AS01 recipients and 12 (11·9%, 6·3–19·8) of 101 rabies-vaccine recipients had at least one serious adverse event within 30 days after vaccination, mainly pneumonia, febrile convulsions, and salmonella sepsis. Five (5·1%, 95% CI 1·7–11·4) of 99 RTS,S/AS01 recipients and four (4·0%, 1·1–9·8) of 101 rabies-vaccine recipients died, but no deaths were deemed related to vaccination. Mortality was associated with five cases of pneumonia (1% RTS,S/AS01 recipients vs 3% rabies-vaccine recipients), five cases of gastroenteritis (3% RTS,S/AS01 recipients vs 2% rabies-vaccine recipients), five cases of malnutrition (2% RTS,S/AS01 recipients vs 3% rabies-vaccine recipients), one case of sepsis (1% rabies-vaccine recipients), one case of Haemophilus influenza meningitis (1% rabies-vaccine recipients), and one case of tuberculosis (1% RTS,S/AS01 recipients).

Interpretation

RTS, S/AS01 was well tolerated when given to children with WHO clinical stage 1 or 2 HIV disease along with high antiretroviral and co-trimoxazole use. Children with HIV disease could be included in future RTS,S/AS01 vaccination programmes.

Funding

GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals SA and PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative.

Articles

Efficacy, safety, and immunogenicity of the human papillomavirus 16/18 AS04-adjuvanted vaccine in women older than 25 years: 7-year follow-up of the phase 3, double-blind, randomised controlled VIVIANE study

Cosette M Wheeler, S Rachel Skinner, M Rowena Del Rosario-Raymundo, Suzanne M Garland, Archana Chatterjee, Eduardo Lazcano-Ponce, Jorge Salmerón, Shelly McNeil, Jack T Stapleton, Céline Bouchard, Mark G Martens, Deborah M Money, Swee Chong Quek, Barbara Romanowski, Carlos S Vallejos, Bram ter Harmsel, Vera Prilepskaya, Kah Leng Fong, Henry Kitchener, Galina Minkina, Yong Kuei Timothy Lim, Tanya Stoney, Nahida Chakhtoura, Margaret E Cruickshank, Alevtina Savicheva, Daniel Pereira da Silva, Murdo Ferguson, Anco C Molijn, Wim G V Quint, Karin Hardt, Dominique Descamps, Pemmaraju V Suryakiran, Naveen Karkada, Brecht Geeraerts, Gary Dubin, Frank Struyf, VIVIANE Study Group

Summary

Background

Although the risk of human papillomavirus (HPV) infection is greatest in young women, women older than 25 years remain at risk. We present data from the VIVIANE study of the HPV 16/18 AS04-adjuvanted vaccine in adult women after 7 years of follow-up.

Methods

In this phase 3, double-blind, randomised controlled trial, healthy women older than 25 years were enrolled (age stratified: 26–35 years, 36–45 years, and ≥46 years). Up to 15% in each age stratum had a history of HPV infection or disease. Women were randomly assigned (1:1) to receive HPV 16/18 vaccine or aluminium hydroxide control, with an internet-based system. The

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primary endpoint was vaccine efficacy against 6-month persistent infection or cervical intraepithelial neoplasia grade 1 or greater (CIN1+) associated with HPV 16/18. We did analyses in the according-to-protocol cohort for efficacy and total vaccinated cohort. Data for the combined primary endpoint in the according-to-protocol cohort for efficacy were considered significant when the lower limit of the 96·2% CI around the point estimate was greater than 30%. For all other endpoints and cohorts, data were considered significant when the lower limit of the 96·2% CI was greater than 0%. This study is registered with [ClinicalTrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT00294047), number [NCT00294047](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT00294047).

Findings

The first participant was enrolled on Feb 16, 2006, and the last study visit took place on Jan 29, 2014. 4407 women were in the according-to-protocol cohort for efficacy (n=2209 vaccine, n=2198 control) and 5747 women in the total vaccinated cohort (n=2877 vaccine, n=2870 control). At month 84, in women seronegative for the corresponding HPV type in the according-to-protocol cohort for efficacy, vaccine efficacy against 6-month persistent infection or CIN1+ associated with HPV 16/18 was significant in all age groups combined (90·5%, 96·2% CI 78·6–96·5). Vaccine efficacy against HPV 16/18-related cytological abnormalities (atypical squamous cells of undetermined significance and low-grade squamous intraepithelial lesion) and CIN1+ was also significant. We also noted significant cross-protective efficacy against 6-month persistent infection with HPV 31 (65·8%, 96·2% CI 24·9–85·8) and HPV 45 (70·7%, 96·2% CI 34·2–88·4). In the total vaccinated cohort, vaccine efficacy against CIN1+ irrespective of HPV was significant (22·9%, 96·2% CI 4·8–37·7). Serious adverse events related to vaccination occurred in five (0·2%) of 2877 women in the vaccine group and eight (0·3%) of 2870 women in the control group.

