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governance, ethics, evidence, policy, practice

The Sentinel

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

Period ending 18 March 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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:: Week in Review

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

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these broad themes is a challenge and we appreciate your observations and ideas in this regard. This is not intended to be a "news and events" digest.

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US Federal Budget Blueprint

USAID Press Release

President's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Outline Released Today

Thursday, March 16, 2017

Today the President released the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 budget blueprint which provides an overview of the Administration's overarching priorities for discretionary spending. It includes \$37.6 billion for the Department of State and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), of which \$12.0 billion is Overseas Contingency Operations funding.

The FY 2018 budget advances the national security interests of the United States by focusing on diplomatic efforts and foreign assistance programs that advance the security and prosperity of the American people.

The budget blueprint supports critical foreign assistance efforts, including global health and humanitarian assistance programs. The budget will support Department of State and USAID efforts to optimize organizational effectiveness, helping us work to efficiently achieve our diplomatic and development goals and objectives...

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Washington Post

March 16, 2017

What Trump cut in his budget

By Kim Soffen and Denise Lu

[Excerpt]

State Department, USAID and Treasury International Program

Decreased \$10.9B (-29% change)

The 29 percent proposed cut to the State Department refocuses economic and development aid to countries of the greatest strategic importance to the U.S., and it shifts some foreign military aid from grants to loans. It also requires State and USAID to reorganize and consolidate.

:: Eliminates climate-change prevention programs, including pledged payments to U.N. climate-change programs

:: Reduces funding for U.N. peacekeeping

:: Reduces funding for development banks such as the World Bank

:: Reduces most cultural-exchange programs, but keeps the Fulbright Program

Read full story: State Department's 28 percent cuts hit foreign aid, U.N. and climate change

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Abrupt Funding Cuts Can Undermine Longer-Term Efforts at United Nations Reform, Secretary-General Cautions, Thanking Host Country for Financial Support

SG/SM/18466

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16 March 2017

The following statement was issued today by the Spokesman for UN Secretary-General António Guterres:

We have just seen the blueprint of the 2018 budget released by the White House. The budgetary process in the [United States] is complex and lengthy, and it needs to be completed. The Secretary-General is grateful for the support the United States has given to the United Nations over the years as the Organization's largest financial contributor.

The Secretary-General is totally committed to reforming the United Nations and ensuring that it is fit for purpose and delivers results in the most efficient and cost-effective manner. However, abrupt funding cuts can force the adoption of ad hoc measures that will undermine the impact of longer-term reform efforts. The Secretary-General stands ready to discuss with the United States and any other Member State how best we can create a more cost-effective Organization to pursue our shared goals and values.

The Secretary-General fully subscribes to the necessity to effectively combat terrorism, but believes that it requires more than military spending. There is also a need to address the underlying drivers of terrorism through continuing investments in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, countering violent extremism, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, sustainable and inclusive development, enhancement and respect for human rights, and timely responses to humanitarian crises.

The international community is facing enormous global challenges that can only be addressed by a strong and effective multilateral system, of which the United Nations remains the fundamental pillar.

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Venezuela

OAS: Secretary General Presents Updated Report on Venezuela to the Permanent Council

March 14, 2017

The full report is available [here](#) :: 73 pages

OSG/128-17

[Excerpts]

...The facts have become clear. Venezuela is in violation of every article in the Inter-American Democratic Charter. Democracy and Human Rights are values that must be above politics and the task before us is to support Venezuela and restore the rights of the people.

Our efforts must focus on restoring the right to democracy for the people of Venezuela as set forth in Article 1 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter: "The peoples of the Americas have a right to democracy and their governments have an obligation to promote and defend it."

As Secretary General of the Organization of American States, it is with disappointment that I present this follow-up report detailing the further deterioration of the state of affairs in Venezuela....

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...The people of Venezuela are faced with a government that is no longer accountable. The Constitution no longer has any meaning.

The rule of law no longer exists in Venezuela; it has been eliminated by a judiciary under the complete control of the Executive Branch that has invalidated every law passed by the National Assembly along with its constitutional powers. It has also invalidated the rights of the people, particularly their electoral rights. In Venezuela today, citizens are unable to assert their rights. If the government wishes to imprison them, it does so; if it wishes to torture them, it does so. If the Government chooses, it does not bring them before a judge; if it chooses, it does not bring formal charges. Citizens have been left entirely at the mercy of an authoritarian regime that denies them their most basic rights. Because these abuses were conceived and executed in parallel to the mediation process, they undermined its credibility.¹

Corruption is rampant and the economy is in a free fall. There is not enough food, health services are extremely scarce and the humanitarian crisis is at a scale unheard of in the Western Hemisphere. Civil and political rights are ignored, all for the sake of preserving the wealth, privilege and impunity of those holding onto power...

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Syria: Seventh Year of Conflict Begins

Message on the Syria crisis

Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien
15 March 2017

The conflict in Syria has entered its seventh grim year. Since March 2011, its people have watched huge parts of their beloved country reduced to rubble.

The toll taken on civilians is inexcusable. Hundreds of thousands of people have been killed. Almost five million people – the majority of them women and children – have fled the grotesque violence and deprivation and are now living as refugees. Too many who set out on perilous journeys to escape the war perished on the way.

As I speak, more than six million people are displaced within Syria. They are among the 13.5 million people in Syria who are in dire need of humanitarian aid. Families and entire communities are struggling to meet their most basic food needs. While food shortages worsen, a seemingly endless supply of bombs and artillery shells continue to extinguish lives.

A generation of children in Syria have known nothing but brutal conflict and fear during their short lives.

We know the conflict will never end without a genuine political commitment to peace. Yet even if a political agreement were to succeed tomorrow, millions of Syrians will still require critical humanitarian assistance for months and likely years to come.

Brave humanitarians will continue to stand with the people of Syria to deliver aid to millions of civilians who are most in need – regardless of which side they are perceived to be on. We join

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Syrians in hoping that 2017 will be the year the carnage finally ends:

:: The year the parties to the conflict – and those that support their actions – regain their sense of humanity.

:: The year medieval sieges are lifted and life-saving aid pass unhindered to reach those in dire need.

:: The year the bombing of hospitals gives way to rebuilding and restocking them.

:: The year lives saved are not put at risk again, and people begin to regain their resilience at the start of the long road to recovery.

We owe this and so much more to the millions of battered and beleaguered women, men and children who have suffered through this most uncivil war.

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UNICEF: Hitting rock bottom: Children's suffering in Syria at its worst - UNICEF

DAMASCUS/AMMAN, 13 March 2017 – Grave violations against children in Syria were the highest on record in 2016, said UNICEF in a grim [assessment](#) of the conflict's impact on children, as the war reaches six years.

Verified instances of killing, maiming and recruitment of children increased sharply last year in a drastic escalation of violence across the country.

:: At least 652 children were killed – a 20 per cent increase from 2015 – making 2016 the worst year for Syria's children since the formal verification of child casualties began in 2014.

:: 255 children were killed in or near a school.

:: More than 850 children were recruited to fight in the conflict, more than double the number recruited in 2015. Children are being used and recruited to fight directly on the frontlines and are increasingly taking part in combat roles, including in extreme cases as executioners, suicide bombers or prison guards.

:: There were at least 338 attacks against hospitals and medical personnel.

"The depth of suffering is unprecedented. Millions of children in Syria come under attack on a daily basis, their lives turned upside down," said Geert Cappelaere, UNICEF Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa speaking from Homs, Syria. "Each and every child is scarred for life with horrific consequences on their health, well-being and future."

Challenges in access in several parts of Syria stand in the way of assessing the full scale of children's suffering and of urgently getting humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable girls and boys. Beyond the bombs, bullets and explosions, children are dying in silence often from diseases that can otherwise be easily prevented. Access to medical care, lifesaving supplies and other basic services remains difficult.

The most vulnerable among Syria's children are the 2.8 million in hard-to-reach areas, including 280,000 children living under siege, almost completely cut off from humanitarian aid.

After six years of war, nearly 6 million children now depend on humanitarian assistance, a twelve-fold increase from 2012. Millions of children have been displaced, some up to seven times. Over 2.3 million children are now living as refugees in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt and Iraq.

Inside Syria and across its borders, coping mechanisms are eroding, and families are taking extreme measures just to survive, often pushing children into early marriage and child labour.

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In more than two thirds of households, children are working to support their families, some in extremely harsh conditions unfit even for adults.

Yet despite the horrors and suffering, there are many remarkable stories of children determined to pursue their hopes and aspirations. Darsy (12), now a refugee in Turkey said: "I want to be a surgeon to help the sick and injured people of Syria. I dream of a Syria without a war so we can go home. I dream of a world without any wars."

"We continue to witness the courage of Syria's children. Many have crossed frontlines just to sit for school exams. They insist on learning, including in underground schools. There is so much more we can and should do to turn the tide for Syria's children," said Cappelaere.

On behalf of the children of Syria, UNICEF is appealing to all parties to the conflict, those who have influence over them, the international community and anyone who cares about children for:

- :: An immediate political solution to end the conflict in Syria;
- :: An end to all grave violations against children including killing, maiming and recruitment, and attacks on schools and hospitals;
- :: The lifting of all sieges and unconditional and sustained access to all children in need, wherever they are in Syria;
- :: Providing refugee host governments and communities with sustainable support for vulnerable children, regardless of their status, and
- :: Continued financial support for UNICEF's lifesaving assistance to Syrian children.

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WHO: 6 years into the conflict, hero vaccinators in northern Syria brave danger to protect children from disease

15-03-2017

This month marks a tragic milestone: 6 years since the conflict began in the Syrian Arab Republic. This ongoing crisis has led to 5 million refugees, more than 6 million internally displaced people and 13.5 million people in need within the country.

A number of WHO partners in the north of the country collectively form what is known as the Syria Immunization Group (SIG), an immunization cluster coordinated by WHO staff in the field office in Gaziantep, Turkey. The work of this group is carried out under what is known as the "whole-of-Syria" approach, which brings together humanitarian actors both within the country and from neighbouring countries to provide access to health services across lines and borders.

The SIG is made up of individuals who often put their own lives at risk to bring vaccines to children in hard-to-reach and besieged areas. These courageous health workers take boats when bridges are destroyed. They walk through farmland carrying coolers of vaccines. They provide vaccinations to communities while bombs fall nearby. They brave tremendous danger to protect children from deadly diseases.

Read the stories representing just a few of the many hero vaccinators working in partnership with WHO to keep children in northern Syria safe from vaccine-preventable diseases...

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Syria suffers as the world watches

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March 15, 2017, marks the sixth anniversary of the civil war in Syria, a conflict perhaps unprecedented in its apparently shameless disregard for international law. The world has stood by in horror, watching the death toll rise and the humanitarian and refugee crises spread their indelible stain on the world map and human history. The Syrian conflict has been marked on the one hand by immense suffering and on the other by a stunning lack of adequate condemnation or action from governments, international agencies, or the medical community.

The first output from the Syria Commission launched jointly by The Lancet and the American University in Beirut (AUB) shows the credibility, urgency, and importance of the Commission's work. Detailing events in both government-controlled and non-government-controlled areas, the article strengthens the concept of the weaponisation of health: the targeting of health workers and facilities as a weapon of war. The strongest independent analysis of the Syrian health worker crisis published so far, it collates data from multiple sources in a compelling four-part analytical approach, analysing the formidable challenges health-care workers in Syria face now and in the future, and carefully offering policy options and lessons for public debate.

2 weeks ago, the UN published its Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, finding that multiple war crimes had been committed by both sides. Powerful in its concentrated nature, the [report](#) dispassionately describes deliberate attacks on schools, hospitals, markets, water supplies, humanitarian relief personnel, and civilians; use of civilians as human shields; arbitrary arrests, forced conscription, reprisal executions, and forced displacement; withholding of humanitarian aid; use of chemical weapons including probable chlorine attacks; and intentional targeting of medical workers, facilities, and transport, including double tap attacks—deliberate targeting of those already harmed. The UN also calls for action, and although some conclusions might not seem feasible, its recommendations to the international community are irrefutable.

Together, these reports highlight grievous failings by the global health community and international governance. Although many medics have shown extraordinary bravery and solidarity in the face of this war, the 6-year conflict has been marked by insufficient cooperation among health professionals and, as the war has raged, fatigue. Journals too have been guilty of turning away from the conflict to focus on more immediate wins.

This is a moment to think carefully about how we renew our solidarity, particularly as the tectonic plates shift elsewhere in politics. The efforts of the Obama administration to seek a ceasefire and a political process might have been incomplete, but the USA was there. Donald Trump's speeches so far do not instill confidence in the USA's ongoing commitment to resolving the Syrian conflict. The proposed USAID budget cuts will have a more serious impact for Syrians in future development and humanitarian assistance.

At WHO, the focus for the past 12 months has been on the elections, rather than the world's health crises. By their own definition, WHO's commitment to meeting the health needs of Syrians has been inadequate. The summits and intergovernmental meetings organised in the face of Ebola have not been matched by a response to this very different human catastrophe. If the USA is withdrawing from its role as a champion for a peaceful and democratic Syria, it is even more important that multi-lateral organisations step in to fill the vacuum and show leadership. WHO must now focus every effort on supporting the health structure and health

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workers in Syria, raising the finances needed to meet this challenge, and mobilising international support to resolve the humanitarian crisis in Syria, as they acknowledge in a Comment.

On March 30, [the World Bank will host a meeting](#) in Marseille, France, to discuss the integration of Syrian health-care workers into OECD countries. This is also an opportunity for the international community to face up to the situation in Syria and shoulder responsibility. The Syrian civil war, which started as a popular uprising and became a battleground for the great world powers, is not just a Syrian crisis but a global crisis. An entire region and its people have been decimated while the world has watched. For Syria and its neighbouring countries the effects will last lifetimes. Health and development will take decades to catch up with themselves, and it will take generations to survive the loss of lives and livelihoods, structures and infrastructure. The Lancet-AUB Commission is ongoing and is much needed, but it is only a tiny part of the commitment that Syria needs.

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Turkey – Migrants & Refugees

UNICEF: One year on after EU-Turkey statement the human cost to refugee and migrant children mounts up

GENEVA, 17 March 2017 – One year after the Balkan border closures and the EU-Turkey Statement which were aimed at stopping mass migration flows, refugee and migrant children face greater risks of deportation, detention, exploitation and deprivation, says UNICEF.

“While there has been a major decrease in the overall numbers of children on the move into Europe since last March, there has been an increase in the threats and distress refugee and migrant children endure,” said Afshan Khan UNICEF Regional Director and Special Coordinator for the Refugee and Migrant Crisis in Europe. “It has become a vicious circle - children flee suffering, and they end up either fleeing again, or facing de facto detention, or just utter neglect.”

