

## ***The Sentinel***

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

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***Period ending 25 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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linked from this page:  
<http://ge2p2-center.net/>***

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

***:: Week in Review***

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

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

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## **Heritage Stewardship**

### **Security Council Condemns Destruction, Smuggling of Cultural Heritage by Terrorist Groups, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2347 (2017)**

SC/12764

7907th Meeting (AM) 24 March 2017

The Security Council deplored today the unlawful destruction of cultural heritage, religious sites and artefacts, and the smuggling of cultural property by terrorist groups during armed conflict, affirming that such attacks might constitute a war crime and must be brought to justice.

Unanimously adopting resolution 2347 (2017), the 15-member Council recalled its condemnation of any engagement in trade involving Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL/Da'esh), Al-Nusrah Front, and all other individuals or groups associated with Al-Qaida. It reiterated that such engagement could constitute financial support for entities designated by the 1267/1989/2253 ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee.

The Council stressed that Member States had the primary responsibility to protect their cultural heritage, and that efforts must comply with the United Nations Charter and respect the principle of sovereignty. It encouraged Member States to take preventive steps through documentation and consolidation of their nationally owned cultural property in a network of "safe havens".

Furthermore, the Council welcomed actions by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to preserve cultural heritage in peril and to protect and promote cultural pluralism, encouraging Member States to support them. Taking note of the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund and the international fund to protect endangered cultural heritage in armed conflicts established in December, the Council also encouraged Member States to provide funds to support preventive and emergency operations.

Briefing members after the text's adoption, Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO, said the destruction of cultural heritage was a war crime and tactic of war, and that defending that heritage was a security imperative. From Palmyra to the Shrine of Mosul, cultural heritage sites were symbols of unity, bearing witness to the dialogue of cultures that had always existed, she said, adding: "Violent extremists know this, and that is why they seek to destroy it."

To attack the scourge, some 50 States, working with UNESCO, had strengthened their legislation and were sharing data to dismantle trafficking routes, she said. Furthermore, UNESCO, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the International Police Organization (INTERPOL), customs services, the private sector and museums were also coordinating action to protect cultural heritage. Council resolution 2199 (2015), which prohibited the trade in cultural property from Iraq and Syria and called upon Member States to cooperate in ending it, was yielding quick results...

*Full text of Resolution 2347 [2017] at <https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/sc12764.doc.htm>*

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### **UNESCO, France and the Emirates launch an International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage**

On 20 March 2017, Director-General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, participated in the Donors' Conference on the occasion of the launch of the International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas. The Conference was held at the Paris Louvre Museum in the Khorsabad courtyard, in the presence of the President of the French Republic, Mr. François Hollande, and the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of the Interior of the United Arab Emirates, HE Sheikh Saif Bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

The Director-General welcomed the profound commitment of France and President Hollande to defending heritage and placing culture at the heart of the International Political Agenda.

"You have been among those who have put the greatest emphasis on heritage and the strategic need to protect it in order to respond to modern conflicts," she recalled, highlighting the joint mission to Timbuktu in 2013 following the liberation of the city and which kicked off UNESCO mausoleum reconstruction campaign...

The creation of a new international fund, announced at the Abu Dhabi Conference in December 2016, reinforces existing tools - including UNESCO's emergency fund established in 2015 - and gives a new impetus to international cooperation for the protection of heritage.

### **The Fund, whose statutes are deposited in Geneva, aims to raise \$ 100 million by 2019.**

Seven countries, including France, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Luxembourg, Morocco and Switzerland pledged some \$75 million on Monday. Several other states have promised to make a contribution also, including in the form of expertise and political support, including notably Italy, Great Britain, Germany, China, the Republic of Korea and Mexico.

"Three-quarters of the target has already been reached," concluded Jack Lang, President of the Arab World Institute, and organizer of the conference, alongside Mohamed Al Mubarak, special representative of the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al-Nahyan.

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## **Development – Human Rights**

### **2016 Human Development Report – Human Development for Everyone**

United Nations Development Programme

2016 :: 286 pages

PDF: [http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/2016\\_human\\_development\\_report.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/2016_human_development_report.pdf)

#### *Overview*

In past decades, there has been significant gains in human development levels in almost every country; but millions of people have not benefited from this progress. Who has been left behind and why? The Human Development Report 2016 'Human Development for Everyone' looks into these two questions. It identifies recognizes that in every society certain groups are far more likely to suffer disadvantages than others and identifies deep-rooted, and often unmeasured, barriers to development.

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The report also looks to what societies should do to advance human development for everyone. It sets forward policy recommendations at the national level and also looks at ways in which the global development landscape could be made more effective in the fight to leave no one behind and achieve the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### *Key messages*

This Report conveys five basic messages:

- :: Universalism is key to human development, and human development for everyone is attainable.
- :: Various groups of people still suffer from basic deprivations and face substantial barriers to overcoming them.
- :: Human development for everyone calls for refocusing some analytical issues and assessment perspectives.
- :: Policy options exist and, if implemented, would contribute to achieving human development for everyone.
- :: A reformed global governance, with fairer multilateralism, would help attain human development for everyone.

### *Medial Release*

[World's most marginalized still left behind by global development priorities: UNDP report](#)

23 March 2017

*Millions of people are not benefiting from progress, with the gap set to widen unless deep-rooted development barriers, including discrimination and unequal political participation, are tackled.*

Stockholm, 21 March 2017 – A quarter-century of impressive human development progress continues to leave many people behind, with systemic, often unmeasured, barriers to catching up. A stronger focus on those excluded and on actions to dismantle these barriers is urgently needed to ensure sustainable human development for all.

These are the findings of the 'Human Development Report 2016, entitled Human Development for Everyone', released today by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The report finds that although average human development improved significantly across all regions from 1990 to 2015, one in three people worldwide continue to live in low levels of human development, as measured by the Human Development Index.

"Leaving no one behind needs to become the way we operate as a global community. In order to overcome the barriers that hamper both human development and progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, inclusiveness must guide policy choices," said Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven, speaking at the launch of the report in Stockholm today, alongside UNDP Administrator Helen Clark and the report's lead author and Director of the Human Development Report Office, Selim Jahan..

[Helen Clark: Speech at the launch of the 2016 Human Development Report](#)

22 March 2017

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### [Thirsting for a Future: Water and children in a changing climate](#)

UNICEF

March 2017 :: 76 pages

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ISBN: 978-92-806-4874-4

PDF: [https://www.unicef.org/publications/index\\_95074.html#](https://www.unicef.org/publications/index_95074.html#)

### *Abstract*

Climate change is one of many forces contributing to an unfolding water crisis. In the coming years, the demand for water will increase as food production grows, populations grow and move, industries develop and consumption increases. This can lead to water stress, as increasing demand and use of water strain available supplies. One of the most effective ways to protect children in the face of climate change is to safeguard their access to safe water and sanitation. This report shares a series of solutions, policy responses and case studies from UNICEF's work around the world.

### *Media Release*

#### [Nearly 600 million children will live in areas with extremely limited water resources by 2040 - UNICEF](#)

NEW YORK, 22 March 2017 – Some 600 million children – or 1 in 4 children worldwide – will be living in areas with extremely limited water resources by 2040, according to a UNICEF [report](#) released on World Water Day...

"Water is elemental; without it, nothing can grow. But around the world, millions of children lack access to safe water -- endangering their lives, undermining their health, and jeopardizing their futures. This crisis will only grow unless we take collective action now," said UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake.

According to the report, 36 countries are currently facing extremely high levels of water stress, which occurs when demand for water far exceeds the renewable supply available. Warmer temperatures, rising sea levels, increased floods, droughts and melting ice affect the quality and availability of water as well as sanitation systems.

Population growth, increased water consumption, and higher demand for water largely due to industrialization and urbanization are draining water resources worldwide. Conflicts in many parts of the world also threaten children's access to safe water.

All of these factors force children to use unsafe water, which exposes them to potentially deadly diseases like cholera and diarrhoea. Many children in drought-affected areas spend hours every day collecting water, missing out on a chance to go to school. Girls are especially vulnerable to attack during these times....

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## **Development**

### [World Bank Group Announces Record \\$57 Billion for Sub-Saharan Africa](#)

PRESS RELEASE March 19, 2017

*Funds will scale up investments and de-risk private sector participation for accelerated growth and development*

BADEN BADEN, Germany, March 19, 2017— Following a meeting with G20 finance ministers and central bank governors, World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim today announced a record \$57 billion in financing for Sub-Saharan African countries over the next three fiscal years...

The bulk of the financing – \$45 billion – will come from the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank Group's fund for the poorest countries. The financing for Sub-Saharan Africa also will include an estimated \$8 billion in private sector investments from

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the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a private sector arm of the Bank Group, and \$4 billion in financing from International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, its non-concessional public sector arm...

"This represents an unprecedented opportunity to change the development trajectory of the countries in the region," World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim said. "With this commitment, we will work with our clients to substantially expand programs in education, basic health services, clean water and sanitation, agriculture, business climate, infrastructure, and institutional reform."

The IDA financing for operations in Africa will be critical to addressing roadblocks that prevent the region from reaching its potential. To support countries' development priorities, scaled-up investments will focus on tackling conflict, fragility, and violence; building resilience to crises including forced displacement, climate change, and pandemics; and reducing gender inequality. Efforts will also promote governance and institution building, as well as jobs and economic transformation...

This World Bank Group financing will support transformational projects during the FY18-20 period. IBRD priorities will include health, education, and infrastructure projects such as expanding water distribution and access to power. The priorities for the private sector investment will include infrastructure, financial markets, and agribusiness. IFC also will deepen its engagement in fragile and conflict-affected states and increase climate-related investments. Expected IDA outcomes include essential health and nutrition services for up to 400 million people, access to improved water sources for up to 45 million, and 5 GW of additional generation capacity for renewable energy.

The scaled-up IDA financing will build on a portfolio of 448 ongoing projects in Africa totaling about \$50 billion. Of this, a \$1.6 billion financing package is being developed to tackle the impending threat of famine in parts of Sub-Saharan Africa and other regions.

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## Health

### **From coast to coast: Africa unites to tackle threat of polio**

***116 million children to be immunized from coast to coast across the continent, as regional emergency outbreak response intensifies***

GENEVA/BRAZZAVILLE/NEW YORK/DAKAR, 24 March 2017 - More than 190,000 polio vaccinators in 13 countries across west and central Africa will immunize more than 116 million children over the next week, to tackle the last remaining stronghold of polio on the continent.

The synchronized vaccination campaign, one of the largest of its kind ever implemented in Africa, is part of urgent measures to permanently stop polio on the continent. All children under five years of age in the 13 countries – Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Sierra Leone – will be simultaneously immunized in a coordinated effort to raise childhood immunity to polio across the continent. In August 2016, four children were paralysed by the disease in security-compromised areas in Borno state, north-eastern Nigeria, widely considered to be the only place on the continent where the virus maintains its grip.

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"Twenty years ago, Nelson Mandela launched the pan-African 'Kick Polio Out of Africa' campaign," said Dr Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa. "At that time, every single country on the continent was endemic to polio, and every year, more than 75,000 children were paralysed for life by this terrible disease. Thanks to the dedication of governments, communities, parents and health workers, this disease is now beaten back to this final reservoir."

Dr Moeti cautioned, however, that progress was fragile, given the epidemic-prone nature of the virus. Although confined to a comparatively small region of the continent, experts warned that the virus could easily spread to under-protected areas of neighbouring countries. That is why regional public health ministers from five Lake Chad Basin countries - Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria – declared the outbreak a regional public health emergency and have committed to multiple synchronized immunization campaigns...

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## Emergencies

### [WHO Grade 3 Emergencies](#) [to 25 March 2017]

#### **Iraq -**

WHO scales up disease surveillance reporting in East Mosul and Hamdaniya districts, Iraq

19 March 2017, Erbil, Iraq – The World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) are scaling up disease surveillance activities in newly accessible areas of Ninewa governorate, Iraq, to reduce the risk of disease outbreaks. As a result of acute shortages of safe water, sanitation services, food, and electricity in East Mosul and Hamdaniya districts, current humanitarian conditions pose a high risk of communicable diseases among displaced persons, returnees, and host communities.

Nigeria - No new announcements identified

South Sudan - No new announcements identified

The Syrian Arab Republic - No new announcements identified

Yemen - No new announcements identified

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### [WHO Grade 2 Emergencies](#) [to 25 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.

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](#)

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*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**

:: UN Expresses Profound Concern about Terrible Loss of Life in Western Mosul

Published on 24 Mar 2017

The United Nations is profoundly concerned by reports yesterday of a high number of civilian casualties in Al Aghawat Al Jadidah, a densely populated neighborhood in Mosul. Initial reports indicate hundreds of casualties.

"We are stunned by this terrible loss of life and wish to express our deepest condolences to the many families who have reportedly been impacted by this tragedy," said Ms. Lise Grande, the Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq.

"Nothing in this conflict is more important than protecting civilians," said Ms. Grande.

"International humanitarian law is clear. Parties to the conflict — all parties — are obliged to do everything possible to protect civilians. This means that combatants cannot use people as human shields and cannot imperil lives through indiscriminate use of fire-power."

As the fighting to retake Mosul intensifies, civilians are being put at extreme risk. "We fear for the families who are caught in the conflict," said Ms. Grande. "Everything must be done to avoid civilian casualties."

:: Iraq: Humanitarian Bulletin, February 2017 | Issued on 23 March

:: Iraq: Mosul Humanitarian Response Situation Report No. 25 (13-19 March 2017)

### **Syria**

:: 24 Mar 2017 Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) Syria Operation, March 2017

### **Yemen –**

:: 19 Mar 2017 Yemen Humanitarian Bulletin Issue 21 | As of 18 March 2017

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

...Two years of conflict puts future of coming generations at great risk

..First UN cross-line medical aid delivery to Taizz city in months

...117,107 people migrate to Yemen from the Horn of Africa in 2016

...Cholera response gives promising results

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### **:: Agency/Government/IGO Watch**

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

### **United Nations – Secretary General, Security Council, General Assembly**

[to 25 March 2017]

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

*Selected Press Releases/Meetings Coverage*

24 March 2017

SG/SM/18472-GA/11901-OBV/1716

[World Yet to Overcome Racism as Slavery's Legacy 'Resounds Down the Ages', Secretary-General Tells Tribute Event for Victims of Transatlantic Trade](#)

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24 March 2017

SC/12764

[Security Council Condemns Destruction, Smuggling of Cultural Heritage by Terrorist Groups, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2347 \(2017\)](#)

*[See Week in Review above for detail]*

23 March 2017

SC/12761

[No Military Solution in South Sudan, Security Council Presidential Statement Stresses, Urging Immediate End to Violence against Aid Workers](#)

21 March 2017

GA/11895

[Amid Rising Xenophobia, Violence, States Must Do More to Protect Migrants' Rights, General Assembly Hears on International Day for Ending Racial Discrimination](#)

The General Assembly commemorated the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination today with a debate that focused on racial profiling and incitement to hatred, including in the context of migration, in which speakers underscored the responsibility of States to address a scourge seen to be on the rise worldwide.

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

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

*Selected Press Releases – "TOP NEWS"*

[Over 100 civilians killed in a month, including fishermen, refugees, as Yemen conflict reaches two-year mark](#)

[Target hate speech and hate crimes, Zeid urges States](#)

[States urged by UN experts to act now against racial profiling and incitement to racial hatred](#)

[UN expert warns of deteriorating situation for human rights defenders in Palestine and Israel](#)

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

[Press briefing note on Libya](#)

["Development cooperation is key to realizing rights to safe drinking water and sanitation" – UN expert](#)

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

**Committee on the Rights of the Child** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

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

[to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

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

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

24 Mar 2017

### **[Sudan: New Report Details Deep Impact of Armed Conflict on Children](#)**

New York – A [new report by the UN Secretary-General](#) details the deep impact of armed conflict on children in the Sudan states of Darfur, South Kordofan, Blue Nile and Abyei.

“Child recruitment and use declined during the period covered by the report,” declared Leila Zerrougui, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict. “However, boys and girls continued to be victims of grave violations committed by all parties to the conflict, including killing and maiming, sexual violence and attacks on schools and hospitals.”

The [report, covering the period from March 2011 to December 2016, is the fifth by the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in Sudan](#). It is also the first report on children and armed conflict published since the independence of South Sudan and the beginning of conflict in South Kordofan and Blue Nile States...

## **Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health** [to 25 March 2017]

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

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

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**UN OCHA** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*Selected Press Releases*

24 Mar 2017

### **[Iraq: UN Expresses Profound Concern about Terrible Loss of Life in Western Mosul](#)**

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: Iraq The United Nations is profoundly concerned by reports yesterday of a high number of civilian casualties in Al Aghawat Al Jadidah, a densely populated neighborhood in Mosul. Initial reports indicate hundreds of casualties. “We are stunned by this terrible loss of life and wish to express our deepest condolences to the many families who have reportedly been impacted by this tragedy,” said Ms. Lise Grande,

23 Mar 2017

**[Madagascar: UN and partners appeal for US\\$20 million to assist 250,000 people affected by Cyclone Enawo in Madagascar](#)**

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Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: Madagascar (Antananarivo, 23 March 2017) – The United Nations and humanitarian partners are appealing for US\$20 million to address the devastating consequences of Cyclone Enawo in Madagascar. Cyclone Enawo struck the coast of Madagascar as a Category 4 cyclone on 7 March, causing extensive damage due to high winds and flooding in northeastern parts of the country. Between 8 and 10 March, the cyclone traced an arc nearly...

22 Mar 2017

[Somalia: 10 things you need to know about the looming famine in Somalia](#)

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

22 Mar 2017

[Central African Republic: Japan continues the assistance for affected persons by the security and humanitarian crises in Central African Republic](#)

Source: Government of Japan, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: Central African Republic, Japan Yaoundé, 14 March 2017 – The Government of Japan renews its support for Central Africans and refugees, returnees and IDPs in the Central African Republic, affected by the security and humanitarian crisis, by granting new funding of 8.207 million US dollars to programmes of United Nations agencies in 2017. This funding is allocated to different projects and as part of...

21 Mar 2017

[Democratic Republic of the Congo: "Critical humanitarian needs are massively outstripping our response capacity," says DR Congo Humanitarian Coordinator](#)

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: Democratic Republic of the Congo Kalemie/Kinshasa, 20 March 2017: The violence that has engulfed the southeastern province of Tanganyika since July 2016 and forced over 370,000 people into displacement places it firmly among "the most urgent humanitarian hotspots in a country experiencing a worsening humanitarian situation," the Humanitarian Coordinator in the DR Congo has stated.

20 Mar 2017

[World: Community Engagement & Humanitarian Partnerships Newsletter, Southern & Eastern Africa - March 2017](#)

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: Burundi, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Rwanda, South Sudan, World This bi-monthly update brings together innovative policy, practice and partnerships from the Southern and Eastern African region that aim to strengthen the engagement of disaster-affected communities in humanitarian action. The aim of the publication is to create awareness about these initiatives and share good practice. Readers are encouraged to forward this...

20 Mar 2017

[World: A4H self-reporting – a chance to show progress](#)

Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Country: World At the World Humanitarian Summit over 3,000 commitments to action, and nearly 20 initiatives and partnerships were launched to implement the Agenda for Humanity and thereby deliver the changes needed in the way we address humanitarian needs, risk and vulnerability. From January to Mid-March, the 300 A4H stakeholders had a chance to report on the commitments made. The reports are now available.

