

The Sentinel

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

Period ending 13 May 2017

This weekly digest is intended to aggregate and distill key content from a broad spectrum of practice domains and organization types including key agencies/IGOs, NGOs, governments, academic and research institutions, consortiums and collaborations, foundations, and commercial organizations. We also monitor a spectrum of peer-reviewed journals and general media channels. The Sentinel's geographic scope is global/regional but selected country-level content is included. We recognize that this spectrum/scope yields an indicative and not an exhaustive product.

The Sentinel is a service of the Center for Governance, Evidence, Ethics, Policy & Practice, a program of the GE2P2 Global Foundation, which is solely responsible for its content. Comments and suggestions should be directed to:

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:: Week in Review

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

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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Humanitarian Response – Global Leadership

Mr. Mark Lowcock of United Kingdom [Named] Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator

12 May 2017

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres today informed of his intention to extend Stephen O'Brien of the United Kingdom in his capacity as Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and Emergency Relief Coordinator until the end of August 2017. This extension will enable him to conclude a number of initiatives and reforms he has been leading at OCHA. The Secretary-General is grateful to Mr. O'Brien for his excellent work, dedication and commitment to the United Nations and global humanitarian action. He will be succeeded by Mark Lowcock of the United Kingdom.

Mr. Lowcock brings to the position more than 30 years of experience leading and managing responses to humanitarian crises across the globe, and wider strategic leadership in the international development arena. He is currently Permanent Secretary at the Department for International Development (DFID), a role he assumed in 2011. He began his career in DFID (formerly the Overseas Development Administration) in 1985 and has served in a diverse range of roles, including overseas postings in Malawi, Zimbabwe and Kenya as well as leadership positions in headquarters.

Born in 1962, he holds a degree in Economics and History from Oxford University and a Master's degree in Economics from the University of London, and is a chartered accountant.

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Human Rights – U.S. Foreign Policy

President Donald J. Trump Announces Key Additions to his Administration

The White House

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

May 10, 2017

President Donald J. Trump Announces Intent to Nominate Personnel to Key Administration Posts:

Mark Andrew Green of Wisconsin to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

Ambassador Mark Green is currently serving as President of the International Republican Institute (IRI), a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing citizen-responsive, citizen-centered governance around the world. In addition to his leadership of IRI, during 2011-16, he served on the Board of Directors of the Millennium Challenge Corporation. In 2007-09, he served as the U.S. Ambassador to Tanzania, and oversaw major programs in the areas of global health and economic development. Prior to his role as ambassador, Mr. Green represented Wisconsin's 8th District in the U.S. House of Representatives and served on the

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House Judiciary and International Relations Committees. He helped craft key policy initiatives like the Millennium Challenge Act and President George W. Bush's international AIDS program. He holds a law degree from the University of Wisconsin, a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire, and an honorary Doctor of Science from Georgetown University.

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Editor's Note:

We do not typically include opinion pieces published in the general media, but recognize the importance of the op-ed by Senator John McCain below in the context of US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson's extended remarks to State Department employees on 3 May [see excerpt repeated from our previous edition below].

John McCain: Why We Must Support Human Rights

By JOHN MCCAIN

New York Times MAY 8, 2017

The Opinion Pages | Op-Ed Contributor

[Editor's text bolding]

Washington, D.C. — SOME years ago, I heard Natan Sharansky, the human rights icon, recount how he and his fellow refuseniks in the Soviet Union took renewed courage from statements made on their behalf by President Ronald Reagan. Word had reached the gulag that the leader of the most powerful nation on earth had spoken in defense of their right to self-determination. America, personified by its president, gave them hope, and hope is a powerful defense against oppression.

As I listened to Mr. Sharansky, I was reminded how much it had meant to my fellow P.O.W.s and me when we heard from new additions to our ranks that Mr. Reagan, then the governor of California, had often defended our cause, demanded our humane treatment and encouraged Americans not to forget us.

In their continuous efforts to infect us with despair and dissolve our attachment to our country, our North Vietnamese captors insisted the American government and people had forgotten us. We were on our own, they taunted, and at their mercy. We clung to evidence to the contrary, and let it nourish our hope that we would go home one day with our honor intact.

That hope was the mainstay of our resistance. Many, maybe most of us, might have given in to despair, and ransomed our honor for relief from abuse, had we truly believed we had been forgotten by our government and countrymen.

In a recent address to State Department employees, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said conditioning our foreign policy too heavily on values creates obstacles to advance our national interests. With those words, Secretary Tillerson sent a message to oppressed people everywhere: Don't look to the United States for hope. Our values make us sympathetic to your plight, and, when it's convenient, we might officially express that sympathy. But we make policy to serve our interests, which are not related to our values. So, if you happen to be in the way of our forging relationships with your oppressors that could serve our security and economic interests, good luck to you. You're on your own.

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There are those who will credit Mr. Tillerson's point of view as a straightforward if graceless elucidation of a foreign policy based on realism. If by realism they mean policy that is rooted in the world as it is, not as we wish it to be, they couldn't be more wrong.

I consider myself a realist. I have certainly seen my share of the world as it really is and not how I wish it would be. What I've learned is that it is foolish to view realism and idealism as incompatible or to consider our power and wealth as encumbered by the demands of justice, morality and conscience.

In the real world, as lived and experienced by real people, the demand for human rights and dignity, the longing for liberty and justice and opportunity, the hatred of oppression and corruption and cruelty is reality. By denying this experience, we deny the aspirations of billions of people, and invite their enduring resentment.

America didn't invent human rights. Those rights are common to all people: nations, cultures and religions cannot choose to simply opt out of them.

Human rights exist above the state and beyond history. They cannot be rescinded by one government any more than they can be granted by another. They inhabit the human heart, and from there, though they may be abridged, they can never be extinguished.

We are a country with a conscience. We have long believed moral concerns must be an essential part of our foreign policy, not a departure from it. We are the chief architect and defender of an international order governed by rules derived from our political and economic values. We have grown vastly wealthier and more powerful under those rules. More of humanity than ever before lives in freedom and out of poverty because of those rules.

Our values are our strength and greatest treasure. We are distinguished from other countries because we are not made from a land or tribe or particular race or creed, but from an ideal that liberty is the inalienable right of mankind and in accord with nature and nature's Creator.

To view foreign policy as simply transactional is more dangerous than its proponents realize. Depriving the oppressed of a beacon of hope could lose us the world we have built and thrived in. It could cost our reputation in history as the nation distinct from all others in our achievements, our identity and our enduring influence on mankind. Our values are central to all three.

Were they not, we would be one great power among the others of history. We would acquire wealth and power for a time, before receding into the disputed past. But we are a more exceptional country than that.

We saw the world as it was and we made it better.

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[Remarks to U.S. Department of State Employees](#)

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Rex W. Tillerson
Secretary of State
Dean Acheson Auditorium
Washington, DC
May 3, 2017

[Excerpt; Editor's text bolding]

...So let's talk first about my view of how you translate "America first" into our foreign policy....

... I think it's really important that all of us understand the difference between policy and values, and in some circumstances, we should and do condition our policy engagements on people adopting certain actions as to how they treat people. They should. We should demand that. But that doesn't mean that's the case in every situation. And so we really have to understand, in each country or each region of the world that we're dealing with, what are our national security interests, what are our economic prosperity interests, and then as we can advocate and advance our values, we should – but the policies can do this; the values never change.

And so I would ask you to just – to the extent you could think about that a little bit, I think it's useful, because I know this is probably, for me, it's one of the most difficult areas as I've thought about how to formulate policy to advance all of these things simultaneously. It's a real challenge. And I hear from government leaders all over the world: You just can't demand that of us, we can't move that quickly, we can't adapt that quickly, okay? So it's how do we advance our national security and economic interests on this hand, our values are constant over here.

So I give you that as kind of an overarching view of how I think about the President's approach of "America first." We must secure the nation. We must protect our people. We must protect our borders. We must protect our ability to be that voice of our values now and forevermore. And we can only do that with economic prosperity. So it's foreign policy projected with a strong ability to enforce the protection of our freedoms with a strong military. And all of you that have been at this a long time understand the value of speaking with a posture of strength – not a threatening posture, but a posture of strength. People know we can back it up...

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Refugees: Asylum Appeal - Greece

15 NGOs decry new policy limiting asylum seekers in exercising their right to appeal

GREECE/Athens, 9 May 2017: 15 NGOs urge the Greek Government to immediately reverse the recent policy excluding asylum-seekers on the Greek islands who appeal negative asylum decisions from the possibility of participating later on in the International Organisation for Migration's (IOM) Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) programme and forcing those who wish to participate to forego their right to appeal.

The decision follows the direction set by the recommendations in the European Commission's and Greek Government's Joint Action Plan on the European Union (EU) – Turkey Statement of 18 March 2016, which aims to limit the steps in the appeals process and remove so called "administrative obstacles to swift voluntary return".

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IOM's AVRR programme provides migrants who cannot or no longer wish to remain in a host country with the support to return and reintegrate into their country of origin. According to IOM, "voluntariness remains a precondition for all its AVRR activities."¹

In direct contradiction to this precondition however, the recently announced policy restricts access to AVRR on the Greek islands as of early April, by dictating that, upon receipt of a negative first instance decision (i.e., inadmissible or rejection on merit), asylum seekers are provided with a choice: appeal this decision as per their right under Greek, EU, and International Human Rights law,² or forego their right to appeal and benefit from the AVRR package (which includes €1,000). If they ultimately choose to exercise their right to appeal, they lose the opportunity for future AVRR, and if their appeal is negative, they face deportation to Turkey. This policy is not applicable for those on the Greek mainland who remain eligible for AVRR after having appealed their negative asylum decision. Under the new policy, individuals are meant to be given five days to decide. However, nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) have already received reports of people being pressured, without allowing time to consult with a lawyer, to make the decision on the spot.

We are concerned that the new policy has both a coercive effect on an asylum seeker's decision to appeal a negative decision, thereby jeopardizing the right to a fair asylum process as provided by EU law, and also on their decision to return to their country of origin. In addition, this policy presents a high risk of refoulement, given that it can result in asylum seekers with strong asylum claims, who may nevertheless have received a negative first instance decision, to drop their right to appeal.

This new policy is the latest in a series of steps being taken to make access to asylum in Europe more difficult, as outlined in numerous NGO reports³. Europe has a long history of commitment to protecting and upholding human rights, and has the means to fulfill its responsibility to provide international protection for people seeking it through procedures that are not prejudiced, do not discriminate, and do not apply duress to influence the outcome. Instead, these measures would limit the number of people who appeal, pressuring people in need of international protection to give up their claim. Seeking to manage migration at the cost of undermining or compromising asylum norms, sets a dangerous precedent for the rest of the world to follow.

Everyone applying for asylum should be able to exercise their right to an appeal without foregoing the opportunity to seek AVRR at any point during and after the asylum process. Any person deciding to return home with the assistance of IOM should be able to do so free of duress and in full respect of their basic human rights. Any policy suggesting otherwise threatens to not only jeopardize the integrity of the AVRR programme, but also the asylum procedure in Greece and in turn, the right to asylum in Europe.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Any decision to exercise the right to appeal or to benefit from AVRR must be voluntary and non-coerced. IOM's AVRR programme should be available to all migrants at any time to enable safe, dignified, and sustainable return, whether or not they have applied for asylum. As such:

- :: The Greek Government should reverse the recent policy limiting a person's eligibility for AVRR.

- :: The Commission should urgently assess compatibility of this practice with EU asylum law and the right to an effective remedy.

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:: IOM and UNHCR should work together and more vigorously with the Commission and Greek Government to assess the impact of the new policy on asylum seekers' decision-making, to ensure that the AVRR programme and its implementation under this new policy does not jeopardize the right to claim asylum and protection.

:: The Commission and Greek Government should put in place monitoring and accountability mechanisms to monitor the asylum procedures on the Greek islands, including those that allow for migrant feedback directly to the Greek Ombudsman.

:: The Commission and Greek Government should meet regularly with UN agencies and NGOs to allow for feedback on how policies may impact people and their rights. Consultations should take place regularly before policies are enacted so as to ensure they will not be harmful.

Signed:

ActionAid

Advocates Abroad

Amnesty International

CARE

Diotima

Greek Council for Refugees

Greek Forum of Migrants

Human Rights Watch

International Rescue Committee

Jesuit Refugee Services

Legal Centre Lesbos

Norwegian Refugee Council

Oxfam

Save the Children

Solidarity Now

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Clean Energy: Migrants – Refugees

Clean energy for migrants and vulnerable groups focus of a Vienna Energy Forum side event

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization

VIENNA, 9 May 2017 - An event held on the sidelines of the Vienna Energy Forum today focused on innovative mechanisms to provide sustainable access to clean energy to migrants, refugees and other vulnerable groups, to improve their daily lives and give them hope for a better future.

Participants at the event, titled, "Clean energy for migrants and vulnerable groups", noted that global challenges such as climate change, threats to human security, political instability and economic inequality have contributed to the migration of vulnerable communities.

The refugee crisis affects many regions, including the countries of refugees' origin and transit settlements, where energy systems are often inefficient, costly and mostly fossil-fuel based. Although integrating migrants in their new environment is a great challenge, providing integrated energy services to them and teaching them related skills in an effective, low-carbon, and cost-efficient manner could empower them and improve the quality of their lives.

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Speaking at the event, Michael Spindelegger, Director General of the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), called for stronger international cooperation in the area of migration policies. He said that ICMPD works in partnership with governments, research institutes, international organizations, intergovernmental institutions and civil society to address migration challenges. He emphasized the vital role of the private sector, saying that it should be actively involved in identifying innovative energy solutions...

Daniel Werner, Head of the the European Union Energy Initiative Partnership Dialogue Facility (EUEI PDF), called for a closer engagement with the private sector, civil society and financial institutions to address the matter, and noted the value added by technical agencies and organizations such as the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

"Exploring the links between energy and migration is of particular importance to European Union Member States. This is highlighted by the Council of the European Union which acknowledges that lack of or uneven access to energy is part of the root causes of irregular migration. As part of its innovation function, the EUEI PDF has developed an analytical matrix to determine the role of energy on migration to structure the debate between stakeholders," said Werner.

Paul Quigley, Director of Energy at UNHCR said migration can be addressed at origin by scaling up clean energy technologies and programmes to address energy poverty within vulnerable communities. He pointed out the crucial role that humanitarian agencies, such as UNHCR, can play in ensuring that local governments are fully engaged and committed to establishing energy services for local populations and to empowering migrants.

Sarah Rosenberg-Jansen, Head of Humanitarian Energy, Practical Action, made a case for stronger partnerships and reflected on how organizations represented at the event can create synergies and deliver more effective results. She referred to concrete actions on the ground and stressed that interventions should go beyond tackling issues theoretically and instead lead to tangible real-life solutions.

Tanja Dedovic, Labour Mobility and Human Development Coordinator at the International Organization for Migration (IOM), spoke of the importance of addressing the energy needs of migrants and refugees when they are in transit, and of ways to empower them with skills, tools and knowledge to ensure that they are able to sustain their daily lives in the countries of their settlement...

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Editor's Note:

We include the report below, noting that it ranks Mexico and Central America as involving more lethal "conflicts" than the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan respectively. Mexico has challenged this characterization.

Armed Conflict Survey – The worldwide review of political, military and humanitarian trends in current conflicts.

International Institute for Strategic Studies

09 May 2017

Editor's Introduction

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Fatalities in the world's conflicts declined for a second successive year in 2016, to 157,000, from 167,000 in 2015 and 180,000 in 2014. The war in Syria remained the world's most lethal, with a further 50,000 deaths there bringing the total since 2011 to around 290,000 – more than twice the number recorded in Bosnia's four-year fratricidal conflict in the 1990s. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan claimed 17,000 and 16,000 lives respectively in 2016, although in lethality they were surpassed by conflicts in Mexico and Central America, which have received much less attention from the media and the international community. Mexico had the world's second-most-lethal conflict in 2016, with 23,000 fatalities. The number of homicides rose in 22 of Mexico's 32 states.

Abstract

Fatalities in the world's conflicts declined for a second successive year in 2016, to 157,000, from 167,000 in 2015 and 180,000 in 2014. The war in Syria remained the world's most lethal, with a further 50,000 deaths there bringing the total since 2011 to around 290,000 – more than twice the number recorded in Bosnia's four-year fratricidal conflict in the 1990s. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan claimed 17,000 and 16,000 lives respectively in 2016, although in lethality they were surpassed by conflicts in Mexico and Central America, which have received much less attention from the media and the international community. Mexico had the world's second-most-lethal conflict in 2016, with 23,000 fatalities. The number of homicides rose in 22 of Mexico's 32 states. The spike was linked to several factors. It is noteworthy that the largest rises in fatalities were registered in states that were key battlegrounds for control between competing, increasingly fragmented cartels. The violence grew worse as the cartels expanded the territorial reach of their campaigns, seeking to 'cleanse' areas of rivals in their efforts to secure a monopoly on drug-trafficking routes and other criminal assets. Amid growing security and governance vacuums, clashes among the cartels and between the cartels and state security forces became increasingly fierce and aggressive. Violence and repeated attacks resulting from such clashes and security voids greatly contributed to destabilisation across the country. Mexico's National Human Rights Commission highlighted the impact of crime on the population in the past decade, reporting in May 2016 that 35,433 people had been forcibly displaced nationwide since 2007. Around 90% of these people had fled their homes because of violence.

The combined total for Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala was almost 16,000 – with El Salvador experiencing its second-most-violent year since 1999 – despite these countries establishing new agencies and approaches to reduce criminal groups' influence. The high number of fatalities reflected the significant presence, firepower and organisational capacity of rival gangs Mara Salvatrucha and Barrio 18. Collectively, these gangs, alongside smaller ones, had between 54,000 and 85,000 members spread across urban areas in Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador, according to estimates made by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime and the US State Department in 2012. Regional cooperation was belatedly strengthened with the launch in November 2016 of a Tri-National Force against transnational organised crime, comprising around 1,500 personnel from the police and militaries, as well as the border and customs agencies, of the three countries. Yet it is unclear whether the force will be able to cope with patrolling 600 kilometres of shared land borders, especially given the long list of criminal activities they are tasked with suppressing: extortion, kidnapping, money laundering, gang violence and smuggling.

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Governance and Health: Venezuela

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Statement attributable to UNICEF's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean on health data in Venezuela

PANAMA CITY, 12 May 2017 - "Data on infant and maternal deaths released last week by the Ministry of Health in Venezuela provides stark evidence of the impact of the prolonged crisis on women and children in the country.

"Despite the efforts of the Government and other stakeholders, the data indicates that 30 per cent more children died before their first birthday and 64 per cent more women died during pregnancy or within 42 days after giving birth in 2016 compared to 2015. More than 240,000 people were infected with malaria in 2016, up 76 per cent from 2015. Cases of diarrhea, pertussis, pneumonia, HIV, and measles –all potentially deadly for children– also show marked increases.

"The publication of the data by the Ministry of Health is a crucial step in addressing health challenges in Venezuela. UNICEF is deeply concerned about the situation and stands ready to strengthen its ongoing support to partners in government and civil society, which has included the provision of medicine for the treatment of malaria, diphtheria and other diseases, within the framework of agreed cooperation priorities."

Venezuela's Maduro Replaces Top Health Official After Data Released

By Kejal Vyas

Wall Street Journal 13 May 2017

May 12, 2017

Move comes days after publication of figures showing sharp declines in public health

Venezuela President Nicolás Maduro replaced his top health official just days after her ministry reported a severe worsening in public health in a rare release of government statistics.

After withholding data since 2015, the Health Ministry in Venezuela this week published an epidemiological bulletin showing a 30% increase in infant mortality...

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Heritage Stewardship

The OIC Hosts a Joint Colloquium with France on the Preservation and Protection of Cultural Heritage in OIC Member States

Date: 11/05/2017

The General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) will host a joint OIC-France colloquium in Jeddah on 14-15 May 2017 on the theme "The preservation and protection of cultural heritage in OIC member states".

