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governance, ethics, evidence, policy, practice

The Sentinel

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

Period ending 25 February 2017

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:

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- :: [INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch](#)** - Media Releases, Major Initiatives, Research
- :: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#)** - Selected Updates
- :: [Journal Watch](#)** - Key articles and abstracts from 100+ peer-reviewed journals

:: Week in Review

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

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2nd Global Consultation on Migrant Health

Leaving No one Behind: A Call to Action on Migrant Health

Joint Press Release: Sri Lanka Ministry of Health, IOM & WHO

Colombo, 23 February 2017 – To address the health challenges posed by increasingly mobile populations, health leaders today adopted **the 'Colombo Statement'** which calls for international collaboration to improve the health and well-being of migrants and their families.

"Protecting the health of mobile populations is a public health and human rights imperative. Ensuring the highest attainable standard of health for all, including migrants and refugees, is something we must all strive towards, and is key to achieving the Sustainable Development Goal of leaving no one behind," emphasized Dr Poonam Khetrpal Singh, WHO Regional Director of South-East Asia.

The world is experiencing migration on an unprecedented scale. There are an estimated 1 billion migrants today – one in seven people. While some people migrate seeking better opportunities, others are forcibly displaced, fleeing conflict and war...

Health systems must be strengthened to provide equitable, non-discriminatory migrant-centred health services. Addressing the health needs of migrants reduces long-term health and social costs, enhances health security and contributes to social and economic development.

"Migrant health must be looked at as a global agenda, and SDGs should be extensively interpreted by linking the call to facilitate orderly, safe and responsible migration and mobility of people (SDG 10.7) and the achievement of universal health coverage (SDG 3.8). This can only be realised through the implementation of well-managed and coordinated migration policies, which include financial risk protection and equal access to quality services", stated Dr Davide Mosca, IOM Director of the Migration Health Division.

The Colombo Statement calls for mainstreaming migrant health into key national, regional and international agendas and promotes international solidarity for equitable migrant health policies, a shared research agenda and the development of global frameworks to ensure migrant health is protected...



James Martin Memorial Lecture 2017: the global refugee crisis and what to do about it

Remarks by David Miliband President and CEO of the International Rescue Committee, given at Oxford University

Oxford, England, February 22, 2017 —

[Excerpt: Closing text]

...The Work of Rescue

When we discuss aid it is mainly couched in terms of the value to 'them'—refugees and displaced people themselves. This makes sense. They should be centre stage.

But there is a further argument, subsidiary but significant. It is about us, not them—what we in the western world stand for, what has made us successful, and what will make us successful in the future.

My contention is that the work of rescue is about rescuing and renewing our own values, which ultimately define who we are, how strong our societies are, and what leverage they exert around the world.

The reason is that refugees pose some of the hardest tests for the values and character of any society. These are people who come from different countries, so start off as strangers, not neighbours. They often have different religion as well as ethnicity. And having been through the hell of political persecution or civil conflict, they often have very significant needs.

Partly for these reasons, for centuries refugees were not counted and did not count. They were seen as the unfortunate collateral of the competition for global power.

But slowly, culminating in the period after World War two, refugees and their rights were finally recognized in law. The current international refugee protection regime was written by the Western world after the Second World War; was underwritten by every Western democratic country; and eventually it moved from aspiration to implementation at a global level with universal standards of protection for refugees.

It is worth being clear why the treatment of refugees—whether they are welcomed in our countries or helped through aid abroad—is so revealing.

:: The treatment of refugees reveals our values. Empathy for other people, because they are people, not because of their race, ethnicity or religion, is the basic building block of what makes for civilization. Just as we admire people who do great things, disdain people who do bad things, so we should empathize with people in need who are simply victims of circumstances beyond their control. And with the explosion of media and technology over the past decade, we know more about victims of war than at any time in history. Ignorance is no excuse when it comes to people fleeing from Aleppo to Jordan or Juba to Kenya. Their plight can today be seen in the palm of our hands.

:: The embrace of refugees reveals our vision of the good society. It is easy to talk of refugees as a burden. But their experience has been shown to make them assets for the societies in which they live. Having fled for their lives they know the value of security and freedom. There is a double benefit: they bring extraordinary determination and learning, and they contribute to the diversity that makes for successful societies.

:: The approach to refugees helps define our place in the world. Many politicians have talked about “the power of our example, not the example of our power”. For refugees fleeing for freedom, as well as immigrants seeking opportunity, Western countries have been a source of hope and a place of haven. Cubans, Russians, Iranians, Burmese, Bhutanese, Eritreans, Chinese fleeing persecution by their own governments, because of their political views, ethnicity or religion, have turned to Western countries for refuge. And by definition Western countries have helped devise their place in the world by offering haven for those fleeing societies where pluralism is seen as a threat to the country not a feature of the society.

:: Refugee policy, precisely because it is a hard case, shows the capacity for leadership. The central challenge facing our interconnected world is that there is insufficient or inept

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management of the global commons—the parts of the world we share, and the problems that cross boundaries. Refugee policy is a classic case. The temptation for any nation to free ride on the efforts of others to address the problem is large: not only are the problems complex, and the people different, but it is easy to say that one country's efforts are a drop in the ocean. So it is a prime case where leadership matters. Support for refugees anticipates our future in an interconnected world. Sure globalization has inequities and insecurities.

So this issue is ultimately about what we stand for. And that is why the questions now at issue go beyond short term politics or economics.

Treat refugees well and our societies are broad-minded; open; non-discriminatory. Ignore their plight and we show a closed mind as well as a hard heart. And treatment of refugees also says a lot about what we strive for: freedom of the individual, whatever his or her creed or color; and the pluralism that is the foundation of the good society.

That is why the work of rescue is about us not just them. The late President of Czechoslovakia Vaclav Havel said "conscience must catch up with reason or all is lost". We should remember that as we seek to make globalization fairer, stabler and more secure.

[End]

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Toxic air pollution: UN rights experts urge tighter rules to combat "invisible threat"

GENEVA (24 February 2017) – United Nations human rights experts are calling for strong, urgent action by States, including legislation and enforcement of corporate accountability, to try to ensure that people around the world can enjoy the human rights to life and health in environments free from contamination.

"Air pollution is a major human rights concern worldwide and toxic air pollutants are associated with an increased risk of disease from stroke, heart disease, cancer and respiratory diseases, including asthma," the experts said.

Estimates from the World Health Organization (WHO), suggest that approximately seven million premature deaths each year are linked to exposure to air pollution. There is growing research evidence indicating that air pollution has become the leading environmental cause of premature death in the world.

The appeal for better regulation comes from the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and hazardous substances and wastes, Baskut Tuncak, together with his fellow UN experts, Dainius Puras, John H Knox and Rosa Kornfeld-Matte.* The UN Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises joined the other experts in expressing concern.

"Children and people in vulnerable situations, including women of reproductive age, older persons, those in poor health and those living in less wealthy communities remain the most vulnerable," the experts warned.

According to UNICEF, 300 million children – almost one in seven of the world's total, live in areas with the most toxic levels of outdoor air pollution. And the experts stress that paediatricians are referring to the impact on children's health as a 'silent pandemic'.

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"A threat like this can no longer be ignored," they say. "States have a duty to prevent and control exposure to toxic air pollution and to protect against its adverse effects on human rights."

The experts point to an 'unacceptable' lack of accountability saying: "Impunity for those responsible for air pollution is rampant today, with recent reports of environmental ministers even denying its effects, in spite of overwhelming evidence to the contrary, and urgent action is needed now under international human rights standards..."

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World Bank to Support Cultural Heritage Conservation and Improve Services to Poor Communities in China's Gansu Province

WASHINGTON DC, February 24, 2017 – The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved a US\$100 million loan today to conserve cultural and natural heritage, enhance tourism services and improve community services in China's Gansu province. It is the second project of its kind in Gansu.

Much of the ancient Silk Road runs through Gansu, including some of China's most significant cultural and natural heritage sites with World Heritage status, such as Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, and Great Wall Fortress in Jiayuguan and Maijishan Grottoes in Tianshui. Gansu is also one of the least developed and poorest provinces in China. Tourism based on cultural and natural heritage sites, which makes up more than 10 percent of Gansu's gross domestic product, is considered a priority for local economic development and poverty reduction.

"The new project will continue our support to Gansu's effort to improve the management of its invaluable heritage assets and further develop a sustainable tourism sector. The selected project sites are all located in poor counties. Project interventions and investment in tourism will create more jobs and opportunities for local communities, increase their incomes and help them escape poverty," said You Ji, World Bank's Operations Officer and Project's Team Leader.

While the first Gansu Cultural and Natural Heritage Project (2008-2015) focused on the Hexi Corridor and Central and Eastern Gansu, the Second Gansu Cultural and Natural Heritage Protection and Development Project will focus on Longdongnan region, or Southeast Gansu. The region has 50 percent of Gansu's immovable cultural relics and 22 percent of Gansu's natural heritage, as well as more than half of Gansu's rural poor.

The project will support conservation programs and the development of basic infrastructure and service facilities at six heritage sites. These include the Kongtong Mountain scenic area, Jinchuan Hundred Mile Grottoes Corridor, Yunya Temple scenic area, Guan'egou scenic area, Yangba scenic area, and Songmingyan scenic area and Hezheng Ancient Fossil Museum. For local communities close to the project sites, the project will provide basic infrastructure services and skills training on how to start or run tourism-related small businesses, and support the protection of intangible cultural heritage.

The project will cost \$160.76 million, of which the government will provide \$60.67 million. It is scheduled for completion in 2022...

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Policy Uncertainty Weighs on World Trade

New evidence links policy uncertainties in developed countries to anemic trade in 2016

WASHINGTON, February 21, 2017—Global trade growth continued to be slow for the fifth consecutive year, with 2016 showing the weakest trade performance since the 2008-2009 global financial crisis. According to a new paper, preliminary data suggest that world merchandise trade grew by a little more than 1 percent in 2016 compared to 2 percent in 2015 and 2.7 percent in 2014.

Nevertheless, the growth of services trade continued to be relatively resilient and recovered slightly following a decline in 2015.

While in previous years the sluggishness in trade growth had been concentrated in either high-income or developing countries, the weak trade growth seen in 2016 was characteristic of both types of economies.

The latest annual paper, Global Trade Watch: Trade Developments in 2016, points to a surge in economic policy uncertainty as a contributor to the 2016 decline in world trade growth.

The paper, which analyzed a broad sample of 18 countries over 30 years, found that the increase in uncertainty in 2016 may have reduced trade growth by 0.6 percentage points, which accounts for about 75 percent of the difference between trade growth rates in 2015 and 2016.

"Policy uncertainty in Europe and the United States had a negative impact on trade by reducing overall global growth," according to the paper's authors, World Bank Group Economists Cristina Constantinescu, Aaditya Mattoo and Michele Ruta. "In a more uncertain environment, firms may choose to postpone investment and export decisions and consumers may cut back spending. The threat of unraveling trade agreements may also hurt trade growth by adding to policy uncertainty"...

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World Development Report 2017: Governance and the Law

World Bank Group. 2017 :: 307 pages

e-ISBN: 978-1-4648-0951-4 DOI: 10.1596/978-1-4648-0950-

PDF:

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/25880/9781464809507.pdf?sequence=29&isAllowed=y>

Overview

Why are carefully designed, sensible policies too often not adopted or implemented? When they are, why do they often fail to generate development outcomes such as security, growth, and equity? And why do some bad policies endure? This book addresses these fundamental questions, which are at the heart of development. Policy making and policy implementation do not occur in a vacuum. Rather, they take place in complex political and social settings, in which individuals and groups with unequal power interact within changing rules as they pursue conflicting interests.

The process of these interactions is what this Report calls governance, and the space in which these interactions take place, the policy arena. The capacity of actors to commit and their willingness to cooperate and coordinate to achieve socially desirable goals are what matter for effectiveness. However, who bargains, who is excluded, and what barriers block entry to the

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policy arena determine the selection and implementation of policies and, consequently, their impact on development outcomes. Exclusion, capture, and clientelism are manifestations of power asymmetries that lead to failures to achieve security, growth, and equity.

The distribution of power in society is partly determined by history. Yet, there is room for positive change. This Report reveals that governance can mitigate, even overcome, power asymmetries to bring about more effective policy interventions that achieve sustainable improvements in security, growth, and equity. This happens by shifting the incentives of those with power, reshaping their preferences in favor of good outcomes, and taking into account the interests of previously excluded participants. These changes can come about through bargains among elites and greater citizen engagement, as well as by international actors supporting rules that strengthen coalitions for reform.

Navigating this Report [p.32]

Part I. Rethinking governance for development: A conceptual framework

Part I of this Report presents a conceptual framework for rethinking the role of governance and law in development. Chapter 1 motivates by unpacking critical questions facing the development community today: in particular, what are the underlying determinants of policy effectiveness? Chapter 2 proposes a new analytical approach to answering these questions, using a game theoretic approach to argue that the functional role institutions play in ensuring credible commitment, inducing coordination, and enhancing cooperation is fundamental to the effectiveness of policies to promote development. The framework presented in the chapter explores how the unequal distribution of power in society (power asymmetry) is a key factor underpinning the effectiveness of these functions. Chapter 3 approaches the conceptual framework from the perspective of law, explaining the different roles that law plays in shaping and reshaping the policy arena in which actors bargain over policy design and implementation.

Part II. Governance for development

Part II of this Report applies the framework presented in part I to better understand three core development outcomes: security (chapter 4), growth (chapter 5), and equity (chapter 6). Commitment, coordination, and cooperation fundamentally underlie the effectiveness of policies to promote these outcomes, but the unequal distribution of power can constrain policy effectiveness. Moreover, characteristics of development itself—such as the composition of growth or the level of inequality—influence the relative bargaining power of certain actors. Enhancing contestability in the policy arena, effectively changing incentives, and reshaping the preferences and beliefs of different actors—for example, through leadership—can make development policies more effective in achieving their objectives.

