

The Sentinel

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

Period ending 20 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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G20 – Medical Humanitarian Imperatives

MSF Calls on Governments to Address Three Key Medical Humanitarian Challenges Ahead of G20 Health Ministers' Meeting

Governments must use this week's meeting to address attacks on hospitals, emergency preparedness and drug-resistant infections

NEW YORK/BERLIN, MAY 17, 2017—Ahead of a meeting of G20 health ministers in Berlin this Friday and Saturday, Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is calling on governments to urgently address three major issues that affect the organization's work: attacks on hospitals, emergency preparedness and drug-resistant infections.

"The health challenges the world faces demand change that require your attention, resources and leadership," said Dr. Joanne Liu, international president of MSF. "We are calling on the most powerful governments in the world to make urgent changes that could alleviate people's suffering in some of the world's most precarious situations, and could improve people's access to medical care and medicines."

Specifically, MSF is calling on G20 governments to address:

Attacks on Medical Facilities

From Yemen to Syria to South Sudan to Afghanistan and beyond, health facilities are being looted, burnt and bombed by state and non-state parties to conflicts, resulting in the deaths of thousands of civilians, including patients, doctors and nurses. Such attacks also deprive affected people of the basic health services they need. Despite the UN Security Council providing its unanimous support behind Resolution 2286 on the protection of the medical mission one year ago, nothing has changed on the ground.

"Attacks on civilian medical facilities, including direct shelling and air strikes by states on hospitals and clinics, appear, in some contexts, to be a deliberate strategy of war," said Liu. "There can be no more waiting. You should start your discussions on health systems strengthening by figuring out how to put a stop to the deliberate destruction of health systems themselves. We urge G20 governments to turn Resolution 2286 into concrete measures in war zones in order to stop the attacks on facilities and people whose responsibility is to treat the wounded and sick."

Emergency Preparedness and Response

When the Ebola outbreak in West Africa was declared in 2014, only a handful of governments and organizations, including MSF, responded. G20 governments should support the World Health Organization (WHO) to ensure affected people are at the center of emergency and outbreak response, and make the needed resources available for WHO to carry out this role while working closely with national authorities. Countries must have incentives to declare outbreaks to WHO transparently and quickly, to allow a coordinated and efficient response. Additionally, preparing for emergencies should not be limited to infectious diseases that are seen as threats to national security.

"Being prepared for emergencies is essential but not sufficient," Liu said. "There's no point in being prepared if there's no response when thousands fall sick or die. G20 governments need to be focusing on the well-being of people in the midst of emergencies and outbreaks rather than

tackling this issue from the angle of the threat such emergencies or outbreaks pose to their own countries.”

Moreover, research and development (R&D) efforts can no longer ignore the diseases that predominantly affect the countries and often poor and marginalized communities MSF serves. G20 governments should support recent efforts at the WHO and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) to address these gaps, while ensuring that the results of such R&D efforts are affordable and available to people in need in all countries.

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis (DR-TB)

MSF welcomes last September’s commitments by all governments made in the UN High Level Declaration on AMR yet is concerned that G20 states are backtracking on hard-fought commitments to ensure the response to AMR is truly global, driven by patient needs and adapted to the needs of all health systems, especially low-resource settings.

“G20 governments must make sure public investment for developing effective medicines, vaccines and diagnostics for drug-resistant infections translates into products all people in need can afford and access,” Liu said. “This can only be achieved by separating, or “de-linking,” R&D costs from the price and sales volume of end products. We also urge G20 governments to avoid policies that undermine or restrict access to antibiotics for neglected populations.”

G20 states should particularly focus on DR-TB, which accounted for more than one third of all deaths caused by AMR in 2015. Governments need to improve the dismal global TB statistics by making sure countries affected by the disease implement the best practices and policies recommended by WHO. MSF also calls on G20 governments to support the effort to develop new, affordable TB treatments that can cure all forms of the disease in one month or less, especially the 3Ps (Push, Pull, Pool) R&D Initiative, which is an alternative way designed by MSF and others to fund and incentivize research and development of TB regimens.

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Human Rights – Technology

Editor’s Note:

We include the full text of the announcements below, but paused when we read about “Rights View” [see bolded text].

Technology for human rights: UN Human Rights Office announces landmark partnership with Microsoft

As communities around the world face continuing human rights challenges, the agreement demonstrates the potential to use technology to help tackle issues, and highlights the opportunity for greater private sector support for the work of the UN Human Rights Office.

GENEVA/REDMOND, USA (16 May 2017) – The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights today announced a landmark five-year partnership with Microsoft. As part of the agreement, Microsoft will provide a grant of USD 5 million to support the work of the UN Human Rights Office. This represents an unprecedented level of support from a private sector organization.

A particular area of focus for the partnership will be the development and use of advanced technology designed to better predict, analyze and respond to critical human rights situations, which currently appear not only to be proliferating in many parts of the world – including areas previously viewed as stable – but also growing in complexity.

The new partnership builds on a long-standing relationship between the UN Human Rights Office and Microsoft that is based on two shared ideas. The first is a commitment to ensuring technology plays a positive role in helping to promote and protect human rights. The second is a recognition of the need for the private sector to play a bigger part in helping to advance the cause of human rights globally.

“As a global company that sees the problems of the world, we believe that we have a responsibility to help to solve them,” said Brad Smith, President of Microsoft. “We have an untapped opportunity to use the power of technology to collect data, analyze that data, and equip the United Nations to advance human rights around the world.”

Technology for Human Rights

While in some cases technology may contribute to human rights challenges, it also has an important role to play in tackling abuses. The grant from Microsoft will help establish technology that has a positive impact, for example by developing and deploying new technology solutions specifically designed to advance the mission of the UN Human Rights Office and protect human rights.

One example is *Rights View* - an information ‘dashboard’ that will allow UN human rights staff to aggregate large quantities of internal and external data on specific countries and types of rights violations in real time. It will help to facilitate analysis, ensure early warning of emerging critical issues and provide data to guide responses. This tool, powered by cloud computing and big data analysis, is just one example of the potential for technology to be a force for good.

Business and Human Rights

Microsoft will also work with the UN Human Rights Office to raise awareness of the role that companies can and should play in driving respect for human rights and to promote more responsible business conduct across the world. Microsoft will work closely with the Office to help promote broader adoption and implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The UN Guiding Principles provide a global standard for preventing and addressing the risk of adverse impacts on human rights linked to business activity.

Microsoft will also provide support for human rights advocacy and outreach campaigns through concrete support for the work of the UN Human Rights Office in key areas like freedom of expression, data protection and privacy, and inclusion. This includes direct support for the development and promotion of corporate principles for tackling LGBTI discrimination in the workplace in line with international human rights standards.

“This could be a truly ground-breaking agreement,” said UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein. “We live in a rapidly evolving age, where technology can either be used to solve human rights problems or misused to erode human rights. Similarly, companies can infringe people’s rights, or they can be a major progressive force.”

“The private sector has an essential role to play in advancing human rights, and this partnership with Microsoft demonstrates how we can join forces in a constructive way,” Zeid said. “I hope

this is just the beginning of something much bigger: that it helps stimulate a broad movement by the private sector to stand up for human rights. Increased support from major companies in the technology sector and other fields can clearly make a critical difference.”

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UNICEF joins tech giants in artificial intelligence group

New York, 17 May 2017 – UNICEF joins the Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (AI) founded by Amazon, Apple, Google/DeepMind, Facebook, IBM and Microsoft.

Through the partnership UNICEF’s Office of Innovation will forge collaborations to scale the use of AI for social good through innovative solutions to humanitarian challenges to benefit children.

Through collaborations with tech companies UNICEF data technologists can use AI to solve societal problems. An example of this is the Magic Box platform, which pools data from partners like IBM, Google, Amadeus, and Telefonica to inform real-time decision-making in emergencies like earthquakes and floods.

Chris Fabian, Senior Advisor, Ventures, UNICEF Innovation said, “UNICEF has always been an organization driven by data - and the capacity to process and learn from the massive amounts of data that exist around us will let us work to improve the life of every child.

“We are in a position where we can connect the needs of the world's most vulnerable children to the capacities of the most advanced technology.

“We believe that machine learning and the future of AI will help us address globally relevant issues like the spread of disease, responses to climate change and disasters, and the uncertain future of jobs and employment.”

About The PAI

The Partnership on AI to Benefit People and Society (Partnership on AI) is a not-for-profit organization, founded by Amazon, Apple, Google/DeepMind, Facebook, IBM and Microsoft. Our goals are to study and formulate best practices on the development, testing, and fielding of AI technologies, advancing the public’s understanding of AI, to serve as an open platform for discussion and engagement about AI and its influences on people and society and identify and foster aspirational efforts in AI for socially beneficial purposes. We actively designed the Partnership on AI to bring together a diverse range of voices from for-profit and non-profit, all of whom share our belief in the tenets and are committed to collaboration and open dialogue on the many opportunities and rising challenges around AI.

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Child Refugees, Migrants

Five-fold increase in number of refugee and migrant children traveling alone since 2010 – UNICEF

Ahead of G7, UNICEF urges world leaders to adopt six-point action agenda to keep refugee and migrant children safe

NEW YORK, 17 May 2017 – The global number of refugee and migrant children moving alone has reached a record high, increasing nearly five-fold since 2010, UNICEF said today in a new report. At least 300,000 unaccompanied and separated children were recorded in some 80 countries in the combined years of 2015 and 2016, up from 66,000 in 2010 and 2011.

'A Child is a Child: Protecting children on the move from violence, abuse and exploitation' presents a global snapshot of refugee and migrant children, the motivations behind their journeys and the risks they face along the way. The report shows that an increasing number of these children are taking highly dangerous routes, often at the mercy of smugglers and traffickers, to reach their destinations, clearly justifying the need for a global protection system to keep them safe from exploitation, abuse and death.

"One child moving alone is one too many, and yet today, there are a staggering number of children doing just that – we as adults are failing to protect them," said UNICEF Deputy Executive Director Justin Forsyth. "Ruthless smugglers and traffickers are exploiting their vulnerability for personal gain, helping children to cross borders, only to sell them into slavery and forced prostitution. It is unconscionable that we are not adequately defending children from these predators."

The report includes the story of Mary, a 17-year-old unaccompanied minor from Nigeria, who experienced the trauma of being trafficked firsthand during her horrific journey through Libya to Italy. When describing the smuggler turned trafficker who offered to help her, she said, "Everything (he) said, that we would be treated well, and that we would be safe, it was all wrong. It was a lie." Mary was trapped in Libya for more than three months where she was abused. "He said to me if I didn't sleep with him he would not bring me to Europe. He raped me."

Additional key findings from the report include:

- :: 200,000 unaccompanied children applied for asylum across around 80 countries in 2015-2016.
- :: 100,000 unaccompanied children were apprehended at the U.S.-Mexico border in 2015-2016.
- :: 170,000 unaccompanied children applied for asylum in Europe in 2015-2016.
- :: Unaccompanied and separated children accounted for 92 per cent of all children arriving to Italy by sea in 2016 and the first months of 2017.
- :: Children account for approximately 28 per cent of trafficking victims globally.
- :: Sub-Saharan Africa and Central America and the Caribbean have the highest share of children among detected trafficking victims at 64 and 62 per cent respectively.
- :: As much as 20 per cent of smugglers have links to human trafficking networks.

Ahead of the G7 Summit in Italy, UNICEF is calling on governments to adopt its six-point agenda for action to protect refugee and migrant children and ensure their wellbeing.

"These children need a real commitment from governments around the world to ensure their safety throughout their journeys," said Forsyth. "Leaders gathering next week at the G7 should lead this effort by being the first to commit to our six-point agenda for action."

The UNICEF agenda for action includes:

1. Protect child refugees and migrants, particularly unaccompanied children, from exploitation and violence;
2. End the detention of children seeking refugee status or migrating, by introducing a range of practical alternatives;

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3. Keep families together as the best way to protect children and give children legal status;
4. Keep all refugee and migrant children learning and give them access to health and other quality services;
5. Press for action on the underlying causes of large scale movements of refugees and migrants;
6. Promote measures to combat xenophobia, discrimination and marginalization in countries of transit and destination.

UNICEF is also urging the public to stand in solidarity with children uprooted by war, violence and poverty, by supporting the six-point agenda for action.

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Global Governance - Health

WHA70

World Health Assembly

22–31 May 2017, Geneva

Webcast

Watch WHA70 live

Starts at 09:30 CEST on 22 May 2017, Monday

Themes

Medicines and health products

Noncommunicable diseases

Nutrition

Emergencies preparedness, response

Poliomyelitis (polio)

Antimicrobial resistance

Maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health

Election process for WHO Director-General

The process to elect the next Director-General of WHO is underway. An overview of the election process follows:

:: Names of candidates for the next Director-General nominated by Member States were announced on 23 September 2016.

:: In October 2016, Member States and candidates were given the opportunity to interact in a password-protected web forum hosted by WHO.

:: On 1–2 November 2016, a live forum was held, at which candidates presented their vision to Member States and were also able to answer questions on their candidacy. The candidates' forum was webcast on the WHO website in all official languages.

:: In January 2017, WHO's Executive Board drew up a short list of 5 candidates. Executive Board members then interviewed these candidates and selected 3 nominees to go forward to the World Health Assembly in May 2017.

:: At the Seventieth World Health Assembly, Member States will vote in a new Director-General, who will take office on 1 July 2017.

Nominees for the post of WHO Director-General

The WHO Executive Board selected by vote the following 3 candidates to be presented to World Health Assembly as nominees for the post of Director-General of WHO.

:: Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

The Government of Ethiopia has submitted the nomination of Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

: David Nabarro

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has submitted the nomination of Dr David Nabarro.

: Sania Nishtar

The Government of Pakistan has submitted the nomination of Dr Sania Nishtar.

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Research Integrity

Major research funders and international NGOs to implement WHO standards on reporting clinical trial results

News release

18 May 2017 | GENEVA - Some of the world's largest funders of medical research and international non-governmental organizations today agreed on new standards that will require all clinical trials they fund or support to be registered and the results disclosed publicly.

Signatories to the] joint statement [below]...agreed to develop and implement policies within the next 12 months that require all trials they fund, co-fund, sponsor or support to be registered in a publicly-available registry. They also agreed that all results would be disclosed within specified timeframes on the registry and/or by publication in a scientific journal.

Today, about 50% of clinical trials go unreported, according to several studies, often because the results are negative. These unreported trial results leave an incomplete and potentially misleading picture of the risks and benefits of vaccines, drugs and medical devices, and can lead to use of suboptimal or even harmful products.

"Research funders are making a strong statement that there will be no more excuses on why some clinical trials remain unreported long after they have completed," said Dr Marie-Paule Kieny, Assistant Director-General for Health Systems and Innovation at WHO.

The signatories to the statement also agreed to monitor compliance with registration requirements and to endorse the development of systems to monitor results reporting:

Joint statement on public disclosure of results from clinical trials

Signatories on 18 May 2017

Indian Council of Medical Research

Inserm

Research Council of Norway

UK Medical Research Council

Médecins Sans Frontières

Epicentre

CEPI

PATH

Institut Pasteur

Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi)

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Wellcome Trust

Download as PDF (including footnotes) pdf, 531kb

[Text bolding from original]

Introduction

The current 2013 Declaration of Helsinki states that "Every research study involving human subjects must be registered in a publicly accessible database before recruitment of the first subject." and that "Researchers have a duty to make publicly available the results of their research Negative and inconclusive as well as positive results must be published or otherwise made publicly available". In addition to the ethical imperative, poor allocation of resources for product development and financing of available interventions, and suboptimal regulatory and public health recommendations may occur where decisions are based on only a subset of all completed clinical trials.

The signatories of this joint statement affirm that the prospective registration and timely public disclosure of results from all clinical trials is of critical scientific and ethical importance. Furthermore timely results disclosure reduces waste in research, increases value and efficiency in use of funds and reduces reporting bias, which should lead to better decision-making in health.