Interpretation

In women older than 25 years, the HPV 16/18 vaccine continues to protect against infections, cytological abnormalities, and lesions associated with HPV 16/18 and CIN1+ irrespective of HPV type, and infection with non-vaccine types HPV 31 and HPV 45 over 7 years of follow-up.

Funding

GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals SA.

Review

[Malaria elimination in India and regional implications](#)

Kinley Wangdi, Michelle L Gatton, Gerard C Kelly, Cathy Banwell, Vas Dev, Archie C A Clements

Summary

The malaria situation in India is complex as a result of diverse socio-environmental conditions. India contributes a substantial burden of malaria outside sub-Saharan Africa, with the third highest *Plasmodium vivax* prevalence in the world. Successful malaria control in India is likely to enhance malaria elimination efforts in the region. Despite modest gains, there are many challenges for malaria elimination in India, including: varied patterns of malaria transmission in different parts of the country demanding area-specific control measures; intense malaria transmission fuelled by favourable climatic and environment factors; varying degrees of insecticide resistance of vectors; antimalarial drug resistance; a weak surveillance system; and poor national coordination of state programmes. Prevention and protection against malaria are low as a result of a weak health-care system, as well as financial and socioeconomic constraints. Additionally, the open borders of India provide a potential route of entry for artesunate-resistant parasites from southeast Asia. This situation calls for urgent dialogue around tackling malaria across borders—between India's states and neighbouring countries—through sharing of information and coordinated control and preventive measures, if we are to achieve the aim of malaria elimination in the region.

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Maternal and Child Health Journal

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<http://link.springer.com/journal/10995/20/9/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

October 2016; 36 (7)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

The Milbank Quarterly

A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy

September 2016 Volume 94, Issue 3 Pages 437–694

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/milq.2016.94.issue-3/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature

Volume 537 Number 7622 pp585-706 29 September 2016

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

Editorials

[The maximum climate ambition needs a firm research backing](#)

We need to know what the 1.5 °C warming target will involve — even if we don't reach it.

[The challenges facing Habitat III](#)

United Nations conference on cities needs to set goals for the next 20 years.

Comment

[Boost resilience of small and mid-sized cities](#)

Smaller settlements are growing faster than megacities — and they need more protection from extreme events, write Joern Birkmann and colleagues.

[Where to put the next billion people](#)

Richard T. T. Forman and Jianguo Wu call for global and regional approaches to urban planning.

[Give cities a seat at the top table](#)

Building more strategic links between urban innovation and global governance will help to tackle today's grand challenges, argues Michele Acuto.

Letters

[Closing yield gaps in China by empowering smallholder farmers](#)

Weifeng Zhang, Guoxin Cao, Xiaolin Li, Hongyan Zhang, Chong Wang+ [et al.](#)

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The authors report on attempts to increase the yield of smallholder farms in China using ten practices recommended by the Science and Technology Backyard for farming maize and wheat at county level.

Sustainably feeding the world's growing population is a challenge^{1, 2, 3}, and closing yield gaps (that is, differences between farmers' yields and what are attainable for a given region)^{4, 5, 6} is a vital strategy to address this challenge^{3, 4, 7}. The magnitude of yield gaps is particularly large in developing countries where smallholder farming dominates the agricultural landscape^{4, 7}. Many factors and constraints interact to limit yields^{3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10}, and progress in problem-solving to bring about changes at the ground level is rare. Here we present an innovative approach for enabling smallholders to achieve yield and economic gains sustainably via the Science and Technology Backyard (STB) platform. STB involves agricultural scientists living in villages among farmers, advancing participatory innovation and technology transfer, and garnering public and private support. We identified multifaceted yield-limiting factors involving agronomic, infrastructural, and socioeconomic conditions. When these limitations and farmers' concerns were addressed, the farmers adopted recommended management practices, thereby improving production outcomes. In one region in China, the five-year average yield increased from 67.9% of the attainable level to 97.0% among 71 leading farmers, and from 62.8% to 79.6% countywide (93,074 households); this was accompanied by resource and economic benefits.