Part III. Drivers of change

Part III of this Report explores the dynamics of how change occurs from the perspective of elite bargains (chapter 7), citizen engagement (chapter 8), and international influences (chapter 9). As discussed in part II, to improve policy effectiveness and ultimately expand the set of implementable policies, it is necessary to reshape the policy arena where actors bargain. This can be accomplished by enhancing contestability—that is, by enabling new actors to enter the bargaining space, by changing the incentives of the actors involved, or by reshaping their preferences and beliefs. Although the dynamics of governance can be very persistent and are highly endogenous, change is possible over time. In the end, change is manifested by bringing about new formal rules that reshape *de jure* power.

Spotlights

This Report contains 13 spotlights, which apply the conceptual framework described in the Report to key policy areas of interest, ranging from service delivery to corruption and illicit financial flows.

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Emergencies

WHO Grade 3 Emergencies [to 25 February 2017]

Iraq –

Read the health situation report from Mosul pdf, 521kb 18 February 2016

Nigeria -

Statement on Nigeria and the Lake Chad Region in Oslo Humanitarian Conference
24 February 2017 Oslo, Norway

As several speakers have noted today, while there are enormous food security, nutrition and protection dimensions to the crisis in the Lake Chad Region, this is also a public health crisis, with rates of death, malnutrition and disease rarely seen over the past 20 years.

In Nigeria and the Lake Chad Region, lack of qualified health workers, essential medicines and the destruction of medical facilities hamper the delivery of lifesaving health care. Widespread food insecurity and malnutrition are associated with severe health consequences. As you know, malnutrition lowers the body's capacity to fight infection – a malnourished child is far more prone to contract an infectious disease such as pneumonia, diarrhoea and measles – and then to die from that disease. As one of our local staff in Niger said to me once – between malnutrition and death, there is always disease.

All four countries in the Lake Chad Region have similar health priorities: rapidly expanding access to a package of essential health care – including child and reproductive health; boosting immunization rates; preventing, detecting and responding to disease outbreaks; effectively treating malnutrition and its consequences. We also must address psychosocial problems, sexual and gender-based violence, and violent trauma leading to physical injuries. Together, health sector partners seek to help 8.2 million people this year...

South Sudan -

South Sudan: Amidst insecurity, WHO in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and partners intensifies the health response to the cholera outbreak

14 February 2017, Juba, South Sudan - Despite the ongoing complex humanitarian crises in South Sudan, the World Health Organization (WHO) in partnership with the Ministry of Health and partners are responding to the latest cholera outbreak in the former Jonglei and Lakes States. The outbreak of cholera was first detected in June 2016 and since then 5 006 cholera cases and 99 deaths (CFR 1.98%) have been reported from 12 Counties in nine states countrywide.

Yemen -

Yemeni health system crumbles as millions risk malnutrition and diseases

23 February 2017, Al-Hudaydah, Yemen - "Hospital staff have not received their salaries for the past 5 months. There are acute shortages of certain medicines and we need more fuel to ensure the hospital has electricity," says Dr Khaled Suhail, Director of Al-Tharwa Hospital in Yemen's third largest city, Al-Hudaydah. With more than 1200 employees and 320 beds, Al-Thawra Hospital is the main functioning health facility in Al-Hudaydah and neighbouring governorates.

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The Syrian Arab Republic - *No new announcements identified*

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WHO Grade 2 Emergencies [to 25 February 2017]

Cameroon - *No new announcements identified.*

Central African Republic - *No new announcements identified.*

Democratic Republic of the Congo - *No new announcements identified.*

Ethiopia - *No new announcements identified.*

Libya - *No new announcements identified.*

Myanmar - *No new announcements identified.*

Niger - *No new announcements identified.*

Ukraine - *No new announcements identified.*

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UN OCHA – L3 Emergencies

The UN and its humanitarian partners are currently responding to three 'L3' emergencies. This is the global humanitarian system's classification for the response to the most severe, large-scale humanitarian crises.

Iraq

:: Iraq: Mosul Humanitarian Response Situation Report No. 21 (13 February - 19 February 2017)

Syria

:: Statement to the Security Council on Syria 22 Feb 2017

:: 24 Feb 2017

Health Resources Availability Mapping System (HeRAMS) Report - Turkey Hub Health Cluster for Syria, 2016

Yemen

:: Escalating Conflict on Yemen's Western Coast - Flash Update # 2 | 25 February 2017

:: 21 Feb 2017

Statement by the Humanitarian Coordinator in Yemen, Jamie McGoldrick, on the Impact of the Conflict and Ongoing Food Crisis [EN/AR]

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UNICEF [to 25 February 2017]

https://www.unicef.org/media/media_94367.html

21 February 2017

Nearly 1.4 million children at imminent risk of death as famine looms in Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen – UNICEF

NEW YORK/DAKAR/NAIROBI/AMMAN,– Almost 1.4 million children are at imminent risk of death from severe acute malnutrition this year, as famine looms in Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen, UNICEF said today.

WHO: Rapid response teams and medicines deployed to cholera outbreak in South Sudan

February 2017 – Essential medicines and supplies have been delivered to communities in

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South Sudan affected by the cholera outbreak. The supplies were deployed along with rapid response teams that are currently working alongside local teams to control the outbreaks.
[No mention of OCV use]

WHO: [About 17 million people are affected by crisis in the Lake Chad Basin](#)

23 February 2017 – Years of violent conflict have deprived millions of people in north-eastern Nigeria, northern Cameroon, western Chad and south-east Niger of even the most basic health care services. Malnutrition is widespread and in the 3 worst-affected states of Nigeria nearly 6 million men, women, children and infants urgently need health assistance. WHO is working with the Nigerian Ministry of Health and partners to reach those in need with lifesaving health care.

...Millions of people in Borno State have had limited or no access to regular health services over a number of years, leading to very low vaccination rates. The ongoing movement of internally displaced people also makes it difficult to track those who have or have not been immunized. WHO supported a measles vaccination campaign in January 2017 which reached nearly 3 million children. Polio is still endemic in Nigeria, but WHO and its partners have vaccinated over 1.8 million children under five against the disease in a continued effort to eradicate it...

PAHO -Epidemiological Alerts and Updates

:: [24 February 2017: Cholera – Epidemiological Update](#)

Between epidemiological week (EW) 1 and 5 of 2017, a total of 1,897 cholera cases were reported in Haiti, including 28 deaths. In the Dominican Republic, from the beginning of the year to EW 2 of 2017, there were 7 suspected cholera cases and 2 confirmed cases reported, including one death.

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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 25 February 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases/Meetings Coverage

23 February 2017

SG/SM/18454

[Redouble Efforts for Political Solution in Syria, Urges Secretary-General as Geneva Talks Resume, Cautioning that Progress 'Will Not Be Easy'](#)

23 February 2017

SC/12731

[Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2342 \(2017\), Security Council Grants One-Year Renewal of Sanctions on Yemen, Extends Expert Panel's Mandate](#)

The Security Council today renewed for one year a targeted arms embargo, travel ban and assets freeze against individuals and entities designated by the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2140 \(2014\)](#) on Yemen.

22 February 2017

SC/12729

[With War in Syria Entering Sixth Year, Genuine Commitment to Peace Required at Upcoming Geneva Talks, Humanitarian Affairs Chief Tells Security Council](#)

Genuine political commitment to peace in Syria would be needed if 2017 was to offer any prospect other than the death and destruction of the past six years, the head of United Nations humanitarian affairs told the Security Council today.

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 25 February 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases – "TOP NEWS"

[Press briefing note on Israel: Elor Azaria case](#)

[UN rights expert urges Malaysia to halt imminent execution of two brothers](#)

[UN expert group urges Bangladesh to stop enforced disappearances](#)

[UN rights expert urges Kenya to protect four environmental defenders whose lives are under threat](#)

[Toxic air pollution: UN rights experts urge tighter rules to combat "invisible threat"](#)

[UN expert to assess violence and discrimination against LGBT people in Argentina](#)

[Libya Gaddafi regime trial fell short of international standards – UN report](#)

[Zeid calls for immediate halt to DRC killings](#)

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

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

[to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

SRSG/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict [to 25 February 2017]

<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 25 February 2017]

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[Toxic air pollution: UN rights experts urge tighter rules to combat "invisible threat"](#)

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

SRSB/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN OCHA [to 25 February 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

24 Feb 2017

[Nigeria: Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Stephen O'Brien Remarks to the press at the Oslo Humanitarian Conference on Nigeria and the Lake Chad Region Oslo, 24 February 2017](#)

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: Cameroon, Chad, Niger, Nigeria We have a humanitarian crisis in the Lake Chad Region which is truly massive: a staggering 10.7 million people need immediate humanitarian assistance – that is twice the population of Norway as a whole – and who urgently need life-saving relief and protection tonight. And 8.5 million of that 10.7 million are in north-eastern Nigeria around the epicenter of Maiduguri....

24 Feb 2017

[Nigeria: Oslo humanitarian conference for Nigeria and the Lake Chad region raises \\$672 million to help people in need](#)

24 Feb 2017

[Central African Republic: Central African Republic: The Humanitarian Coordinator calls for free and unhindered humanitarian access](#)

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: Central African Republic Bangui, 22 February 2017 - The Acting Humanitarian Coordinator in the Central African Republic, Aboubacry Tall, calls on parties to the conflict in the Ouaka and Haute Kotto provinces to respect and uphold International Humanitarian Law (IHL). He also urges them to honor their commitment to protect civilians and to fulfill their human rights obligations.

22 Feb 2017

[South Sudan: "In our world of plenty, there is no excuse for inaction or indifference" - UN Secretary-General](#)

Source: UN Secretary-General, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Yemen More than 20 million people in North-East Nigeria, South Sudan, Somalia and Yemen are facing famine or a credible risk of famine over the coming six months. With access to people in need and sufficient funding, the United Nations and its partners can avert famine and provide the necessary relief and support where famine already exists. To avert a humanitarian...

UNICEF [to 25 February 2017]

https://www.unicef.org/media/media_94367.html

24 February 2017

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[UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Orlando Bloom meets children and families affected by Boko Haram violence on Niger trip](#)

NEW YORK/NIAMEY, Niger,— UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Orlando Bloom this week travelled to Diffa, south-east Niger, to highlight the ongoing humanitarian crisis in the Lake Chad Basin where Boko Haram violence has caused huge population displacements. Hundreds of thousands of children across the region have been forced from their homes, are out of education and at risk of malnutrition.

[Statement attributable to Geert Cappelaere, UNICEF Regional Director, urging all parties at Geneva talks to put Syria's children first](#)

DAMASCUS/AMMAN, 23 February 2017 – "The heart-wrenching image of a young boy screaming for his father just minutes after losing both his legs in an apparent assault in Idlib last week is another brutal reminder that children continue to come under attack in Syria's conflict."

[UNICEF statement on Baquer Namazi](#)

NEW YORK, 22 February 2017 – "One year ago today, our respected former UNICEF colleague, Baquer Namazi, was imprisoned in Iran. Our concerns for his health and wellbeing have grown deeper with each passing day.

[Life-saving support urgently needed in Greater Unity region](#)

21 February 2017, Rome - The latest food security analysis in South Sudan has led to a declaration of famine in Leer and Mayendit counties in Greater Unity region. Two other counties are at risk of famine. The lives of some 100,000 people are threatened.

[Nearly 1.4 million children at imminent risk of death as famine looms in Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen – UNICEF](#)

NEW YORK/DAKAR/NAIROBI/AMMAN, 21 February 2017 – Almost 1.4 million children are at imminent risk of death from severe acute malnutrition this year, as famine looms in Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen, UNICEF said today.

[At least 65,000 children released from armed forces and groups over the last 10 years, UNICEF](#)

NEW YORK/PARIS, 21 February 2017 – At least 65,000 children have been released from armed forces and armed groups in the past 10 years, UNICEF said today as leaders from around the world gather in Paris on the anniversary of the Paris Commitments to end the use of children in conflict.

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 25 February 2017]
<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/media-centre.html>

Press releases and news comments

[Yemen's Brutal Conflict Pushing One Million Displaced to Return to Danger \(Joint UNHCR-IOM Press Release\)](#) 21 Feb 2017

[Neil Gaiman appointed UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador](#) 20 Feb 2017

[Severe food shortages hit Africa's refugees hard, UNHCR and WFP warn](#) 20 Feb 2017

Briefing Notes

[As new Mosul offensive unfolds, sheltering the displaced comes back into focus](#) 21 Feb 2017

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

[Inside Somalia, drought displacement growing](#) 21 Feb 2017

IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 25 February 2017]

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

2017-02-25

[IOM Director General William Lacy Swing Expresses Concern about Anti-Migrant Violence in South Africa](#)

Statement from IOM Director General William Lacy Swing on the Anti-Migrant Violence in South Africa.

[Leaving No One Behind: A Call to Action on Migrant Health](#)

2017-02-24 17:08

Sri Lanka - Global health leaders adopted the Colombo Statement, which calls for collaboration to improve the health and well-being of migrants and their families.

[Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 13,924; Deaths: 366](#)

2017-02-24 17:07

Switzerland - IOM reports that 13,924 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 22 February, with over 75 percent arriving in Italy.

[Japan Backs IOM Humanitarian Operations in 2017](#)

2017-02-24 17:06

Japan - The Government of Japan has allocated USD 34.3 million to support IOM's operations to assist vulnerable migrants around the world in 2017.

[IOM: 1.9 Million Displaced, 1 Million Returnees in Northeast Nigeria Need More Aid](#)

2017-02-24 17:02

Nigeria - Though the number of displaced people returning home in northeast Nigeria continues to increase, with one million returnees since October 2015, nearly two million are still displaced across the region, according to IOM's latest Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM).

[IOM/UNHCR: Yemen's Brutal Conflict Pushing One Million Displaced to Return to Danger](#)

2017-02-21 17:17

Yemen - Unabated conflict and rapidly deteriorating conditions across Yemen are pushing millions of displaced Yemenis further into danger and adversity.

[IOM Relocates 6,000 Displaced to Ease Overcrowding in Wau, South Sudan](#)

2017-02-21 17:14

South Sudan - IOM is improving living conditions for internally displaced persons (IDPs) at the crowded Protection of Civilians (PoC) site in Wau, South Sudan. Hosting more than 30,000 IDPs, the Wau PoC site adjacent to the UN peacekeeping base is the most congested...