Within 12 months of becoming a signatory of this statement, we each pledge to develop and implement a policy with mandated timeframes for prospective registration and public disclosure of the results of clinical trials that we fund, co-fund, sponsor or support. We each agree to monitor registration and endorse the development of systems to monitor results reporting on an ongoing basis. We agree to share challenges and progress in the monitoring of these policies. We agree that transparency is important and therefore the outputs from the monitoring process will be publicly available.

Benefits and costs of requiring public disclosure of results

The benefits of implementing and monitoring policies on public disclosure of results relate to access to more complete information about the results of clinical trials. The benefits are summarised below.

:: The current bias in the reporting of results will be reduced allowing for more informed decisions in the following areas:

- : Licensure/marketing authorization (including risk-benefit assessments),
- : Public health policy recommendation on use (including cost-effectiveness), and
- : Financing decisions by public procurement bodies, and multilateral agencies
- : Optimal implementation and delivery
- : Individual treatment choices by doctors and patients

:: Research funding allocation will be more efficient (avoiding the current situation, whereby funds may be allocated to answer scientific questions that have already been answered in unreported clinical trials, and waste occurs because learning from previous trials cannot be taken into account in design of current trials)

:: The development of interventions will be more efficient

:: Ethical requirements for dissemination of information will be met, potentially increasing trust of trial participants in the utility of clinical research

:: The scientific state-of-the-art will be based on a more complete cross-section of clinical trial data; in particular the many negative clinical trials will be more available for assessments.

A further benefit is that doctors, professional bodies and the general public will be able to access the results from a larger proportion of clinical trials.

Finally patients seeking enrollment in clinical trials will be able to access results from previously completed clinical trials in their area, as they make decisions on which clinical trials they may wish to seek enrollment into.

There will be modest costs associated with public disclosure of clinical trial results. The costs of disseminating the results of research are a minor component of the overall costs of conducting such research, and results reporting is an essential component of the research enterprise. The resource allocation, public health and scientific benefits - together with the need to meet ethical imperatives - far outweigh the costs.

Proposed common elements of agencies' policies on results reporting

Principles that could be included in harmonized policies on results reporting include the following:

Registration of clinical trials

Before any clinical trial is initiated (at any Phase) its details must be registered in a publicly available, free to access, searchable clinical trial registry complying with WHO's international agreed standards (www.who.int/ictrp). The clinical trial registry entry must be made before the first subject receives the first medical intervention in the trial (or as soon as possible afterwards). Clinical trial registry records should be updated as necessary to include final enrolment numbers achieved, and the date of primary study completion (defined as the last data collection timepoint for the last subject for the primary outcome measure). If clinical trials are terminated, their status should be updated to note the date of termination, and to report the numbers enrolled up to the date of termination.

Completeness and accuracy of the clinical trial registry records can be a limiting factor for use of information from the registries, and it is encouraged that care is taken to ensure good quality registry entries.

Reporting timeframes for clinical trials

We jointly agree that summary results of clinical trials should be made publicly available in a timely manner following primary study completion. There are two main modalities for this to occur. By posting to the results section of the clinical trial registry and by journal publication. We will work towards a timeframe of 12 months from primary study completion (the last visit of the last subject for collection of data on the primary outcome) as the global norm for summary results disclosure. As timelines for publication in a journal are not fully within the control of the sponsor or investigator, this joint statement focuses on use of registries – such as clinicaltrials.gov and EU-CTR - to meet this results disclosure expectation. Publication in a journal is also an expectation, with an indicative timeframe of 24 months from study completion to allow for peer review etc. Access to a sufficiently detailed clinical trial protocol is necessary in order to be able to interpret summary results. Therefore we also encourage development of requirements that the protocols are made publicly available no later than the time of the summary results disclosure as part of the clinical trial registry summary results information (including amendments approved by ethics committees/institutional review boards, and either as uploaded electronic document formats such as pdfs or links to the pdf).

At the time of the initial grant submission, the plan for public disclosure of results should be included, including specific time bound commitments. Reasonable funds to enable compliance with these considerations is a cost eligible item in clinical trial budgets.

Trial ID in clinical trial publication

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The Trial ID or registry identifier code/number should be included in all publications of clinical trials, and should be provided as part of the abstract to PubMed and other bibliographic search databases for easy linking of trial related publications with clinical trial registry site records. This is essential for linking journal publications with registry records.

Registration and reporting of past trials

Reporting of previous trials realises the value of funding; therefore the contribution made from reporting previous trials, whatever their results, will be considered in the assessment of a funding proposal. When a PI applies for new funding, they may be asked to provide a list of all previous trials on which they were PI within a specified timeframe and their reporting status, with an explanation where trials have remained unreported.

A note on sharing of individual participants' data

As trials are registered, this sets a basis for development of IPD sharing. The benefit of sharing individual participants' data (IPD) and the facilitation of research through greater access to primary datasets is a principle which we consider important. This statement is not directed towards sharing of IPD. However we are all actively engaged with initiatives related to IPD sharing, and support sharing of health research datasets whenever appropriate. We will continue to engage with partners in support of an enabling environment to allow data sharing to maximise the value of health research data. We will support activities that enable the development of explicit ethical and legal frameworks that govern data collection and use and enable development of international norms and standards for sharing of IPD from clinical trials.

A note on open access policies

We are all supporters of open access policies, and consider that publications describing clinical trial results should be open access from the date of publication, wherever possible. Open access fees should be included in clinical trial budget requests, if necessary.

A note on the scope of this statement

While this statement focuses on clinical trials, transparency and reduction of waste and reporting bias are important for other types of research including public health intervention studies, observational studies, implementation research and pre-clinical studies of experimental therapeutics and preventives.

We encourage formative work on development of possible transparency frameworks for these types of research, including how best to develop registries that publicly disclose research studies in the above categories.

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Featured Journal Content

[Impact of International Monetary Fund programs on child health](#)

Adel Daoud, Elias Nosrati, Bernhard Reinsberg, Alexander E. Kentikelenis, Thomas H. Stubbs, and Lawrence P. King

PNAS 2017 ; published ahead of print May 15, 2017, doi:10.1073/pnas.1617353114

Significance

This study adds to the state of the art by analyzing the impact of International Monetary Fund (IMF) programs on children's health, mediated by their parents' education. It is the first to combine macrodata and microdata to address this issue systematically across five dimensions of

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child health: water, malnutrition, shelter, sanitation, and health care access. The sample represents about 2.8 billion (about 50%) of the world's population in year 2000. Using multilevel models, we find that, although IMF programs do not correlate directly with child health indicators, they reduce the protective effect of parental education on child health, especially in rural areas, and have a mixed impact across the five dimensions of urban child health.

Abstract

Parental education is located at the center of global efforts to improve child health. In a developing-country context, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) plays a crucial role in determining how governments allocate scarce resources to education and public health interventions. Under reforms mandated by IMF structural adjustment programs, it may become harder for parents to reap the benefits of their education due to wage contraction, welfare retrenchment, and generalized social insecurity. This study assesses how the protective effect of education changes under IMF programs, and thus how parents' ability to guard their children's health is affected by structural adjustment. We combine cross-sectional stratified data (countries, 67; children, 1,941,734) from the Demographic and Health Surveys and the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys. The sample represents ~2.8 billion (about 50%) of the world's population in year 2000. Based on multilevel models, our findings reveal that programs reduce the protective effect of parental education on child health, especially in rural areas. For instance, in the absence of IMF programs, living in an household with educated parents reduces the odds of child malnourishment by 38% [odds ratio (OR), 0.62; 95% CI, 0.66–0.58]; in the presence of programs, this drops to 21% (OR, 0.79; 95% CI, 0.86–0.74). In other words, the presence of IMF conditionality decreases the protective effect of parents' education on child malnourishment by no less than 17%. We observe similar adverse effects in sanitation, shelter, and health care access (including immunization), but a beneficial effect in countering water deprivation.

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Emergencies

POLIO

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Polio this week as of 17 May 2017

:: The World Health Assembly (WHA) is meeting next week in Geneva, Switzerland. Ministers of Health and public health professionals from around the world will convene to discuss global public health issues, including the global drive to eradicate polio. Delegates are anticipated to review current status against each of the four objectives of the Polio Endgame Plan, including reviewing a report requested by the Executive Board (EB) in January 2017 on issues related to transition planning. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) secretariat has prepared a status report, which will inform the discussions by Member States.

Country Updates [Selected Excerpts]

New cases or environmental samples reported across the monitored country/region settings: Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nigeria, Lake Chad Basin. Guinea and West Africa, and Lao People's Democratic Republic have been removed from the monitored geographies list.

:: No new country report of case activity or environmental samples.

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WHO Grade 3 Emergencies [to 20 May 2017]

Iraq - *No new announcements identified*

South Sudan - *No new announcements identified*

Yemen - *No new announcements identified*

Nigeria - *No new announcements identified*

The Syrian Arab Republic - *No new announcements identified*

WHO Grade 2 Emergencies [to 20 May 2017]

Cameroon - *No new announcements identified.*

Central African Republic - *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*

Democratic Republic of the Congo – *See Ebola coverage below*

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UN OCHA – L3 Emergencies

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

Iraq

:: Iraq - Alarming numbers of people fleeing western Mosul city [EN/KU/AR] 16 May 2017

:: Ethiopia Weekly Humanitarian Bulletin, 15 May 2017

Syrian Arab Republic - *No new announcements identified*

Yemen - *No new announcements identified*

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. 8 (as of 16 May 2017)

:: Horn of Africa: Humanitarian Impacts of Drought – Issue 4 (15 May 2017)

:: Somalia: Drought Response - Situation Report No. 8 (as of 16 May 2017)

Ethiopia

:: Ethiopia Weekly Humanitarian Bulletin, 15 May 2017

Nigeria - *No new announcements identified*

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:: Agency/Government/IGO Watch

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

United Nations – Secretary General, Security Council, General Assembly

[to 20 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases/Meetings Coverage

17 May 2017

SC/12826

[Somalia's Election Outcome Hailed as Unique Chance to Overcome Insecurity, Humanitarian Crisis, as Security Council Considers Latest Developments](#)

Somalia's peaceful election of a new President had opened a unique opportunity to surmount entrenched insecurity, political and humanitarian challenges and create a functional State in the coming four years, a senior United Nations official told the Security Council today.

15 May 2017

SC/12819

[Shame, Stigma Integral to Logic of Sexual Violence as War Tactic, Special Adviser Tells Security Council, as Speakers Demand Recognition for Survivors](#)

Shame and stigma were integral to the logic of using sexual violence as a tactic of war, torture or terrorism, the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide told the Security Council today, amid demands that survivors be recognized as legitimate victims of conflict entitled to equality before the law as well as reparations.

15 May 2017

DSG/SM/1058-SC/12820-HR/5361

[Deputy Secretary-General Tells Security Council It's Not Enough to 'Bring Back Our Girls', Conflict-Based Sexual Violence Victims Also Need Respect, Reintegration](#)

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 20 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases – "TOP NEWS"

[Technology for human rights: UN Human Rights Office announces landmark partnership with Microsoft](#)

[UN report exposes human rights violations and abuses against civilians in and around Yei, South Sudan](#)

[Zeid alarmed by increasing violence, killings, in Central African Republic](#)

[Mexico: UN rights experts strongly condemn killing of human rights defender and call for effective measures to tackle impunity](#)

["No end in sight," says UN human rights expert after five decades of Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory](#)

[UN expert group concerned about the situation of deprivation of liberty in Argentina](#)

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

["Place child protection at the core of tourism strategy" – UN rights expert urges Dominican Republic](#)

[UN and Inter-American Experts Condemn Reporter's Killing in Mexico and Call for Immediate Action to End Cycle of Killings of Journalists](#)

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 20 May 2017]

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

19 May 2017

[Committee on the Rights of the Child examines the report of Lebanon](#)

[Committee on the Rights of the Child considers reports of Bhutan](#)

18 May 2017

[Committee on the Rights of the Child reviews reports of the United States on children in armed conflict and on the sale of children](#)

17 May 2017

[Embrace diversity and protect trans and gender diverse children and adolescents](#)

16 May 2017

[Committee on the Rights of the Child opens seventy-fifth session](#)

15 May 2017

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

[to 20 May 2017]

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

18 May 2017

["Place child protection at the core of tourism strategy" – UN rights expert urges Dominican Republic](#)

GENEVA (18 May 2017) – "Those who come to the Dominican Republic to sexually exploit children must know that their crimes will be punished," said the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, at the end of her [first official visit to the country](#).

"Child protection must be at the core of the Government's tourism strategy," the expert stressed, while urging the Dominican Republic Government to "send a strong signal that the target of 10 millions of tourists by 2022 is not reached at the expense of exposing further children to the scourge of sexual exploitation."...

SRSG/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict [to 20 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 20 May 2017]

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

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

16 May 2017

[Embrace diversity and protect trans and gender diverse children and adolescents](#)

GENEVA / BANJUL / STRASBOURG / WASHINGTON (16 May 2017) – Speaking ahead of the International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia on 17 May, a group of United Nations and international human rights experts* urge States and other stakeholders to protect trans and gender diverse children and adolescents effectively from discrimination, exclusion, violence and stigma and to foster supportive family environments for trans and gender diverse people...

SRSG/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN OCHA [to 20 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

19 May 2017

[The Central Emergency Response Fund \(CERF\) allocates US \\$ 3.5 million to help 40,000 people in the Lac region in Chad](#)

19 May 2017

[Statement by the Humanitarian Coordinator on the electricity crisis in Gaza](#)

18 May 2017

[Alarming numbers of people fleeing western Mosul city \[EN/KU/AR\]](#)

17 May 2017

[Joint Statement of the Humanitarian Coordinator and the Minister of Social Affairs and National Reconciliation on the Humanitarian Situation in the Central African Republic](#)

16 May 2017

[Mosul Humanitarian Crisis, 16 May 2017](#)

15 May 2017

[Humanitarian Coordinator Alerts on Early Signs of a New Humanitarian Crisis in Central Africa](#)

14 May 2017

[UN Humanitarian Office and Qatar Sign 4-Year Funding Agreement \[EN/AR\]](#)

UNICEF [to 20 May 2017]

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

17 May 2017

[Five-fold increase in number of refugee and migrant children traveling alone since 2010 – UNICEF](#)

NEW YORK, 17 May 2017 – The global number of refugee and migrant children moving alone has reached a record high, increasing nearly five-fold since 2010, UNICEF said today in a new

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

report. At least 300,000 unaccompanied and separated children were recorded in some 80 countries in the combined years of 2015 and 2016, up from 66,000 in 2010 and 2011.

[UNICEF joins tech giants in artificial intelligence group](#)

New York, 17 May 2017 – UNICEF joins the Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (AI) founded by Amazon, Apple, Google/DeepMind, Facebook, IBM and Microsoft.

[At least one in four children live in poverty in the Middle East and North Africa](#)

RABAT, 15 May 2017 – According to a recent UNICEF analysis covering 11 countries in the Middle East and North Africa[1], poverty continues to impact at least 29 million children – one in four children in the region. These children are deprived of the minimum requirements in two or more of the most basic life necessities including basic education, decent housing, nutritious food, quality health care, safe water, sanitation and access to information.

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 20 May 2017]
<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/media-centre.html>

Briefing Notes

[As Yemen conditions deteriorate, Somali refugees look to return home](#) 19 May 2017

[Twenty feared dead in latest Mediterranean tragedy](#) 16 May 2017

[UNHCR brings aid to flashpoints in Yemen, warns of deteriorating conditions](#) 16 May 2017

Press releases and news comments

[Azraq, the world's first refugee camp powered by renewable energy](#) 17 May 2017

[Over US\\$1.4 billion needed for South Sudan refugees in 2017](#) 15 May 2017

IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 20 May 2017]

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

2017-05-19 16:15

[Renewed Communal Violence in Northern Mali Leads to Spike in Displacement](#)

Mali - A recent resurgence of communal violence and armed conflict in northern Mali has displaced thousands more people over the past few months.