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**UNICEF** [to 25 March 2017]

[https://www.unicef.org/media/media\\_94367.html](https://www.unicef.org/media/media_94367.html)

24 March 2017-

[From coast to coast: Africa unites to tackle threat of polio](#)

GENEVA/BRAZZAVILLE/NEW YORK/DAKAR, More than 190,000 polio vaccinators in 13 countries across west and central Africa will immunize more than 116 million children over the next week, to tackle the last remaining stronghold of polio on the continent.

[Statement attributable to Geert Cappelaere, UNICEF Regional Director, deploring continued attacks on children in Syria](#)

AMMAN, 23 March 2017 – “As another round of peace talks starts in Geneva today, we are appalled that children throughout Syria continue to come under attack.

[Statement by UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake following his visit to Iraq](#)

BAGHDAD, 22 March 2017 – “I leave Iraq at a time when the country is facing significant challenges and opportunities.

[Nearly 600 million children will live in areas with extremely limited water resources by 2040 - UNICEF](#)

NEW YORK, 22 March 2017 – Some 600 million children – or 1 in 4 children worldwide – will be living in areas with extremely limited water resources by 2040, according to a UNICEF report released on World Water Day.

**UNHCR** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 25 March 2017]

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

*Press releases and news comments*

[IGAD Summit: UNHCR appeals for continued and strong support to Somalia and countries hosting Somali refugees](#) 25 Mar 2017

[‘Breaking Point’ imminent: Government of Uganda, UNHCR say help for South Sudan refugee inflow urgently needed](#) 23 Mar 2017

[News Comment from Vincent Cochetel, Director of UNHCR’s Europe bureau](#) 23 Mar 2017

*Briefing Notes*

[In Yemen, UNHCR reaches embattled Mokha with emergency aid](#) 24 Mar 2017

[UNHCR concerned about return of Nigerian refugees from Cameroon](#) 21 Mar 2017

**IOM / International Organization for Migration** [to 25 March 2017]

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

2017-03-24 18:03

[Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 25,170, Deaths: 559](#)

Switzerland - IOM reports that 25,170 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 22 March.

[IOM Renews Calls to “Unite to End TB”](#)

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2017-03-24 18:02

Switzerland - This World TB Day (24/03), IOM reiterates the call for proactive national and international multi-sectoral cooperation.

[IOM: Humanitarian Agencies Prepare for Increased Displacement of Drought-Affected Somalis into Ethiopia](#)

2017-03-24 18:00

Ethiopia - As severe food insecurity continues to rise due to the worsening drought, thousands of Somalis are being forced to leave their homes in search of water, food and pasture. The Government of Ethiopia and the humanitarian community are planning for the potential arrival...

[Oxford Conference Addresses Needs of Migrants in Countries in Crisis](#)

2017-03-21 16:53

Switzerland - IOM presented the Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) Initiative Guidelines at a major international conference organized by the Refugee Studies Centre at Keble College, Oxford, last week (16-17/03).

**UNAIDS** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*Press release*

[UNAIDS warns that countries will miss the 2020 target of reducing HIV-associated TB deaths by 75% unless urgent action is taken](#)

GENEVA, 24 March 2017—On World Tuberculosis Day, 24 March, UNAIDS is urging countries to do much more to reduce the number of tuberculosis (TB) deaths among people living with HIV. TB is the most common cause of hospital admission and death among people living with HIV. In 2015, 1.1 million people died from an AIDS-related illness—around 400 000 of whom died from TB, including 40 000 children.

"It is unacceptable that so many people living with HIV die from tuberculosis, and that most are undiagnosed or untreated," said Michel Sidibé, Executive Director of UNAIDS. "Only by stepping up collaboration between HIV and tuberculosis programmes to accelerate joint action can the world reach its critical HIV and tuberculosis targets."

Eight countries—the Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Indonesia, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia—account for around 70% of all TB deaths among people living with HIV. Scaling up action in these eight countries would put the world on track to reach the ambitious target in the 2016 United Nations Political Declaration on Ending AIDS of reducing TB-related deaths among people living with HIV by 75% by 2020...

**WHO & Regional Offices** [to 25 March 2017]

*Highlights*

[10th meeting of the Strategic and Technical Advisory Group for Neglected Tropical Diseases](#)

March 2017 – The meeting, taking place on 29–30 March 2017, will cover issues on Global Vector Control Response, examination of dossiers requesting the potential inclusion of diseases as NTDs, gaps in disease elimination, eradication of dracunculiasis, integrated data management, and the 2nd WHO NTD Global Partners' Meeting.

[Global Health Sector Strategy on Viral Hepatitis](#)

March 2017 – Worldwide, approximately 240 million people have chronic hepatitis B infection

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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](#)*

and 80 million people have chronic hepatitis C infection. A dedicated portal has been developed for the first ever Global Health Sector Strategy on Viral Hepatitis 2016–2021.

#### Ad-hoc Interagency Coordination Group on antimicrobial resistance

March 2017 – At the UN General Assembly's high-level meeting on antimicrobial resistance in September 2016, Member States requested the Secretary-General to establish, in consultation with WHO, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the World Organisation for Animal Health, an ad-hoc interagency coordination group on antimicrobial resistance.

:: WHO Regional Offices

*Selected Press Releases, Announcements*

WHO African Region AFRO

:: From coast to coast: Africa unites to tackle threat of polio - 23 March 2017

:: Dr Matshidiso Moeti on an official visit to Republic of Niger - 21 March 2017

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

:: PAHO/WHO: "Let's unite to end TB, leaving no one behind" (03/23/2017)

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

*No new digest content identified.*

WHO European Region EURO

:: World TB Day: leave no one behind 23-03-2017

:: France becomes one of the first countries in Region to recommend colour-coded nutrition labelling system 22-03-2017

:: World Water Day: good health and managing wastewater go hand-in-hand 22-03-2017

:: TB/HIV co-infections up 40% across Europe over the last five years 20-03-2017

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: World TB Day: Unite to End TB and alleviate the suffering of millions 22 March 2017

:: WHO reinforces monitoring of health facilities, services and resources in Syria 22 March 2017

:: WHO scales up disease surveillance reporting in East Mosul and Hamdaniya districts, Iraq 19 March 2017

WHO Western Pacific Region

:: Unite to End TB, by properly financing care MANILA, 24 March 2017

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

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**UNFPA** United Nations Population Fund [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**UNDP** United Nations Development Programme [to 25 March 2017]

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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](#)*



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

*Selected Press Releases/Announcements*

[World's most marginalized still left behind by global development priorities: UNDP report](#)

Mar 21, 2017

A quarter-century of impressive human development progress continues to leave many people behind, with systemic, often unmeasured, barriers to catching up. A stronger focus on those excluded and on actions to dismantle these barriers is urgently needed to ensure sustainable human development for all.

[UNDP joins forces with Wilson Center to provide data on women's leadership in public administration](#)

Mar 20, 2017

UNDP is joining forces with the Wilson Center to provide extensive data on women's leadership in public administration for The Center's Women in Public Service Project. By collecting, analyzing, and disseminating sex-disaggregated data that previously did not exist, UNDP and The Center's Women in Public Service Project will highlight challenges and best practices in achieving gender parity in public administration, particularly at decision-making levels.

**UN Division for Sustainable Development** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

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

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

March 20, 2017

[Fifth World Happiness Report 2017 Ranks Happiest Countries](#)

The World Happiness Report 2017, which ranks 155 countries by their happiness levels, was released today at the United Nations at an event celebrating International Day of Happiness. The report, the fifth one to come out since 2012, continues to gain global recognition as governments, organizations and civil society increasingly use happiness indicators to inform their policy-making decisions. In addition to the rankings, this year's report includes an analysis of happiness in the workplace and a deeper look at China and Africa.

**UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division** [to 25 March 2017]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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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](#)*

**UNEP** United Nations Environment Programme [to 25 March 2017]

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

*[Website not responding at inquiry]*

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

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

*No new digest content identified*

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

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

22 March 2017, New York

[World Water Day 2017: Why waste water?](#)

**UNESCO** [to 25 March 2017]

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

24 March 2017

[Training in Costa Rica and El Salvador for Police to Fight Illicit Trafficking in Cultural Property](#)

24 March 2017

[UN Security Council adopts historic resolution for the protection of heritage](#)

New York, 24 March 2017 - UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova addressed today's public briefing of the United Nations Security Council on "Maintenance of international peace and security: destruction and trafficking of cultural heritage by terrorist groups and in situations of armed conflict," where the UN Security Council unanimously adopted [resolution 2347 for the protection of heritage](#).

*[See Week in Review above for more detail]*

20 March 2017

[UNESCO, France and the Emirates launch an International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage](#)

*[See Week in Review above for more detail]*

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

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

24/03/2017 –

[UNODC Chief welcomes landmark resolution on protecting cultural heritage from terrorist groups, and during armed conflicts](#)

Vienna, 24 March 2017 - UNODC Executive Director, Yury Fedotov, welcomed a new UN Security Council resolution on trafficking in cultural property today.

"The resolution adopted by the Security Council addresses the vital issue of trafficking in cultural property as a source of terrorism financing, and also sets out ways of protecting cultural heritage during armed conflict where it is most vulnerable. This undoubtedly strengthens the international community's ability to tackle this pressing issue," he said.

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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](#)*

The Security Council adopted the resolution following a meeting on "Maintenance of international peace and security: destruction and trafficking of cultural heritage by terrorist groups and in situations of armed conflict."

In his briefing to the Council, Mr. Fedotov said: "The destruction of landmarks such as the Buddhas of Bamiyan, the Roman monuments in Palmyra, or shrines and mosques in Tikrit and Mosul are reprehensible attempts to erase history.

"But the destruction and looting are also generating profits for terrorists through trafficking, carried out in collusion with organized crime groups. Those profits fund further acts of terrorism, and enable yet more destruction and looting of cultural sites and archaeological treasures."...

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

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

Posted March 21, 2017

[UN-Habitat hands over rehabilitated houses facilitating the return of 3419 to Ramadi](#)

Ramadi, 20 March 2017 –UN-Habitat recently handed over 489 housing units in Ramadi that were rehabilitated or installed under the project "Promoting Urban Recovery in Newly Liberated Areas in Iraq". The project undertaken by UN-Habitat Iraq Programme,...

**FAO** Food & Agriculture Organization [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**ILO** International Labour Organization [to 25 March 2017]

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

*Governing Body*

[ILO Governing Body wraps up its 329th session](#)

24 March 2017

The March session of the ILO Governing Body ended on 24 March. ILO News discussed the highlights with Juan Llobera, Clerk of the Governing Body.

**ICAO** International Civil Aviation Organization [to 25 March 2017]

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

22/3/17

[Update on national restrictions on electronic carry-on items](#)

**IMO** International Maritime Organization [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**WMO** World Meteorological Organization [to 25 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: 22 March 2017

[New International Cloud Atlas: 19th century tradition, 21st century technology](#)

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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](#)*

### *Press Release*

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has released its new, long-awaited, digitized International Cloud Atlas – the global reference for observing and identifying clouds, which are an essential part of weather, the climate system and the water cycle. It was released for World Meteorological Day on 23rd March.

### [WMO celebrates World Water Day](#)

#### *News*

Publish Date: 22 March 2017

WMO joins the international community in celebrating World Water Day 2017, under the theme of “wastewater,” and is stepping up efforts to ensure that water is not wasted. Water is at the core of sustainable development and is key to economic growth, the environment and life. At the same time, water has been identified as the 3rd global risk in terms of impact by the World Economic Forum’s Global Risks Report 2017.

### [Climate breaks multiple records in 2016, with global impacts.](#)

#### *Press Release*

Publish Date: 21 March 2017

The year 2016 made history, with a record global temperature, exceptionally low sea ice, and unabated sea level rise and ocean heat, according to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Extreme weather and climate conditions have continued into 2017. WMO issued its annual statement on the State of the Global Climate ahead of World Meteorological Day on 23 March. It is based on multiple international datasets maintained independently by global climate analysis centres and information submitted by dozens of WMO Members National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and Research...

### [WMO to build climate resilience in Horn of Africa](#)

#### *News*

Publish Date: 20 March 2017

The 29th Meeting of the Adaptation Fund Board, which was held in Bonn, Germany on 16-17 March 2017, has endorsed a USD 6.8 million proposal submitted by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) entitled “Agricultural Climate Resilience Enhancement Initiative (ACREI).” Targeted countries include Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. This makes WMO the first Multilateral Implementing Entity to have a regional proposal approved by the Adaptation Fund Board under the Pilot Programme for regional projects and programmes

**UNIDO** United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 25 March 2017]

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

Monday, 20 March 2017

### [UNIDO and World Bank hold joint workshop on cooperation modalities](#)

VIENNA - The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the World Bank today held a joint workshop at UNIDO’s headquarters focusing on operationalizing partnership commitments...

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

[http://www.iso.org/iso/home/news\\_index.htm](http://www.iso.org/iso/home/news_index.htm)

21 March 2017

### [ISO steps up action for World Water Day](#)

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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](#)*

By Elizabeth Gasiorowski-Denis

Water is life. But when water is unsafe and sanitation non-existent, water can kill. For millions of people, it's a daily reality. Today is World Water Day – a day about making a difference for people who do not have the water they need.

**UNWTO** World Tourism Organization [to 25 March 2017]

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

24 March 2017

[UNWTO appoints Shaikha Mai Bint Mohammed Al-Khalifa as Ambassador of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development](#)

The President of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities and Chairperson of the Board of the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage, Shaikha Mai Bint Mohammed Al-Khalifa, has been appointed as Special Ambassador of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development 2017.

**WIPO** World Intellectual Property Organization [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**CBD** Convention on Biological Diversity [to 25 March 2017]

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

20 March 2017

[Cristiana Paşca Palmer assumes position as Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity](#)

– Cristiana Paşca Palmer today assumed office as the new Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the principal global treaty on biodiversity.

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**USAID** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**DFID** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*Selected Press Releases*

[New support to boost grassroots British charities](#)

20 March 2017 DFID and Charity Commission Press release

*International Development Secretary Priti Patel announced an innovative fund to support small development and humanitarian organisations.*

The UK will champion the passion and experience of grassroots British charities working on the frontline to deliver for the world's poorest, International Development Secretary Priti Patel said today.

Speaking at the Bond annual conference Ms Patel announced an innovative fund dedicated to supporting small development and humanitarian organisations to scale up the excellent work they already do to help the poorest and most vulnerable communities in the world...

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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](#)*

**ECHO** [to 25 March 2017]

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

22/03/2017

[EU emergency assistance to help Peru cope with floods](#)

The EU Civil Protection Mechanism has been activated and €250 000 has been mobilised for emergency relief to communities affected by floods in Peru. The European Commission has mobilised €250 000 for emergency relief assistance to Peru as the worst...

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**African Union** [to 25 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 24, 2017

[Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention launches five-year strategic plan to improve surveillance, emergency response and prevention of infectious diseases](#)

Addis Ababa, 24 March 2017- The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention launched Friday its strategic plan to improve surveillance, emergency response, and prevent infectious diseases on the continent. The plan was reviewed by its experts' body, the Advisory and Technical Council, before it was endorsed by its Governing Board that includes ten Ministers from the five regions of the African Union on Wednesday. The plan launched at the ongoing Scientific Symposium of the Africa CDC provides a solid framework for the institution to deliver on its mandate. The institution will lead continental efforts to collect and disseminate disease intelligence and to strengthen the ability of public health institutions to detect and control disease threats based on science and policy. To achieve these ends, Africa CDC will work with partners across the continent, including the private sector, and promote innovation.

"The strategy provides a clear roadmap for the Africa CDC to deliver on its key mandate to provide timely, actionable, and continent-wide surveillance and disease intelligence data; rapid deployment of coordination and technical expertise to respond to outbreaks, health diplomacy and seamless and well-coordinated regional laboratory and surveillance networks across countries" said Dr. John Nkengasong, the Director of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

Within the next two years, the Africa CDC will support the establishment of centralised event-based surveillance for priority pathogens in Africa and of 5 Regional Collaborating Centres that will strengthen existing surveillance and laboratory networks. Africa CDC will also establish a rapid response team to address health threats, supplemented with a continent-wide Africa Health Volunteers Corps. The Africa CDC will define protocols for outbreak declaration and response while advocating for the establishment of Emergency Operational Centres in each country. The Africa CDC will define a system to organise national surveillance data and work towards uniform health information standards for Africa. It will concurrently work on creating policy frameworks to guide countries to strengthen their public health institutes. The implementation of these immediate priorities will require United States dollars 34.4 million. Africa CDC will make the case to African countries and the private sector that funding Africa CDC and public health should be seen as investment, not a cost.

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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](#)*



For the next five years, the Africa CDC's strategic priorities are to strengthen health-related surveillance systems and establish diseases intelligence hubs for improved public health decision making and action. The Africa CDC will further strengthen information systems to collect and analyse public health information in Africa in a timely manner. Africa CDC will also work to improve workforce competency and quality assurance by working with networks of clinical and public health laboratories. The Africa CDC will also support member states to develop effective public health emergency preparedness and response plans and strengthen public health science and improve public health decision-making and practice to achieve positive health outcomes.

**ASEAN** Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 25 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 20th, 2017

[ASEAN shares good practices on international human rights law](#)

KUALA LUMPUR, - The ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) organised the first-ever AICHR Judicial Colloquium on the Sharing of Good Practices regarding International Human Rights Law on 13-15 March in Kuala Lumpur. The colloquium aims to encourage greater peer-to-peer interaction, share good practices and challenges in the implementation of international [...]

**European Commission** [to 25 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]*

25/03/2017

[Rome Declaration of the Leaders of 27 Member States and of the European Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission](#)

European Commission - Statement Brussels, 25 March 2017 Declaration of the Leaders of 27 Member States and of the European Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission The Rome Declaration

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

17/03/2017 - 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.

**OECD** [to 25 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]*

*No new digest content identified.*

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

[http://www.oas.org/en/media\\_center/press\\_releases.asp](http://www.oas.org/en/media_center/press_releases.asp)

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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](#)*

March 14, 2017

[Venezuela: Statement of the OAS Secretary General in Support of the Declaration of 14 Countries](#)

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

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

*[Selected Press Releases, Announcements]*

[OIC Supports the Outcomes of the Muslim World League Conference](#)

The General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) expressed support to the outcomes of the International Conference on "Ideological Trends between Freedom of expression and The Rulings of the Sharia". The conference was organized by the Muslim World League (MWL), through its Islamic Fiqh Council, and held under the Patronage of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman Ibn Abdul Aziz Al Saud on 19 March 2017 in Makkah Al-Mukarramah.

The General Secretariat underscored the importance of the Conference as a significant contribution to the OIC's efforts to promote the true image and lofty teachings of Islam, which call for affection, beneficence, tolerance, coexistence and harmony. The OIC also emphasized the major role of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia under the leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques in promoting the noble objectives of the OIC in general, and its programs on fighting extremist and destructive ideas and terrorism in particular, as well as its endeavors to achieve rapprochement among Muslims, and to bridge gaps and fight the causes of hatred among the followers of Islamic schools of thought.