UNAIDS [to 25 February 2017]

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

Update

[Italy invests half a million euros to support UNAIDS' work in Ethiopia](#)

21 February 2017

The Italian Government signed on 21 February a financing agreement for €500 000 to support UNAIDS' efforts to end the AIDS epidemic in Ethiopia. The funds will be invested in a

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special project to bolster UNAIDS' work in improving community health education and capacity- and knowledge-building. The project will be implemented across 10 areas of the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region of the country over a 12-month period...

Update

[CROI shows the importance of 90–90–90](#)

21 February 2017

A number of important updates were announced at the annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI) that have shown the importance of, and ways to achieve, the 90–90–90 targets, whereby, by 2020, 90% of people living with HIV know their HIV status, 90% of people who know their HIV-positive status are accessing treatment and 90% of people on treatment have suppressed viral loads.

Held in Seattle, United States of America, from 13 to 16 February, CROI, the foremost annual scientific research conference on HIV, brought together around 4000 scientists, researchers, clinicians, students and others working in the response to HIV and related diseases...

WHO & Regional Offices [to 25 February 2017]

[Reducing maternal and newborn deaths by half](#)

14 February 2017 – Today, 9 countries – Bangladesh, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania and Uganda – committed to halving preventable deaths of pregnant women and newborns in their health facilities within the next 5 years. Through a new network supported by WHO, UNICEF, and other partners, these countries will improve the quality of care mothers and babies receive.

Highlights

[Rapid response teams and medicines deployed to cholera outbreak in South Sudan](#)

February 2017 – Essential medicines and supplies have been delivered to communities in South Sudan affected by the cholera outbreak. The supplies were deployed along with rapid response teams that are currently working alongside local teams to control the outbreaks.

[WHO issues first viral hepatitis testing guidelines](#)

February 2017 – WHO issued its first-ever global guidance on testing for chronic viral hepatitis B and C on 16 February 2017. Viral hepatitis causes an estimated 1.4 million deaths worldwide each year. The guidelines were released in a special session at the 26th Conference of the Asian Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver (APASL), held in Shanghai, China.

[South African government commits to implement sugary drinks tax to tackle diabetes and obesity](#)

February 2017 – WHO strongly supports announcement by the Government of South Africa to implement a tax on sugary beverages as part of the country's campaign to promote the health of its citizens and combat the increasing challenges of diabetes and obesity.

[Sri Lanka gears up to host Global Consultation on Migrant Health](#)

February 2017 – Health leaders will gather in Colombo, from 21 to 23 February 2017, for a landmark consultation on migrant health. The 2nd Global Consultation on Migrant Health, jointly organized by the Government of Sri Lanka, IOM and WHO, strives to build international solidarity to enhance the health and well-being of migrants and their families.

:: WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

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

WHO African Region AFRO

- :: About 17 million people are affected by crisis in the Lake Chad Basin 23 February 2017
- :: WHO and the African Union Commission map the way forward for stronger partnership - 18 February 2017
- :: Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance visits the WHO Regional Office for Africa - 18 February 2017

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

- :: WHO and PAHO Initiative to Support 17 New Research Proposals on Zika in Seven Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (02/23/2017)
- :: Early cancer diagnosis saves lives, cuts treatment costs (02/03/2017)
- :: The Zika Virus outbreak continues one year after the global emergency (02/02/2017)
- :: Overweight affects almost half the population of all countries in Latin America and the Caribbean except for Haiti (01/18/2017)

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

- :: Migrant Health: Resetting the agenda

21 February 2017 – The health problems of refugees and migrants are similar to those of the rest of the population. The most frequent health problems of newly arrived refugees and migrants include accidental injuries, hypothermia, burns, cardiovascular events, pregnancy and delivery-related complications, diabetes, and hypertension. Key stakeholders are discussing improving the health aspects of refugees and migrants, in the 2nd Global Consultation on Migrant Health, on 21–23 February 2017, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

WHO European Region EURO

- :: The Crown Princess of Denmark, WHO/Europe Patron, receives WHO Medal for commendable contributions to global health 24-02-2017
- :: Tobacco control activities in Turkey enter a new phase, with leaders looking to ensure sustainability 24-02-2017
- :: Slovenian National Assembly passes strong tobacco control law 20-02-2017

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

- :: Tracing every last virus: Afghanistan steps up surveillance to accelerate polio eradication

Kabul 23 February 2017 – Afghanistan's strong surveillance system is the backbone of the country's polio eradication effort. It ensures that every single poliovirus is detected and analysed, enabling a quick and effective response to stop every strain of the debilitating virus. Afghanistan is closer than ever to stopping polio. Together with partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, WHO is further strengthening Afghanistan's surveillance system to accelerate progress towards a polio-free Afghanistan.

WHO Western Pacific Region

- :: A new vision for WHO–Lao People's Democratic Republic partnership

VIENTIANE CAPITAL, 21 February 2017 – Over the past decade, the Lao People's Democratic Republic has observed significant improvements in the health status of the population. People are living longer, maternal mortality and deaths from malaria have been drastically reduced, and the number of tuberculosis cases is in decline. However, these impressive improvements in the country's health are at risk from a new set of challenges, including rapidly increasing rates of noncommunicable disease and injury.

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) [to 25 February 2017]

<http://www.oie.int/en/for-the-media/press-releases/2017/>

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

No new digest content identified.

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 25 February 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases/Announcements

No new digest content identified.

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 25 February 2017]

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

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

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

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

The fifth meeting of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), will be held from 28 to 31 March 2017 in Ottawa, Canada. The meeting will be hosted by Statistics Canada.

This meeting will follow the same format as the 4th IAEG-SDG meeting, with a Members meeting taking place during the first two days (28 - 29 March) and a Plenary Session taking place during the second two days (30 - 31 March). During the plenary session, all countries, international and regional agencies and entities, and other stakeholders are invited to attend...

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme [to 25 February 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

Press Release | February 23, 2017

[UN Declares War on Ocean Plastic](#)

:: UN Environment launches major global #CleanSeas campaign to end marine litter

:: Ten countries are already on board, as well as DELL Computers, singer Jack Johnson, actor Adrian Grenier and media personality Nadya Hutagalung

:: More than 8 million tonnes of plastic leaks into the ocean each year – equal to dumping a garbage truck of plastic every minute

23 February 2017 – UN Environment launched today an unprecedented global campaign to eliminate major sources of marine litter: microplastics in cosmetics and the excessive, wasteful usage of single-use plastic by the year 2022.

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Launched at the Economist World Ocean Summit in Bali, the [#CleanSeas campaign](#) is urging governments to pass plastic reduction policies; targeting industry to minimize plastic packaging and redesign products; and calling on consumers to change their throwaway habits – before irreversible damage is done to our seas.

Erik Solheim, Head of UN Environment, said, "It is past time that we tackle the plastic problem that blights our oceans. Plastic pollution is surfing onto Indonesian beaches, settling onto the ocean floor at the North Pole, and rising through the food chain onto our dinner tables. We've stood by too long as the problem has gotten worse. It must stop."...

UNISDR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNESCO [to 25 February 2017]

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

24 February 2017

[UNESCO calls on international community to help revive Iraq's cultural heritage in the wake of massive destruction](#)

A two-day International Coordination Conference on the Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage in Liberated Areas of Iraq ended at UNESCO's Headquarters on Friday, laying the ground for an emergency, medium and long term action plan to preserve the country's rich, diverse millennial archaeological sites, its museums, religious heritage, and historic cities.

The Iraqi government officials and some 80 heritage experts from all over the world at the meeting agreed to appoint a joint UNESCO-Iraqi Steering Committee to coordinate and advocate the many national and international initiatives to rehabilitate the cultural heritage of Iraq...

24 February 2017

[CENTRAL AMERICA UNIVERSITIES ADDRESS ILICIT TRAFFICKING IN CULTURAL PROPERTY](#)

During the month of February 2017, the UNESCO Office in San José, Cost Rica, is organizing university lectures to raise awareness among students in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama on the need to protect cultural heritage from looting and trafficking.

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 25 February 2017]

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

22-12-2016

[Demining and repair initiative restores key irrigation canals, farmland near Mosul](#)

Some 200 000 people from Mosul and across Iraq will be able to earn an income for the first time since the Islamic State of the Levant (ISIL) took parts of the area in 2014, thanks to a new FAO project that is restoring irrigation to 250 000 hectares of farmland.

20-12-2016

[With continued drought, Horn of Africa braces for another hunger season](#)

Countries in the Horn of Africa are likely to see a rise in hunger and further decline of local livelihoods in the coming months, as farming families struggle with the knock-on effects of multiple droughts that hit the region this year, FAO warned today. Growing numbers of refugees in East Africa, meanwhile, are expected to place even more burden on already strained food and nutrition security.

20-12-2016

[Safeguarding of biodiversity must be integrated across agricultural sectors](#)

Meeting in Cancun, Mexico at the UN Biodiversity Conference (CBD COP13) which ended on 17 December, governments agreed on specific steps to to promote the integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity within and across the agriculture, fisheries, forestry, and tourism sectors.

ILO International Labour Organization [to 25 February 2017]

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

Inequalities and the World of Work

[Understanding and reducing inequalities in Europe](#)

23 February 2017

A new report by the ILO in cooperation with the European Commission looks at the key factors leading to rising inequalities in fourteen EU Member States.

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 25 February 2017]

[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)

No new digest content identified.

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 25 February 2017]

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

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

Thursday, 23 February 2017

[Global manufacturing growth remains weak according to UNIDO Industrial Statistics Yearbook](#)

VIENNA, 23 February 2017 - Manufacturing production growth has been weak in recent years both in industrialized and developing and emerging industrial economies according to the International Yearbook of Industrial...

[UNIDO and 1millionstartup promote social entrepreneurship for sustainable development](#)

VIENNA, 23 January 2017 - Promoting entrepreneurship and startups in view of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was the focus of yesterday's event organized by the worldwide initiative 1millionstartups with..

[UNIDO research provides evidence of the continued importance of manufacturing for economic development](#)

VIENNA, 22 February 2017 - Many developing countries are experiencing premature de-industrialization, and as a result it has recently been argued that development through manufacturing growth has become a more difficult path for...

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 25 February 2017]

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

24 February 2017

[Algeria kicks off 1st UNWTO Regional Capacity Building Programme on Tourism Statistics](#)

In the framework of the technical assistance that the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) provides to Member States, especially in their development of sound statistical systems, the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria has hosted the 1st Workshop on Regional Statistics of the Tourism Sector (13-15 February 2017). The program aims to enable the development of tourism statistics according to the United Nations standards at the national level and to implement the Tourism Satellite Account project over time. This three-year programme, which was launched this year and is to be concluded in 2019, consists of a series of capacity-building workshops for officials from national tourism administrations, national statistical offices, central banks and Immigration Offices.

24 February 2017

[Innovation, technology and sustainability - pillars of Smart Destinations](#)

Over three days (15-17 February) more than 100 speakers from 20 countries convened in Murcia, Spain to present solutions and experiences for 'smart destinations'. The 1st UNWTO World Conference on Smart Destinations was organized by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry, Tourism and the Digital Agenda of Spain and the Region of Murcia.

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 25 February 2017]

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

2017-02-21

[A new book "Impact of Biological Invasions on Ecosystem Services" published by experts.](#)

M. Vilà, P.E. Hulme (Eds.)

Series: Invading Nature - Springer Series in Invasion Ecology, Vol. 12

:: Equips readers with ready access to the latest thinking in ecosystem services as relating to biological invasions

:: Describe a wide range of impacts by non-native microorganisms on a wide range of species including humans

:: Integrates research dispersed across disciplines that is essential for best management of biological invasions

:: Provides a comprehensive information system of the worst invaders to different productive and socio-economic sectors

The book presents an analysis of the ecological, economic and social threats posed by the introduction and spread of non-native species. It provides a comprehensive description of impacts of non-native species from all five kingdoms of life across all ecosystems of the world. New insights into the impacts arising from biological invasions are generated through taking an ecosystem services perspective. This work highlights that management of biological invasions is needed not only to sustain biodiversity and the environment, but also to safeguard productive sectors such as agriculture, forestry and fisheries, as well as to preserve human health and well-being.

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USAID [to 25 February 2017]

<https://www.usaid.gov/news-information>

No new digest content identified.

DFID [to 25 February 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

[Historic WTO agreement will reduce exporting red tape and boost UK trade](#)

22 February 2017 DFID and DIT Press release

[UK outlines new humanitarian support and urges international community to save lives before it's too late](#)

22 February 2017 DFID Press release

Priti Patel announces new packages of UK aid for South Sudan and Somalia and calls on others to step up as well.

The International Development Secretary Priti Patel has today announced new packages of life-saving UK aid for South Sudan and Somalia and issued a call to action to the international community to step up their support before it is too late.

Before this week there has been only one certified famine globally since 2000. Parts of South Sudan are now in famine and in 2017 there is a credible risk of another three famines in Yemen, North East Nigeria and Somalia. Drought and conflict in these countries are pushing families to the brink of starvation and there is also no end in sight to the six-year conflict which has ripped Syria apart.

As the world faces an unprecedented number of humanitarian crises, Priti Patel outlined how the UK will lead the world in supporting famine stricken areas. In response to famine warnings

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in Somalia and South Sudan she announced new UK support to provide lifesaving food, water and emergency healthcare which will save more than a million lives.

This is alongside continued life-saving aid to Yemen and North East Nigeria which provided food, medical supplies, water and emergency shelter to over two million people in 2016...

ECHO [to 25 February 2017]

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

24/02/2017

[More EU aid as humanitarian needs in Lake Chad region grow](#)

The European Commission has announced additional assistance for the Lake Chad region in 2017 as humanitarian needs grow. The European Commission has already allocated €55 million of humanitarian support to populations in the Lake Chad region in...

[EU responds to famine in South Sudan with €82 million in emergency aid](#)

21/02/2017

Today the European Commission announced an emergency aid package worth €82 million as famine is declared in South Sudan for the first time since the country gained independence in 2011. One hundred thousand people are facing starvation in parts of...