[UN Migration Agency Supports Thousands Displaced in Conflict-affected Eastern DR Congo](#)

2017-05-19 16:14

Democratic Republic of the Congo - The UN Migration Agency (IOM) is responding to the urgent humanitarian needs of displaced people in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

[Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 54,715 in 2017; Deaths: 1,332](#)

2017-05-19 16:12

Switzerland - IOM, the UN Migration Agency, reports that 54,715 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 17 May, with nearly 85 per cent arriving in Italy and the remainder divided between Greece, Cyprus and Spain. This compares with 189,950 arrivals across the...

[China Backs UN Migration Agency's Work in Somalia](#)

2017-05-16 16:09

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

China - United Nations Migration Agency (IOM) Director General William Lacy Swing signed an agreement with China's Ministry of Commerce in support of IOM's work in Somalia.

[Uganda Hosts Pan African Forum on Migration](#)

2017-05-15 10:45

Uganda - Uganda is this week (15-17 May) hosting the third Pan African Forum on Migration, with delegates from the continent and from across the world expected in Kampala.

UNAIDS [to 20 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases & Updates

Update

[Myanmar launches new HIV strategic plan](#)

The Ministry of Health and Sports of Myanmar launched the country's latest five-year HIV plan on 17 May. The plan provides a road map on how to Fast-Track the national HIV response...

WHO & Regional Offices [to 20 May 2017]

[Keynote speech at the G20 Health Ministers' Meeting](#)

19 May 2017 -- "I am honoured to address this G20 meeting of health ministers as you consider ways to strengthen global health security, especially as these meetings can have such a strong impact on international policies." Dr Chan, WHO Director-General.

[World Health Statistics: Cause of almost half of all deaths recorded](#)

17 May 2017 – Almost half of all deaths globally are now recorded with a cause, new data from WHO show, highlighting improvements countries have made on collecting vital statistics and monitoring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). WHO's World Health Statistics compiles data from the organization's 194 Member States on 21 health-related SDG targets, providing a snapshot of both gains and threats to the health of the world's people.

[More than 1.2 million adolescents die every year](#)

16 May 2017 – More than 3000 adolescents die every day, totalling 1.2 million deaths a year, from largely preventable causes, according to a new report from WHO and partners. In 2015, more than two thirds of these deaths occurred in low- and middle-income countries in Africa and South-East Asia. Road traffic injuries, lower respiratory infections, and suicide are the biggest causes of death among adolescents.

Highlights

[Double-duty actions for ending malnutrition within a decade](#)

May 2017 – Malnutrition has many forms. Undernutrition can see children dangerously thin for their height (wasting), or their growth permanently impeded (stunting). Inadequate intake of key nutrients may weaken immune systems, impair brain development, and worsen the risk of conditions such as anaemia and blindness.

.....

WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

[WHO African Region AFRO](#)

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:: WHO Regional Director for Africa, Dr Matshidiso Moeti arrives in Kinshasa to discuss response to Ebola outbreak - 13 May 2017

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

:: Countries of the Americas show benefits of initiative to reduce cardiovascular risk through the control of hypertension (05/17/2017)

:: PAHO Encourages Caribbean Countries to Tax Tobacco, Alcohol and Sugar-Sweetened Beverages to Reduce Burden of Noncommunicable Disease (05/16/2017)

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

[No new digest content identified]

WHO European Region EURO

:: eHealth and public health – a beautiful marriage 19-05-2017

:: Engaging policy-makers and youth in Malta to slow down and save lives 18-05-2017

:: New WHO study on health and well-being of Europe's youth reveals that obesity continues to rise 17-05-2017

:: Historic 20th meeting of the Joint Task Force on the Health Aspects of Air Pollution 16-05-2017

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: Fourth UN Global Road Safety Week: speed management key to saving lives
Cairo, Sunday 14 May 2017 –

WHO Western Pacific Region

[No new digest content identified]

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 20 May 2017]

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

17 May 2017

Press Release

[Investments in male condoms save lives, make economic gains for countries](#)

UNITED NATIONS, New York - Increasing investments in procuring and distributing male condoms provides a significant economic returns for countries with scarce resources, a new study finds.

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 20 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases/Announcements

May 17, 2017

[Tegegnetwork Gettu: Statement on International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia](#)

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 20 May 2017]

<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 20 May 2017]

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

Press Release / May 18, 2017

[New convention calls time on mercury poisoning](#)

:: 50th ratification triggers entry into force of Minamata Convention in 90 days

:: Mercury listed by the UN as one of the top 10 chemicals endangering human health and the environment

:: Artisanal and small-scale gold mining alone exposes up to 15 million miners in 70 countries to mercury fumes, including 5 million women and children

External Cooperation | May 15, 2017

[Global Peatlands Initiative: Joining Forces to Save the World's Peat](#)

:: Drained and burnt peatland is responsible for 5 per cent of anthropogenic carbon emissions

:: Indonesia, the global peatland restoration leader, will reduce up to one gigaton of greenhouse gas emission

:: The 2nd Global Peatlands Initiative Partner Meeting is attended by the Governments of Indonesia, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Peru, the United Nations, academia and civil society.

UNISDR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 20 May 2017]

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

18 May 2017, New York

[UN moves to tap transformative power of science, technology and innovation to achieve Sustainable Development Goals](#)

Innovators, policy makers, businesses, civil society and technology experts met with Member States at United Nations Headquarters in New York to discuss how science, technology and innovation can help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and improve people's lives.

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The co-chairs of the Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs, Macharia Kamau, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to the UN, and Vaughan Turekian, Science and Technology Adviser to the US Secretary of State, said that the integrated nature of the SDGs requires multi-disciplinary and holistic science, technology and innovation approaches that break silos and take into account different sources of knowledge, at the concluding session of the Forum...

UNESCO [to 20 May 2017]

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

19 May 2017

[Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency \(Sida\) grants 13.695 million USD to three UNESCO scientific programmes](#)

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency ([Sida](#)) ([link is external](#)) will provide 13,695 million USD over five years to fund three scientific programmes –The World Academy of Sciences for the advancement of science in developing countries ([TWAS](#)) ([link is external](#)), the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World ([OWSD](#)) ([link is external](#)) and [GenderInSite](#) ([link is external](#))– that focus on the promotion of science in the developing world. The three UNESCO programmes are headquartered at the International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, Italy....

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 20 May 2017]

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

18/05/2017

[UNODC Chief's discussion on international law in St. Petersburg stresses crime prevention over cures](#)

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 20 May 2017]

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

18 May 2017

[New Master Plan for Belmopan launched](#)

Belize City, Officials meeting in Belize's largest city have unveiled an updated masterplan for Belmopan, the country's capital, based on good urban practice and design that will shape development of the city over...

[African Leaders seek to Transform Africa through connecting with youth](#)

Faced with the challenges of youth living on edge of poverty, the government of Rwanda has stepped up and hosted the Transform Africa Summits. This series of summits seeks to advance technological innovation across Africa, through focusing...

Posted May 16, 2017

[UN-Habitat showcases strong presence and support at Ethiopia's urban forum](#)

Gondar, 16 May 2017 The 7th Ethiopian Urban Forum brought together 850 participants, including officials from the federal and regional level, city mayors, urban practitioners and the academia, who held insightful debates over the theme: "Sustainable Urban...

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 20 May 2017]

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

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

No new digest content identified.

ILO International Labour Organization [to 20 May 2017]

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

G20 Labour and Employment Ministers Meeting

[G20 agrees on policies to shape the future of work for inclusive growth and development](#)

19 May 2017

Ministers adopted policy recommendations on skills development, social protection and working conditions for countries to shape a future that works for people around the globe.

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 20 May 2017]

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

18/5/17

[ICAO to seek global traffic management solutions for drone operations](#)

Montréal, 15 May 2017 – In the near future, an overhead drone delivery or even a flying taxi may enter your daily life. To make these services safe and efficient, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) announced today that it will begin establishing low-altitude traffic management guidance for domestic unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), and that industry, academia and other innovators will have a chance to further explore these issues later this year, when ICAO convenes its 'Drone Enable' Symposium in September at its Headquarters in Montréal, Canada....

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 20 May 2017]

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

Website not responding at inquiry

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 20 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: 16 May 2017

[WMO/GAW launches first issue of Reactive Gases Bulletin](#)

Recognizing that expanded and improved observations now make possible a broader assessment of global atmospheric chemistry, the WMO Global Atmosphere Watch programme has published a new report on global and regional trends in reactive gases. This group of gases includes such chemicals as surface ozone, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and volatile organic compounds, many of which are considered to be harmful pollutants.

[WMO determines highest death tolls from tropical cyclones, tornadoes, lightning and hailstorms](#)
[Press Release](#)

GENEVA 18 May 2017 (WMO) – The World Meteorological Organization has announced « world records » for the highest reported historical death tolls from tropical cyclones, tornadoes, lightning and hailstorms. It marks the first time the official WMO Archive of Weather and Climate Extremes has broadened its scope from temperature and weather records to address the impacts of specific events.

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 20 May 2017]

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

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19 May 2017

[UNIDO marks the World Metrology Day 2017](#)

VIENNA, 19 May 2017 – On the occasion of the World Metrology Day marked on 20 May, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) published a new brochure, “The role of Metrology in the context of the...

[Minamata Convention on Mercury to enter into force](#)

New York, 18 May 2017 -The European Union and seven of its Member States, namely Bulgaria, Denmark, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Romania and Sweden, have deposited their instruments of ratification with the Office of Legal...

[Winners of the “Innovative Ideas and Technologies on Agribusiness” contest announced](#)

Wednesday, 17 May 2017 Milan, 11 May 2017 – Out of 330 participants from over 80 countries, five winners of the “Innovative Ideas and Technologies on Agribusiness” contest were announced at an award ceremony during the conference,...

[UNIDO, ITU and Finland hold event to discuss the implications of technology and innovation for the future of manufacturing](#)

NEW YORK, 15 May 2017 – Partnerships in the realm of innovation and new technology can help fast track the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This was one of the key messages coming out of...

[Enhancing the fisheries sector in West Africa: economic forum on partnership opportunities in the fisheries sector in West Africa](#)

ROME, 16 May 2017 – An economic forum focusing on partnership opportunities has taken place as part of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) project titled, “Technical assistance on SPS...

[Empowering women entrepreneurs in Europe and Arab countries will be the focus of UNIDO event at St. Petersburg International Economic Forum](#)

VIENNA, 16 May 2017 – On 31 May, on the margins of the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) will convene an interregional forum to tackle the obstacles...

[Women's leadership role in the sustainable energy sector commended at Vienna Energy Forum](#)

VIENNA, 12 May 2017 – Ways to promote gender equality and the leadership role of women in the field of sustainable energy were highlighted during several events that took place during the 2017 Vienna Energy Forum.

[Vienna Energy Forum participants formulate key messages reflecting role of energy in implementing SDGs and Paris climate agreement](#)

VIENNA, 15 May 2017 – Participants at the Vienna Energy Forum, which concluded on Friday in the Austrian capital, agreed on ten key messages that highlight the catalytic role of energy for the successful implementation of...

[China's Belt and Road Initiative largest, most effective platform for international cooperation, says UNIDO Director General](#)

BEIJING, 15 May 2017 - LI Yong, the Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), has commended the Government of China's Belt and Road Initiative.

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) [to 20 May 2017]

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

By Clare Naden on 18 May 2017

[The key to sustained business success with ISO 9004](#)

"While ISO 9001 focuses on providing confidence in the organization's ability to produce consistent, conforming products and services, ISO 9004 aims to provide confidence in the organization itself and its long-term sustained success. It will help organizations identify and balance the needs and expectations of their customers with those of other interested parties in a complex, demanding and ever-changing business environment."

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

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USAID [to 20 May 2017]

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

Latest Press Release

No new digest content identified.

DFID [to 20 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

ECHO [to 20 May 2017]

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

17/05/2017

[EU-funded cash assistance programme reaches half a million refugees in Turkey](#)

The number of refugees in Turkey receiving monthly cash assistance through an innovative relief programme has now reached 500,000 and continues to rise. The Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) programme is a partnership between EU Humanitarian Aid,...

16/05/2017

[New cases of Ebola confirmed in DRC](#)

On 12 May 2007, the first case of Ebola was confirmed in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). On 15 May, there were 20 suspected cases reported with two confirmed by laboratory tests. To date, there have been three deaths, of which two are confirmed...

15/05/2017

[Commissioner Stylianides meets communities in Northern Rakhine State.](#)

Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides has concluded his official visit to Myanmar/Burma where he announced new funding of €12 million for the country as part of an overall €27 million aid package for the South...

.....

African Union [to 20 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]

May 19, 2017

[African Ambassadors Urge Support for Dr Tedros Adhanom, the African Union-Endorsed Candidate for World Health Organization Director-General](#)

May 17, 2017

[AU Experts deliberate on priority actions to end AIDS, TB and Malaria as public health threats by 2030 Support initiative to recruit 2 million community health workers to improve community health delivery systems](#)

May 14, 2017

[Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention activates the Emergency Operational Centre to monitor the Ebola Outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo Team of experts on standby for deployment to respond to the emergency](#)

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 20 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, UN discuss regional economic cooperation in support of the SDGs](#)

BANGKOK, 18 May 2017 - A high-level policy dialogue on regional economic cooperation and integration in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs) was convened during the ministerial segment of the 73rd session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP)...

European Commission [to 20 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]

[EU strengthens humanitarian support for Myanmar/Burma, calls for greater aid access](#) ^[fr]

15/05/2017 - Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides has concluded his official visit to Myanmar/Burma, announcing new funding of €12 million for the country as part of an overall €27 million package for the South and East Asia and Pacific.

OECD [to 20 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]

18-May-2017

[Continued slowdown in productivity growth weighs down on living standards](#)

The slowdown in productivity growth - already underway before the crisis – combined with sluggish investment, continued to undermine rises in economic output and material living standards in recent years in many of the world's economies, according to a new report released today by the OECD.

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 20 May 2017]

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

May 20. 2017

[Message from OAS Secretary General on Venezuela](#)

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 20 May 2017]

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

[Selected Press Releases, Announcements]

[The Secretary General Urges Regional Organizations to Consider Four Areas for Cooperation](#)

The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Dr. Yousef Al-Othaimeen urged regional organizations to consider four areas for their cooperation, namely political consultations; economic cooperation; cooperation on cultural and social matters; and humanitarian assistance, while putting emphasis on intra-OIC trade, transportation, agricultural and rural development. The Secretary General made these points at the opening of the Second Consultative Forum with the Regional Cooperation Organizations held in Jeddah on 15 May 2017 on the sidelines of the 42nd Annual Meeting of IDB, which started in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia on 14 May 2017 and will continue until 18 May 2017.

16/05/2017

[OIC: Women Advisory Council's First Session Convenes in Istanbul](#)

The OIC Women's Advisory Council, which was set up within the framework of the Ministerial Conference on Role of Women in the Development of Member States, is to convene its first meeting in Istanbul on May 18, 2017, at an invitation from the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Social Policies in the Republic of Turkey, current chairman of the Conference, with the attendance of H.E. Fatima Betul, Minister of Women's Affairs and Social Policies in the Turkish Republic.

16/05/2017

[Saudi Foreign Minister and OIC Secretary General Inaugurate Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission Headquarters in Jeddah](#)

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia H.E. Mr Adel Al-Jubeir and the Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) H.E. Dr Yousef A. Al-Othaimeen on 15 May 2017 inaugurated the headquarters of the OIC Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission Headquarters (IPHRC) in Jeddah.