23/03/2017

[Meeting to Review Funding Gaps and Mobilize Resources for the OIC-IDB-IAEA National Cancer Control Programmes in Member States](#)

The OIC General Secretariat in coordination with the Islamic Development Bank Group and the International Atomic Energy Agency will convene a meeting to review funding gaps and mobilize resources for the implementation of priority interventions in the National Cancer Control Programmes among 18 OIC Member States. The meeting will be hosted by the Federal Ministry of Health of the Republic of Sudan in Khartoum, Sudan on 20-22 March 2017.

19/03/2017

**Group of 77** [to 25 March 2017]

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

Statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by Ms. Helena Yanez Loza, Minister and Deputy Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations, at the [High-level SDG Action Event "Climate change and the sustainable development agenda"](#) (New York, 23 March 2017)

Remarks on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by Mr. Luis Oña Garcés, Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations, at the [first round of consultations of the "Call for Action" of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development](#) (New York, 22 March 2017)

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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](#)*

**UNCTAD** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**WTO - World Trade Organisation** [to 25 March 2017]

[http://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news_e.htm)

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

*No new digest content identified.*

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**IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union** [to 25 March 2017]

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

23 MARCH 2017

[IPU deplores attack on Parliament](#)

The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) strongly condemns the attack on the Parliament of the United Kingdom on 22 March. We deplore the senselessness of the violence and the extensive number of casualties. We also convey our condolences to the families of those who lost their lives.

**International Court of Justice** [to 25 March 2017]

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

[09/03/2017](#) –

2017/12 - Document entitled "Application for revision of the Judgment of 26 February 2007 in the case concerning the Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Bosnia and Herzegovina v. Serbia)" - Statement by H.E. Judge Ronny Abraham, President of the International Court of Justice.

**International Criminal Court (ICC)** [to 25 March 2017]

*Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity*

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

24 March 2017

[Katanga case: ICC Trial Chamber II awards victims individual and collective reparations](#)

Today, 24 March 2017, Trial Chamber II ("the Chamber") of the International Criminal Court (ICC or "the Court") issued an Order awarding individual and collective reparations to the victims of crimes committed by Germain Katanga on 24 February 2003 during an attack on the village of Bogoro, in the Ituri district of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

The judges awarded 297 victims with a symbolic compensation of USD 250 per victim as well as collective reparations in the form of support for housing, support for income-generating activities, education aid and psychological support. Because of Mr Katanga's indigence, the Trust Fund for Victims was invited to consider using its resources for the reparations and to present an implementation plan by 27 June 2017...

22 March 2017

[Bemba et al. case: Trial Chamber VII issues sentences for five convicted persons](#)

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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](#)*

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### **World Bank** [to 25 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]*

#### [Efficiency of Public Spending will Enhance Agriculture Productivity for Poverty Reduction in Africa](#)

WASHINGTON, March 23, 2017—Reforms in public spending would boost agricultural productivity in Sub-Saharan Africa, raising farmer's incomes, and promoting broader economic growth, says a new World Bank...

Date: March 23, 2017 Type: Press Release

#### [Indonesia: Global experts gather to discuss how to ensure equal access to quality education](#)

JAKARTA, March 21, 2017 – Global experts in education, including top government officials from high-performing countries, gathered in the Indonesian capital today calling for more policy and public advocacy...

Date: March 21, 2017 Type: Press Release

#### [World Bank Group Announces Record \\$57 Billion for Sub-Saharan Africa](#)

*Funds will scale up investments and de-risk private sector participation for accelerated growth and development*

Date: March 19, 2017 Type: Press Release

### **IMF** [to 25 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 18, 2017

#### [IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde Calls for Global Cooperation and Strong Policies to Sustain the Growth Momentum](#)

Ms. Christine Lagarde, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), issued the following statement today at the conclusion of the Group of 20 (G20) Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting in Baden-Baden, Germany:

"Our meeting showed once again that the G20 provides a critical platform for major economies to work together within an established framework. We met at a time when growth is gaining momentum around the world and there are signs that the global economy has reached a turning point, even though uncertainties remain.

"Strong monetary, fiscal and structural policies matter more than ever for what comes next. Global cooperation and pursuing the right policies can help achieve strong, sustained, balanced, and inclusive growth, while the wrong ones could stop the new momentum in its tracks.

"I reaffirmed the IMF's readiness to contribute to enhancing global understanding and cooperation in line with our mandate, including through vigorous exchange rate surveillance and analysis of global imbalances...

### **African Development Bank Group** [to 25 March 2017]

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

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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](#)*

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

24/03/2017

### **"Prioritize access to water and sanitation," says Zuma**

- South Africa's President, Jacob Zuma has called on his fellow African and world leaders "to prioritize access to water and sanitation."

Speaking in Durban South Africa during a joint event to commemorate World Water Day and launch the 2017 World Water Development Report, Zuma said: "the bleak global picture presented in the 2017 World Water Development Report requires world leaders to urgently prioritize the improvement of access to essential water and sanitation services."

21/03/2017

### **Africa Climate Change Fund scales up its operations with new contributions from Italy and Flanders**

- The Board of Directors of the African Development Bank (AfDB) approved on March 15, 2017, the conversion of the Africa Climate Change Fund (ACCF) – established in 2014 with €4.725 million from the Government of Germany – to a multi-donor trust fund. This conversion brings two new partners to the Fund, the governments of Italy and Flanders (Belgium), who are contributing €4.7 million and €2 million, respectively. It further opens the door to new partnerships with other donors interested in supporting African countries in their transition to low-carbon, climate resilient development and green growth.

### **Asian Development Bank** [to 25 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]*

22 March 2017

### **ADB, CAA Sign €30 Million Agreement to Improve Financial Inclusion in Asia**

ADB signed a €30 million (\$32 million) equity investment agreement today with CreditAccess Asia (CAA), a holding company headquartered in Amsterdam, that operates microfinance institutions (MFIs) across Asia.

### **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank** [to 25 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]*

Beijing, China, March 23, 2017

### **AIIB Welcomes New Prospective Members**

*Bank approves 13 new applicants; Expands membership to 70*

Today, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) announced that its Board of Governors has adopted resolutions approving 13 applicants to join the Bank, bringing the Bank's total approved membership to 70. This is the first time AIIB has welcomed new prospective members to the Bank since its inception. The approved applicants include five regional and eight non-regional prospective members.

### **IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development** [to 25 March 2017]

[https://www.ifad.org/newsroom/press\\_release/list/tags/y2017](https://www.ifad.org/newsroom/press_release/list/tags/y2017)

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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](#)*

24 March 2017

[IFAD to provide US\\$43 million to Viet Nam to raise rural incomes and increase resilience to climate change](#)

21 March 2017

[Guyana to benefit from US\\$8 million IFAD loan to reduce rural poverty and boost food security](#)

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## **:: INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch**

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

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

**Amref Health Africa** [to 25 March 2017]

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

22/03/2017

### **[Amref, EABL Foundation commission Kiaoni Borehole in Makueni County](#)**

To mark the 2017 World Water Day, Amref Health Africa in Kenya and the East Africa Breweries Limited (EABL) Foundation commissioned the Kiaoni borehole in Kanthuni Sub-County, Makueni County, Kenya, on Monday, 20 March. The project, funded by EABL Foundation, and implemented by Amref Health Africa, is in line...

21/03/2017

### **[Amref Health Africa turns 60](#)**

Staff from Amref Health Africa came together to launch the Amref 60 anniversary celebrations today at the Amref Flying Doctors Hangar in Wilson Airport, Nairobi, Kenya. The event was officially opened by Dr Bettina Vadera, the CEO and Medical Director of Amref Flying Doctors (AFD)

**Aravind Eye Care System** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**BRAC** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**CARE International** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*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](#)*



**Clubhouse International** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Danish Refugee Council** [to 25 March 2017]

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

24.03.2017

**Qayyarah emergency site grows with surge in new arrivals from Western Mosul**

Military operations to fully retake Mosul are advancing further into the city's densely-populated western neighborhoods, triggering a sharp increase in the rate of displacement towards emergency camps and sites primarily in southern and eastern Ninewa Governorate.

24.03.2017

**Joint NGO Statement: IGAD Heads of State Special Summit on Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees**

The membership of the Regional Durable Solutions Secretariat (ReDSS), Somalia NGO Consortium and the Inter-agency Working Group (IAWG) welcome the Special Summit of the IGAD Heads of State on Durable Solutions for Somali refugees taking place on the 25th March, 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya. This Summit and its expected Comprehensive Plan of Action is convened at a time when almost one million Somalis refugees are displaced within the East and Horn of Africa region.

[Download the statement in a PDF version](#)

**ECPAT** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Fountain House** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Handicap International** [to 25 March 2017]

[http://www.handicap-international.us/press\\_releases](http://www.handicap-international.us/press_releases)

*No new digest content identified.*

**Heifer International** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**HelpAge International** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*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](#)*

**ICRC** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*Selected News Releases, Reports and Articles*

23-03-2017 | *News release*

**Zimbabwe: Mental health patients benefit from improved living conditions**

More than 300 mental health patients are benefiting from refurbished facilities in Zimbabwe.

22-03-2017 | *News release*

**“Massive scaling up urgently needed to tackle hunger crisis” says ICRC’s Director of Operations**

The ICRC is appealing for \$400m to help those most affected by the humanitarian crises in Somalia, Yemen, South Sudan and north-east Nigeria.

21-03-2017 | *News release*

**Ukraine: Experts discuss identification of mortal remains in armed conflict and other emergencies**

A three-day seminar on identifying dead bodies in armed conflict and other emergencies got underway today, organized by the ICRC in cooperation with Ukraine's National Association of Forensic Experts.

**IFRC** [to 25 March 2017]

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

25 March 2017

**Following worst floods in decades, hundreds of thousands in urgent need of assistance in Peru**

Lima/Geneva,— The Peruvian Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) are calling for urgent support for communities affected by severe flooding and mudslides across northern Peru.

24 March 2017

**In response to worsening drought in Ethiopia, IFRC announces four-fold increase of relief and recovery operations**

With 5.6 million Ethiopians in the grip of a worsening food crisis, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) today announced a significant expansion of its emergency response effort, including a four-fold increase in its appeal and a five-fold increase in the number of people targeted for support.

**IRC International Rescue Committee** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*Selected Press Releases & Statements*

*Press Release*

**Yemenis suffer from largest humanitarian crisis in the world**

March 20, 2017

**IRCT** [to 25 March 2017]

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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](#)*

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Islamic Relief** [to 25 March 2017]

*No new digest content identified.*

**Landsea** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*Press release*

**[Doctors Without Borders Urges Pharmaceutical Corporations to Release Clinical Data to Help Develop Urgently Needed New TB Regimens](#)**

NEW YORK, MARCH 24, 2017—Today, World Tuberculosis Day, Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières' (MSF) is urging pharmaceutical corporations, Sequella and Pfizer, to provide open access to all existing clinical data on a promising drug, sutezolid, to help accelerate the research and development of urgently needed new, lifesaving TB treatment regimes. This data, if not released, will take years and resources to replicate, further delaying new treatment options for people living with TB.

*Press release*

**[Fewer than Five Percent of People in Need are Treated with New TB Drugs, Nearly Four Years After Becoming Available](#)**

March 23, 2017

Companies and countries must take urgent action to increase access to these lifesaving treatments

*Press release*

**[New, Cheaper, and Heat-Stable Rotavirus Vaccine Could Prevent Thousands of Childhood Deaths](#)**

NEW YORK, MARCH 22, 2017—A new, heat-stable vaccine is safe and effective against rotavirus, according to results of a recent Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières vaccine trial in Niger, published in the [New England Journal of Medicine](#) Thursday.

*Press release*

**[Iraq: Thousands Fleeing Western Mosul with Acute Medical Needs](#)**

March 22, 2017

ERBIL, IRAQ/NEW YORK, MARCH 22, 2017—Tens of thousands of people are fleeing western Mosul, Iraq, amid a military offensive to recapture the area, with many wounded in the crossfire or suffering from other emergency medical needs, the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) said today.

**Mercy Corps** [to 25 March 2017]

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

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*No new digest content identified.*

**Operation Smile** [to 25 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 25 March 2017]

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

23 March 2017

**Millions in Yemen are being knowingly pushed to the brink of famine**

Fighters in the Yemen war and their international backers are wilfully pushing the country to the brink of famine, Oxfam warned today - ahead of the two-year anniversary of the escalation of the war.

**UN-brokered system for Gaza reconstruction after 2014 conflict failing**

22 March 2017

The system designed to reconstruct Gaza after the 2014 conflict is failing to meet the needs of 1.8 million Palestinians in Gaza, as an already dire water and sanitation crisis escalates dangerously, Oxfam warned today in a new report.

**One month after South Sudan famine announced, it's a race against the rains to save lives**

20 March 2017

One month since famine was declared in two areas of South Sudan, it is a race against the forthcoming rains to save lives Oxfam warned today.

**Norwegian Refugee Council** [to 25 March 2017]

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

Published 22 Mar 2017

**Fighting a double crisis**

Celine Marie Johansen|Published 22. Mar 2017

"People in north eastern Nigeria is battling one of the most severe humanitarian crises of today. Most of the food production has collapsed completely, and the conflict with Boko Haram makes it impossible for people to return home and pick up their lives", says NORCAP expert, Virginia M. Moncrieff.

**Pact** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Partners In Health** [to 25 March 2017]

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

Mar 24, 2017

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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](#)*

### **New Drugs, New Hope to End TB in Peru**

Through the endTB project, PIH and its partners are beginning a clinical trial to test the first new TB drugs developed in nearly 50 years. Segundo Leon, PIH's director of research in Peru, talks about the groundbreaking effort.

Mar 22, 2017

### **Record Rainfall Slams Peru, Death Toll Rises**

Torrential rains pummeled Peru over the past week, causing widespread flooding, devastating landslides, and massive destruction. Partners In Health is responding to the emergency in Carabayllo and surrounding communities.

**PATH** [to 25 March 2017]

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

Announcement | March 23, 2017

### **PATH welcomes new promising study results for rotavirus vaccine candidate**

A new article published today in the New England Journal of Medicine provides the results of a recent Phase 3 clinical trial conducted in Niger with a rotavirus vaccine candidate from India. The study, conducted by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and Epicentre, evaluated the efficacy and safety of the pentavalent bovine-human reassortant rotavirus vaccine (BRV-PV) manufactured by Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd. in infants in Niger. Data from the trial revealed the BRV-PV to be highly efficacious for the prevention of severe rotavirus gastroenteritis and to have an excellent safety profile. In addition, the vaccine was transported and stored at ambient temperature, thus bypassing the typically challenging cold-chain requirements that apply to most other vaccines...

**Plan International** [to 25 March 2017]

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

19 March 2017

### **Plan International and the Asian Development Bank announce new partnership**

*Partnership will focus on the investment of young people as drivers of economic and social development, and as contributors to poverty reduction*

MANILA, PHILIPPINES (21 March) – Global child rights organization Plan International and the Asian Development Bank signed a new partnership agreement (2017 – 2020), reinforcing their joint commitments to the economic and social growth and development of children and young people in Asia and the Pacific.

The partnership will capitalize on the success of the first partnership agreement (2013 – 2016) and the achievements made to bring youth issues to the forefront of the policy and development agenda through the engagement and participation of children and youth...

**Save The Children** [to 25 March 2017]

[http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpI4E/b.9506653/k.C303/Press\\_Releases\\_2017/apps/nl/newsletter2.asp](http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpI4E/b.9506653/k.C303/Press_Releases_2017/apps/nl/newsletter2.asp)

*Selected Press Releases*

March 23, 2017

### **More Than 1,100 Afghan Children a Day Expected to Drop Out of School in 2017, Putting Them at Risk of Exploitation, Save the Children Warns**

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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](#)*

### **Three Months of Severe Flooding in Peru Impacts More than 600,000 People**

March 23, 2017

### **At Least 10,000 People Displaced in Last 24 Hours Due to Significant Escalation in Syria Fighting**

March 22, 2017

### **SOS-Kinderdorf International** [to 25 March 2017]

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

24.03.2017

### **Four young athletes from SOS Children's Villages India compete for medals at Special Olympics 2017**

With great passion and tireless dedication, four young women from India reached one of their dreams and represented their country at the Special Olympics Winter Games 2017.

20.03.2017

### **SOS Children's Villages finds common needs for families on both sides of Ukraine dispute**

- SOS Children's Villages launched an emergency programme in 2014 to help children and families affected by the conflict in eastern Ukraine. It is one of the few organisations working on both sides of the contact line.

### **Tostan** [to 25 March 2017]

<http://www.tostan.org>

*No new digest content identified.*

### **Women for Women International** [to 25 March 2017]

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

March 24, 2017

### **The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton to Address Women for Women International's Annual Luncheon**

Washington, D.C. – Women for Women International will feature former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton in a thoughtful conversation moderated by Christiane Amanpour, Host, Amanpour, and Chief International Correspondent, CNN, at its Annual Luncheon in New York City on May 2, 2017 at 583 Park Avenue. The event will bring attention to the resilient spirit of women in conflict and post conflict zones and highlight their strength and courage to rebuild their communities and their lives after war...

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### **Freedom House** [to 25 March 2017]

<https://freedomhouse.org/news>

*Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research*

*Press Releases* March 25, 2017

### **Belarus: Authorities Detain Hundreds on 'Freedom Day'**

Authorities in Minsk have indiscriminately detained hundreds of marchers on Freedom Day in Belarus.

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**Transparency International** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research*

24 Mar 2017

**Transparency International is concerned at crackdown on free speech in Cameroon**

Transparency International, the global anti-corruption movement, expressed concern about the government's recent crackdown on civil society in Cameroon and the police summons received by its former vice-chair and current chair of the International Anti-Corruption Conference series, Akere Muna...

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**ChildFund Alliance** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**CONCORD** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*[European NGO confederation for relief and development]*

Mar 21, 2017

**Over 230 NGOs join our call for the Europe We Want**

by Helene Debaisieux

The 60th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome is a huge opportunity to take stock of how far Europe has come – and how far we still have to go – in order to offer a sustainable and prosperous future to everyone in Europe. Going in that direction, more than 230 Civil society organisations and trade unions have signed the joint statement entitled "The Europe we want: Just, Sustainable, Democratic and Inclusive" which has been sent to EU leaders.

**Disasters Emergency Committee** [to 25 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]*

25/03/2017

**Islamic community organises nationwide collections outside mosques for DEC East Africa Appeal**

The Islamic community organised nationwide collections outside mosques during Friday prayers in support of the DEC East Africa appeal.

Volunteers from DEC partner agency Islamic Relief held collections at four mosques in London and 11 others across the UK as people attended prayers

**DEC warns of toxic mix of drought and conflict in South Sudan fuelling the world's fastest growing refugee crisis**

24/03/2017

The Disasters Emergency Committee is warning that a toxic mix of drought and violent conflict in South Sudan is fuelling the world's fastest growing refugee crisis. It points out that a

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staggering 6,000 people a day were forced to flee South Sudan to safety in neighbouring Uganda last month - that's four refugees every minute.