[EU announces €18 million in humanitarian aid for Ukraine in wake of recent violence](#)

20/02/2017

Today Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides announced additional funding for people affected by the conflict in eastern Ukraine during his visit to the country."

.....

African Union [to 25 February 2017]

<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]

No new digest content identified.

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 25 February 2017]

<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]

February 24th, 2017

[ASEAN sets priorities to address transboundary haze pollution in Mekong sub-region](#)

CHIANG RAI, 24 February 2017 – ASEAN Ministers and representatives responsible for land, forest fires and haze from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam gathered in northern Thailand today to discuss transboundary haze pollution.

February 21th, 2017

[ASEAN continues to protect and promote the rights of migrant workers](#)

DAVAO, 21 February 2017 - ASEAN is moving a step closer to the finalisation of the draft ASEAN instrument to implement the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers (Cebu Declaration).

European Commission [to 25 February 2017]

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

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

[EU proposes €105 million in humanitarian assistance for Lake Chad region](#)

24/02/2017 - The European Commission has announced additional assistance for the region the Lake Chad region in 2017 as humanitarian needs grow

[EU announces €18 million in humanitarian aid for Ukraine](#)

20/02/2017 - Today Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides has announced additional funding for people affected by the conflict in eastern Ukraine during his visit to the country.

OECD [to 25 February 2017]

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

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

No new digest content identified.

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 25 February 2017]

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

February 22, 2017

[Member States Discuss the Role of the OAS in Meeting the Sustainable Development Objectives](#)

February 22, 2017

[OAS to Honor African Heritage in the Americas with a Celebration of its Cultural Legacy](#)

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 25 February 2017]

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

[Selected Press Releases, Announcements]

25/02/2017

[OIC Welcomes Resumption of Syrian Talks in Geneva](#)

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) welcomes the resumption of the Syrian talks in Geneva under the auspices of the United Nations. The OIC expresses hope that these talks would lead to positive and constructive results that could contribute to the immediate settlement of the Syrian crisis, which has had serious repercussions on Syria and the region as a whole.

Group of 77 [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

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UNCTAD [to 25 February 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

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

22 Feb 2017

[Major global agreement comes into force making trade cheaper, easier and faster](#)

WTO - World Trade Organisation [to 25 February 2017]

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]

22 February 2017

TRADE FACILITATION

[WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement enters into force](#)

A major milestone for the global trading system was reached on 22 February 2017 when the first multilateral deal concluded in the 21 year history of the World Trade Organization entered into force. In receiving four more ratifications for the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), the WTO has obtained the two-thirds acceptance of the agreement from its 164 members needed to bring the TFA into force.

.....

IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 25 February 2017]

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

21 February 2017

[South Asian Speakers Summit on SDGs focuses on gender equality and climate change](#)

Speakers of Parliaments from South Asia met to discuss the implementation of the SDGs in the region. The South Asian Speakers' Summit on Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals further defined the opportunities and challenges facing South Asian parliaments in working to implement the SDGs...

International Court of Justice [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

International Criminal Court (ICC) [to 25 February 2017]

Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity

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

Press Release : 23 February 2017

[ICC President to visit Uganda with Trust Fund for Victims](#)

The President of the International Criminal Court (ICC), Judge Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi, is starting this week her first official visit to Uganda, where she will visit victim assistance projects supported by the Trust Fund for Victims (TFV), an independent body associated with the Court. The President is also expected to meet with Ugandan authorities as well as conduct outreach activities.

During her visit, the ICC President Fernández will travel together with Board Members and the Director of the TFV to several facilities supported by the TFV's assistance projects, which offer psychological and physical rehabilitation to those who suffered harm during the conflict in Northern Uganda. While in Northern Uganda, the ICC President will also conduct an outreach session with local communities, engage in dialogue with them and listen to their views and concerns. She will also meet with the press and speak on local radio programmes.

During her activities, President Fernández will underline the important position of victims in the ICC. Victims can participate in proceedings at the Court, seek reparations for harm suffered, and benefit from assistance projects of the Trust Fund for Victims...

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World Bank [to 25 February 2017]

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

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

[World Bank to Support Cultural Heritage Conservation and Improve Services to Poor Communities in China's Gansu Province](#)

WASHINGTON DC, February 24, 2017 – The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved a US\$100 million loan today to conserve cultural and natural heritage, enhance tourism services and improve community services in China's Gansu province. It is the second project of its kind in Gansu.

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

[Policy Uncertainty Weighs on World Trade](#)

New evidence links policy uncertainties in developed countries to anemic trade in 2016

WASHINGTON, February 21, 2017—Global trade growth continued to be slow for the fifth consecutive year, with 2016 showing the weakest trade performance since the 2008-2009 global financial crisis. According to a new paper, preliminary data suggest that world merchandise trade grew by a little more than 1 percent in 2016 compared to 2 percent in 2015 and 2.7 percent in 2014.

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

IMF [to 25 February 2017]

<http://www.imf.org/external/what/whatsnewenglish/what.aspx>

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

February 24, 2017

[IMF and the United Kingdom Sign SDR 2 Billion Agreement to Support Lending to Low-Income Countries](#)

United Kingdom to provide up to SDR 2 billion in new loan resources for the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust in support of the IMF's low-income member countries

The continued support from the United Kingdom is a critical element towards sustaining the Fund's concessional lending operations over the medium-term

The International Monetary Fund (IMF), as Trustee of the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT), and H.M. Treasury, representing the Government of the United Kingdom, have signed a Note Purchase Agreement through which the United Kingdom will provide up to SDR 2 billion (about US\$2.71 billion) in new loan resources for the PRGT benefitting the IMF's low-income member countries...

February 21, 2017

[IMF Executive Board Adopts Decisions to Strengthen the Financial Stability in Countries with Islamic Banking](#)

On February 3, 2017, the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) held its first formal discussion on Islamic banking (IB), and adopted a set of proposals on the role that the Fund should play in this area. These proposals, and the case for adopting them, are

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

contained in the staff paper “*Ensuring Financial Stability in Countries with Islamic Banking*” and the accompanying country case studies paper.

IB continues to grow rapidly, in size and complexity, contributing to financial deepening and inclusion in many countries, but also posing a challenge to supervisory authorities and central banks. While accounting for a small share of global financial assets, IB has established a presence in more than 60 countries and has become systemically important in 14 jurisdictions. IB involves operations, balance sheet structures, and risks that differ from their conventional banking counterparts. Accordingly, there is a need for putting in place an environment that promotes IB financial stability and sound development, including legal, prudential, financial safety nets, anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism, and liquidity management frameworks...

African Development Bank Group [to 25 February 2017]

<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]

23/02/2017

[AfDB to open field offices in Benin, Guinea and Niger](#)

- Benin, Guinea and Niger will benefit significantly from the development support provided by the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) following the Board’s approval to open offices in the three countries in order to strengthen its operational presence, visibility and address their needs effectively.

Asian Development Bank [to 25 February 2017]

<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]

23 February 2017

[ADB, India Sign \\$500 Million Loan for Better Power Systems, Transmission](#)

ADB and the Government of India today signed a \$500 million loan to help improve large-scale power transmission from the northern to the southern regions, while helping integrate renewable energy in the country’s power system.

20 February 2017

[ADB to Increase Support to \\$1.2 Billion to Nepal in 2017-2019: ADB Vice President](#)

KATHMANDU, NEPAL (20 February 2017) — Asian Development Bank (ADB) Vice-President Wencai Zhang, on a 3-day official visit to Nepal, met with Nepal’s Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Krishna Bahadur Mahara, and other senior officials to discuss the overall direction of development partnership between ADB and Nepal. “ADB stands ready to support Nepal in its aspirations to become a prosperous middle-income country by 2030 while achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,” Mr. Zhang said.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank [to 25 February 2017]

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

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

No new digest content identified.

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 25 February 2017]
https://www.ifad.org/newsroom/press_release/list/tags/y2017
No new digest content identified.

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:: INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch

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

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

Amref Health Africa [to 25 February 2017]
<http://amref.org/news/news/>
No new digest content identified.

Aravind Eye Care System [to 25 February 2017]
<http://www.aravind.org/default/currentnewscontent>
Pondicherry, November 19

BMJ Award for Aravind Eye Care System

Aravind Eye Care System was awarded the South Asia BMJ Award for the category Excellence in Medical Education. Dr. Marie Fredrick, Medical Consultant, Paediatric & Squint Services, Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry did all the ground work to present for the award and he received the same on behalf of Aravind.

BRAC [to 25 February 2017]
<http://www.brac.net/#news>
No new digest content identified.

CARE International [to 25 February 2017]
<http://www.care-international.org/news/press-releases>
20h Feb 2017

Yemen: Humanitarian agencies condemn attacks on civilians

Humanitarian agencies strongly condemn continued attacks on civilians in Yemen after six women and a girl were reportedly killed and several other injured.

Clubhouse International [to 25 February 2017]
<http://www.clubhouse-intl.org/news.html>
No new digest content identified.

Danish Refugee Council [to 25 February 2017]

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

22.02.17

Civilians face increasing risk of being caught in crossfire as forces move on W. Mosul

Civilians fleeing the fighting in western Mosul may face difficulty reaching safety and are under increasing threat of being caught in the crossfire, the Danish Refugee Council warned on Wednesday, after Iraqi forces began operations to retake the rest of the city on 19 February.

ECPAT [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Fountain House [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Handicap International [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Heifer International [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

HelpAge International [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

ICRC [to 25 February 2017]

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

Selected News Releases, Reports and Articles

23 February 2017 *News release*

Iraq: the ICRC steps up its humanitarian response around Mosul

Baghdad (ICRC) – As fighting intensifies around the Iraqi city of Mosul, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is increasing its presence in the field, in order to respond swiftly to new humanitarian needs. Two additional surgical teams are in the process of being deployed to hospitals receiving wounded from the front lines, while stocks of food and other essentials are ready to be distributed to people displaced by violence.

IFRC [to 25 February 2017]

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

24 February 2017

IFRC statement on Oslo humanitarian conference

Statement from Dr Fatoumata Nafo-Traoré, IFRC Regional Director for Africa, on the Oslo humanitarian conference on Nigeria and the Lake Chad region: "We are pleased and encouraged by the support offered today by donors and partners. In addition to the ...

23 February 2017

Libyan Red Crescent rescues dozens of vulnerable migrants from shipping container; recovers bodies of 13

Beirut/Geneva, 23 February 2017 – Volunteers from the Libyan Red Crescent have rescued 56 migrants from a metal shipping container that was discovered in the Libyan coastal city of Khoms, and recovered the bodies of 13 people who died from suffocation. ...

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 25 February 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases & Statements

Statement

Iraqi forces reaching western Mosul marks the most dangerous phase for civilians

February 24, 2017

Press Release

IRC joins hands with Peshawar Zalmi to promote education in Pakistan

February 22, 2017

Remarks

James Martin Memorial Lecture 2017: the global refugee crisis and what to do about it

February 22, 2017

Statement

For the attention of the participants of the International Conference on Lake Chad, Oslo, 24 February 2017

February 22, 2017

Press Release

South Sudan famine is the price of inaction

February 22, 2017

IRCT [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Islamic Relief [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Landsea [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

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MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Mercy Corps [to 25 February 2017]

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

Nigeria, February 22, 2017

Mercy Corps: Funding Is Urgently Needed To Save Lives In Nigeria And Across The Lake Chad Region

Financial pledges at Oslo humanitarian conference should also target drivers of conflict, chronic underdevelopment

Somalia, February 21, 2017

Mercy Corps: International Community Must Move Quickly To Prevent Another Famine In Somalia

Leading global organization warns that failure to implement long-term responses is trapping Somalis in a cycle of drought, death and aid

Operation Smile [to 25 February 2017]

<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 25 February 2017]

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

24 February 2017

Threat of four famines in 2017 "a catastrophic betrayal of our common humanity"

Oxfam is calling for immediate humanitarian and political action as the world stands on the brink of an unprecedented four famines.

Aid agencies in South Sudan warn that funds are urgently needed to stop the spread of famine

23 February 2017

27 humanitarian agencies working in South Sudan have warned that unless substantial funds are immediately provided to those working on the ground, organisations will struggle to stop famine spreading...

Millions of lives at risk in West Africa's Lake Chad Basin

23 February 2017

Levels of hunger and malnutrition could deteriorate further with many more lives lost unless there is a substantial increase in funds to help over seven million people facing hunger in Nigeria, Niger, Chad and Cameroon.

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 25 February 2017]

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

Published 24. Feb 2017

[A Haven for Europe's Newest Refugees](#)

Maria Petrakis|

GREECE, Thessaloniki: The Norwegian Refugee Council is providing apartments for refugees stranded in the northern Greek port city of Thessaloniki, giving them a chance at regaining a normal life.

[Aid workers released in Yemen](#)

Published 23. Feb 2017

Three national staff, three casual workers and a contracted driver from the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) have been released after they were detained for a week in Al Hudaydah, Yemen.

Pact [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Partners In Health [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

PATH [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Plan International [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Save The Children [to 25 February 2017]

[http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpI4E/b.9506653/k.C303/Press Releases 2017/apps/nl/newsletter2.asp](http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpI4E/b.9506653/k.C303/Press_Releases_2017/apps/nl/newsletter2.asp)

Selected Press Releases

[Dr. Jill Biden Joins Save the Children as Board Chair](#)

February 21, 2017

[More than 1 Million Children in South Sudan Risk Starvation as the Country Faces its Worst Harvest Season on Record](#)

February 21, 2017

[Somalia Reaching a 'Tipping Point' as Signs of Malnutrition Among Children Worsen](#)

February 21, 2017

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 25 February 2017]

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

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

21.02.2017

Malawi: Training brings change

In Malawi, SOS Children's Villages is working with a partner organisation to empower sexually exploited girls and young women through vocational training, giving them the opportunity to have an alternative and independent way to earn a living.