Nature Medicine

September 2016, Volume 22 No 9 pp963-1061

<http://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v22/n9/index.html>

[Reviewed earlier]

New England Journal of Medicine

September 29, 2016 Vol. 375 No. 13

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

Perspective

[Considerations for Developing a Zika Virus Vaccine](#) [Free full text]

H.D. Marston, N. Lurie, L.L. Borio, and A.S. Fauci

[Fast-Track Zika Vaccine Development — Is It Possible?](#) [Free full text]

S.J. Thomas, M. L'Azou, A.D.T. Barrett, and N.A.C. Jackson

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly

October 2016; 45 (5)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration

OxMo Vol. 6, No. 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

Pediatrics

September 2016, VOLUME 138 / ISSUE 3

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/138/3?current-issue=y>

[Reviewed earlier]

PharmacoEconomics

Volume 34, Issue 9, September 2016

<http://link.springer.com/journal/40273/34/9/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

PLOS Currents: Disasters

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

[Accessed 1 October 2016]

[Measuring Outcomes in a Community Resilience Program: A New Metric for Evaluating Results at the Household Level](#)

September 28, 2016 · Research Article

Community resilience programs require metrics for evaluation but none exist for measuring outcomes at the household and neighborhood level.

Objectives: We develop and describe a new index, the LACCDR index of community resilience, to examine how resilience varied across communities at baseline, prior to implementation of the Los Angeles County Community Disaster Resilience Project (LACCDR).

Methods: We surveyed 4700 adult residents in the sixteen LACCDR communities in English, Spanish and Korean. Each of the survey domains were selected a priori as outcome indicators aligned to the theoretical levers of community resilience. Survey questions were drawn and adapted from published studies and national surveys.

Results: Factor analysis demonstrated five separate factors composed from 18 items and explaining 46.7% of the variance. The factors were characterized as community engagement, emergency supplies, communication with neighbors, civic engagement, and collective efficacy. Baseline results for the 16 communities are provided.

Conclusions: We conclude that the LACCDR community resilience index can be used to measure resilience program outcomes at the neighborhood and household levels.

[Mass Casualty Decontamination Guidance and Psychosocial Aspects of CBRN Incident Management: A Review and Synthesis](#)

September 27, 2016 · Research Article

Introduction: Mass casualty decontamination is an intervention employed by first responders at the scene of an incident involving noxious contaminants. Many countries have sought to address the challenge of decontaminating large numbers of affected casualties through the provision of rapidly deployable temporary showering structures, with accompanying decontamination protocols. In this paper we review decontamination guidance for emergency responders and associated research evidence, in order to establish to what extent psychosocial aspects of casualty management have been considered within these documents. The review focuses on five psychosocial aspects of incident management: likely public behaviour; responder management style; communication strategy; privacy/ modesty concerns; and vulnerable groups.

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Methods: Two structured literature reviews were carried out; one to identify decontamination guidance documents for first responders, and another to identify evidence which is relevant to the understanding of the psychosocial aspects of mass decontamination. The guidance documents and relevant research were reviewed to identify whether the guidance documents contain information relating to psychosocial issues and where it exists, that the guidance is consistent with the existing evidence-base.

Results: Psychosocial aspects of incident management receive limited attention in current decontamination guidance. In addition, our review has identified a number of gaps and inconsistencies between guidance and research evidence. For each of the five areas we identify: what is currently presented in guidance documents, to what extent this is consistent with the existing research evidence and where it diverges. We present a series of evidence-based recommendations for updating decontamination guidance to address the psychosocial aspects of mass decontamination.

Conclusions: Effective communication and respect for casualties' needs are critical in ensuring decontamination is completed quickly and effectively. We identify a number of areas requiring further research including: identifying effective methods for communicating in an emergency; better understanding of the needs of vulnerable groups during decontamination; effective training for emergency responders on psychosocial issues, and pre-incident public education for incidents involving emergency decontamination. It is essential that the psychosocial aspects of mass decontamination are not neglected in the pursuit of solely technical solutions.

PLoS Currents: Outbreaks

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

[No new content]

PLoS Medicine

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

(Accessed 1 October 2016)

Perspective

[Improving Research into Models of Maternity Care to Inform Decision Making](#)

Ank de Jonge, Jane Sandall

| published 27 Sep 2016 PLOS Medicine

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002135>

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

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

[Accessed 1 October 2016]

Editorial

[Somalia: A Nation at the Crossroads of Extreme Poverty, Conflict, and Neglected Tropical Diseases](#)

Annum Jaffer, Peter J. Hotez

| published 29 Sep 2016 PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0004670>

Research Article

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

Model-Informed Risk Assessment and Decision Making for an Emerging Infectious Disease in the Asia-Pacific Region

Robert Moss, Roslyn I. Hickson, Jodie McVernon, James M. McCaw, Krishna Hort, Jim Black, John R. Madden, Nhi H. Tran, Emma S. McBryde, Nicholas Geard

| published 23 Sep 2016 PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0005018>

Abstract

Background

Effective response to emerging infectious disease (EID) threats relies on health care systems that can detect and contain localised outbreaks before they reach a national or international scale. The Asia-Pacific region contains low and middle income countries in which the risk of EID outbreaks is elevated and whose health care systems may require international support to effectively detect and respond to such events. The absence of comprehensive data on populations, health care systems and disease characteristics in this region makes risk assessment and decisions about the provision of such support challenging.