The colloquium comes in light of the ongoing conflicts and wars in some areas of the Islamic world, which adversely affect the Islamic cultural heritage and cause the destruction of many archaeological and historical areas. This endeavor is motivated by the fact that the preservation of cultural heritage contributes to the preservation of cultural diversity and wealth.

The conference is a step towards promoting the OIC's cultural activities and a contribution to the preparations for the international event which will be held in November 2017 in cooperation between the Islamic Scientific, Educational and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and the Research Center for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA). The objective of the conference is to draw attention to the need to protect cultural heritage from neglect, looting and erosion,

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and to consider ways to raise the awareness of communities, particularly the youth, to preserve the memory of the Muslim Ummah.

The colloquium will include a review the respective experiences of ISESCO, IRCICA, COMIAC and UNESCO, as well as those of invited experts in the area of protection of cultural heritage in the Islamic world, and the sharing of best practices in this regard, while focusing on Al-Quds and on some countries with expertise in this domain.

The colloquium will also include a round-table discussion with the participation of experts from France, UNESCO, IRCICA, ISESCO and COMIAC, as well as representatives of member states, who will examine the experiences and proposals of member states on the protection of cultural heritage. It will also consider the experiences of the OIC and the UNESCO, the role of civil society and the private sector, and the use of technology for the protection of the endangered cultural heritage.

The colloquium will also feature a session for the review of the efforts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in protecting heritage, with the participation of experts from the Saudi Commission for Tourism and National Heritage. It will also review the engagement of the Saudi society in preserving heritage.

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Emergencies

WHO Grade 3 Emergencies [to 13 May 2017]

Iraq

:: Separated by conflict but reunited: health care in action

7 May 2017 – Thousands of people have been seriously wounded as a result of the conflict in Mosul, with many patients facing permanent disability as a result of their injuries. To date, more than 8000 people, many of them civilians including women and children, have received treatment in hospitals for trauma injuries since west Mosul operations began. For some, these injuries are life-changing.

:: Special health situation report from Mosul 7 May 2017

South Sudan

:: Read the latest cholera situation report pdf, 674kb 5 May 2017

[Excerpts]

...Working with Health and Wash cluster partners, WHO has completed a rational plan for deploying 9 million doses of oral cholera vaccines alongside WASH interventions over the next two years targeting at least 4.5 million people aged one year and above in cholera transmission hotspots. The plan has been submitted to the Global Taskforce for cholera control for approval...

Planned Activities/recommendations

1. The next weekly EPR/cholera taskforce meeting is scheduled for 10 May 2017 starting 2:00pm in the WHO Conference Hall.
2. Roll out a comprehensive integrated response including oral cholera vaccination in response to the cholera outbreak in Mingkaman IDPs, Bentiu PoC, and Bor PoC.
3. Continue with the ongoing response to the outbreaks in Mingkaman, Yirol East, Yirol West, Northern Liech, and Pigi/Malakal Town in Central Upper Nile states.

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4. Deploy additional WASH partners to support the cholera response in Yirol East and Yirol West.
5. Develop tailored strategies for cholera prevention and response in affected and at-risk cattle camps.
6. Enhance cholera preparedness, investigation and response activities in Kapoeta North and Kapoeta East as well as Torit county.
7. Identify areas with active transmission that should be prioritized

Yemen

:: WHO responds to resurgent cholera in Yemen

11 May 2017, Sana'a, Yemen — The World Health Organization (WHO) and partners are responding to an upsurge in cholera transmission in several parts of Yemen that has claimed 51 lives and caused around 2752 suspected cases since 27 April 2017. *[No OCV mention]*

Nigeria - *No new announcements identified*

The Syrian Arab Republic - *No new announcements identified*

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WHO Grade 2 Emergencies [to 13 May 2017]

Cameroon - *No new announcements identified.*

Central African Republic - *No new announcements identified.*

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

Ethiopia - *No new announcements identified.*

Libya - *No new announcements identified.*

Myanmar - *No new announcements identified.*

Niger - *No new announcements identified.*

Ukraine - *No new announcements identified.*

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UN OCHA – L3 Emergencies

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

Iraq

:: Mosul Humanitarian Crisis, 9 May 2017

...616,264 People displaced, cumulatively, from Mosul city as of 9 May 409,604 people currently displaced from western Mosul city as of 9 May

...6,612 family plots immediately available to shelter displaced people in 9 priority sites and 10 other sites as of 9 May

...3,100 m³ water trucked every day to eastern Mosul by humanitarian partners

...12,081 people have been referred from frontline areas to hospitals to receive treatment for trauma injuries as of 7 May

OVERVIEW

...Re-intensification of hostilities on 4 May between the Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) has significantly impacted the humanitarian situation. Many families have been arriving at the newly established Badoush mustering point, northeast of Mosul city, where humanitarian partners are providing emergency relief assistance...

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:: [Iraq: Humanitarian Bulletin, April 2017 | Issued on 10 May](#)
:: [Iraq: Mosul Humanitarian Response Situation Report No. 32 \(1 May to 7 May 2017\) \[EN/KU\]](#)

Syrian Arab Republic

:: [Syria Crisis: Menbij and Ar-Raqqa Situation Report No. 4 \(as of 1 May 2017\)](#)
:: [Syrian Arab Republic: Whole of Syria CCCM Cluster response snapshot for 2017 \(as of end March\) 13 May 2017](#)

Yemen

:: [Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan - Funding Status \(As of 09 May 2017\) \[EN/AR\]](#)
:: [Yemen Humanitarian Bulletin Issue 23 | 9 May 2017](#)
:: [Statement on behalf of the humanitarian coordinator, Jamie McGoldrick on the need to ensure funding and humanitarian access into and throughout Yemen \[EN/AR\] 7 May 2017](#)

UN OCHA – Corporate Emergencies

When the USG/ERC declares a Corporate Emergency Response, all OCHA offices, branches and sections provide their full support to response activities both at HQ and in the field.

Somalia

:: [Somalia: Drought Response - Situation Report No. 7 \(as of 9 May 2017\)](#)

Ethiopia

:: 9 May 2017 [Ethiopia Weekly Humanitarian Bulletin, 08 May 2017](#)

Nigeria

:: [Press Statement by Peter Lundberg, Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator A.I on the Release of 82 Chibok Girls](#)

(Abuja, 8 May 2017): The United Nations welcomes the release of the 82 Chibok girls in northeastern Nigeria and appeals to all Nigerians, including the families and communities of the liberated girls, to fully embrace them and provide all necessary support to ensure their reintegration into society.

Over 100 of these school girls are still unaccounted for, and the United Nations urges the international community to continue supporting the Government of Nigeria in its efforts to ensure the release, rehabilitation and reintegration of all the children, women and men who are victims of Boko Haram.

Despite this encouraging news, insecurity continues to affect millions of people living in six states in north-eastern Nigeria amid a deepening humanitarian crisis. Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States, where 8.5 million people are in need of life-saving humanitarian assistance and protection, are the most directly affected by conflict and mass forced displacement. The United Nations and partners are committed to supporting the Government of Nigeria to providing much needed relief to these vulnerable people.

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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.

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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](#)

United Nations – Secretary General, Security Council, General Assembly

[to 13 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases/Meetings Coverage

12 May 2017

SG/A/1731-BIO/4965-IHA/1430

[Secretary-General Appoints Mark Lowcock of United Kingdom Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Emergency Relief Coordinator](#)

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres today informed of his intention to extend Stephen O'Brien of the United Kingdom in his capacity as Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, until the end of August 2017.

11 May 2017

SG/SM/18515

[Secretary-General, at London Conference on Somalia, Stresses Need for Predictable Funding of Poorly Supported, Underequipped African Union Mission Force](#)

11 May 2017

SG/SM/18516-IHA/1429

[Some 275,000 Malnourished Children Face Starvation in Somalia, as Food Insecurity Threatens 6.2 Million People, Secretary-General Tells Humanitarian Conference](#)

10 May 2017

SC/12815-PKO/639

[Security Council Press Statement on Attack against UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Central African Republic](#)

8 May 2017

SG/SM/18512

[United Nations Welcomes Release of Chibok Schoolgirls in Nigeria, But Remains Concerned about Those Still Held Captive](#)

8 May 2017

DSG/SM/1055-ECOSOC/6829

[Eradicating Poverty Remains Greatest Global Challenge, Deputy Secretary-General Tells Economic and Social Council Integration Segment](#)

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 13 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases – "TOP NEWS"

[Press briefing note on El Salvador](#)

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

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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](#)

[UN Committee against Torture publishes findings on Afghanistan, Argentina, Bahrain, Lebanon, Pakistan and Republic of Korea](#)

[UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination publishes findings on Finland, Moldova, Armenia, Kenya, Cyprus and Bulgaria](#)

[Zambia's peasants at risk of becoming squatters on their own land – UN expert warns](#)

[Panama: "Time to focus on tax evasion, with banks doing their share" – UN expert](#)

[India must restore internet and social media networks in Jammu and Kashmir, say UN rights experts](#)

[UN experts call on Nigeria to ensure release of all those still under Boko Haram captivity](#)

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 13 May 2017]

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

11 May 2017

[Committee on the Rights of the Child holds seventy-fifth session in Geneva from 15 May to 2 June](#)

10 May 2017

[Children's rights: UN committee to review Antigua and Barbuda, Bhutan, Cameroon, Lebanon, Mongolia, Qatar, Romania and USA*](#)

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

[to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

SRSG/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict [to 13 May 2017]

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

Website undergoing maintenance.

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health [to 13 May 2017]

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

9 May 2017

[UN experts call on Nigeria to ensure release of all those still under Boko Haram captivity](#)

SRSG/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 13 May 2017]

<http://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/media/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](#)

UN OCHA [to 13 May 2017]

<https://www.unocha.org/media-centre/press-releases>

Selected Press Releases

11 May 2017

[OCHA CAR- Press release- Allocation of the Humanitarian Fund in CAR, May 2017](#)

10 May 2017

[Le Fonds Humanitaire en RCA débloque 9 millions de dollars pour soutenir la réponse humanitaire sous-financée](#)

10 May 2017

[Strong partnerships and further funding key to beating back famine](#)

10 May 2017

[Mosul Humanitarian Crisis, 9 May 2017](#)

8 May 2017

[Press Statement by Peter Lundberg, Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator A.I on the Release of 82 Chibok Girls](#)

8 May 2017

[Ready to Respond: Joint UNICEF and WFP preparedness investments in Indonesia and the Aceh earthquake response](#)

7 May 2017

[Statement on behalf of the humanitarian coordinator, Jamie McGoldrick on the need to ensure funding and humanitarian access into and throughout Yemen \[EN/AR\]](#)

UNICEF [to 13 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

12 May 2017

[Statement attributable to UNICEF's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean on health data in Venezuela](#)

PANAMA CITY, - "Data on infant and maternal deaths released last week by the Ministry of Health in Venezuela provides stark evidence of the impact of the prolonged crisis on women and children in the country.

[A strong moral compass: how faith-based organizations can tackle online sexual exploitation of children](#)

PANAMA CITY, 11 May 2017 - A new guide published today aims to help religious communities worldwide harness their strengths to prevent, respond to and end online child sexual exploitation. Published by ECPAT International and Religions for Peace in partnership with UNICEF, Protecting Children from Online Sexual Exploitation recognises that religious leaders and communities can provide the moral compass that is needed to end this crime.

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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](#)

[Statement attributable to Thomas Davin, Representative, UNICEF Thailand, on the indiscriminate attack in Pattani](#)

Bangkok, 9 May 2017 – “According to reports, children are among the dozens of people injured in the bomb attack on a large and busy shopping centre in Pattani, Thailand, this afternoon. UNICEF condemns such indiscriminate attacks on civilian areas, where children and their families are known to be present. No child’s life should ever be put at risk in this way. This is wholly unacceptable.”

[More than one million children have fled escalating violence in South Sudan](#)

JUBA/GENEVA/NAIROBI/NEW YORK, 8 May 2017 – More than one million children have now fled South Sudan where escalating conflict is ravaging the country, UNICEF and UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, announced today.

[UNICEF statement on release of Chibok school girls abducted by Boko Haram](#)

ABUJA, Nigeria, 7 May 2017 – “UNICEF welcomes Saturday’s release of over 80 of the girls abducted by Boko Haram insurgents at their school in Chibok over three years ago.

[UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Priyanka Chopra meets child survivors of sexual violence in Zimbabwe](#)

HARARE, Zimbabwe/JOHANNESBURG/NEW YORK, 7 May 2017 - UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Priyanka Chopra has called for increased awareness and support for child victims of sexual violence. The actress made an emotional visit to Zimbabwe this week, where she met child survivors of sexual violence and heard their harrowing stories.

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 13 May 2017]

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

Briefing Notes

[As 1000s flee West Mosul, UNHCR opens 12th new camp for displaced](#) 12 May 2017

[UNHCR revises funding needs for displaced Somalis](#) 12 May 2017

[Update: Over 20,000 DRC refugees in Angola](#) 12 May 2017

Press releases and news comments

[UNHCR and Food Sweet Food launch the Refugee Food Festival in 13 major European cities in support of refugee integration](#) 11 May 2017

[More than one million children have fled escalating violence in South Sudan](#) 8 May 2017

[News comment by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, on Mediterranean crossings over the weekend](#) 7 May 2017

IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 13 May 2017]

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

2017-05-12 17:35

[UN Migration Agency: Military Attack on Yemen’s Al Hudaydah Port, City Will Endanger Lives, Humanitarian Response](#)

Yemen - Two years of conflict has made Yemen the biggest humanitarian crisis in the world.

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[Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 53,386 in 2017; Deaths: 1,309](#)

2017-05-12 17:18

Switzerland - IOM, the UN Migration Agency reports that 53,386 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 10 May.

[IOM Responds as Cholera Outbreak Spreads in South Sudan](#)

2017-05-09 16:14

South Sudan - An IOM Rapid Response Team was deployed to Jonglei, South Sudan, late last month (25/04) in response to a cholera outbreak affecting more than 230 people in Ayod County.

[Experts Discuss Challenges and Opportunities of Labour Migration in Colombia](#)

2017-05-09 16:11

Colombia - IOM Colombia and the Colombian National Training Service (SENA) last week (4-5 May) held an event which brought together international and national experts, business leaders, public servants; and youth apprentices as well as SENA instructors to discuss labour...

UNAIDS [to 13 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases & Updates

Update

[UNAIDS and Xinhua partnership brings the common goal of ending AIDS closer](#)

News agency is a key partner through its efforts of reaching billions of people with life-saving...

Feature Story

[Germany—ending AIDS by 2020](#)

Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe has launched a new campaign to end AIDS in Germany by 2020. The campaign features Maik, who nine years ago was fighting for his life.

Feature Story

[Interviews with the candidates for WHO Director-General](#)

David Nabarro, Sania Nishtar and Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus talk to unaids.org about the AIDS epidemic and global health.

WHO & Regional Offices [to 13 May 2017]

WHO: [Access to medicines: making market forces serve the poor](#)

11 May 2017

Nearly 2 billion people have no access to basic medicines, causing a cascade of preventable misery and suffering. Since the landmark agreement on the Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property, WHO and its partners have launched a number of initiatives that are making market forces serve the poor. The WHO prequalification programme is now firmly established as a mechanism for improving access to safe, effective and quality-assured products.

Access to medicines

WHO has struggled to improve access to medicines throughout its nearly 70-year history, and rightly so. Good health is impossible without access to pharmaceutical products. Universal

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health coverage depends on the availability of quality-assured affordable health technologies in sufficient quantities.

Lack of access to medicines causes a cascade of misery and suffering, from no relief for the excruciating pain of a child's earache, to women who bleed to death during childbirth, to deaths from diseases that are easily and inexpensively prevented or cured. Lack of access to medicines is one inequality that can be measured by a starkly visible yardstick: numbers of preventable deaths.

Efforts to improve access to medicines are driven by a compelling ethical imperative. People should not be denied access to life-saving or health-promoting interventions for unfair reasons, including those with economic or social causes.

Millions of yearly childhood deaths from diseases that could have been prevented or cured by existing medical products would be unthinkable in a fair and just world.

The world is neither. An estimated two billion people have no access to essential medicines, effectively shutting them off from the benefits of advances in modern science and medicine.

[WHO improves transparency of financial data](#)

12 May 2017 – WHO is improving transparency and accountability with the launch of a redesigned Programme Budget Web Portal that makes budget and spending information easier to access, use and understand. The redesigned portal provides timely and detailed budget, financing and expenditure data on WHO activities and how they are funded in countries, regions and internationally.

[WHO calls for immediate action in Somalia](#)

11 May 2017 – WHO is concerned by the shortage of funding for life-saving work in Somalia in response to the ongoing drought that has plunged the country further towards famine, disease, and health insecurity. Drought in Somalia led to the destruction of crops and livestock, leaving more than 3.3 million people hungry. If this continues, famine could soon be a reality, creating a devastating cycle of hunger and disease.

Highlights

[WHO list of priority medical devices for cancer management](#)

May 2017 – From kick buckets to MRI units, medical devices are an indispensable part of preventing, diagnosing and treating cancer, as well as for palliative care for cancer patients. WHO's new List of priority medical devices for cancer management describes hundreds of devices that are needed for six types of cancer: breast, cervical, colorectal, leukemia, lung and prostate.

[WHO responds to resurgent cholera in Yemen](#)

May 2017 – WHO and partners are responding to an upsurge in cholera transmission in several parts of Yemen that has claimed 51 lives and caused around 2752 suspected cases since 27 April 2017. WHO has rapidly distributed medicines and medical supplies, including cholera kits, oral rehydration solutions and intravenous (IV) fluids as well as medical furniture and equipment for diarrhoea treatment centres.

[Preparing for the next influenza pandemic](#)

May 2017 – This year the World Health Assembly will receive the first review of the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP) Framework – an agreement helping to prepare the world for the next influenza pandemic by ensuring that all countries, whether rich or poor, have access to influenza vaccines.

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WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region AFRO

:: Ebola virus disease – Democratic Republic of the Congo 13 May 2017 [See Milestones above for more detail]

:: Dr Oly Ilunga Kalenga, Minister of Public Health, announces an outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease in Likati district, Bas-Uélé Province (northern DRC) following confirmation by the National Biomedical Research Institute. - 12 May 2017

:: Ebola vaccines for Guinea and the world - 08 May 2017

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

No new announcements identified.

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

:: Amitabh Bachchan appointed WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Hepatitis in South-East Asia Region SEAR/PR/1649

Mumbai, 12 May 2017 – World Health Organization today appointed legendary Indian movie star Mr Amitabh Bachchan as its Goodwill Ambassador for Hepatitis in South-East Asia Region to boost awareness and intensify action to arrest the hepatitis epidemic.

WHO European Region EURO

:: Reviewing the health impact and effectiveness of urban green space interventions 11-05-2017

:: Reducing the SDG reporting burden: WHO/Europe's initiative presented at the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development 09-05-2017

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: WHO support gives new life to Syrian refugees in Egypt requiring emergency medical care 7 May 2017

WHO Western Pacific Region

:: DOH, WHO Launch Cooperation Strategies Toward a Healthy Philippines

DAVAO CITY, 11 May 2017 – Health statistics over the years indicate that more Filipinos live longer now as a result of collaborative efforts of the government, various development partners and stakeholders. Several health sector reforms have been made to expand the breadth and depth of health service delivery and coverage. The World Health Organization has been a staunch partner of the Government in developing strategies to improve the health of the people.

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 13 May 2017]

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

9 May 2017 *Press Release*

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[New Gender Resource Advances Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights](#)

UNITED NATIONS, New York—EngenderHealth and UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, announced the publication of a new digital resource: [Engaging men in sexual and reproductive health and rights, including family planning: Why Using A Gender Lens Matters](#). The resource will help programme managers design, implement, and evaluate programmes that engage men as clients, as supportive partners, and as champions for gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)...