15/05/2017

Group of 77 [to 20 May 2017]

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

[Remarks on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by Mr. Andrés Córdova, Second Secretary of the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations, at the UN General Assembly's High-level SDG Action Event on Innovation and Connectivity \(New York, 17 May 2017\)](#)

[Statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by Mr. Luis Oña Garcés, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Ecuador to the United Nations, at the eighteenth meeting of the United Nations open-ended informal consultative process on oceans and the law of the sea \(New York, 15 May 2017\)](#)

[Statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by H.E. Ms. Helena Yañez Loza, Ambassador and deputy Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations, at the Second Annual Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals \(New York, 15 May 2017\)](#)

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UNCTAD [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

WTO - World Trade Organisation [to 20 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]

16 May 2017

[Committee on Trade Facilitation meets for first time](#)

WTO members gathered on 16 May for the inaugural meeting of the Committee on Trade Facilitation, the body responsible for overseeing implementation of the WTO's historic Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA).

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IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 20 May 2017]

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

15 MAY 2017

[Parliaments need to act on climate change](#)

Parliaments should take stronger action on climate change through their legislative and oversight roles. This was one of the conclusions of a high-level regional seminar, which was jointly organized by the IPU and the National Assembly of Viet Nam in Ho Chi Minh City from 11 to 13 May. The seminar aimed at helping parliaments in the Asia-Pacific region achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)...

15 MAY 2017

[Study on climate change legislation and litigation launched at Bonn Climate Conference](#)

Countries across the globe have adopted more than 1,200 laws to limit climate change—an impressive rise from only 60 laws two decades ago. Low-income countries have been particularly active on the issue. Courts are complementing the actions of legislators through

rulings on the implementation of existing climate laws, and two-thirds of their rulings have either strengthened or maintained climate change regulation.

These are some of the key findings from a study entitled Global trends in climate change legislation and litigation, launched on 9 May during the Conference on Climate Change in Bonn. The study reviewed climate-related laws and executive actions in some 164 countries...

International Court of Justice [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

International Criminal Court (ICC) [to 20 May 2017]

Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity

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

18 May 2017

[Trust Fund for Victims decides to provide \\$1 million for the reparations awarded to victims in the Katanga case, welcomes earmarked donations of €200,000 from the Netherlands](#)

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World Bank [to 20 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]

Date: May 19, 2017 Type: Press Release

[New World Bank Support to Address Food Insecurity in Yemen Aims to Reach 9 Million Yemenis](#)

Ongoing emergency projects to be expanded with US\$283 million in additional grants

IMF [to 20 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 19, 2017

[Latin America and the Caribbean: Bouncing Back from Recession](#)

May 15, 2017

[IMF Executive Board Adopts Decision to Enhance the Financial Safety Net for Developing Countries Hit by Large Natural Disasters](#)

:: IMF Executive Board increases safety net for developing countries hit by natural disasters.

:: IMF Board decided to raise annual access limit under the RCF and RFI from 37.5 to 60 percent of a member's quota in the Fund.

On May 5, 2017, the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) adopted proposals to enhance access of countries hit by large natural disasters to IMF financial support. These proposals, and the case for adopting them, are contained in the staff paper "*Large Natural Disasters—Enhancing the Financial Safety Net for Developing Countries.*"

African Development Bank Group [to 20 May 2017]

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

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

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

19/05/2017

[Africans moved more freely in 2016, according to second Africa Visa Openness Index](#)

- The African Development Bank, in collaboration with the African Union Commission and the World Economic Forum, launched on Friday, May 19, 2017, the second edition of the [Africa Visa Openness Index](#), ahead of the Bank's Annual Meetings in Ahmedabad, India.

The Index measures how open African countries are when it comes to visas by looking at what they ask of citizens from other African countries when they travel. It aims to show at a glance which countries are facilitating travel for citizens of other countries and how: whether they allow people to travel to their country without a visa; if travelers can get a visa on arrival in the country; or whether visitors need to obtain a visa before travel.

Overall, Africans were able to travel more freely across the continent in 2016, as visa openness levels improved from 2015. However, many challenges remained. The second Africa Visa Openness Index highlights pervasive regional differences in visa openness performance. For example, 75% of countries in the top 20 most visa-open countries are in either East or West Africa, while 20% are in Southern Africa. Only one country in the top 20 most open to visas is in North Africa (Mauritania), while no countries in Central Africa rank in the top 20. "I need 38 visas to move around Africa," says Aliko Dangote, President and CEO of Dangote Group.

18/05/2017

[EPSA: 7th loan from AfDB and Japan to support the private sector in Africa](#)

The African Development Bank (AfDB) and the Government of Japan (GOJ) have signed an agreement for a US \$ 300 million facility under the joint initiative titled Enhanced Private Sector Assistance (EPSA) for Africa.

Asian Development Bank [to 20 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]

19 May 2017

[ADB to Help Indonesia Achieve Food Security with \\$600 Million Financing for Irrigated Agriculture](#)

ADB has approved a \$600 million loan to support Indonesia's program of irrigation improvement to enhance food security and reduce poverty in rural areas.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank [to 20 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]

BEIJING, May 18, 2017

[AIIB Awards Global Custody Mandate to BNP Paribas](#)

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has awarded a global custodian mandate to BNP Paribas Securities Services as the new, Beijing based bank seeks to put in place its internal financial infrastructures for its liquidity investments. BNP Paribas is expected to have global custody of up to USD 20 billion of AIIB assets and will be providing a suite of custody services, with the agreement covering master custody services and other value-added services.

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 20 May 2017]

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

19 May 2017

[Inclusive finance is key to ensure food security and transform the rural areas in East and Southern Africa](#)

Rome— The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Government of Uganda will bring policy makers and development practitioners together 22 -25 May in Kampala, Uganda, to discuss innovative approaches to expanding access to financial services for rural people.

The four-day workshop will review the implementation of IFAD-funded projects in East and Southern Africa and look at ways to foster the transformation of rural economies and communities and improve rural development interventions that provide rural people a way out of hunger and poverty...

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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 20 May 2017]

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

17/05/2017

[New Investment Fund for African Entrepreneurs in Health care](#)

Amsterdam, May 19, 2017: PRESS RELEASE Amref Health Africa, Africa's leading health organisation is launching an investment fund focused on the African health sector. The Innovate for Life Fund will tackle Africa's most daunting health challenges by supporting local entrepreneurs and investing in companies that develop innovative, home-grown solutions...

Aravind Eye Care System [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

BRAC [to 20 May 2017]

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

Wednesday, 17 May 2017

[We mourn for Faruq Ahmed Choudhury](#)

BRAC deeply mourns at the demise of Mr Faruq Ahmed Choudhury, former adviser and governing body member of BRAC. He passed away on May 17, 2017 at 4.30 am, in Square Hospital, Dhaka at the age of 83. He left behind his wife, a son and a daughter...

CARE International [to 20 May 2017]

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

17th May 2017

[Disease outbreaks and hunger threaten the lives of millions in Lake Chad region](#)

"Donors must stand to their commitments and release funds pledged at donor conference in Oslo in February"

15th May 2017

[Yemen Threatened by Deadly Cholera Outbreak](#)

CARE is alarmed by the increase in cases and deaths resulting from an Acute Watery Diarrhea and cholera outbreak in Yemen.

Clubhouse International [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Danish Refugee Council [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

ECPAT [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Fountain House [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Handicap International [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Heifer International [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

HelpAge International [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

ICRC [to 20 May 2017]

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

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

Selected News Releases, Reports and Articles

19-05-2017 | News release

[China: a conference to mark the 40th Anniversary of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions](#)

An international conference opens today in Beijing to mark the 40th Anniversary of the adoption of the 1977 Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions.

18-05-2017 | News release

[Somalia: Big influx at nutritional feeding centres for children](#)

Baidoa, Somalia (ICRC) – The nutritional feeding centre for malnourished children supported by the International Committee of the Red Cross in Baidoa, Somalia has more than twice as many young patients this year as one year ago, underscoring the large

17-05-2017 | Article

[EHL list of documents](#)

Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) is a resource pack for teachers to introduce students aged 13 to 18 to the basic rules of international humanitarian law.

16-05-2017 | News release

[Yemen: Access to detainees a humanitarian must](#)

Geneva/Sana'a (ICRC) – The suffering of thousands of families who have had no contact with relatives detained in relation to the conflict in Yemen must end, the International Committee of the Red Cross said Tuesday.

15-05-2017 | Publication

[Humanitarian challenges 2017: ICRC Colombia Report](#)

During 2016, the ICRC recorded 838 alleged violations of IHL and other humanitarian principles that affected nearly 18,600 people in Colombia. The organization is also concerned about the reconfiguration of armed groups in the field.

IFRC [to 20 May 2017]

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

19 May 2017

[Red Cross and Red Crescent experts in Cancun for Fifth Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction](#)

With the needs of communities affected by disasters rapidly outpacing resources available to respond to them, Red Cross and Red Crescent leaders are calling for a “new approach” to humanitarian action – one that strengthens resilience and builds a foundation of strong local actors.

18 May 2017

[IFRC mourns loss of Red Crescent volunteer in Afghanistan](#)

A volunteer with the Afghan Red Crescent Society was killed earlier this week while taking part in an immunization project in the eastern province of Kunar.

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 20 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases & Statements

Press Release

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

[Commencement Address by the Rt Hon David Miliband, President and CEO of the International Rescue Committee](#) *School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University*
May 18, 2017

Press Release

[IRC Statement on U.S. House action against refugees and immigrants](#)
May 18, 2017

Press Release

[New IRC report: Financial inclusion critical for refugees, other new Americans](#)

San Diego, CA, May 16, 2017 — Today, the International Rescue Committee launched a new report, funded by JPMorgan Chase, entitled "Financial Capability for New Americans: Lessons from Early Interventions with Refugees." The event consisted of an address from IRC economic empowerment experts on the key findings in the report followed by a panel of thought leaders in the field of financial inclusion and coaching.
:: [Read the full report here.](#)

Press Release

[IRC on Administration's travel ban challenge with the Fourth and Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals](#)
May 15, 2017

IRCT [to 20 May 2017]

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

News 18 May 2017

[IRCT launches online proceedings for General Assembly and Scientific Symposium](#)

The IRCT is pleased to announce the launch of the Online Proceedings for its General Assembly and 10th International Scientific Symposium - Delivering on the Promise of the Right to Rehabilitation.

Islamic Relief [to 20 May 2017]

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

May 15, 2017

[Islamic Relief receives top award for work in Malawi](#)

Government award recognises transparency and accountability

Islamic Relief has received an award from the NGO Board of Malawi, the statutory corporation that registers and regulates non-governmental organisations working in the country.

One of the main duties of the NGO Board is to ensure transparency and accountability by making sure the organisations it regulates are submitting annual audited accounts, annual returns and annual technical reports.

To encourage this, the board awards an annual prize to the best and the second best NGO in complying with these standards.

This year, Islamic Relief has been commended in second place...

Landsea [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Medecins du Monde [to 20 May 2017]

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

Website not responding at inquiry

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 20 May 2017]

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

Press release

[Yemen: Cholera Outbreak Threatens to Spiral Out of Control](#)

Suspected cases of this deadly disease have more than doubled in the past five days

NEW YORK/SANA'A, YEMEN, MAY 20, 2017—As cases of cholera and acute watery diarrhea rise across Yemen, the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) warns that the outbreak is threatening to spiral out of control and calls for an urgent and appropriate response.

Press release

[Niger: Doctors Without Borders Supports Vaccination Campaign Against Deadly Meningitis Outbreak](#)

NEW YORK/NIAMEY, NIGER, MAY, 19 2017—Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) has deployed several emergency teams to Niger to contain a meningitis outbreak that has killed 179 people since the beginning of the year. Working closely with Niger's Ministry of Public Health, MSF teams have vaccinated more than 358,800 people in the most affected areas while continuing to monitor at-risk areas and provide medical care to those affected by the disease.

Press release

[MSF Calls on Governments to Address Three Key Medical Humanitarian Challenges Ahead of G20 Health Ministers' Meeting](#)

Governments must use this week's meeting to address attacks on hospitals, emergency preparedness and drug-resistant infections

NEW YORK/BERLIN, MAY 17, 2017—Ahead of a meeting of G20 health ministers in Berlin this Friday and Saturday, Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is calling on governments to urgently address three major issues that affect the organization's work: attacks on hospitals, emergency preparedness and drug-resistant infections.

Press release

[MSF: Trump Administration's Expanded Global Gag Rule Puts Lives of Women and Children at Risk](#)

NEW YORK, MAY 16, 2017—The US government on Monday announced that the so-called "Global Gag Rule" on abortion will now include all global health assistance programs, a decision that could have devastating effects on women and children all over the world and halt decades of progress on global health, said the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) today.

Mercy Corps [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Operation Smile [to 20 May 2017]

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

[Program Schedule](#)

Here's what we're doing worldwide to make a difference in the lives of children who deserve every opportunity for safe surgical care.

OXFAM [to 20 May 2017]

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

17 May 2017

[Wealth of five richest men in Nigeria could end extreme poverty in country yet 5 million face hunger](#)

The combined wealth of Nigeria's five richest men - \$29.9 billion - could end extreme poverty in that country according to a new report published by Oxfam today.

16 May 2017

[Yemen: Swift injection of funds is needed after capital hit by surge of new cholera cases](#)

A growing cholera crisis in Yemen that has already killed more than 120 people with 11,000 suspected cases could deteriorate rapidly unless donor governments immediately send aid they pledged last month to help the struggling country, Oxfam warned today.

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 20 May 2017]

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

Published 19 May 2017

[Sitting exams, despite war](#)

As Syrian students take their final exams, the Norwegian Refugee Council calls on all actors to ensure their safety at this critical stage in their education.

Published 16. May 2017

[The international community must remain mobilized in CAR](#)

Six months after the donors' conference in Brussels, Action Against Hunger and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) are sounding the alarm and calling on the international community to remain mobilized so that the crisis in the Central African Republic (CAR) does not become forgotten.

Published 15. May 2017

[Nigeria struggling to manage large returns](#)

Over 1 million people have returned to northeast Nigeria since October 2015, often to towns with no basic services, infrastructure or ability for people to rebuild their lives. The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) is concerned returns are increasing tensions within communities, and tipping the food crisis closer towards famine.

Pact [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Partners In Health [to 20 May 2017]

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

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

No new digest content identified.

PATH [to 20 May 2017]

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

Announcement | May 18, 2017

[PATH joins world leaders in defining global health and development priorities at 70th World Health Assembly](#)

PATH leaders are slated to deliver remarks at Assembly Committee meetings and to lend their expertise to several events on the formal agenda, as well as key side events covering issues including research and development, global health security, noncommunicable diseases, access to essential medicines and health technologies, and planning for polio eradication.

Announcement | May 17, 2017

[PATH statement on the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)

Plan International [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Save The Children [to 20 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

No new digest content identified.

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 20 May 2017]

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

15.05.2017

[International Day of Families: Celebrating the impact of a strong family](#)

Why are strong families so important for a child's development? How does a caring family environment affect a child's life? Stories from different countries show the impact of a strong family.

Tostan [to 20 May 2017]

<http://www.tostan.org>

No new digest content identified.

Women for Women International [to 20 May 2017]

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

May 19, 2017

[An Interview with Activist, World Traveler, and Women for Women International President Laurie Adams](#)

fbomb

Learn about the life and experiences that led Laurie Adams to WfWI.

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Freedom House [to 20 May 2017]

<https://freedomhouse.org/news>

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research

No new digest content identified.

Transparency International [to 20 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research

19 May 2017

[Venezuela: Stop the use of violence and abuse of human rights to hold on to power](#)

It is unacceptable that a group in power – in order to maintain control over the resources and decisions in a country for its own benefit – violates daily and systematically the basic rights of millions of Venezuelans. Corruption is the abuse of entrusted power for private gain...

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ChildFund Alliance [to 20 May 2017]

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

May 16, 2017

[Katsuhiko Takeda appointed Executive Director of ChildFund Japan](#)

by Diana Quick

ChildFund Alliance is pleased to announce that Katsuhiko Takeda has been appointed as the new Executive Director of [ChildFund Japan](#). ChildFund Japan is one of the 11 members of ChildFund Alliance.