Tostan [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Women for Women International [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

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Freedom House [to 25 February 2017]

<https://freedomhouse.org/news>

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research

As Elections Near, Germans Consider a Dangerous Alternative

Feb 22 2017 - 11:19am

The right-wing Alternative for Germany party has gained seats at the state level and is expected to enter the federal

Press Releases

Azerbaijan: Activists' Families Detained

February 21, 2017

Freedom House issued the following statement in response to Azerbaijan's detention of families of human rights activist.

Transparency International [to 25 February 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research

24 Feb 2017

Robin Hodess appointed Interim Internal Managing Director of Transparency International

Transparency International is pleased to announce the appointment of Robin Hodess as Interim Internal Managing Director of the International Secretariat, based in Berlin, Germany.

.....

ChildFund Alliance [to 25 February 2017]

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

February 23, 2017

International "Protect Children from War" conference

by Diana Quick

Statements

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

ChildFund Alliance was one of just 20 civil society organizations that participated in the international ministerial conference "Protect Children from War" in Paris this week. The conference commemorated the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the Paris Commitments to Protect Children Unlawfully Recruited or Used by Armed Forces or Armed Groups (Paris Commitments) and The Paris Principles and Guidelines on Children Associated with Armed Forces or Armed Groups (Paris Principles)...

CONCORD [to 25 February 2017]

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

[European NGO confederation for relief and development]

No new digest content identified.

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 25 February 2017]

<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]

23/02/2017

DEC announces £20 million for the emergency in Yemen - a country on the brink of famine

The Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) has now raised £20 million for the Yemen Crisis Appeal, since it was launched on 13 December 2016. This month the UN has announced that Yemen is on the brink of famine. Almost 19 million people - 80% of the population - are desperately in need of help, with 14 million people already hungry.

The Elders [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

END Fund [to 25 February 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements

No new digest content identified.

Evidence Aid [to 25 February 2017]

www.evidenceaid.org

No new digest content identified.

Gavi [to 25 February 2017]

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

23 February 2017

Gavi seeks to support innovative solutions to improve vaccine delivery

To propose cutting edge technology that could save lives, apply to INFUSE 2017

Geneva, 23 February 2017 – To ensure vaccines reach all the world's children, Gavi is inviting entrepreneurs and businesses to identify innovations in vaccine delivery by applying to its INFUSE initiative...

Global Fund [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Hilton Prize Coalition [to 25 February 2017]

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

An Alliance of Hilton Prize Recipients

Selected News Releases

No new digest content identified.

ICVA -International Council of Voluntary Agencies [to 25 February 2017]

<https://icvanetwork.org/>

Latest Resources

[Grand Bargain: Aide Memoire Gender Mainstreaming](#)

February, 2017

Upcoming events

[Grand Bargain and its impact for NGOs](#)

March 3, 2017 -

10:30am to 12:00pm

Webinar

InterAction [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Locus

<http://locusworld.org/>

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

No new digest content identified.

Start Network [to 25 February 2017]

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

[Consortium of British Humanitarian Agencies]

No new digest content identified.

Muslim Charities Forum [to 25 February 2017]

<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.

23rd February 2017

30 Years of Building Hope - The MCF Humanitarian Awards 2017

Muslim Charities Forum would like to congratulate all the winners of the MCF Humanitarian Awards 2017 which took place on the 22nd February 2017. The awards reflect the continuous efforts that charities have made in the humanitarian sector. The winners are:

Charity of the Year: Hand in Hand for Syria

Commendation: PennyAppeal

Sponsored by: Bates Wells Braithwaite

Small Charity of the Year: Sufra NW London

Sponsored by Simons Muirhead and Burton

Volunteer of The Year: Zakariya Sharif Nur (for charity MADE)

Sponsored by Your Online Conversation

Fundraising Campaign of the Year: PennyAppeal

Advocacy Campaign of the Year: Islamic Relief UK

Commendation: Islamic Human Rights Commission

Most Impactful International Programme: Muslim Charity

Most Impactful Domestic Programme: Human Appeal - UK

Commendation: Muslim Aid

Sponsored by Stone King LLP

Charity Partnership of the Year: Al-Imdaad Foundation

Sponsored by Bindmans LLP

Corporate Partnership of the Year: Global One

Sponsored by Al Rayan Bank

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Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP) [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

CHS Alliance [to 25 February 2017]

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

22/02/2017

HHR is coming to Asia in 2017, the dates have been confirmed!

HHR Asia will be held from 22nd to 24th May 2017 in Bangkok. The theme will be 'building resilient organisations in a changing humanitarian sector'. Further details to follow soon and registration to open in early March.

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EHLRA/R2HC [to 25 February 2017]
<http://www.elrha.org/resource-hub/news/>
No new digest content identified.

Global Humanitarian Assistance (GHA) [to 25 February 2017]
<http://www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org/>
No new digest content identified.

The Sphere Project [to 25 February 2017]
<http://www.sphereproject.org/news/>

23 February 2017 | Sphere Project

Sphere Handbook revision off to a great start

The revision of the Sphere standards started with a three-day workshop with a diverse group of humanitarian professionals driving the process.

The initial workshop with the authors and experts leading the Sphere revision this year convened some 30 humanitarians to start the drafting of the Sphere 2018 Handbook. With the framework, process and timeline set, the open phase of consultation and drafting is now starting and all Sphere users are invited to contribute.

Workshop participants were drawn from NGOs, UN agencies and the Red Cross/Red Crescent movement. As experts in different areas of humanitarian assistance, they constitute the Sphere revision writing team...

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 25 February 2017]
<https://phap.org/>
No new digest content identified.

.....

Center for Global Development
<http://www.cgdev.org/page/press-center>
Accessed 25 February 2017
No new digest content identified.

ODI [to 25 February 2017]
<https://www.odi.org/media-hub/press-room>
Research reports and studies

Improving human resource management in development agencies

| February 2017 | Barbara Nunberg

This report looks at how development agencies are adjusting the human resource management practices to improve the quality and impact of their aid programmes and policies.

Fostering learning in large programmes and portfolios: emerging lessons from climate change and sustainable development

Journal articles or issues | February 2017 | Blane Harvey, Tiina Pasanen, Alison Pollard and Julia Raybould

This journal article provides a review of practical cases and learning theories on large climate change programmes and identifies areas where future efforts might focus.

Nigeria's economic transformation: good naira management can build competitiveness

Briefing papers | February 2017 | Phyllis Papadavid

Nigeria's economic growth is lagging. Currency devaluation could support economic transformation, diversification away from the oil sector and resilience to future shocks.

Trade in services and economic transformation: a new development policy priority

Working and discussion papers | February 2017 | Bernard Hoekman and Dirk Willem te Velde

This essay series examines the vital role that trade in services can play in economic transformation and job creation in developing countries.

Urban Institute [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

World Economic Forum [to 25 February 2017]

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

News 20 Feb 2017

World Economic Forum on Africa to Focus on Achieving Inclusive Growth

:: The Forum's 27th Africa meeting will be held in Durban, South Africa, 3-5 May

:: Theme will focus on driving economic transformation in Africa through inclusive growth models

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:: Foundation/Major Donor Watch

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

Aga Khan Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Annie E. Casey Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

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

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

No new digest content identified.

Clinton Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Ford Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

GHIT Fund [to 25 February 2017]

<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 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

<http://hewlett.org/latest-updates/>

No new digest content identified.

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

IKEA Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

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

February 23, 2017

[The IKEA Foundation calls on funders to step up and save lives in Yemen](#)

To enable Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and Save the Children to continue to save lives and protect children and families in Yemen, the IKEA Foundation has stepped forward to give a €2 million grant to Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and €500,000 to Save the Children.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 25 February 2017]

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

Feb 23 2017

Research

[New Studies Identify Cellular Defects in a Familial Form of Parkinson's Disease](#)

Summary

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

New research adds to growing evidence that Parkinson's disease may arise in part from neurons' failure to recycle the materials used to package and transport neurotransmitters.

Kellogg Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

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

Feb. 22, 2017

Washington Tribes leading the way to better oral health care

New, Tribal-initiated Washington law authorizes federally certified or tribally licensed dental therapists to practice on tribal land

OLYMPIA, WA – Tribal nations in Washington are celebrating a new state law they crafted and championed to make it easier for them to address oral health care shortages in Indian Country.

Washington Governor Jay Inslee signed the "Act Relating to Dental Health Services in Tribal Settings" into law today. It authorizes federally certified or tribally licensed dental therapists to practice in Indian Country in Washington State. The bill was sponsored by Sen. John McCoy (Tulalip) with leadership from Tribal leaders as a key step in addressing high levels of tooth decay and dental care shortages.

"This is a tribal-based solution that will make a tremendous difference for Native people—especially children," said Sen. McCoy...

MacArthur Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

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

Press release

MacArthur Awards Journalism and Media Grants to Advance Accountability and Transparency in Nigeria

Published February 23, 2017

MacArthur announced today \$5 million in journalism and media funding to advance anti-corruption efforts in Nigeria. The grants are part of the Foundation's On Nigeria grantmaking, which seeks to create a new atmosphere of accountability, transparency, and good governance in the country by strengthening Nigerian-led anti-corruption efforts and reducing retail or "petty" corruption in key sectors.

The nine grants announced today seek to strengthen investigative and data-driven journalism in Nigeria and to reinforce the role played by independent media and citizens in revealing and documenting corruption. The grants will support a range of projects, including trainings for journalists on investigative field work and data-driven reporting, assistance for independent media organizations working to develop sustainable business models, and initiatives to monitor and report on Nigerian regulatory agencies in key sectors. Additional funding in 2017 will support efforts to increase the capacity of citizens to use social media as a driver of social change...

Blue Meridian Partners [to 25 February 2017]

<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.

Undated

Blue Meridian Partners: Nancy Roob on Knowing When to Invest

CEO Nancy Roob describes in a video interview critical criteria for a potential Blue Meridian Partners grantee: "the track record and the ambition of the leadership."

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

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

February 23, 2017

PRESS RELEASE

New microplastic pollution study to launch in San Francisco Bay and adjacent ocean waters

February 23, 2017

A two-year investigation on microplastic and nanoplastic pollution in San Francisco Bay and the surrounding ocean will launch this month, led by two research centers, the San Francisco Estuary Institute and the 5 Gyres Institute. The project will provide the most comprehensive study in the U.S. on microplastic and nanoplastic levels in water, sediment, and fish and explore ways to reduce this pollution.

Plastic pollution has gained recognition as a threat to the resilience and productivity of ocean ecosystems. However, the scope and impacts of microplastic particles (less than 5 millimeters in size) and nanoplastic particles (less than 0.001 millimeters) on coastal and ocean resources is still emerging. A preliminary study of nine sites in San Francisco Bay, published in 2016, found greater levels of microplastics in Bay surface waters than in either the Great Lakes or Chesapeake Bay. Understanding the sources, pathways and distribution of microplastic pollution is important to the health of San Francisco Bay, and the surrounding ocean environments...

Open Society Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Pew Charitable Trusts [to 25 February 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Rockefeller Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

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

February 23, 2017

The Rockefeller Foundation Launches Economic Council Focused on Planetary Health

:: Council of experts will investigate the economic rationale for the field

:: Oxford Martin School at the University of Oxford will host the Council, chaired by Ernesto Zedillo, Yale University professor and former President of Mexico

NEW YORK—The Rockefeller Foundation today announced the formation of The Rockefeller Foundation Economic Council on Planetary Health at the Oxford Martin School. This assembly of global experts will demonstrate the economic and policy case for the emerging field of planetary

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health. The field accounts for the link between human health and the natural systems on which it depends. Over the next 18 months, the Council's work will augment existing scientific planetary health evidence by providing leaders and policymakers with economic data for protecting human health through the preservation of earth's natural systems.

The scientific case for a planetary health approach was well established in a July 2015 report in *The Lancet*, "Safeguarding human health in the Anthropocene epoch," wherein the Rockefeller Foundation-Lancet Commission on planetary health detailed the ways in which the degradation of natural systems harms the health of individuals, families, and communities around the world.

"The scientific evidence of The Rockefeller Foundation-Lancet Commission on planetary health made it clear that when we compromise the environment, we compromise human health," said Yale Professor Ernesto Zedillo, chair of the Economic Council and former President of Mexico. "It is a fascinating paradox: the very economic growth that allowed human health to improve and people to live longer is actually harming our physical well-being. We need to turn this around, and we can. I firmly believe that prosperity and good health should go hand-in-hand, and the Council will chart a course for doing so, mindful that we have only one earth."...

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 25 February 2017]

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

No unique new content identified.

Science Philanthropy Alliance [to 25 February 2017]

<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 unique new 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).

No unique new content identified.

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

<https://sloan.org/about/press>

February 21, 2017

Announcing the 2017 Sloan Research Fellows

126 outstanding early-career researchers honored across eight fields

(New York, NY) – The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation announces the selection of 126 outstanding U.S. and Canadian researchers as the recipients of the 2017 Sloan Research Fellowships. The

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fellowships, awarded yearly since 1955, honor those early-career scholars whose achievements mark them as the next generation of scientific leaders. Winners receive a \$60,000 fellowship to be used as they wish to further their research. A full list of the 2017 Fellows is available at the Sloan Foundation website at <https://sloan.org/fellowships/2017-Fellows>.

"The Sloan Research Fellows are the rising stars of the academic community," says Paul L. Joskow, President of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. "Through their achievements and ambition, these young scholars are transforming their fields and opening up entirely new research horizons. We are proud to support them at this crucial stage of their careers."...

Wellcome Trust [to 25 February 2017]

<https://wellcome.ac.uk/news>

No new digest content identified.

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:: Journal Watch

The Sentinel will track key peer-reviewed journals which address a broad range of interests in human rights, humanitarian response, health and development. It is not intended to be exhaustive. We will add to those monitored below as we encounter relevant content and upon recommendation from readers. We selectively provide full text of abstracts and other content but note that successful access to some of the articles and other content may require subscription or other access arrangement unique to the publisher. Please suggest additional journals you feel warrant coverage.