8 May 2017 *Press Release*

[UNFPA on Standby to Provide Psychosocial Support, Reproductive Health Care to Just-Freed Chibok Girls](#)

UNITED NATIONS, New York/Abuja—UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, welcomes the release of an additional 82 Chibok girls who were abducted by the Boko Haram group, and is on standby to provide emergency...

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 13 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases/Announcements

[Safe drinking water again for newly liberated Ninewa Plains, Iraq](#)

May 10, 2017

A major water treatment plant damaged in the fight against ISIL in Iraq has been repaired and is once again providing safe drinking water for hundreds of thousands of people in the Ninewa Plains, near Mosul.

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 13 May 2017]

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

15-16 May 2017:

[2nd STI Forum, New York \(IATT\)](#)

Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs (STI Forum)

The TFM will facilitate multi-stakeholder collaboration and partnerships through the sharing of information, experiences, best practices and policy advice among Member States, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, United Nations entities and other stakeholders.

The TFM has three components:

- :: A United Nations Interagency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs (IATT), including the 10-Member Group of representatives from civil society, the private sector and the scientific community

- :: A collaborative Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs (STI Forum)

- :: An online platform as a gateway for information on existing STI initiatives, mechanisms and programs

UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 13 May 2017]

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<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/default.htm>
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/commission.htm>
<http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/>
No new digest content identified.

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme [to 13 May 2017]

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

Press Release / May 12, 2017

[Big wins for human health, natural resources in switch to energy efficiency](#)

:: Low-carbon technologies aid clean air, save water and cut land use

:: 25 billion tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions and 17 million tonnes of particulates a year could be avoided through low-carbon and energy efficiency technologies

12 May 2017 – A radical transformation in the way energy is supplied and used will be needed if the world is to meet its ambition of keeping global temperature increase to below 2 degrees Celsius, but the impacts of that transformation on the environment and on natural resources have been unclear.

Now, the International Resource Panel, a group of eminent experts in natural resource management hosted by UN Environment, has provided a global assessment of the benefits, risks and trade-offs encountered when energy efficiency technologies are deployed alongside low-carbon electricity supply technologies.

In its latest report, entitled [Green Technology Choices: The Environmental and Resource Implications of Low-Carbon Technologies](#), released today at the Vienna Energy Forum, the Panel examines eight energy efficiency technologies and 36 sub-technologies across buildings, industry and transportation.

The report shows that while there are clear environmental benefits from the use of these technologies, particularly in reductions to greenhouse gas emissions, air pollution, and land and water use, there may also be some additional considerations, such as an increased use of metals...

UNISDR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 13 May 2017]

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

12 May 2017

[UN Praises China's 1.3% GDP Limit on Disaster Losses](#)

The United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction, Mr. Robert Glasser, today marked China's National Disaster Risk Reduction Day by expressing his condolences on the loss of at least eight lives in yesterday's earthquake in Xinjiang Province and praising the country's commitment to keeping economic losses at 1.3% of GDP or below.

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 13 May 2017]

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

12 May 2017, New York

[Advancing SDGs progress with science, technology and innovations](#)

The Second Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for the Sustainable Development Goals, which is part of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, will take place in New York from 15 to 16 May 2017. This year's forum will explore the same set of SDGs as the 2017 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), but with a focus on science, technology and innovation.

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These goals are: SDG 1 on poverty eradication; SDG 2 on food security and sustainable agriculture; SDG 3 on health; SDG 5 on gender equality; SDG 9 on sustainable infrastructure, industrialization and innovation; and SDG 14 on oceans.

This Forum will therefore stimulate discussions and exchanges around specific scientific insights, technology issues and innovations that are most crucial for progress in these SDG areas. In addition, cross-cutting issues and emerging developments that impact a range of SDGs will also be featured. In keeping with its multi-stakeholder format, participation will include policy makers, innovators, scientists, civil society participants and others...

UNESCO [to 13 May 2017]

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

13 May 2017

[Youth as Safeguarding Actors of Intangible Cultural Heritage](#)

UNESCO supported the networking meeting on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) safeguarding that took place in Koror from 25 to 27 May 2017. The Meeting was held jointly by the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO.

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 13 May 2017]

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

11/05/2017

[High-level event on the importance of evaluation in eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world](#)

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 13 May 2017]

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

Nairobi, 10 May 2017

[ACP, EC and UN-Habitat partnership announces a new USD 11 million for improving life in slums](#)

A new USD 11 million has been secured for the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme to empower African, Caribbean and Pacific countries transform the living conditions of slum dwellers.

The Programme is an initiative of the Secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, funded by the European Commission and implemented by UN-Habitat. UN-Habitat estimates that an alarming one billion people living in slums worldwide, and if no action is taken – the number of people living in inadequate housing is estimated to grow to more than 3 billion by 2030...

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

ILO International Labour Organization [to 13 May 2017]

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

Press release

[Tokyo 2020 and the ILO agree unique partnership to promote Decent Work](#)

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12 May 2017

The Organizing Committee and the UN Agency for the world of work will sign an agreement to promote socially responsible labour practices among the delivery partners of the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020.

Latin America & Caribbean

[ILO, ECLAC report weakening labour conditions and rising urban unemployment](#)

11 May 2017

New ECLAC-ILO report indicates that the increase in average regional unemployment in 2016 was the biggest annual rise in two decades. It also includes an analysis regarding the characteristics of immigrants' insertion in the world of work.

Health Services

[Tripartite meeting highlights the importance of improving health sector employment and working conditions](#)

11 May 2017

Decent work is crucial to ensuring effective and resilient health systems, addressing global health workforce shortages and achieving equal access to quality health care.

Questions and Answers

[ILO meeting to focus on jobs and skills mismatch](#)

10 May 2017

ILO News talked to Paul Comyn, Senior Vocational Skills and Development Specialist in the ILO's SKILLS branch, about the key focuses of the first annual International Conference on Jobs and Skills Mismatch from 11-12 May in Geneva.

Forced labour

[ILO Goodwill Ambassador meets victims of forced labour](#)

09 May 2017

Ahead of the launch of the 50 for Freedom campaign in Brazil, ILO Goodwill Ambassador, Wagner Moura, heard the testimonies of a group of workers who were rescued from forced labour.

New ILO report

[Reforming visa sponsorship systems for migrant workers can benefit destination countries in the Middle East](#)

08 May 2017

Reforming the current visa sponsorship arrangements that govern temporary labour migration in the Middle East would have wide-ranging benefits – from improving working conditions and better meeting the needs of employers, to boosting the economy and labour market productivity, according to a new ILO report.

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 13 May 2017]

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

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No new digest content identified.

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 13 May 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: 10 May 2017

[WMO Executive Council addresses challenges from weather, climate and water News](#)

The World Meteorological Organization's Executive Council holds its annual session from 10 to 17 May, with a focus on strengthening weather, climate and hydrological services to protect lives, property and the economy from increasingly extreme and unusual weather. The outcomes of the Council will help shape the WMO contribution to global agenda on disaster risk reduction, sustainable development and climate change. There will be discussions on how to promote more coordinated investments in National Meteorological and Hydrological Services, as well as partnerships between public weather...

[METAGRI empowers African farmers with weather and climate knowledge.](#)

Publish Date: 9 May 2017

In West Africa, millions of farmers are facing the effects of climate change. Insufficient and irregular rainfall, floods and soil degradation are weakening ecosystems, contributing to crop diseases and reduced yields – among the main causes of food insecurity. The World Meteorological Organisation is empowering farmers to meet the challenges through innovative and practical METAGRI and METAGRI Operational projects - two schemes financed by Norway and Spain and implemented with the aid of the national meteorological services of 17 countries in West Africa

[New guidance supports Integrated Flood Management](#)

Publish Date: 8 May 2017

A new guidance document has been developed to support the design of well-balanced strategies for Integrated Flood Management. Floods are the most common natural disaster with the largest impacts on society. Official statistics show a gradual decrease in the number of fatalities thanks to better early warnings, but flood damage appears to be increasing because of economic growth, and lack of prevention measures and flood-sensitive land-use planning. The Integrated Flood Management (IFM) approach aims to maximize the productivity and efficient use of floodplains and coastal zones...

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 13 May 2017]

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

11 May 2017

[Clean energy and climate investment programme relaunched with UNIDO support](#)

VIENNA, 10 May 2017 – The Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN) Programme was officially relaunched today in Vienna under a new hosting arrangement. PFAN, a multilateral, public-private partnership, originally

[Russia funds UNIDO project to develop the fisheries and aquaculture sector in Ethiopia under the Programme for Country Partnership \(PCP\)](#)

VIENNA, 10 May 2017 – The Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), LI Yong, held a meeting today with the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the International...

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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](#)

[Clean energy for migrants and vulnerable groups focus of a Vienna Energy Forum side event](#)

VIENNA, 9 May 2017 - An event held on the sidelines of the Vienna Energy Forum today focused on innovative mechanisms to provide sustainable access to clean energy to migrants, refugees and other vulnerable groups, to improve their daily lives and give them hope for a better future.

[See Week in Review Above for more detail]

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 13 May 2017]

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

12 May 2017

[UNWTO Executive Council recommends Zurab Pololikashvili for Secretary-General for the period 2018-2021](#)

The 105th session of the UNWTO Executive Council, meeting in Madrid, Spain, on 12 May 2017, recommended Zurab Pololikashvili, Ambassador of Georgia in Spain, as a nominee for the post of Secretary-General for the four-year-period starting January 2018.

11 May 2017

[The need for multi-stakeholder cooperation to enhance responsible tourism underlined at the 3rd International Congress on Ethics and Tourism](#)

The potential of cooperation to foster ethical practices in the tourism sector was the major conclusion of the 3rd International Congress on Ethics and Tourism. The 2-day event held in Krakow, Poland, was attended by 200 participants from 32 countries.

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

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USAID [to 13 May 2017]

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

Latest Press Release

[Statement from Acting USAID Administrator Wade Warren on President Trump's Intent to Nominate Mark Andrew Green as USAID Administrator](#)

Wednesday, May 10, 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](#)

On behalf of the U.S. Agency for International Development's global team, we welcome President Trump's intent to nominate Mark Andrew Green to serve as the next USAID Administrator and look forward to working with him to advance USAID's mission.

DFID [to 13 May 2017]

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

[Sir Mark Lowcock confirmed as next UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs](#)

12 May 2017 DFID Press release

[Conclusion of the London Somalia Conference](#)

11 May 2017 DFID, FCO, MOD and Number 10 Press release

ECHO [to 13 May 2017]

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

12/05/2017

[Commissioner Stylianides announces new EU aid during visit to Myanmar/Burma](#)

Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides is in Myanmar/Burma from 12-14 May for an official visit. He will meet with government officials and assess the humanitarian situation on the ground.

10/05/2017

[The international community comes together in London for Somalia](#)

Today, the United Kingdom hosts a major international conference on Somalia in London. The aim is to agree on a new partnership between Somalia and the international community to keep the country on course for peace and economic growth by 2020...

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African Union [to 13 May 2017]

<http://www.au.int/>

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

[Website not responding at inquiry]

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 13 May 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]

[ASEAN to support small enterprises through equity crowd funding](#)

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 May 2017 – More than 60 participants, including stakeholders interested in equity crowd funding (ECF), benefitted from a two-day roundtable meeting in Kuala Lumpur that focused on how to promote and facilitate ECF in ASEAN. ECF is a business model which allows a large number of individuals to invest in early-stage...

[ASEAN, UNESCO stress the importance of documentary heritage in inter-cultural understanding](#)

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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](#)

KUALA LUMPUR, 9 May 2017 – ASEAN and UNESCO underscored the role of documentary heritage in binding ASEAN people together and recognised the importance of preserving and promoting access to this valuable part of ASEAN’s collective heritage. “Documentary heritage can shed light into the rich and diverse cultures of the peoples of ASEAN.

European Commission [to 13 May 2017]

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

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

[The European Union steps up its support to Somalia with €200 million at the London Conference](#)

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 11 May 2017 The European Commission has announced new support today worth €200 million at the London Conference on Somalia where partners agreed on a Security Pact for the country.

OECD [to 13 May 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]

11-May-2017

[OECD appoints Masamichi Kono as Deputy Secretary-General](#)

The OECD has appointed Masamichi Kono as a Deputy Secretary-General. He will replace Rintaro Tamaki, who will be stepping down after six fruitful years in the post.

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 13 May 2017]

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

[Selected Press Releases, Announcements]

[Al-Othaimeen Calls on International Community to Scale Up Assistance to Somali People Facing Hunger](#)

The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Dr. Yousef Al-Othaimeen, called on the international community, including UN agencies and civil society organizations, to scale up assistance to address the dire humanitarian situation in hunger-stricken Somalia.

11/05/2017

[The OIC Hosts a Joint Colloquium with France on the Preservation and Protection of Cultural Heritage in OIC Member States](#)

The General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) will host a joint OIC-France colloquium in Jeddah on 14-15 May 2017 on the theme “The preservation and protection of cultural heritage in OIC member states”.

11/05/2017

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

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

Group of 77 [to 13 May 2017]

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

[Statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by H.E. Ambassador Horacio Sevilla Borja, Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations, at the Economic and Social Council integration segment 2017: "Making eradication of poverty an integral objective of all policies: what will it take?" \(New York, 8 May 2017\)](#)

The implementation of the 2030 Agenda is one of the most relevant issues for developing countries. Sustainable Development Goal 1 aims at ending poverty in all its forms everywhere, and should be understood not as an individual goal, but with its interlinkages and its integrated nature, since those aspects are of crucial importance to ensure that the Agenda is comprehensively implemented. To realize so and truly leave no one behind, poverty eradication needs to be an integral objective of all policies and be addressed as a multidimensional phenomenon.

Eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, remains the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, particularly in Africa, in the least developed countries, in Small Island Developing States, landlocked developing countries, and in middle-income countries -many of which still face specific challenges and are home to most of the world's population living in poverty-, as well as countries and peoples living under colonial and foreign occupation and countries in situation of conflict and post-conflict. It is deeply regrettable that, despite the rapid decline in poverty over the last decades, 13% of the world population still lives in extreme poverty.

The Group stresses its concern with the current growth trajectory, as it challenges our goal to deliver poverty eradication by 2030. The global financial and economic ongoing crisis is clearly undermining sustainable development in all developing countries and reversing the modest development gains, in particular, those in the LDCs, pushing a larger number of their people to extreme poverty.

Moreover, the Group highlights that for economic growth to positively contribute to poverty reduction it is essential that macroeconomic and social policies focus on job creation and social inclusion, as this will reduce inequalities and aid in providing social protection.

We call for the significant mobilization of resources and the provision of adequate and predictable means for developing countries to implement policies and programmes towards ending poverty in all its dimensions. Developed countries must commit to fully implementing their official development assistance commitments in keeping with their previously made undertakings and to upscale these efforts to play a meaningful role in eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions.

The Group stresses the importance of taking targeted measures to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, of implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including social protection floors, and of achieving substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.

The Group welcomes the increased contributions of South-South cooperation to poverty eradication and sustainable development. We encourage developing countries to voluntarily step up their efforts to strengthen South-South cooperation. South-South cooperation is a collective endeavour of developing countries, based on the principle of solidarity. However, the

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Group reiterates its position that South-South cooperation is a complement rather than a substitute for North-South cooperation.

The Group stresses the need to enable the Governments of developing countries to effectively formulate their own development strategies and policy tools, in line with their national priorities and circumstances. In this regard, the support of the UN system and other international partners, backed by resource commitments are crucial to help catalyze the much-needed structural changes through people-centered and well-designed economic and social policies that promote inclusive growth, job creation, investment in education, health-care and infrastructure, social safety net and empowerment of women, among other aspects...

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UNCTAD [to 13 May 2017]

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

08 May 2017 –

[UN makes a solid case for the benefits of multilateral collaboration, openness, and the transformative potential of technology](#)

UNCTAD Secretary-General calls for strengthening commitments in science and technology for development

UNCTAD/PRESS/PR/20217/008

Geneva, Switzerland, (08 May 2017)

Scientific and technological progress is an essential means to eradicate poverty and create a better world for all. We should not see it as an existential threat," said Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi Secretary-General of UNCTAD about the opening of the twentieth session of the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), the premier platform of the UN system that tackles science and technology questions and their implications for development.

CSTD brought together over 200 people from 60 countries, including Science and Technology Ministers, renowned scientists, and representatives from national governments, private sector, civil society, regional and international agencies, and the academia.

Dr. Kituyi explained that the international community should not ignore concerns that technology-led development creates winners and losers.

"Sceptical voices about the benefits of technology, trade and of globalization are becoming louder, almost deafeningly so. We must not give in to fearmongering, technophobia and isolationism. It is crucial that the UN continues to make a solid case for the benefits of multilateral collaboration, openness, and the transformative potential of technology," said Dr. Kituyi.

This year, the Commission will address how new innovation approaches - including pro-poor innovation, grand challenges, and novel forms of digital collaboration - can support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and how science and technology can enable the global community to end hunger by 2030. The twentieth session will also review the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)...

WTO - World Trade Organisation [to 13 May 2017]

http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news_e.htm

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

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No new digest content identified.

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IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 13 May 2017]

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

8 MAY 2017

[Building a bridge between science and policy: IPU side event at the 70th World Health Assembly](#)

Translating findings from scientific research into policy actions is a challenge, especially in public health. The gap between evidence and its use in policy seems to be growing, given the current sociopolitical situation and the myriad sources of information. These can lead to myths and misconceptions about health, for example on issues such as immunization, and the relation between climate change and health. Parliamentarians have a key role in ensuring that health laws and policies—and their implementation—are continuously informed by robust scientific findings.

To address this, a parliamentary side event, "Bridging the Gap between Evidence and Policy: The Role of Parliamentarians in Advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" will be organized at the 70th World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva on 29 May. Organized by the IPU and WHO under the sponsorship of Austria, Bangladesh and Cameroon, the side event aims to facilitate dialogue between MPs and the health community, and allow MPs to contribute to the global health agenda...

International Court of Justice [to 13 May 2017]

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

[11/05/2017](#) - NEW 2017/19 - Certain Iranian Assets (Islamic Republic of Iran v. United States of America) - Fixing of the time-limit for the filing by the Islamic Republic of Iran of a written statement of its observations and submissions on the preliminary objections raised by the United States of America

[10/05/2017](#) - NEW 2017/18 - Proceedings instituted by the Republic of India against the Islamic Republic of Pakistan - Request for the indication of provisional measures - The Court to hold public hearings on Monday 15 May 2017

[10/05/2017](#) - NEW 2017/17 - Proceedings instituted by the Republic of India against the Islamic Republic of Pakistan - Urgent Communication to Pakistan from the President under Article 74, paragraph 4, of the Rules of Court

[09/05/2017](#) - NEW 2017/16 - The Republic of India institutes proceedings against the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and requests the Court to indicate provisional measures

International Criminal Court (ICC) [to 13 May 2017]

Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity

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

Statement : 9 May 2017

[Statement of ICC Prosecutor to the UNSC on the Situation in Libya](#)

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World Bank [to 13 May 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]

No new digest content identified.

IMF [to 13 May 2017]

<http://www.imf.org/en/News/Search?DateFrom=2017-01-01&DateTo=2017-12-31>

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

May 9, 2017

[Sub-Saharan Africa: Restarting the Growth Engine](#)

Sub-Saharan Africa's growth has fallen to its lowest level in more than 20 years, the IMF said in its latest [Regional Economic Outlook for Sub-Saharan Africa](#).

While some countries like Senegal and Kenya continue to experience growth rates higher than 6 percent, growth has slowed for two thirds of countries in the region bringing down average growth to 1.4 percent in 2016.

A modest recovery in growth, to 2.6 percent, is expected in 2017, but the report said the underlying regional momentum remains weak, and at this rate, sub-Saharan African growth will continue to fall well short of past trends of 5-6 percent, and barely exceed population growth.