UNICEF staff in Greece report deep levels of distress and frustration among children and their families, including one child as young as eight attempting self-harm. Despite recent improvement in living conditions some unaccompanied children in shelters, suffer psychosocial distress, with high levels of anxiety, aggression and violence and demonstrating high risk behaviour such as drugs and prostitution. War, destruction, the death of loved ones and a dangerous journey exacerbated by poor living conditions in camps around Greece or the lengthy registration and asylum procedures, can trigger post-traumatic stress disorders...

UNICEF, in collaboration with the Greek government and NGO partners, are prioritising appropriate care for refugee and migrant children to meet their mental health and psychosocial needs. Imminent transfers back to Greece in line with so-called Dublin regulations, are likely to add even greater strain to the situation facing children and further pressure to existing services.

Instead of stemming the flow, border closures and the EU-Turkey statement, have led to children and families taking matters into their own hands and embarking on even more dangerous and irregular routes with smugglers, as UNICEF and partners warned a year ago. Even in 2017 nearly 3,000 refugees and migrants – with about a third children – have

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arrived in Greece despite the full implementation of the EU-Turkey Statement and strict border control. Many continue to slip through borders into Bulgaria, West Balkans and Hungary.

Children stranded in Greece and West Balkans have already lost nearly three years of education and now face several hurdles like different languages and education systems and yet another year without schooling. UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Education's strategy to integrate stranded refugee and migrant children in Greek schools. However only 2,500 children out of the 15,000 school age children so far that benefit from the national scheme in Greek language. Despite significant efforts – from government and partners - about half of the 2,100 unaccompanied children are still living in substandard conditions, including nearly 200 unaccompanied children in facilities with limited movement early March (178 in reception and identification centres on the Islands and 16 in "protective custody" in police cells).

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EU-Turkey deal makes seeking refuge in Europe "mission impossible" for most vulnerable

Flawed policies are eroding refugee rights, say IRC, NRC & Oxfam in joint report released today

Athens, 17 March 2017 – The EU-Turkey deal has turned Greece into a testing ground for European Union policies that are eroding the rights of refugees and asylum seekers, and expose people to risk and abuse, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), and Oxfam said today. The humanitarian agencies warned the deal is causing human suffering and should under no circumstances be replicated with other countries.

20 March, 2017 marks one year since the implementation of the EU-Turkey deal which allows Europe to return asylum seekers from Greece to Turkey, outsourcing their responsibilities to protect people who come to Europe in search of safety.

In a new report "The reality of the EU-Turkey statement - How Greece has become a testing ground for policies that erode protection for refugees." the three organizations showcase how vulnerable people are forced to live in degrading conditions, and it outlines the many ways in which asylum seekers are barred from exercising their right to a fair asylum process...

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Emergencies

WHO Grade 3 Emergencies [to 18 March 2017]

South Sudan - *No new announcements identified*

The Syrian Arab Republic

Yemen - *No new announcements identified*

Iraq - *No new announcements identified*

Nigeria - *No new announcements identified*

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WHO Grade 2 Emergencies [to 18 March 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.*

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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. 24 (6 March - 12 March 2017)
[EN/KU/AR]

Syria

:: Syria Operation Overview (February 2017) 18 Mar 2017
:: Message on Syria 15 Mar 2017 UN Humanitarian Chief
:: Syrian Arab Republic: Aleppo Situation Report No. 16 (13 March 2017)

Yemen - *No new announcements identified.*

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WHO: Oral cholera vaccination campaign launched in Somalia

15 March 2017 – The Government of Somalia has launched an oral cholera vaccination (OCV) campaign today with the support of WHO, targeting over 450 000 people in 7 high-risk areas around the country. It is the first OCV campaign to be conducted in the country, and comes at a critical time after Somalia announced the ongoing drought as a national disaster and faces the possibility of another famine...

Somalia is currently experiencing a large-scale outbreak of cholera with over 11,000 cases of cholera and 268 deaths (case-fatality rate 2.4%) reported in 11 regions since the beginning of 2017. This is more than half the number of cases reported in total for 2016. The response efforts by the Ministry of Health, WHO, UNICEF and health partners have included active case search, effective case management, intensive household chlorination campaign, and community awareness...

Somalia has long experienced a humanitarian emergency due to conflict, insecurity, displacement of people and limited access to health system. This situation is further compounded by drought, malnutrition and lack of access to clean water and sanitation facilities. If the current drought and food insecurity continue, the number of cholera cases is likely to increase. Preventative measures such as oral cholera vaccine can mitigate these numbers, and save lives.

The vaccination campaign is supported by the Global Task Force on Cholera Control, Gavi the Vaccine Alliance, UNICEF and health partners in its various stages of planning and implementation. WHO is also providing support for the campaign in the areas of planning, organization and monitoring.

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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 18 March 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases/Meetings Coverage

15 March 2017

SC/12751

[Prevention, Protection, Prosecution Stressed as Security Council Holds Open Debate on Human Trafficking, Modern Slavery, Forced Labour in Conflict Situations](#)

With conflict driving the desperation and disorder that enabled human traffickers to thrive, the Security Council should pursue cooperation on cross-border prevention, protection and prosecution in fighting the widespread impunity they enjoyed amid the mass displacement of vulnerable millions, speakers said today.

16 March 2017

SG/SM/18466

[Abrupt Funding Cuts Can Undermine Longer-Term Efforts at United Nations Reform, Secretary-General Cautions, Thanking Host Country for Financial Support](#)

15 March 2017

SG/SM/18465

[Moral, Political Imperative of Peace in Syria Cannot Wait, Secretary-General Stresses](#)

15 March 2017

SG/SM/18464-SC/12752-HR/5347

[Member States Must Strengthen Cooperation on Law Enforcement, Sharing Intelligence in Struggle against Human Trafficking, Secretary-General Tells Security Council](#)

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 18 March 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases – "TOP NEWS"

[Escalation of hostilities has exacerbated civilian suffering – UN report](#)

[Press briefing note on Libya](#)

[UN experts urge Filipino legislators to reject death penalty bill](#)

[UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances issues findings on Cuba, Ecuador and Senegal](#)

[Right to health in Indonesia: UN expert to make first visit](#)

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[UN torture prevention body to make first visit to Hungary](#)

[UN expert calls for urgent action to safeguard progress made in minority rights protection](#)

[UN disability rights committee to review Moldova, Iran, Cyprus, Jordan, Armenia, Honduras, Canada and Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 18 March 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 18 March 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 18 March 2017]
<https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/virtual-library/press-release-archive/>
17 Mar 2017

[Mali: CMA Coalition Signs Action Plan to End and Prevent Recruitment and Use and Sexual Violence Against Children in Conflict](#)

New York – The Coordination des Mouvements de l’Azawad (CMA), a coalition of armed movements signatory of the Algiers Peace Accord, which includes the listed Mouvement National de Libération de l’Azawad (MNLA), signed an *Action Plan* with the United Nations to end and prevent the recruitment and use, sexual violence and all other grave violations against children.

Earlier today, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Leila Zerrougui, signed the *Action Plan* in New York as a witness.

“I am pleased to see the CMA take the initiative of signing an *Action Plan*, which is also binding for all entities under its umbrella,” said Leila Zerrougui. “It is a welcome development because it will provide a framework to end violations attributed to armed groups and strengthen the protection of children in Mali.”...

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health [to 18 March 2017]
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Health/Pages/SRRightHealthIndex.aspx>
17 March 2017

[Right to health in Indonesia: UN expert to make first visit](#)

SRSG/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 18 March 2017]
<http://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/media/press-releases/>
No new digest content identified.

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UN OCHA [to 18 March 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

17 Mar 2017

[World: New Way of Working](#)

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: World INTRODUCTION
The volume, cost and length of humanitarian assistance provision over the past ten years has grown dramatically, in large part due to the protracted nature of crises. For example, inter-agency humanitarian appeals now last an average of seven years and the size of appeals has increased nearly 400 per cent in the last decade. This trend has given new urgency to the long-standing discussion around...

17 Mar 2017

[Somalia: OCHA Somalia: Drought Operations update - 16 March 2017](#)

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: Djibouti, Ethiopia, Japan, Somalia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Oral cholera vaccination campaign launched On 15 March 2017, the Government of Somalia launched an oral cholera vaccination (OCV) campaign, the first such campaign in Somalia - with the support of UN World Health Organization (WHO), targeting over 450,000 people in seven high-risk areas around the country. The vaccines, which will be...

16 Mar 2017

[Nigeria: Act now to address and prevent famine in four countries](#)

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Thomson Reuters Foundation Country: Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Yemen by Stephen O'Brien |
<https://twitter.com/unreliefchief> Wednesday, 15 March 2017 15:57 GMT Any views expressed in this article are those of the author and not of Thomson Reuters Foundation. Allowing famine to unfold is a choice; we must make the choice to stop it The life of seven-month-old Sundus hangs by a thread in central Yemen. She has known little...

16 Mar 2017

[Kenya: UN and partners appeal for US\\$166 million to save lives threatened by drought in northern Kenya](#)

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: Kenya NAIROBI (16 March 2017) – The United Nations and humanitarian partners have appealed for US\$166 million to address the devastating consequences of drought on pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities in northern Kenya. The third consecutive year of unreliable rains is causing thirst and hunger, decimating livestock, destroying livelihoods, spreading disease, and causing large movements of people. Half of Kenya's...

16 Mar 2017

[Central African Republic: Half of the population in Central African Republic is in dire need of humanitarian assistance](#)

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: Central African Republic Yaoundé, 16 March 2017 – The humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate in the Central African Republic (CAR). With the upsurge in violence and the spread of hot spots since September 2016 up to the first quarter of 2017, more than 100,000 newly displaced people

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have been registered, bringing the number of IDPs to 402,240 in the country. This implies that one in every five Central Africans is...

15 Mar 2017

[Syrian Arab Republic: Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien, Message on the Syria crisis, 15 March 2017](#)

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: Syrian Arab Republic
The conflict in Syria has entered its seventh grim year. Since March 2011, its people have watched huge parts of their beloved country reduced to rubble. The toll taken on civilians is inexcusable. Hundreds of thousands of people have been killed. Almost five million people – the majority of them women and children – have fled the grotesque violence and deprivation and are now living as refugees. Too...

15 Mar 2017

[Uganda: Ready to Respond: WFP emergency preparedness in Uganda - How it is helping to better respond to the refugee crisis from South Sudan](#)

Source: Department for International Development, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, World Food Programme, UN Children's Fund, UN High Commissioner for Refugees Country: South Sudan, Uganda Since December 2013, South Sudan has been the scene of an on-going conflict between forces loyal to President Salva Kiir and those loyal to ex-vice president Riek Machar. In July 2016, armed fighting escalated and ethnic tensions rose drastically amid a sharply deteriorating food...

15 Mar 2017

[Nigeria: Ready to Respond: Why is preparedness worth it? And how it helps to better respond to the Lake Chad Region crisis](#)

Source: Department for International Development, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, World Food Programme, UN Children's Fund, UN High Commissioner for Refugees Country: Cameroon, Chad, Niger, Nigeria In the Lake Chad Region, that includes part of Nigeria, Niger, Cameroon and Chad, attacks by Boko Haram have uprooted and displaced 2.3 million people to date. Violence, combined with chronic drought, cholera and poverty have created one of the most complex and severe...

UNICEF [to 18 March 2017]

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

17 March 2017

[One year on after EU-Turkey statement the human cost to refugee and migrant children mounts up](#)

GENEVA, 17 March 2017 – One year after the Balkan border closures and the EU-Turkey Statement which were aimed at stopping mass migration flows, refugee and migrant children face greater risks of deportation, detention, exploitation and deprivation, says UNICEF.

[UNICEF humanitarian airlift arrives in Madagascar in aid of thousands affected by Cyclone Enawo](#)

Antananarivo, 17 March 2017 – A cargo flight carrying 79 tons of humanitarian supplies has arrived in the capital of Madagascar as part of the UN Children's Fund's (UNICEF) ongoing response to Cyclone Enawo which caused significant damage in the northeastern part of the country and has affected much of the rest of the world's fourth-largest island.

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[EU and UNICEF to reach thousands of refugee children in Turkey with Conditional Cash Transfer for Education](#)

Ankara, 16 March 2017 - The European Union and UNICEF have launched the largest ever EU humanitarian contribution to Education in Emergencies, valued at EUR 34 million. The Conditional Cash Transfer for Education (CCTE) project aims to increase the number of refugee children enrolled in and attending school in Turkey.

[Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dubai Cares and UNICEF call for investment in childhood development](#)

Dubai, 15 March - Dubai Cares, the global philanthropic organization based in United Arab Emirates (UAE) and UNICEF, in coordination with the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MOFAIC), came together today in Dubai at a two-day event to urge greater investment in early childhood development (ECD).

[Yemen needs urgent assistance to prevent famine - FAO, WFP, UNICEF](#)

15 March 2017, Sana'a/Amman -Severe food insecurity threatens more than 17 million people in conflict-ridden Yemen, according to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis released by the United Nations and humanitarian partners today.

[Hitting rock bottom: Children's suffering in Syria at its worst - UNICEF](#)

DAMASCUS/AMMAN, 13 March 2017 – Grave violations against children in Syria were the highest on record in 2016, said UNICEF in a grim assessment of the conflict's impact on children, as the war reaches six years.

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 18 March 2017]

<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/media-centre.html>

Press releases and news comments

[UNHCR appalled at attack on refugee boat off Yemen](#) 17 Mar 2017

Briefing Notes

[As Mosul displacement continues, UNHCR opens new camps, expands appeal](#) 17 Mar 2017

[South Sudan's refugee crisis now world's fastest growing, Uganda and region in critical need of help](#) 17 Mar 2017

IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 18 March 2017]

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

2017-03-17 18:40

[IOM Welcomes Milestone as 10,000 Asylum Seekers Relocated from Greece under EU Plan](#)

Greece - Over 10,000 asylum seekers have now been relocated from Greece to other European Union (EU) and Associated States.

[Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 19,722, Deaths: 525](#)

2017-03-17 18:35

Switzerland - IOM reports that 19,722 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 15 March.

[Migrant Deaths and Disappearances Worldwide: 2016 Analysis](#)

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2017-03-17 18:25

Germany - IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) highlights a 27 percent increase in migrant deaths worldwide during 2016 compared to 2015.

[IOM Launches Migrant Presence Monitoring in Turkey as Syrian Conflict Enters Seventh Year](#)

2017-03-17 18:11

Turkey - With over 3.5 million migrants and refugees in Turkey, IOM this week (13/03) signed a Migrant Presence Monitoring (MPM) agreement with Turkey's Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) to better understand migrant population movements and needs.