**The Elders** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**END Fund** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Evidence Aid** [to 25 March 2017]

[www.evidenceaid.org](http://www.evidenceaid.org)

*No new digest content identified.*

**Gavi** [to 25 March 2017]

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

21 March 2017

**Gavi 'effective and fit for purpose'**

*Network of 19 donor countries assesses Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance's performance*

Gavi is an effective, 'fit for purpose' organisation, scoring top ratings in a number key performance areas, according to the Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN).

In its second institutional review of the organisation, MOPAN commends Gavi as being both "strategic and nimble in meeting new vaccine challenges and countries' evolving needs, while keeping a clear focus on its mission goals." Gavi is also recognised as being a "strong model for sustainability".

**Global Fund** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*News*

**Global Fund and Inter-Parliamentary Union Sign MOU**

23 March 2017

The Global Fund and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) have signed a memorandum of understanding to promote mutual advocacy, engage in joint technical work and raise awareness in the fight against AIDS, TB and malaria and building resilient and sustainable systems for health.

*News*

**Senegal and the Global Fund Extend Their Partnership**

21 March 2017

The Honorable Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal, today welcomed a delegation from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria led by Dr. Mark Dybul, Executive Director. The meeting marked the official signing of the Agreement on the Privileges and

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Immunities of the Global Fund, a symbolic step in strengthening the partnership between the Global Fund and Senegal that has been in place for 15 years. Senegal is now the 15th country to sign the agreement; Côte d'Ivoire, Togo, Burkina Faso, Rwanda as well as some ten European and African states have already done so.

**Hilton Prize Coalition** [to 25 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 25 March 2017]

<https://icvanetwork.org/>

*Latest Resources*

**[ICVA 2017 Annual Conference: Participant Information Pack](#)**

March, 2017

International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)

**InterAction** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Locus**

<http://locusworld.org/>

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

March 22, 2017

**[Let's Stop Playing Catch Up: How Stronger Integration Helps Us Get Ahead of Threats](#)**

Author: John Oldfield, Water 2017

On World Water Day, how can we move beyond sector "competition" to expand WASH coverage, and make vital progress toward public health and food security?

**Start Network** [to 25 March 2017]

[http://www.start-network.org/news-blog/#.U9U\\_O7FR98E](http://www.start-network.org/news-blog/#.U9U_O7FR98E)

*[Consortium of British Humanitarian Agencies]*

23 Mar 17

**[New report into surge capacity in slow onset crises](#)**

*News Article*

As the global news agenda focuses on the famine across South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya, the need for humanitarian agencies to better respond to slow onset and protracted crises is highlighted in a new report from the [Transforming Surge Capacity project](#).

According to the report, [Slow-Onset Crises: Review of Surge Practices](#), humanitarian agencies are increasingly responding to slow-onset crises, despite challenges in securing funding and staff with the skills and expertise needed.

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The report found that slow-onset crises, such as droughts and food insecurity, are expected to increase, owing to multiple factors including climate change and rapid urbanisation.

All seven agencies that participated in the research had responded to slow-onset crises in past two and half years. Responding to slow-onset crises was reported mainly as being country-led carried out in conjunction with regular programmes and in close cooperation with existing local partners.

However, given that their resource management, staff training and finance mechanisms had been mainly set up to respond to sudden-onset crises, agencies faced challenges in using these tools and mechanisms to respond to slow-onset crises. Recognising these challenges, agencies have started to develop tools and mechanisms to ensure more efficient responses to slow-onset crises...

The project will be holding a webinar with the Glenn O'Neil, one of the authors of the report, to share key findings, which includes examples of how agencies are overcoming challenges in their response to slow onset crises, and recommendations to change surge practises and policies to tackle slow onset crises.

The webinar will be held on Tuesday 28 March 09:00-10:00am BST and can be accessed via the following link <https://zoom.us/j/603361958>. Please email [gadeer.abdilleh@actionaid.org](mailto:gadeer.abdilleh@actionaid.org) to confirm your attendance.

#### **Muslim Charities Forum** [to 25 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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#### **Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP)** [to 25 March 2017]

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

##### **31st Annual Meeting: Changing Humanitarian Action?**

Despite the time, money and energy that is spent on change, there has been little attention paid to how change actually happens. This was the topic of our 31st Annual Meeting, held in Stockholm.

We have now released several videos from the meeting. Watch ALNAP Director John Mitchell's reflections around change and catch up on our Stories in 5 and opening panel for the meeting.

#### **CHS Alliance** [to 25 March 2017]

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

20/03/2017

##### **As slow disasters are on the increase, we must improve our response - report & webinar**

The article provides context for the recently published Slow-onset crises: review of surge practices report. Slow-onset crises are expected to increase, therefore it is necessary to develop

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tools and mechanisms to ensure more efficient responses to these crises. The report presents the results of the second tracking mechanism on surge practices for slow-onset crises.

**EHLRA/R2HC** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Global Humanitarian Assistance (GHA)** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**The Sphere Project** [to 25 March 2017]

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

24 March 2017 | Sphere Project

**[Sphere e-learning course incorporates the CHS, goes mobile](#)**

A revamped version of the highly successful Sphere Handbook in Action e-learning course now includes the Core Humanitarian Standard and is accessible on smartphones and tablets.

21 March 2017 | Sphere Project

**[New: The Sphere Handbook in Swahili](#)**

The Sphere Handbook 2011 edition is now available in Swahili, bringing the total number of language versions of the Handbook up to 30.

**Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP)** [to 25 March 2017]

<https://phap.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

.....

**Center for Global Development**

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

*Accessed 25 March 2017*

3/22/17

**[Foreign Assistance Agency Brief: United States Department of Treasury](#)**

[US Development Policy Team](#)

Treasury's Office of International Affairs works with other federal agencies, foreign governments, and international financial institutions to strengthen the global economy and foster economic stability. The United States' international engagement through Treasury supports our national economic and security interests by promoting strong economic governance abroad and bolstering financial sector stability in developing countries. Through Treasury, the United States exercises leadership in international financial institutions where it shapes the global economic and development agenda and leverages US government investments, while tackling poverty and other challenges around the world.

**[The Impact of the Tax System and Social Expenditure on the Distribution of Income and Poverty in Latin America \(Spanish\) - Working Paper 450](#)**

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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](#)*

3/22/17

Nora Lustig

This paper presents results on the impact of fiscal policy on inequality and poverty around 2010 in sixteen Latin American countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

### **Examining Results and Accountability at the World Bank**

3/22/17

Scott Morris

Scott Morris testified before the House Financial Services Subcommittee on Monetary Policy and Trade at a hearing titled, "Examining Results and Accountability at the World Bank" on March 22, 2017. Morris's testimony offered recommendations for Congress in effective oversight and influence at the World Bank, as well as discussing what US contributions to the institution deliver for US taxpayers.

**ODI** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*Research reports and studies*

### **Obstacles to WASH**

Journal articles or issues | March 2017 | Beatrice Mosello and Mariana Matoso

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) are essential for both human survival and sustainable development. How can we ensure that everyone has access to these basic necessities?

### **Supporting economic transformation: an approach paper**

Working and discussion papers | March 2017 | Margaret McMillan, John Page, David Booth and Dirk Willem te Velde

Economic transformation has the potential to create sustainable, inclusive growth in developing countries. This paper explains how and why transformation is so important.

### **Value Chain Analysis for Resilience in Drylands: identification of adaptation options in key sectors**

Research reports and studies | March 2017 | Elizabeth Carabine and Catherine Simonet

This Value Chain Analysis for Resilience in Drylands synthesis report focuses on the first of the three steps within the methodology: Mapping the value chain.

### **Resilience, equity and growth in semi-arid economies: a research agenda**

Working and discussion papers | March 2017 | Guy Jobbins, Declan Conway, Sam Fankhauser, Bara Gueye, Emma Liwenga, Eva Ludi, Tom Mitchell, Helen Mountfort and Abid Suleri

This working paper sets out the rationale for PRISE's focus on investment and development that have the potential to unlock rapid economic growth and reduce poverty.

### **Why is peacebuilding so difficult to achieve?**

Journal articles or issues | March 2017 | Sara Pantuliano

Signing a peace accord may mark the end of a conflict on paper, but the impact on the ground is often minimal. This article presents three lessons learnt.

### **Understanding intimate partner violence in Pakistan through a male lens**

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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](#)*

Research reports and studies | March 2017 | Rozina Karmaliani, Nargis Asad, Kausar S. Khan, Sohail Bawani, Tazeen Saeed Ali, Nicola Jones, Taveeshi Gupta, Anita Allana, Hussain Maqbool, Yasmeen Somani and David Walker

This report aims to understand the multi-level drivers of male perpetration of intimate partner violence in Pakistan, including the importance of conservative gender norms.

### **Understanding intimate partner violence in Bangladesh through a male lens**

Research reports and studies | March 2017 | Ruchira Tabassum Naved, Fiona Samuels, Taveeshi Gupta, Aloka Talukder, Virginie Le Masson, Kathryn M. Yount

This report aims to understand the multi-level drivers of male perpetration of IPV in Bangladesh, including the relative importance of conservative gender norms.

### **Understanding intimate partner violence in Nepal through a male lens**

Research reports and studies | March 2017 | Anita Ghimire and Fiona Samuels

These reports aim to understand the multi-level drivers of male perpetration of IPV in Nepal, including the relative importance of conservative gender norms.

### **Men and intimate partner violence: from research to action in Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan**

Research reports and studies | March 2017 | Fiona Samuels, Nicola Jones and Taveeshi Gupta

This report details research exploring the underlying drivers, triggers, risks and influencing factors for intimate partner violence (IPV) in South Asia.

### **Urban Institute** [to 25 March 2017]

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

March 23, 2017

### **Urban Institute Selects City Health Works Executive Director Manmeet Kaur for New Janice Nittoli Fellowship**

*The one-year fellowship pairs practitioners with Urban researchers to answer questions about inequality and advance evidence-based solutions*

WASHINGTON, DC – The Urban Institute has selected Manmeet Kaur, executive director and founder of the Harlem-based community health organization City Health Works, for the inaugural Janice Nittoli Practitioner Fellowship. Funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, the Nittoli fellowship is awarded to practitioners working directly with communities to alleviate inequities. Fellows will partner with Urban Institute senior researchers to advance evidence-based solutions.

The fellowship was established to honor Janice Nittoli, former associate vice president and managing director of the Rockefeller Foundation...

### **World Economic Forum** [to 25 March 2017]

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

News 24 Mar 2017

### **World Economic Forum San Francisco Center Opens, Aims to Spread Tech Benefits**

:: The World Economic Forum today opens the doors of its Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution at the Presidio in San Francisco, with Mayor Lee of San Francisco and Governor Inslee of Washington in attendance

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:: The Center will convene start-ups, venture capitalists, the world's leading companies, experts, academics, NGOs and governments to discuss how science and technology policies can benefit all in society

:: Among the opening's more than 120 participants from a dozen countries are start-up founders, the CEOs of Salesforce, Kaiser Permanente, IDEO and Turkcell, and the presidents of five top global research universities

### **World Economic Forum Opens Search for Africa's Top Female Innovators**

News 23 Mar 2017

### **World's Largest Economies Lag Behind in Delivering Secure, Affordable, Sustainable Energy**

News 22 Mar 2017

### **World Economic Forum, European Investment Bank Urge EU Finance Ministers To Make Inclusive Growth Top Priority**

News 21 Mar 2017

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### ***:: Foundation/Major Donor Watch***

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

#### **Aga Khan Foundation** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

#### **BMGF - Gates Foundation** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

#### **Annie E. Casey Foundation** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

#### **Clinton Foundation** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*Press Release*

March 23, 2017

### **Clinton Foundation Announces Partnership Focused on Strengthening Support for San Diego's Children and Families**

The collaboration between The San Diego Foundation, the County of San Diego and the Clinton Foundation will support the health of local children and families

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**Ford Foundation** [to 25 March 2017]  
<http://www.fordfoundation.org/?filter=News>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**GHIT Fund** [to 25 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 25 March 2017]  
<http://www.grameenfoundation.org/news-events/press-room>  
03/22/2017  
[Crowd-funding campaign launches to expand financial inclusion in the Philippines](#)  
Mothers (nanays) who run neighborhood shops will provide digital financial services in remote areas

**William and Flora Hewlett Foundation** [to 25 March 2017]  
<http://hewlett.org/latest-updates/>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**Conrad N. Hilton Foundation** [to 25 March 2017]  
<http://www.hiltonfoundation.org/news>  
*Our News*  
[Engaging Across Sectors to Overcome Humanitarian Crises](#)  
March 24, 2017  
*Conflict, displacement, natural disasters and profound vulnerability affect more than 128.6 million people in the world today.*  
With the scale of the need fast outpacing the ability of traditional actors to respond, there is an increased need for more coordinated and holistic approaches to engage the private sector in disaster risk reduction, emergency preparedness, response and recovery. The [Connecting Business initiative offsite link](#) (CBI), a private sector driven and UN-supported initiative, launched to transform the way private sector engages before, during and after crises to create more resilient communities, increase local capacity and alleviate human suffering...

**IKEA Foundation** [to 25 March 2017]  
<https://www.ikeafoundation.org/category/press-releases/>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute** [to 25 March 2017]  
<https://www.hhmi.org/news>  
*No new digest content identified.*

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**Kellogg Foundation** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**MacArthur Foundation** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Blue Meridian Partners** [to 25 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 25 March 2017]

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

March 22, 2017

**While challenging, reproducing experiments is vital to science**

Reproducing experiments is vital to science. Being able to replicate, validate and extend previous work also speeds new research projects. In a recent survey, 90 percent of researchers acknowledged a reproducibility crisis.

But reproducing scientific work remains challenging and time consuming, partially because of the historically 'closed' nature of scientific data, as well as the lack of recognition for reproducing others' work.

Moore Foundation grantee Casey Greene and his team at the University of Pennsylvania have developed a new processing tool to help solve this problem, through enabling reproducible computational analyses.

Greene, an assistant professor of pharmacology at the University of Pennsylvania and an investigator through the foundation's Data-Driven Discovery initiative, and his colleague Brett Beaulieu-Jones have developed a process called continuous analysis, which provides inherent reproducibility to computational research with minimal cost to the researcher...

"Reproducibility can have wide-reaching benefits for the advancement of science," said Beaulieu-Jones and Greene in their study published recently in Nature Biotechnology. "Continuous analysis lays the groundwork needed to address reproducibility and robustness of findings in the broad sense."

Read the full article here.

**Open Society Foundation** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**David and Lucile Packard Foundation** [to 25 March 2017]

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<http://www.packard.org/news/>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**Pew Charitable Trusts** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*Press Release*

**Pew Announces \$6.98M in Grants Supporting Philadelphia Region's Vulnerable Adults**

*Funding to assist more than 35,000 people annually through 41 local organizations*

March 22, 2017

PHILADELPHIA—The Pew Charitable Trusts announced today that it will provide \$6.98 million over the next three years to 41 Philadelphia-area nonprofits that serve some of the region's most vulnerable adults. More than 35,000 people, including those struggling with homelessness, mental health issues, and extended unemployment, will be assisted on an annual basis.

Pew's support will help agencies that focus on three core areas:

- :: Helping individuals with limited work skills to obtain competitive employment.
- :: Improving behavioral health outcomes through the use of evidence-informed approaches.
- :: Helping adults who are victims of domestic violence or those with significant mental health problems transition to independence and stability...

**Rockefeller Foundation** [to 25 March 2017]

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

March 21, 2017

**World Wildlife Fund, American Hotel & Lodging Association and The Rockefeller Foundation Bring Hotel Brands Together to Prevent Hotel Food Waste**

Hotel properties kick-off 12-week pilot programs to reduce food waste in hotels

Washington, D.C. – March 21, 2017 – World Wildlife Fund (WWF), with support from The Rockefeller Foundation, and the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHLA), today launched a series of pilot projects aimed at further reducing food waste in the hotel industry. WWF and AHLA developed the projects in conjunction with a working group from AHLA's Food & Beverage Committee and Sustainability Committee. Hotel brands participating in the projects include Hilton, Hyatt, IHG (InterContinental Hotels Group) and Marriott International, as well as Hershey Entertainment & Resorts, Sage Hospitality and Terranea Resort. The pilots were also developed with the support of The Rockefeller Foundation's YieldWise Initiative, which aims to reduce post-harvest food loss and halve the world's food waste by 2030...

**New Research from The Rockefeller Foundation and Edelman Intelligence Highlights Sourcing Entry-Level Talent as a Top Challenge for Almost Half of Employers**

March 21, 2017

*Examines Potential Effectiveness of Impact Hiring on U.S. Youth Unemployment*

New York, NY—Sourcing entry-level talent is a top challenge for nearly half of employers, according to new survey research from The Rockefeller Foundation and its grantee Edelman. The survey findings are detailed in the new report, "The State of Entry-Level Employment in the United States." This study was conducted by the research firm Edelman Intelligence with support from The Rockefeller Foundation...

**Statement from Rajiv J. Shah, President of The Rockefeller Foundation, on the Passing of David Rockefeller, Senior.**

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March 20, 2017

Today the world has lost a great man and philanthropist, and we, a dear friend and inspiration...

**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** [to 25 March 2017]

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

March 21, 2017 Issue Brief

**The Impact of Per Capita Caps on Federal and State Medicaid Spending**

Proposed alternatives to the ACA currently under consideration in Congress would have a range of potential implications to overall health coverage rates and government spending.

**Science Philanthropy Alliance** [to 25 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).*

23rd March 2017

**SDG Ecosystem Micro-site and Innovation Challenges Launched at the SDG Design-Thinking Water Initiative Workshop: How to Improve Water Challenges in Ghana for the SDGs**

- The SDG Philanthropy Platform held an interactive and collaborative workshop in Ghana, to enable leaders in the water sector to identify creative solutions for water challenges in the country, with a view to achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6: Availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. The workshop was attended by over 40 stakeholders including government, private sector, civil society and philanthropy...

**Alfred P. Sloan Foundation**

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Wellcome Trust** [to 25 March 2017]

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

*Published: 24 March 2017*

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## **Breakthrough in battle against resistant TB**

*A cutting-edge technique developed by Wellcome-funded researchers in Oxford means that tuberculosis (TB) can now be diagnosed much faster and more accurately.*

The researchers' method uses whole genome sequencing to quickly assess which strains of TB a patient is infected with. Patients will receive their diagnosis in just over a week, rather than waiting up to a month.

This will improve treatments and help reduce the spread of drug-resistant infections.

It will also be possible to improve identification and treatment of other resistant pathogens.

The news comes as World TB Day marks global efforts to eliminate a disease that infects 10 million people and kills 1.5 million each year. The spread of resistant strains of TB are of particular concern. In 2015, an estimated 480,000 people worldwide developed multidrug-resistant TB...

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## ***:: Journal Watch***

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

### **American Journal of Infection Control**

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]

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## **BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation**

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

(Accessed 25 March 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

## **BMJ Global Health**

January 2017; volume 2, issue 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

## **BMC Health Services Research**

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

(Accessed 25 March 2017)

*Research article*

### **[The structural and health policy environment for delivering integrated HIV and substance use disorder treatments in Puerto Rico](#)**

HIV prevalence in Puerto Rico is nearly twice that of the mainland United States, a level that was substantially fueled by injection drug use. Puerto Rico has a longstanding history of health provision by the ...