May 9, 2017

[IMF Calls for Strong and Sound Policy Measures to Restart Sub-Saharan Africa's Growth Engine](#)

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) today urged sub-Saharan African countries to implement strong and urgent policy action to boost growth in the region. According to its latest [Regional Economic Outlook](#), [Restarting the Growth Engine](#), growth in sub-Saharan Africa as a whole fell to 1.4 percent in 2016—its lowest level in two decades—and is projected to record a modest recovery of 2.6 percent in 2017, although a number of countries, especially in Eastern and Western Africa, continue to grow robustly.

"The overall weak outlook partly reflects insufficient policy adjustment," said Abebe Aemro Selassie, Director of the IMF's African Department. "The delay in implementing much-needed adjustment policies is creating uncertainty, holding back investment, and risks generating even deeper difficulties in the future. Adjustment in resource-intensive countries has been delayed. In particular, oil exporters such as Angola, Nigeria, and the countries of the Central African Economic and Monetary Union (CEMAC) are still struggling to deal with the budgetary revenue losses and balance of payments pressures, some three years after the fall in oil prices

"Vulnerabilities are also emerging in many non-resource-intensive countries. While they have generally continued to record high growth rates, they have also maintained elevated fiscal deficits for a number of years as their governments rightly sought to address social and infrastructure gaps. As a result, fiscal and external buffers are declining and public debt is on the rise."...

African Development Bank Group [to 13 May 2017]

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

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

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[The West African International Arbitration Conference \(WAIAC\) charts future of investment arbitration in Africa](#)

11/05/2017 - More than 80 lawyers, international arbitration practitioners and government officials gathered in Abidjan last week in a lively exchange on the future of investment arbitration in Africa. Held from 20 -21 April, the West African International Arbitration Conference (WAIAC) provided a platform for both African legal firms and government institutions to promote their work, network with peers in the industry and deepen their understanding of emerging challenges in the field of international arbitration.

[African Development Bank approves USD 226.5 Million loan to boost economic governance and competitiveness in Namibia](#)

10/05/2017 - The Board of Directors of the African Development Bank has approved a loan of US\$ 226.5 million (ZAR 3 billion) to finance the Namibia Economic Governance and Competitiveness Support Programme (EGCSP).

Asian Development Bank [to 13 May 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]

No new digest content identified.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank [to 13 May 2017]

<https://www.aiib.org/en/news-events/news/index.html>

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

No new digest content identified.

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 13 May 2017]

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

12 May 2017

[First IFAD-financed project in Montenegro to support economic and climatic resilience](#)

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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 13 May 2017]

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<http://amref.org/news/news/>
No new digest content identified.

Aravind Eye Care System [to 13 May 2017]
<http://www.aravind.org/default/currentnewscontent>
No new digest content identified.

BRAC [to 13 May 2017]
<http://www.brac.net/#news>
Monday, 08 May 2017 00:00
[Urban innovation challenge announces 5 winners](#)

BRAC announced five winners for bringing innovative solutions to the growing challenges faced by the people living in cities across Bangladesh. The mayor of Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC), Annisul Huq, announced the winners at an event organised at BRAC Centre today (7 May 2017)...

CARE International [to 13 May 2017]
<http://www.care-international.org/news/press-releases>
10th May 2017
[CARE International appoints Lindsay Glassco as new Deputy Secretary General](#)

Geneva: Today, CARE International announced that Lindsay Glassco will become the new Deputy Secretary General, starting in July.

Glassco brings over 25 years of experience of working with the UN, NGO, government and the business sectors. She previously worked as Director of International Cooperation and Development for the International Olympic Committee, was the President and CEO of Special Olympics Canada, and was the Global Director of Policy and Strategy for Right to Play (RTP), an international NGO using the transformative power of play to educate and empower children and youth in disadvantaged communities...

Clubhouse International [to 13 May 2017]
<http://www.clubhouse-intl.org/news.html>
No new digest content identified.

Danish Refugee Council [to 13 May 2017]
<https://www.drc.dk/news>
10.05.2017
[Cash is one of the best ways to provide emergency relief](#)

In a crisis, the most effective way to distribute relief is to give families cash so they can then spend, as best suits their needs. Research shows that cash assistance can often provide more emergency relief for fewer funds. In the present hunger crisis in parts of Africa and Yemen, cash assistance is saving lives on a daily basis...

ECPAT [to 13 May 2017]
<http://www.ecpat.net/news>

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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](#)

Posted on 11/05/2017

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

[A strong moral compass: how faith-based organizations can tackle online sexual exploitation of children](#)

PANAMA CITY, 11 May 2017 – A new guide published today aims to help religious communities worldwide harness their strengths to prevent, respond to and end online child sexual exploitation. Published by ECPAT International and Religions for Peace in partnership with UNICEF, Protecting Children from Online Sexual Exploitation recognises that religious leaders and communities can provide the moral compass that is needed to end this crime.

Information and communications technologies and the Internet are exposing children to new and evolving forms of sexual exploitation, as seen in a staggering expansion of child sexual abuse materials online. Practices such as 'sexting' (the self-production and sharing of sexual messages or images) also place children at risk of sexual abuse and exploitation.

The new Guide recognises that faith-based organisations and religious leaders are in a unique position to mobilise moral authority on this issue, influence thinking, generate debate and set standards for others to follow. They are also well-placed to take action when offenders ask for help, and to give families the advice and the tools they need to protect their children...

Fountain House [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Handicap International [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Heifer International [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

HelpAge International [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

ICRC [to 13 May 2017]

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

Selected News Releases, Reports and Articles

08-05-2017 | *Statement*

[Never again: Nagasaki must be the last atomic bombing](#)

On 24-26 April, at the invitation of the Japanese Red Cross Society, leaders and experts of 35 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, their International Federation, and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), met in Nagasaki, Ja

08-05-2017 | *Statement*

[World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day 2017 - Everywhere for everyone](#)

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Joint statement, Tadateru Konoé, President of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and Peter Maurer, President of the ICRC

IFRC [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 13 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases & Statements

Press Release

[15 NGOs decry new policy limiting asylum seekers in exercising their right to appeal](#)

May 9, 2017

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

IRCT [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Islamic Relief [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Landsea [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Medecins du Monde [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 13 May 2017]

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

Press release

[Neglected Humanitarian Crisis in Central America's Northern Triangle](#)

MEXICO CITY/NEW YORK, MAY 11, 2017—Central Americans forced to flee devastating violence in their home countries are re-victimized along the migration route to the United States (U.S.) and Mexico, according to a report released today by the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF).

Report: [Forced to Flee Central America's Northern Triangle: A Neglected Humanitarian Crisis](#)

Press release

[Press Teleconference: Forced to Flee from Central America's Northern Triangle](#)

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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](#)

May 09, 2017

The international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) presents the findings of its report detailing two years of medical data, patient surveys and patient testimonies gathered by teams working along Mexico's migration routes to the United States (US). The report illustrates the extreme levels of violence experienced by people fleeing El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras—both at home and along the northward journey—the lack of access to medical care, and the aggressive deportation policies that disregard their need for assistance and protection.

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

Press release

[Yemen: Increased Response Needed as Cholera Spreads](#)

SANA'A, YEMEN/NEW YORK, MAY 9, 2017—A growing cholera outbreak in Yemen is threatening to spread further in the war-torn country, the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) said today, reporting a drastic increase in the number of patients its teams are treating in recent weeks.

Mercy Corps [to 13 May 2017]

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

May 11, 2017

[London Somalia Conference: Violence And Hunger Inextricable, Says Mercy Corps](#)

Leading global organization calls for extending proven methods to prevent violent extremism

MOGADISHU, SOMALIA – The global organization Mercy Corps calls on international partners to use the London Somalia Conference to redouble efforts to confront the twin threats of drought and violence in Somalia at this crucial moment.

"Delegates to the conference must keep the failures of 2011 front and center. Somalis are dying of hunger and disease and we must move fast," says Abdikadir Mohamud, Mercy Corps Country Director for Somalia. "But solutions must be long-term and lasting; otherwise we threaten to trap Somalis in a cycle of drought, death and aid dependence."...

[NR London Somalia Conference.pdf](#)

Operation Smile [to 13 May 2017]

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

Posted 5/12/2017

[OPERATION SMILE HONDURAS ANNOUNCES ERADICATION OF THE CLEFT BACKLOG](#)

Press Release

Celebrates 20 years and Joins Global Campaign to Increase Access to Safe Surgery

Tegucigalpa, Honduras – Operation Smile Honduras announced the eradication of the backlog of people living with untreated cleft conditions at an event hosted by President Juan Orlando Hernandez and First Lady Ana Garcia de Hernandez. Operation Smile, Inc.'s Co-Founder and CEO Dr. Bill Magee attended the May 11 event, celebrating 20 years of providing free surgery and comprehensive cleft care in Honduras to more than 4,700 patients.

[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.

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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](#)

OXFAM [to 13 May 2017]
<http://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/pressreleases>
No new digest content identified.

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 13 May 2017]
<http://www.nrc.no/>
Published 10 May 2017
[15 NGOs decry new policy limiting asylum seekers in exercising their right to appeal](#)
[See Week in Review above for more detail]

09 May 2017
[Nigeria: Stepping up efforts to prevent famine](#)
Rosalyn Velds and Ingvild Vettrhus

Violence has left 5 million people at risk of starvation in Borno State, once the breadbasket of north-east Nigeria. The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and other aid organisations are on the ground providing urgent food assistance to divert a full-scale famine in the area.

Pact [to 13 May 2017]
<http://www.pactworld.org/news>
No new digest content identified.

Partners In Health [to 13 May 2017]
<http://www.pih.org/blog>
May 11, 2017
[After Hurricane Matthew: PIH's Impact in the South](#)
Wrapping up six months of recovery efforts, PIH reviews its accomplishments in southern Haiti following the devastation caused by Hurricane Matthew last October.

PATH [to 13 May 2017]
<http://www.path.org/news/index.php>
No new digest content identified.

Plan International [to 13 May 2017]
<http://plan-international.org/about-plan/resources/media-centre>
No new digest content identified.

Save The Children [to 13 May 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
[Linkin Park in Peru: Band Will Donate to Save the Children Emergency Response](#)
May 11, 2017

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[One-Week Old Baby Saved in Massive Mediterranean Rescue Operation](#)
May 9, 2017

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 13 May 2017]
<http://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/about-sos/press/press-releases>
No new digest content identified.

Tostan [to 13 May 2017]
<http://www.tostan.org>
No new digest content identified.

Women for Women International [to 13 May 2017]
<http://www.womenforwomen.org/press-releases>
No new digest content identified.

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Freedom House [to 13 May 2017]
<https://freedomhouse.org/news>
Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research
No new digest content identified.

Transparency International [to 13 May 2017]
<http://www.transparency.org/news/pressreleases/>
Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research
No new digest content identified.

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ChildFund Alliance [to 13 May 2017]
<http://childfundalliance.org/news/>
No new digest content identified.

CONCORD [to 13 May 2017]
<http://concordeurope.org/news-and-events/>
[European NGO confederation for relief and development]
May 2, 2017

[CONCORD Europe backs Italian NGOs after accusations](#)
by Claudia Engstrom | May 10, 2017

Italian NGOs are currently under attack, due to allegations undermining the credibility and expertise of organisations and volunteers saving lives in the Mediterranean. This case is unfortunately not isolated in the EU.

[From partnerships to self-interest: how can we reverse the trend in EU Development Cooperation?](#)

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by Seamus Jeffreson | May 8, 2017

With the revision of the Cotonou Agreement which will start mid-2018 and the soon to be signed new EU Consensus on Development, where do we stand on development cooperation after 60 years of European Union?

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 13 May 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 No new digest content identified.

The Elders [to 13 May 2017]

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

News 8 May 2017

Annual Review 2016: Solidarity Beyond Borders

The Elders have published their latest Annual Review. From launching a campaign for Universal Health Coverage to promoting a coordinated international response to refugees and mass migration, read highlights of The Elders' work from 2016.

Videos 8 May 2017

Elders tackle global issues at UN Noon Briefing

Following a meeting with the UN Secretary-General, Gro Harlem Brundtland, Lakhdar Brahimi and Mary Robinson addressed global challenges including multilateralism, climate change and conflict at the UN Noon Briefing on 9 May.

END Fund [to 13 May 2017]

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

*Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements
No new digest content identified.*

Evidence Aid [to 13 May 2017]

www.evidenceaid.org

No new digest content identified.

Gavi [to 13 May 2017]

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

08 May 2017

U.S. approves US\$ 275 million for Gavi in fiscal year 2017 budget

Funding to provide life-saving vaccines to children.

Washington, DC, 8 May 2017– Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance welcomed final approval of the U.S. fiscal year 2017 appropriations bill that includes US\$ 275 million for Gavi, funding that will greatly enhance Gavi's capacity to purchase and deliver life-saving vaccines for children in the world's poorest countries. This will help immunise millions of children in developing countries against vaccine-preventable diseases, which claim 1.5 million lives every year.

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The contribution to Gavi is part of the US\$ 814.5 million approved for USAID's Maternal and Child Health programs for 2017. This funding not only supports the introduction of new vaccines, innovative approaches and tools to expand equitable access to vaccines, but a range of other life-saving interventions.

"We are extremely grateful for the continued strong bipartisan support for Gavi's role in expanding global immunisation programs, especially in a particularly challenging budget environment. Vaccines are one of the best buys in global health and healthy families contribute to healthy economies," said Gavi CEO Dr. Seth Berkley...

Global Fund [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Hilton Prize Coalition [to 13 May 2017]

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

An Alliance of Hilton Prize Recipients

Selected News Releases, Content

No new digest content identified.

ICVA -International Council of Voluntary Agencies [to 13 May 2017]

<https://icvanetwork.org/>

No new digest content identified.

InterAction [to 13 May 2017]

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

May 11, 2017

[InterAction Applauds Nomination of Amb. Mark Green to Lead USAID](#)

Historic Opportunities and Challenges Face USAID Nominee

WASHINGTON – InterAction, the largest U.S. alliance of international NGOs, welcomed President Donald J. Trump's nomination of Amb. Mark Green to lead the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Start Network [to 13 May 2017]

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

10 May 17

Start Network publishes impact report

[First ever assessment of progress in changing humanitarian system breaks new ground](#)

Start Network has published a ground-breaking first report into the impact of its efforts to change the humanitarian system.

The report is the first in the humanitarian sector to showcase what can be accomplished through system-change initiatives. It measures a range of indicators from the 391 training and capacity building exercises last year – many involving people close to communities affected by crisis - to the 80 collaborative agreements arrived at with external agencies.

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It also estimates that through two of its widest-ranging programmes, Start Network reached 11.8 million people in need of humanitarian aid during 2016. Its most important findings on humanitarian system change are that in the same period Start Network also achieved:

- :: Nine changes in different governments' humanitarian policy and practice
- :: 29 changes in in-country coordination mechanisms
- :: 16 changes in the policies and practices of aid donors and international NGOs
- :: 70 such changes involving national NGOs and their partners.

The report includes 13 individual case studies of how systemic changes have led to good quality humanitarian responses, and sets out Start Network's newly developed theory of change, from which many of the indicators are derived...

Muslim Charities Forum [to 13 May 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 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

CHS Alliance [to 13 May 2017]

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

10/05/2017

[CHS launches in Myanmar language](#)

The Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) is now available in Myanmar language. The CHS management team would like to thank the American Red Cross for coordinating the translation of the Standard. The CHS in Myanmar language will be an invaluable resource for humanitarian and development organisations working across Asia and worldwide.

EHLRA/R2HC [to 13 May 2017]

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

08.05.2017

[Learning from failure -and getting a second chance](#)

Back in 2014 there were calls for innovation as the world faced its most challenging and sustained pandemic – the Ebola outbreak in West Africa. What lessons could be learnt...

Global Humanitarian Assistance (GHA) [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

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The Sphere Project [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 13 May 2017]

<https://phap.org/>

No new digest content identified.

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Center for Global Development

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

Accessed 13 May 2017

5/11/17

[Identification as a National Priority: The Unique Case of Peru - Working Paper 454](#)

William Reuben and Flávia Carbonari

Peru is a remarkable example of a country that established civil identification as a national priority in response to the need to re-integrate the state after a serious insurgency.

ODI [to 13 May 2017]

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

Selected Reports and Studies

[Sir Mark Lowcock announced as new UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs - ODI statement](#)

Press release | 12 May 2017

The ODI congratulates Mark Lowcock on his appointment as the new United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator

[MEDIA NOTE: Former US ambassador Mark Green nominated to lead USAID – statement and expert available](#)

Press release | 11 May 2017

Former US ambassador to Tanzania Mark Green has been nominated by President Donald Trump to head the USAID, it has been announced

[MEDIA NOTE: Famine must be top priority at London Somalia Conference – statement and experts available](#)

Press release | 10 May 2017

Experts at ODI have said famine must be at the centre of discussions at the Somalia conference taking place in London on Thursday, May 11

[Europe's major carbon emitters hand out €6.3bn in coal subsidies each year – new report](#)

Press release | 8 May 2017

New ODI report has gathered detailed information on how much money 10 European countries have provided to support the coal industry since 2005

[Why 'stagflation' matters for Africa's economic transformation](#)

Briefing papers | May 2017 | Phyllis Papadavid

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Slower growth and greater inflation pressure will raise the risk of 'stagflation' in some African economies, reducing efforts at economic transformation.

[Five steps to smarter multi-bi aid: a new way forward for earmarked finance](#)

Research reports and studies | May 2017 | Bernhard Reinsberg

This report proposes reforms to make multi-bi aid – donor contributions to multilateral organisations earmarked for specific purposes – more effective and legitimate.

[Cutting Europe's lifelines to coal: tracking subsidies in 10 countries](#)

Research reports and studies | May 2017 | Shelagh Whitley, Laurie van der Burg, Leah Worrall and Sejal Patel

This report reviews subsidies to coal in 10 countries that produce 84% of Europe's energy-related greenhouse gas emissions.

Urban Institute [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

World Economic Forum [to 13 May 2017]

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

News 12 May 2017

[The Innovation Imperative: Open Forum in Amman to Address Role of Entrepreneurship](#)

[Tech-Empowered Youth Will Drive the ASEAN Dream of Connectivity and Inclusion](#)

[World Economic Forum and OECD Launch SDIP ASEAN Hub](#)

[Multistakeholder Action Needed to Move from Cash to e-Payments](#)

[ASEAN 50 Years On: From Community of Governments to Community of People](#)

News 11 May 2017

[Leaders Call for Innovation and Partnership to Strengthen ASEAN Food Systems](#)

[In Pursuing Free Trade and Integration, ASEAN Should Focus on Skills and Safety Nets](#)

[ASEAN is Harnessing the Transformative Technologies of the Fourth Industrial Revolution](#)

[Fifty Years Young: Youth and Technology are Driving ASEAN's Future Competitiveness](#)

[Africa's Global Shapers Join Forces to Press for Open, Border-Free Travel in Africa](#)

[Solving ASEAN's Connectivity Conundrum will Require Public-Private Partnerships](#)

[Jobs, Technology and Multilateralism Hold the Key to Asean's Future](#)

[Meet the 100 Start-ups of the Arab World Shaping the Fourth Industrial Revolution](#)

News 10 May 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 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Annie E. Casey Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Blue Meridian Partners [to 13 May 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.

Clinton Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Ford Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

GHIT Fund [to 13 May 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.

2017.05.10 News

[New interview articles posted on our 5th Anniversary website:](#)

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- Dr. Hannah Kettler Senior Program Officer, Life Science Partnerships, Global Health Program, Office of the President, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Mr. George Nakayama, Representative Director, Chairman and CEO, Daiichi Sankyo Company, Limited
- Mr. Yoshihiko Hatanaka, Representative Director, President and CEO, Astellas Pharma Inc.
- Mr. Gen Miyazawa, Executive Corporate Officer EVP, President of Media Group, Yahoo Japan Corporation

Grameen Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

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

May 11, 2017

[This is what demography looks like](#)

Editor's note: Ruth Levine, director of the Hewlett Foundation's Global Development and Population Program, delivered these remarks at the Population Association of America's annual meeting in Chicago on April 28th. Among the attendees were Hewlett Foundation's grantee organizations, including researchers and communications specialists from universities, think tanks, and other groups working on reproductive health, population dynamics, and women's ...