May 16, 2017

[Anna Svärd appointed new General Secretary of Barnfonden](#)

by Diana Quick

ChildFund Alliance is pleased to announce that Anna Svärd has been appointed new General Secretary of [Barnfonden](#), the Swedish member of ChildFund Alliance. Anna begins her term on

CONCORD [to 20 May 2017]

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

[European NGO confederation for relief and development]

May 19, 2017

[New European Consensus on Development: Double Standards for Sustainable Development](#)

by Claudia Engstrom

On 19 May, the EU Foreign Affairs Council adopted the new EU Consensus on Development, central piece of the EU's development cooperation architecture. Here is CONCORD's reaction.

[Call for consultant: Toolkit development on CSO dialogue with EU Delegations and EU Gender Action Plan](#)

by Claudia Engstrom | May 18, 2017

We are currently looking for a Consultant to develop a set of toolkits for workshops and presentations delivered by Civil Society Organisations.

[CONCORD Europe answers to Public Consultation on the EU External Financing Instruments](#)

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

by Claudia Engstrom | May 16, 2017

From 7 February to 3 May 2017, the European Commission held a Public Consultation on the EU External Financing Instruments. Read our reply.

[Call for tenders – Framework of contractual agreement with CONCORD](#)

May 15, 2017

We regularly call on consultants to support us in performing various key tasks. If you are interested to work within a framework of a four-year contractual agreement with us, please submit your applications by June 6th.

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 20 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 20 May 2017]

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

News 18 May 2017

[Wisdom Wanted: Elders discuss the need for ethical leadership](#)

On 22 May, Gro Harlem Brundtland, Ernesto Zedillo & Graça Machel will discuss the need for ethical leadership and political courage to overcome the multitude of challenges facing the world today. Watch the livestream here and follow on Twitter: [#WisdomWanted](#)

END Fund [to 20 May 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements

No new digest content identified.

Evidence Aid [to 20 May 2017]

www.evidenceaid.org

No new digest content identified.

Gavi [to 20 May 2017]

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

13 May 2017

[India's most vulnerable children to get access to new vaccine against pneumonia](#)

Pneumococcal vaccine will reach 2.1 million children in the first year.

Geneva, 13 May 2017 – For the first time, millions of children in India will receive protection for free against the leading cause of pneumonia – which kills more children under the age of five than any other infectious disease in the world – thanks to the launch of the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV).

PCV is being introduced to India's Universal Immunization Program (UIP) with support from Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, a move that will help to reduce the number of under-five pneumonia deaths in India, the highest in the world.

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

Currently, almost 200,000 children under five die from pneumonia in India each year. Until now PCV, a relatively new vaccine, has only been made available in the private market, putting it beyond the reach of most of the population. With this phased introduction, nearly 2.1 million children in Himachal Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh will be vaccinated with PCV. This coverage will be expanded across the entire country in the coming years.

"This is a huge milestone because it means that, for the first time, India's most vulnerable children will be protected against one of India's most deadly diseases," said Gavi CEO Seth Berkley. "India is not only the largest Gavi-supported country, but it also has the single largest number of under-immunised children in the world. This vaccine will save many lives."...

Global Fund [to 20 May 2017]

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

[Global Fund Rates Highly in Australian Aid Review](#)

15 May 2017

The Global Fund scored a top rating for its effective investment of donor money to respond to HIV, tuberculosis and malaria in a newly released Multilateral Performance Assessment published in the Performance of Australian Aid Report by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The assessment confirmed the Global Fund as a strong, results-driven partner, giving consistent ratings of 5 out of 6 across its six criteria.

Hilton Prize Coalition [to 20 May 2017]

<http://prizecoalition.charity.org/>
An Alliance of Hilton Prize Recipients
No new digest content identified.

ICVA -International Council of Voluntary Agencies [to 20 May 2017]

<https://icvanetwork.org/>
May, 2017

[UNHCR Briefing on the Global Compact on Refugees 21 April 2017](#)

International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)

InterAction [to 20 May 2017]

<http://www.interaction.org/media-center/press-releases>
No new digest content identified.

Start Network [to 20 May 2017]

http://www.start-network.org/news-blog/#.U9U_O7FR98E
No new digest content identified.

Muslim Charities Forum [to 20 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 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

CHS Alliance [to 20 May 2017]

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

17/05/2017

[HHR Europe and HHR Asia – save the dates](#)

We are pleased to announce that Helsinki, Finland will be the location of this year's HHR Europe on 20-22 September and HHR Asia has been moved to 27-29 November.

15/05/2017

[CHS self-assessment: experience, tips and recommendations from those who've done it!](#)

Do you still have to carry out the self-assessment and the process seems filled with questions? Are you currently planning or starting your CHS self-assessment and want to ensure you've properly accounted for all the steps? Then don't miss our upcoming webinar.

EHLRA/R2HC [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Global Humanitarian Assistance (GHA) [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

The Sphere Project [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 20 May 2017]

<https://phap.org/>

18 May 2017

[Development starts for certifications in MEAL, Needs assessment, and CTP](#)

Building on its modular and practice-based approach to certification, the PHAP Credentialing Program has started the development of certifications in three additional areas, with a planned launch in April 2018. The three areas are: Monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning (in...

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

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Center for Global Development

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

Accessed 20 May 2017

No new digest content identified.

ODI [to 20 May 2017]

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

Selected Reports and Studies

[Overseas aid boosts UK jobs and exports at home - new research](#)

Press release | 18 May 2017

UK aid spending in developing countries results in benefits for the UK, with thousands of new jobs created due to a boost in exports, ODI researchers have found

[Delivering disaster risk reduction by 2030: pathways to progress](#)

Research reports and studies | May 2017 | Emily Wilkinson, John Twigg, Lena Weingartner, Katie Peters, Emma Lovell, Virginie Le Masson and Giselle Bernard

This report aims to help decision-makers and donors understand the pace of change required to deliver on the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

[Aid, exports and employment in the UK](#)

Briefing papers | May 2017 | Maximiliano Mendez-Parra and Dirk Willem te Velde

In 2014, the UK gave \$5.9 billion in direct bilateral aid, which increased UK exports by \$0.22 per \$1 spent and generated an estimated 12,000 UK jobs.

[The effects of aid on EU employment and trade: an econometric investigation](#)

Working and discussion papers | May 2017 | Maximiliano Mendez-Parra and Dirk Willem te Velde

This working paper investigates the impact of EU aid on donor countries' economies and finds a positive effect on both exports and job creation.

Urban Institute [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

World Economic Forum [to 20 May 2017]

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

News 20 May 2017

[No Peace in the Middle East without Defeating Daesh – Reconstruction, Reconciliation and Good Governance Need to Follow](#)

[A New Opportunity to Revive the Peace Process, Palestinian and Israeli Youth at the Table](#)

[Focus on Youth: Jordan's Crown Prince Opens World Economic Forum on the Middle East and North Africa](#)

[Avoiding a Lost Generation of Refugees through Jobs and Education](#)

News 18 May 2017

[Rebuilding Peace, Connecting Start-Ups, Preparing for Future Jobs – World Economic Forum on the Middle East and North Africa Opens Tomorrow](#)

News 17 May 2017

[Close Skills Gaps and Gender Gaps to Prepare MENA for the Future of Jobs](#)

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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 20 May 2017]

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

19 May 2017

[The Architectural League of New York awards the 2017 President's Medal to His Highness the Aga Khan](#)

The Architectural League of New York awarded its President's Medal to His Highness the Aga Khan on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture. The President's Medal is The Architectural League's highest honor and is bestowed, at the discretion of the League's President and Board of Directors, on individuals to recognize an extraordinary body of work in architecture, urbanism, art, or design...

16 May 2017

[Historic pluralism headquarters launch in Ottawa anchoring Canada as global hub for dialogue](#)

Ottawa, Canada, 16 May 2017 – The Global Centre for Pluralism, a major international institution for research and dialogue about the value of diversity, has officially opened its permanent headquarters in a historic building in Ottawa at a ceremony with His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, and His Highness the Aga Khan.

"The Centre is inspired by Canada's experience as a multi-ethnic country that is committed to valuing diversity as a strength. It is fitting that only weeks away from celebrating 150 years since Confederation, the Global Centre for Pluralism opens its doors in the heart of Canada's capital," said John McNee, Secretary General of the Global Centre for Pluralism. "At a time of rising populism and exclusion, the Centre serves as a positive voice in the global conversation about living with differences."...

16 May 2017

[Reviving culture and arts in Aswan](#)

Aswan, Egypt, 16 May 2017 - Artist and cultural development specialists will gather in Aswan during 12-22 May 2017 to premiere a series of music and arts workshops that will form the first phase of the newly established Aswan Music Project. Conceived by the Aga Khan Music Initiative and the Aga Khan Foundation, in partnership with Om Habibeh Foundation, Aswan

Music Project aims to harness tremendous power of music and arts education to mobilise and connect communities thus seeking stronger social integration and pluralism while celebrating richness and diversity of Aswan's cultural heritage...

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Annie E. Casey Foundation [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Blue Meridian Partners [to 20 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 20 May 2017]

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

Press Release

May 15, 2017

[#GirlsAreReturns to Inspire Girls and Women Across the United States to Celebrate Their Athleticism and Strength](#)

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation and the Clinton Foundation join forces for a second year with more than 40 non-profit and media partners, as well as influential voices to inspire a new generation of strong, active women.

Ford Foundation [to 20 May 2017]

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

News — 9 May 2017

[The Economist Intelligence Unit releases "A Path to Peace through Inclusion"](#)

The Ford Foundation and the Economist Intelligence Unit released a new report considering Colombia's challenges in the context of other countries that have emerged from internal conflict, to identify effective strategies and highlight potential pitfalls to be avoided in building a peaceful, inclusive economy.

[Download the full report here](#) and the [Spanish version here](#).

GHIT Fund [to 20 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.

No new digest content identified.

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Grameen Foundation [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 20 May 2017]

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

May 19, 2017

[Closing in on a clean energy future](#)

Recently, ClimateWorks Foundation and the Climate Action Tracker published a report, "Faster and Cleaner 2: Kick-starting Global Decarbonization," that summarized progress in three major sectors of the economy — power, transportation and buildings. The good news is that renewable energy is transforming electricity in ways that have exceeded expectations. Likewise, the rise of electric vehicles...

May 18, 2017

[Help us learn about active citizens and accountable government](#)

How can citizens around the world hold their governments accountable for high-quality public services like education, health care, and water? There are no perfect answers to that complex question, but we have a hunch: Our hypothesis is that, in combination, more information about how governments raise and spend money, active participation by people in the...

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 20 May 2017]

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

Our News

[Maximizing Philanthropy's Investments in Public Health](#)

Substance Use Prevention May 18, 2017

Grantmakers in Health's 2016 Terrance Keenan Institute fellows gathered to discuss leadership, collaboration, and best practices in grantmaking. Several prominent issues emerged, including how to effectively demonstrate the impact of philanthropic investments. The article outlines the fellows' perspective on several of the most prominent challenges and opportunities for measuring impact, promoting learning and disseminating knowledge...

IKEA Foundation [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 20 May 2017]

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

May 17 2017

Research

[Storing a Memory Involves Distant Parts of the Brain](#)

Summary

In studies with mice, Janelia researchers discovered that to maintain certain short-term memories, the brain's cortex relies on connections with the thalamus.

New research from scientists at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Janelia Research Campus shows that distant parts of the brain are called into action to store a single memory. In studies with mice, the researchers discovered that to maintain certain short-term memories, the brain's cortex—the outer layer of tissue thought to be responsible for generating most thoughts and actions—relies on connections with a small region in the center of the brain called the thalamus.

The thalamus is best known as a relay center that passes incoming sensory information to other parts of the brain for processing. But clinical findings suggested that certain parts of the thalamus might also play a critical role in consciousness and cognitive function. The discovery that the thalamus is needed to briefly store information so that animals can act on a past experience demonstrates that the region has a powerful influence on the function of the cortex, says Janelia group leader Karel Svoboda, who led the study. "It really suggests that cortex by itself cannot maintain these memories," he says. "Instead the thalamus is an important participant."...

Kellogg Foundation [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

MacArthur Foundation [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 20 May 2017]

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

May 18, 2017

Center on Perinatal Safety exclusively focuses on improving health care for pregnant women and babies

The March of Dimes and its partners at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital will collaborate to create the Center on Perinatal Safety, a first-of-its-kind center in the U.S. The goal of the center is to improve the health care of mothers and babies throughout the entire spectrum of perinatal care: during pregnancy, labor, delivery and postnatal care, and through the transition back home. These efforts will reach beyond the walls of the center by creating evidence-based techniques and training that can be used in both community and hospitals settings – from clinics to labor and delivery units – throughout the country...

Open Society Foundation [to 20 May 2017]

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

Voices

Q&A: The Fight to Save a Free and Open Internet

May 15, 2017

With existing regulations up for review, Gigi Sohn—an Open Society Leadership in Government Fellow and former counselor to the FCC chairman—speaks about the road ahead for advocates of a free, accessible internet.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Pew Charitable Trusts [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Rockefeller Foundation [to 20 May 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 20 May 2017]

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

May 16, 2017

Bipolar Disorder Research App Wins Mood Challenge Grand Prize

The Mood Challenge for ResearchKit announced that the winner of its \$200,000 grand prize is BiAffect, a new study for understanding mood and neurocognitive functioning in bipolar disorder.

A Big Picture Look at the Individual Market, 2013-2017

May 19, 2017 *Issue Brief*

Since the implementation of ACA reforms in 2014, the individual health insurance market has changed significantly. For example, the number of issuers declined considerably and the types of carriers changed.

High-Risk Pools Under the AHCA

May 18, 2017 *Issue Brief*

Researchers find that the federal funds allocated in the AHCA would not be enough for insuring high-need individuals through high-risk health insurance pools.

Science Philanthropy Alliance [to 20 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..."

May 17, 2017

Private Funding is Unlikely to Replace Government Funding of Basic Science

Marc Kastner, president of Science Philanthropy Alliance, recently wrote in a San Jose Mercury News op-ed: "With many recent high-profile announcements...

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

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other key organizations such as Asociación de Fundaciones Empresariales (AFE) in Colombia, Brach Family Charitable Foundation, CAF America, Council on Foundations, East Africa Association of Grantmakers (EAAG), European Foundation Centre, Filantropi Indonesia (FI), GlobalGiving, The Humanitarian Forum, World Congress of Muslim Philanthropists, and Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmaker Support (WINGS).

No new digest content identified.

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

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

No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 20 May 2017]

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

Opinion / Published: 19 May 2017

Drug-resistant infections: the clock is ticking

This week marks a year since the publication of the International Review on Antimicrobial Resistance (opens in a new tab), a review led by Lord Jim O'Neill and supported by Wellcome and the UK Department of Health.

It set out a plan for governments to tackle the growing problem of drug-resistant infections. Writing in The Guardian today, Ed Whiting, Wellcome's Head of Policy and Chief of Staff, looks at what has happened since the review's publication and explains why without action on antibiotics, medicine will return to the dark ages (opens in a new tab).

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:: Journal Watch

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

American Journal of Infection Control

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

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

June 2017 Volume 52, Issue 6, p691-894, e157-e182

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

American Journal of Public Health

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107(6), June 2017

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

ZIKA

Zika's Long Haul: Tackling the Causes of Human Vulnerability to Mosquito-Borne Viruses

Laura C. Rodrigues

107(6), pp. 831–833

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Public Health Surveillance for Communicable Diseases: From Rigid and Static to Flexible and Innovative

David L. Heymann

107(6), pp. 845–846

GLOBAL SURVEILLANCE

Evolution of Public Health Surveillance: Status and Recommendations

Howard S. Burkom

107(6), pp. 848–850

REFUGEES

Humanitarian Needs Among Displaced and Female-Headed Households in Government-Controlled Areas of Syria

Shannon Doocy and Emily Lyles

107(6), pp. 950–959

Abstract

Objectives. To identify unmet needs and assistance priorities of displaced and female-headed households in government-controlled areas of Syria.