[IOM Director General Condemns Attack on Humanitarian Convoy in South Sudan](#)

2017-03-16 12:24

Switzerland – IOM Director General William Lacy Swing condemned an attack on a humanitarian convoy in South Sudan on 14 March, which resulted in the death of two people and left three injured.

UNAIDS [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

WHO & Regional Offices [to 18 March 2017]

[The road to universal health coverage in the Solomon Islands](#)

16 March 2017 – In a nation of 620 000 people dispersed over more than 600 islands, patients travel for days by truck and boat to receive medical care. A bold new plan is restructuring available health resources, setting out the Pacific nation's roadmap towards universal health coverage while ensuring efficient use of resources at strategic locations.

[Health care a casualty of 6 years of war in the Syrian Arab Republic](#)

15 March 2017 – This week the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic enters its seventh year. Over the past 6 years access to health services for the civilian population in the country has seriously deteriorated.

Highlights

[WHO and partners re-open Qayyara Hospital in Mosul with support from ECHO](#)

March 2017 – Five months after Al-Qayyara Hospital was closed due to extensive damage, the facility has been re-opened to provide trauma care and obstetric services to peoples affected by the ongoing conflict.

[WHO responds to reported use of chemical weapons agents in East Mosul, Iraq](#)

March 2017 – Following the reported use of chemical weapons agents in East Mosul, Iraq, WHO, partners and local health authorities have activated an emergency response plan to safely treat men, women and children who may be exposed to the highly toxic chemical.

[Borno State Reports First Lassa Fever Outbreak in 48 Years](#)

March 2017 – Borno state in northeast Nigeria has recorded its first Lassa fever outbreak in almost five decades. The last confirmed outbreak of the deadly disease was in 1969. WHO is supporting the government to contain the outbreak in an area of the country which is already coping with a humanitarian crisis resulting from years of conflict.

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:: WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region AFRO

:: Building the legacy of Ebola: Survivors, health systems, and a blueprint for research and development

This report describes the work done by WHO from January 2015 up to the end of December 2016 to address the long-term issues of survivor care, health-systems strengthening and research. This work would not otherwise have been possible without the foresight and commitment of donors who, having contributed generously to the WHO-led response to the outbreak, recognised the importance of dealing with its consequences.

Ebola Response Report 2016 (2.1 MB)

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

- *No new announcements identified.*

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

:: South-East Asia countries adopt Call for Action to accelerate efforts to End TB
SEAR/PR/1644

New Delhi, 16 March 2017 - Health Ministers from countries in WHO South-East Asia Region which bear half the global TB burden, and WHO today signed a *Call for Action for Ending TB*, pledging to scale-up efforts and implement adequately funded, innovative, multisectoral and comprehensive measures to achieve the global target to end the disease by 2030.

"We need to make ending TB our central priority. The disease continues to be a leading cause of death and lost productive years in the crucial age group of 15-49 years causing catastrophic expenses, financial losses, outright impoverishment of individuals and households and massive aggregate costs to national economies. Ending TB is paramount for health and development across the Region," Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director for WHO South-East Asia, told the Ministerial Meeting Towards Ending TB in the South-East Asia Region, here...

WHO European Region EURO

:: Strengthening countries' pharmaceutical systems: a year in review 17-03-2017

:: 6 years into the conflict, hero vaccinators in northern Syria brave danger to protect children from disease 15-03-2017

:: WHO European Healthy Cities Network adopts the Pécs Declaration 14-03-2017

:: Regional Director visits Israel to further strengthen collaboration 14-03-2017

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: Health care a casualty of 6 years of war in the Syrian Arab Republic 16 March 2016

:: Oral cholera vaccination campaign launched in Somalia 15 March 2017

:: First Joint Ministerial Meeting of the Arab Councils of the Health and the Environment Ministers 12 March 2017

WHO Western Pacific Region

:: The road to universal health coverage in the Solomon Islands 16 March 2017

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) [to 18 March 2017]

<http://www.oie.int/en/for-the-media/press-releases/2017/17/03/2017>

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[Reinforcing control efforts amid outbreak of avian influenza in China](#)

Rome/Paris--A resurgent outbreak of a new strain of avian influenza that can be lethal for humans underscores the need for robust and rapid detection and response systems at animal source. This would reduce the risk associated with virus spread and impacts on public health, according to FAO and OIE.

Human cases of the H7N9 virus, first detected in China four years ago, have suddenly increased since December 2016. It is estimated, that as of early March 2017, there have been more reported human cases of influenza A (H7N9) than those caused by other types of avian influenza viruses (H5N1, H5N6, etc.) combined.

As during previous waves, most of the patients infected reported a history of visiting live bird markets or coming into contact with infected birds. Since 2013, China has invested heavily in surveillance of live bird markets and poultry farms. However the surveillance of this virus has proven particularly challenging as until recently it has shown no or few signs of disease in chickens.

"Considering the potential for mutation of avian influenza virus, constant surveillance by national Veterinary Services of the different strains circulating in animals in their country is essential to protect both animal and human health", explains Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)...

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 18 March 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases/Announcements

[Helen Clark: Remarks at the Launch of flagship UNDP Projects](#)

Mar 13, 2017

Ministry of Planning and Investment - Vientiane, Lao PDR

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) [to 18 March 2017]

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

March 17, 2017

[The Global Festival of Ideas for Sustainable Development](#)

The Global Festival of Ideas, hosted by the UN SDG Action Campaign and supported by the German Government, took place on March 1-3 in Bonn. It was an innovative conference designed to stimulate new ideas on how to implement the 2030 Agenda.

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 18 March 2017]

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

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

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<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 18 March 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

[Smarter use of resources can add \\$2 trillion annually to global economy](#)

Press Release | March 16, 2017

:: Resource efficiency can bring annual economic benefits larger than Italy's GDP

:: If current trends continue, annual resource use per capita will grow by over 70% by mid-century

:: The 2050 level of resource use could be nearly 30% lower with resource efficiency measures

[Kenya announces breakthrough ban on plastic bags](#)

Press Release | March 15, 2017

:: Ban on all production, use and import of plastic bags to take effect in six months

:: The 24 million plastic bags currently used each month are a major cause of environmental damage and health problems

:: Plastic bags are also a major contributor to the 8 million tonnes of plastic dumped in the sea every year

UNISDR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 18 March 2017]

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

17 March 2017, New York

[International Day highlights forests' role in sustainable energy](#)

Until the advent of fossil fuels, for thousands of years, wood was the primary source of energy for human populations. Today, over 2 billion people worldwide, in rural and urban areas, still rely on wood for their primary energy needs. Wood constitutes the primary source of energy for cooking and heating in many developing countries, where nearly 90 per cent of fuelwood and charcoal is consumed.

Regions with the greatest incidence of poverty, most notably Sub-Saharan Africa and low income households in Asia, are also the most dependent on fuel wood. At the same time, the use of unsustainably harvested fuelwood, which often occurs in these areas, continues to be a challenge which has negative economic and environmental impacts.

Developing countries are not the only ones dependent on forests for energy. Bio energy from forest biomass (in various forms, including pellets, sticks and sawdust) accounts for about half

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of Europe's renewable-energy consumption. Countries across Europe are converting their power plants from using only coal to a mix of coal and wood products to meet renewable "carbon neutral" energy goals.

Technological advancements in the production of biomass energy, along with growing concerns over rising greenhouse gas emissions, make it increasingly likely that biomass energy from forest products will continue to serve as an important source of renewable energy in all countries in the future.

In recognition of these important inter-linkages between forests and energy, the central theme of the 2017 International Day of Forests is "Forests and Energy." The need for sustainable management of forests and sustainable energy resources has also been recognized in SDGs 7 and SDG 15 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development...

UNESCO [to 18 March 2017]

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

16 March 2017

[Nine Nominations received for the post of Director-General of UNESCO](#)

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 18 March 2017]

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

17/03/2017 –

["Extraordinary" 60th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs closes with commitment to keep protecting people](#)

17/03/2017 –

[Remarks of UNODC Executive Director at the International Narcotics Control Board Side Event on "The need for proportionality: State responses to drug-related offences"](#)

16/03/2017 –

[Commission on Narcotic Drugs takes decisive step to help prevent deadly fentanyl overdoses](#)

15/03/2017 –

[Remarks of UNODC Executive Director at the Security Council Ministerial Open Debate on Trafficking in Persons in Conflict Situations: Forced labour, slavery and other similar practices](#)

15/03/2017 –

[UNODC Chief tells civil society: We need you!](#)

14/03/2017 –

[Alternative development can release farmers from the poverty trap of illicit crop cultivation](#)

13/03/2017 –

[UNODC Chief sets out global efforts being taken against illicit drugs](#)

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 18 March 2017]

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

Posted March 15, 2017

[UN-Habitat hosts global meeting on planning compact cities](#)

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Seville, 15 March 2017— More than 30 international experts on urban planning, finance and legal aspects of urbanization and policy experts participated in the Global Experts Group Meeting (EGM) "Planning Compact Cities: Exploring the possibilities and limits..."
Posted March 15, 2017

[UN-Habitat launches climate resilience project in four countries](#)

Nairobi, 15 March 2017—UN-Habitat recently launched a new Project under its Cities and Climate Change Initiative (CCCI) on 'pro-poor planning for climate resilience in marginalized neighbourhoods'.

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

ILO International Labour Organization [to 18 March 2017]

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

Press release

[ILO revises its landmark Declaration on multinational enterprises](#)

17 March 2017

The revised Tripartite Declaration of principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (MNE Declaration) adds principles to the Declaration addressing decent work issues related to social security, forced labour, transition from the informal to the formal economy, access to remedy and compensation of victims, inter alia. It provides enhanced guidelines for fostering the contribution of multinational enterprises to achieve decent work for all.

Global Estimate of Modern Slavery

[ILO and Walk Free Foundation to collaborate on Global Estimate of Modern Slavery](#)

16 March 2017

Joint research by the International Labour Organization and the Walk Free Foundation will provide critical data for measuring progress on achieving Target 8.7 of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Sustainable development

[ILO and UNFCCC team up to boost action on just transition and decent work in the context of climate change](#)

14 March 2017

The agreement between the two organizations will bring a substantial contribution to the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 18 March 2017]

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

15/03/2017

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[IMO Secretary-General urges vigilance after tanker hijack](#)

Shipping industry urged to apply diligently IMO guidance and best management practices to avert possible piracy attacks, in wake of hijack of Aris 13, off Puntland, Somalia

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 18 March 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)

Publish Date: 14 March 2017

[Protecting people from sand and dust storms](#)

The World Meteorological Organization is stepping up activities to improve forecasts and early warnings of sand and dust storms, which are having an increasing impact on the environment, human health, and the economy in arid and semi- arid regions such as Northern Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, Central Asia and China. Sand and dust storms occur when intensely hot air over the desert causes the lower atmosphere to become unstable, leading to strong winds that stir up vast amounts of loose sand and transporting it for hundreds, sometimes thousands, of miles. Land degradation, desertification...

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 18 March 2017]

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

Friday, 17 March 2017

[UNIDO supports the development of a quality infrastructure system in Caribbean countries](#)

KINGSTON, 17 March 2017 – The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) provided training to help 14 Caribbean countries develop quality infrastructure and encourage systemic trade development along value...

Tuesday, 14 March 2017

[European Union and UNIDO sign an agreement to foster employment opportunities and economic growth in Sudan](#)

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 18 March 2017]

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

17 March 2017

[Statement: UNWTO Secretary-General Candidates](#)

The Secretariat of the World Tourism Organization referring to decision CE/DEC/15(CIV) of the Executive Council at its 104th session (Luxor, Egypt, 30 October – 1 November 2016), on the procedure for the election of the Secretary-General, informs in regards to the election for the post of Secretary-General for the period 2018-2021. ...

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 18 March 2017]

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

Mar 16, 2017 PR/2017/805

[WIPO Cybersquatting Cases Hit Record in 2016, Driven by New Top-Level Domain Names](#)

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Trademark owners filed an all-time record 3,036 cases under the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) with WIPO in 2016, an increase of 10% over the previous year, with over 1,200 new generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) now operational.

Mar 15, 2017 PR/2017/804

[Record Year for International Patent Applications in 2016; Strong Demand Also for Trademark and Industrial Design Protection](#)

China's ZTE Corporation overtook its crosstown rival Huawei Technologies as the biggest filer of international patent applications via WIPO in 2016 and U.S.-based Qualcomm Inc. claimed third position amid another year of strong demand for WIPO's intellectual property filing services for patents, trademarks and industrial designs.

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

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USAID [to 18 March 2017]

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

Press Release

Thursday, March 16, 2017

[President's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Outline Released Today](#)

Today the President released the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 budget blueprint which provides an overview of the Administration's overarching priorities for discretionary spending. It includes \$37.6 billion for the Department of State and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), of which \$12.0 billion is Overseas Contingency Operations funding.

The FY 2018 budget advances the national security interests of the United States by focusing on diplomatic efforts and foreign assistance programs that advance the security and prosperity of the American people.

The budget blueprint supports critical foreign assistance efforts, including global health and humanitarian assistance programs. The budget will support Department of State and USAID efforts to optimize organizational effectiveness, helping us work to efficiently achieve our diplomatic and development goals and objectives...

DFID [to 18 March 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

[UK to help businesses step up investment in world's poorest countries](#)

16 March 2017 DFID Press release

At the "Transforming Investment Risk" event, International Development Secretary Priti Patel set out how the UK is making it easier for companies to invest in the world's poorest countries.

[Six years of conflict in Syria: statement from Priti Patel](#)

15 March 2017 DFID Press release

[Priti Patel responds to Disasters Emergency Committee's new East Africa Crisis Appeal](#)

15 March 2017 DFID Press release

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UK Government to match the first £5 million donated by the public to the Disasters Emergency Committee's new East Africa Crisis Appeal.

ECHO [to 18 March 2017]

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

17/03/2017

[EU scales-up response to famine and drought affected countries in Horn of Africa with additional €165 million](#)

On the occasion of an official visit to the African Union in Addis Ababa, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica, announced a support package of €165 million to address the multiple crises in the Horn of Africa...

[EU launches largest ever education programme in Turkey for 230 000 refugee children](#)

16/03/2017

The European Commission has today launched its largest ever humanitarian programme for education in emergencies to encourage some 230 000 refugee children to attend school in Turkey. The €34 million 'Conditional Cash Transfer for Education' (CCTE)...

[EU Emergency Support for Refugees and Migrants in Greece: 1 Year On](#)

16/03/2017

This week marks the completion of the first twelve months since the EU emergency support regulation was adopted by the Council. To date, €192 million have been contracted to the Commission's humanitarian aid partners to help the Greek government in...

[Solidarity with Syrians is at the heart of the new EU strategy for Syria](#)

15/03/2017

The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the European Commission adopted a Joint Communication proposing a forward- looking EU strategy for Syria on 14 March 2017.