Methodology/principal findings

We describe a mathematical modelling framework that can inform this process by integrating available data sources, systematically explore the effects of uncertainty, and provide estimates of outbreak risk under a range of intervention scenarios. We illustrate the use of this framework in the context of a potential importation of Ebola Virus Disease into the Asia-Pacific region. Results suggest that, across a wide range of plausible scenarios, preemptive interventions supporting the timely detection of early cases provide substantially greater reductions in the probability of large outbreaks than interventions that support health care system capacity after an outbreak has commenced.

Conclusions/significance

Our study demonstrates how, in the presence of substantial uncertainty about health care system infrastructure and other relevant aspects of disease control, mathematical models can be used to assess the constraints that limited resources place upon the ability of local health care systems to detect and respond to EID outbreaks in a timely and effective fashion. Our framework can help evaluate the relative impact of these constraints to identify resourcing priorities for health care system support, in order to inform principled and quantifiable decision making.

Author Summary

Low and middle income countries face a serious challenge when confronting emerging infectious disease (EID) threats. Their risk of experiencing outbreaks can be greater than in many high income countries, while their capacity to respond effectively may be constrained by competing demands on limited health care system resources. The globalised nature of health security argues for international support to improve local health care systems, but limited data makes risk assessment and decision making difficult. We propose a mathematical modelling framework that can help explore a variety of outbreak and intervention scenarios. Our framework can assist with the identification of constraints that limit the ability of local health care systems to detect and respond to EID outbreaks in a timely and effective fashion, and assess the relative importance of these constraints to help establish priorities for health care system support. We illustrate the use of our framework by considering the importation of Ebola into the Asia-Pacific region, with results emphasising the critical role played by effective surveillance in controlling localised outbreaks.

PLoS One

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

[Accessed 1 October 2016]

Research Article

Human Capital, Values, and Attitudes of Persons Seeking Refuge in Austria in 2015

Isabella Buber-Ennser, Judith Kohlenberger, Bernhard Rengs, Zakarya Al Zalak, Anne Goujon, Erich Striessnig, Michaela Potančoková, Richard Gisser, Maria Rita Testa, Wolfgang Lutz

| published 23 Sep 2016 PLOS ONE

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0163481>

Abstract

Since its inception in 2010, the Arab Spring has evolved into a situation of violent conflict in many countries, leading to high levels of migration from the affected region. Given the social impact of the large number of individuals applying for asylum across Europe in 2015, it is important to study who these persons are in terms of their skills, motivations, and intentions. DiPAS (Displaced Persons in Austria Survey) aims to uncover the socio-demographic characteristics of the persons seeking refuge who arrived in Austria in 2015, mainly originating from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. Particular focus is on human capital, attitudes and values. This survey, the first of its kind in Austria and possibly in Europe, was carried out among adult displaced persons, mostly residing in Vienna, yielding 514 completed interviews. Information gathered on spouses and children allows for the analysis of 972 persons living in Austria, and of further 419 partners and children abroad. Results indicate that the surveyed population comprised mainly young families with children, particularly those coming from Syria and Iraq. Their educational level is high compared with the average level in their country of origin. A vast majority of respondents are Muslims, rating their religiosity at medium levels. Judging from stated attitudes towards gender equity, interviewed men seem to have more liberal attitudes than their compatriots. The majority of respondents do not intend to return to their home countries, mostly because of the perception of permanent threat. DiPAS provides data for political decision-making and the on-going societal dialogue. Its findings can help to inform assessments about the integration potential of the displaced population into the host society. In addition, the applied methodological technique and experiences during the fieldwork provide valuable insights on sampling asylum seekers and refugees in the current European context.

PNAS - Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/>

(Accessed 1 October 2016)

Social Sciences - Economic Sciences:

Innovation network

Daron Acemoglu, Ufuk Akcigit, and William R. Kerr

PNAS 2016 ; published ahead of print September 28, 2016, doi:10.1073/pnas.1613559113

Significance

We describe the strength and importance of the innovation network that links patenting technology fields together. We quantify that technological advances spill out of individual fields and enrich the work of neighboring technologies, but these spillovers are also localized and not universal. Thus, innovation advances in one part of the network can significantly impact nearby disciplines but rarely those very far away. We verify the strength and stable importance of the innovation network by showing how past innovations can predict future innovations in other fields over 10-y horizons. This better understanding of how scientific progress occurs and how

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inventions build upon themselves is an important input to our depictions of the cumulative process of innovation and its economic growth consequences.