Methods. In mid-2016, we undertook a survey of accessible areas, largely urban and government-controlled, to identify unmet needs and assistance priorities. We used a cluster design with probability sampling to attain a final sample of 2405 households from 10 of 14 governorates; 31 of 65 (47.7%) districts were included that are home to 38.1% of people in need.

Results. Displaced and female-headed households were more vulnerable than nondisplaced and male-headed households in numerous sectors. Despite approximately half of surveyed households reporting receipt of humanitarian assistance in the preceding month and apparently effective targeting of assistance by vulnerability, unmet needs were nearly ubiquitous.

Conclusions. The humanitarian situation in inaccessible areas of Syria is likely to be considerably worse; thus, findings presented here likely underestimate humanitarian needs. Efforts to expand support to Syria's most vulnerable households are desperately needed as are innovative targeting and modalities that enable more efficient and effective assistance.

ZIKA

The Zika Virus Outbreak in Brazil: Knowledge Gaps and Challenges for Risk Reduction

Claudia Garcia Serpa Osorio-de-Castro, Elaine Silva Miranda, Carlos Machado de Freitas, Kenneth Rochel de Camargo Jr and Hilarie Hartel Cranmer

107(6), pp. 960–965

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Volume 96, Issue 5, 2017

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<http://www.ajtmh.org/content/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Annals of Internal Medicine

16 May 2017 Vol: 166, Issue 10

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

Research and Reporting Methods

Clinical Trials of Therapeutics for the Prevention of Congenital Zika Virus Disease: Challenges and Potential Solutions

Alex P. Salam, MBChB, MSc; Amanda Rojek, MBBS, MSc; Jake Dunning, MBBS, PhD; Peter W. Horby, MBBS PhD

Abstract

Zika virus (ZIKV) infection in pregnancy is associated with adverse fetal outcomes, such as microcephaly and other congenital malformations. No therapeutic options are available to pregnant women with ZIKV infection to prevent these effects. Drug trials in pregnancy raise several scientific, ethical, and logistic challenges, which are compounded further in ZIKV because of limited knowledge of the disease pathophysiology and a product development pipeline in its infancy. We evaluate the major challenges in choosing therapeutics to prevent congenital ZIKV disease and conducting clinical trials of these treatments, with a focus on preventing congenital central nervous system malformations. These challenges must be characterized and planned for now so that clinical trials can progress expediently and effectively in the future.

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

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

(Accessed 20 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 20 May 2017)

Research article

Going to scale: design and implementation challenges of a program to increase access to skilled birth attendants in Nigeria

The lack of availability of skilled providers in low- and middle- income countries is considered to be an important barrier to achieving reductions in maternal and child mortality. However, there is limited re...

Edward N. Okeke, Emma Pitchforth, Josephine Exley, Peter Glick, Isa Sadeeq Abubakar, Amalavoyal V. Chari, Usman Bashir, Kun Gu and Obinna Onwujekwe

BMC Health Services Research 2017 17:356

Published on: 18 May 2017

Research article

Cervical cancer treatment costs and cost-effectiveness analysis of human papillomavirus vaccination in Vietnam: a PRIME modeling study

Hoang Van Minh, Nguyen Thi Tuyet My and Mark Jit

BMC Health Services Research 2017 17:353

Published on: 15 May 2017

Abstract

Background

Cervical cancer is currently the leading cause of cancer mortality among women in South Vietnam and the second leading cause of cancer mortality in North Vietnam. Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination has the potential to substantially decrease this burden. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that a cost-effectiveness analysis of HPV vaccination is conducted before nationwide introduction.

Methods

The Papillomavirus Rapid Interface for Modeling and Economics (PRIME) model was used to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of HPV vaccine introduction. A costing study based on expert panel discussions, interviews and hospital case note reviews was conducted to explore the cost of cervical cancer care.

Results

The cost of cervical cancer treatment ranged from US\$368 – 11400 depending on the type of hospital and treatment involved. Under Gavi-negotiated prices of US\$4.55, HPV vaccination is likely to be very cost-effective with an incremental cost per disability-adjusted life year (DALY) averted in the range US\$780 - 1120. However, under list prices for Cervarix and Gardasil in Vietnam, the incremental cost per DALY averted for HPV vaccination can exceed US\$8000.

Conclusion

HPV vaccine introduction appears to be economically attractive only if Vietnam is able to procure the vaccine at Gavi prices. This highlights the importance of initiating a nationwide vaccination programme while such prices are still available

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 20 May 2017)

Research article

Estimation of the burden of varicella in Europe before the introduction of universal childhood immunization

Varicella is generally considered a mild disease. Disease burden is not well known and country-level estimation is challenging. As varicella disease is not notifiable, notification criteria and rates vary between...

Margarita Riera-Montes, Kaatje Bollaerts, Ulrich Heininger, Niel Hens, Giovanni Gabutti, Angel Gil, Bayad Nozad, Grazina Mirinaviciute, Elmira Flem, Audrey Souverain, Thomas Verstraeten and Susanne Hartwig

BMC Infectious Diseases 2017 17:353

Published on: 18 May 2017

TECHNICAL ADVANCE

A framework for evaluating epidemic forecasts

Over the past few decades, numerous forecasting methods have been proposed in the field of epidemic forecasting. Such methods can be classified into different categories such as deterministic vs. probabilistic...

Farzaneh Sadat Tabataba, Prithwish Chakraborty, Naren Ramakrishnan, Srinivasan Venkatramanan, Jiangzhuo Chen, Bryan Lewis and Madhav Marathe
BMC Infectious Diseases 2017 17:345
Published on: 15 May 2017

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 20 May 2017)

Research article

[A qualitative study on acceptable levels of risk for pregnant women in clinical research](#)

Healthcare professionals, RECs, regulators and pregnant women are all risk adverse in practice, possibly explaining the continuing underrepresentation of pregnant women in clinical research. Determining the acceptable levels of risk on a universal level alone is insufficient, because the individual perception of risk also influences behaviour towards pregnant women in clinical research. Therefore, bioethicists and researchers might be interested in changing the perception of risk, which could be achieved by education and awareness about the actual benefits and harms of inclusion and exclusion of pregnant women.

Indira S. E. van der Zande, Rieke van der Graaf, Martijn A. Oudijk and Johannes J. M. van Delden

Published on: 15 May 2017

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 20 May 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 20 May 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 20 May 2017)

Research article

[Avian influenza A/H7N9 risk perception, information trust and adoption of protective behaviours among poultry farmers in Jiangsu Province, China](#)

Poultry farmers are at high-risk from avian influenza A/H7N9 infection due to sustained occupational exposures to live poultry. This study examined factors associated with poultry farmers' adoption of personal...

Bin Cui, Qiuyan Liao, Wendy Wing Tak Lam, Zong Ping Liu and Richard Fielding

BMC Public Health 2017 17:463

Published on: 18 May 2017

BMC Research Notes

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<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcresnotes/content>
(Accessed 20 May 2017)
[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Open

April 2017 - Volume 7 - 4

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

Epidemiology

Cohort profile

[Cohort profile: internal migration in sub-Saharan Africa—The Migration and Health in Malawi \(MHM\) study](#)

Philip Anglewicz, Mark VanLandingham, Lucinda Manda-Taylor, Hans-Peter Kohler

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 20 May 2017]

Research

[Retrospective mortality among refugees from the Central African Republic arriving in Chad, 2014](#)

The Central African Republic has known long periods of instability. In 2014, following the fall of an interim government installed by the Séléka coalition, a series of violent reprisals occurred.

Matthew E. Coldiron, Thomas Roederer, Augusto E. Llosa, Malika Bouhenia, Sassou Madi,

Laurent Sury, Michaël Neuman and Klaudia Porten

Conflict and Health 2017 11:7

Published on: 15 May 2017

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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>

[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>

[Reviewed earlier]

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

<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>

[Reviewed earlier]

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/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemics

Volume 18, Pages 1-112 (March 2017)

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

Multi-model comparisons for neglected tropical diseases - validation and projection

Edited by Déirdre Hollingsworth and Graham Medley

[Reviewed earlier]

End of Life Journal

2016, Volume 7, Issue 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemiology and Infection

Volume 145 - Issue 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, 20 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

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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
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[Reviewed earlier]

Genocide Studies International

Volume 10, Issue 1, Spring 2016
<http://www.utpjournals.press/toc/gsi/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Geoheritage

Volume 9, Issue 2, June 2017
<http://link.springer.com/journal/12371/9/2/page/1>
Original Article

The Alejico Carboniferous Forest: a 3D-Terrestrial and UAV-Assisted Photogrammetric Model for Geologic Heritage Preservation

Javier Fernández-Lozano, Gabriel Gutiérrez-Alonso

Abstract

The Alejico coalbeds represent a well-preserved Carboniferous fossils site characterised by the presence of tree trunks in life position and parallel to bedding. The area, located near the Picos de Europa National Park (Spain), between the León and Asturias provinces, lacks of any kind of preservation directives, thus being influenced by weathering, erosion and anthropogenic destruction. We present a photogrammetric study carried out through terrestrial and UAV-assisted technology in order to collect digital 3D information for fossil analysis and future preservation. A general overview of the steep wall of the outcrop and a detailed section of the fossil forest have been implemented into a reliable and accurate point cloud. Qualitative and quantitative information was obtained from a georeferenced high-resolution digital 3D model used for the characterisation of the different outcrop features, which aimed specially at the fossil conservation. The results provide useful information on the nature and paleoenvironment of carboniferous forests with important implication for scientific and educational interests. These technologies provide new possibilities for better preservation and diffusion of geologic heritage locations prone to be damaged, and enables public awareness for the protection of fossil sites with high scientific and cultural value.

Original Article

Protecting Geoheritage in the Caribbean—Insights from Jamaica

Sherene A. James-Williamson, Margaret Aratram, Patricia E. Green

Abstract

Jamaica is the third largest island of the Greater Antilles in the Caribbean. The island consists of the Blue and John Crow Mountains in the east, the highest and largest mountain belts in Jamaica; a central plateau; and an undulating western region. The central plateau and western region are dominated by the famous Cockpit Country, which exhibits world-class karst topography. Geologically, the island is situated in a tectonically active zone and straddles the northern margin of the Caribbean Plate. Jamaica consists of several Cretaceous inliers flanked

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mostly by formations of the White Limestone Group and siliciclastic sediments of the Wagwater and Richmond Formations, creating spectacular geomorphological features. Although a wealth of information has been collected and published on the geology of Jamaica, there is still the issue of protection of natural sites and sites of scientific interest. These sites are under constant threat from development and lack of custodial management. Jamaica is at risk of losing valuable geological data simply because the appropriate attention is not being paid to significant sites. This paper describes strategies used in cultural heritage, natural parks and conservation programmes. The purpose is to develop a set of criteria that can be used to begin the process of protecting significant geological localities. The paper captures the concept of sustainable development, geoconservation and geodiversity for education, public awareness and disaster management (mitigation, planning, risk reduction).

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/rqph20/current>

Article

[Coping strategies among conflict-affected adults in low- and middle-income countries: A systematic literature review](#)

Maureen Sequin & Bayard Roberts

Pages: 811-829

Published online: 26 Nov 2015

Article

[Assessing factors associated with HIV testing among adolescents in Malawi](#)

Paul Mkandawire

Pages: 927-940

Published online: 28 Nov 2016

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 20 May 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

Health Affairs

May 2017; Volume 36, Issue 5

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

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

Issue Focus: ACA Coverage, Access, Medicaid & More

[Reviewed earlier]

Health and Human Rights

Volume 18, Issue 2, December 2016

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

Special Section: Universal Health Coverage and Human Rights

[Reviewed earlier]

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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]

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Volume 32, Issue 5 June 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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

[Accessed 20 May 2017]

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Volume 39, Number 2, May 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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Number 68 January 2017

<http://odihpn.org/magazine/the-crisis-in-south-sudan/>

The crisis in South Sudan

[Reviewed earlier]

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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>

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Volume 9, Issue 2 March 2017

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Volume 5, Issue 2, 2016

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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>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction

Volume 20, Pages 1-162 (December 2016)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Epidemiology

Volume 46, Issue 1 February 2017

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[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Heritage Studies

Volume 23, Issue 6, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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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)

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology

Volume 24, 2017 - Issue 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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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>

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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

May 2017 - Volume 15 - Issue 5

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

Systematic Reviews

[The meaning of confidence for older people living with frailty: a qualitative systematic review](#)

Underwood, Frazer; Burrows, Lisa; Gegg, Rod; More

JBIR Database of Systematic Reviews and Implementation Reports . 15(5):1316-1349, May 2017.

Abstract

Background: In many countries, the oldest old (those aged 85 years and older) are now the fastest growing proportion of the total population. This oldest population will increasingly be living with the clinical condition of frailty. Frailty syndromes negatively impact on the person as they do the healthcare systems supporting them. Within healthcare literature "loss of

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confidence” is occasionally connected to older people living with frailty, but ambiguously described. Understanding the concept of confidence within the context of frailty could inform interventions to meet this growing challenge.

Objectives: The objective of this systematic review was to explore the meaning of confidence from the perspective of older people living with frailty through synthesis of qualitative evidence to inform healthcare practice, research and policy.

Inclusion criteria Types of participants: Studies that included frail adults, aged over 60 years, experiencing acute hospital and or post-acute care in the last 12 months.

Phenomena of interest: The concept of “confidence” and its impact on the physical health and mental well-being of older people living with frailty.

Context: Studies that reported on the older person's descriptions, understanding and meaning of confidence in relation to their frailty or recent healthcare experiences.

Types of studies: Studies of qualitative design and method.

Search strategy: A three step search strategy was used. The search strategy explored published studies and gray literature. Publications in English from the last 20 years were considered for inclusion.

Methodological quality: All included articles were assessed by two independent reviewers using the Joanna Briggs Institute Qualitative Assessment Review Instrument (JBI-QARI).

Data extraction: Data were extracted from included studies using the data extraction tools developed by the Joanna Briggs Institute.

Data synthesis: Qualitative research findings were collated using a meta-aggregative approach and JBI-QARI software.

Results: Synthesized findings of this review were drawn from just four research studies that met the inclusion criteria. Only six findings contributed to the creation of three categories. These informed a single synthesized finding: Vulnerability, described as a fragile state of well-being that is exposed to the conflicting tensions between physical, emotional and social factors. These tensions have the capability to enhance or erode this state.

Conclusions: Assertions that an understanding of the concept confidence has been reached cannot be made. The review data offer limited insight into the concept of confidence being described by the cohort of older people living with frailty.

Journal of Community Health

Volume 42, Issue 3, June 2017

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

[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

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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 (20 May 2017)
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03014797/190>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

May 2017 - Volume 71 - 5
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[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>
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>

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[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]

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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

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Journal of International Development

May 2017 Volume 29, Issue 4 Pages 405–548

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics

May 2017 - Volume 43 - 5

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Internet Research

Vol 19, No 5 (2017): May

<http://www.jmir.org/2017/5>

Editorial

[Using mHealth to Predict Noncommunicable Diseases: A Public Health Opportunity for Low- and Middle-Income Countries](#)

Ellen Roskam, Adnan A Hyder

J Med Internet Res 2017 (May 05); 19(5):e129

Nearly 70% of the 56 million deaths that took place globally in 2012 were due to noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), in particular, cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases, and diabetes, and nearly two-thirds of all NCD deaths took place in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) [1]. If effective steps are not taken to curb the epidemic, deaths due to NCDs are projected to rise exponentially in the coming decade [2]. Key risk factors responsible for a majority of NCDs include tobacco use, unhealthy diet, sedentary lifestyle, and excessive use of alcohol. With targeted action, these behavioral risk factors have demonstrated potential to be modified [3] to reduce NCDs and improve population health. Reducing NCDs, particularly in the world's poorest countries, can lead to increases in equity and

socioeconomic development while reducing poverty due to ill health and promoting sustainable development and social justice.