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

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

Our News

[The Importance of Investing Early: Q&A with Lisa Bohmer on the Young Children Affected by HIV and AIDS Strategic Initiative](#)

By Lisa Bohmer, May 8, 2017

In November 2016, the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation board of directors approved a new Young Children Affected by HIV and AIDS strategic initiative. We interviewed Senior Program Officer Lisa Bohmer to learn more about this exciting development and what we can look forward to over the next five years.

Our News

[Increasing Collaboration and Engagement Among Partners in the Water Sector](#)

May 5, 2017

Earlier this year, the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation's Safe Water team convened a workshop, populated primarily with Foundation grantees and facilitated by IRC and Woods Institute for the Environment at Stanford University, to provide a forum for crucial feedback regarding sustainability in the safe water space.

IKEA Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

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HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 13 May 2017]

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

May 02 2017

Institute

[Philanthropies Select 41 Scientists as International Research Scholars](#)

Summary

HHMI, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Wellcome Trust, and the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation announce the selection of 41 International Research Scholars, early-career scientists poised to advance biomedical research across the globe.

Kellogg Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

MacArthur Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

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

May 9, 2017

[Filling the gap: how to categorize single-celled organisms](#)

The classification of organisms, known as taxonomy, is an essential branch of science. Taxonomy tells us how organisms are related to one another using both morphology and genetic information. Through established taxonomic frameworks, for example for plants and animals, scientists and non-scientists are better able to understand the diversity of life on earth. Yet, one taxonomic framework is surprisingly absent: one for single-celled microeukaryotes (microscopic organisms with a distinct nucleus). Their intricate body types, evolutionary history and puzzling life strategies complicate characterization efforts leaving a current gap in the language to describe these organisms.

To fill this taxonomy gap, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation is supporting “UniEuk” – a Universal taxonomic framework for classifying single-celled Eukaryotic microorganisms. UniEuk is an open, inclusive, community-based and expert-driven international initiative. Recently, the effort was formally announced in the Journal of Eukaryotic Microbiology. In the announcement, the authors discuss why single-celled microeukaryote taxonomy is needed and how the community can work together to bring it about through UniEuk...

Open Society Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

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Pew Charitable Trusts [to 13 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Rockefeller Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

<https://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/about-us/news-media/>

No new digest content identified.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 13 May 2017]

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

May 11, 2017

Rich Besser's Journey of Service

May 11, 2017 *Blog Post* Najaf Ahmad

From his Princeton roots, to his experiences as a pediatrician, public health practitioner and journalist, RWJF President and CEO Richard Besser shares stories and lessons from a career dedicated to service in this Q&A.

What Characterizes the Marketplaces with One or Two Insurers?

May 10, 2017 *Issue Brief*

Marketplace health insurance premium levels and premium growth directly correlate with the number of insurers participating in a given rating region.

How Nurses Are Caring for Their Communities

May 8, 2017 *Blog Post* Nancy Fishman

Nurses across the country volunteer within their own communities. A study in the journal Policy, Politics & Nursing Practice suggests that 80% of 315 nurses surveyed helped improve their community's health beyond the health care setting.

Science Philanthropy Alliance [to 13 May 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 digest content identified.

SDG Philanthropy Platform

<http://sdgfunders.org/conversation/>

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

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9-5-2017

Apply for the SDG Innovation Challenge in Zambia

The SDG Philanthropy Platform Zambia is pleased to launch a Challenge Prize, to source and award the most promising innovations to improve the well-being of children in Zambia within identified Intervention Pathways.

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

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

No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 13 May 2017]

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

11 May 2017

Largest UK resource of human stem cells created

Scientists have created the UK's largest resource of human stem cells from healthy people. This is a powerful research tool for studying human development and disease.

Researchers generated human induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) on a large scale to study cell differences between individuals...

9 May 2017

International Research Scholars announced

Wellcome has teamed up with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation for a new research award that will develop scientific talent around the world.

Today the first 41 early-career scientists to receive the International Research Scholars awards (opens in a new tab) were announced.

This group of scholars will receive a total of nearly \$26.7 million, with each researcher receiving \$650,000 over five years...

8 May 2017

23 researchers given prestigious fellowships

Members of the Wellcome community have been elected fellows of two prestigious organisations.

Fourteen have been elected Fellows of the Academy of Medical Sciences, and nine have been elected Fellows of the Royal Society.

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:: Journal Watch

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

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American Journal of Infection Control

May 01, 2017 Volume 45, Issue 5, p463-582, e45-e52

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

May 2017 Volume 52, Issue 5, p557-690, e123-e156

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

Volume 107, Issue 5 (May 2017)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Volume 96, Issue 5, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

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

(Accessed 13 May 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 13 May 2017)

Research article

[Reaching beyond the review of research evidence: a qualitative study of decision making during the development of clinical practice guidelines for disease prevention in healthcare](#)

The judgment and decision making process during guideline development is central for producing high-quality clinical practice guidelines, but the topic is relatively underexplored in the guideline research literature. We have studied the development process of national guidelines with a disease-prevention scope produced by the National board of Health and Welfare (NBHW) in Sweden. The NBHW formal guideline development model states that guideline recommendations should be based on five decision-criteria: research evidence; curative/preventive effect size, severity of the condition; cost-effectiveness; and ethical

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considerations. A group of health profession representatives (i.e. a prioritization group) was assigned the task of ranking condition-intervention pairs for guideline recommendations, taking into consideration the multiple decision criteria. The aim of this study was to investigate the decision making process during the two-year development of national guidelines for methods of preventing disease.

Linda Richter Sundberg, Rickard Garvare and Monica Elisabeth Nyström

BMC Health Services Research 2017 17:344

Published on: 11 May 2017

Research article

Quality of care in family planning services in Senegal and their outcomes

High quality of care in family planning (FP) services has been found to be associated with increased and continued use of contraceptive methods. The interpersonal skills and technical competence of the provide...

Shireen Assaf, Wenjuan Wang and Lindsay Mallick

BMC Health Services Research 2017 17:346

Published on: 12 May 2017

Research article

Improving access to health care amongst vulnerable populations: a qualitative study of village malaria workers in Kampot, Cambodia

There is growing interest in the expansion of community health workers programmes in low- and middle-income countries as a cost-effective approach to address shortages of health professionals. However, our und...

Marco Liverani, Chea Nguon, Ra Sok, Daro Kim, Panharith Nou, Sokhan Nguon and Shunmay Yeung

BMC Health Services Research 2017 17:335

Published on: 8 May 2017

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 13 May 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 13 May 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 13 May 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

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(Accessed 13 May 2017)

Research article

Understanding coping strategies during pregnancy and the postpartum period: a qualitative study of women living with HIV in rural Uganda

In sub-Saharan Africa, 58% of adults living with HIV are women. In Uganda, HIV prevalence is 8.3% for women compared to 6.1% for men. Access to antiretroviral therapy (ART) and prevention of mother to child tr...

Scholastic Ashaba, Angela Kaida, Bridget Frances Burns, Kasey O'Neil, Emma Dunkley, Christina Psaros, Jasmine Kastner, Alexander C. Tsai, David R. Bangsberg and Lynn T. Matthews
BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth 2017 17:138
Published on: 8 May 2017

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 13 May 2017)

Research article

The impact of income inequality and national wealth on child and adolescent mortality in low and middle-income countries

Joseph L. Ward and Russell M. Viner
BMC Public Health 2017 17:429
Published on: 11 May 2017

Abstract

Background

Income inequality and national wealth are strong determinants for health, but few studies have systematically investigated their influence on mortality across the early life-course, particularly outside the high-income world.

Methods

We performed cross-sectional regression analyses of the relationship between income inequality (national Gini coefficient) and national wealth (Gross Domestic Product (GDP) averaged over previous decade), and all-cause and grouped cause national mortality rate amongst infants, 1–4, 5–9, 10–14, 15–19 and 20–24 year olds in low and middle-income countries (LMIC) in 2012. Gini models were adjusted for GDP.

Results

Data were available for 103 (79%) countries. Gini was positively associated with increased all-cause and communicable disease mortality in both sexes across all age groups, after adjusting for national wealth. Gini was only positively associated with increased injury mortality amongst infants and 20–24 year olds, and increased non-communicable disease mortality amongst 20–24 year old females. The strength of these associations tended to increase during adolescence. Increasing GDP was negatively associated with all-cause, communicable and non-communicable disease mortality in males and females across all age groups. GDP was also associated with decreased injury mortality in all age groups except 15–19 year old females, and 15–24 year old males. GDP became a weaker predictor of mortality during adolescence.

Conclusion

Policies to reduce income inequality, rather than prioritising economic growth at all costs, may be needed to improve adolescent mortality in low and middle-income countries, a key development priority.

Research article

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The comprehensive 'Communicate to Vaccinate' taxonomy of communication interventions for childhood vaccination in routine and campaign contexts

Communication can be used to generate demand for vaccination or address vaccine hesitancy, and is crucial to successful childhood vaccination programmes. Research efforts have primarily focused on communication for routine vaccination. However, vaccination campaigns, particularly in low- or middle-income countries (LMICs), also use communication in diverse ways. Without a comprehensive framework integrating communication interventions from routine and campaign contexts, it is not possible to conceptualise the full range of possible vaccination communication interventions. Therefore, vaccine programme managers may be unaware of potential communication options and researchers may not focus on building evidence for interventions used in practice.

In this paper, we broaden the scope of our existing taxonomy of communication interventions for routine vaccination to include communication used in campaigns, and integrate these into a comprehensive taxonomy of vaccination communication interventions.

Jessica Kaufman, Heather Ames, Xavier Bosch-Capblanch, Yuri Cartier, Julie Cliff, Claire Glenton, Simon Lewin, Artur Manuel Muloliwa, Afiong Oku, Angela Oyo-Ita, Gabriel Rada and Sophie Hill

BMC Public Health 2017 17:423

Published on: 10 May 2017

Research article

Comparing national infectious disease surveillance systems: China and the Netherlands

Risk assessment and early warning (RAEW) are essential components of any infectious disease surveillance system. In light of the International Health Regulations (IHR)(2005), this study compares the organisati...

Willemijn L. Vlieg, Ewout B. Fanoy, Liselotte van Asten, Xiaobo Liu, Jun Yang, Eva Pilot, Paul Bijkerk, Wim van der Hoek, Thomas Krafft, Marianne A. van der Sande and Qi-Yong Liu

BMC Public Health 2017 17:415

Published on: 8 May 2017

Research article

Social relationships, mental health and wellbeing in physical disability: a systematic review

Research has consistently found that favourable exchange with one's proximal social environment has positive effects on both mental health and wellbeing. Adults with physical disabilities may have fewer opport...

Hannah Tough, Johannes Siegrist and Christine Fekete

BMC Public Health 2017 17:414

Published on: 8 May 2017

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 13 May 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Open

April 2017 - Volume 7 - 4

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

Smoking and tobacco

[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 95, Number 5, May 2017, 313-388

<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/95/5/en/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Child Care, Health and Development

May 2017 Volume 43, Issue 3 Pages 323–461

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/cch.v43.3/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Therapeutics

April 2017 Volume 39, Issue 4, p665-872

[http://www.clinicaltherapeutics.com/issue/S0149-2918\(17\)X0004-0](http://www.clinicaltherapeutics.com/issue/S0149-2918(17)X0004-0)

[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 13 May 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases

June 2017 - Volume 30 - Issue 3

<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 27, Issue 3

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

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[Reviewed earlier]

Development Policy Review

May 2017 Volume 35, Issue 3 Pages 313–438

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dpr.2017.35.issue-3/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology

Volume 12, Issue 5, 2017

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

Editorial

Leaving no-one behind: using assistive technology to enhance community living for people with intellectual disability

John Owuor, Fiona Larkan & Malcolm MacLachlan

Pages: 426-428

Published online: 28 Apr 2017

Article

Principles for fostering the transdisciplinary development of assistive technologies

Jennifer Boger, Piper Jackson, Maurice Mulvenna, Judith Sixsmith, Andrew Sixsmith, Alex Mihailidis, Pia Kontos, Janice Miller Polgar, Alisa Grigorovich & Suzanne Martin

Pages: 480-490

Published online: 07 Apr 2016

Abstract

Developing useful and usable assistive technologies often presents complex (or “wicked”) challenges that require input from multiple disciplines and sectors. Transdisciplinary collaboration can enable holistic understanding of challenges that may lead to innovative, impactful and transformative solutions. This paper presents generalised principles that are intended to foster transdisciplinary assistive technology development. The paper introduces the area of assistive technology design before discussing general aspects of transdisciplinary collaboration followed by an overview of relevant concepts, including approaches, methodologies and frameworks for conducting and evaluating transdisciplinary working and assistive technology design. The principles for transdisciplinary development of assistive technologies are presented and applied post hoc to the COACH project, an ambient-assisted living technology for guiding completion of activities of daily living by older adults with dementia as an illustrative example. Future work includes the refinement and validation of these principles through their application to real-world transdisciplinary assistive technology projects.

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness

Volume 11 - Issue 2 - April 2017

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/disaster-medicine-and-public-health-preparedness/latest-issue>

[Reviewed earlier]

Disasters

April 2017 Volume 41, Issue 2 Pages 209–426

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

EMBO Reports

01 May 2017; volume 18, issue 5
<http://embor.embopress.org/content/18/5>
Science & Society

[The role of biology in global climate changeInterdisciplinary research in biogeochemistry can help to understand local and global fluxes of carbon and other elements and inform environmental policies](#)

Philip Hunter

Biogeochemistry aims to understand the flux of elements between life, the atmosphere and the Earth's surface. Its insights could inform international policies to mitigate the effects of greenhouse gases and global climate change.

Emergency Medicine Journal

May 2017 - Volume 34 - 5
<http://emj.bmj.com/content/current>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Volume 23, Number 5—May 2017
<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/>
Research

[Prevention of Chronic Hepatitis B after 3 Decades of Escalating Vaccination Policy, China PDF Version \[PDF - 1.62 MB - 8 pages\]](#)

F. Cui et al.

Abstract

China's hepatitis B virus (HBV) prevention policy has been evaluated through nationally representative serologic surveys conducted in 1992 and 2006. We report results of a 2014 serologic survey and reanalysis of the 1992 and 2006 surveys in the context of program policy. The 2014 survey used a 2-stage sample strategy in which townships were selected from 160 longstanding, nationally representative, county-level disease surveillance points, and persons 1–29 years of age were invited to participate. The 2014 sample size was 31,713; the response rate was 83.3%. Compared with the 1992 pre-recombinant vaccine survey, HBV surface antigen prevalence declined 46% by 2006 and by 52% by 2014. Among children <5 years of age, the decline was 97%. China's HBV prevention program, targeted toward interrupting perinatal transmission, has been highly successful and increasingly effective. However, this progress must be sustained for decades to come, and elimination of HBV transmission will require augmented strategies.

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

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[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 8 - June 2017

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Ethics & International Affairs

Spring 2017 (Issue 31.1)

<https://www.ethicsandinternationalaffairs.org/2017/spring-2017-issue-31-1/>

[Reviewed earlier]

The European Journal of Public Health

Volume 27, Issue 2, 13 May 2017

<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/27/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Policy

Volume 68, In Progress (April 2017)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Security

Volume 9, Issue 2, April 2017

<http://link.springer.com/journal/12571/9/2/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Forum for Development Studies

Volume 44, Issue 2, 2017

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

Article

[Between Engagement and Reluctance: Governments' Stand Towards Citizen Initiatives](#)

[Ignace Pollet](#)

Pages: 189-202

Published online: 13 May 2017

Article

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

Understanding the Sustainability of Private Development Initiatives: What Kind of Difference Do They Make?

Sara Kinsbergen, Lau Schulpen & Ruerd Ruben

Pages: 223-248

Published online: 18 Apr 2017

Article

Conflicting Health Interventions: Participation in Health in Rural Nicaragua

Birgit Kvernflaten

Pages: 301-322

Published online: 03 Apr 2017

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>

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health Action

Volume 10, 2017 - Issue 1

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/zgha20/10/1?nav=tocList>

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP)

March 24, 2017, 5 (1)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Public Health

Volume 12, 2017 Issue 6

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

Special Issue: Maternal and Child Health in Africa for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Beyond 2015

[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 13 May 2017]

Research

Gender blind? An analysis of global public-private partnerships for health

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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](#)

Sarah Hawkes, Kent Buse and Anuj Kapilashrami

Published on: 12 May 2017

Abstract

Background

The Global Public Private Partnerships for Health (GPPPH) constitute an increasingly central part of the global health architecture and carry both financial and normative power. Gender is an important determinant of health status, influencing differences in exposure to health determinants, health behaviours, and the response of the health system.

We identified 18 GPPPH - defined as global institutions with a formal governance mechanism which includes both public and private for-profit sector actors – and conducted a gender analysis of each.

Results

Gender was poorly mainstreamed through the institutional functioning of the partnerships. Half of these partnerships had no mention of gender in their overall institutional strategy and only three partnerships had a specific gender strategy. Fifteen governing bodies had more men than women – up to a ratio of 5:1. Very few partnerships reported sex-disaggregated data in their annual reports or coverage/impact results. The majority of partnerships focused their work on maternal and child health and infectious and communicable diseases – none addressed non-communicable diseases (NCDs) directly, despite the strong role that gender plays in determining risk for the major NCD burdens.

Conclusions

We propose two areas of action in response to these findings. First, GPPPH need to become serious in how they “do” gender; it needs to be mainstreamed through the regular activities, deliverables and systems of accountability. Second, the entire global health community needs to pay greater attention to tackling the major burden of NCDs, including addressing the gendered nature of risk. Given the inherent conflicts of interest in tackling the determinants of many NCDs, it is debatable whether the emergent GPPPH model will be an appropriate one for addressing NCDs.

Health Affairs

May 2017; Volume 36, Issue 5

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

Issue Focus: ACA Coverage, Access, Medicaid & More

Global Health

Mongolia's Public Spending On Noncommunicable Diseases Is Similar To The Spending Of Higher-Income Countries

Otgontuya Dugee, Enkhtuya Munaa, Ariuntuya Sakhiya, and Ajay Mahal

Health Aff May 2017 36:918-925; doi:10.1377/hlthaff.2016.0711

Abstract

Although there is increased recognition of the global challenge posed by noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), translating that awareness into resources for action requires better data than typically available in low- and middle-income countries. One middle-income country that does have good-quality information is Mongolia. Using detailed administrative data from Mongolia and supplementary survey-based information, we estimated public spending on four NCDs in Mongolia and reached four main conclusions. First, Mongolia's public spending patterns on NCDs are similar to NCD spending observed in countries with much higher per capita incomes. Second, public spending for NCDs is low relative to the NCD disease burden in Mongolia. Third, public-sector NCD spending is dominated by inpatient care and hospital-based specialist outpatient services, which suggests inefficiency in resource use. Finally, while public spending

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on cardiovascular disease is evenly distributed across regions, for cancers it is heavily concentrated in the nation's capital.

DATAWATCH: Vast Majority Of Development Assistance For Health Funds Target Those Below Age Sixty

Vegard Skirbekk, Trygve Ottersen, Hannah Hamavid, Nafis Sadat, and Joseph L. Dieleman
Health Aff May 2017 36:926-930; doi:10.1377/hlthaff.2016.1370

Abstract

Development assistance for health targets younger more than older age groups, relative to their disease burden. This disparity increased between 1990 and 2013. There are several potential causes for the disparity increase.