Abstract

Technological progress builds upon itself, with the expansion of invention in one domain propelling future work in linked fields. Our analysis uses 1.8 million US patents and their citation properties to map the innovation network and its strength. Past innovation network structures are calculated using citation patterns across technology classes during 1975–1994. The interaction of this preexisting network structure with patent growth in upstream technology fields has strong predictive power on future innovation after 1995. This pattern is consistent with the idea that when there is more past upstream innovation for a particular technology class to build on, then that technology class innovates more.

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 31 - Issue 5 - October 2016

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/prehospital-and-disaster-medicine/latest-issue>

Editorial

[Don't Save My Life: Do-Not-Resuscitate and End-of-Life Directives in the Context of EMS and Disaster Medicine](#)

Samuel J. Stratton

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S1049023X16000984>

Published online: 27 September 2016, pp. 463-464

[Health Care Access and Utilization after the 2010 Pakistan Floods](#)

Published online: 30 August 2016, pp. 485-491

[Gabrielle A. Jacquet](#), [Thomas Kirsch](#), [Aqsa Durrani](#), [Lauren Sauer](#), [Shannon Doocy](#)

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S1049023X16000716>

Special Reports

[Innovation in Graduate Education for Health Professionals in Humanitarian Emergencies](#)

Published online: 05 August 2016, pp. 532-538

[Dabney P. Evans](#), [Mark Anderson](#), [Cyrus Shahpar](#), [Carlos del Rio](#), [James W. Curran](#)

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S1049023X16000650>

[Development and Verification of a Mobile Shelter Assessment System "Rapid Assessment System of Evacuation Center Condition Featuring Gonryo and Miyagi \(RASECC-GM\)" for Major Disasters](#)

Published online: 05 August 2016, pp. 539-546

[Tadashi Ishii](#), [Masaharu Nakayama](#), [Michiaki Abe](#), [Shin Takayama](#), [Takashi Kamei](#), [Yoshiko Abe](#), [Jun Yamadera](#), [Koichiro Amito](#), [Kazuma Morino](#)

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S1049023X16000674>

Preventive Medicine

Volume 90, Pages 1-222 (September 2016)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00917435/90>

[Reviewed earlier]

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Public Health Ethics

Volume 9 Issue 1 October 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Reports

September/October 2016; 131 (5)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

October 2016; 26 (12)

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

Special Issue: Responses to Care

[New issue; No relevant content identified]

Refugee Survey Quarterly

Volume 35 Issue 1 October 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Reproductive Health

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

[Accessed 1 October 2016]

[Series of articles around management of pre-eclampsia in Global South contexts]

Revista Panamericana de Salud Pública/Pan American Journal of Public Health (RPSP/PAJPH)

Recently Published Articles - July

http://www.paho.org/journal/index.php?option=com_content&view=featured&Itemid=101

[Reviewed earlier]

Risk Analysis

September 2016 Volume 36, Issue 9 Pages 1683–1812

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.2016.36.issue-9/issuetoc>

Special Issue: Air Pollution Health Risks

[Introduction to Special Issue on Air Pollution Health Risks \(pages 1688–1692\)](#)

D. Warner North

Version of Record online: 27 SEP 2016 | DOI: 10.1111/risa.12707

Risk Management and Healthcare Policy

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

Volume 9, 2016

<https://www.dovepress.com/risk-management-and-healthcare-policy-archive56>

[Accessed 1 October 2016]

No new relevant content identified]

Science

30 September 2016 Vol 353, Issue 6307

<http://www.sciencemag.org/current.dtl>

EDITORIAL

The boldness of philanthropists

By David Baltimore

Science30 Sep 2016 : 1473

Summary

Last week, Priscilla Chan and Mark Zuckerberg announced their new philanthropic initiative with the goal of “curing, preventing, and managing all diseases by the end of the century.” This may raise some eyebrows, but this effort—part of the \$45 billion Chan Zuckerberg Initiative—joins forces with other philanthropists to push the envelope and support audacious ideas, with long-term commitments, to solve some of our greatest challenges.