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African Union [to 18 March 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]

March 14, 2017

[Handover ceremony between the outgoing Chairperson of the AUC Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma and the incoming Chairperson Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat](#)

March 14, 2017

[The AU Honours African Women during the Commemoration of International Women's Day](#)

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 18 March 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]

March 17th, 2017

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[ASEAN women entrepreneurs to harness technology and innovation for growth](#)

MANILA, 16 March 2017 – In celebrating the women's month in March, the ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs Network (AWEN) and the Women's Business Council of the Philippines (Womenbizph) brought together some 200 women leaders—many from ASEAN—for a two-day conference focusing on opportunities for women entrepreneurs in the Southeast Asian region to grow their business...

European Commission [to 18 March 2017]

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

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

17/03/2017

[EU scales-up its response to famine and drought affected countries in Horn of Africa with an additional €165 million](#)

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 17 March 2017 Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven Mimica announced today additional EU support to respond to the crises in South Sudan, Somalia and its neighbouring countries, during an official visit to the African Union.

[Commissioner Malmström welcomes Parliament's approval to stop trade in minerals financing armed conflicts](#)

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 16 March 2017 New rules will ensure that minerals used by European industries are sourced responsibly, diverting revenues away from rebel groups, conflict, and terror. The European Parliament today adopted by an overwhelming majority the proposal to stop trade in conflict minerals.

[EU launches education programme for 230,000 refugee children to attend school in Turkey](#)

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 16 March 2017 The European Commission has today launched its largest ever humanitarian programme for education in emergencies to encourage some 230,000 refugee children to attend school in Turkey.

OECD [to 18 March 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]

17-March-2017

[Growth-oriented policy agenda needed to ensure stronger economic recovery with benefits for all workers and households](#)

Governments must deploy policy packages that take advantage of the synergies between labour, product and financial market reforms to escape the low-growth trap and ensure that benefits are broadly shared by the vast majority of citizens, according to the OECD's annual Going for Growth report.

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 18 March 2017]

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

March 14, 2017

[Secretary General Presents Updated Report on Venezuela to the Permanent Council](#)

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

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

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 18 March 2017]

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

[Selected Press Releases, Announcements]

[The OIC Regrets the Withdrawal of the ESCWA Report and Stresses the Importance of its Conclusions](#)

The Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Dr. Yousef A. Al-Othaimeen, expressed his deep regret at the withdrawal of the report of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), which objectively represents the reality of Israeli policies of occupation, oppression, settlement and apartheid.

18/03/2017

Group of 77 [to 18 March 2017]

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

Statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by His Excellency Mr. Horacio Sevilla, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Ecuador to the United Nations, at the Preparatory Meeting for the [Eighteenth Meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea](#) (New York, 13 March 2017)

Statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by His Excellency Mr. Horacio Sevilla, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Ecuador to the United Nations, on agenda item 3: Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "[Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century](#)", at the sixty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 13 March 2017)

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UNCTAD [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

WTO - World Trade Organisation [to 18 March 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]

16 March 2017

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

[Austria donates CHF 200,000 to strengthen negotiating capacity of poorest members](#)

The government of Austria is contributing CHF 200,000 in 2017 to help developing countries and least-developed countries participate effectively in global trade negotiations.

WTO NEWS: SPEECHES — DG ROBERTO AZEVEDO

13 March 2017

["Financial inclusion" key to delivering full development potential of e-commerce](#)

Speaking at a 13 March seminar on digital payments and financial inclusion, Director-General Roberto Azevêdo said underdeveloped financial and payment systems are hindering the use of

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electronic commerce as a tool for growth and development. With more than 200 million small firms in emerging economies worldwide lacking access to basic financial services, "e-commerce will not deliver its full potential if many are still financially excluded."

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IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 18 March 2017]

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

14 MARCH 2017

[The IPU pledges stronger collaboration with the Parliament of Djibouti](#)

IPU Secretary General Martin Chungong visited Djibouti recently to discuss the collaboration between the IPU and the National Assembly to develop the capacities of the country's Parliament...

International Court of Justice [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

International Criminal Court (ICC) [to 18 March 2017]

Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity

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

11 March 2017

[ASP President welcomes the revocation of South Africa's withdrawal from the Rome Statute](#)

The President of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) H.E. Mr. Sidiki Kaba welcomes the decision by South Africa to revoke with immediate effect of the instrument of withdrawal from the Rome Statute deposited by the Government of South Africa with the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 19 October 2016.

On 7 March 2017, the Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa notified this decision by note verbale to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as depositary of the Treaty.^[1]

The President of the Assembly of States Parties welcomes this important decision made by the Government of South Africa which signals its renewed commitment to the principles and values upheld by the Rome Statute.

"South Africa has always played an important role in the fight against injustice and, I am convinced, will continue to do so as a State Party to the Rome Statute," said President Kaba.

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World Bank [to 18 March 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]

[Indonesia: World Bank grant to help indigenous and local communities secure land rights, better manage forests and land](#)

WASHINGTON, March 17, 2017 – The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved a \$6.25 million grant to help Indonesia's indigenous and local communities secure land rights, manage forests and improve their livelihoods.

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Forestry is an important source of income for many of Indonesia's rural and poor communities. About 20 percent of the communities depending on tropical forests to make a living live in poverty, which doubles the national average. The grant from the global Strategic Climate Funds aims to help them address deforestation and forest degradation, and more broadly, natural-resource management in more sustainable ways.

"Local and indigenous communities that depend on forests face uncertainty over their rights to land and how they can use it, which keeps them in poverty. As the government, with support from development partners, tries to address this challenge, this World Bank grant will boost community participation in the policy dialogue and help them clarify land tenure rights, improve forest governance and strengthen their stewardship of forests," said Rodrigo Chaves, World Bank's Country Director for Indonesia.

Following President Joko Widodo's pledge to strengthen the rights of indigenous peoples, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry has set a target of transferring 12.7 million hectares of forest land to local and indigenous communities by 2019.

"Indigenous peoples and local communities are at the heart of the future of Indonesia's forests. We look forward to them playing a bigger role in managing the forests that they know so well. This grant enables them to do just that and more, and that is good news for sustainable landscape management in Indonesia," said Nus Ukru, Head of the DGM National Steering Committee for the Dedicated Grant Mechanism project.

The project will also help indigenous and local communities map their land and improve their access to technical support for achieving tenure security in Indonesia. It will also help indigenous and local communities access services and markets and boost their participation in the use of village funds allocated by the central government...

[Deeper Integration Vital for Growth in Latin America and the Caribbean, World Bank Report Says](#)

WASHINGTON, March 14, 2017 – A deeper economic integration among Latin American and Caribbean countries will make the region more competitive in international markets and boost long-term growth, according...

Date: March 14, 2017 Type: Press Release

IMF [to 18 March 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]

March 16, 2017

[Statement by Managing Director Christine Lagarde on the Explosion in the IMF's Paris Office](#)

March 15, 2017

[IMF Managing Director Welcomes Establishment of High Level Advisory Group on FinTech](#)

The Group is composed of highly-experienced and respected leaders in the field of finance and technology and includes industry pioneers, regulators, lawyers and academics.

The Group will work closely with the IMF's Interdepartmental Working Group on Finance and Technology to study the economic and regulatory implications of developments in the area of finance and technology...

African Development Bank Group [to 18 March 2017]

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

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

13/03/2017 –

"Lights, Power, Action": AfDB's Adesina and Kofi Annan urge governments to close Africa's energy deficit

The Chair of the Africa Progress Panel and former UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, and the President of the African Development Bank, Akinwumi Adesina, have called on African governments and their partners to do everything possible to close the continent's huge energy gap.

Asian Development Bank [to 18 March 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]

13 March 2017

ADB Business Reform Initiative Marks Decade of Support to Pacific

A long-running program to improve the business environment in the Pacific has succeeded in removing numerous barriers to private sector investment and entrepreneurship, according to an ADB report released today.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank [to 18 March 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 18 March 2017]

https://www.ifad.org/newsroom/press_release/list/tags/y2017

13 March 2017

IFAD to provide US\$24.3 million to improve integration of family farmers into new value chains in Argentina

Rome, 13 March 2017 – Improving sustainable integration of small-scale producers into emerging value chains is the aim of a financial agreement signed here today between the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Government of Argentina.

Some 8,000 rural families (around 37,600 people) will benefit from the programme, that will focus particularly on vulnerable groups, especially indigenous peoples, women and youth...

13 March 2017

IFAD and AFD strengthen partnership with €200 million loan to invest in rural development

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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,

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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 18 March 2017]

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

15/03/2017

Community health workers in Kenya need pay

...On March 7, 2017, at [Africa Health Agenda International Conference](#) in Nairobi, a campaign to get community health workers paid and formally integrated into our health system was rolled out.

Presently, community health workers are neither paid nor remunerated across many African countries, including Kenya.

According to Amref, CHWs play a critical role in saving lives, especially at the community level where people lack access to the formal health system.

"More than 50 per cent of Africans cannot access these formal health system and it is community health workers who provide this vital link," said Dr Githinji Gitahi, Amref Health Africa Group CEO.

So far, only Ethiopia, South Africa, Nigeria, Malawi and Rwanda have national CHW programmes which legitimise CHW's work and offer a sustainable career path...

Aravind Eye Care System [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

BRAC [to 18 March 2017]

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

Wednesday, 15 March 2017 00:00

7,489 incidents of violence against women in 2016

A total of 7,489 women and girls have been experienced multiple form of violence during January to December 2016. What is most alarming about the report is that the rate of child victims is 20 per cent of the total violence against women occurred during the period. Every day 1.7 child below the age of 18 have become victim of rape incidents.

BRAC community empowerment programme today organised a roundtable discussion at the BRAC Centre's auditorium to share key findings of incidents of violence against women as documented by the programme...BRAC community empowerment program (CEP) identifies and reports incidents of violence against women from 55 districts of Bangladesh. This is done through its network of 12,350 ward-level and women-led institutions called Polli Shomaj. The victim or victims' family, neighbours, and Polli Shomaj members send reports to BRAC head office, and maintain a database...

CARE International [to 18 March 2017]

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

13th Mar 2017

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Breakthroughs for 'forgotten' women from marginalized communities in fight against poverty
Global

A new report by CARE and the H&M Foundation shows the potential of women entrepreneurship to eradicate poverty.

Clubhouse International [to 18 March 2017]
<http://www.clubhouse-intl.org/news.html>
No new digest content identified.

Danish Refugee Council [to 18 March 2017]
<https://www.drc.dk/news>
NEWS
DRC: Anniversary of EU-Turkey deal calls for hard look at policies

17.03.2017

On the occasion of the one year anniversary of the launch of the EU-Turkey Statement, The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) issues a policy brief, which takes a critical look at the trend towards externalization in EU asylum and mig...

International Director retires after 25 years of working to promote a dignified life for refugees

16.03.2017

For 25 years, Ann Mary Olsen has worked to help those fleeing conflicts and disasters. Now she has decided to retire after seven years as International Director - a time period during which the organization has become Denmark's...

Extensive DRC effort to counter the 'four famines'

15.03.2017

The Danish Refugee Council is present in some of the worst hit areas and helps people, who are affected by the escalating 'four famines' in Africa and Yemen.

Danish Refugee Council appoints new International Director

14.03.2017

Rikke Friis, who has worked for the Danish Refugee Council for almost 25 years, is taking over as International Director after Ann Mary Olsen.

Recommendations for a more efficient and sustainable Dublin System

13.03.2017

In a new position paper The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) outlines the way forward to a fairer and more sustainable Dublin System.

ECPAT [to 18 March 2017]
<http://www.ecpat.net/news>
No new digest content identified.

Fountain House [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Handicap International [to 18 March 2017]

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

Posted on March 15, 2017 8:06 AM

"Stop bombing civilians" says Handicap International on Syrian conflict's 6th anniversary

For the past six years, Syrians have been the victims of a conflict marked by indiscriminate bombing that is of a rare intensity. An average of 94 attacks a day using explosive weapons were reported between September and December 2016. Handicap International, known for its successful international campaigns that helped bring about the treaties banning landmines and cluster munitions, calls on all parties to the conflict to end the use of explosive weapons in populated areas...

Heifer International [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

HelpAge International [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

ICRC [to 18 March 2017]

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

Selected News Releases, Reports and Articles

News release 17 March 2017

Yemen: ICRC strongly condemns civilian ship attack, calls for immediate investigation

The ICRC is shocked by last night's attack on a civilian ship carrying around 150 passengers, including women and children, near the port of Hodeida.

IFRC [to 18 March 2017]

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

16 March 2017

Dominican Republic, Haiti

In Haiti and the Dominican Republic, IFRC Secretary General highlights effective cooperation and unmet humanitarian needs

Panama/Geneva, 16 March 2017 – The Secretary General of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Elhadj As Sy, has concluded a six day visit to the Dominican Republic and Haiti. He praised the effective cooperation between ...

16 March 2017

Africa, Uganda

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Red Cross steps up emergency water and sanitation for thousands more South Sudanese refugees in Uganda as influx continues

Kampala/Geneva, 16 March 2017 – The Uganda Red Cross Society and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) are scaling up emergency water treatment and latrine construction in northern Uganda as thousands of refugees f ...

16 March 2017

Africa, Madagascar

Thousands in urgent need of assistance in cyclone-hit Madagascar; Red Cross launches emergency appeal

Nairobi, 13 March 2017 — Tens of thousands of people are displaced in Madagascar and need urgent humanitarian assistance after powerful Cyclone Enawo battered the island with torrential rain and wind, destroying homes and flooding farms and communities ...

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 18 March 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases & Statements

Press Release

IRC President and CEO David Miliband: "Real-time Review of Vetting Procedures Would Save Lives and Preserve Program."

March 17, 2017

Press Release

EU-Turkey deal makes seeking refuge in Europe "mission impossible" for most vulnerable

March 16, 2017

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

Press Release

Foreign aid benefits America - now is no time to cut it

March 16, 2017

Statement

IRC's Hans van de Weerd on federal judge ruling to block Trump Administration's second attempt at travel ban

March 15, 2017

Remarks

Six Years of War in Syria: The Human Toll

March 14, 2017

Testimony of the Rt. Hon. David Miliband, President and CEO of the International Rescue Committee, at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Hearing

IRCT [to 18 March 2017]

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

News 17 Mar 2017

Inge Genefke receives prize for long standing work to support torture victims

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IRCT founder Inge Genefke has received the Holger Petersen Foundation prize for her long standing work to put the issue of torture on the global agenda and for her commitment to support torture victims worldwide.