Key to global efforts to prevent and control NCDs is national surveillance. A promising approach increasingly being explored for public health surveillance involves mobile phones. A nascent yet emergent field, mHealth, describes medical and public health activities that leverage the global proliferation of cellular networks and mobile phone ownership or access to improve population health outcomes. There are nearly 7.5 billion wireless phone subscriptions globally, with the majority (78%) in LMICs [4]. Global connectivity to cellular networks can make large proportions of a population accessible through their mobile phones. In response to the increasing NCD disease burden, the intersecting need for NCD data in LMICs and the near-universal population access to mobile phones in a growing number of countries presents an opportunity for public health.

[This special Theme Issue of JMIR](#) offers a step forward in documenting what is known about surveillance of risk factors for NCDs in LMICs using mobile phone surveys (MPS). The evidence illustrates that the state-of-the-art is sufficient to roll out population-level surveys in LMICs using mobile phone platforms while paying careful attention to issues such as ethics, methodology, and turning results into practice. The results offer guidance for policy and practice.

The article, “Noncommunicable Disease Risk Factors and Mobile Phones: A Proposed Research Agenda,” proposes a research and development agenda for NCD risk factors and MPS [5]. The goal of the proposed agenda is to help standardize operating procedures for MPS, which will allow for comparisons of NCD risk factors within and across sites and over time. The potential is explored for MPS to collect such data, review key research issues, and introduce a multicountry effort that seeks to partly respond to this public health challenge. It is hoped that the proposed research agenda will catalyze a global dialogue and action to enhance the use of MPS for NCDs and potentially other public health risk factor surveillance.

Limited evidence exists on the comparative effectiveness of MPS modalities in LMICs although a variety of options are available. “Mobile Phone Surveys for Collecting Population-Level Estimates in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Literature Review” reviews the current landscape of MPS being used for population-level data collection in LMICs, specifically through the use of short message service, interactive voice response (IVR), and computer-assisted telephone interview survey modalities [6]. From the articles identified of MPS use to collect population estimates across a range of topics, results reveal that the state of MPS to collect population-level estimates of health and other indicators is a nascent field, indicating the need for more research.

The methodological approach used to test the use of MPS for NCDs is described in “Evaluation of Mechanisms to Improve Performance of Mobile Phone Surveys: A Research Protocol” [7]. Using microtrials, a set of future studies that will help enhance the efficiency and technical effectiveness of MPS is proposed for LMICs. The authors assess the effect of factors such as incentive timing and structure, survey introduction characteristics, different sampling frames, and survey modality on key survey metrics such as survey response, completion, and attrition rates.

Further investigating the literature, “Building the Evidence Base for Remote Data Collection in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: Comparing Reliability and Accuracy Across Survey Modalities” reviews findings that compare a mode of remote data collection to at least one

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other mode [8]. The synthesis examines MPS mode effects on the reliability and accuracy of results. Findings show, for example, that remote data collection consistently elicited higher reports of socially undesirable behaviors compared to in-person data collection. The review reveals the need for additional studies that compare reliability and construct validity across survey modalities.

IVR has the potential to expand current surveillance coverage and data collection. Two rounds of IVR pilot testing in Baltimore, Maryland, revealed that most participants felt this type of survey would lead to more honest, accurate responses than face-to-face questionnaires, especially for sensitive topics. In the pilot tests, participants indicated a clear comprehension of the IVR-administered questionnaire and that the IVR platform was user-friendly. Described in "The Development of an Interactive Voice Response Survey for Noncommunicable Disease Risk Factor Estimation: Technical Assessment and Cognitive Testing," the authors conclude that formative research and cognitive testing of the questionnaire are needed for deployment in LMICs [9].

The near-ubiquitous ownership of phones in LMICs, high population mobility, and low cost demand a reexamination of statistical recommendations for MPS, especially when surveys are automated. In "Health surveys using mobile phones in developing countries: automated active strata monitoring and other statistical considerations for improving precision and reducing biases," methods are proposed to reduce estimate bias and to adjust for selectivity due to mobile ownership [10]. The authors describe using automated active strata monitoring (AASM) to improve representativeness of the sample distribution to that of the source population. They conclude that although some statistical challenges remain, MPS represents a promising emerging means for population-level data collection in LMICs.

The increasing use of MPS in LMICs brings forth a cluster of ethical challenges. The existing literature regarding the ethics of mobile or digital health, however, mainly focuses on the use of technologies in high-income countries and does not consider the specific ethical issues associated with the conduct of MPS for NCD risk factor surveillance in LMICs. In "Ethics Considerations in Global Mobile Phone-Based Surveys of Noncommunicable Diseases: A Conceptual Exploration," the authors explored central ethics issues in this domain, including identifying the nature of the activity, stakeholder engagement, appropriate design, anticipating and managing potential harms and benefits, consent, reaching intended respondents, data ownership, access and use, and ensuring LMIC sustainability [11]. The authors call for future work to develop a broad conceptual framework for the ethical, legal, and societal issues associated with MPS for NCD risk factors. They further point to the need for guidance documents to identify key issues, outline pros and cons of options available to stakeholders for each issue, review additional points to consider, and provide references to resources relevant to each issue. In order to begin to address the various needs, the researchers hope to establish a global working group inclusive of experts in ethics, mHealth survey implementation, regulatory oversight and policy, public health, social science, and MPS platform development.

The article, "Moving the Agenda on Noncommunicable Diseases: Policy Implications of Mobile Phone Surveys in Low- and Middle-Income Countries," presents the special challenges for policy makers [12]. The article discusses potential benefits of MPS for developing, implementing, and evaluating NCD prevention and control policies. It includes an overview of major global commitments to NCD prevention and control as well as an exploration of how countries can translate these commitments into policy action at the national level. Potential benefits of MPS are discussed, including cost benefits of MPS for informing NCD policy actions compared to using traditional household surveys, timeliness of assessments to feed into policy and planning

cycles, tracking progress of interventions, timely course correction for suboptimal or noneffective interventions, and assessing fairness in financial contribution and financial risk protection for those affected by NCDs in the spirit of universal health coverage, inter alia. The authors demonstrate how MPS can become a powerful tool for collecting population-based data to inform policies that address key public health challenges such as NCDs. Further research in real-life settings will help to provide additional realistic world experiences.

This special issue of JMIR offers a step forward in benchmarking what is known and what is possible to know using MPS for data collection and surveillance systems. These results offer guidance for research expectations and opportunities to understand and curb the rise of NCDs in LMICs. Additional next steps are foreseen to continue documenting empirical experiences of MPS use in LMICs to collect risk factor data on NCDs, engaging with global bodies toward the development of a research agenda, establishing a global working group of experts to address the ethical issues surrounding MPS use in LMICs, and working with international and national level policy-makers to create a comparative framework for turning results into policy and practice.

Guest Editorial

Leveraging Mobile Phones for Monitoring Risks for Noncommunicable Diseases in the Future

Jennifer A Ellis

J Med Internet Res 2017 (May 05); 19(5):e137

Embodied Conversational Agents in Clinical Psychology: A Scoping Review

Simon Provoost, Ho Ming Lau, Jeroen Ruwaard, Heleen Riper

J Med Internet Res 2017 (May 09); 19(5):e151

Peer-to-Peer Support and Online Communities

Effects of Using Child Personas in the Development of a Digital Peer Support Service for Childhood Cancer Survivors

Pontus Wärnestål, Petra Svedberg, Susanne Lindberg, Jens M Nygren

J Med Internet Res 2017 (May 18); 19(5):e161

Ethics Considerations in Global Mobile Phone-Based Surveys of Noncommunicable Diseases: A Conceptual Exploration

Joseph Ali, Alain B Labrique, Kara Gionfriddo, George Pariyo, Dustin G Gibson, Bridget Pratt, Molly Deutsch-Feldman, Adnan A Hyder

J Med Internet Res 2017 (May 05); 19(5):e110

Health Surveys Using Mobile Phones in Developing Countries: Automated Active Strata Monitoring and Other Statistical Considerations for Improving Precision and Reducing Biases

Alain Labrique, Emily Blynn, Saifuddin Ahmed, Dustin Gibson, George Pariyo, Adnan A Hyder

J Med Internet Res 2017 (May 05); 19(5):e121

Mobile Phone Surveys for Collecting Population-Level Estimates in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Literature Review

Dustin G Gibson, Amanda Pereira, Brooke A Farrenkopf, Alain B Labrique, George W Pariyo, Adnan A Hyder

J Med Internet Res 2017 (May 05); 19(5):e139

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Knowledge, Attitude, Behavior, and Practices Regarding HIV, Viral Hepatitis, and Sexually Transmitted Infections Among Migrants From Sub-Saharan Africa Living in Germany: A Multicenter Survey Protocol

Claudia Santos-Hövenner, Carmen Koschollek, Anna Kuehne, Adama Thorlie, Viviane Bremer
JMIR Res Protoc 2017 (May 02); 6(5):e80

A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of e-Mental Health Interventions to Treat Symptoms of Posttraumatic Stress

Sara Simblett, Jennifer Birch, Faith Matcham, Lidia Yaguez, Robin Morris
JMIR Ment Health 2017 (May 17); 4(2):e14

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/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (JPIDS)

Volume 6, Issue 2 1 June 2017

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

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 May 2017; volume 14, issue 130

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Travel Medicine

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The Lancet

May 20, 2017 Volume 389 Number 10083 p1953-2080
<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/issue/current>
Editorial

WHO: Director-General campaign closes amid anxiety and hope

The Lancet

The current race to replace Margaret Chan, outgoing Director-General of [WHO](#), has been a different kind of contest. The unprecedented level of transparency and accountability in the election campaign is to be welcomed—voting by member states and not only by the agency's executive board, publication and scrutiny of candidate manifestos, and public debates. But will the final decision making, to take place next week at the World Health Assembly in Geneva, also be different? The vote remains a secret ballot, member states can pledge their support to one candidate but vote for another, and, in the end, the choice of WHO's next leader, still the world's top international health post, will be as political as ever.

The election comes at a time of unparalleled uncertainty for WHO. Meeting the expectations of the Sustainable Development Goals demands political legitimacy and courageous leadership. Yet the landscape of global health initiatives has never been more complex, narrowing opportunities for WHO to play a decisive part in shaping the future of health. And WHO's finances are terrifyingly limited. The agency is in an unenviable position: vastly more is expected of WHO while its role is contested and constrained.

A tall order for the remaining candidates, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, David Nabarro, and Sania Nishtar, who have each proved to be strong, credible, and hard working. All have participated in countless discussions and interviews, and travelled around the world competing for country votes, showcasing their particular strengths and priorities. At this juncture in the history of WHO it feels right that there are two candidates from low and middle income countries, and one a woman.

Tedros has been credited with transforming the Ethiopian health system and his country's population health. He also has deep and valuable experience of several key global health initiatives that sometimes compete with WHO. As potentially the first Director-General from sub-Saharan Africa, his ascent to WHO's leadership would be a major win for the continent. That said, Tedros has had to contend with considerable political mudslinging. He was Health Minister and Foreign Minister until November, 2016, leading to concerns being raised over his links with an Ethiopian regime guilty of extensive violations of human rights. Some of this criticism has been openly discussed, and also refuted, in social media. Furthermore, Tedros strenuously denies the damaging accusations (made by an adviser to his closest competitor, David Nabarro) that he covered up cholera epidemics in Ethiopia while Health Minister, branding it a smear campaign.

David Nabarro has wide experience on the front lines of global health and in the UN system, where he has spent much of his career. He has strong and proven managerial skills. And he has led and coordinated important global programmes, ranging from nutrition to Ebola. But Nabarro is supported by a present and likely future UK Government sceptical of multilateralism, distracted by Brexit, and lacking the enthusiasm of past administrations for health as an

important foreign policy issue. Added to which, some member states may question whether now is the right time to be appointing a UN insider. Does WHO need fresh and more radical thinking, they might ask.

Sania Nishtar has her origins firmly rooted in civil society. A highly successful campaigner to address the abject international neglect of non-communicable diseases, she has also gained experience, albeit briefly, as Pakistan's Health Minister, among other portfolios. She has successfully chaired important global health working groups, and she has shown an impressive independence of thinking—suggesting, for example, that she might only serve one term as Director-General to free her to take the tough decisions she believes WHO needs to take. But some observers may ask whether her high-level organisational experience is sufficient to lead WHO at such a critical moment in its history.

Each candidate has strengths. And each has weaknesses. The Lancet has, at various times, worked closely with all three. We can attest to their commitment to WHO and its values. But that is not enough. To achieve genuine internal reforms and to restore public confidence might seem to favour Tedros and Nishtar. The complex management and diplomacy requirements could favour Nabarro. The new campaign process has succeeded in enhancing transparency about the qualities and attributes of the candidates. But, as in any election, unpredictability reigns. We encourage member states to vote for the candidate who they believe mixes proven managerial competence with a clear and deliverable vision for WHO's next 5 years. No empty promises. Just realisable results. And, perhaps most importantly, someone with the skills to handle the unexpected.

Articles

[Evolution and patterns of global health financing 1995–2014: development assistance for health, and government, prepaid private, and out-of-pocket health spending in 184 countries](#)

Global Burden of Disease Health Financing Collaborator Network

Open Access

Interpretation

Health spending remains disparate, with low-income and lower-middle-income countries increasing spending in absolute terms the least, and relying heavily on OOP spending and development assistance. Moreover, tremendous variation shows that neither time nor economic development guarantee adequate prepaid health resources, which are vital for the pursuit of universal health coverage.

[Future and potential spending on health 2015–40: development assistance for health, and government, prepaid private, and out-of-pocket health spending in 184 countries](#)

Global Burden of Disease Health Financing Collaborator Network

Open Access

Interpretation

Health spending is associated with economic development but past trends and relationships suggest that spending will remain variable, and low in some low-resource settings. Policy change could lead to increased health spending, although for the poorest countries external support might remain essential.

Lancet Global Health

Jun 2017 Volume 5 Number 6 e556–e632

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<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/issue/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Infectious Diseases

May 2017 Volume 17 Number 5 p461-562 e128-e165
<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/issue/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

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 4, May 2017
<http://mdm.sagepub.com/content/current>
[New issue: No digest content identified]

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 7654 pp265-380 18 May 2017
http://www.nature.com/nature/current_issue.html
[New issue: No digest content identified]

New England Journal of Medicine

May 18, 2017 Vol. 376 No. 20
<http://www.nejm.org/toc/nejm/medical-journal>
[New issue: No digest content identified]

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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/>

Research Article

Causal Pathways of Flood Related River Drowning Deaths in Australia

May 18, 2017

Introduction: Globally, flooding is the most common of all natural disasters and drowning is the leading cause of death during floods. In Australia, rivers are the most common location of drowning and experience flooding on a regular basis.

Methods: A cross-sectional, total population audit of all known unintentional river flood related fatal drownings in Australia between 1-July-2002 and 30-June-2012 was conducted to identify trends and causal factors.

Results: There were 129 (16.8%) deaths involving river flooding, representing a crude drowning rate of 0.06 per 100,000 people per annum. Half (55.8%) were due to slow onset flooding, 27.1% flash flooding and the type of flooding was unknown in 17.1% of cases. Those at an increased risk were males, children, driving (non-aquatic transport) and victims who were swept away ($p < 0.01$). When compared to drownings in major cities, people in remote and very remote locations were 79.6 and 229.1 times respectively more likely to drown in river floods. Common causal factors for falls into flooded rivers included being alone and a blood alcohol content $\geq 0.05\%$ (for adults). Non-aquatic transport incident victims were commonly the drivers of four wheel drive vehicles and were alone in the car, whilst attempting to reach their own home or a friend's.

Discussion: Flood related river drownings are preventable. Strategies for prevention must target causal factors such as being alone, influence of alcohol, type/size of vehicle, and intended destination. Strategies to be explored and evaluated include effective signage, early warning systems, alternate routes and public awareness for drivers.