Policy Forum

Growing pains for global monitoring of societal events

By Wei Wang, Ryan Kennedy, David Lazer, Naren Ramakrishnan

Science30 Sep 2016 : 1502-1503 Restricted Access

Automated event coding raises promise and concerns

Summary

There have been serious efforts over the past 40 years to use newspaper articles to create global-scale databases of events occurring in every corner of the world, to help understand and shape responses to global problems. Although most have been limited by the technology of the time (1) [see supplementary materials (SM)], two recent groundbreaking projects to provide global, real-time “event data” that take advantage of automated coding from news media have gained widespread recognition: International Crisis Early Warning System (ICEWS), maintained by Lockheed Martin, and Global Data on Events Language and Tone (GDELT), developed and maintained by Kalev Leetaru at Georgetown University (2, 3). The scale of these programs is unprecedented, and their promise has been reflected in the attention they have received from scholars, media, and governments. However, they suffer from major issues with respect to reliability and validity. Opportunities exist to use new methods and to develop an infrastructure that will yield robust and reliable “big data” to study global events—from conflict to ecological change (3).

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 160, Pages 1-130 (July 2016)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02779536/160>

[Reviewed earlier

Stability: International Journal of Security & Development

<http://www.stabilityjournal.org/articles>

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[accessed 1 October 2016]

Practice Notes

Implementing DDR in Settings of Ongoing Conflict: The Organization and Fragmentation of Armed Groups in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Joanne Richards

Abstract

Although it is common for armed groups to splinter (or “fragment”) during contexts of multi-party civil war, current guidance on Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) does not address the challenges that arise when recalcitrant fighters, unwilling to report to DDR, break ranks and form new armed groups. This Practice Note addresses this issue, drawing lessons from the multi-party context of the DRC and from the experiences of former members of three armed groups: the Rally for Congolese Democracy-Goma (RCD-Goma), the National Congress for the Defense of the People (CNDP), and the DRC national army (FARDC). While the findings indicate that the fragmentation of armed groups may encourage desertion and subsequent participation in DDR, they also show that active armed groups may monitor DDR programs and track those who demobilize. Remobilization may follow, either as active armed groups target ex-combatants for forced re-recruitment or as ex-combatants remobilize in armed groups of their own choice. Given these dynamics, practitioners in settings of partial peace may find it useful to consider non-traditional methods of DDR such as the use of mobile patrols and mobile disarmament units. The temporary relocation of ex-combatants to safe areas free from armed groups, or to protected transitional assistance camps, may also help to minimize remobilization during the reintegration phase.

Stanford Social Innovation Review

Summer 2016 Volume 14, Number 3

http://ssir.org/issue/summer_2016

The digital revolution is sweeping through society. Nonprofit organizations and social businesses have been slower to adapt to these technological changes than for-profit businesses, but many are beginning to do so. In the summer 2016 issue of *Stanford Social Innovation Review* there are two articles that address this topic: “Upgrading a Network” and “Using Data for Action and for Impact.”

[Reviewed earlier]

Sustainability

Volume 8, Issue 9 (September 2016)

<http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/8/9>

Editorial

Sustainability for Shrinking Cities

Sustainability 2016, 8(9), 911; doi:[10.3390/su8090911](https://doi.org/10.3390/su8090911)

by [Dustin L. Herrmann](#), [William D. Shuster](#), [Audrey L. Mayer](#) and [Ahjond S. Garmestani](#)

Received: 31 August 2016 / Accepted: 5 September 2016 / Published: 7 September 2016

Abstract

Shrinking cities are widespread throughout the world despite the rapidly increasing global urban population. These cities are attempting to transition to sustainable trajectories to improve the health and well-being of urban residents, to build their capacity to adapt to changing conditions and to cope with major events. The dynamics of shrinking cities are different than the dynamics of growing cities, and therefore intentional research and planning around creating sustainable

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cities is needed for shrinking cities. We propose research that can be applied to shrinking cities by identifying parallel challenges in growing cities and translating urban research and planning that is specific to each city's dynamics. In addition, we offer applications of panarchy concepts to this problem. The contributions to this Special Issue take on this forward-looking planning task through drawing lessons for urban sustainability from shrinking cities, or translating general lessons from urban research to the context of shrinking cities.

Article

Analyzing Forces to the Financial Contribution of Local Governments to Sustainable Development

by Manuel Pedro Rodríguez Bolívar, Andrés Navarro Galera, Laura Alcaide Muñoz and María Deseada López Subires

Sustainability 2016, 8(9), 925; doi:[10.3390/su8090925](https://doi.org/10.3390/su8090925)

Received: 5 June 2016 / Revised: 2 September 2016 / Accepted: 6 September 2016 /

Published: 10 September 2016

Abstract

In many countries, the economic crisis brought high volumes of deficit and debt in public entities, which jeopardized the ability of governments to continue providing public services and caused considerable imbalances of economic growth in different regions. In this context, from the recognition of the linkage between economic development and efficiency in public management, previous research indicates that local governments are called to play a key role in promoting sustainable development through environment, economic and social policies based on financial sustainability of the public services. This paper aims to identify influencing factors on the financial sustainability of local governments, as an indicator of their capacity to maintain the delivery of public services over time. Based on a sample of 139 Spanish municipalities with large population for the period 2006–2014, our findings reveal the influence of variables such as the unemployment rate by sector, the dependent population, the immigrant population and the level of education of the population, on the financial sustainability in local governments, providing new useful knowledge to managers, policymakers, researchers and others stakeholders interested in the sustainability of public services.