News 14 Mar 2017

African Commission adopts General Comment on torture victims' Right to Redress at the 21st Extraordinary Session

News 13 Mar 2017

IRCT calls for immediate release of Human Rights Foundation of Turkey staff

Today, in Sirnak, Turkey, Dr Serdar Kuni will stand trial accused of providing medical treatment to alleged members of Kurdish armed groups. This is a direct violation of Turkey's international legal obligations to protection of health professionals in order to allow them to fulfil their duties to provide care for those in need, without regard to any element of identity, affiliation, or political opinion. Dr Kuni is the Cizre Representative of IRCT member, Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (HRFT), and his trial is the latest in a long line of administrative and judicial harassment of the HRFT and its staff...

Islamic Relief [to 18 March 2017]

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

March 15, 2017

Standing with Syria as the conflict enters a seventh year

Six years on from when it began on March 15 2011, the brutal and agonising Syrian conflict shows no signs of ending any time soon. Islamic Relief continues to deliver food, shelter, medicines and other aid on a huge scale as this most challenging of humanitarian crises enters a seventh year.

Landsea [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 18 March 2017]

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

Press release

March 14, 2017

Warring Groups Must Allow Aid in Syria

Massive needs are not met as large areas are out of reach.

AMMAN, JORDAN/NEW YORK—Six years into the war in Syria, civilians continue to suffer from a brutal conflict that has precipitated a complex humanitarian crisis, with ever-mounting suffering and millions without access to basic health care. In the face of these colossal needs, the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) reiterates its call to warring groups to allow access to Syria to provide medical assistance to the victims of war.

"All parties to the conflict, neighboring countries and international actors must allow access for humanitarian aid and not use it as a political tool," said Pablo Marco, MSF Middle East operations manager. "They must also allow those in need of medical assistance into areas

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where they can access specialized medical treatment and enable medical staff to access them, while ensuring the protection of first-responders, medical staff, and facilities."...

Mercy Corps [to 18 March 2017]

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

March 16, 2017

Mercy Corps: Slashing Foreign Aid Is Reckless, Dangerous And Irresponsible

Congress must reject proposed cuts to save tens of millions of lives

WASHINGTON, D.C. – As Congress considers President Trump's FY2018 budget request, the global organization Mercy Corps strongly urges lawmakers to reject cuts of approximately 30 percent to foreign assistance. If Congress reduces humanitarian funding to the President's requested level, lifesaving assistance to tens of millions of the world's most vulnerable people could end.

"Gutting the foreign assistance budget – especially humanitarian funding – is indefensible," says Andrea Koppel, Vice President of Global Engagement and Policy at Mercy Corps. "We are facing the greatest humanitarian crisis of our time, with 65 million people displaced and 20 million people at risk of starvation. Now would be the absolute worst time to cut foreign aid."...

Operation Smile [to 18 March 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 18 March 2017]

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

17 March 2017

EU-Turkey deal makes seeking refuge in Europe "mission impossible" for most vulnerable

One year after the EU-Turkey deal was struck, Greece has become the testing ground for the EU's migration policies. Oxfam, IRC and NRC have analysed the situation in a joint report which documents the immense human suffering as well as the erosion of basic human rights and the right to asylum.

[See Week in Review for more detail]

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 18 March 2017]

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

Published 17. Mar 2017

76 million to improved crisis response

Ida Sem Fossvik

NORCAP has signed a three-year framework agreement with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

..."This agreement gives us the predictability and flexibility we need in order to strengthen the work of the UN, regional organisations and national institutions. At the same time, we help protect lives and livelihoods of affected population and strengthen their resilience before, during and after crises", says Benedicte Giæver, NORCAP Director.

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The agreement is a continuation of a previous framework agreement and lasts until 2019. In addition to the yearly 76 million NOK, NORCAP can receive further support in case of new, sudden-onset emergencies. In 2016, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA) financed 257 experts in 62 countries, supporting partner organisations' operations...

Published 17. Mar 2017

EU-Turkey deal makes seeking refuge in Europe "mission impossible" for most vulnerable

*Flawed policies are eroding refugee rights, say IRC, NRC & Oxfam in joint report released today
[See Week in Review for more detail]*

Published 16. Mar 2017

US foreign aid cuts threaten lives in world's poorest countries

The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) is alarmed by US President Donald Trump's announcement today of his administration's intention to cut the international affairs budget, which includes humanitarian aid, development and diplomacy, by US\$10.1 billion or 28 per cent, to bolster a \$54 billion hike in military spending.

Pact [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Partners In Health [to 18 March 2017]

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

Mar 17, 2017

Our Patients Will Die Without Foreign Aid

Dr. Joia Mukherjee, PIH's chief medical officer, shares her perspective on the devastating impact President Donald J. Trump's proposed cuts on foreign aid will have on health care for the poor. Read More ☐

PATH [to 18 March 2017]

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

Announcement | March 17, 2017

PATH welcomes grant for the collaborative development of solutions for achieving universal health coverage

Award will strengthen and expand the work of the Joint Learning Network for Universal Health Coverage

PATH was awarded \$4M to support the Joint Learning Network for Universal Health Coverage (JLN)—a global community of health policymakers and practitioners working to address barriers to achieving universal health coverage in their countries. This investment by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will revitalize and expand the technical work of the network, allowing for continued peer-to-peer learning and co-development of solutions that contribute to the goal of extending effective health insurance coverage to more than 3 billion people...

Announcement | March 16, 2017

PATH Statement on the US President's Proposed Federal Budget

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Proposed Cuts to Global Health Programs and Research Would Stifle Innovation and Make the World—and America—Less Healthy and Less Secure

March 16, 2017—Today the US Administration sent its proposed budget for fiscal year 2018 to Congress. The budget includes extensive cuts to global health and development programs, including approximately a one-third cut to the Department of State and the US Agency for International Development, as well as cuts to vital research programs funded through the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. PATH opposes these cuts and believes they will make the world—and America—less healthy and less secure, while also stifling innovation...

Plan International [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Save The Children [to 18 March 2017]

http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpI4E/b.9506653/k.C303/Press_Releases_2017/apps/nl/newsletter2.asp

Selected Press Releases

[President's Proposed Budget Cuts Will be Catastrophic to Future of Mothers and Children in the U.S., Abroad](#) March 16, 2017

[Save the Children Trustee Jennifer Garner Testifies in Support of Early Childhood Education](#)

March 16, 2017

[Cristiano Ronaldo Posts Drawing by Syrian Refugee Teen and Barber-In-Training, Gets Haircut Advice](#)

March 15, 2017

[Self-Harm and Depression Rise Among Child Refugees One Year Into the EU-Turkey Deal](#)

March 15, 2017

[Women and Children Flee Famine and War in South Sudan](#)

March 14, 2017

[Naomi Campbell Has "Humbling" Experience Visiting Za'Atari Refugee Camp Ahead of Six-Year Mark of Syrian War as Part of Partnership Between Fashion for Relief and Save the Children](#)

March 13, 2017

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 18 March 2017]

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

17.03.2017

[Interview: How SOS Children's Villages can help a traumatised generation through care and education](#)

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Andreas Papp, Director of Emergency Response for SOS Children's Villages International, was in Syria in early March to visit SOS programmes in Damascus and Aleppo. He talks about what he saw and what can be done to help Syria's youngest generation.

Tostan [to 18 March 2017]

<http://www.tostan.org>

Mar 16, 2017

"We won't stop here." – International Women's Day in solidarity with prison detainees

...It has become a tradition to celebrate March 8 at one of the five Senegalese prisons that collaborate with Tostan...

Women for Women International [to 18 March 2017]

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

March 16, 2017

Peace, Security and Prosperity Threatened

The peace, security and prosperity of the United States rests heavily on peace, security and prosperity around the world. Women for Women International believes that the United States can best promote our own national interests by remaining engaged in the world around us. As a nation, we do this through direct engagement by our citizens, our businesses, and civic associations around the world. Our government's diplomats, development workers, and soldiers help create an environment in which peace and progress are possible. Our work was founded on the principle that women reaching out, across borders, to other women affected by conflict would benefit us all.

We wish to express our concerns with the proposed decrease in funding for international assistance and cooperation. We are concerned about proposed cuts to the State Department which will affect USAID, Peace Corps and other humanitarian and development entities that foster strong civilian partnerships and bring hope and relief to millions around the world...

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Freedom House [to 18 March 2017]

<https://freedomhouse.org/news>

*Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research
Press Releases*

Slashing U.S. Foreign Aid Would Weaken Security, Undermine Democracies

March 16, 2017

In response to the Trump administration's budget proposal to drastically reduce foreign aid and other non-military overseas assistance programs, Freedom House issued a statement.

Transparency International [to 18 March 2017]

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

*Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research
No new digest content identified.*

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Note: 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 [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

CONCORD [to 18 March 2017]

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

[European NGO confederation for relief and development]

No new digest content identified.

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 18 March 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]

17/03/2017

[DEC appeal raises £17 million for the East Africa crisis](#)

The Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) appeal for the crisis in East Africa has raised **£17.6 million** since it launched on Wednesday,

The Elders [to 18 March 2017]

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

Press release 15 March 2017

[The Elders welcome UN Secretary-General's commitment to fight sexual exploitation](#)

The Elders welcome Secretary-General of the United Nations António Guterres' commitment to lead efforts to end sexual abuse and exploitation by UN peacekeepers and applaud an initiative to place survivors at the centre of the UN strategy

END Fund [to 18 March 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements

No new digest content identified.

Evidence Aid [to 18 March 2017]

www.evidenceaid.org

March 14, 2017

[The Quarantine Conundrum: Perspectives for the humanitarian community](#)

Claire Allen

Humanitarian aid workers may be activated to respond to Emerging Infectious Disease (EID) crises, such as the Ebola outbreak in West Africa declared by the World Health Organization to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern in August 2014. Sometimes these heroes are functioning in their full time positions, but more commonly they are volunteers who temporarily separate themselves from their regular duties and their families. The question of whether it is really necessary to mandate a quarantine after completion of the mission and before returning home is therefore of critical importance, and needs scientific evidence...

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

Gavi [to 18 March 2017]

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

15 March 2017

Cholera vaccination campaign begins in Somalia

Mass vaccination campaign will target over 450,000 people to halt cholera outbreak.

Geneva,– A major vaccination campaign to halt the spread of cholera begins in three drought-ravaged regions of Somalia today.

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, has delivered 953,000 doses of Oral Cholera Vaccine to the country to protect over 450,000 people from the disease. The campaign will take place in three of the worst-hit regions, Banadir, Kismayo and Beledweyne, with the vaccination being given in two doses to everyone over the age of one. The first round runs from 15-19 March and the second from 18-22 April...

Global Fund [to 18 March 2017]

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

15 March 2017

Global Fund Receives Top Marks in Performance Review

GENEVA – The Global Fund is an effective multilateral organization that provides strong global leadership for the response to HIV, TB and malaria, a group of leading donor countries said in a review that gave the Global Fund top marks in performance.

The evaluation by the Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN), which monitors the performance of multilateral organizations, gave the Global Fund top ratings in organizational architecture, operating model and financial transparency and accountability.

The assessment is [here](#).

Published today, the assessment noted an overall strong performance by the Global Fund in all 12 of its criteria. Key strengths identified point to the Global Fund's commitment to delivering impact and value for money: clear strategic direction and a proactive approach to innovation and change; results-based budgeting well aligned to strategy within a low operational budget; early identification of operational and financial risks; and vibrant and effective partnerships, particularly those that work with civil society and leverage private sector skills to address operational gaps...

Hilton Prize Coalition [to 18 March 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 18 March 2017]

<https://icvanetwork.org/>

Latest Resources

NGO SCOM Statement on CRRF March 2017

NGO statement on the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF). Presented at the UNHCR Standing Committee 68th meeting, 14-16 March 2017.

[CRRF SCOM MARCH ORAL.pdf](#)

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

CRRF_SCOM_MARCH_WRITTEN.pdf

NGO SCOM Statement on HC Dialogue on Protection Challenges March 2017

NGO statement on Follow-up to the High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges. Presented at the UNHCR Standing Committee 68th meeting, 14-16 March 2017.

HCD_SCOM_MARCH.pdf

InterAction [to 18 March 2017]

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

Mar 16, 2017

At a Glance: FY 2018 Budget Resources & Member Insights

Mar 16, 2017

On Thursday, March 16 the White House released topline budget recommendations for fiscal year 2018 (PDF), which proposed substantial cuts to the U.S. State and Foreign Operations Budget, the elimination of a number of federal agencies, and the reduction of funding for several international...

Mar 16, 2017

Proposed Budget Cuts Would Remove Vital Funding from Key U.S. Foreign Assistance Programs

InterAction CEO Sam Worthington calls for strong, well-resourced development and humanitarian programs to address current global crises

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 18 March 2017]

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

[Consortium of British Humanitarian Agencies]

No new digest content identified.

Muslim Charities Forum [to 18 March 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.

No new digest content identified.

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

Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP) [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

CHS Alliance [to 18 March 2017]

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

13/03/2017

Volunteers required! HR practitioners and line managers we'd like you to try out our new HR Support Package

We are now calling on all HR practitioners and those of you involved in people management activities to explore our HR Support Package and send us feedback.

EHLRA/R2HC [to 18 March 2017]

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

09.03.2017

Putting users at the heart of emergency sanitation design

How can we increase the use of latrines in rapid-onset emergencies? How can we ensure that all affected people have access to latrines? And how can we sustain this until...

Global Humanitarian Assistance (GHA) [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

The Sphere Project [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 18 March 2017]

<https://phap.org/>

No new digest content identified.

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Center for Global Development

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

Accessed 18 March 2017

3/9/17

No new digest content identified.

ODI [to 18 March 2017]

<https://www.odi.org/media-hub/press-room>

Research reports and studies

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

Indicators to measure social protection performance: implications for EC programming

Working and discussion papers | March 2017 | Anna McCord, Rebecca Holmes and Luke Harman

This paper provides guidance on the selection and use of social protection indicators, particularly with reference to the SDGs.

The impact of cash transfers on women and girls

Briefing papers | March 2017 | Jessica Hagen-Zanker, Luca Pellerano, Francesca Bastagli, Luke Harman, Valentina Barca, Georgina Sturge, Tanja Schmidt and Calvin Laing

This briefing summarises the evidence on the impact of cash transfers on women and girls, drawn from our rigorous review: Cash transfers: what does the evidence say?

Livelihood strategies of Central African refugees in Cameroon

Working and discussion papers | March 2017 | Veronique Barbelet

This working paper examines the lives and livelihoods of CAR refugees in Cameroon, and the role of networks in supporting refugees throughout their displacement.

Why do countries become donors? Assessing the drivers and implications of donor proliferation

Research reports and studies | March 2017 | Nilima Gulrajani and Liam Swiss

This report evaluates the increase in the number of new donor countries in international society and its potential consequences for development cooperation.