Improving Allocation And Management Of The Health Workforce In Zambia

Fiona J. Walsh, Mutinta Musonda, Jere Mwila, Margaret Lippitt Prust, Kathryn Bradford Vosburg, Günther Fink, Peter Berman, and Peter C. Rockers
Health Aff May 2017 36:931-937; doi:10.1377/hlthaff.2016.0679

Abstract

Building a health workforce in low-income countries requires a focused investment of time and resources, and ministries of health need tools to create staffing plans and prioritize spending on staff for overburdened health facilities. In Zambia a demand-based workload model was developed to calculate the number of health workers required to meet demands for essential health services and inform a rational and optimized strategy for deploying new public-sector staff members to the country's health facilities. Between 2009 and 2011 Zambia applied this optimized deployment policy, allocating new health workers to areas with the greatest demand for services. The country increased its health worker staffing in districts with fewer than one health worker per 1,000 people by 25.2 percent, adding 949 health workers to facilities that faced severe staffing shortages. At facilities that had had low staffing levels, adding a skilled provider was associated with an additional 103 outpatient consultations per quarter. Policy makers in resource-limited countries should consider using strategic approaches to identifying and deploying a rational distribution of health workers to provide the greatest coverage of health services to their populations.

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 2 - April 2017

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

Special Issue: Towards a Global Framework for Health Financing

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 32, Issue 5 June 2017

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

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Improving access to child health services at the community level in Zambia: a country case study on progress in child survival, 2000–2013

Aaron M Kipp; Margaret Maimbolwa; Marie A Brault; Penelope Kalesha-Masumbu; Mary Katepa-Bwalya ...

Abstract

Reductions in under-five mortality in Africa have not been sufficient to meet the Millennium Development Goal #4 (MDG#4) of reducing under-five mortality by two-thirds by 2015. Nevertheless, 12 African countries have met MDG#4. We undertook a four country study to examine barriers and facilitators of child survival prior to 2015, seeking to better understand variability in success across countries. The current analysis presents indicator, national document, and qualitative data from key informants and community women describing the factors that have enabled Zambia to successfully reduce under-five mortality over the last 15 years and achieve MDG#4. Results identified a Zambian national commitment to ongoing reform of national health strategic plans and efforts to ensure universal access to effective maternal, neonatal and child health (MNCH) interventions, creating an environment that has promoted child health. Zambia has also focused on bringing health services as close to the family as possible through specific community health strategies. This includes actively involving community health workers to provide health education, basic MNCH services, and linking women to health facilities, while supplementing community and health facility work with twice-yearly Child Health Weeks. External partners have contributed greatly to Zambia's MNCH services, and their relationships with the government are generally positive. As government funding increases to sustain MNCH services, national health strategies/plans are being used to specify how partners can fill gaps in resources. Zambia's continuing MNCH challenges include basic transportation, access-to-care, workforce shortages, and financing limitations. We highlight policies, programs, and implementation that facilitated reductions in under-five mortality in Zambia. These findings may inform how other countries in the African Region can increase progress in child survival in the post-MDG period.

Reaching the global target to reduce stunting: an investment framework

Meera Shekar; Jakub Kakietek; Mary R D'Alimonte; Hilary E Rogers; Julia Dayton Eberwein ...

Abstract

Childhood stunting, being short for one's age, has life-long consequences for health, human capital and economic growth. Being stunted in early childhood is associated with slower cognitive development, reduced schooling attainment and adult incomes decreased by 5–53%. The World Health Assembly has endorsed global nutrition targets including one to reduce the number of stunted children under five by 40% by 2025. The target has been included in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG target 2.2). This paper estimates the cost of achieving this target and develops scenarios for generating the necessary financing. We focus on a key intervention package for stunting (KIPS) with strong evidence of effectiveness. Annual scale-up costs for the period of 2016–25 were estimated for a sample of 37 high burden countries and extrapolated to all low and middle income countries. The Lives Saved Tool was used to model the impact of the scale-up on stunting prevalence. We analysed data on KIPS budget allocations and expenditure by governments, donors and households to derive a global baseline financing estimate. We modelled two financing scenarios, a 'business as usual', which extends the current trends in domestic and international financing for nutrition through 2025, and another that proposes increases in financing from all sources under a set of burden-sharing rules. The 10-year financial need to scale up KIPS is US\$49.5 billion. Under 'business as usual', this financial need is not met and the global stunting target is not reached. To reach the target, current financing will have to increase from US\$2.6 billion to US\$7.4 billion a year on average. Reaching

the stunting target is feasible but will require large coordinated investments in KIPS and a supportive enabling environment. The example of HIV scale-up over 2001–11 is instructive in identifying the factors that could drive such a global response to childhood stunting.

Editor's Choice

Civil war, contested sovereignty and the limits of global health partnerships: A case study of the Syrian polio outbreak in 2013

Jonathan Kennedy; Domna Michailidou

Abstract

States and the World Health Organization (WHO), an international organization that is mandated to respect the sovereignty of its member states, are still the leading actors in global health. This paper explores how this discrepancy inhibits the ability of global health partnerships to implement programmes in conflict-affected areas that are under the de facto control of rebel organizations. We concentrate on a single crucial case, the polio outbreak in Syria in 2013, analysing a variety of qualitative data—twenty semi-structured interviews with key actors, official documents, and media reports—in order to investigate the events that preceded and followed this event. The WHO's mandate to respect the Syrian government's sovereignty inhibited its ability to prevent, identify and contain the outbreak because the Assad regime refused it permission to operate in rebel-controlled areas. The polio outbreak was identified and contained by organizations operating outside the United Nations (UN) system that disregarded the Syrian government's sovereignty claims and cooperated with the militants. Thus, we identify a serious problem with so-called global health partnerships in which nation states and international organizations remain key actors. Such initiatives function well in situations where there is a capable state that is concerned with the welfare of its citizens and has exclusivity of jurisdiction over its territory. But they can encounter difficulties in areas where rebels challenge the state's sovereignty. Although the response to the Syrian polio outbreak was ultimately effective, it was reactive, ad hoc, slow and relied on personnel who had little experience. Global health partnerships would be more effective in conflict-affected areas if they put in place proactive and institutionalized plans to implement their programmes in regions outside government control.

Strengthening mental health system governance in six low- and middle-income countries in Africa and South Asia: challenges, needs and potential strategies

Inge Petersen; Debbie Marais; Jibril Abdulmalik; Shalini Ahuja; Atalay Alem ...

Abstract

Poor governance has been identified as a barrier to effective integration of mental health care in low- and middle-income countries. Governance includes providing the necessary policy and legislative framework to promote and protect the mental health of a population, as well as health system design and quality assurance to ensure optimal policy implementation. The aim of this study was to identify key governance challenges, needs and potential strategies that could facilitate adequate integration of mental health into primary health care settings in low- and middle-income countries. Key informant qualitative interviews were held with 141 participants across six countries participating in the Emerging mental health systems in low- and middle-income countries (Emerald) research program: Ethiopia, India, Nepal, Nigeria, South Africa, and Uganda. Data were transcribed (and where necessary, translated into English) and analysed thematically using framework analysis, first at the country level, then synthesized at a cross-country level. While all the countries fared well with respect to strategic vision in the form of the development of national mental health policies, key governance strategies identified to address challenges included: strengthening capacity of managers at sub-national levels to develop and implement integrated plans; strengthening key aspects of the essential health

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system building blocks to promote responsiveness, efficiency and effectiveness; developing workable mechanisms for inter-sectoral collaboration, as well as community and service user engagement; and developing innovative approaches to improving mental health literacy and stigma reduction. Inadequate financing emerged as the biggest challenge for good governance. In addition to the need for overall good governance of a health care system, this study identifies a number of specific strategies to improve governance for integrated mental health care in low- and middle-income countries.

Frameworks to assess health systems governance: a systematic review

Thidar Pyone; Helen Smith; Nynke van den Broek

Abstract

Governance of the health system is a relatively new concept and there are gaps in understanding what health system governance is and how it could be assessed. We conducted a systematic review of the literature to describe the concept of governance and the theories underpinning as applied to health systems; and to identify which frameworks are available and have been applied to assess health systems governance. Frameworks were reviewed to understand how the principles of governance might be operationalized at different levels of a health system. Electronic databases and web portals of international institutions concerned with governance were searched for publications in English for the period January 1994 to February 2016. Sixteen frameworks developed to assess governance in the health system were identified and are described. Of these, six frameworks were developed based on theories from new institutional economics; three are primarily informed by political science and public management disciplines; three arise from the development literature and four use multidisciplinary approaches. Only five of the identified frameworks have been applied. These used the principal-agent theory, theory of common pool resources, North's institutional analysis and the cybernetics theory. Governance is a practice, dependent on arrangements set at political or national level, but which needs to be operationalized by individuals at lower levels in the health system; multi-level frameworks acknowledge this. Three frameworks were used to assess governance at all levels of the health system. Health system governance is complex and difficult to assess; the concept of governance originates from different disciplines and is multidimensional. There is a need to validate and apply existing frameworks and share lessons learnt regarding which frameworks work well in which settings. A comprehensive assessment of governance could enable policy makers to prioritize solutions for problems identified as well as replicate and scale-up examples of good practice.

Evaluating the effect of integrated microfinance and health interventions: an updated review of the evidence

Lara M J Lorenzetti; Sheila Leatherman; Valerie L Flax

Abstract

Background: Solutions delivered within firm sectoral boundaries are inadequate in achieving income security and better health for poor populations. Integrated microfinance and health interventions leverage networks of women to promote financial inclusion, build livelihoods, and safeguard against high cost illnesses. Our understanding of the effect of integrated interventions has been limited by variability in intervention, outcome, design, and methodological rigour. This systematic review synthesises the literature through 2015 to understand the effect of integrated microfinance and health programs. Methods: We searched PubMed, Scopus, Embase, EconLit, and Global Health databases and sourced bibliographies, identifying 964 articles exclusive of duplicates. Title, abstract, and full text review yielded 35 articles. Articles evaluated the effect of intentionally integrated

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microfinance and health programs on client outcomes. We rated the quality of evidence for each article.

Results: Most interventions combined microfinance with health education, which demonstrated positive effects on health knowledge and behaviours, though not health status. Among programs that integrated microfinance with other health components (i.e. health micro-insurance, linkages to health providers, and access to health products), results were generally positive but mixed due to the smaller number and quality of studies. Interventions combining multiple health components in a given study demonstrated positive effects, though it was unclear which component was driving the effect. Most articles (57%) were moderate in quality. **Discussion:** Integrated microfinance and health education programs were effective, though longer intervention periods are necessary to measure more complex pathways to health status. The effect of microfinance combined with other health components was less clear. Stronger randomized research designs with multiple study arms are required to improve evidence and disentangle the effects of multiple component microfinance and health interventions. Few studies attempted to understand changes in economic outcomes, limiting our understanding of the relationship between health and income effects.

Commentary

[Redefining public health leadership in the sustainable development goal era](#)

K Srinath Reddy; Manu Raj Mathur; Sagri Negi; Bhargav Krishna

Abstract

Adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by member states of the United Nations (UN) has set a new agenda for public health action at national and global levels. The changed context calls for a reframing of what constitutes effective leadership in public health, through a construct that reflects the interdependence of leadership at multiple levels across the health system and its partners in other sectors. This is especially important in the context of Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs) that are facing complex demographic and epidemiological transitions. The health system needs to exercise leadership that effectively mobilises all its resources for maximising health impact, and channels trans-disciplinary learning into well-coordinated multi-sectoral action on the wider determinants of health. Leadership is essential not only at the level of inspirational individuals who can create collective vision and commitment but also at the level of supportive institutions situated in or aligned to the health system. In turn, the health system as a whole has to exercise leadership that advances public health in the framework of sustainable development. This commentary examines the desirable attributes of effective leadership at each of these levels and explores the nature of their inter-dependence.

Health Research Policy and Systems

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

[Accessed 13 May 2017]

Research

[Exploring linkages between research, policy and practice in the Netherlands: perspectives on sexual and reproductive health and rights knowledge flows](#)

Billie de Haas and Anke van der Kwaak

Published on: 12 May 2017

Human Rights Quarterly

Volume 39, Number 2, May 2017

<http://muse.jhu.edu/issue/36209>

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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]

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 2 (2016)

<http://idrimjournal.com/index.php/idrim/issue/view/16>

[Reviewed earlier]

Infectious Agents and Cancer

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

[Accessed 13 May 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

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

[Accessed 13 May 2017]

Letter to the Editor

Open Access

[Rebuilding transformation strategies in post-Ebola epidemics in Africa](#)

Ernest Tambo, Chryseis F. Chengho, Chidiebere E. Ugwu, Isatta Wurie, Jeannetta K. Jonhson and Jeanne Y. Ngogang

Infectious Diseases of Poverty 2017;6:71

DOI: 10.1186/s40249-017-0278-2

Published: 10 May 2017

Abstract

Rebuilding transformation strategies in post-Ebola epidemics in West Africa requires long-term surveillance and strengthening health system preparedness to disease outbreak. This paper assesses reconstruction efforts from socio-cultural, economic and ecological transformation response approaches and strategies in improving sustainable survivors and affected communities livelihood and wellbeing. A comprehensive approach is required in the recovery and rebuilding processes. Investing in rebuilding transformation requires fostering evidence-based and effective engaging new investors partnership strengthening, financing community-based programmes ownership, novel socio-economic innovations strategies and tools against the evolving and future Ebola epidemics. Thus, there should be improved community partnership, health and economic rebuilding programmes to address mistrust and care underutilization, poverty and care access inequity at all levels. Implementing effective post-Ebola national 'One Health' approach coupled with climate change mitigation and adaptations strategies is urgent public health needs aiming at improving the quality healthcare access, delivery trust and uptake in anticipation of EVD immunization program, productivity and emerging economy.

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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 Health

Volume 9, Issue 2 March 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Human Rights Law Review

Volume 5, Issue 2, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health

Vol 4, No 5 (2017) May 2017

<http://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/24>

Review Articles

Ebola virus disease: epidemiology, clinical feature and the way forward

Lawan Gana Balami, Suriani Ismail, Saliluddin S. M., Garba S. H.

Abstract

The Ebola virus disease is a zoonotic, acute viral syndrome which occurs by infection with one of the strains of the Ebola virus. It is primarily endemic in Africa however the recent outbreak in the year 2014 spanned from West Africa all the way to Europe and America. This shows the virus possess a global threat and should not be considered localized to only certain parts of the world. The social and economic impact of zoonotic diseases today is high as 80% of human pathogens are of zoonotic origin. Human to human transmission happens when there is contact with bodily fluids of infected humans during the infectious phase of the disease. This spread could be through nosocomial means or community spread. Poor knowledge of the syndrome among health care workers coupled with lack of funding and deficient resources has crippled their ability to diagnose and break the chain of transmission of the disease at its early stages. The virus undergoes pathogenesis by immune evasion, immune suppression, coagulopathy, and hypovolemic shock, multiple organ failure and death in up to 90% of cases. The unavailability of a cure or vaccine for this syndrome makes it a recurrent threat due to high risk behavior practiced in endemic countries such as bush meat consumption. Thus this study gives the reader a review of current literature on this deadly disease with the aim of increasing knowledge and aiding its prevention and control.

Original Research Article

HIV/AIDS amongst street children in Cameroon: their relative knowledge, attitudes and sexual experience

Samuel Nambile Cumber, Joyce Mahlako Tsoka-Gwegweni, Ndenkeh N. Jackson Jr, Rosaline Yumumkah Kanjo-Cumber

Abstract

Background: Street children are victims of society and are up to 10 - 25 times more vulnerable and affected by HIV/AIDS than their counterparts who live with their families. Objective of study: To examine the HIV/AIDS-related knowledge, attitudes and sexual experience amongst street children in Cameroon.

Methods: This study was an analytical cross-sectional survey conducted during the year 2015 through the administration of questionnaires to 399 street children that had been homeless for at least a month.

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Results: Out of the 399 participants interviewed, more than 90% of them reported to have heard about HIV/AIDS. Though only 14% of the participants knew about the importance of HIV screening, an even smaller proportion of about 6.02% of them reported having been HIV screened before. Most of them stated that HIV could be transmitted through kissing, mosquito bites, eating utensils and through a hand-shake as well as believed that screening and use of Voluntary Confidentiality Counseling and Testing (VCCT) could help prevent its transmission. Many of them also thought of HIV/AIDS as a punishment from God for sins or as witchcraft; and that the disease could be cured through believing in God or even by a traditional practitioner.

Conclusions: The level of HIV/AIDS knowledge among street children in the study setting is sub-optimal. Their negative attitudes and incorrect beliefs about the disease could make them even more vulnerable to HIV infection. The use of peer educators would be an effective strategy to implement among this hard to reach population

Outbreak of cholera at Dutsen-Abba Ward Zaria local government area, Kaduna State Nigeria 2015: the importance of hygienic practices

Baffa S. Ibrahim, Yahaya Mohammed, Rabi Usman, Ubong A. Okon, Uche I. Katchy, Abayomi A. Olufemi, Mercy Niyang, Bola Gobir, Oyeladun Funmi Okunromade

Abstract

Background: Cholera is an infection caused by *Vibrio cholerae*, which may lead to severe dehydration and death if not treated promptly. On August 31, 2015, the Kaduna Ministry of Health received a notification of increase cases of vomiting and diarrhoea at Dusten-Abba in Zaria. A response Team was sent to confirm the outbreak, describe the socio-demographic characteristics and identify possible risk factors for the outbreak.

Methods: We defined cases according to the world health organization (WHO) criteria. We conducted an unmatched case-control study and descriptive study. We retrieved line-listed cases at the ward facility. We interviewed cases at the facility and recruited controls from the community, and administered questionnaires to both cases and controls. We analysed data using Epi-Info7 and Microsoft Excel 2016.

Results: A total of 50 cases were recorded, with a median age of 20years and age range of 1 – 50 years. There were more females (68%) than males. Majority of cases (52%) were under 20 years, while all cases are below 50 years. Seven (7) deaths were recorded giving a Case Fatality Rate (CFR) of 14%. The CFR was higher in females (14.7%) than in males (12.5%). Index case was seen on August 29, 2015. The outbreak lasted five days. Last cases were seen on September 2, 2015. Highest number of cases seen in a day (23) was on third day of the outbreak. Only two cases (4%) had their samples tested using cholera RDT, and both tested positive. Drinking un-boiled water (OR: 12.67, 95%CI: 2.33–68.93), regular hand washing (OR: 0.22, 95% CI: 0.06–0.90) and proper waste disposal practices (OR: 0.07, 95% CI: 0.02–0.36) are factors we found to affect cholera infection during the outbreak.

Conclusions: Our investigation confirmed a cholera outbreak with a high CFR, especially among females. Poor hygienic practices among the populace seem to be the drivers for this outbreak.

Evaluation of primary immunization coverage among children in a rural block of district Rohtak, Haryana, India

Sahil Goyal, Vijay Kumar, Ritika Garg

Abstract

Background: Vaccination is the most important preventive and cost-effective intervention to decrease morbidity and mortality rates in children. Every year, vaccination averts an estimated 2-3 million deaths from diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and measles. These are all life threatening diseases that disproportionately affect children. An estimated 1.5 million children die annually

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from diseases that can be prevented by immunization. In the past 50 years, vaccination has saved more lives worldwide than any other medical products or procedures. The objectives of the study were to evaluate primary immunization coverage along with 1st dose of Vitamin-A supplementation coverage, age-appropriate immunization and also to know the reasons for partial or non-immunization among children.

Methods: Community-based cross sectional study was conducted among 540 children in the rural area of Rohtak, Haryana during June 2015-May 2016. Information was collected from the mothers regarding immunization status of their children aged 12-23 months old and socio-demographic variables using a semi-structured interview schedule.

Results: 395 (73.15%) of 12-23 months old children were fully immunized and the rest 145 (26.85%) were partially immunized. The major reason for drop-out rate was found to be unawareness regarding need for immunization. Immunization coverage was found to be significantly associated with the presence of immunization card and literacy level of mothers.

Conclusions: Though the immunization coverage showed improvement through intensive immunization campaigns in recent years, still a lot needs to be done to increase awareness regarding importance of full immunization at the right time as mentioned in the National Immunization schedule (NIS).