Article

Contribution of Forest Restoration to Rural Livelihoods and Household Income in Indonesia

by Nayu Nuringdati Widianingsih, Ida Theilade and Mariève Pouliot

Sustainability 2016, 8(9), 835; doi:[10.3390/su8090835](https://doi.org/10.3390/su8090835)

Received: 31 May 2016 / Revised: 13 August 2016 / Accepted: 16 August 2016 / Published: 24 August 2016

Abstract

Forest resources remain vital to the survival of many rural communities, though the level of forest reliance varies across a range of sites and socio-economic settings. This article investigates variation in forest utilization across households in three ethnic groups living near a forest restoration area in Sumatra, Indonesia. Survey data were collected on 268 households, with a four-month recall period and three repeat visits to each selected household within a year. Random sampling was applied to select households in five villages and five Batin Sembilan (indigenous) semi-nomadic groups. Sampled households belonged to three ethnic groups: 15% were Batin Sembilan, 40% Local Malayan, and 45% Immigrant households. Indigenous households displayed the highest reliance on forests: 36% of their annual total income came from this source, as compared with 10% and 8% for Local and Immigrant households,

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respectively. Our findings showed that the livelihoods of indigenous groups were still intricately linked with forest resources, despite a rapid landscape-wide transition from natural forest to oil palm and timber plantations.

Article

[Improving Farming Practices for Sustainable Soil Use in the Humid Tropics and Rainforest Ecosystem Health](#)

by [Emanoel Gomes de Moura](#), [Christoph Gehring](#), [Heder Braun](#),
[Altamiro de Souza Lima Ferraz Junior](#), [Fabricio de Oliveira Reis](#) and
[Alana das Chagas Ferreira Aguiar](#)

Sustainability 2016, 8(9), 841; doi:[10.3390/su8090841](#)

Received: 25 April 2016 / Revised: 17 August 2016 / Accepted: 19 August 2016 / Published: 29 August 2016

Abstract

Unsustainable farming practices such as shifting cultivation and slash-and-burn agriculture in the humid tropics threaten the preservation of the rainforest and the health of the local and global environment. In weathered soils prone to cohesion in humid tropic due to low Fe and carbon content and the enormous amounts of P that can be adsorbed, sustainable soil use is heavily dependent on the availability and efficient use of nutrients. This paper reviews the literature in the field and provides some insights about sustainable soil use in the humid tropics, mainly for the Brazilian Amazonia region. Careful management of organic matter and physical and chemical indicators is necessary to enhance root growth and nutrient uptake. To improve the rootability of the arable layer, a combination of gypsum with continuous mulching to increase the labile organic matter fraction responsible for the formation of a short-lived structure important for root growth is recommended, rather than tillage. Unlike mulching, mechanical disturbance via ploughing of Amazonian soils causes very rapid and permanent soil organic matter losses and often results in permanent recompaction and land degradation or anthropic savannization; thus, it should be avoided. Unlike in other regions, like southeast Brazil, saturating the soil solely with inorganic potassium and nitrogen soluble fertilizers is not recommended. Nutrient retention in the root zone can be enhanced if nutrients are added in a slow-release form and if biologically mediated processes are used for nutrient release, as occurs in green manure. Therefore, an alternative that favors using local resources to increase the supply of nutrients and offset processes that impair the efficiency of nutrient use must be pursued.

Article

[A Social-Ecological Framework for Urban Stewardship Network Research to Promote Sustainable and Resilient Cities](#)

by [Michele Romolini](#), [R. Patrick Bixler](#) and [J. Morgan Grove](#)

Sustainability 2016, 8(9), 956; doi:[10.3390/su8090956](#)

Received: 20 May 2016 / Revised: 16 August 2016 / Accepted: 14 September 2016 / Published: 20 September 2016

Abstract

To realize more sustainable and resilient urban social-ecological systems, there is great need for active engagement from diverse public agencies, non-profit organizations, businesses, natural resource managers, scientists, and other actors. Cities present unique challenges and opportunities for sustainability and resilience, as issues and organizations are frequently intertwined in networks of relations. Understanding and leveraging the range of knowledge types, motivations, skills, and goals of diverse participants and their networks is fundamental to