Jared A. Leff, Diana Hernández, Paul A. Teixeira, Pedro C. Castellón, Daniel J. Feaster, Allan E. Rodriguez, Jorge L. Santana-Bagur, Sandra Miranda De León, José Vargas Vidot, Lisa R. Metsch and Bruce R. Schackman

BMC Health Services Research 2017 17:232

Published on: 23 March 2017

## **BMC Infectious Diseases**

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

(Accessed 25 March 2017)

*Research article*

### **[Multidrug resistant tuberculosis in Ethiopian settings and its association with previous history of anti-tuberculosis treatment: a systematic review and meta-analysis](#)**

*Efforts to control the global burden of tuberculosis (TB) have been jeopardized by the rapid evolution of multi-drug resistant Mycobacterium tuberculosis (MTB), which is resistant to at least isoniazid and rifamp...*

Setegn Eshetie, Mucheye Gizachew, Mulat Dagneu, Gemechu Kumera, Haile Woldie, Fekadu Ambaw, Belay Tessema and Feleke Moges

BMC Infectious Diseases 2017 17:219

Published on: 20 March 2017

## **BMC Medical Ethics**

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

(Accessed 25 March 2017)

*Research article*

### **[A qualitative study of participants' views on re-consent in a longitudinal biobank](#)**

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*Biomedical research increasingly relies on long-term studies involving use and re-use of biological samples and data stored in large repositories or "biobanks" over lengthy periods, often raising questions about whether and when a re-consenting process should be activated. We sought to investigate the views on re-consent of participants in a longitudinal biobank.*  
Mary Dixon-Woods, David Kocman, Liz Brewster, Janet Willars, Graeme Laurie and Carolyn Tarrant

BMC Medical Ethics 2017 18:22

Published on: 23 March 2017

## **BMC Medicine**

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

(Accessed 25 March 2017)

*Research article*

### **[Can incontinence be cured? A systematic review of cure rates](#)**

*Incontinence constitutes a major health problem affecting millions of people worldwide. The present study aims to assess cure rates from treating urinary (UI) or fecal incontinence (FI) and the number of people who may remain dependent on containment strategies... Many individuals were not cured and hence may continue to rely on containment. No studies were found assessing success of containment strategies. There was a lack of data in the disabled and in those with neurological diseases, in the elderly and those with cognitive impairment. Surgical interventions were effective for stress UI. Other interventions for UI and FI showed lower cure rates. Many individuals are likely to be reliant on containment strategies.*

Rob Riemsma, Suzanne Hagen, Ruth Kirschner-Hermanns, Christine Norton, Helle Wijk, Karl-Erik Andersson, Christopher Chapple, Julian Spinks, Adrian Wagg, Edward Hutt, Kate Misso, Sohan Deshpande, Jos Kleijnen and Ian Milsom

BMC Medicine 2017 15:63

Published on: 24 March 2017

## **BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth**

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

(Accessed 25 March 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

## **BMC Public Health**

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

(Accessed 25 March 2017)

*Research article*

### **[Improving the provision of services to young people from refugee backgrounds with comorbid mental health and substance use problems: addressing the barriers](#)**

Miriam Posselt, Karalyn McDonald, Nicholas Procter, Charlotte de Crespigny and Cherrie Galletly

BMC Public Health 2017 17:280

Published on: 24 March 2017

*Abstract*

Background

South Australia (SA) has resettled 151,134 refugees in the last ten years (Department of Immigration and Border Protection, Settlement reporting facility, 2014). Northern metropolitan Adelaide, an area which experiences significant social disadvantage, has received a significant

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number of (predominantly young) refugees. Research indicates that refugee youth are at elevated risk of mental health (MH) and alcohol and other drug (AOD) problems. These factors, along with the low socio-economic status of northern Adelaide, the number of refugee youth residing there, and the added complexity of treating comorbid MH and AOD problems (comorbidity) prompted this research. We investigated the barriers and facilitators to culturally responsive comorbidity care for these youth and whether the MH and AOD services were equipped to provide such support.

#### Methods

This mixed-methods study employed semi-structured interviews with refugee youth and service providers and an online survey with managers of services. Thirty participants (15 refugee youth, 15 service providers) took part in the semi-structured interviews and 56 (40 complete, 16 partially-complete) in the survey.

#### Results

Thematic analysis of the interview data revealed the most commonly reported barriers related to four broad areas: (1) organisational and structural, (2) access and engagement, (3) treatment and service delivery, and (4) training and resources. Survey data supported the barriers identified in the qualitative findings.

#### Conclusions

This research highlights significant gaps in the response of MH and AOD services to refugee youth with comorbidity. Based on the findings, ways of overcoming the barriers are discussed, and are of particular relevance to policy makers, organisations and clinicians.

#### *Research article*

#### **[Views of Somali women and men on the use of faith-based messages promoting breast and cervical cancer screening for Somali women: a focus-group study](#)**

Screening rates for breast and cervical cancer for Muslim women in the United States are low, particularly for first-generation immigrants. Interpretations of the Muslim faith represent some of the barriers fo...

Rebekah Pratt, Sharif Mohamed, Wali Dirie, Nimo Ahmed, Michael VanKeulen, Huda Ahmed, Nancy Raymond and Kola Okuyemi

BMC Public Health 2017 17:270

Published on: 20 March 2017

#### **BMC Research Notes**

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

(Accessed 25 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]

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## **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]

## **Conflict and Health**

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

[Accessed 25 March 2017]

*Letter to the Editor*

### **Rescue medical activities in the mediterranean migrant crisis**

Favila Escobio, Maryse Etiennoul and Stephany Spindola

Published on: 22 March 2017

The central Mediterranean route, between Libya and Italy, is considered the most dangerous of the migration pathways to Europe. In 2015, 3771 people died trying to reach Europe's shores; and there were 4655 deaths or disappearances between January and November 2016 [1]. In response to this extreme situation, in early 2016, Medicines du Monde France (MdM), in partnership with SOS Mediterranee, launched an emergency project on board of the MV Aquarius, a ship adapted for search and rescue operations. We describe here the main clinical features observed during search and rescue activities in the central Mediterranean route..

## **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

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<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 4, 2017

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

*Original Research*

#### **[Drafting standards on cognitive accessibility: a global collaboration](#)**

Emily J. Steel & Gunnel Janeslätt

Pages 385-389 | Received 13 Nov 2015, Accepted 05 Apr 2016, Published online: 13 Jun 2016

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17483107.2016.1176260> [emjsteel@gmail.com](mailto:emjsteel@gmail.com)

#### *Abstract*

**Purpose:** The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is working on accessibility of products to support people with cognitive impairment. Working Group 10, within the technical committee 173 (assistive products for persons with disability) was formed in 2014 to draft standards for assistive products that support people with cognitive impairment.

**Method:** This article explains the scope and purpose of the working group and the context for its formation, and describes the plans and process for drafting and publishing new international standards.

**Results:** The proposed suite of standards is presented, with examples from a draft standard on daily time management. It draws on international research evidence for the effectiveness of assistive products designed to support time management in people with cognitive impairment. Examples of assistive products and their key features are provided based on domains of time as defined in the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health for Children and Youth (ICF-CY).

**Conclusions:** The proposed standards will provide design recommendations for features and functions that increase the accessibility of products used by people with cognitive impairment. They are intended to be used by designers, manufacturers, educators and services providers, to facilitate their commitment to inclusion and demonstrate their willingness to work with accessibility regulation.

#### **Implications for Rehabilitation**

New standards based on universal design (UD) principles can guide the design of more user-friendly assistive products for people with cognitive impairment.

Greater usability of assistive products, whether mainstream or specially-designed, will make it easier for practitioners to find and introduce assistive solutions to individuals with cognitive impairment.

Greater usability of assistive products for daily time management can decrease the need for user training and support and enable participation.

### **Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness**

Volume 11 - Issue 1 - February 2017

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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](#)*

<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**

Volume 18, Issue 3, 2017  
<http://embor.embopress.org/front.current-issue>  
*Science & Society*

### **[The role of scientific self-regulation for the control of genome editing in the human germline -- The lessons from the Asilomar and the Napa meetings show how self-regulation and public deliberation can lead to regulation of new biotechnologies](#)**

The Asilomar meeting on recombinant DNA technology and the Napa meeting on genome editing of the human germline are examples of self-regulation by the scientific community. What can we learn from these cases to improve self-regulation so as to ensure public trust and inform regulation of new technologies?

Daniel Gregorowius, Nikola Biller-Andorno, Anna Deplazes-Zemp  
Published online 20.02.2017

## **Emergency Medicine Journal**

April 2017 - Volume 34 - 4  
<http://emj.bmj.com/content/current>  
Original article

### **[Can emergency medicine research benefit from adaptive design clinical trials?](#)**

Laura Flight, Steven A Julious, Steve Goodacre

#### *Abstract*

**Background** Adaptive design clinical trials use preplanned interim analyses to determine whether studies should be stopped or modified before recruitment is complete. Emergency medicine trials are well suited to these designs as many have a short time to primary outcome relative to the length of recruitment. We hypothesised that the majority of published emergency medicine trials have the potential to use a simple adaptive trial design.

**Methods** We reviewed clinical trials published in three emergency medicine journals between January 2003 and December 2013. We determined the proportion that used an adaptive design as well as the proportion that could have used a simple adaptive design based on the time to primary outcome and length of recruitment.

**Results** Only 19 of 188 trials included in the review were considered to have used an adaptive trial design. A total of 154/165 trials that were fixed in design had the potential to use an adaptive design.

**Conclusions** Currently, there seems to be limited uptake in the use of adaptive trial designs in emergency medicine despite their potential benefits to save time and resources. Failing to take advantage of adaptive designs could be costly to patients and research. It is recommended that where practical and logistical considerations allow, adaptive designs should be used for all emergency medicine clinical trials.

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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](#)*

## **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 5 - April 2017

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/epidemiology-and-infection/latest-issue>

*Research Article*

### **Maximizing the benefits of ART and PrEP in resource-limited settings**

Published online: 29 December 2016, pp. 942-956

G. AKUDIBILLAH, A. PANDEY, J. MEDLOCK

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0950268816002958>

*Abstract*

Antiretroviral therapy (ART) is increasingly being used as an HIV-prevention tool, administered to uninfected people with ongoing HIV exposure as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and to infected people to reduce their infectiousness. We used a modelling approach to determine the optimal population-level combination of ART and PrEP allocations required in South Africa to maximize programme effectiveness for four outcome measures: new infections, infection-years, death and cost. We considered two different strategies for allocating treatment, one that selectively allocates drugs to sex workers and one that does not. We found that for low treatment availability, prevention through PrEP to the general population or PrEP and ART to sex workers is key to maximizing effectiveness, while for higher drug availability, ART to the general population is optimal. At South Africa's current level of treatment availability, using prevention is most effective at reducing new infections, infection-years, and cost, while using the treatment as ART to the general population best reduces deaths. At treatment levels that meet the UNAIDS's ambitious new 90–90–90 target, using all or almost all treatment as ART to the general population best reduces all four outcome measures considered.

## **Ethics & International Affairs**

Winter 2016 (Issue 30.4)

<https://www.ethicsandinternationalaffairs.org/2016/winter-2016-issue-30-4/>

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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](#)*

[Reviewed earlier]

### **The European Journal of Public Health**

Volume 27, Issue 1, 1 February 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Food Policy**

Volume 68, In Progress (April 2017)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Food Security**

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]

### **Geoheritage**

Volume 9, Issue 1, March 2017

<http://link.springer.com/journal/12371/9/1/page/1>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **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>

[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](#)*



## Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 25 March 2017]

*Debate*

### **Obstacles and opportunities in Chinese pharmaceutical innovation**

*Global healthcare innovation networks nowadays have expanded beyond developed countries with many developing countries joining the force and becoming important players. China, in particular, has seen a significant increase in the number of innovative firms and research organizations stepping up to the global network in recent years. Nevertheless, the intense Research and Development input has not brought about the expectable output. While China is ascending at a great speed to a leading position worldwide in terms of Research and Development investment, scientific publications and patents, the innovation capabilities in the pharmaceutical sector remain weak.*

Jingyun Ni, Junrui Zhao, Carolina Oi Lam Ung, Yuanjia Hu, Hao Hu and Yitao Wang

Globalization and Health 2017 13:21

Published on: 24 March 2017

*Research*

### **Operational and implementation research within Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria grants: a situation analysis in six countries**

Sabine Kiefer, Astrid M. Knoblauch, Peter Steinmann, Tanja Barth-Jaeggi, Mahnaz Vahedi, Dermot Maher, Jürg Utzinger and Kaspar Wyss

Globalization and Health 2017 13:22

Published on: 24 March 2017

*Abstract*

Background

Operational/implementation research (OR/IR) is a key activity to improve disease control programme performance. We assessed the extent to which malaria and tuberculosis (TB) grants from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria ("Global Fund") include support for OR/IR, and discuss the implications of the current Global Fund operating mechanisms for OR/IR support.

Methods

The situation analysis focussed on malaria and TB, while HIV was excluded. Stakeholder interviews were conducted at the Global Fund secretariat and in six purposefully selected high disease burden countries, namely the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Myanmar and Zimbabwe. Interviewed in-country stakeholders included the relevant disease control programme managers, project implementation partners, representatives from international organisations with a stake in global health, academic and governmental research institutions, and other relevant individuals such as members of the country coordination mechanism. Additionally, documentation of grants and OR/IR obtained from the Global Fund was reviewed.

Results

The Global Fund provides substantial resources for malaria and TB surveys, and supports OR/IR if such support is requested and the application is well justified. We observed considerable variations from one country to another and between programmes with regards to need, demand, absorption capacity and funding for OR/IR related to malaria and TB. Important determinants for the extent of such funding are the involvement of national research coordination bodies, established research agendas and priorities, human and technical research capacity, and involvement of relevant stakeholders in concept note development. Efforts to

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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](#)*

disseminate OR/IR findings were generally weak, and the Global Fund does not maintain a central OR/IR database. When faced with a need to choose between procurement of commodities for disease control and supporting research, countries tend to seek research funding from other donors. The Global Fund is expected to issue more specific guidance on the conditions under which it supports OR/IR, and to adapt administrative procedures to facilitate research.

#### Conclusions

The importance of OR/IR for optimising disease control programmes is generally accepted but countries vary in their capacity to demand and implement studies. Countries expect guidance on OR/IR from the Global Fund. Administrative procedures specifically related to the budget planning should be modified to facilitate ad-hoc OR/IR funding. More generally, several countries expressed a need to strengthen capacity for planning, negotiating and implementing research.

#### Research

##### **The effect of social behavior change communication package on maternal knowledge in obstetric danger signs among mothers in East Mamprusi District of Ghana**

*An understanding of maternal knowledge of the danger signs of obstetric and newborn complications is fundamental to attaining universal health coverage. In Northern Ghana, where maternal and newborn morbidity ...*

Mahama Saaka, Paul Aryee, Robert kuganab-lem, Mohammed Ali and Abdul Razak Masahudu

Globalization and Health 2017 13:19

Published on: 21 March 2017

#### **Health Affairs**

March 2017; Volume 36, Issue 3

<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]

#### **Health Policy and Planning**

Volume 32 Issue 3 April 2017

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

*Editorial*

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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](#)*

## **Privilege and inclusivity in shaping Global Health agendas**

Health Policy Plan (2017) 32 (3): 303-304.

Kabir Sheikh, Sara C Bennett, Fadi el Jardali, George Gotsadze

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czw146>

Published: 24 October 2016

### *Initial text*

Northern voices dominate Global Health discussions. Of recent Lancet Commissions, excluding representatives from international organizations, 70% of commissioners on the Women and Health commission came from the global North, and likewise, 71% of the Health and Climate Change commission, 72% of the Global Surgery commission and 73% of the Global Health commission (Lancet 2016). Only two out of the 16-member Board of Directors of the Consortium of Universities of Global Health come from the global South (CUGH 2016). No current or past president and only one current member of the World Health Summit's scientific committee is from the global South (WHS 2016). Only one of the 17 advisory board members of the journal Global Health Governance is based in a low/middle income...

## **Public health expenditure and health system responsiveness for low-income individuals: results from 63 countries**

Chetna Malhotra; Young Kyung Do

### *Abstract*

Improvement in overall responsiveness to people's expectations is an important goal for any health system; socioeconomic equity in responsiveness is equally important. However, it is not known if socioeconomic disparities in responsiveness can be reduced through greater public health expenditures. This article assesses the relationship of the proportion of public health expenditure over total health expenditure (PPHE) with responsiveness for poorest individuals and the difference in responsiveness between the richest and poorest individuals. We used data from six responsiveness dimensions (prompt attention, dignity, choice, clarity of information, confidentiality and quality of basic amenities) of outpatient services from World Health Survey data from 63 countries. Hierarchical Ordered Probit (HOPIT) models assessed the probability of 'very good' responsiveness in each domain among the poorest and richest individuals for each country, correcting for reporting heterogeneity through vignettes. Linear regression models were then used to assess the association between predicted probabilities from HOPIT models and PPHE, adjusting for (log) Gross Domestic Product per capita. The study findings showed that higher PPHE was associated with a higher probability of 'very good' responsiveness for each domain among the poorest individuals, and with smaller pro-rich disparities in responsiveness between the richest and poorest individuals. In conclusion, increasing PPHE may improve the responsiveness of health services for the poorest individuals and reduce disparities in responsiveness between the richest and poorest individuals.

### *Editor's Choice*

## **Government stewardship of the for-profit private health sector in Afghanistan**

Harry E. Cross; Omarzaman Sayedi; Laili Irani; Lauren C. Archer; Kathleen Sears ...

### *Abstract*

Background: Since 2003, Afghanistan's largely unregulated for-profit private health sector has grown at a rapid pace. In 2008, the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) launched a long-term stewardship initiative to oversee and regulate private providers and align the sector with national health goals.

Aim: We examine the progress the MoPH has made towards more effective stewardship, consider the challenges and assess the early impacts on for-profit performance.

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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](#)*

**Methods:** We reviewed publicly available documents, publications and the grey literature to analyse the development, adoption and implementation of strategies, policies and regulations. We carried out a series of key informant/participant interviews, organizational capacity assessments and analyses of hospital standards checklists. Using a literature review of health systems strengthening, we proposed an Afghan-specific definition of six key stewardship functions to assess progress towards MoPH stewardship objectives.

**Results:** The MoPH and its partners have achieved positive results in strengthening its private sector stewardship functions especially in generating actionable intelligence and establishing strategic policy directions, administrative structures and a legal and regulatory framework. Progress has also been made on improving accountability and transparency, building partnerships and applying minimum required standards to private hospitals. Procedural and operational issues still need resolution and the MoPH is establishing mechanisms for resolving them.

**Conclusions:** The MoPH stewardship initiative is notable for its achievements to date under challenging circumstances. Its success is due to the focus on developing a solid policy framework and building institutions and systems aimed at ensuring higher quality private services, and a rational long-term and sustainable role for the private sector. Although the MoPH stewardship initiative is still at an early stage, the evidence suggests that enhanced stewardship functions in the MoPH are leading to a more efficient and effective for-profit private sector. These successful early efforts offer high-leverage potential to rapidly scale up going forward.