American Journal of Infection Control

February 2017 Volume 45, Issue 2, p105-214, e23-e34

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

February 2017 Volume 52, Issue 2, p135-262, e33-e66

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

Volume 107, Issue 2 (February 2017)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

February 2017; 96 (2)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

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

(Accessed 25 February 2017)

[No new content]

BMJ Global Health

January 2017; volume 2, issue 1

<http://gh.bmj.com/content/2/1?current-issue=y>

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Health Services Research

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

(Accessed 25 February 2017)

Research article

[The distribution of maternity services across rural and remote Australia: does it reflect population need?](#)

Australia has a universal health care system and a comprehensive safety net. Despite this, outcomes for Australians living in rural and remote areas are worse than those living in cities. This study will exami...

Margaret I Rolfe, Deborah Anne Donoghue, Jo M Longman, Jennifer Pilcher, Sue Kildea, Sue Kruske, Jude Kornelsen, Stefan Grzybowski, Lesley Barclay and Geoffrey Gerard Morgan

BMC Health Services Research 2017 17:163

Published on: 23 February 2017

Research article

[Evaluation of rational drug use based on World Health Organization core drug use indicators in selected public hospitals of eastern Ethiopia: a cross sectional study](#)

Despite the complexity of drug use, a number of indicators have been developed, standardized and evaluated by the World Health Organization (WHO). These indicators are grouped in to three categories namely: pr...

Mekonnen Sisay, Getnet Mengistu, Bereket Molla, Firehiwot Amare and Tesfaye Gabriel

BMC Health Services Research 2017 17:161

Published on: 23 February 2017

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 25 February 2017)

Research article

[Hepatitis C virus and HIV co-infection among pregnant women in Rwanda](#)

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection is a pandemic causing disease; more than 185 million people are infected worldwide. An HCV antibody (Ab) prevalence of 6.0% was estimated in Central African countries. The study aimed at providing HCV prevalence estimates among pregnant women in Rwanda.

Mwumvaneza Mutagoma, Helene Balisanga, Dieudonné Seuhoro, Aimable Mbituyumuremyi, Eric Remera, Samuel S. Malamba, David J. Riedel and Sabin Nsanzimana

BMC Infectious Diseases 2017 17:167

Published on: 22 February 2017

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

2017

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 25 February 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 25 February 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 25 February 2017)

Research article

[Family-centred interventions by primary healthcare services for Indigenous early childhood wellbeing in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States: a systematic scoping review](#)

Primary healthcare services in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States have embraced the concept of family-centred care as a promising approach to supporting and caring for the health of young Ind...

Janya McCalman, Marion Heyeres, Sandra Campbell, Roxanne Bainbridge, Catherine

Chamberlain, Natalie Strobel and Alan Ruben

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth 2017 17:71

Published on: 21 February 2017

Research article

[Umbilical cord-care practices in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic review](#)

Neonatal sepsis is the third leading cause of deaths for infants in their first month of life. The newly cut umbilical cord can be a pathway for bacteria that can cause newborn sepsis and death. Optimal umbili...

Patricia S. Coffey and Siobhan C. Brown

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth 2017 17:68

Published on: 20 February 2017

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 25 February 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 25 February 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

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

BMJ Open

January 2017 - Volume 7 - 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 95, Number 2, February 2017, 85-164

<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/95/2/en/>

Special theme: vulnerable populations

[Reviewed earlier]

Child Care, Health and Development

March 2017 Volume 43, Issue 2 Pages 161–321

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/cch.v43.2/issuetoc>

Review Article

[Children and young people's conceptualizations of depression: a systematic review and narrative meta-synthesis \(pages 161–181\)](#)

N. Georgakakou-Koutsonikou and J. M. Williams

Version of Record online: 15 JAN 2017 | DOI: 10.1111/cch.12439

Abstract

Background

There is an increasing research interest in conceptualizations of mental illness, examined in association with help-seeking, stigma and treatment preferences. A recent focus on young people's concepts has been identified, with depression being one of the most examined conditions.

Methods

The purpose of this systematic review is to synthesize evidence on children and adolescents' conceptualizations of depression, adopting the model of illness representations. The review further aims to examine developmental trends, gender differences and the role of experience. A systematic review and narrative meta-synthesis were conducted, reviewing 36 studies identified through a systematic search of six databases in March 2016.

Results

Thirty-six quantitative and qualitative studies were included. Half of the young people are able to recognize depression, and recognition increases when symptoms are more severe (e.g. suicidality). Young people are able to name a variety of causes for depression. Mental health professionals are considered the appropriate source of help by half of the young people, followed by family and peers. However, stigma constitutes a major barrier to help-seeking. There are developmental trends and gender differences in young people's conceptualization of depression, while experience with depression is associated with a broader conceptualization.

Conclusions

Young people's concepts of depression resemble aspects of adult conceptualizations, however are sometimes incomplete. Further research on younger children and clinical populations is needed. Research on young people's conceptualizations informs both clinical practice and mental health literacy interventions.

Original Articles

Does caregiver participation in decision making within child welfare agencies influence children's primary and mental health care service use? (pages 192–201)

M. P. Jolles and R. Wells

Version of Record online: 28 JUL 2016 | DOI: 10.1111/cch.12384

Clinical Therapeutics

February 2017 Volume 39, Issue 2, p231–450

[http://www.clinicaltherapeutics.com/issue/S0149-2918\(17\)X0002-7](http://www.clinicaltherapeutics.com/issue/S0149-2918(17)X0002-7)

Editor-in-Chief's Note

Informed Consent and Assent in Pediatric Oncology Trials

Richard I. Shader, MD (Editor-in-Chief), Cynthia H. Livingston, ALM, MAT

[Free full text]

Complexity

November/December 2016 Volume 21, Issue S2 Pages 1–642

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cplx.v21.S2/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Conflict and Health

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

[Accessed 25 February 2017]

Short report

Challenges to conducting epidemiology research in chronic conflict areas: examples from PURE- Palestine

Little has been written on the challenges of conducting research in regions or countries with chronic conflict and strife. In this paper we share our experiences in conducting a population based study of chron...

Rasha Khatib, Rita Giacaman, Umaiye Khammash and Salim Yusuf

Conflict and Health 2017 10:33

Published on: 22 February 2017

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases

February 2017 - Volume 30 - Issue 1 pp: v-vi,1-142

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Developing World Bioethics

December 2016 Volume 16, Issue 3 Pages 121–180

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dewb.2016.16.issue-3/issuetoc>

Special Issue: Ethics of Health Systems Research in Low and Middle Income Countries

[Reviewed earlier]

Development in Practice

Volume 24, Number 8

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

<http://www.developmentinpractice.org/journals/volume-24-number-8>
[Reviewed earlier]

Development Policy Review

January 2017 Volume 35, Issue 1 Pages 1–133
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dpr.2017.35.issue-1/issuetoc>
[Reviewed earlier]

Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology

Volume 121, Issue 3, 2017
<http://informahealthcare.com/toc/idt/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness

Volume 11 - Issue 1 - February 2017
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/disaster-medicine-and-public-health-preparedness/latest-issue>
Caring for Older Adults Special Section
[**Caring for Older Adults in Disasters**](#)
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/dmp.2017.14>
Published online: 21 February 2017, p. 25

Commentaries

[**Caring for Older Adults in Disasters: A Special Collection of Papers for a Special Population**](#)

Kelly Gulley, Kandra Strauss-Riggs, Craig Goolsby
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/dmp.2017.4>
Published online: 21 February 2017, pp. 26-27

[**Preparedness in Long-Term Care: A Novel Approach to Address Gaps in Evacuation Tracking**](#)

Emilie Y Prot, Bruce Clements
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/dmp.2016.188>
Published online: 29 December 2016, pp. 28-30

Original Research

[10 articles focused on issues associated with elder populations]

Disasters

January 2017 Volume 41, Issue 1 Pages 1–208
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/disa.2017.41.issue-1/issuetoc>
[Reviewed earlier]

Emergency Medicine Journal

February 2017, Volume 34, Issue 2
<http://emj.bmj.com/content/current>

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Volume 23, Number 2—February 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemics

Volume 17, In Progress (December 2016)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

End of Life Journal

2016, Volume 7, Issue 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemiology and Infection

Volume 145 - Issue 3 - February 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & International Affairs

Fall 2016 (Issue 30.3)

<https://www.ethicsandinternationalaffairs.org/2016/fall-2016-issue-30-3/>

[Reviewed earlier]

The European Journal of Public Health

Volume 27, Issue 1, 1 February 2017

<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/27/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Policy

Volume 68, In Progress (April 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03069192/66>

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Security

Volume 8, Issue 6, December 2016

<http://link.springer.com/journal/12571/8/6/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Forum for Development Studies

Volume 44, Issue 1, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Genocide Studies International

Volume 10, Issue 1, Spring 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP)

December 2016 | Volume 4 | Issue 4

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Public Health

Volume 12, 2017 Issue 3

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

Article

[Neglected chronic disease: The WHO framework on non-communicable diseases and implications for the global poor](#)

Shanti Nulu

Pages: 396-415

ABSTRACT

The current global framework on noncommunicable disease (NCD), as exemplified by the WHO Action Plan of 2012, neglects the needs of the global poor. The current framework is rooted in an outdated pseudo-evolutionary theory of epidemiologic transition, which wedds NCDs to modernity, and relies on global aggregate data. It is oriented around a simplistic causal model of behaviour, risk and disease, which implicitly locates 'risk' within individuals, conveniently drawing attention away from important global drivers of the NCD epidemic. In fact, the epidemiologic realities of the bottom billion reveal a burden of neglected chronic diseases that are associated with 'alternative' environmental and infectious risks that are largely structurally determined. In addition, the vertical orientation of the framework fails to centralise health systems and delivery issues that are essential to chronic disease prevention and treatment. A new framework oriented around a global health equity perspective would be able to correct some of the failures of the current model by bringing the needs of the global poor to the forefront, and centralising health systems and delivery. In addition, core social science concepts such as Bordieu's habitus may be useful to re-conceptualising strategies that may address both behavioural and structural determinants of health.

Article

[Domestic violence against women in India: A systematic review of a decade of quantitative studies](#)

Ameeta Kalokhe, Carlos del Rio, Kristin Dunkle, Rob Stephenson, Nicholas Metheny, Anuradha Paranjape & Seema Sahay

Pages: 498-513

Published online: 17 Feb 2016

Article

Migration as a risk and a livelihood strategy: HIV across the life course of migrant families in India

Tanvi Rai, Helen S. Lambert & Helen Ward

Pages: 381-395

Article

HIV epidemic and human rights among men who have sex with men in sub-Saharan Africa: Implications for HIV prevention, care, and surveillance

Winston E. Abara & Ibrahim Garba

Pages: 469-482

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 25 February 2017]

Research

Corporate social responsibility to improve access to medicines: the case of Brazil

Halla Thorsteinsdóttir, Natasha Ovtcharenko and Jillian Clare Kohler

Published on: 21 February 2017

Abstract

Background

Access to medicines and the development of a strong national pharmaceutical industry are two longstanding pillars of health policy in Brazil. This is reflected in a clear emphasis by Brazil's Federal Government on improving access to medicine in national health plans and industrial policies aimed at promoting domestic pharmaceutical development. This research proposes that such policies may act as incentives for companies to pursue a strategic Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) agenda. CSR that supports Governmental priorities could help companies to benefit significantly from the Governmental industrial policy. We sought to determine whether CSR activities of Brazilian pharmaceutical firms are currently aligned with the Federal Government's health prioritization. To do so we examined key Brazilian health related policies since 2004, including the specific priorities of Brazil's 2012–2015 Health Plan, and compared these with CSR initiatives that are reported on the websites of select pharmaceutical firms in Brazil.

Results

Brazil's national health plans and industrial policies demonstrated that the Federal Government has followed diverse approaches for improving access to medicines, including strengthening health care infrastructure, increasing transparency, and supporting product development partnerships. Case studies of six pharmaceutical firms, representing both public and private companies of varying size, support the perspective that CSR is a priority for firms. However, while many programs target issues such as health infrastructure, health care training, and drug donation, more programs focus on areas other than health and do not seem to be connected to Governmental prioritization.

Conclusion

This research suggests that there are loose connections between Governmental priorities and pharmaceutical firm CSR. However, there remains a significant opportunity for greater alignment, which could improve access to medicines in the country and foster a stronger relationship between the Government and industry.

Health Affairs

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

February 2017; Volume 36, Issue 2
<http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/current>
Issue Focus: The Work/Health Relationship
[No digest content identified]

Health and Human Rights
Volume 18, Issue 2, December 2016
<http://www.hhrjournal.org/>
Special Section: Universal Health Coverage and Human Rights
[Reviewed earlier]

Health Economics, Policy and Law
Volume 12 - Issue 1 - January 2017
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/health-economics-policy-and-law/latest-issue>
[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning
Volume 31 Issue 25 February 2017
<http://heapol.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems
<http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content>
[Accessed 25 February 2017]
[No new digest content identified]

Human Rights Quarterly
Volume 39, Number 1, February 2017
<http://muse.jhu.edu/issue/35792>
[Reviewed earlier]

Humanitarian Exchange Magazine
Number 68 January 2017
<http://odihpn.org/magazine/humanitarian-innovation/>
The crisis in South Sudan
[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 Agents and Cancer

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

[Accessed 25 February 2017]

[No new content]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

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

[Accessed 25 February 2017]

Scoping Review

Moving from control to elimination of schistosomiasis in sub-Saharan Africa: time to change and adapt strategies

Schistosomiasis is a water borne parasitic disease of global importance and with ongoing control the disease endemic landscape is changing. In sub-Saharan Africa, for example, the landscape is becoming ever mo...