Evaluation of measles immunization coverage in rural area of central India using WHO EPI 30 cluster survey method

Shailendra Meena, D. M. Saxena, Vishal Bankwar, Pratibha Meena

Abstract

Background: Measles is one of the most infectious diseases known to humankind and an important cause of death and disability among children worldwide. In 2010, the World Health Assembly set milestones towards global measles eradication, to be reached by 2015. One of the milestones is to Increase in routine coverage with the first dose of measles-containing vaccine (MCV1) for children aged 1 year to $\geq 90\%$ nationally and $\geq 80\%$ in every district.

Methods: A community based cross sectional study was carried out in rural area of Bhopal district, central India from September 2014 to November 2014. The WHO EPI 30-cluster survey methodology was used as sampling method. A pre designed and pre tested questionnaire was used to collect information on immunization coverage. Data was entered into Microsoft Excel and was analyzed by using EPI Info version 7.

Results: The mean age of study subjects was 17.7 months with SD of 3.64. Out of total 210 subjects 57.2% were boys and 42.8 % were girls. Our study findings suggest that 92% of the children were vaccinated for MCV1 vaccine and 8 % were not received MCV1 vaccine. The association of place of delivery with MCV1 vaccination status was found statistically significant ($P < 0.001$).

Conclusions: We found high measles vaccination coverage in the field practice area as compared to other surveys. Main reasons found behind noncompliance were unawareness about Universal Immunization programme, lack of information about Measles and its complications, away from home on the session day, long distance of session site from home.

Knowledge, attitude and practices about tetanus toxoid immunisation amongst general population of an urban semi-slum area: a cross-sectional interview-based study from Western India

Pruthvi H. Patel, Aniruddha A. Malgaonkar, S. Kartikeyan

Abstract

Background: Members of the public are frequently unaware of tetanus immunisation schedules and its importance in preventing tetanus. This community-based, cross-sectional, complete enumeration, interview-based study was conducted to assess the knowledge, attitude and

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practices about tetanus toxoid immunisation amongst the general population in an urban semi-slum area located about 30 kms from Mumbai city in Western India.

Methods: Respondents comprised adult residents of either sex, who gave written informed consent to participate in the study. After obtaining approvals, the study was explained during routine home visits and the respondents were interviewed at a time convenient to them. A direct face-to-face interview was conducted using a semi-structured proforma and their responses were recorded and statistically analysed.

Results: Of the 161 participants (90 males; 71 females), 16.15% were illiterates. 95.65% thought that a single tetanus toxoid injection was adequate to prevent tetanus while none knew that pregnant women are immunised to protect newborns against tetanus. 67.08% were unaware about the need for maintaining cold chain for storage of tetanus toxoid. 96.89% had received only one injection of tetanus toxoid, irrespective of the type of injury or previous immunisation status. The belief that an adult requires tetanus toxoid after every injury exhibited education-wise significant difference ($p=0.02$).

Conclusion: Sustained and focussed health education efforts are necessary to combat misconceptions regarding tetanus toxoid immunisation.

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 46, Issue 1 February 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Heritage Studies

Volume 23, Issue 6, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare

Vol. 10 Issue: 2, pp.-, doi: 10.1108/IJHRH-10-2016-0018

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/ijhrh/10/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

May 2017 Volume 58, p1-118

[http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712\(17\)X0005-2](http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712(17)X0005-2)

Perspective

[International Society for Infectious Diseases: Position statement on the March for Science, April 22, 2017](#)

Jonathan Cohen, Marc Mendelson

Published online: April 10, 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](#)

For more than thirty years, the International Society for Infectious Diseases (ISID) has been committed to the advancement of evidence-based scientific practices that further public health initiatives and the prevention of infectious diseases. On 22nd April 2017, people around the world will take part in the “March for Science” to demonstrate their support for informed reasoning. In light of the current political climate, which at times seeks to undermine scientific truths, ISID fully endorses the March for Science. We reaffirm our commitment to scientific progress with its goal of improving the health of all peoples.

ISID supports and promotes the exchange of information and best-practices amongst the international infectious disease community to aid research and inform local, national, and global policy decisions. The Society’s activities are at the forefront of evidence-based prevention and treatment of infectious diseases and the rapid identification of outbreak events. These activities rely upon support for the global scientific community, open lines of communication that are free of political constraint, and the unrestricted movement of scientists and healthcare professionals.

Policy makers, beholden to the public, must be informed of the latest scientific research as they create legislation, establish new programs, and allocate funding which directly and indirectly affects the health of their constituents. Science denialism and the mischaracterization of substantiated research poses a severe threat to the progress made by public health and medical professionals in the fight against infectious diseases. For example, the unequivocal success of vaccines cannot be denied as they have reduced the global burden of disease, particularly the mortality rate in children under five, and have eradicated both smallpox and rinderpest. The development of health policy based on peer-reviewed research and the founding of sufficiently funded agencies tasked with safeguarding human and environmental well-being, are hallmarks of modern public health. To prevent and control infectious diseases, we must remain vigilant in defending and sustaining these practices.

Recognizing that infectious diseases cross all political and geographic boundaries, effective long-term solutions to understand, monitor, and control emerging and re-emerging disease outbreaks necessitate global scientific information exchange and cooperation. All aspects of scientific research, including the search for new antibiotics to combat bacterial resistance, investigation of disease outbreaks such as Ebola and Zika, and robust data analysis, are required to reduce health disparities. Research efforts need to include investigators from minority groups and those from under-resourced settings to ensure interventions are culturally sensitive and successful within their target population.

The unwavering support for the sciences and those who dedicate their lives to scientific endeavors is the only way to achieve improved health on a global scale. ISID remains committed to the physicians and public health professionals working to lessen the damaging health consequences associated with the undermining of scientific inquiry. Only through informed discussions, evidence-based decisions, and effective, ethical, and culturally sensitive implementation, can we advance the health of our planet and all who inhabit it.

Dengue virus serological prevalence and seroconversion rates in children and adults in Medellin, Colombia: implications for vaccine introduction

Mabel Carabali, Jacqueline Kyungah Lim, Diana Carolina Velez, Andrea Trujillo, Jorge Egurrola, Kang Sung Lee, Jay S. Kaufman, Luiz Jacinto DaSilva, Ivan Dario Velez, Jorge E. Osorio
p27–36

Published online: March 8, 2017

Summary

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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](#)

Background

Dengue is an important public health problem worldwide. A vaccine has recently been licensed in some countries of Latin America and Asia. Recommendations for dengue vaccine introduction include endemicity and a high serological prevalence of dengue in the territories considering its introduction.

Methods

A community-based survey was conducted to estimate dengue seroprevalence and age-specific seroconversion rates in a community in Medellin, Colombia, using a dengue serological test (IgG indirect ELISA). Residents were selected at random and were first screened for dengue infection; they were then followed over 2.5 years.

Results

A total of 3684 individuals aged between 1 and 65 years participated in at least one survey. The overall dengue seroprevalence was 61%, and only 3.3% of seropositive subjects self-reported a past history of dengue. Among dengue virus (DENV)-naïve subjects with more than two visits ($n = 1002$), the overall seroconversion rate was 8.7% (95% confidence interval 7.3–10.4) per 1000 person-months, over the study period. Overall, the mean age of DENV prevalent subjects was significantly higher than the mean age of seroconverted subjects. Specifically, DENV seropositivity over 70% was observed in participants over 21 years old. Serotype-specific plaque-reduction neutralization tests (PRNT) revealed that all four dengue serotypes were circulating, with DENV4 being most prevalent.

Conclusions

These laboratory-based findings could inform dengue vaccine decisions, as they provide age-specific seroprevalence and seroconversion data, evidencing permanent and ongoing dengue transmission in the study area. This study provides evidence for the existing rates of secondary and heterotypic responses, presenting a challenge that must be addressed adequately by the new vaccine candidates.

Community acquired infections among refugees leading to Intensive Care Unit admissions in Turkey

Mediha Turktan, Oznur Ak, Hakan Erdem, Dilek Ozcengiz, Sally Hargreaves, Safak Kaya, Emre Karakoc, Ozlem Ozkan-Kuscu, Gunay Tuncer-Ertem, Recep Tekin, Handan Birbicer, Gul Durmus, Canan Yilmaz, Funda Kocak, Edmond Puca, Jordi Rello

Published online: April 15, 2017

Abstract

Objectives

Data on the impact of refugees on Intensive Care Units (ICUs) are lacking in the literature, in particular for community-acquired (CA) infectious diseases, for which they are known to be at higher risk. We did a descriptive, multicenter study to analyze CA infections among refugee patients requiring ICU admission.

Methods

Inclusion criteria were adult refugee patients admitted to an ICU due to CA infections. Anonymized data were collected between January 1, 2010 and December 30, 2015 across 10 referral centers.

Results

29.885 patients were admitted to the ICUs in the study period. 37 patients were included the study, the majority were from Syria ($n=31$, 83.8%). Mean (SD) age of the patients was 45.92 ± 120.16 years. The 5-year prevalence rate was 123.8 per 100.000 patients in the ICUs. All patients had at least one comorbid condition. Forty-nine CA infections were diagnosed. The most common CA infection was pneumonia (49%) followed by urinary-tract infections (16.3%).

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21 patients (56.7%) hospitalized in the ICU had trauma history. Mortality rate was high at 22 patients (59.5%) with 5 (22.7%) deaths directly attributed to CA infections.

Conclusions

Refugees presented to ICUs with CA infections similar to the host populations (pneumonia and urinary-tract infections) but had high mortality rates (59.5%). It seems that Turkish ICUs were not congested with the refugee patients' influx for CA infections. More research needs to be done to better understand how to deliver preventative and timely health care services to this group of patients.

International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology

Volume 24, 2017 - Issue 3

<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

May 9, 2017, Vol 317, No. 18, Pages 1815-1920

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

JAMA Pediatrics

May 2017, Vol 171, No. 5, Pages 407-500

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

[Reviewed earlier]

JBIR Database of Systematic Review and Implementation Reports

April 2017 - Volume 15 - Issue 4

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Community Health

Volume 42, Issue 3, June 2017

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10900/42/3/page/1>

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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]

Journal of Cultural Heritage

Volume 25, Pages 1-190 (May–June 2017)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development

2017: Volume 7 Issue 2

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/jchmsd/7/2>

[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 (13 May 2017)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

May 2017 - Volume 71 - 5

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

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 2 Supplement, May 2017

<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/36192>

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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 Power of Prevention: Reaching At-Risk Emerging Adults to Reduce Substance Abuse and HIV

Guest Editors: Lorece Edwards, DrPH, MHS, Morgan State University and Ronald L. Braithwaite, PhD, Morehouse School of Medicine

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Human Trafficking

Volume 3, Issue 1, 2017

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

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Volume 7 Issue 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Volume 19, Issue 3, June 2017

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10903/19/3/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 7 1 April 2017

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of International Development

May 2017 Volume 29, Issue 4 Pages 405–548

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jid.v29.3/issuetoc>

Review Article

[Agricultural Co-Operatives in Ethiopia: Evolution, Functions and Impact \(pages 431–453\)](#)

Delelegne A. Tefera, Jos Bijman and Maja A. Slingerland

Version of Record online: 2 AUG 2016 | DOI: 10.1002/jid.3240

Abstract

To what extent can co-operatives strengthen rural development in sub-Saharan Africa? This paper explores the development of agricultural co-operatives in Ethiopia, particularly the

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changes in economic functions. Co-operative development in Ethiopia has been strongly influenced by various political regimes. Based on expert interviews and a literature review, we explore the factors that influence a shift in economic functions from provision of inputs to commercialization of farm products. Our review shows that the impact of commercialization on farmer welfare is still inconclusive. Both the institutional environment and the internal governance structure have a hard time adjusting to changing economic conditions.

Research Articles

Land Reform and Welfare in Vietnam: Why Gender of the Land-Rights Holder Matters (pages 454–472)

Nidhiya Menon, Yana van der meulen Rodgers and Alexis R. Kennedy

Version of Record online: 27 JAN 2016 | DOI: 10.1002/jid.3203

Abstract

Vietnam's 1993 Land Law created a land market by granting households tradable land-use rights. This study uses mixed methods to analyze whether increased land titling led to improvements in household economic security and whether land titles in women's and men's names had different effects. Using a matched sample of households from Vietnam's 2004 and 2008 Household Living Standards Survey, we find that land-use rights held exclusively by women or jointly by couples result in beneficial effects that include increased household expenditures, greater women's self-employment, and lower household vulnerability to poverty. Results from interviews conducted in Vietnam support these conclusions by indicating that women with sole or joint ownership of land enjoyed greater well-being and higher status.

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 49–51, Pages 1-88 (March 2017)

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

Special Issue: Competitive Manufacturing in a High-Cost Environment

Edited by Suzanne de Treville, Mikko Ketokivi and Vinod Singhal

Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews

Volume 4, Issue 2 (2017)

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

Original Research

Multiple Myeloma Vaccination Patterns in a Large Health System: A Pilot Study

Andinet Alemu, Maharaj Singh, Chris Blumberg, John O. Richards, Martin K. Oaks, and Michael A. Thompson

Abstract

Purpose

Common reasons for hospitalization and death in patients with multiple myeloma (MM) are infections. As patients with MM are living longer and are treated with immunomodulatory drugs, there is a need to immunize against vaccine-preventable diseases and ultimately determine the

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efficacy of these vaccines. We evaluated vaccination practice patterns in MM patients at our health system using electronic medical records and data analytics.

Methods

This institutional review board-approved study retrospectively reviewed patients with MM who visited the health system from May 2012 to May 2014. Data collected included demographics, influenza vaccination (FV) and pneumonia vaccination (PV) history, hospitalization episodes and associated costs, and duration of survival. Patients were considered PV-positive if vaccinated within 5 years prior to study. FV was defined as optimal (two FV in 2012–2014), suboptimal (one FV in 2012–2014) or none (in 2012–2014).

Results

Of 411 MM patients, 55% were male and 85% Caucasian. Nearly 58% received PV in the past 5 years. FV was 15% optimal, 52% suboptimal and 33% none. A total of 444 hospitalizations involving 204 patients were observed over 2-year follow-up. More than \$23 million was incurred from hospitalizations in the 2-year study period. There was no statistically significant difference in all-cause hospitalization and overall survival by FV and PV status.

Conclusions

Despite recommendations of vaccination in multiple myeloma, our cohort had low rates of influenza and pneumonia vaccination. FV and PV status did not show any significant association with additional hospitalization or overall survival in this pilot study. Future prospective studies are needed to ascertain the immunological and clinical efficacy and effectiveness.

Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (JPIDS)

Volume 6 Issue 1, March 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pediatrics

May 2017 Volume 184, p1-246

<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 April 2017; volume 14, issue 129

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

Life Sciences–Mathematics interface

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Travel Medicine

Volume 24, Issue 2, March/April 2017

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

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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 Lancet

May 13, 2017 Volume 389 Number 10082 p1859-1952

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

Editorial

[Improving access to biosimilars in low-income countries](#)

The Lancet

Published: 13 May 2017

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(17\)31272-2](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(17)31272-2)

From September, 2017, WHO will accept applications for prequalification into their Essential Medicines List for biosimilar versions of two biologics: rituximab (for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma) and trastuzumab (for breast cancer). This pilot project is an effort to increase access to these costly cancer treatments in low-income countries.

Biologics are medicines, usually antibodies, produced from living sources such as cells and blood, increasingly used to treat cancer as well as inflammatory diseases, such as arthritis and asthma. When patents for biologics expire, manufacturers can make biosimilar versions of the product with the same biological effect and characteristics as the original. Because their source is biological or living, one concern is that slight variations in manufacturing processes could alter the biosimilar.

The WHO Prequalification of Medicines Programme ensures that medicines purchased by international procurement agencies (eg, UNICEF) for distribution in low-income countries meet acceptable standards of quality, safety, and efficacy. The Lancet Commission on Essential Medicines recommended that the prequalification programme should expand the range of essential medicines, including biosimilars. With this welcome expansion, however, rigorous guidance and regulation for quality assurance will be required by WHO.

The incentive for governments to embrace biosimilars is to lower costs, which in turn should increase access and improve population health-care outcomes. However, the advent of biosimilars has not yet reduced costs as one might have expected from the generic drug experience. This might be because list prices for biosimilars are often not much cheaper, at around 70–85% of the list price of the original product; by contrast, generic drugs are usually markedly cheaper (20% of the originator's price). Development of biosimilars is more costly and takes longer than for small-molecule generics. That said, countries such as Norway have achieved large price cuts by switching almost entirely to biosimilar versions and effectively tendering these switches. WHO prequalification will hopefully increase competition in the biosimilar market to further reduce the price and increase access to these medicines in low-income countries.

Lancet Global Health

Jun 2017 Volume 5 Number 6 e556-e632

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

Articles

[Community engagement and integrated health and polio immunisation campaigns in conflict-affected areas of Pakistan: a cluster randomised controlled trial](#)

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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](#)

Muhammad Atif Habib, Sajid Soofi, Simon Cousens, Saeed Anwar, Najib ul Haque, Imran Ahmed, Noshad Ali, Rehman Tahir, Zulfiqar A Bhutta

Summary

Background

Pakistan faces huge challenges in eradicating polio due to widespread poliovirus transmission and security challenges. Innovative interventions are urgently needed to strengthen community buy-in, to increase the coverage of oral polio vaccine (OPV) and other routine immunisations, and to enhance immunity through the introduction of inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) in combination with OPV. We aimed to evaluate the acceptability and effect on immunisation coverage of an integrated strategy for community engagement and maternal and child health immunisation campaigns in insecure and conflict-affected polio-endemic districts of Pakistan.

Methods

We did a community-based three-arm cluster randomised trial in healthy children aged 1 month to 5 years that resided within the study sites in three districts of Pakistan at high risk of polio. Clusters were randomly assigned by a computer algorithm using restricted randomisation in blocks of 20 by an external statistician (1:1:1) to receive routine polio programme activities (control, arm A), additional interventions with community outreach and mobilisation using an enhanced communication package and provision of short-term preventive maternal and child health services and routine immunisation (health camps), including OPV (arm B), or all interventions of arm B with additional provision of IPV delivered at the maternal and child health camps (arm C). An independent team conducted surveys at baseline, endline, and after each round of supplementary immunisation activity for acceptability and effect. The primary outcome measures for the study were coverage of OPV, IPV, and routine extended programme on immunisation vaccines and changes in the proportion of unvaccinated and fully vaccinated children. This trial is registered with [ClinicalTrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT01908114), number [NCT01908114](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT01908114).

Findings

Between June 4, 2013, and May 31, 2014, 387 clusters were randomised (131 to arm A, 127 to arm B, and 129 to arm C). At baseline, 28 760 children younger than 5 years were recorded in arm A, 30 098 in arm B, and 29 126 in arm C. 359 clusters remained in the trial until the end (116 in arm A, 120 in arm B, and 123 in arm C; with 23 334 children younger than 5 years in arm A, 26 110 in arm B, and 25 745 in arm C). The estimated OPV coverage was 75% in arm A compared with 82% in arm B (difference vs arm A 6·6%; 95% CI 4·8–8·3) and 84% in arm C (8·5%, 6·8–10·1; overall $p < 0·0001$). The mean proportion of routine vaccine doses received by children younger than 24 months of age was 43% in arm A, 52% in arm B (9%, 7–11) and 54% in arm C (11%, 9–13; overall $p < 0·0001$). No serious adverse events requiring hospitalisation were reported after immunisation.

Interpretation

Despite the challenges associated with the polio end-game in high-risk, conflict-affected areas of Pakistan, a strategy of community mobilisation and targeted community-based health and immunisation camps during polio immunisation campaigns was successful in increasing vaccine coverage, including polio vaccine coverage.

Funding

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Lancet Infectious Diseases

May 2017 Volume 17 Number 5 p461-562 e128-e165

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/issue/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](#)

Lancet Public Health

May 2017 Volume 2 Number 5 e202-e246

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

May 2017 Volume 5 Number 5 p361-456 e16-e19

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 21, Issue 5, May 2017

<http://link.springer.com/journal/10995/21/5/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

Volume 37, Issue 3, April 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 545 Number 7653 pp133-258 11 May 2017

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

Comment

[Report estimated quake death tolls to save lives](#)

Earthquake survivors could be rescued more quickly if the media communicated the number of likely fatalities from the outset, argues Max Wyss.