Urban Institute [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

World Economic Forum [to 18 March 2017]

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

News 15 Mar 2017

World Economic Forum Announces Young Global Leaders From Africa

:: World Economic Forum announces the 12 women and men from Africa who have been asked to join the community of Young Global Leaders (YGLs)

:: Aged under 40, they will be part of a community whose members are finding a cure for spinal paralysis, tackling water scarcity, creating a global emergency response network and promoting waste-free circular economies.

:: See the Class of 2017 at <http://wef.ch/ygl17>

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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.

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Aga Khan Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

15 March 2017

The Aga Khan University launches Mombasa Research Office to boost education, health

Mombasa, Kenya, - The Aga Khan University (AKU) has launched a research office in Mombasa to improve health and education in the coastal region, working closely with local government to define priority areas of focus.

The research office will help address many health-related challenges that have led to high morbidity and mortality from preventable illness in the region.

One such research initiative is the Access to Quality Care through Extending and Strengthening Health Systems , a four-year CAD\$ 7.5 million (Ksh750 million) project led by Professor Marleen Temmerman, Director, Centre of Excellence in Women and Child Health at AKU in East Africa, in collaboration with county governments, the Aga Khan Foundation and Aga Khan Health Services. The AQCESS initiative seeks to accelerate improvements in health outcomes for over 130,000 women, girls and boys under the age of five in Kaloleni, Bomachoge and Borabu sub-counties of Kilifi County, Coast Province and Kisii County, Nyanza Province, respectively...

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Annie E. Casey Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Clinton Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Ford Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

GHIT Fund [to 18 March 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 18 March 2017]

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

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No new digest content identified.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

March 14, 2017

Why philanthropy must do more on climate change

By Larry Kramer

...For while the threat is both huge and global, addressing it is within our reach and excruciatingly close at hand. It doesn't require upending economies or systems of government. It doesn't require impossible behavioral change or anything remotely that drastic. Given structures and technologies available right now, it is still possible for nations to transition to clean energy in a cost-effective manner and over a reasonable period of time—improving billions of lives.

Philanthropy has an important role to play in helping make this happen. But it requires a much bigger effort. Less than 2 percent of philanthropic dollars are currently spent in the fight against climate change, much too little given the threat we face. Nor is it enough just to increase spending. Funders also need to collaborate more and better. We must pool our resources, intellectual as well as financial, to find the right organizations to support and the right way to support them if we are to avert the worst harms of a warming planet...

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

Our News

Here's how we're marking the 6th anniversary of the Syrian refugee crisis

March 15, 2017

... Despite challenging access to those displaced both inside and outside the country, IMC [our partner, International Medical Corps] continues to provide comprehensive response programs in five countries—Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey—with the goal of leaving behind a more functional, resilient health system once the conflict ends and stability returns...

IKEA Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Kellogg Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

MacArthur Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

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No new digest content identified.

Blue Meridian Partners [to 18 March 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.

No new digest content identified.

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

March 13, 2017

A 'collective superintelligence' for doctors and patients

"One thing about The Human Diagnosis Project -- It's not thinking small. Its goal is to build an open diagnostic system for patients, doctors and caregivers using clinical experience and other information contributed by physicians and researchers around the world. So, not small."

A recent Forbes article Building A 'Collective Superintelligence' For Doctors And Patients Around The World dives into the vision and promise of the Human Diagnosis Project, a Moore Foundation grantee. Read more here.

The Moore Foundation is supporting the Human Diagnosis Project in applying its novel software platform to improve patient safety by understanding how it can be implemented in an ambulatory, or outpatient, setting...

Open Society Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Pew Charitable Trusts [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Rockefeller Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 18 March 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

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Science Philanthropy Alliance [to 18 March 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 new unique content identified.

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

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

No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 18 March 2017]

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

News / Published: 16 March 2017

First UK licence for mitochondrial donation

Researchers at Newcastle University have been given the first UK licence to carry out mitochondrial donation treatment.

"Today's decision means that affected couples in the UK who have dreamt of having a baby free of mitochondrial disease will have an option open to them for the first time," said Wellcome's Director Jeremy Farrar.

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:: Journal Watch

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

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

American Journal of Infection Control

March 01, 2017 Volume 45, Issue 3, p215-340, e34-e44

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

March 2017 Volume 52, Issue 3, p263-416, e67-e94

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

Volume 107, Issue 3 (March 2017)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Volume 96, Issue 3, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

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

(Accessed 18 March 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 18 March 2017)

Research article

[Understanding low uptake of contraceptives in resource-limited settings: a mixed-methods study in rural Burundi](#)

Family planning can reduce deaths, improve health, and facilitate economic development in resource-limited settings. Yet, modern contraceptive methods are often underused. This mixed-methods study, conducted i...

M. Ndayizigiye, M. C. Smith Fawzi, C. Thompson Lively and N.C. Ware

BMC Health Services Research 2017 17:209

Published on: 15 March 2017

Research article

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

Modern contraceptive utilization and associated factors among married pastoralist women in Bale eco-region, Bale Zone, South East Ethiopia

Women who live in remote rural areas encounter different challenges against contraception and often deny the use of modern contraceptive methods. The predictors of modern contraceptive utilization by pastorali...

Semere Sileshi Belda, Mekonnen Tegegne Haile, Abulie Takele Melku and Abdurehaman Kalu Tololu

BMC Health Services Research 2017 17:194

Published on: 14 March 2017

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 18 March 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 18 March 2017)

[No new content]

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 18 March 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 18 March 2017)

Research article

Healthcare workers' behaviors and personal determinants associated with providing adequate sexual and reproductive healthcare services in sub-Saharan Africa: a systematic review

Healthcare workers may affect the utilization of sexual and reproductive healthcare (SRH) services, and quality of care thereof, for example by their behaviours or attitudes they hold.

This can become a hindra...

Kim Jonas, Rik Crutzen, Bart van den Borne and Priscilla Reddy

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth 2017 17:86

Published on: 13 March 2017

Research article

Case review of perinatal deaths at hospitals in Kigali, Rwanda: perinatal audit with application of a three-delays analysis

Perinatal audit and the three-delays model are increasingly being employed to analyse barriers to perinatal health, at both community and facility level. Using these approaches, our aim was to assess factors t...

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

Aimable Musafili, Lars-Åke Persson, Cyprien Baribwira, Jessica Påfs, Patrick Adam Mulindwa and Birgitta Essén
BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth 2017 17:85
Published on: 11 March 2017

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 18 March 2017)

Research article

Perceptions of community-based field workers on the effect of a longitudinal biomedical research project on their sustainable livelihoods

Researchers involved in biomedical community-based projects rarely seek the perspectives of community fieldworkers, who are the 'foot soldiers' in such projects. Understanding the effect of biomedical research...

Christabelle S. Moyo, Joseph Francis and Pascal O. Bessong

BMC Public Health 2017 17:267

Published on: 17 March 2017

Research article

Monthly food insecurity assessment in rural mkushi district, Zambia: a longitudinal analysis

Perception-based scales are widely used for household food insecurity (HFI) assessment but were only recently added in national surveys. The frequency of assessments needed to characterize dynamics in HFI over...

Muzi Na, Bess L. Caswell, Sameera A. Talegawkar and Amanda Palmer

BMC Public Health 2017 17:260

Published on: 16 March 2017

Research article

HIV prevalence and uptake of HIV/AIDS services among youths (15–24 Years) in fishing and neighboring communities of Kasensero, Rakai District, South Western Uganda

Although fishing communities have a significantly higher HIV prevalence than the general population, there is paucity of data on the burden of HIV and service utilization, particularly among the youth. We asse...

Richardson Mafigiri, Joseph K. B. Matovu, Fredrick Edward Makumbi, Anthony Ndyababo, Doreen Nabukalu, Moses Sakor, Godfrey Kigozi, Fred Nalugoda and Rhoda K. Wanyenze

BMC Public Health 2017 17:251

Published on: 14 March 2017

Research article

Women's intention to screen and willingness to vaccinate their daughters against cervical cancer – a cross sectional study in eastern Uganda

The World Health Organization recommends cervical cancer screening and vaccination programmes as measures to combat cervical cancer. The uptake of these measures remains low in Uganda, most especially in rural...

Rawlance Ndejjo, Trasias Mukama, Geoffrey Musinguzi, Abdullah Ali Halage, John C. Ssempebwa and David Musoke

BMC Public Health 2017 17:255

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

Published on: 14 March 2017

Research article

School-based vaccination programmes: a systematic review of the evidence on organisation and delivery in high income countries

Many countries have recently expanded their childhood immunisation programmes. Schools are an increasingly attractive setting for delivery of these new immunisations because of their ability to reach large num...

Sarah Perman, Simon Turner, Angus I. G. Ramsay, Abigail Baim-Lance, Martin Utley and Naomi J. Fulop

BMC Public Health 2017 17:252

Published on: 14 March 2017

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 18 March 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Open

March 2017 - Volume 7 - 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 95, Number 3, March 2017, 165-240

<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/95/3/en/>

[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>

[Reviewed earlier]

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)

[Reviewed earlier]

Complexity

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

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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Conflict and Health

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

[Accessed 18 March 2017]

[No new content]

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases

April 2017 - Volume 30 - Issue 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Developing World Bioethics

April 2017 Volume 17, Issue 1 Pages 1–60

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dewb.2017.17.issue-1/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Development in Practice

Volume 24, Number 8

<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 12, 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>

[Reviewed earlier]

Disasters

April 2017 Volume 41, Issue 2 Pages 209–426

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/disa.2017.41.issue-2/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

EMBO Reports

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

Volume 18, Issue 3, 2017
<http://embor.embopress.org/front.current-issue>
[Reviewed earlier]

Emergency Medicine Journal

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

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Volume 23, Number 3—March 2017
<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/>
[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemics

Volume 18, Pages 1-112 (March 2017)
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/17554365>
Multi-model comparisons for neglected tropical diseases - validation and projection
Edited by Déirdre Hollingsworth and Graham Medley
[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 4 - March 2017
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/epidemiology-and-infection/latest-issue>
[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & International Affairs

Winter 2016 (Issue 30.4)
<https://www.ethicsandinternationalaffairs.org/2016/winter-2016-issue-30-4/>
[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

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

Volume 68, In Progress (April 2017)
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03069192/66>
[Reviewed earlier]

Food Security

February 2017, Issue 1, Pages 1-192
<http://link.springer.com/journal/12571/9/1/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 5
<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rgph20/current>
Article

[**The socioeconomic impact of international aid: a qualitative study of healthcare recovery in post-earthquake Haiti and implications for future disaster relief**](#)

Pages: 531-544

Published online: 13 Nov 2015

[Maxwell Kligerman](#), [David Walmer](#) & [Sylvia Bereknyei Merrell](#)

Article

[**The position of Ghana on the progressive map of positive mental health: A critical perspective**](#)

Pages: 579-588

Published online: 21 Mar 2016

[Angelina Wilson](#) & [Nceba Z. Somhlaba](#)

Article

[**How does a national poverty programme influence sexual debut among Kenyan adolescents?**](#)

Pages: 617-638

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

Published online: 07 Feb 2016

Sudhanshu Handa, Tia Palermo, Molly Rosenberg, Audrey Pettifor, Carolyn Tucker Halpern & Harsha Thirumurthy

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 18 March 2017]

Commentary

Migration to middle-income countries and tuberculosis—global policies for global economies

International migration to middle-income countries is increasing and its health consequences, in particular increasing transmission rates of tuberculosis (TB), deserve consideration. Migration and TB are a mat...

Julia Moreira Pescarini, Laura Cunha Rodrigues, M. Gabriela M. Gomes and Eliseu Alves Waldman

Globalization and Health 2017 13:15

Published on: 15 March 2017

Research

Developing consensus measures for global programs: lessons from the Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases Hypertension research program

The imperative to improve global health has prompted transnational research partnerships to investigate common health issues on a larger scale. The Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD) is an alliance of...

Michaela A. Riddell, Nancy Edwards, Simon R. Thompson, Antonio Bernabe-Ortiz, Devarsetty Praveen, Claire Johnson, Andre P. Kengne, Peter Liu, Tara McCready, Eleanor Ng, Robby Nieuwlaat, Bruce Ovbiagele, Mayowa Owolabi, David Peiris, Amanda G. Thrift, Sheldon Tobe...

Globalization and Health 2017 13:17

Published on: 15 March 2017

Health Affairs

February 2017; Volume 36, Issue 2

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

Issue Focus: Delivery System Innovation

[Reviewed earlier]

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]

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

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 31 Issue 18 March 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems

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

[Accessed 18 March 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/the-crisis-in-south-sudan/>

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 18 March 2017]

[No new content]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

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

[Accessed 18 March 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

International Health

Volume 9, Issue 1 1 January 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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

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 3 (2017) March 2017

<http://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/21>

[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

March 2017 Volume 56, p1-286

[http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712\(17\)X0003-9](http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712(17)X0003-9)

Special Issue: Commemorating World Tuberculosis Day 2017

[40+ articles covering a range of TB thematic areas]

World TB Day 2017: Advances, Challenges and Opportunities in the "End-TB" Era

Eskild Petersen, Markus Maeurer, Ben Marais, Giovanni Battista Migliori, Peter Mwaba, Francine Ntoumi, Cris Vilaplana, Kami Kim, Marco Schito, Alimuddin Zumla
p1-5

Published online: February 20, 2017

International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology

Volume 24, 2017 - Issue 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Migration Review

Spring 2017 Volume 51, Issue 1 Pages 1-287, e1-e16

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/imre.2017.51.issue-1/issuetoc>

HEALTH-RELATED ISSUES OF IMMIGRANTS IN THE UNITED STATES

Does Life in the United States Take a Toll on Health? Duration of Residence and Birthweight among Six Decades of Immigrants (pages 37-66)

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

Julien Teitler, Melissa Martinson and Nancy E. Reichman
Version of Record online: 18 AUG 2015 | DOI: 10.1111/imre.12207

IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION: ORIGIN AND DESTINATION SOCIETY PERSPECTIVES

Has Migration Been Beneficial for Migrants and Their Children? : Comparing Social Mobility of Turks in Western Europe, Turks in Turkey, and Western European Natives (pages 97–126)

Carolina V. Zuccotti, Harry B. G. Ganzeboom and Ayse Guveli
Version of Record online: 3 NOV 2015 | DOI: 10.1111/imre.12219

Does Size Really Matter? On the Relationship between Immigrant Group Size and Anti-Immigrant Prejudice (pages 218–250)

Yolande Pottie-Sherman and Rima Wilkes
Version of Record online: 23 JUL 2015 | DOI: 10.1111/imre.12191

Close Encounters: Minority and Majority Perceptions of Discrimination and Intergroup Relations in Antwerp, Belgium (pages 191–217)

Ahu Alanya, Marc Swyngedouw, Veronique Vandezande and Karen Phalet
Version of Record online: 23 JUL 2015 | DOI: 10.1111/imre.12203

Intervention – Journal of Mental Health and Psychological Support in Conflict Affected Areas
March 2017 - Volume 15 - Issue 1

<http://journals.lww.com/interventionjnl/pages/currenttoc.aspx>
[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

March 14, 2017, Vol 317, No. 10, Pages 987-1090
<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/issue.aspx>

Viewpoint

Acknowledging and Overcoming Nonreproducibility in Basic and Preclinical Research

John P. A. Ioannidis, MD, DSc

JAMA. 2017;317(10):1019-1020. doi:10.1001/jama.2017.0549

In this Viewpoint, Ioannidis discusses the problem of nonreproducibility in biomedical research and proposes implementing reproducibility assessments to improve research practices.