Louis-Albert Tchuem Tchuente, David Rollinson, J. Russell Stothard and David Molyneux

Infectious Diseases of Poverty 2017 6:42

Published on: 20 February 2017

International Health

Volume 9, Issue 1 1 January 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Human Rights Law Review

Volume 5, Issue 2, 2016

<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/22131035/5/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health

Vol 4, No 2 (2017) February 2017

<http://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/10>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction

Volume 20, Pages 1-162 (December 2016)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/22124209/20>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Epidemiology

Volume 45 Issue 5 October 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

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

Volume 53, Supplement, p1-176 - December 2016

[http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712\(16\)X0011-2](http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712(16)X0011-2)

International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance (IMED) 2016

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology

Volume 24, 2017 - Issue 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Migration Review

Winter 2016 Volume 50, Issue 4 Pages 825–1076, e50–e65

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/imre.2016.50.issue-4/issuetoc> \

[Reviewed earlier]

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

November 2016 - Volume 14 - Issue 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

February 21, 2017, Vol 317, No. 7, Pages 663-780

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

Viewpoint

Interrupting the Mental Illness–Incarceration-Recidivism Cycle

Matthew E. Hirschtritt, MD, MPH; Renee L. Binder, MD

JAMA. 2017;317(7):695-696. doi:10.1001/jama.2016.20992

This Viewpoint offers ways people with serious mental illness can be diverted from prison by preventing court involvement, developing mental health courts, mandating police training, providing housing, and developing outpatient treatment programs.

Viewpoint

Emerging and Reemerging Infectious Diseases - The Dichotomy Between Acute Outbreaks and Chronic Endemicity

Catharine I. Paules, MD; Anthony S. Fauci, MD

JAMA. 2017;317(7):691-692. doi:10.1001/jama.2016.21079

This Viewpoint discusses the importance of continuing infectious diseases research, even after outbreaks subside and disease progression becomes endemic.

Editorial

Using Design Thinking to Differentiate Useful From Misleading Evidence in Observational Research

Steven N. Goodman, MD, MHS, PhD; Sebastian Schneeweiss, MD, ScD; Michael Baiocchi, PhD

JAMA. 2017;317(7):705-707. doi:10.1001/jama.2016.19970

JAMA Pediatrics

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

February 1, 2017, Vol 171, No. 2, Pages 101-204
<http://archpedi.jamanetwork.com/issue.aspx>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

JBIR Database of Systematic Review and Implementation Reports

February 2017 - Volume 15 - Issue 2
<http://journals.lww.com/jbisrir/Pages/currenttoc.aspx>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Community Health

Volume 42, Issue 1, February 2017
<http://link.springer.com/journal/10900/42/1/page/1>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development

2017: Volume 7 Issue 1
<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/jchmsd/7/1>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Development Economics

Volume 125, Pages 1-104 (March 2017)
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03043878/123>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Environmental Management

Volume 189, Pages 1-168 (15 March 2017)
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03014797/189>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

February 2017, Volume 71, Issue 2
<http://jech.bmj.com/content/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Ethics

Volume 12, Issue 3, 2016
<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjge20/current>
Theme Issue: Refugee Crisis: The Borders of Human Mobility
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Infectious Diseases (JGID)

January – March 2017 Vol 9 Issue 1 Pages 1-37
<http://www.jgid.org/currentissue.asp?sabs=n>

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

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

Volume 28, Number 1, February 2017

<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/35850>

Literature Reviews

[Perceived Barriers and Facilitators to Health Care Utilization in the United States for Transgender People: A Review of Recent Literature](#)

pp. 127-152

[Justin E. Lerner](#), [Gabriel Robles](#)

Journal of Human Trafficking

Volume 2, Issue 4, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Volume 7 Issue 1

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/jhlscm/7/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Volume 19, Issue 1, February 2017

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10903/19/1/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies

Volume 15, Issue 1, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Infectious Diseases

Volume 215, Issue 2 15 January 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of International Development

January 2017 Volume 29, Issue 1 Pages 1–156

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jid.v29.1/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics

February 2017, Volume 43, Issue 2

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

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

Journal of Operations Management

Volumes 47–48, Pages 1-98 (November 2016)
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02726963>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews

Volume 4, Issue 1 (2017)
<http://digitalrepository.aurorahealthcare.org/jpcrr/>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (JPIDS)

Volume 5 Issue 25 February 2017
<http://jpids.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pediatrics

February 2017 Volume 181, p1-334
<http://www.jpeds.com/current>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Public Health Policy

Volume 37, Issue 4, December 2016
<http://link.springer.com/journal/41271/37/4/page/1>
Original Article

[Public health aspects of the world's largest mass gathering: The 2013 Kumbh Mela in Allahabad, India](#)

Satchit Balsari, P. Gregg Greenough, Dhruv Kazi, Aaron Heerboth, Shraddha Dwivedi, Jennifer Leaning

Abstract

India's Kumbh Mela remains the world's largest and longest mass gathering. The 2013 event, where participants undertook a ritual bath, hosted over 70 million Hindu pilgrims during 55 days on a 1936 hectare flood plain at the confluence of the Yamuna and Ganga Rivers. On the holiest bathing days, the population surged. Unlike other religious, cultural, and sports mass gatherings, the Kumbh Mela's administration cannot estimate or limit the participant number. The event created serious and uncommon public health challenges: initiating crowd safety measures where population density and mobility directly contact flowing bodies of water; providing water, sanitation, and hygiene to a population that frequently defecates in the open; and establishing disease surveillance and resource use measures within a temporary health delivery system. We review the world's largest gathering by observing first-hand the public health challenges, plus the preparations for and responses to them. We recommend ways to improve preparedness.

Journal of the Royal Society – Interface

01 February 2017; volume 14, issue 127

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Travel Medicine

Volume 24, Issue 2, March/April 2017

<https://academic.oup.com/jtm/issue/24/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

The Lancet

Feb 25, 2017 Volume 389 Number 10071 p763-880

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

Editorial

Big challenges ahead for Indigenous health in Australia

The Lancet

Published: 25 February 2017

Last week, the Australian Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull, presented the ninth Closing the Gap report to Parliament. This annual report card examines health, education, and employment outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in comparison with the non-Indigenous population. Overall, despite some progress in improving the health and wealth of its Indigenous people, Australia is on target to fail in six of seven key outcomes.

Critically, progress towards the target to halve the gap in child mortality by 2018 has fallen off track for the first time in 9 years. The target to close the gap in life expectancy by 2031 is also off track. Poor access to antenatal care, high rates of smoking in pregnancy, a large (but declining) burden of cardiovascular disease, and an increasing incidence of cancer in Indigenous Australians are all important contributors to maintaining the gap in mortality indices.

Early education and reading and numeracy standards show progress in some Australian states, but the data on school attendance have not changed since 2014. The target to halve the gap in attainment in the final year of school by 2020 is on track and Indigenous university graduates are as likely to get employment as others, but the target to halve the gap in employment for all by 2018 is failing.

The Redfern Statement, drawn up by Indigenous leaders, and first published on June 9, 2016, was presented to Parliament again last week, and outlines new targets to reduce the rates of Indigenous incarceration, family violence, and out-of-home care for children. In addition to appropriate resourcing, the statement calls for policies to be made with, rather than for, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

Closing the Gap has been important in making Indigenous disadvantage a national policy priority in Australia over the past decade. But progress has been disappointing. It is time to take stock and consider how best to renew the agreement through the Council of Australian Governments. Indigenous values, health concepts, and priorities, articulated by Indigenous leadership, will be crucial in setting the policy platform for Indigenous development for the next decade.

Series

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

Health, equity, and women's cancers

The global burden of women's cancers: a grand challenge in global health

Ophira Ginsburg, Freddie Bray, Michel P Coleman, Verna Vanderpuye, Alexandru Eniu, S Rani Kotha, Malabika Sarker, Tran Thanh Huong, Claudia Allemani, Allison Dvaladze, Julie Gralow, Karen Yeates, Carolyn Taylor, Nandini Oomman, Suneeta Krishnan, Richard Sullivan, Dominista Kombe, Magaly M Blas, Groesbeck Parham, Natasha Kassami, Lesong Conteh

Health, equity, and women's cancers

Interventions to close the divide for women with breast and cervical cancer between low-income and middle-income countries and high-income countries

Lynette Denny, Silvia de Sanjose, Miriam Mutebi, Benjamin O Anderson, Jane Kim, Jose Jeronimo, Rolando Herrero, Karen Yeates, Ophira Ginsburg, Rengaswamy Sankaranarayanan

Health, equity, and women's cancers

Changing global policy to deliver safe, equitable, and affordable care for women's cancers

Ophira Ginsburg, Rajan Badwe, Peter Boyle, Gemma Derricks, Anna Dare, Tim Evans, Alexandru Eniu, Jorge Jimenez, Tezer Kutluk, Gilberto Lopes, Sulma I Mohammed, You-Lin Qiao, Sabina Faiz Rashid, Diane Summers, Diana Sarfati, Marleen Temmerman, Edward L Trimble, Aasim I Padela, Ajay Aggarwal, Richard Sullivan

Lancet Global Health

Feb 2017 Volume 5 Number 2 e115-e228

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

[Reviewed earlier]

The Lancet Infectious Diseases

Feb 2017 Volume 17 Number 2 p117-236 e30-e69

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 21, Issue 2, February 2017

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10995/21/2/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

Volume 37, Issue 2, February 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature

Volume 542 Number 7642 pp392-512 23 February 2017

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

Comment

No publication without confirmation

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

Jeffrey S. Mogil and Malcolm R. Macleod propose a new kind of paper that combines the flexibility of basic research with the rigour of clinical trials.

Concern over the reliability of published biomedical results grows unabated. Frustration with this 'reproducibility crisis' is felt by everyone pursuing new disease treatments: from clinicians and would-be drug developers who want solid foundations for the [preclinical research](#) they build on, to basic scientists who are forced to devote more time and resources to newly imposed requirements for rigour, reporting and statistics. Tightening rigour across all experiments will decrease the number of false positive findings, but comes with the risk of reducing experimental efficiency and creativity.

Bolder ideas are needed. What we propose here is a compromise between the need to trust conclusions in published papers and the freedom for basic scientists to explore and innovate¹. Our proposal is a new type of paper for animal studies of disease therapies or preventions: one that incorporates an independent, statistically rigorous confirmation of a researcher's central hypothesis. We call this large confirmatory study a preclinical trial. These would be more formal and rigorous than the typical preclinical testing conducted in academic labs, and would adopt many practices of a clinical trial.

We believe that this requirement would push researchers to be more sceptical of their own work. Instead of striving to convince reviewers and editors to publish a paper in prestigious outlets, they would be questioning whether their hypotheses could stand up in a large, confirmatory animal study. Such a trial would allow much more flexibility in earlier hypothesis-generating experiments, which would be published in the same paper as the confirmatory study. If the idea catches on, there will be fewer high-profile papers hailing new therapeutic strategies, but much more confidence in their conclusions...

Nature Medicine

February 2017, Volume 23 No 2 pp137-264

<http://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v23/n2/index.html>

[Reviewed earlier]

New England Journal of Medicine

February 23, 2017 Vol. 376 No. 8

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly

Volume 46, Issue 1, February 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration

OxMo Vol. 6, No. 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Pediatrics

February 2017, VOLUME 139 / ISSUE 2

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/139/2?current-issue=y>

[Reviewed earlier]

PharmacoEconomics

Volume 35, Issue 2, February 2017

<http://link.springer.com/journal/40273/35/2/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

PLOS Currents: Disasters

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

[Accessed 25 February 2017]

[The Current State and Problems of Radiation Risk Communication: Based on the Results of a 2012 Whole Village Survey](#)

February 24, 2017 · Research Article

Purpose: The entire village of Iitate was contaminated by radioactive material from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant; even today, the residents remain evacuated. For the villagers, risk communication is an important element of recovery and maintaining health. This analysis focuses on the problem of radiation, presents results from a questionnaire of villagers, and examines methods for future risk communication activities.

Subjects and Methods: In May 2012, anonymous surveys were sent to 2914 heads of households whose addresses were registered in Iitate. Their understanding of radiation and information needs were extracted from the answers.

Results and Discussion: There were 1755 valid responses (61.4%). In relation to understanding, the most frequent answer was "There are numerous opinions and I do not know which one is true" (72.2%), followed by "I definitely want opportunities to learn more about how radiation is created" (41.6%). Residents felt that they could not determine which of the available information was reliable. The 60s+ age group responded more than younger age groups that "I do not have much information and do not know much about it," "I do not know much about it, so I want to learn more," and "I definitely want opportunities to learn more about how radiation is created." Among information needs, "publications" (50.2%) and "community associations" (45.9%) received many responses; residents want study groups to be held at places and through media that give them regular opportunities to connect with each other. Residents in their 20s and 30s preferred "publications," while those in their 40s, 50s, and 60s+ were more likely to request "community associations" and "resident meetings." In addition, we found gender differences in both understanding and information needs. These results indicate that radiation and health risk communication should be addressed in a way that aligns with residents' needs by age and gender.

[The Most Effective Methods for Delivering Severe Weather Early Warnings to Fishermen on Lake Victoria](#)

February 22, 2017 · Disasters

Introduction: It is estimated that five thousand people die on Lake Victoria every year by drowning which is triggered by severe weather hazards like lightning.

Objectives: In order to improve predictability of severe weather conditions on Lake Victoria, there is need to deliver timely and effective Severe Weather Early Warning Systems (SWEWS) to those at risk. On Lake Victoria, previous SWEW service trials ceased with the end of the

funding grants. This study therefore assessed the possibility of sustaining the SWEW service by assessing willingness to pay.

Methods: An assessment was conducted between March and May 2015 to determine the SWEW service improvements desired by the population. A convenience sample of respondents was gathered and interviewed during impromptu visits to landing sites on Lake Victoria. The respondents were also among community members that had earlier participated in a pilot assessing the feasibility of mobile phones in delivering SWEW alerts. Semi-structured questionnaires were administered to fishermen and fisher folks at the landing site to gather suggestions/strategies for (i) better design and implementation of SWEW service, (ii) use of smart phones, and (iii) their ability and willingness to pay for a SWEW service. Results were presented as frequencies.

Results: Two hundred fifteen respondents from fourteen landing sites (communities) were interviewed. Over 50% of the respondents (113/215) were aware about at least one community member who had been injured due to lightening on the lake in the past year. Ninety two percent (198/215) of the respondents reported using mobile phones as their main tool of communication but only 4% had smart phones that could receive early warning weather alerts through internet connectivity. Seventy five percent of respondents said they would welcome a system that could deliver commercial weather alerts and 65% were willing to pay for such a service.