### **The impact of health insurance on maternal health care utilization: evidence from Ghana, Indonesia and Rwanda**

Wenjuan Wang; Gheda Temsah; Lindsay Mallick

#### *Abstract*

While research has assessed the impact of health insurance on health care utilization, few studies have focused on the effects of health insurance on use of maternal health care. Analyzing nationally representative data from the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), this study estimates the impact of health insurance status on the use of maternal health services in three countries with relatively high levels of health insurance coverage—Ghana, Indonesia and Rwanda. The analysis uses propensity score matching to adjust for selection bias in health insurance uptake and to assess the effect of health insurance on four measurements of maternal health care utilization: making at least one antenatal care visit; making four or more antenatal care visits; initiating antenatal care within the first trimester and giving birth in a health facility. Although health insurance schemes in these three countries are mostly designed to focus on the poor, coverage has been highly skewed toward the rich, especially in Ghana and Rwanda. Indonesia shows less variation in coverage by wealth status. The analysis found significant positive effects of health insurance coverage on at least two of the four measures of maternal health care utilization in each of the three countries. Indonesia stands out for the most systematic effect of health insurance across all four measures. The positive impact of health insurance appears more consistent on use of facility-based delivery than use of antenatal care. The analysis suggests that broadening health insurance to include income-sensitive premiums or exemptions for the poor and low or no copayments can increase use of maternal health care.

#### *Review*

### **Support and performance improvement for primary health care workers in low- and middle-income countries: a scoping review of intervention design and methods**

Ashwin Vasani; David C. Mabey; Simran Chaudhri; Helen-Ann Brown Epstein; Stephen D. Lawn

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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](#)*

## *Abstract*

Primary health care workers (HCWs) in low- and middle-income settings (LMIC) often work in challenging conditions in remote, rural areas, in isolation from the rest of the health system and particularly specialist care. Much attention has been given to implementation of interventions to support quality and performance improvement for workers in such settings. However, little is known about the design of such initiatives and which approaches predominate, let alone those that are most effective. We aimed for a broad understanding of what distinguishes different approaches to primary HCW support and performance improvement and to clarify the existing evidence as well as gaps in evidence in order to inform decision-making and design of programs intended to support and improve the performance of health workers in these settings. We systematically searched the literature for articles addressing this topic, and undertook a comparative review to document the principal approaches to performance and quality improvement for primary HCWs in LMIC settings. We identified 40 eligible papers reporting on interventions that we categorized into five different approaches: (1) supervision and supportive supervision; (2) mentoring; (3) tools and aids; (4) quality improvement methods, and (5) coaching. The variety of study designs and quality/performance indicators precluded a formal quantitative data synthesis. The most extensive literature was on supervision, but there was little clarity on what defines the most effective approach to the supervision activities themselves, let alone the design and implementation of supervision programs. The mentoring literature was limited, and largely focused on clinical skills building and educational strategies. Further research on how best to incorporate mentorship into pre-service clinical training, while maintaining its function within the routine health system, is needed. There is insufficient evidence to draw conclusions about coaching in this setting, however a review of the corporate and the business school literature is warranted to identify transferrable approaches. A substantial literature exists on tools, but significant variation in approaches makes comparison challenging. We found examples of effective individual projects and designs in specific settings, but there was a lack of comparative research on tools across approaches or across settings, and no systematic analysis within specific approaches to provide evidence with clear generalizability. Future research should prioritize comparative intervention trials to establish clear global standards for performance and quality improvement initiatives. Such standards will be critical to creating and sustaining a well-functioning health workforce and for global initiatives such as universal health coverage.

## **Health Research Policy and Systems**

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

[Accessed 25 March 2017]

### *Research*

### **[International consultation on long-term global health research priorities, research capacity and research uptake in developing countries](#)**

David Mc Conalogue, Sue Kinn, Jo-Ann Mulligan and Malcolm McNeil

Health Research Policy and Systems 2017 15:24

Published on: 21 March 2017

### *Abstract*

#### **Background**

In recognition of the need for long-term planning for global health research, and to inform future global health research priorities, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DfID) carried out a public consultation between May and June 2015. The consultation aimed to elicit views on the (1) the long-term future global health research

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priorities; (2) areas likely to be less important over time; (3) how to improve research uptake in low-income countries; and (4) how to build research capacity in low-income countries.

#### Methods

An online consultation was used to survey a wide range of participants on global health research priorities. The qualitative data was analysed using a thematic analysis, with frequency of codes in responses tabulated to approximate relative importance of themes and sub-themes.

#### Results

The public consultation yielded 421 responses. The survey responses confirmed the growing importance of non-communicable disease as a global health research priority, being placed above infectious diseases. Participants felt that the key area for reducing funding prioritisation was infectious diseases. The involvement of policymakers and other key stakeholders was seen as critical to drive research uptake, as was collaboration and partnership. Several methods to build research capacity in low-income countries were described, including capacity building educational programmes, mentorship programmes and research institution collaboration and partnership.

#### Conclusions

The outcomes from this consultation survey provide valuable insights into how DfID stakeholders prioritise research. The outcomes from this survey were reviewed alongside other elements of a wider DfID consultation process to help inform long-term research prioritisation of global health research. There are limitations in this approach; the opportunistic nature of the survey's dissemination means the findings presented may not be representative of the full range of stakeholders or views.

### **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 25 March 2017]

[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](#)*



## Infectious Diseases of Poverty

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

[Accessed 25 March 2017]

Research Article

### **Different challenges, different approaches and related expenditures of community-based tuberculosis activities by international non-governmental organizations in Myanmar**

*International non-governmental organizations (INGOs) have been implementing community-based tuberculosis (TB) care (CBTBC) in Myanmar since 2011. Although the National TB Programme (NTP) ultimately plans to ta...*

Wai Wai Han, Saw Saw, Petros Isaakidis, Mohammed Khogali, Anthony Reid, Nguyen Hoa, Ko Ko Zaw and Si Thu Aung

Infectious Diseases of Poverty 2017 6:59

Published on: 24 March 2017

Research Article

### **International non-governmental organizations' provision of community-based tuberculosis care for hard-to-reach populations in Myanmar, 2013–2014**

*National tuberculosis (TB) programs increasingly engage with international non-governmental organizations (INGOs), especially to provide TB care in complex settings where community involvement might be require...*

Kyaw Thu Soe, Saw Saw, Johan van Griensven, Shuisen Zhou, Le Win, Palanivel Chinnakali, Safieh Shah, Myo Myo Mon and Si Thu Aung

Infectious Diseases of Poverty 2017 6:69

Published on: 24 March 2017

Opinion

### **Building a global schistosomiasis alliance: an opportunity to join forces to fight inequality and rural poverty**

*Schistosomiasis, one of the 17 neglected tropical diseases listed by the World Health Organization, presents a substantial public health and economic burden. Of the 261 million people requiring preventive chem...*

Lorenzo Savioli, Marco Albonico, Daniel G. Colley, Rodrigo Correa-Oliveira, Alan Fenwick, Will Green, Narcis Kabatereine, Achille Kabore, Naftale Katz, Katharina Klohe, Philip T. LoVerde, David Rollinson, J. Russell Stothard, Louis-Albert Tchuem Tchuente, Johannes Waltz and Xiao-Nong Zhou

Infectious Diseases of Poverty 2017 6:65

Published on: 23 March 2017

## International Health

Volume 9, Issue 2 March 2017

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

Editor's Choice

### **Strategies for halting the rise of multidrug resistant TB epidemics: assessing the effect of early case detection and isolation**

Aquino L. Espindola; Marie Varughese; Marek Laskowski; Affan Shoukat; Jane M. Heffernan ...

Abstract

Background

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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](#)



The increasing rates of multidrug resistant TB (MDR-TB) have posed the question of whether control programs under enhanced directly observed treatment, short-course (DOTS-Plus) are sufficient or implemented optimally. Despite enhanced efforts on early case detection and improved treatment regimens, direct transmission of MDR-TB remains a major hurdle for global TB control.

#### Methods

We developed an agent-based simulation model of TB dynamics to evaluate the effect of transmission reduction measures on the incidence of MDR-TB. We implemented a 15-day isolation period following the start of treatment in active TB cases. The model was parameterized with the latest estimates derived from the published literature.

#### Results

We found that if high rates (over 90%) of TB case identification are achieved within 4 weeks of developing active TB, then a 15-day patient isolation strategy with 50% effectiveness in interrupting disease transmission leads to 10% reduction in the incidence of MDR-TB over 10 years. If transmission is fully prevented, the rise of MDR-TB can be halted within 10 years, but the temporal reduction of MDR-TB incidence remains below 20% in this period.

#### Conclusions

The impact of transmission reduction measures on the TB incidence depends critically on the rates and timelines of case identification. The high costs and adverse effects associated with MDR-TB treatment warrant increased efforts and investments on measures that can interrupt direct transmission through early case detection.

### **The yield and feasibility of integrated screening for TB, diabetes and HIV in four public hospitals in Ethiopia**

Degu Jerene; Nebiyu Hiruy; Iili Jemal; Wondimu Gebrekiros; Tadesse Anteneh ...

#### *Abstract*

##### Background

Our objective was to demonstrate the feasibility of integrated care for TB, HIV and diabetes mellitus (DM) in a pilot project in Ethiopia.

##### Methods

Healthcare workers in four hospitals screened patients with TB for HIV and DM; patients with HIV for DM and TB; and patients with DM for TB. Fasting and random plasma glucose (RPG) tests were used to confirm the diagnosis of DM. We used screening checklists for TB and DM, and additional risk scoring criteria to identify patients at risk of DM.

##### Results

Of 3439 study participants, 888 were patients with DM, 439 patients with TB and 2112 from HIV clinics. Six of the patients with DM had TB of whom five were already on treatment; and 141 (32.4%) patients with TB had DM, of whom only five were previously diagnosed with DM. Symptomatic patients and those with a risk score of 5 or more were about three times more likely to have abnormal blood glucose level. Of 2075 HIV patients with RPG determined, only 31 (1.5%) had abnormal RPG.

##### Conclusions

Tri-directional screening was feasible for detecting and managing previously undiagnosed TB and DM. More work is needed to better understand the interaction between HIV and DM.

### **Discourse versus practice: are traditional practices and beliefs in pregnancy and childbirth included or excluded in the Ecuadorian health care system?**

Carlos Andres Gallegos; William F. Waters; Anne Sebert Kuhlmann

#### *Abstract*

##### Background

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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](#)*

Traditional beliefs, knowledge and practices are formally integrated into the Ecuadorian health system. We sought to understand whether they are integrated in practice.

#### Methods

Qualitative data were collected in two rural parishes in the central highlands of Ecuador through four focus group discussions (30 participants), eight key informant interviews, three participatory exercises (24 participants), structured observations of health facilities and analysis of official documents.

#### Results

We found different levels of integration, coexistence, tolerance, and intolerance of traditional health beliefs and practices in health facilities. One parish has undergone dramatic social and cultural transformation, and the role of traditional birth attendants is limited. In the other parish, traditional indigenous norms and values persist, and traditional birth attendants are sought during pregnancy and childbirth. The degree to which traditional birth attendants, indigenous women and their families are included or excluded from public health services depends largely on decisions taken by local health professionals.

#### Conclusions

Formal policies in Ecuador stipulate that health care should be intercultural, but the role of traditional birth attendants is not necessarily incorporated in practice. The integration of culturally-informed beliefs and practices is critical for providing appropriate health services to members of vulnerable populations.

### **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 Heritage Studies**

Volume 23, Issue 5, 2017

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjhs20/current>

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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 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]*

[Reviewed earlier]

**International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology**

Volume 24, 2017 - Issue 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**International Migration Review**

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*

[Reviewed earlier]

**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 21, 2017, Vol 317, No. 11, Pages 1093-1187

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

**JAMA Pediatrics**

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

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**JBI 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]

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## **Journal of Cultural Heritage**

Volume 24, Pages e1-e2, 1-206 (March–April 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/12962074>

*Original articles*

### **Architectural heritage knowledge modelling: An ontology-based framework for conservation process**

Original Research Article

Pages 124-133

Marta Acierno, Stefano Cursi, Davide Simeone, Donatella Fiorani

*Case studies*

### **Fast, low cost and safe methodology for the assessment of the state of conservation of historical buildings from 3D laser scanning: The case study of Santa Maria in Portonovo (Italy)**

Pages 175-183

Enrico Quagliarini, Paolo Clini, Mirko Ripanti

*Abstract*

The assessment of the state of conservation and risk of historical buildings represents a current and more and more important challenge. It usually requires different steps and is traditionally a cost, time-demanding and often unsafe process. This way, in this paper, a fast, low cost and safe methodology from 3D-laser scanner is provided for this issue. Following it, it is possible to easily assess if some activated mechanisms can be found in some macro-elements of the historical building. Furthermore, from the superposition of photographic data previous interventions can be recognized, as well as, degraded areas. This method was applied to the case study of Santa Maria in Portonovo church, a little jewel of the Italian Marche Romanesque architecture, where quite evident mechanisms were found in the face of the vestibule, in the north side wall, in the main facade and in the original apse. It was also possible to assess the typical physiologic deformation of the inner vaults subject to their own weight. A high number of areas largely restored by previous works were then found, probably due to a diffused and continuous degradation of the materials caused by the sea exposure. This method works well especially after, i.e. an earthquake, whereas it is possible to accurately evaluate the building safety far from it.

## **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 126, Pages 1-242 (May 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03043878/126>

[No new digest content identified]

## **Journal of Environmental Management**

Volume 190, Pages 1-302 (1 April 2017)

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<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03014797/190>

*Original Research Article*

**Towards a framework for quantifying the population-level consequences of anthropogenic pressures on the environment: The case of seabirds and windfarms**

Pages 113-121

Aonghais S.C.P. Cook, Robert A. Robinson

*Highlights*

- :: Quantifying impacts of development on populations is a key problem for ecologists.
- :: However, approaches to do this are often subject to significant uncertainty.
- :: We propose a framework to assess the impacts of wind farms on seabird populations.
- : Probabilistic approaches proved less robust to uncertainty than others.
- :: Decisions about impacts must be made in the context of the population concerned.

**Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health**

April 2017 - Volume 71 - 4

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Global Ethics**

Volume 12, Issue 3, 2016

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

***Theme Issue: Refugee Crisis: The Borders of Human Mobility***

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Global Infectious Diseases (JGID)**

January – March 2017 Vol 9 Issue 1 Pages 1-37

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

[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>

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[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]

**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**

April 2017 - Volume 43 - 4

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

**Journal of Operations Management**

Volumes 47–48, Pages 1-98 (November 2016)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews**

Volume 4, Issue 1 (2017)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (JPIDS)**

Volume 6 Issue 1, March 2017

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

*ORIGINAL ARTICLES*

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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](#)*

## **Reflections of a Vaccinologist: Lessons Learned About What We Can Do to Improve Trust in Vaccines and Vaccine Programs**

Neal A. Halsey

### *Abstract*

Public trust can be improved by learning from past mistakes, by establishing a standing forum for review of new concerns as they arise, and by maintaining a robust vaccine safety system. Developing standard guidelines for reporting causality assessment in case reports would help educate physicians and prevent future unnecessary concerns based on false assumptions of causal relationships.

### **Journal of Pediatrics**

March 2017 Volume 182, p1-412

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **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 25, 2017 Volume 389 Number 10075 p1165-1272 e4

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

#### *Editorial*

### **Trauma for migrant children stranded in Greece**

The Lancet

A Save the Children report released on March 16 raises alarm about the dire consequences of the deal made between the European Union (EU) and Turkey that limits the number of migrants and refugees entering Europe via Greece. 1 year after the agreement, thousands of people, many escaping Syria or Iraq, are now stranded on Greek islands. They are living in limbo waiting for asylum or passage, prohibited from leaving, and effectively imprisoned. Conditions are said to be appalling with limited infrastructure and facilities. Of the 13 200 migrants and refugees stranded in the Aegean islands, more than 5000 are children, some of whom are unaccompanied or separated from their families. The report calls for the EU and Greece to immediately end the illegal detention of children and to better protect them. But given the

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extent of the health consequences documented by Save the Children, the medical community also needs to act urgently.

The charity says that children trapped on the Greek islands are showing signs of depression, anxiety, and distress. Bedwetting, nightmares, and aggressive behaviour are increasing. Some children have witnessed deaths, fires, protests, and police violence in the camps. Basic needs for food, water, and sanitation are barely being met, says the report. Shockingly, children as young as 9 years have attempted suicide or self-harm.

Affected children are clearly traumatised. Many will have already fled war, poverty, or persecution. Along the way they may have lost parents or siblings or been separated from them. But instead of treating that trauma, our collective failure has led to their re-traumatisation. At such a crucial time of a child's development, the physical and mental health effects of this unacceptable detention are devastating. The long-term consequences will be worse. The medical community should act immediately: we must insist on the removal of these children from the camps with their families into safe and humane shelter. We must provide the health care and treatment these children need to recover from their trauma. And we must support all efforts to help them regain their resilience and hope for free and full lives.

#### *Editorial*

#### **Preparing for future global health emergencies**

The Lancet

On March 13–14, Chatham House and the Graduate Institute Geneva-Global Health Centre hosted a roundtable meeting on preparedness for global health crises. Representatives from WHO and the UN, including member states, global health and development agencies, foundations, academia, and non-profit initiatives shared their work and experiences on monitoring preparedness for outbreaks and other public health emergencies.

Several themes emerged. Global preparedness for outbreaks is improving in some regions, and changes to the global response architecture are underway. A broad range of sectors must be involved, from animal and livestock to human health and trade. Current monitoring and tracking of preparedness use indicators from the International Health Regulations (IHR) and a joint external evaluation process for IHR requirements has begun. Tracking for Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai framework for disaster risk reduction is being considered. Reporting on progress is voluntary, non-existent, or overlapping, and tracking of global commitments and responsibilities is largely absent.

Views differed on how to monitor contributions to global, national, and regional preparedness and mutual accountability, but there was consensus that country-level preparedness, financing, and sharing of information, research, and health technologies are vital. Independent accountability is needed to ensure all stakeholders are acting on their commitments to help raise the profile of preparedness politically. This effort will require an ecosystem of multiple stakeholders, a range of expertise, and diverse data sources.

Chatham House and the Graduate Institute will contribute to this ecosystem through a new Monitoring and Accountability for Preparedness initiative (MAP-Global Health Crises). Harvard University and the US National Academy of Sciences have convened a meeting to advance these discussions on April 18, and meetings are planned by others. The Geneva meeting is a good first step towards identifying the stakeholder ecosystem required to ensure that countries

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and the global community continue to strengthen their collective preparedness for the health crises that will inevitably arise.

## Articles

### **Socioeconomic status and the 25 × 25 risk factors as determinants of premature mortality: a multicohort study and meta-analysis of 1·7 million men and women**

Silvia Stringhini, Cristian Carmeli, Markus Jokela, Mauricio Avendaño, Peter Muennig, Florence Guida, Fulvio Ricceri, Angelo d'Errico, Henrique Barros, Murielle Bochud, Marc Chadeau-Hyam, Françoise Clavel-Chapelon, Giuseppe Costa, Cyrille Delpierre, Silvia Fraga, Marcel Goldberg, Graham G Giles, Vittorio Krogh, Michelle Kelly-Irving, Richard Layte, Aurélie M Lasserre, Michael G Marmot, Martin Preisig, Martin J Shipley, Peter Vollenweider, Marie Zins, Ichiro Kawachi, Andrew Steptoe, Johan P Mackenbach, Paolo Vineis, Mika Kivimäki for the LIFEPAATH consortium 1229

Open Access

Abstract

Background

In 2011, WHO member states signed up to the 25 × 25 initiative, a plan to cut mortality due to non-communicable diseases by 25% by 2025. However, socioeconomic factors influencing non-communicable diseases have not been included in the plan. In this study, we aimed to compare the contribution of socioeconomic status to mortality and years-of-life-lost with that of the 25 × 25 conventional risk factors.