Abstract

The evidence for nonreproducibility in basic and preclinical biomedical research is compelling. Accumulating data from diverse subdisciplines and types of experimentation suggest numerous problems that can create a fertile ground for nonreproducibility.¹ For example, most raw data and protocols are often not available for in-depth scrutiny and use by other scientists. The current incentive system rewards selective reporting of success stories. There is poor use of statistical methods, and study designs are often suboptimal. Simple laboratory flaws—eg, contamination or incorrect identification of widely used cell lines—occur with some frequency.

Research Letter

Immune Responses to Novel Adenovirus Type 26 and Modified Vaccinia Virus Ankara–Vectored Ebola Vaccines at 1 Year

Rebecca L. Winslow, MRCGP; Iain D. Milligan, MRCP; Merryn Voysey, MBIostat; et al.

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

JAMA. 2017;317(10):1075-1077. doi:10.1001/jama.2016.20644

This study reports 1-year data from a randomized clinical trial testing the safety and immunogenicity of a novel adenovirus type 26 and modified vaccinia virus Ankara-vectored Ebola vaccines.

Abstract

The Ebola virus vaccine strategies evaluated by the World Health Organization in response to the 2014-2016 outbreak in West Africa included a heterologous primary and booster vaccination schedule of the adenovirus type 26 vector vaccine encoding Ebola virus glycoprotein (Ad26.ZEBOV) and the modified vaccinia virus Ankara vector vaccine, encoding glycoproteins from Ebola, Sudan, Marburg, and Tai Forest viruses nucleoprotein (MVA-BN-Filo). This schedule has been shown to induce immune responses that persist for 8 months after primary immunization, with 100% of vaccine recipients retaining Ebola virus glycoprotein-specific antibodies.¹

JAMA Pediatrics

March 1, 2017, Vol 171, No. 3, Pages 207-312

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

[Reviewed earlier]

JBIR Database of Systematic Review and Implementation Reports

March 2017 - Volume 15 - Issue 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Community Health

Volume 42, Issue 2, April 2017

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10900/42/2/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]

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

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

April 2017 - Volume 71 - 4

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

Mental health

Long-term effects of youth unemployment on mental health: does an economic crisis make a difference?

Youth unemployment is related to mental health problems, independent of the overall national rate of unemployment, which is important as the youth unemployment rates are currently at stable high level.

Emelie Thern, Jeroen de Munter, Tomas Hemmingsson, Finn Rasmussen

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>

[Reviewed earlier]

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

Volume 28, Number 1, February 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Human Trafficking

Volume 3, Issue 1, 2017

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

Resolving Data Wars: New Thoughts About Establishing Trafficking Prevalence Introduction to the Special Issue

[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 2, April 2017

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10903/19/2/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

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

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 3 1 February 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of International Development

March 2017 Volume 29, Issue 2 Pages 157–283

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jid.v29.2/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics

March 2017 - Volume 43 - 3

<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.auorahealthcare.org/jpcrr/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (JPIDS)

Volume 5 Issue 18 March 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pediatrics

March 2017 Volume 182, p1-412

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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Journal of Public Health Policy

Volume 38, Issue 1, February 2017

<http://link.springer.com/journal/41271/38/1/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Royal Society – Interface

01 March 2017; volume 14, issue 128

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

[No new digest content identified]

Journal of Travel Medicine

Volume 24, Issue 2, March/April 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

The Lancet

Mar 18, 2017 Volume 389 Number 10074 p1075-1164

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

Editorial

Syria suffers as the world watches

The Lancet

March 15, 2017, marks the sixth anniversary of the civil war in Syria, a conflict perhaps unprecedented in its apparently shameless disregard for international law. The world has stood by in horror, watching the death toll rise and the humanitarian and refugee crises spread their indelible stain on the world map and human history. The Syrian conflict has been marked on the one hand by immense suffering and on the other by a stunning lack of adequate condemnation or action from governments, international agencies, or the medical community.

[See Week in Review above for full text]

Review

The Lancet Countdown: tracking progress on health and climate change

Nick Watts, W Neil Adger, Sonja Ayeb-Karlsson, Yuqi Bai, Peter Byass, Diarmid Campbell-Lendrum, Tim Colbourn, Peter Cox, Michael Davies, Michael Depledge, Anneliese Depoux, Paula Dominguez-Salas, Paul Drummond, Paul Ekins, Antoine Flahault, Delia Grace, Hilary Graham, Andy Haines, Ian Hamilton, Anne Johnson, Ilan Kelman, Sari Kovats, Lu Liang, Melissa Lott, Robert Lowe, Yong Luo, Georgina Mace, Mark Maslin, Karyn Morrissey, Kris Murray, Tara Neville, Maria Nilsson, Tadj Oreszczyn, Christine Parthemore, David Pencheon, Elizabeth Robinson, Stefanie Schütte, Joy Shumake-Guillemot, Paolo Vineis, Paul Wilkinson, Nicola Wheeler, Bing Xu, Jun Yang, Yongyuan Yin, Chaoqing Yu, Peng Gong, Hugh Montgomery, Anthony Costello

Summary

The Lancet Countdown: tracking progress on health and climate change is an international, multidisciplinary research collaboration between academic institutions and practitioners across the world. It follows on from the work of the 2015 Lancet Commission, which concluded that the response to climate change could be “the greatest global health opportunity of the 21st century”. The Lancet Countdown aims to track the health impacts of climate hazards; health resilience and adaptation; health co-benefits of climate change mitigation; economics and

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finance; and political and broader engagement. These focus areas form the five thematic working groups of the Lancet Countdown and represent different aspects of the complex association between health and climate change. These thematic groups will provide indicators for a global overview of health and climate change; national case studies highlighting countries leading the way or going against the trend; and engagement with a range of stakeholders. The Lancet Countdown ultimately aims to report annually on a series of indicators across these five working groups. This paper outlines the potential indicators and indicator domains to be tracked by the collaboration, with suggestions on the methodologies and datasets available to achieve this end. The proposed indicator domains require further refinement, and mark the beginning of an ongoing consultation process—from November, 2016 to early 2017—to develop these domains, identify key areas not currently covered, and change indicators where necessary. This collaboration will actively seek to engage with existing monitoring processes, such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals and WHO's climate and health country profiles. The indicators will also evolve over time through ongoing collaboration with experts and a range of stakeholders, and be dependent on the emergence of new evidence and knowledge. During the course of its work, the Lancet Countdown will adopt a collaborative and iterative process, which aims to complement existing initiatives, welcome engagement with new partners, and be open to developing new research projects on health and climate change.

Lancet Global Health

Mar 2017 Volume 5 Number 3 e229-e369

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Infectious Diseases

Mar 2017 Volume 17 Number 3 p237-348 e70-e106

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Public Health

Mar 2017 Volume 2 Number 3 e121-e156

<http://thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/issue/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 21, Issue 3, March 2017

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10995/21/3/page/1>

From the Field

Status of Breastfeeding and Child Immunization Outcomes in Clients of the Nurse–Family Partnership

William Thorland, Dustin Currie, Emily R. Wiegand...

Abstract

Background The Nurse–Family Partnership (NFP) is a home visiting program serving first-time, low-income mothers, with an area of focus on healthy early childhood development. Previous foundational trials of program effect on breastfeeding and immunizations have shown a mix of neutral and positive results. The present evaluation investigates these effects following program

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scale-up, using a large contemporary cohort of clients. Methods Nurse–Family Partnership client breastfeeding and immunization status were compared to National Survey of Children’s Health data and National Immunization Survey data, respectively. Sample differences in demographic covariates were adjusted using logistic regression. Results Nurse–Family Partnership clients were significantly more likely to have ever breastfed (adjusted prevalence ratio [aPR: 1.20 (1.17, 1.23)] and maintain breastfeeding at 6 [aPR: 1.17 (1.10, 1.24)] and 12 [aPR: 1.39 (1.25, 1.53)] months, but less likely to exclusively breastfeed at 6 months [aPR: 0.84 (0.70, 0.95)] NFP clients were significantly more likely to be up-to-date on immunizations at 6 [aPR: 1.23 (1.22, 1.25)], 18 [aPR: 1.33 (1.30,1.35)], and 24 [aPR: 1.15 (1.14, 1.16)] months of age than the reference cohort, with no significant difference at 12 months. Discussion Nurse–Family Partnership clients had more beneficial breastfeeding and immunization outcomes than children of mothers with demographically similar profiles. However, exclusive breastfeeding at 6 months lags behind the reference sample and represents a potential area for further improvement.

Original Paper

Unintended Childbearing and Child Growth in Northern Malawi

Angela Baschieri, Kazuyo Machiyama, Sian Floyd...

Abstract

Objective The study aims to assess whether unintended children experience slower growth than intended children. **Methods** We analysed longitudinal data linked to the Karonga Health and Demographic Surveillance Site collected over three rounds between 2008 and 2011 on women’s fertility intentions and anthropometric data of children. Using the prospective information on fertility intention we assessed whether unintended children are more likely to be stunted than intended children. We applied Propensity Score Matching technique to control for endogenous factors affecting both the probability that a family has an unwanted birth and a child with poor health outcomes. **Results** We found that 24 % of children from unwanted pregnancies were stunted compared with 18 % of mistimed pregnancies and 17 % of those from wanted pregnancies. However, these differences in probability of children being stunted, though in the expected direction, were not significant either for large or small families, after controlling for age. The number of children in the household was associated with stunting and boys were substantially more likely to be stunted than girls. **Conclusion** We found no significance difference in probability of being stunted by mother’s fertility intention.

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

Volume 37, Issue 2, February 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

The Milbank Quarterly

A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy

March 2017 Volume 95, Issue 1 Pages 1–209

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/milq.2017.95.issue-1/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature

Volume 543 Number 7645 pp288-458 16 March 2017

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

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

Editorial

Announcement: Transparency upgrade for Nature journals

The Nature journals continue journey towards greater rigour.

15 March 2017

In 2013, this journal and many of the Nature research journals announced initiatives aimed at “reducing our irreproducibility” (Nature 496, 398; 2013). These included a life-sciences checklist for authors and editors intended to improve the transparency of the statistical and methodological aspects of laboratory work, together with abolition of length limits in online methods descriptions and greater attention to statistical evaluation.

At the same time, we encouraged the publishing of step-by-step protocols that are linked to the published papers and made available through the open repository Protocol Exchange. And, complementing our policy of mandated deposition for certain data types, we strongly encouraged or (in some cases) mandated the provision of source data underlying graphical items...

Perspectives

Mineral supply for sustainable development requires resource governance

Saleem H. Ali, Damien Giurco, Nicholas Arndt, Edmund Nickless, Graham Brown + et al.

A review of mineral exploration data and demand forecasts suggests that new international governance links are needed to ensure efficient and responsible future sourcing of minerals for sustainable development.

Articles

Global warming and recurrent mass bleaching of corals

Terry P. Hughes, James T. Kerry, Mariana Álvarez-Noriega, Jorge G. Álvarez-Romero, Kristen D. Anderson + et al.

Aerial and underwater survey data combined with satellite-derived measurements of sea surface temperature over the past two decades show that multiple mass-bleaching events have expanded to encompass virtually all of the Great Barrier Reef.

Nature Medicine

March 2017, Volume 23 No 3 pp265-395

<http://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v23/n3/index.html>

[Reviewed earlier]

New England Journal of Medicine

March 16, 2017 Vol. 376 No. 11

<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

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OxMo Vol. 6, No. 2
<http://oxmofm.com/current-issue/>
[Reviewed earlier]

Pediatrics

March 2017, VOLUME 139 / ISSUE 3
<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/139/3?current-issue=y>
[Reviewed earlier]

PharmacoEconomics

Volume 35, Issue 3, March 2017
<http://link.springer.com/journal/40273/35/3/page/1>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

PLOS Currents: Disasters

<http://currents.plos.org/disasters/>
[Accessed 18 March 2017]
[No new content]

PLoS Currents: Outbreaks

<http://currents.plos.org/outbreaks/>
[Accessed 18 March 2017]
[No new content]

PLoS Medicine

<http://www.plosmedicine.org/>
(Accessed 18 March 2017)
[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<http://www.plosntds.org/>
(Accessed 18 March 2017)

Research Article

[Barriers to dog rabies vaccination during an urban rabies outbreak: Qualitative findings from Arequipa, Peru](#)

Ricardo Castillo-Neyra, Joanna Brown, Katty Borrini, Claudia Arevalo, Michael Z. Levy, Alison Buitenhuis, Gabrielle C. Hunter, Victor Becerra, Jere Behrman, Valerie A. Paz-Soldan

Research Article | published 17 Mar 2017 PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0005460>

Abstract

Background

Canine rabies was reintroduced to the city of Arequipa, Peru in March 2015. The Ministry of Health has conducted a series of mass dog vaccination campaigns to contain the outbreak, but canine rabies virus transmission continues in Arequipa's complex urban environment, putting

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the city's 1 million inhabitants at risk of infection. The proximate driver of canine rabies in Arequipa is low dog vaccination coverage. Our objectives were to qualitatively assess barriers to and facilitators of rabies vaccination during mass campaigns, and to explore strategies to increase participation in future efforts.

Methodology/Principal findings

We conducted 8 focus groups (FG) in urban and peri-urban communities of Mariano Melgar district; each FG included both sexes, and campaign participants and non-participants. All FG were transcribed and then coded independently by two coders. Results were summarized using the Social Ecological Model. At the individual level, participants described not knowing enough about rabies and vaccination campaigns, mistrusting the campaign, and being unable to handle their dogs, particularly in peri-urban vs. urban areas. At the interpersonal level, we detected some social pressure to vaccinate dogs, as well as some disparaging of those who invest time and money in pet dogs. At the organizational level, participants found the campaign information to be insufficient and ill-timed, and campaign locations and personnel inadequate. At the community level, the influence of landscape and topography on accessibility to vaccination points was reported differently between participants from the urban and peri-urban areas. Poor security and impermanent housing materials in the peri-urban areas also drives higher prevalence of guard dog ownership for home protection; these dogs usually roam freely on the streets and are more difficult to handle and bring to the vaccination points.