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sustainable and resilient cities. As efforts to examine and understand urban stewardship networks continue to emerge, it is increasingly clear that there are no structured or systematic frameworks to guide the integration of social and ecological phenomena. Such a framework could facilitate planning new urban stewardship network research, and provide a basis for comparisons among cities and their urban stewardship networks. In this paper, we develop and present a social-ecological framework for examining and understanding urban stewardship networks. To illustrate this framework and provide examples of its prospective and evaluative utility, we use examples from the U.S. Forest Service's Stewardship Mapping (STEW-MAP) network in the United States from Baltimore, MD, USA, New York City, NY, USA, San Juan, Puerto Rico, USA, and Seattle, WA, USA

Review

[Advancing Empirical Approaches to the Concept of Resilience: A Critical Examination of Panarchy, Ecological Information, and Statistical Evidence](#)

by [Ali Kharrazi](#), [Brian D. Fath](#) and [Harald Katzmair](#)

Sustainability 2016, 8(9), 935; doi:[10.3390/su8090935](#)

Received: 11 April 2016 / Revised: 19 August 2016 / Accepted: 22 August 2016 / Published: 13 September 2016

Abstract

Despite its ambiguities, the concept of resilience is of critical importance to researchers, practitioners, and policy-makers in dealing with dynamic socio-ecological systems. In this paper, we critically examine the three empirical approaches of (i) panarchy; (ii) ecological information-based network analysis; and (iii) statistical evidence of resilience to three criteria determined for achieving a comprehensive understanding and application of this concept. These criteria are the ability: (1) to reflect a system's adaptability to shocks; (2) to integrate social and environmental dimensions; and (3) to evaluate system-level trade-offs. Our findings show that none of the three currently applied approaches are strong in handling all three criteria. Panarchy is strong in the first two criteria but has difficulty with normative trade-offs. The ecological information-based approach is strongest in evaluating trade-offs but relies on common dimensions that lead to over-simplifications in integrating the social and environmental dimensions. Statistical evidence provides suggestions that are simplest and easiest to act upon but are generally weak in all three criteria. This analysis confirms the value of these approaches in specific instances but also the need for further research in advancing empirical approaches to the concept of resilience

Project Report

[Sustainable Digitalization of Cultural Heritage—Report on Initiatives and Projects in Brandenburg, Germany](#)

by [Ulf Preuss](#)

Sustainability 2016, 8(9), 891; doi:[10.3390/su8090891](#)

Received: 31 May 2016 / Revised: 16 July 2016 / Accepted: 16 August 2016 / Published: 3 September 2016

Abstract

While digitalization opens up new possibilities for cultural heritage and tourism it also brings new challenges. Initiatives such as "Europeana", an internet portal for cultural heritage within the European Union, support institutions with the display of their collections. National initiatives complement these efforts. This report describes initiatives and projects for generating and sustaining digital cultural heritage resources in the German state of Brandenburg. With the cultural heritage distributed throughout the state and managed by hundreds of institutions, the

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task of digitalization is a common challenge for all of these institutions. Digitalization and digital sustainability is limited by shortcomings in areas of human resources, knowledge and IT infrastructure. In light of these limitations, the cultural heritage community addresses challenges with an interdisciplinary approach. It is based on a collaborative model with four levels: (1) a statewide strategy of an interdisciplinary task force; (2) cooperative projects; (3) cooperative IT infrastructure; and (4) an overall coordination. The priorities are: (1) creating and displaying digital content; (2) establishing best practices and workflows; (3) developing cooperative infrastructures for sustainment. Since 2012, several projects have been implemented based on that collaborative model. More than 50 participating institutions benefited from cooperative planning, managing, digitizing and digital presentation. With regard to the third priority, the task force's next step is finding solutions for digital preservation. Considering the lack of funding and resources in the cultural heritage sector, options for creating and sustaining digital resources are limited. Digital cultural heritage requires interdisciplinary thinking, cooperative initiatives, reliable IT infrastructures and additional funding

TORTURE Journal

Volume 26, Nr. 2, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine & International Health

September 2016 Volume 21, Issue 9 Pages 1059–1196

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tmi.2016.21.issue-9/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

UN Chronicle

Vol. LIII No. 2 2016 August 2016

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

Sport Aims for the Goals

It is well known that physical activity improves personal health and well-being, but the benefits of sport to society are less apparent. This issue of the Chronicle explores the ways in which sport can enable individuals and communities to build a stronger, more harmonious world.

Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies

An International Interdisciplinary Journal for Research, Policy and Care

Volume 11, Issue 3, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

World Heritage Review

n°80 - July 2016

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/80/>

World Heritage in Turkey

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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) :: [Journal Watch](#)

The 40th session of the World Heritage Committee is taking place in Istanbul from 10 to 20 July 2016, and we are extremely grateful to Turkey for generously hosting this session.

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