Methods

We did a multicohort study and meta-analysis with individual-level data from 48 independent prospective cohort studies with information about socioeconomic status, indexed by occupational position, 25 × 25 risk factors (high alcohol intake, physical inactivity, current smoking, hypertension, diabetes, and obesity), and mortality, for a total population of 1,751,479 (54% women) from seven high-income WHO member countries. We estimated the association of socioeconomic status and the 25 × 25 risk factors with all-cause mortality and cause-specific mortality by calculating minimally adjusted and mutually adjusted hazard ratios [HR] and 95% CIs. We also estimated the population attributable fraction and the years of life lost due to suboptimal risk factors.

Findings

During 26.6 million person-years at risk (mean follow-up 13.3 years [SD 6.4 years]), 310,277 participants died. HR for the 25 × 25 risk factors and mortality varied between 1.04 (95% CI 0.98–1.11) for obesity in men and 2.17 (2.06–2.29) for current smoking in men. Participants with low socioeconomic status had greater mortality compared with those with high socioeconomic status (HR 1.42, 95% CI 1.38–1.45 for men; 1.34, 1.28–1.39 for women); this association remained significant in mutually adjusted models that included the 25 × 25 factors (HR 1.26, 1.21–1.32, men and women combined). The population attributable fraction was highest for smoking, followed by physical inactivity then socioeconomic status. Low socioeconomic status was associated with a 2.1-year reduction in life expectancy between ages 40 and 85 years, the corresponding years-of-life-lost were 0.5 years for high alcohol intake, 0.7 years for obesity, 3.9 years for diabetes, 1.6 years for hypertension, 2.4 years for physical inactivity, and 4.8 years for current smoking.

Interpretation

Socioeconomic circumstances, in addition to the 25 × 25 factors, should be targeted by local and global health strategies and health risk surveillance to reduce mortality.

Funding

European Commission, Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Swiss National Science Foundation, the Medical Research Council, NordForsk, Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology.

### **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>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **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 7646 pp463-582 23 March 2017

[http://www.nature.com/nature/current\\_issue.html](http://www.nature.com/nature/current_issue.html)

*Editorial*

**[Trump faces backlash on health-agency cuts](#)**

Crippling the US National Institutes of Health might increase resistance to other attacks on science.

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*Editorial*

**The FDA chief must not be a proxy for industry**

Trump's pick for the US regulatory agency will bring experience and a clear vision — as well as ties to industry.

**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 23, 2017 Vol. 376 No. 12

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

*Perspective*

**Chilling Effect? Post-Election Health Care Use by Undocumented and Mixed-Status Families**

K.R. Page and S. Polk

*Excerpt*

...Today, the ACA's fate is unclear, with implications for millions of Americans.<sup>5</sup> We cannot predict how health care access will be reshaped, yet it's all but certain that undocumented immigrants who were never eligible for ACA benefits will not have better access to care. Access may be significantly reduced if financial penalties are applied to states or cities that refuse to cooperate with ICE. Overt restrictions on basic public services, such as schools or public health clinics, are unlikely, given that such measures were ruled unconstitutional in the 1990s (California Proposition 187), but access could be restricted by requiring government-issued identification cards or Social Security numbers at federally qualified health centers or health department clinics. In addition, as our pregnant patient showed us, a climate of deportation may dampen the use of existing resources, even among eligible people.<sup>5</sup>

To reduce barriers to care for immigrant families, the medical and public health community can engage in local and national politics and promote a welcoming, inclusive environment in our practices. Clinicians have access to powerful stories of human suffering and strength. The current climate presents a renewed opportunity to partner with advocacy groups and media to share stories of human experience that counter the Trump administration's negative narrative about immigrants. The sharing of personal stories about the impact of the temporary immigrant ban through social and mainstream media has energized millions of people to express opposition to the ban. Portraits of scientists and doctors affected by the ban highlighted its unintended consequences for science and health care. Telling human stories is an effective rapid-response tool that we can use to advocate for our patients.

Clinicians and public health practitioners can also join forces to harness the power of data. We can monitor and measure health care utilization and health outcomes. Clinicians can pay attention to patterns in health care utilization among their immigrant patients and communicate worrisome trends to public health professionals. Some markers of child well-being — such as Medicaid enrollment rates among eligible children of foreign-born parents, teen pregnancy rates, uptake of supplemental nutrition assistance programs, school attendance, and bullying reports — are already monitored, allowing comparison of the pre- and post-election periods.

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The election's implications for undocumented adults may be more complicated to evaluate, since these adults are often invisible in conventional databases because of barriers to care and insufficient collection of relevant sociodemographic data (i.e., ethnic background, country of origin, and language preference). It's important to develop inclusive methods that account for the unique needs of hidden populations. Some existing measures, however, can provide indications of a chilling effect, including utilization of safety-net clinics for sexual and reproductive health care, timeliness of prenatal care, domestic violence reports, and hate crimes (especially assaults resulting in emergency department visits)...

There are many reasons to support equitable access to care for all, regardless of nationality. Objective and scientifically rigorous data analysis will be essential in elucidating the interconnection between immigrants' health and the public health and health care costs of the United States.

*Editorial*

### **Rotavirus Vaccines — A New Hope**

Mathuram Santosham, M.D., M.P.H., and Duncan Steele, Ph.D.

N Engl J Med 2017; 376:1170-1172 March 23, 2017 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMe1701347

Rotavirus gastroenteritis is the leading cause of diarrhea-associated hospitalization and death in children younger than 5 years of age,<sup>1</sup> with more than 85% of the approximately 200,000 annual rotavirus deaths occurring in Africa and Asia.<sup>2</sup> Since improvements in water, sanitation, and hygiene do not prevent rotavirus transmission, as they do with the spread of bacterial enteropathogens, the implementation of a rotavirus vaccine is essential to prevent death and complications from childhood diarrhea.

Two rotavirus vaccines — Rotarix (an attenuated G1P8 rotavirus manufactured by GlaxoSmithKline) and RotaTeq (containing five human–bovine reassortant rotaviruses, manufactured by Merck), attained prequalification by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2008, which paved the way for UNICEF vaccine procurement through the financing mechanisms of the Gavi Alliance. These vaccines, which have been introduced in 42 Gavi-eligible countries and in 6 countries that have been designated as low-income and middle-income, have had a major effect on rotavirus deaths and hospitalizations in all settings.<sup>3</sup>

However, the uptake of rotavirus vaccines has slowed for various reasons, including supply constraints, high cost, and programmatic concerns for national immunization programs, particularly cold-chain capacity.<sup>4</sup> Gavi countries have predominantly selected the attenuated G1P8 rotavirus vaccine,<sup>5</sup> which has a smaller vaccine vial size and comes with a vaccine vial monitor for temperature monitoring. The two approved rotavirus vaccines have a liquid ready-to-use formulation. However, issues of cost of the vaccine and vaccine supply remain. With Gavi support, low-income countries can procure rotavirus vaccines with a minimal copayment of 40 cents (in U.S. currency) per course, and Gavi cofinances the remainder of the UNICEF price (which ranges from \$4.50 to \$10.50). Low-income and middle-income countries, which are not Gavi-eligible, pay substantially higher costs for rotavirus vaccines.<sup>5</sup> Gavi's principles for vaccine-supply security emphasize the need for multiple manufacturers in the market to drive down prices while establishing sufficient vaccine supply. This protocol will become more critical as countries transition from Gavi support owing to socioeconomic development.

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Fortunately, the situation is improving. In 2013, an indigenously developed rotavirus vaccine (ROTAVAC, Bharat Biotech International) was licensed in India and has been introduced in the routine childhood immunization program in four Indian states, with expanded rollout expected this year. This vaccine is under consideration for WHO prequalification, which would make it eligible for UNICEF procurement and Gavi subsidy. Bharat Biotech has committed to a cost of approximately \$3.00 per course for global public markets.

In this issue of the Journal, Isanaka and colleagues<sup>6</sup> document the safety and efficacy of an oral bovine rotavirus pentavalent vaccine (BRV-PV) developed by Serum Institute of India. The vaccine, which the investigators evaluated in an impoverished setting in Niger, had a reported efficacy of 66.7%,<sup>6</sup> which is similar to that of other licensed rotavirus vaccines in similar settings. Efficacy data from an Indian study are pending. Despite this modest efficacy, the absolute public health benefits of vaccination are large, given the tremendous disease burden.

Estimates suggest that rotavirus vaccines have the potential to prevent 2.46 million childhood deaths and 83 million disability-adjusted life-years during the period from 2011 through 2030.<sup>7</sup> The authors describe a rotavirus vaccine that is thermostable for 24 months at 37°C and for 6 months at 40°C, which may provide advantages for vaccine delivery in remote areas where cold-chain capacity is limited. However, this vaccine is freeze-dried, and practitioners in many countries may prefer other rotavirus vaccines that have liquid all-in-one formulations to simplify programmatic considerations. The projected cost of this heat-stable vaccine falls between the Gavi prices for the two currently used vaccines. The availability of vaccines from several manufacturers will increase global supply.

During the past three decades, remarkable progress has been made in reducing mortality from diarrheal disease, but the goal of ending such deaths cannot be achieved without aggressive implementation of a comprehensive approach to diarrhea prevention and treatment, including providing access of rotavirus vaccines to every child regardless of economic status. Increased availability of low-cost, programmatically suitable vaccines in abundant supply will be key to achieving this goal.

#### *Original Article*

#### **Efficacy of a Low-Cost, Heat-Stable Oral Rotavirus Vaccine in Niger**

Sheila Isanaka, Sc.D., Ousmane Guindo, M.D., Celine Langendorf, Pharm.D., M.P.H., Amadou Matar Seck, M.D., Brian D. Plikaytis, M.Sc., Nathan Sayinzoga-Makombe, M.P.H., Monica M. McNeal, M.Sc., Nicole Meyer, M.Sc., Eric Adehossi, M.D., Ali Djibo, M.D., Bruno Jochum, M.S., and Rebecca F. Grais, Ph.D.

N Engl J Med 2017; 376:1121-1130 March 23, 2017 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1609462

#### *Abstract*

##### **Background**

Each year, rotavirus gastroenteritis is responsible for about 37% of deaths from diarrhea among children younger than 5 years of age worldwide, with a disproportionate effect in sub-Saharan Africa.

##### **Methods**

We conducted a randomized, placebo-controlled trial in Niger to evaluate the efficacy of a live, oral bovine rotavirus pentavalent vaccine (BRV-PV, Serum Institute of India) to prevent severe rotavirus gastroenteritis. Healthy infants received three doses of the vaccine or placebo at 6, 10, and 14 weeks of age. Episodes of gastroenteritis were assessed through active and passive surveillance and were graded on the basis of the score on the Vesikari scale (which ranges from 0 to 20, with higher scores indicating more severe disease). The primary end point was the

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efficacy of three doses of vaccine as compared with placebo against a first episode of laboratory-confirmed severe rotavirus gastroenteritis (Vesikari score,  $\geq 11$ ) beginning 28 days after dose 3.

#### Results

Among the 3508 infants who were included in the per-protocol efficacy analysis, there were 31 cases of severe rotavirus gastroenteritis in the vaccine group and 87 cases in the placebo group (2.14 and 6.44 cases per 100 person-years, respectively), for a vaccine efficacy of 66.7% (95% confidence interval [CI], 49.9 to 77.9). Similar efficacy was seen in the intention-to-treat analyses, which showed a vaccine efficacy of 69.1% (95% CI, 55.0 to 78.7). There was no significant between-group difference in the risk of adverse events, which were reported in 68.7% of the infants in the vaccine group and in 67.2% of those in the placebo group, or in the risk of serious adverse events (in 8.3% in the vaccine group and in 9.1% in the placebo group); there were 27 deaths in the vaccine group and 22 in the placebo group. None of the infants had confirmed intussusception.

#### Conclusions

Three doses of BRV-PV, an oral rotavirus vaccine, had an efficacy of 66.7% against severe rotavirus gastroenteritis among infants in Niger. (Funded by Médecins sans Frontières Operational Center and the Kavli Foundation; ClinicalTrials.gov number, [NCT02145000](#).)

### **Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly**

Volume 46, Issue 1, February 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration**

OxMo Vol. 6, No. 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Pediatrics**

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 25 March 2017]

*Brief Report*

[\*\*The Development of a Veterans Health Administration Emergency Management Research Agenda\*\*](#)

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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](#)*



March 23, 2017 ·

**Introduction:** The Veterans Health Administration (VHA), the largest integrated healthcare delivery system in the United States, is charged with ensuring timely access to high-quality care for veterans during disasters, and supporting national, state, local, and tribal emergency management and homeland security efforts. In 2008, the VHA Office of Public Health (OPH) sponsored the first VHA Emergency Management Research Agenda-setting conference to develop research priorities that address the needs of veterans and to position VHA as a national leader in emergency management by having VHA serve as a “laboratory” for the development of evidence-based emergency management practices.

**Methods:** We focused on four steps: #1: Appraising the emergency management research portfolio of VHA-based researchers; #2: Obtaining systematic information on VHA’s role in emergency management and the healthcare needs of veterans during disasters; #3: Based upon gaps between the current research portfolio and the existing evidence base, identifying strategic priorities using a research agenda-setting conference; and #4: Laying the groundwork to foster the conduct of emergency management research within VHA.

**Results:** Identified research priorities included how to prevent and treat behavioral health problems related to a disaster, the efficacy of training programs, crisis communication strategies, workforce resilience, and evacuating veterans from health care facilities.

**Conclusion:** VHA is uniquely situated to answer research questions that cannot be readily addressed in other settings. VHA should partner with other governmental and private entities to build on existing work and establish shared research priorities.

## **PLoS Currents: Outbreaks**

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

[Accessed 25 March 2017]

[No new content]

## **PLoS Medicine**

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

(Accessed 25 March 2017)

*Research Article*

### **[Age-related cognitive decline and associations with sex, education and apolipoprotein E genotype across ethnocultural groups and geographic regions: a collaborative cohort study](#)**

Darren M. Lipnicki, John D. Crawford, Rajib Dutta, Anbupalam Thalamuthu, Nicole A. Kochan, Gavin Andrews, M. Fernanda Lima-Costa, Erico Castro-Costa, Carol Brayne, Fiona E. Matthews, Blossom C. M. Stephan, Richard B. Lipton, Mindy J. Katz, Karen Ritchie, Jacqueline Scali, Marie-Laure Ancelin, Nikolaos Scarmeas, Mary Yannakoulia, Efthimios Dardiotis, Linda C. W. Lam, Candy H. Y. Wong, Ada W. T. Fung, Antonio Guaita, Roberta Vaccaro, Annalisa Davin, Ki Woong Kim, Ji Won Han, Tae Hui Kim, Kaarin J. Anstey, Nicolas Cherbuin, Peter Butterworth, Marcia Sczufca, Shuzo Kumagai, Sanmei Chen, Kenji Narazaki, Tze Pin Ng, Qi Gao, Simone Reppermund, Henry Brodaty, Antonio Lobo, Raúl Lopez-Anton, Javier Santabábara, Perminder S. Sachdev, Cohort Studies of Memory in an International Consortium (COSMIC)

Research Article | published 21 Mar 2017 PLOS Medicine

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002261>

### **[Development of an adaptive, personalized, and scalable dementia care program: Early findings from the Care Ecosystem](#)**

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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](#)*

Katherine L. Possin, Jennifer Merrilees, Stephen J. Bonasera, Alissa Bernstein, Winston Chiong, Kirby Lee, Leslie Wilson, Sarah M. Hooper, Sarah Dulaney, Tamara Braley, Sutep Laohavanich, Julie E. Feuer, Amy M. Clark, Michael W. Schaffer, A. Katrin Schenk, Julia Heunis, Paulina Ong, Kristen M. Cook, Angela D. Bowhay, Rosalie Gearhart, Anna Chodos, Georges Naasan, Andrew B. Bindman, Daniel Dohan, Christine Ritchie, Bruce L. Miller  
Health in Action | published 21 Mar 2017 PLOS Medicine  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002260>

## **PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases**

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

(Accessed 25 March 2017)

*Editorial*

### **[Will a new 2017 global leadership commit to NTDs?](#)**

Peter J. Hotez, Serap Aksoy

| published 23 Mar 2017 PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0005309>

*Initial text*

[In] 2017 we will experience a nearly wholesale shift in global governance as it relates to the world's neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). A new United Nations (UN) Secretary General, Antonio Guterres from Portugal, was just appointed and we'll soon have in place a new World Health Organization (WHO) Director General. In addition, the United States Government has so far been the largest financier of NTD mass drug administration (MDA), as well as research and development (R&D) for NTDs. A new US President, President Donald Trump, is now in the White House, while Prime Minister Theresa May has been appointed as the new British Prime Minister. The United Kingdom is probably the second largest global supporter of NTDs.

How shall we advocate? What does our community of NTD scientists, public health experts, and health care providers want this new global leadership to know about our diseases? What should they prioritize? Clearly, consensus on this front is problematic, but based on your submissions, emails, and letters, here are some early thoughts...

*Research Article*

### **[Using simulation to aid trial design: Ring-vaccination trials](#)**

Matt David Thomas Hitchings, Rebecca Freeman Grais, Marc Lipsitch

| published 22 Mar 2017 PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0005470>

*[uncorrected proof]*

*Abstract*

**Background**

The 2014–6 West African Ebola epidemic highlights the need for rigorous, rapid clinical trial methods for vaccines. A challenge for trial design is making sample size calculations based on incidence within the trial, total vaccine effect, and intracluster correlation, when these parameters are uncertain in the presence of indirect effects of vaccination.

**Methods and findings**

We present a stochastic, compartmental model for a ring vaccination trial. After identification of an index case, a ring of contacts is recruited and either vaccinated immediately or after 21 days. The primary outcome of the trial is total vaccine effect, counting cases only from a pre-specified window in which the immediate arm is assumed to be fully protected and the delayed arm is not protected. Simulation results are used to calculate necessary sample size and estimated vaccine effect. Under baseline assumptions about vaccine properties, monthly

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incidence in unvaccinated rings and trial design, a standard sample-size calculation neglecting dynamic effects estimated that 7,100 participants would be needed to achieve 80% power to detect a difference in attack rate between arms, while incorporating dynamic considerations in the model increased the estimate to 8,900. This approach replaces assumptions about parameters at the ring level with assumptions about disease dynamics and vaccine characteristics at the individual level, so within this framework we were able to describe the sensitivity of the trial power and estimated effect to various parameters. We found that both of these quantities are sensitive to properties of the vaccine, to setting-specific parameters over which investigators have little control, and to parameters that are determined by the study design.

## Conclusions

Incorporating simulation into the trial design process can improve robustness of sample size calculations. For this specific trial design, vaccine effectiveness depends on properties of the ring vaccination design and on the measurement window, as well as the epidemiologic setting.