Conclusions: A SWEW service is feasible in this community but must be accompanied with public education on risk, a design that can fit the basic phone functionality and a system that the community majority will be willing to pay for on a continuing basis as a sustainability plan/strategy for an early warning system. This will enable timely dissemination of severe weather alerts and reduce risk of drowning on lakes among fishing communities.

Women's Challenges and Capabilities in Disasters: A Case Report of the Twin Earthquakes of Eastern Azerbaijan, Iran

February 22, 2017 · Disasters

Introduction: The twin earthquakes of eastern Azerbaijan induced considerable devastations of many villages and cities. About 70% of all victims were women and children. The present case report was aimed at describing the lessons learnt from both capabilities and challenges of girls and women after the twin earthquakes of eastern Azerbaijan.

Methods: A qualitative approach using in-depth unstructured interviews was used for this study. A total of 13 participants (two men and 11 women), affected by the quakes, were interviewed applying the purposeful sampling method. A manifest content analysis was performed for analyzing the transcribed interviews

Case presentation: Two categories of women's capabilities and challenges and four subcategories of women's participation in community reconstruction, livelihood efforts, aggravated poverty and violence were extracted from the data which were gathered in the destroyed fields of eastern Azerbaijan.

Lessons learnt: Women can play an important role in post-disaster recovery. Consequently, ignoring the challenges and capabilities of women may impede post-disaster development processes, which would adversely affect the whole community.

PLOS Currents: Outbreaks

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

[Accessed 25 February 2017]

Research Article

Does Zika Virus Cause Microcephaly – Applying the Bradford Hill Viewpoints

February 22, 2017 · Research Article

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

Introduction: Zika virus has been documented since 1952, but been associated with mild, self-limiting disease. Zika virus is classified as an arbovirus from a family of Flaviviridae and primarily spread by Aedes Aegypti mosquitos. However, in a large outbreak in Brazil in 2015, Zika virus has been associated with microcephaly.

Methods: In this review we applied the Bradford-Hill viewpoints to investigate the association between Zika virus and microcephaly. We examined historical studies, available data and also compared historical rates of microcephaly prior to the Zika virus outbreak. The available evidence was reviewed against the Bradford Hill viewpoints.

Results: All the nine criteria were met to varying degrees: strength of association, consistency of the association, specificity, temporality, plausibility, coherence, experimental evidence, biological gradient and analogy.

Conclusion: Using the Bradford Hill Viewpoints as an evaluation framework for causation is highly suggestive that the association between Zika virus and microcephaly is causal. Further studies using animal models on the viewpoints which were not as strongly fulfilled would be helpful.

PLoS Medicine

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

(Accessed 25 February 2017)

Perspective

Precision oncology: Charting a path forward to broader deployment of genomic profiling

Alison M. Schram, Michael F. Berger, David M. Hyman

| published 21 Feb 2017 P

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002242>

Essay

Evidence for scaling up HIV treatment in sub-Saharan Africa: A call for incorporating health system constraints

Evelinn Mikkelsen, Jan A. C. Hontelez, Maarten P. M. Jansen, Till Bärnighausen, Katharina Hauck, Kjell A. Johansson, Gesine Meyer-Rath, Mead Over, Sake J. de Vlas, Gert J. van der Wilt, Noor Tromp, Leon Bijlmakers, Rob M. P. M. Baltussen

| published 21 Feb 2017 P

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002240>

Research Article

Housing Improvements and Malaria Risk in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Multi-Country Analysis of Survey Data

Improvements to housing may contribute to malaria control and elimination by reducing house entry by malaria vectors and thus exposure to biting. We tested the hypothesis that the odds of malaria infection are lower in modern, improved housing compared to traditional housing in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA).

Lucy S. Tusting, Christian Bottomley, Harry Gibson, Immo Kleinschmidt, Andrew J. Tatem, Steve W. Lindsay, Peter W. Gething

| published 21 Feb 2017 P

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002234>

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

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

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

(Accessed 25 February 2017)

Editorial

Global urbanization and the neglected tropical diseases

Peter J. Hotez

| published 23 Feb 2017 P

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0005308>

Increasing urbanization in both developing and developed countries could promote the emergence of a new set of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs)

...Overall, there is a dearth of information about the urban transmission of NTDs and very few disease burden estimates that distinguish urban versus rural modes of transmission. As global urbanization continues to increase, there is going to be an urgent need for such studies. By 2050, with most of the global population living in cities, we will need to better understand how NTDs and other poverty-related neglected diseases flourish in urban environments.

The UN is beginning to shape new public policies for global urbanization, which include programs for balanced urban growth and spatial distribution, sustainability, and timely collection of data required for urban planning [1]. The findings of significant and serious NTDs in urban areas mean that these diseases will also need to be considered as urban areas and megacities strive to meet their SDGs. Arbovirus infections, leptospirosis, cholera, and typhoid fever, vector-borne parasitic infections such as schistosomiasis, Chagas disease, leishmaniasis, and vivax malaria, and NTD–NCD comorbidities each represent the product of urban planning breakdowns and unchecked growth. Without adequate public health measures and research and development for new drugs, diagnostics, and vaccines, we can expect that these diseases will continue to thwart sustainable urban growth in the coming decades.

Symposium

Product development programs for neglected tropical diseases: A crucial role for expert meetings

Leonie Hussaarts, Kim van der Weijde, Pierre Dome, Elly Kourany-Lefoll, Jutta Reinhard-Rupp, Remco de Vrueth, on behalf of the Pediatric Praziquantel Consortium

| published 23 Feb 2017 P

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0005183>

PLoS One

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

[Accessed 25 February 2017]

Research Article

Empirical lessons regarding contraception in a protracted refugee setting: A descriptive study from Maela camp on the Thai-Myanmar border 1996 – 2015

Somjet Srikanok, Daniel M. Parker, Amber L. Parker, Tracey Lee, Aung Myat Min, Pranee Ontuwong, Saw Oo Tan, Supachai Sirinonthachai, Rose McGready

| published 23 Feb 2017 P

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0172007>

Research Article

Prevalence of HPV 16 and 18 and attitudes toward HPV vaccination trials in patients with cervical cancer in Mali

Ibrahima Tégoué, Amadou Dolo, Kotou Sangare, Abdoulaye Sissoko, Mali Rochas, Sarah Beseme, Karamoko Tounkara, Shahla Yekta, Anne S. De Groot, Ousmane A. Koita

| published 23 Feb 2017 P

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0172661>

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

Informed consent in oncology clinical trials: A Brown University Oncology Research Group prospective cross-sectional pilot study

Andrew Schumacher, William M. Sikov, Matthew I. Quesenberry, Howard Safran, Humera Khurshid, Kristen M. Mitchell, Adam J. Olszewski
Research Article | published 24 Feb 2017 P
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0172957>

The moderating role of absorptive capacity and the differential effects of acquisitions and alliances on Big Pharma firms' innovation performance

K. D. S. Fernald, H. P. G. Pennings, J. F. van den Bosch, H. R. Commandeur, E. Claassen
Research Article | published 23 Feb 2017 P
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0172488>

Effect of maternal death on child survival in rural West Africa: 25 years of prospective surveillance data in The Gambia

Susana Scott, Lindsay Kendall, Pierre Gomez, Stephen R. C. Howie, Syed M. A. Zaman, Samba Ceesay, Umberto D'Alessandro, Momodou Jasseh
Research Article | published 22 Feb 2017 P
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0172286>

PLoS Pathogens

<http://journals.plos.org/plospathogens/>
[No new digest content identified]

PNAS - Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/>
[Accessed 25 February 2017]
[No new digest content identified]

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 32 - Issue 1 - February 2017
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/prehospital-and-disaster-medicine/latest-issue>
[Reviewed earlier]

Preventive Medicine

Volume 95, Pages 1-118 (February 2017)
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00917435/95>
[Reviewed earlier]

Proceedings of the Royal Society B

10 February 2016; volume 283, issue 1824
<http://rspb.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/283/1824?current-issue=y>
[No new digest content identified]

Public Health Ethics

Volume 9, Issue 3 November 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Reports

Volume 132, Issue 1, January/February 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

Volume 27, Issue 3, February 2017

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

Special Issue: Implications for Practice

[Reviewed earlier]

Refugee Survey Quarterly

Volume 35 Issue 25 February 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Reproductive Health

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

[Accessed 25 February 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

Revista Panamericana de Salud Pública/Pan American Journal of Public Health (RPSP/PAJPH)

Recently Published Articles -

http://www.paho.org/journal/index.php?option=com_content&view=featured&Itemid=101

[Reviewed earlier]

Risk Analysis

January 2017 Volume 37, Issue 1 Pages 1–192

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.2017.37.issue-1/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Risk Management and Healthcare Policy

Volume 10, 2017

<https://www.dovepress.com/risk-management-and-healthcare-policy-archive56>

[Reviewed earlier]

Science

24 February 2017 Vol 355, Issue 6327
<http://www.sciencemag.org/current.dtl>

Editorial

Approving new drugs

By John L. LaMattina

Science 24 Feb 2017 : 777

As the Trump administration takes shape, there is much speculation as to what major changes will be made. A dominant theme of the Trump campaign was to cut through bureaucracy in Washington, D.C., thereby enhancing innovation and bringing new technology to Americans more quickly. Nowhere could such a philosophical change have more impact than on Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval of new drugs.

Decades ago, it was not unusual for the FDA to approve a drug simply on the basis of its effect on disease biomarkers. For example, approval of the first statins, including Merck's Mevacor and Zocor, was based on their ability to lower low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol, known to be associated with the buildup of deadly atherosclerotic plaque. It wasn't until many years later that long-term clinical trials involving thousands of patients actually proved that these drugs reduced heart attacks and strokes.

However, there are far more examples of drugs that failed to provide the desired health outcome despite having favorable effects on disease biomarkers. One example comes from another class of lipid modulators, the cholesteryl ester transfer protein inhibitors (CETPis). When discovered, these drugs looked promising in that they raised high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol, long associated with cardioprotection, as well as lowered LDL cholesterol, thereby completely remodeling the lipoprotein profile of patients with heart disease. Despite their promise, the FDA would not approve a CETPi without evidence that it did in fact reduce adverse cardiovascular outcomes. To date, clinical trials for these drugs have shown that they do not reduce heart attacks and, in one case, actually increased deaths.

Such occurrences are not exclusive to the cardiovascular field. For Alzheimer's disease (AD), several companies have discovered experimental drugs that reduce the level of amyloid proteins, which are believed to be an initiating factor in AD. However, despite successfully lowering amyloid levels in AD patients, long-term studies showed that these drugs do not improve cognition in this population. These examples are not unique. There are cases where drugs that lower plasma glucose do not prevent the adverse health consequences of diabetes, and where drugs that shrink tumors do not reduce cancer deaths. Favorably affecting disease biomarkers is an important step in drug research and development (R&D) because it indicates that the experimental drug could potentially prevent the long-term consequences of disease. However, only long-term clinical trials, although time-consuming and expensive, can prove the value of a new medicine.

President Trump and Tom Price, the newly sworn-in Secretary of Health and Human Services (which oversees the FDA) want to streamline the FDA's approval process for drugs. But changing the current drug approval paradigm would hurt everyone. What if the FDA simply rules that early-stage drugs are safe solely on the basis of biomarker effects? Suppose doctors and patients decide on whether to take such a drug with unproven long-term effects? This would certainly get experimental drugs to patients faster and enable companies to recoup their R&D investment more quickly. However, based on historical precedent, many of the drugs approved in this way would be ineffective. At best, they would be glorified placebos. At worst, they could prove harmful. As a result, patients would not have benefited by taking such a drug,

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

physicians would be called into question for prescribing such a drug, payers would have wasted millions (even billions) of dollars reimbursing the costs of such a drug, and companies would face the inevitable lawsuits that arise in these situations. Everyone loses.

Over the years, the FDA has learned that, for many diseases, it is important that the drug maker prove the benefits of the drug before unleashing it on the public. Does this slow the process and greatly add to the R&D costs? Absolutely. But it is good medical practice.

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 173, Pages 1-134 (January 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02779536/173>

[New issue; No new relevant content identified]

Stability: International Journal of Security & Development

<http://www.stabilityjournal.org/articles>

[accessed 25 February 2017]

[No new content]

Stanford Social Innovation Review

Winter 2017 Volume 15, Number 1

https://ssir.org/issue/winter_2017

Laws and programs designed to benefit vulnerable groups, such as the disabled or people of color, often end up benefiting all of society. From affirmative action to wheelchair friendly sidewalks, examples all around us show that investing in equity isn't a zero-sum game. That's the message of the cover story in the winter 2017 issue of Stanford Social Innovation Review, "The Curb-Cut Effect," by Angela Glover Blackwell.

[Reviewed earlier]

Sustainability

Volume 9, Issue 1 (January 2017)

<http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/9/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

TORTURE Journal

2016 Volume 26 - No. 3

http://www.irct.org/media-and-resources/publications#volume_26

[Reviewed earlier]

Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases

November-December, 2016 Volume 14, Issue 6

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine & International Health

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

February 2017 Volume 22, Issue 2 Pages 123–251
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tmi.2017.22.issue-2/issuetoc>
[Reviewed earlier]

UN Chronicle

Vol. LIII No. 4 2 December 2016

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

Human Rights

This issue assesses progress in promoting and protecting human rights throughout the world. Prepared in recognition of the fiftieth anniversary of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, both adopted in 1966, the articles examine, among other things, the responsibility of the United Nations to protect vulnerable populations from genocide, the evolving role of the Human Rights Council, the global problem of digital bullying, and advancing the rights of women in the aftermath of the Arab Spring.

Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies

An International Interdisciplinary Journal for Research, Policy and Care

Volume 12, Issue 1, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

World Heritage Review

n°82 - December 2016

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/81/>

African Heritage and its sustainable development

In this issue we are pleased to focus on the heritage of Africa and its sustainable development. The diversity and wealth of African heritage is extraordinary, from its large-scale ecosystems to modern architecture; from the memory of slavery and colonial heritage to cultural landscapes and sacred sites.

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Grey Lit Watch

Editor's Note:

With this edition of *The Sentinel* we begin a more formal monitoring and presentation of key, new grey literature we believe aligns with our thematic areas of interest.

No new content identified.

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