Conclusions

A well-designed communication campaign could improve knowledge about canine rabies. Timely messages on where and when vaccination is occurring could increase dog owners' perception of their own ability to bring their dogs to the vaccination points and be part of the campaign. Small changes in the implementation of the campaign at the vaccination points could increase the public's trust and motivation. Location of vaccination points should take into account landscape and community concerns.

Author summary

Canine rabies was reintroduced in Arequipa, Peru in March 2015, a rare event in an area previously declared free of transmission. In Arequipa, annual mass dog vaccination is practiced as a preventive strategy, with additional campaigns being implemented since the recent detection of the virus. However, these additional efforts have not quelled the outbreak and low dog vaccination coverage is driving ongoing transmission. We conducted focus groups in urban and peri-urban areas of Arequipa to identify barriers to and facilitators of canine vaccination during mass campaigns. Based on our findings, communication campaigns should seek to increase knowledge about canine rabies and the vaccination campaign, and provide timely messages on where and when vaccination is occurring. Small changes at the campaign's vaccination points could increase public's trust. Finally, there are differences between urban and peri-urban areas, such as landscape and topography that affect participation in mass vaccination campaigns and that should be considered when selecting locations for vaccination.

PLoS One

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

[Accessed 18 March 2017]

Research Article

"You can save time if..."—A qualitative study on internal factors slowing down clinical trials in Sub-Saharan Africa

Nerina Vischer, Constanze Pfeiffer, Manuela Limacher, Christian Burri

Research Article | published 16 Mar 2017 PLOS ONE

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0173796>

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Abstract

Background

The costs, complexity, legal requirements and number of amendments associated with clinical trials are rising constantly, which negatively affects the efficient conduct of trials. In Sub-Saharan Africa, this situation is exacerbated by capacity and funding limitations, which further increase the workload of clinical trialists. At the same time, trials are critically important for improving public health in these settings. The aim of this study was to identify the internal factors that slow down clinical trials in Sub-Saharan Africa. Here, factors are limited to those that exclusively relate to clinical trial teams and sponsors. These factors may be influenced independently of external conditions and may significantly increase trial efficiency if addressed by the respective teams.

Methods

We conducted sixty key informant interviews with clinical trial staff working in different positions in two clinical research centres in Kenya, Ghana, Burkina Faso and Senegal. The study covered English- and French-speaking, and Eastern and Western parts of Sub-Saharan Africa. We performed thematic analysis of the interview transcripts.

Results

We found various internal factors associated with slowing down clinical trials; these were summarised into two broad themes, "planning" and "site organisation". These themes were consistently mentioned across positions and countries. "Planning" factors related to budget feasibility, clear project ideas, realistic deadlines, understanding of trial processes, adaptation to the local context and involvement of site staff in planning. "Site organisation" factors covered staff turnover, employment conditions, career paths, workload, delegation and management.

Conclusions

We found that internal factors slowing down clinical trials are of high importance to trial staff. Our data suggest that adequate and coherent planning, careful assessment of the setting, clear task allocation and management capacity strengthening may help to overcome the identified internal factors and allow clinical trials to proceed more efficiently <http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0165270>

Research Article

Migrant women's experiences, meanings and ways of dealing with postnatal depression: A meta-ethnographic study

Virginia Schmied, Emma Black, Norell Naidoo, Hannah G. Dahlen, Pranee Liamputtong
| published 15 Mar 2017 PLOS ONE

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0172385>

PLoS Pathogens

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

[Accessed 18 March 2017]

[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 18 March 2017]

Biological Sciences - Agricultural Sciences:

Intensified agriculture favors evolved resistance to biological control

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Federico Tomasetto, Jason M. Tylianakis, Marco Reale, Steve Wratten, and Stephen L. Goldson
PNAS 2017 ; published ahead of print March 13, 2017, doi:10.1073/pnas.1618416114

Significance

The need for agricultural production to meet the food demands of a growing human population will require sustainable and acceptable pest management, such as biological control, across 11% (1.5 billion ha) of the globe's land surface. However, the long-term viability of this ecosystem service can be threatened by the expansion and simplification of agricultural systems, which may facilitate the evolution of resistance by pests to their control agents. This study uses a national dataset to present evidence for the acquisition of resistance by a ryegrass weevil pest to its parasitoid wasp over the last 21 y. This resistance was not associated with differences in environmental conditions but rather is specific to the most commonly grown pasture grass species.

Abstract

Increased regulation of chemical pesticides and rapid evolution of pesticide resistance have increased calls for sustainable pest management. Biological control offers sustainable pest suppression, partly because evolution of resistance to predators and parasitoids is prevented by several factors (e.g., spatial or temporal refuges from attacks, reciprocal evolution by control agents, and contrasting selection pressures from other enemy species). However, evolution of resistance may become more probable as agricultural intensification reduces the availability of refuges and diversity of enemy species, or if control agents have genetic barriers to evolution. Here we use 21 y of field data from 196 sites across New Zealand to show that parasitism of a key pasture pest (*Listronotus bonariensis*; Argentine stem weevil) by an introduced parasitoid (*Microctonus hyperodae*) was initially nationally successful but then declined by 44% (leading to pasture damage of c. 160 million New Zealand dollars per annum). This decline was not attributable to parasitoid numbers released, elevation, or local climatic variables at sample locations. Rather, in all locations the decline began 7 y (14 host generations) following parasitoid introduction, despite releases being staggered across locations in different years. Finally, we demonstrate experimentally that declining parasitism rates occurred in ryegrass *Lolium perenne*, which is grown nationwide in high-intensity was significantly less than in adjacent plots of a less-common pasture grass (*Lolium multiflorum*), indicating that resistance to parasitism is host plant-dependent. We conclude that low plant and enemy biodiversity in intensive large-scale agriculture may facilitate the evolution of host resistance by pests and threaten the long-term viability of biological control.

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 96, Pages 1-164 (March 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00917435/96>

[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>

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[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 2, March/April 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

Volume 27, Issue 4, March 2017

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

Special Issue: Chronicity [Reviewed earlier]

Refugee Survey Quarterly

Volume 35 Issue 18 March 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Reproductive Health

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

[Accessed 18 March 2017]

Research

[Injured bodies, damaged lives: experiences and narratives of Kenyan women with obstetric fistula and Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting](#)

Lillian Mwanri and Glory Joy Gatwiri

Reproductive Health 2017 14:38

Published on: 14 March 2017

Abstract

Background

It is well acknowledged that Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C/C) leads to medical, psychological and sociocultural sequels. Over 200 million cases of FGM/C exist globally, and in Kenya alone, a total of 12,418,000 (28%) of women have undergone FGM/C, making the practice not only a significant national, but also a global health catastrophe. FGM/C is rooted in patriarchal and traditional cultures as a communal experience signifying a transition from girlhood to womanhood. The conversations surrounding FGM/C have been complicated by the involvement of women themselves in perpetuating the practice.

Methods

A qualitative inquiry employing face-to-face, one-on-one, in-depth semi-structured interviews was used in a study that included 30 women living with obstetric fistulas in Kenya. Using the Social Network Framework and a feminist analysis we present stories of Kenyan women who had developed obstetric fistulas following prolonged and obstructed childbirth.

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Results

Of the 30 participants, three women reported that health care workers informed them that FGM/C was one of the contributing factors to their prolonged and obstructed childbirth. They reported serious obstetric complications including: the development of obstetric fistulas, lowered libido, poor quality of life and maternal and child health outcomes, including death. Fistula and subsequent loss of bodily functionalities such as uncontrollable leakage of body wastes, was reported by the women to result in rejection by spouses, families, friends and communities. Rejection further led to depression, loss of work, increased sense of apathy, lowered self-esteem and image, as well as loss of identity and communal sociocultural cohesion.

Conclusion

FGM/C is practised in traditional, patriarchal communities across Africa. Although the practice aims to bind community members and to celebrate a rite of passage; it may lead to harmful health and social consequences. Some women with fistula report their fistula was caused by FGM/C. Concerted efforts which embrace feminist understandings of society, as well as multi-sectoral, multidisciplinary and community development approaches need to be employed to address FGM/C, and to possibly reduce cases of obstetric fistulas in Kenya and beyond. Both government and non-government organisations need to be involved in making legislative, gender sensitive policies that protect women from FGM/C. In addition, the policy makers need to be in the front line to improve the lives of women who endured the consequences of FGM/C.

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

Letter to the editor

Un llamado ético a la inclusión de mujeres embarazadas en investigación: Reflexiones del Foro Global de Bioética en Investigación [[An ethics call to include pregnant women in research: Reflections from the Global Forum on Bioethics in Research](#)]

Carla Saenz, Jackeline Alger, Juan Pablo Beca, José M. Belizán, Maria Luisa Cafferata, Julio Arturo Canario Guzmán, Jesica E. Candanedo P., Lissette Duque, Lester Figueroa, Ana Garcés, Lionel Gresh, Ida Cristina Gubert, Dirce Guilhem, Gabriela Guz, Gustavo Kaltwasser, A. Roxana Lescano, Florencia Luna, Alexandrina A. M. Cardelli, Ignacio Mastroleo, Irene N. Melamed, Agueda Muñoz del Carpio Toia, Ricardo Palacios, Gloria I. Palma, Sofía P. Salas, Xochitl Sandoval, Sergio Surugi de Siqueira, Hans Vásquez, y Bertha Ma. Villela de Vega
[PDF español](#) [PDF English](#) Published 8 February

The Global Forum on Bioethics in Research (GFBR) met on November 3 and 4 in Buenos Aires, Argentina with the purpose of discussing the ethics of research with pregnant women. The GBRF is a global platform that brings together key actors with the purpose of promoting research conducted in an ethical way, strengthening health research ethics—particularly in low- and medium-income countries—and promoting collaboration between the countries in the north and the south. Some of the participants of the GFBR attending from Latin America include ethicists, researchers, ethics committee members and representatives of health authorities from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Peru, Nicaragua and Dominican Republic.

A legitimate concern about the protection of pregnant women and their embryos or fetuses has led most of the countries in the region to restrict studies with pregnant women exclusively to

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those that are about pregnancy, and to require the systematic exclusion of pregnant women and women who get pregnant from the rest of studies. Certainly, throughout the history of research ethics it has been mistakenly believed that protecting a population is synonymous with excluding that population from studies. It is now known that proceeding in this way implies exposing the very population we want to protect to larger risks.

Pregnancy implies substantial physiological changes that significantly influence the way the body metabolizes medications. However, by avoiding conducting research with pregnant women, the necessary scientific evidence to inform decisions on preventive treatments and interventions with effective and safe dosage for them and their embryos or fetuses has not been produced. As an illustration, in 2001 there were barely a dozen medications approved for use during pregnancy in the United States¹, and in 2011 the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved, for the first time in 15 years, a medication to be used during pregnancy.² As a result, pregnant women's health is jeopardized every time we provide them health care.

Pregnant women get sick and sick women get pregnant, and it is not known if the medications they are prescribed are efficacious or even safe for them and their embryos or fetuses. Investigators, health professionals, health authorities, members of ethics review committees, ethicists and the scientific community in general have the moral duty to change this situation.

We have the duty to actively promote research with pregnant women, which is not only allowed by international ethical guidelines, but is also a moral imperative. Refusing to conduct research with pregnant women is perpetuating the risk pregnant women are exposed to daily. It is estimated that 94% of pregnant women in the United States use at least one medication that requires a prescription, and close to 50% use four or more medications during pregnancy.³ The responsible inclusion of pregnant women in research is a matter of equity and social justice.⁴

The authors, therefore, call attention to the importance of research with pregnant women, and call for action to promote this kind of research in the region. We must aim to change the paradigm of researchers, members of ethics review committees, sponsors and health authorities, who systematically exclude pregnant women from research. At the same time, we must strengthen our capacity to conduct a rigorous ethical analysis to determine on a case-by-case basis when is it acceptable to include pregnant women in research studies in a responsible way.

This reflection is appropriate in a context in which many Latin American countries are reviewing their regulatory frameworks for research with human subjects, since the inclusion of pregnant women in research will require a modification of many of the existing frameworks. The Zika virus outbreak has brought to the forefront the moral urgency to promote research with pregnant women.⁵ The publication in December 2016 of the revision of International Ethical Guidelines for Health-related Research Involving Humans from the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (CIOMS), which provides substantial orientation to include pregnant women in research in an ethical way, establishes this moment as a propitious time for a call to reflection and change in our region....

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]

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Risk Management and Healthcare Policy

Volume 10, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Science

17 March 2017 Vol 355, Issue 6330

<http://www.sciencemag.org/current.dtl>

Policy Forum

How economics can shape precision medicines

By A. D. Stern, B. M. Alexander, A. Chandra

Science 17 Mar 2017 : 1131-1133 Restricted Access

Innovation incentives, pricing, and access are critical

Summary

Many public and private efforts in coming years will focus on research in precision medicine, developing biomarkers to indicate which patients are likely to benefit from a certain treatment so that others can be spared the cost—financial and physical—of being treated with unproductive therapies and therapeutic signals can be more easily uncovered. However, such research initiatives alone will not deliver new medicines to patients in the absence of strong incentives to bring new products to market. We examine the unique economics of precision medicines and associated biomarkers, with an emphasis on the factors affecting their development, pricing, and access.

Feature

Unearthing democracy's roots

By Lizzie Wade

Science 17 Mar 2017 : 1114-1118 Restricted Access

In some ancient Mesoamerican societies, rulers shared power and ordinary people had a voice.

Summary

For decades, archaeologists thought democratic republics such as classical Athens and medieval Venice were a purely European phenomenon. Conventional wisdom held that in premodern, non-Western societies, despots simply extracted labor and wealth from their subjects. But archaeologists have identified several societies in pre-Columbian Mesoamerica that upend that model. They argue that societies such as Tlaxcallan in the central Mexican highlands and Tres Zapotes along the Mexican gulf coast were organized collectively, meaning that rulers shared power and commoners had a say in the government that presided over their lives. These societies were not necessarily full democracies in which citizens cast votes, but they were radically different from the autocratic, inherited rule found—or assumed—in most ancient societies. Archaeologists now say that these collective societies left telltale traces in their material culture and urban planning, such as repetitive architecture, an emphasis on public space over palaces, reliance on local production over exotic trade goods, and a narrowing of wealth gaps between elites and commoners.

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 175, Pages 1-252 (February 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02779536/175>

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[Reviewed earlier]

Stability: International Journal of Security & Development

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

[accessed 18 March 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 3 (March 2017)

<http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/9/3>

[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

January-February, 2017 Volume 15

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine & International Health

March 2017 Volume 22, Issue 3 Pages 253–369

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tmi.2017.22.issue-3/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

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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/82/>

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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