## Author summary

The urgency, as well as the logistical and sometimes ethical challenges of clinical trials for interventions during epidemics of emerging diseases prompts the need for novel designs and analytic strategies. The successful use of a novel cluster-randomized ring-vaccination trial to test an Ebola vaccine in Guinea raises the general question of what circumstances would favour the use of trials of similar design and how the properties of the population, the vaccine and the trial would influence the necessary sample size and the expected results. We present a generalized transmission dynamic model for a ring vaccination trial to address these questions. This work is an example of the general phenomenon that mechanistic, transmission-dynamic simulations can aid in the design and interpretation of intervention trials for infectious diseases, when the trial itself can have non-obvious effects on transmission dynamics that may not be fully captured by effect- and sample-size calculations for noncommunicable diseases.

## PLoS One

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

[Accessed 25 March 2017]

## Research Article

### **The effects of cash transfers and vouchers on the use and quality of maternity care services: A systematic review**

Benjamin M. Hunter, Sean Harrison, Anayda Portela, Debra Bick

| published 22 Mar 2017 PLOS ONE

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0173068>

## Abstract

### Background

Cash transfers and vouchers are forms of 'demand-side financing' that have been widely used to promote maternal and newborn health in low- and middle-income countries during the last 15 years.

### Methods

This systematic review consolidates evidence from seven published systematic reviews on the effects of different types of cash transfers and vouchers on the use and quality of maternity care services, and updates the systematic searches to June 2015 using the Joanna Briggs Institute approach for systematic reviewing. The review protocol for this update was registered with PROSPERO (CRD42015020637).

### Results

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Data from 51 studies (15 more than previous reviews) and 22 cash transfer and voucher programmes suggest that approaches tied to service use (either via payment conditionalities or vouchers for selected services) can increase use of antenatal care, use of a skilled attendant at birth and in the case of vouchers, postnatal care too. The strongest evidence of positive effect was for conditional cash transfers and uptake of antenatal care, and for vouchers for maternity care services and birth with a skilled birth attendant. However, effects appear to be shaped by a complex set of social and healthcare system barriers and facilitators. Studies have typically focused on an initial programme period, usually two or three years after initiation, and many lack a counterfactual comparison with supply-side investment. There are few studies to indicate that programmes have led to improvements in quality of maternity care or maternal and newborn health outcomes.

#### Conclusion

Future research should use multiple intervention arms to compare cost-effectiveness with similar investment in public services, and should look beyond short- to medium-term service utilisation by examining programme costs, longer-term effects on service utilisation and health outcomes, and the equity of those effects.

#### **PLoS Pathogens**

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

[Accessed 25 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 25 March 2017]

*Biological Sciences - Ecology:*

##### **Tropical dead zones and mass mortalities on coral reefs**

Andrew H. Altieri, Seamus B. Harrison, Janina Seemann, Rachel Collin, Robert J. Diaz, and Nancy Knowlton

PNAS 2017 ; published ahead of print March 20, 2017, doi:10.1073/pnas.1621517114

##### *Significance*

Oxygen-starved coastal waters are rapidly increasing in prevalence worldwide. However, little is known about the impacts of these “dead zones” in tropical ecosystems or their potential threat to coral reefs. We document the deleterious effects of such an anoxic event on coral habitat and biodiversity, and show that the risk of dead-zone events to reefs worldwide likely has been seriously underestimated. Awareness of, and research on, reef hypoxia is needed to address the threat posed by dead zones to coral reefs.

##### *Abstract*

Degradation of coastal water quality in the form of low dissolved oxygen levels (hypoxia) can harm biodiversity, ecosystem function, and human wellbeing. Extreme hypoxic conditions along the coast, leading to what are often referred to as “dead zones,” are known primarily from temperate regions. However, little is known about the potential threat of hypoxia in the tropics, even though the known risk factors, including eutrophication and elevated temperatures, are common. Here we document an unprecedented hypoxic event on the Caribbean coast of Panama and assess the risk of dead zones to coral reefs worldwide. The event caused coral bleaching and massive mortality of corals and other reef-associated organisms, but observed shifts in community structure combined with laboratory experiments revealed that not all coral

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species are equally sensitive to hypoxia. Analyses of global databases showed that coral reefs are associated with more than half of the known tropical dead zones worldwide, with >10% of all coral reefs at elevated risk for hypoxia based on local and global risk factors. Hypoxic events in the tropics and associated mortality events have likely been underreported, perhaps by an order of magnitude, because of the lack of local scientific capacity for their detection. Monitoring and management plans for coral reef resilience should incorporate the growing threat of coastal hypoxia and include support for increased detection and research capacity.

*Biological Sciences - Population Biology:*

**Effectiveness of UNAIDS targets and HIV vaccination across 127 countries**

Jan Medlock, Abhishek Pandey, Alyssa S. Parpia, Amber Tang, Laura A. Skrip, and Alison P. Galvani

PNAS 2017 ; published ahead of print March 20, 2017, doi:10.1073/pnas.1620788114

*Significance*

Despite extraordinary advances in the treatment of HIV, the global pandemic has yet to be reversed. We developed a mathematical model for 127 countries to evaluate Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) targets for expanding diagnosis and treatment of the infected, and partially efficacious HIV vaccination. Under the current levels of diagnosis and treatment, we estimated 49 million new HIV cases globally from 2015 to 2035. Achieving the ambitious UNAIDS target is predicted to avert 25 million of these new infections, with an additional 6.3 million averted by the 2020 introduction of a 50%-efficacy vaccine. Our study provides country-specific impacts of a partially effective HIV vaccine and demonstrates its importance to the elimination of HIV transmission globally.

*Abstract*

The HIV pandemic continues to impose enormous morbidity, mortality, and economic burdens across the globe. Simultaneously, innovations in antiretroviral therapy, diagnostic approaches, and vaccine development are providing novel tools for treatment-as-prevention and prophylaxis. We developed a mathematical model to evaluate the added benefit of an HIV vaccine in the context of goals to increase rates of diagnosis, treatment, and viral suppression in 127 countries. Under status quo interventions, we predict a median of 49 million [first and third quartiles 44M, 58M] incident cases globally from 2015 to 2035. Achieving the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS 95–95–95 target was estimated to avert 25 million [20M, 33M] of these new infections, and an additional 6.3 million [4.8M, 8.7M] reduction was projected with the 2020 introduction of a 50%-efficacy vaccine gradually scaled up to 70% coverage. This added benefit of prevention through vaccination motivates imminent and ongoing clinical trials of viable candidates to realize the goal of HIV 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]

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## **Proceedings of the Royal Society B**

10 February 2016; volume 283, issue 1824

<http://rspb.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/283/1824?current-issue=y>

[No new digest content identified]

## **Public Health Ethics**

Volume 9, Issue 3 November 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Public Health Reports**

Volume 132, Issue 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 36, Issue 1 March 2017

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

***Special Issue: "Undesirable and Unreturnable" Aliens in Asylum and Immigration Law***

*Introduction*

**[The Emperor's New Clothing: National Responses to "Undesirable and Unreturnable" Aliens under Asylum and Immigration Law](#)**

David James Cantor; Joris van Wijk; Sarah Singer; Maarten P. Bolhuis

*Articles*

**["Undesirable and Unreturnable" in the United Kingdom](#)**

Sarah Singer

**[Undesirable and Unreturnable Migrants under French Law: Between Legal Uncertainty and Legal Limbo](#)**

Chloé Peyronnet

**[Undesirable but Unreturnable Migrants in the Netherlands](#)**

Maarten P. Bolhuis; Hemme Battjes; Joris van Wijk

**[The Indefinite Detention of Undesirable and Unreturnable Third-Country Nationals in Greece](#)**

Eleni Koutsouraki

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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](#)*



## **Against All Odds: Turkey's Response to "Undesirable but Unreturnable" Asylum-Seekers**

Didem Dogar

## **Invisible People: Suspected LTTE Members in the Special Refugee Camps of Tamil Nadu**

Sreekumar Panicker Kodyath; Sheethal Padathu Veettil

## **Detention and Delusion in Australia's Kafkaesque Refugee Law**

Satvinder S. Juss

## **Unwanted but Unremovable: Canada's Treatment of "Criminal" Migrants Who Cannot be Removed**

Jennifer Bond

### **Reproductive Health**

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

[Accessed 25 March 2017]

*Review*

### **Understanding the motivations of health-care providers in performing female genital mutilation: an integrative review of the literature**

Marie-Hélène Doucet, Christina Pallitto and Danielle Groleau

Published on: 23 March 2017

*Abstract*

Background

Female genital mutilation (FGM) is a traditional harmful practice that can cause severe physical and psychological damages to girls and women. Increasingly, trained health-care providers carry out the practice at the request of families. It is important to understand the motivations of providers in order to reduce the medicalization of FGM. This integrative review identifies, appraises and summarizes qualitative and quantitative literature exploring the factors that are associated with the medicalization of FGM and/or re-infibulation.

Methods

Literature searches were conducted in PubMed, CINAHL and grey literature databases. Hand searches of identified studies were also examined. The "CASP Qualitative Research Checklist" and the "STROBE Statement" were used to assess the methodological quality of the qualitative and quantitative studies respectively. A total of 354 articles were reviewed for inclusion.

Results

Fourteen (14) studies, conducted in countries where FGM is largely practiced as well as in countries hosting migrants from these regions, were included. The main findings about the motivations of health-care providers to practice FGM were: (1) the belief that performing FGM would be less harmful for girls or women than the procedure being performed by a traditional practitioner (the so-called "harm reduction" perspective); (2) the belief that the practice was justified for cultural reasons; (3) the financial gains of performing the procedure; (4) responding to requests of the community or feeling pressured by the community to perform FGM. The main reasons given by health-care providers for not performing FGM were that they (1) are concerned about the risks that FGM can cause for girls' and women's health; (2) are preoccupied by the legal sanctions that might result from performing FGM; and (3) consider FGM to be a "bad practice".

Conclusion

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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](#)*



The findings of this review can inform public health program planners, policy makers and researchers to adapt or create strategies to end medicalization of FGM in countries with high prevalence of this practice, as well as in countries hosting immigrants from these regions. Given the methodological limitations in the included studies, it is clear that more robust in-depth qualitative studies are needed, in order to better tackle the complexity of this phenomenon and contribute to eradicating FGM throughout the world.

## **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](http://www.paho.org/journal/index.php?option=com_content&view=featured&Itemid=101)

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Risk Analysis**

February 2017 Volume 37, Issue 2 Pages 193–397

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.2017.37.issue-2/issuetoc>

*Original Research Articles*

### **[The Value of Information in Decision-Analytic Modeling for Malaria Vector Control in East Africa \(pages 231–244\)](#)**

Dohyeong Kim, Zachary Brown, Richard Anderson, Clifford Mutero, Marie Lynn Miranda, Jonathan Wiener and Randall Kramer

Version of Record online: 23 MAR 2016 | DOI: 10.1111/risa.12606

#### *Abstract*

Decision analysis tools and mathematical modeling are increasingly emphasized in malaria control programs worldwide to improve resource allocation and address ongoing challenges with sustainability. However, such tools require substantial scientific evidence, which is costly to acquire. The value of information (VOI) has been proposed as a metric for gauging the value of reduced model uncertainty. We apply this concept to an evidenced-based Malaria Decision Analysis Support Tool (MDAST) designed for application in East Africa. In developing MDAST, substantial gaps in the scientific evidence base were identified regarding insecticide resistance in malaria vector control and the effectiveness of alternative mosquito control approaches, including larviciding. We identify four entomological parameters in the model (two for insecticide resistance and two for larviciding) that involve high levels of uncertainty and to which outputs in MDAST are sensitive. We estimate and compare a VOI for combinations of these parameters in evaluating three policy alternatives relative to a status quo policy. We find having perfect information on the uncertain parameters could improve program net benefits by up to 5–21%, with the highest VOI associated with jointly eliminating uncertainty about reproductive speed of malaria-transmitting mosquitoes and initial efficacy of larviciding at reducing the emergence of new adult mosquitoes. Future research on parameter uncertainty in decision analysis of malaria control policy should investigate the VOI with respect to other aspects of malaria transmission (such as antimalarial resistance), the costs of reducing uncertainty in these parameters, and the extent to which imperfect information about these parameters can improve payoffs.

## **Risk Management and Healthcare Policy**

Volume 10, 2017

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

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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](#)*

[Reviewed earlier]

## Science

24 March 2017 Vol 355, Issue 6331

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

*Policy Forum*

### [A roadmap for rapid decarbonization](#)

By Johan Rockström, Owen Gaffney, Joeri Rogelj, Malte Meinshausen, Nebojsa Nakicenovic, Hans Joachim Schellnhuber

Science 24 Mar 2017 : 1269-1271 Full Access

*Emissions inevitably approach zero with a "carbon law"*

*Summary*

Although the Paris Agreement's goals (1) are aligned with science (2) and can, in principle, be technically and economically achieved (3), alarming inconsistencies remain between science-based targets and national commitments. Despite progress during the 2016 Marrakech climate negotiations, long-term goals can be trumped by political short-termism. Following the Agreement, which became international law earlier than expected, several countries published mid-century decarbonization strategies, with more due soon. Model-based decarbonization assessments (4) and scenarios often struggle to capture transformative change and the dynamics associated with it: disruption, innovation, and nonlinear change in human behavior. For example, in just 2 years, China's coal use swung from 3.7% growth in 2013 to a decline of 3.7% in 2015 (5). To harness these dynamics and to calibrate for short-term realpolitik, we propose framing the decarbonization challenge in terms of a global decadal roadmap based on a simple heuristic—a "carbon law"—of halving gross anthropogenic carbon-dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions every decade. Complemented by immediately instigated, scalable carbon removal and efforts to ramp down land-use CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, this can lead to net-zero emissions around mid-century, a path necessary to limit warming to well below 2°C.

## Social Science & Medicine

Volume 176, Pages 1-182 (March 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02779536/176>

*Review articles*

### [Trade liberalization and social determinants of health: A state of the literature review](#)

Review Article

Pages 1-13

Courtney McNamara

*Abstract*

The health impacts of trade liberalization are often described in relation to access to medicines, changing dietary patterns, tobacco use and alcohol consumption. The impacts of trade liberalization on the social determinants of health (SDH), are by contrast, less well known. Missing is an account of how liberalizing processes identified across different research areas relate to each other and how the association between trade liberalization and health is conceptualized within each of them, especially with reference to SDH. This paper presents a systematic review which provides a more complete picture of the pathways between trade liberalization and health, with special attention to SDH pathways. This picture captures the interrelationships between different areas of investigation, along with current limitations of our understanding and recommendations for future research.

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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](#)*

*Review Article*

**The mental health of Indigenous peoples in Canada: A critical review of research**

Pages 93-112

Sarah E. Nelson, Kathi Wilson

*Abstract*

Many scholars assert that Indigenous peoples across the globe suffer a disproportionate burden of mental illness. Research indicates that colonialism and its associated processes are important determinants of Indigenous peoples' health internationally. In Canada, despite an abundance of health research documenting inequalities in morbidity and mortality rates for Indigenous peoples, relatively little research has focused on mental health. This paper provides a critical scoping review of the literature related to Indigenous mental health in Canada. We searched eleven databases and two Indigenous health-focused journals for research related to mental health, Indigenous peoples, and Canada, for the years 2006–2016. Over two hundred papers are included in the review and coded according to research theme, population group, and geography. Results demonstrate that the literature is overwhelmingly concerned with issues related to colonialism in mental health services and the prevalence and causes of mental illness among Indigenous peoples in Canada, but with several significant gaps. Mental health research related to Indigenous peoples in Canada overemphasizes suicide and problematic substance use; a more critical use of the concepts of colonialism and historical trauma is advised; and several population groups are underrepresented in research, including Métis peoples and urban or off-reserve Indigenous peoples. The findings are useful in an international context by providing a starting point for discussions, dialogue, and further study regarding mental health research for Indigenous peoples around the world.

*Original Research Article*

**The productive techniques and constitutive effects of 'evidence-based policy' and 'consumer participation' discourses in health policy processes**

Pages 60-68

K. Lancaster, K. Seear, C. Treloar, A. Ritter

*Abstract*

For over twenty years there have been calls for greater 'consumer' participation in health decision-making. While it is recognised by governments and other stakeholders that 'consumer' participation is desirable, barriers to meaningful involvement nonetheless remain. It has been suggested that the reifying of 'evidence-based policy' may be limiting opportunities for participation, through the way this discourse legitimates particular voices to the exclusion of others. Others have suggested that assumptions underpinning the very notion of the 'affected community' or 'consumers' as fixed and bounded 'policy publics' need to be problematised. In this paper, drawing on interviews (n = 41) with individuals closely involved in Australian drug policy discussions, we critically interrogate the productive techniques and constitutive effects of 'evidence-based policy' and 'consumer participation' discourses in the context of drug policy processes. To inform our analysis, we draw on and combine a number of critical perspectives including Foucault's concept of subjugated knowledges, the work of feminist theorists, as well as recent work regarding conceptualisations of emergent policy publics. First, we explore how the subject position of 'consumer' might be seen as enacted in the material-discursive practices of 'evidence-based policy' and 'consumer participation' in drug policy processes. Secondly, we consider the centralising power-effects of the dominant 'evidence-based policy' paradigm, and how resistance may be thought about in this context. We suggest that such interrogation has potential to recast the call for 'consumer' participation in health policy decision-making and drug policy processes.

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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](#)*

*Original Research Article*

**Income, financial barriers to health care and public health expenditure: A multilevel analysis of 28 countries**

Pages 158-165

Tae Jun Kim, Nico Vonneilich, Daniel Lüdecke, Olaf von dem Knesebeck

***Abstract***

International studies have repeatedly shown that people with lower income are more likely to experience difficulties to access medical services. Less is known on why these relations vary across countries. This study investigates whether the association between income and financial barriers to health care is influenced by national public health expenditures (PHE, in % of total health expenditure).

Data from the International Social Survey Programme (2011) was used (28 countries, 23,669 respondents). Financial barriers were assessed by the individual experience of forgone care due to financial reasons. Monthly equivalent household income was included as the main predictor. Other individual-level control variables were age, gender, education, subjective health, insurance coverage and place of living. PHE was considered as a macro-level predictor, adjusted for total health expenditure.

Statistically significant associations between income and forgone care were found in 21 of 28 examined countries. Multilevel analyses across countries revealed that people with lower income have a higher likelihood to forgo needed medical care (OR: 3.94, 95%-CI: 2.96–5.24). After adjustments for individual-level covariates, this association slightly decreased (OR: 2.94, 95%-CI: 2.16–3.99). PHE did not moderate the relation between income and forgone care. The linkage between health system financing and inequalities in access to health care seems to be more complex than initially assumed, pointing towards further research to explore how PHE affects the redistribution of health resources in different health care systems.

**Stability: International Journal of Security & Development**

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

[accessed 25 March 2017]

[No new content]

**Stanford Social Innovation Review**

Winter 2017 Volume 15, Number 1

[https://ssir.org/issue/winter\\_2017](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]

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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](#)*

## **TORTURE Journal**

2016 Volume 26 - No. 3

[http://www.irct.org/media-and-resources/publications#volume\\_26](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 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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