New England Journal of Medicine

May 11, 2017 Vol. 376 No. 19

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

Clinical Implications of Basic Research

Elizabeth G. Phimister, Ph.D., Editor

[Zika Virus Vaccines — A Full Field and Looking for the Closers](#)

Stephen J. Thomas, M.D.

N Engl J Med 2017; 376:1883-1886 May 11, 2017 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMcibr1701402

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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](#)

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly

Volume 46, Issue 3, June 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

May 2017, VOLUME 139 / ISSUE 5

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/139/5?current-issue=y>

[Reviewed earlier]

PharmacoEconomics

Volume 35, Issue 5, May 2017

<http://link.springer.com/journal/40273/35/5/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

PLOS Currents: Disasters

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

[Accessed 13 May 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Currents: Outbreaks

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

[Accessed 13 May 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Medicine

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

(Accessed 13 May 2017)

Perspective

[Rotavirus vaccine will have an impact in Asia](#)

Carl D. Kirkwood, A. Duncan Steele

Perspective | published 09 May 2017 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002298>

Diarrhea remains the second leading infectious cause of death among children under five years of age, with more than half a million deaths each year. Rotavirus disease accounts for 25%–30% of all severe diarrhea cases [1]. While every child is at risk of rotavirus infection, the vast majority of rotavirus deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, where access to treatment for severe rotavirus-related diarrhea

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may be limited or absent. Rotavirus immunization is well recognized as the best approach to protect children from mortality and morbidity caused by severe rotavirus disease.

In 2009, the World Health Organization (WHO) recommended that all countries should include rotavirus vaccines in their national immunization programs, particularly those with high child mortality due to diarrhea [2]. Currently, 84 countries have introduced rotavirus vaccines into their national immunization programs, including 41 Gavi-eligible countries with financial support for vaccine procurement. The uptake of rotavirus vaccines in sub-Saharan Africa and the Americas has been excellent; however, progress in Asia has been insignificant, with a notable lack of introductions into national immunization programs despite the well-characterized burden of rotavirus disease [3,4]. Rotavirus disease and hospitalization have been significantly reduced in high- and middle-income countries, with multiple vaccine-effectiveness studies documenting their powerful impact [5]. Moreover, recent vaccine-effectiveness studies in low-middle- and low-income countries in Latin America and Africa have shown dramatic reductions in rotavirus-associated morbidity and mortality [6–8]. Thus, the large infant population at risk in Asia is a priority for future rotavirus introduction efforts.

The reasons for delayed vaccine introduction likely vary by country, with multiple stages along the pathway to implementation posing hurdles, including evidence gathering, decision-making, planning, and introduction. The driver for introduction may also differ; for example, perceived health benefits may be the primary reason in one area, and economic benefits may be more important in another. However, the limited data from low-resource populations across Asia, which are needed to provide evidence of the clinical protection that rotavirus vaccination provides against severe diarrhea, have also likely stalled the uptake of rotavirus vaccines within these regions.

In a recent study in PLOS Medicine, John Victor and colleagues describe effectiveness of the human monovalent rotavirus vaccine, (Rotarix) in Bangladesh [9], providing evidence that should help to change the status quo in the region. Victor and colleagues' study is the first to evaluate protection in infants in a low-resource population in Asia, using the WHO-recommended schedule at 6 and 10 weeks of age (i.e., the visits corresponding to the first and second dose of diphtheria–pertussis–tetanus-containing vaccine [DPT 1 and DPT 2]). The trial used a cluster-randomized village approach, comparing Rotarix vaccination integrated into the routine childhood immunization program in Bangladesh to the standard childhood immunizations without rotavirus vaccine but still utilizing oral rehydration salt (ORS) and other routine standard of care. The vaccine reduced severe acute rotavirus diarrhea by 41.4% (95% CI 23.2–55.2) among vaccinees. However, vaccine-induced protection appeared to wane from 45.2% in the first year of life to 28.9% during the second year, with the latter estimate not reaching statistical significance. Also, this study did not identify any measurable indirect protective effects despite being designed to capture the full effects of a rotavirus vaccination program.

Interestingly, these effectiveness rates generated through the programmatic implementation of the vaccine are consistent with the Phase III efficacy results for another rotavirus vaccine, RotaTeq, in Bangladesh, which demonstrated 42.7% (95% CI 10.4–63.9) efficacy against moderate-to-severe rotavirus diarrhea [10]. The results also align with the Phase III efficacy data for Rotarix in Malawi: 49.4% (95% CI 19.2–68.3) [11]; waning protection was also noted in this clinical trial setting in the second year of life [12]. Finally, an indigenous Indian vaccine (Rotavac) recently demonstrated 53.6% efficacy (95% CI 35.0–66.9) against moderate-to-severe rotavirus diarrhea in India [13]. Thus, rotavirus vaccines implemented in Asia are likely

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to have a similar impact to that observed in Bangladesh in Victor and colleagues' study and in Gavi-eligible countries previously.

Concerns about the costs associated with rotavirus vaccines showing limited efficacy have been raised. A recent examination of the cost effectiveness of rotavirus immunization in Bangladesh highlighted that the vaccine is cost effective, even in the scenario of no Gavi financing support (personal communication, C. Pecenka to C. Kirkwood). Similar health economic analyses consistently indicate that rotavirus vaccines are very cost-effective interventions for low- and middle-income countries with a high diarrhea burden [14].

With increasing regional evidence of the benefits of vaccination, the introduction of rotavirus vaccines in national immunization programs should be a priority for countries in the Asian region. In recent progress, India commenced introduction of locally manufactured vaccine (Rotavac), using a staged rollout that commenced in March, 2016. The first four states introduced the rotavirus vaccine into the state-based immunization program and included active monitoring for programmatic and safety concerns as the vaccine was rolled out. Vaccine effectiveness is also being assessed. During 2017–2018, the government plans to roll out the vaccine into an additional five states, reaching approximately 50% of the Indian birth cohort. Another large country, Pakistan, commenced routine rotavirus immunization, with Gavi support, in January 2017 and plans to expand immunization over the coming months. Finally, Gavi recently approved support for Bangladesh to introduce rotavirus vaccine, which is anticipated to launch in 2018.

Therefore, the report by Victor and colleagues is timely and provides excellent evidence for the health benefits of rotavirus vaccines within a low-resource setting in Asia. The vaccine-effectiveness data highlight that introduction in settings of high rotavirus disease burden will result in a large public health benefit through a significant reduction in morbidity and mortality associated with rotavirus infection. As India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and other countries in the region scale up the programmatic use of rotavirus vaccines, we should see dramatic reductions in childhood mortality due to diarrheal disease. Furthermore, as many countries transition from Gavi support and subsequently have to pay the full vaccine costs, we will see the advent of new safe, efficacious, and lower-cost rotavirus vaccines from manufacturers in India and elsewhere in the region, which will support the long-term sustainability of national immunization programs.

Research Article

Mortality and kidnapping estimates for the Yazidi population in the area of Mount Sinjar, Iraq, in August 2014: A retrospective household survey

Valeria Cetorelli, Isaac Sasson, Nazar Shabila, Gilbert Burnham

| published 09 May 2017 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002297>

Abstract

Background

In August 2014, the so-called Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) attacked the Yazidi religious minority living in the area of Mount Sinjar in Nineveh governorate, Iraq. We conducted a retrospective household survey to estimate the number and demographic profile of Yazidis killed and kidnapped.

Methods and findings

The survey covered the displaced Yazidi population from Sinjar residing in camps in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Fieldwork took place between 4 November and 25 December, 2015. A systematic random sample of 1,300 in-camp households were interviewed about the current

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household composition and any killings and kidnappings of household members by ISIS. Of the 1,300 interviewed households, 988 were Yazidi from Sinjar. Yazidi households contained 6,572 living residents at the time of the survey; 43 killings and 83 kidnappings of household members were reported. We calculated the probability of being killed and kidnapped by dividing the number of reported killings and kidnappings by the number of sampled Yazidis at risk, adjusting for sampling design. To obtain the overall toll of killings and kidnappings, those probabilities were multiplied by the total Yazidi population living in Sinjar at the time of the ISIS attack, estimated at roughly 400,000 by the United Nations and Kurdish officials. The demographic profile of those killed and kidnapped was examined, distinguishing between children and adults and females and males. We estimated that 2.5% of the Yazidi population was either killed or kidnapped over the course of a few days in August 2014, amounting to 9,900 (95% CI 7,000–13,900) people in total. An estimated 3,100 (95% CI 2,100–4,400) Yazidis were killed, with nearly half of them executed—either shot, beheaded, or burned alive—while the rest died on Mount Sinjar from starvation, dehydration, or injuries during the ISIS siege. The estimated number kidnapped is 6,800 (95% CI 4,200–10,800). Escapees recounted the abuses they had suffered, including forced religious conversion, torture, and sex slavery. Over one-third of those reported kidnapped were still missing at the time of the survey. All Yazidis were targeted regardless of age and sex, but children were disproportionately affected. They were as likely as adults to be executed but constituted 93.0% (95% CI 71.9–98.6) of those who died on Mount Sinjar. Moreover, children only accounted for 18.8% (95% CI 8.4–36.9) of those who managed to escape captivity. A sensitivity analysis suggests that the actual toll of killings and kidnappings may be underestimated in our data because of survival bias. The uncertainty associated with inference from a small sample of in-camp households and the reliance on a rough figure of 400,000 for extrapolation to the total Yazidi population of Sinjar at the time of the ISIS attack are the main limitations of this study.

Conclusions

Consistent with other existing evidence, our data provide a clear indication of the severity of the ISIS attack against the Yazidis in terms of both the number and demographic profile of those targeted.

PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases

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

(Accessed 13 May 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

PLOS One

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

[Accessed 13 May 2017]

Research Article

[Taking stock of the social determinants of health: A scoping review](#)

Kelsey Lucyk, Lindsay McLaren

Research Article | published 11 May 2017 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0177306>

Abstract

Background

In recent decades, the social determinants of health (SDOH) has gained increasing prominence as a foundational concept for population and public health in academic literature and policy documents, internationally. However, alongside its widespread dissemination, and in light of

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multiple conceptual models, lists, and frameworks, some dilution and confusion is apparent. This scoping review represents an attempt to take stock of SDOH literature in the context of contemporary population and public health.

Methods

We conducted a scoping review to synthesize and map SDOH literature, informed by the methods of Arksey and O'Malley (2005). We searched 5 academic and 3 grey literature databases for "social determinants of health" and "population health" or "public health" or "health promotion," published 2004–2014. We also conducted a search on "inequity" or "inequality" or "disparity" or "social gradient" and "Canad*" to ensure that we captured articles where this language was used to discuss the SDOH. We included articles that discussed SDOH in depth, either explicitly or in implicit but nuanced ways. We hand-searched reference lists to further identify relevant articles.

Findings

Our synthesis of 108 articles showed wide variation by study setting, target audience, and geographic scope, with most articles published in an academic setting, by Canadian authors, for policy-maker audiences. SDOH were communicated by authors as a list, model, or story; each with strengths and weaknesses. Thematic analysis identified one theme: health equity as an overarching and binding concept to the SDOH. Health equity was understood in different ways with implications for action on the SDOH.

Conclusions

Among the vast SDOH literature, there is a need to identify and clearly articulate the essence and implications of the SDOH concept. We recommend that authors be intentional in their efforts to present and discuss SDOH to ensure that they speak to its foundational concept of health equity.

PLoS Pathogens

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

[Accessed 13 May 2017]

Pearls

[New opportunities and challenges to engineer disease resistance in cassava, a staple food of African small-holder farmers](#)

Rebecca S. Bart, Nigel J. Taylor

| published 11 May 2017 PLOS Pathogens

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.ppat.1006287>

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

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/>

[Accessed 13 May 2017]

Biological Sciences - Environmental Sciences - Social Sciences - Sustainability Science:

[Identifying the landscape drivers of agricultural insecticide use leveraging evidence from 100,000 fields](#)

Ashley E. Larsen and Frederik Noack

PNAS 2017 ; published ahead of print May 8, 2017, doi:10.1073/pnas.1620674114

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 32 - Issue 2 - April 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/prehospital-and-disaster-medicine/latest-issue>
[Reviewed earlier]

Preventive Medicine

Volume 98, Pages 1-44 (May 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00917435/98>

Special Issue: Emerging Paradigms in Cervical Cancer Screening

Edited by Mark Schiffman

[Reviewed earlier]

Proceedings of the Royal Society B

12 April 2017; volume 284, issue 1852

<http://rsph.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/284/1852?current-issue=y>

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Ethics

Volume 10, Issue 1 April 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Reports

Volume 132, Issue 3, May/June 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

Volume 27, Issue 6, May 2017

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

Special Issue: Phenomenology/Qualitative Evaluation

[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

[Reviewed earlier]

Reproductive Health

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

[Accessed 13 May 2017]

Review

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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](#)

Gender equality and human rights approaches to female genital mutilation: a review of international human rights norms and standards

Rajat Khosla, Joya Banerjee, Doris Chou, Lale Say and Susana T. Fried

Published on: 12 May 2017

Abstract

Two hundred million girls and women in the world are estimated to have undergone female genital mutilation (FGM), and another 15 million girls are at risk of experiencing it by 2020 in high prevalence countries (UNICEF, Female genital mutilation/cutting: a global concern. 2016). Despite decades of concerted efforts to eradicate or abandon the practice, and the increased need for clear guidance on the treatment and care of women who have undergone FGM, present efforts have not yet been able to effectively curb the number of women and girls subjected to this practice (UNICEF. Female genital mutilation/cutting: a statistical overview and exploration of the dynamics of change. 2013), nor are they sufficient to respond to health needs of millions of women and girls living with FGM. International efforts to address FGM have thus far focused primarily on preventing the practice, with less attention to treating associated health complications, caring for survivors, and engaging health care providers as key stakeholders. Recognizing this imperative, WHO developed guidelines on management of health complications of FGM. In this paper, based on foundational research for the development of WHO's guidelines, we situate the practice of FGM as a rights violation in the context of international and national policy and efforts, and explore the role of health providers in upholding health-related human rights of women at girls who are survivors, or who are at risk. Findings are based on a literature review of relevant international human rights treaties and UN Treaty Monitoring Bodies.

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

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

Recently Published Articles -

[No new digest content identified]

Risk Analysis

March 2017 Volume 37, Issue 3 Pages 399–597

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.2017.37.issue-3/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Risk Management and Healthcare Policy

Volume 10, 2017

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

[No new digest content identified]

Science

12 May 2017 Vol 356, Issue 6338

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

In Depth

Pinpointing HIV spread in Africa poses risks

By Jon Cohen

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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](#)

Science12 May 2017 : 568-569 Restricted Access

Researchers hash out ethical, legal issues raised by large sequence database of AIDS virus.

Summary

For the first time, researchers, ethicists, lawyers, and community representatives will meet to discuss balancing the public health benefits and the potential risks of creating a massive database of HIV sequences from people living in sub-Saharan Africa. The Phylogenetics and Networks for Generalised HIV Epidemics in Africa (PANGEA HIV) consortium for the past 4 years has been sequencing HIVs plucked from blood samples that were collected from 20 different clinical trials. The relationship between these sequences allows researchers to create family trees, or phylogenies, that can reveal transmission clusters and potentially offer novel ways for public health workers to intervene and try to slow HIV's spread. But the meeting, which will be held in London, will also discuss the way these same data can cause harm. Phylogenetic HIV information has been used to prosecute people for transmitting HIV in several countries. What's more, the clusters can also reveal behavior that's often criminalized or stigmatized such as men having sex with men or people injecting drugs. PANGEA HIV anonymizes the data and takes several precautions to make sure that individuals cannot be identified. But these protections have been breached in the past, and the meeting will discuss how best to make sure that people who provide their HIV samples are not punished for participating in efforts that ultimately aim to help people control their infections and slow spread in communities.

Policy Forum

Myriad take two: Can genomic databases remain secret?

By Christi J. Guerrini, Amy L. McGuire, Mary A. Majumder

Science12 May 2017 : 586-587 Full Access

Trade-secrecy laws clash with a right to one's health data

Summary

An ongoing legal challenge to the business model of Myriad Genetics highlights how recent policy developments have contributed to a collision between individual interests in access to personal health data and commercial interests in trade secrecy. Following a landmark ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court invalidating its patents on BRCA1/2 genetic variants (1), which increase the risk of female breast and ovarian cancer, Myriad now faces efforts to dismantle the proprietary database of variants and their clinical interpretation that it began developing when it was the exclusive provider of BRCA1/2 tests. Although the competing claims that anchor this dispute are hard to reconcile, we see room for legal compromise and opportunity for policy innovations to incentivize companies to invest in test development while ensuring that their findings can be used by others.

Reports

The extent of forest in dryland biomes

By Jean-François Bastin, Nora Berrahmouni, Alan Grainger, Danae Maniatis, Danilo Mollicone, Rebecca Moore, Chiara Patriarca, Nicolas Picard, Ben Sparrow, Elena Maria Abraham, Kamel Aloui, Ayhan Atesoglu, Fabio Attore, Çağlar Bassüllü, Adia Bey, Monica Garzuglia, Luis G. García-Montero, Nikée Groot, Greg Guerin, Lars Laestadius, Andrew J. Lowe, Bako Mamane, Giulio Marchi, Paul Patterson, Marcelo Rezende, Stefano Ricci, Ignacio Salcedo, Alfonso Sanchez-Paus Diaz, Fred Stolle, Venera Surappaeva, Rene Castro

Science12 May 2017 : 635-638 Restricted Access

Previously unreported forest areas in drylands increase the current estimate of global forest cover by at least 9%.

Mapping the world's dry forests

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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 extent of forest area in dryland habitats, which occupy more than 40% of Earth's land surface, is uncertain compared with that in other biomes. Bastin et al. provide a global estimate of forest extent in drylands, calculated from high-resolution satellite images covering more than 200,000 plots. Forests in drylands are much more extensive than previously reported and cover a total area similar to that of tropical rainforests or boreal forests. This increases estimates of global forest cover by at least 9%, a finding that will be important in estimating the terrestrial carbon sink.

Abstract

Dryland biomes cover two-fifths of Earth's land surface, but their forest area is poorly known. Here, we report an estimate of global forest extent in dryland biomes, based on analyzing more than 210,000 0.5-hectare sample plots through a photo-interpretation approach using large databases of satellite imagery at (i) very high spatial resolution and (ii) very high temporal resolution, which are available through the Google Earth platform. We show that in 2015, 1327 million hectares of drylands had more than 10% tree-cover, and 1079 million hectares comprised forest. Our estimate is 40 to 47% higher than previous estimates, corresponding to 467 million hectares of forest that have never been reported before. This increases current estimates of global forest cover by at least 9%.

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 179, Pages 1-218 (April 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02779536/179>

[Reviewed earlier]

Stability: International Journal of Security & Development

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

[accessed 13 May 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

Stanford Social Innovation Review

Spring 2017 Volume 15, Number 2

https://ssir.org/issue/spring_2017

All too often people use intuition, along with trial and error, to devise social programs. But we now have a large and growing body of knowledge about how people interact with their environment and with each other. The cover story in the spring 2017 issue of Stanford Social Innovation Review, "The New Science of Designing for Humans," discusses how the social sector can draw on behavioral science to design more effective programs.

Sustainability

Volume 9, Issue 4 (April 2017)

<http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/9/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

Torture Journal

Volume 27 - Issue No. 1

<http://www.irct.org/publications/torture-journal/128>

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[Reviewed earlier]

Trauma, Violence, & Abuse

Volume 18, Issue 2, April 2017

<http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/tvaa/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases

March-April, 2017 - Volume 16

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine & International Health

May 2017 Volume 22, Issue 5 Pages 513–654

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tmi.2017.22.issue-5/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 2, 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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