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PLoS Currents: Outbreaks

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

[Accessed 20 May 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Medicine

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

(Accessed 20 May 2017)

Research Article

[Ebola exposure, illness experience, and Ebola antibody prevalence in international responders to the West African Ebola epidemic 2014–2016: A cross-sectional study](#)

Catherine F. Houlihan, Catherine R. McGowan, Steve Dicks, Marc Baguelin, David A. J. Moore, David Mabey, Chrissy h. Roberts, Alex Kumar, Dhan Samuel, Richard Tedder, Judith R. Glynn
| published 16 May 2017 PLOS Medicine

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

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

(Accessed 20 May 2017)

Viewpoints

[NTD policy priorities: Science, values, and agenda setting](#)

Ana S. Ilt s, Kirstin R. W. Matthews

| published 18 May 2017 PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0005431>

...Conclusion

Eliminating NTD epidemics by 2030 requires setting an agenda to meet specific and actionable NTD targets over time. If we focus on all diseases and methods simultaneously, only marginal impact can be attained. Selecting priorities will facilitate more significant achievements. NTD policy aimed at specific targets requires decisions about the balance between funding research, development, treatments, and preventative measures; which diseases to focus on, in what order, how much attention to pay to each; what constraints the agenda must respect; and who will have a voice in agenda setting. Scientists ought to acknowledge the need to set priorities to achieve goals; the importance of collaborating with public health experts, policy makers and communities to make substantial progress toward eliminating NTDs; and the inherently value-laden nature of priority setting. Only through explicitly setting priorities will effective and sustainable policies be achieved over time.

PLoS One

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

[Accessed 20 May 2017]

Research Article

[Modelling the transmission and control strategies of varicella among school children in Shenzhen, China](#)

Xiujuan Tang, Shi Zhao, Alice P. Y. Chiu, Hanwu Ma, Xu Xie, Shujiang Mei, Dongfeng Kong, Yanmin Qin, Zhigao Chen, Xin Wang, Daihai He

Research Article | published 18 May 2017 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0177514>

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Research Article

Ending preventable maternal and child deaths in western Nigeria: Do women utilize the life lines?

Titilayo Olaitan, Ifeoma P. Okafor, Adebayo T. Onajole, Olayinka A. Abosede

Research Article | published 18 May 2017 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0176195>

Research Article

Effect of early measles vaccine on pneumococcal colonization: A randomized trial from Guinea-Bissau

Nadja Skadkær Hansen, Stine Byberg, Lars Hervig Jacobsen, Morten Bjerregaard-Andersen, Aksel Karl Georg Jensen, Cesario Martins, Peter Aaby, Jørgen Skov Jensen, Christine Stabell Benn, Hilton Whittle

Research Article | published 17 May 2017 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0177547>

PLoS Pathogens

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

[Accessed 20 May 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

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

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/>

[Accessed 20 May 2017]

Biological Sciences - Ecology:

Essential information: Uncertainty and optimal control of Ebola outbreaks

Shou-Li Li, Ottar N. Bjørnstad, Matthew J. Ferrari, Riley Mummah, Michael C. Runge, Christopher J. Fonnesbeck, Michael J. Tildesley, William J. M. Probert, and Katriona Shea

PNAS 2017 ; published ahead of print May 15, 2017, doi:10.1073/pnas.1617482114

Significance

The 2014 Ebola outbreak illustrates the complexities of decision making in the face of explosive epidemics; management interventions must be enacted, despite imperfect or missing information. The wide range in projected caseload generated attention as a source of uncertainty, but debate did not address whether uncertainty affected choice of action. By reevaluating 37 published models, we show that most models concur that reducing funeral transmission and reducing community transmission are robust and effective management actions to minimize projected caseload. Although models disagreed about absolute caseload, this measure has little relevance for evaluating candidate interventions. Our study highlights the importance of projecting the impact of interventions and is applicable to management of other epidemic outbreaks where rapid decision making is critical.

Abstract

Early resolution of uncertainty during an epidemic outbreak can lead to rapid and efficient decision making, provided that the uncertainty affects prioritization of actions. The wide range in caseload projections for the 2014 Ebola outbreak caused great concern and debate about the utility of models. By coding and running 37 published Ebola models with five candidate interventions, we found that, despite this large variation in caseload projection, the ranking of management options was relatively consistent. Reducing funeral transmission and reducing

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community transmission were generally ranked as the two best options. Value of information (VoI) analyses show that caseloads could be reduced by 11% by resolving all model-specific uncertainties, with information about model structure accounting for 82% of this reduction and uncertainty about caseload only accounting for 12%. Our study shows that the uncertainty that is of most interest epidemiologically may not be the same as the uncertainty that is most relevant for management. If the goal is to improve management outcomes, then the focus of study should be to identify and resolve those uncertainties that most hinder the choice of an optimal intervention. Our study further shows that simplifying multiple alternative models into a smaller number of relevant groups (here, with shared structure) could streamline the decision-making process and may allow for a better integration of epidemiological modeling and decision making for policy.

Social Sciences - Economic Sciences - Biological Sciences - Population Biology:

[Impact of International Monetary Fund programs on child health](#)

Adel Daoud, Elias Nosrati, Bernhard Reinsberg, Alexander E. Kentikelenis, Thomas H. Stubbs, and Lawrence P. King

PNAS 2017 ; published ahead of print May 15, 2017, doi:10.1073/pnas.1617353114

[See Featured Journal Content above for abstract]

Commentary:

[Trust and the poverty trap](#)

Martha J. Farah and Cayce J. Hook

PNAS 2017 ; published ahead of print May 15, 2017, doi:10.1073/pnas.1704798114

Extract

Myopia for the future, especially in relation to economic decisions, has long been associated with low socioeconomic status (SES). Indeed, the use of the word “myopic” to describe the poor in this context dates back over a hundred years in economics (1). Although we all tend to discount future rewards to some degree, for example preferring \$100 today to a slightly larger sum in the future, higher levels of discounting are associated with lower levels of SES. As Jachimowicz et al. (2) point out, the reasons for temporal discounting and its association with SES continue to be debated among psychologists, sociologists, and economists. The authors advance our understanding of this association by demonstrating the influence of community trust on the discounting–SES relation. Their discovery, that low SES predisposes to high discounting mainly in circumstances of low community trust, illuminates the causes of steeper discounting among the poor and, importantly, highlights a potentially modifiable causal factor.

Present-Mindedness as a Poverty Trap

Why is temporal discounting by the poor such an intensively studied topic? Many cognitive measures differ as a function of SES, including intelligence quotient (3), memory (4), executive function (5), and academic achievement (6). However, compared with these other disparities, the SES disparity in intertemporal choice behavior has the most prima facie relevance to poverty, because it concerns economic decisions. All other things being equal, steep future discounting will lower financial well-being in the long run by systematically steering people toward less money, and discouraging saving for the future. Beyond purely monetary choices, it encourages unskilled paid work over education. In each case, smaller economic benefits are chosen and future financial security and earning potential are sacrificed...

PNAS Plus - Social Sciences – Anthropology

[Compositional data supports decentralized model of production and circulation of artifacts in the pre-Columbian south-central Andes](#)

Marisa Lazzari, Lucas Pereyra Domingorena, Wesley D. Stoner, María Cristina Scattolin, María Alejandra Korstanje, and Michael D. Glascock

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March 13, 2017

Significance

The exchange of goods is a key factor in the development of complex societies. The Andes have provided a fertile ground for investigating this process, yet the long-standing emphasis on qualitative assessments of artifact similarities has left important aspects of ancient exchange open to speculation. Through a multianalytical and multimaterial approach we examine regional connections in Formative Period northwest Argentina. The results unveil a far more multifaceted, decentralized network than previously thought, challenging standard approaches that have favored centralized patterns of regional interaction. The study opens avenues for investigating the dynamic interaction between local and regional networks in small-scale societies through actual material transfers, both in the Andes and beyond.

Abstract

The circulation and exchange of goods and resources at various scales have long been considered central to the understanding of complex societies, and the Andes have provided a fertile ground for investigating this process. However, long-standing archaeological emphasis on typological analysis, although helpful to hypothesize the direction of contacts, has left important aspects of ancient exchange open to speculation. To improve understanding of ancient exchange practices and their potential role in structuring alliances, we examine material exchanges in northwest Argentina (part of the south-central Andes) during 400 BC to AD 1000 (part of the regional Formative Period), with a multianalytical approach (petrography, instrumental neutron activation analysis, laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry) to artifacts previously studied separately. We assess the standard centralized model of interaction vs. a decentralized model through the largest provenance database available to date in the region. The results show: (i) intervalley heterogeneity of clays and fabrics for ordinary wares; (ii) intervalley homogeneity of clays and fabrics for a wide range of decorated wares (e.g., painted Ciénaga); (iii) selective circulation of two distinct polychrome wares (Vaquerías and Condorhuasi); (iv) generalized access to obsidian from one major source and various minor sources; and (v) selective circulation of volcanic rock tools from a single source. These trends reflect the multiple and conflicting demands experienced by people in small-scale societies, which may be difficult to capitalize by aspiring elites. The study undermines centralized narratives of exchange for this period, offering a new platform for understanding ancient exchange based on actual material transfers, both in the Andes and beyond.

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 32 - Issue 2 - April 2017

<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

17 May 2017; volume 284, issue 1854

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<http://rspb.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/284/1854?current-issue=y>

Global change and conservation

Open Access

[China's fight to halt tree cover loss](#)

Antje Ahrends, Peter M. Hollingsworth, Philip Beckschäfer, Huafang Chen, Robert J. Zomer, Lubiao Zhang, Mingcheng Wang, Jianchu Xu

Proc. R. Soc. B 2017 284 20162559; DOI: 10.1098/rspb.2016.2559. Published 3 May 2017

Abstract

China is investing immense resources for planting trees, totalling more than US\$ 100 billion in the past decade alone. Every year, China reports more afforestation than the rest of the world combined. Here, we show that China's forest cover gains are highly definition-dependent. If the definition of 'forest' follows FAO criteria (including immature and temporarily unstocked areas), China has gained 434 000 km² between 2000 and 2010. However, remotely detectable gains of vegetation that non-specialists would view as forest (tree cover higher than 5 m and minimum 50% crown cover) are an order of magnitude less (33 000 km²). Using high-resolution maps and environmental modelling, we estimate that approximately 50% of the world's forest with minimum 50% crown cover has been lost in the past approximately 10 000 years. China historically lost 1.9–2.7 million km² (59–67%), and substantial losses continue. At the same time, most of China's afforestation investment targets environments that our model classes as unsuitable for trees. Here, gains detectable via satellite imagery are limited. Conversely, the regions where modest gains are detected are environmentally suitable but have received little afforestation investment due to conflicting land-use demands for agriculture and urbanization. This highlights the need for refined forest monitoring, and greater consideration of environmental suitability in afforestation programmes.

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]

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Reproductive Health

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

[Accessed 20 May 2017]

Review

Evidence-based policy responses to strengthen health, community and legislative systems that care for women in Australia with female genital mutilation / cutting

Nesrin Varol, John J. Hall, Kirsten Black, Sabera Turkmani and Angela Dawson

Reproductive Health 2017 14:63

Published on: 18 May 2017

Abstract

Background

The physical and psychological impact of female genital mutilation / cutting (FGM/C) can be substantial, long term, and irreversible. Parts of the health sector in Australia have developed guidelines in the management of FGM/C, but large gaps exist in community and professional knowledge of the consequences and treatment of FGM/C. The prevalence of FGM/C amongst Australian women is unknown. Our article reviews the literature on research on FGM/C in Australia, which focuses on health system response to women and girls with FGM/C. Recommendations are made for policy reform in health, legislation, and community programs to provide the best healthcare, protect children, and help communities abandon this harmful practice.

Main body

Midwives and doctors in Australia acknowledged a lack of knowledge on FGM/C, clinical guidelines and consequences for maternity care. In a metropolitan Australian hospital with specialised FGM/C care, women with FGM/C had similar obstetric outcomes as women without FGM/C, underlining the importance of holistic FGM/C clinics.

Greater focus on integration of refugee and migrant populations into their new cultures may be an important way of facilitating the abandonment of this practice, as is education of communities that practise FGM/C, and experts involved in the care and protection of children. Men could be important advocates for protecting women and girls from violence and FGM/C through a man-to-man strategy with programs focussing on men's health and other personal issues, education, and communication.

The Australian Government has identified gender-based violence as an area of priority and has been implementing a National plan to reduce violence against women and their children 2010–2022. A multidisciplinary network of experts on FGM/C could be established within this taskforce to develop well-defined and rapid referral pathways to care for and protect these children, as well as coordinate education and prevention programs to help communities abandon this harmful practice.

Conclusion

Countries of migration can be part of the solution for abandonment of FGM/C through community interventions and implementation of national and coordinated training in FGM/C of experts involved in the care and protection of children and women. The global focus on collaboration on research, training and prevention programs should be fostered between countries of FGM/C prevalence and migration.

Research

Respectful maternity care in Ethiopian public health facilities

Disrespect and abuse of women during institutional childbirth services is one of the deterrents to utilization of maternity care services in Ethiopia and other low- and middle-income countries.

Ephrem D. Sheferaw, Eva Bazant, Hannah Gibson, Hone B. Fenta, Firew Ayalew, Tsigereda B. Belay, Maria M. Worku, Aelaf E. Kebebu, Sintayehu A. Woldie, Young-Mi Kim, T. van den Akker and Jelle Stekelenburg
Reproductive Health 2017 14:60
Published on: 16 May 2017

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

This issue is focused on health reform In Ecuador and its implications.

Editorial

[Health systems reform in the quest for universal health \[La reforma de los sistemas de salud en la búsqueda de la cobertura universal\]](#)

Carissa F. Etienne

Published 15 May

Editorial

[La reforma en salud del Ecuador \[Health reform in Ecuador\]](#)

Verónica Espinosa, Cecilia Acuña, Daniel de la Torre, Gina Tambini

Published 15 May |

Risk Analysis

April 2017 Volume 37, Issue 4 Pages 599–844

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.2017.37.issue-4/issuetoc>

Original Research Articles

[Designing Graphs to Communicate Risks: Understanding How the Choice of Graphical Format Influences Decision Making \(pages 612–628\)](#)

Eric R. Stone, Wändi Bruine de Bruin, Abigail M. Wilkins, Emily M. Boker and Jacqueline MacDonald Gibson

Version of Record online: 10 NOV 2016 | DOI: 10.1111/risa.12660

Abstract

Previous research suggests that the choice of graphical format for communicating risk information affects both understanding of the risk magnitude and the likelihood of acting to decrease risk. However, the mechanisms through which these effects work are poorly understood. To explore these mechanisms using a real-world scenario, we examined the relative impact of two graphical displays for depicting the risk of exposure to unexploded ammunition during potential land redevelopment. One display depicted only the foreground information graphically (a bar graph of the number of people harmed), and a second depicted the foreground and background graphically (a stacked bar graph representing both the number harmed and at risk). We presented 296 participants with either the foreground-only or the foreground and background graphical display and measured a broad set of outcome variables, examining (1) the graphical display effect on each of the outcome measures and (2) the pathways by which any display effects work to influence decision making. We found that the foreground-only graphical display increased perceived likelihood and experienced fear, which produced greater worry, which in turn increased risk aversion. In addition, a positive evaluation of the communication materials increased support for policies related to land redevelopment, whether those policies were risk taking or risk mitigating. Finally, the foreground-only graphical display decreased understanding of the risk magnitude, showing that approaches to accomplish

one risk communication goal (promoting risk-averse decisions) may do so at the expense of another goal (increasing understanding).

Evacuation from Natural Disasters: A Systematic Review of the Literature (pages 812–839)

Rebecca R. Thompson, Dana Rose Garfin and Roxane Cohen Silver

Version of Record online: 21 DEC 2016 | DOI: 10.1111/risa.12654

Abstract

Research on evacuation from natural disasters has been published across the peer-reviewed literature among several disparate disciplinary outlets and has suggested a wide variety of predictors of evacuation behavior. We conducted a systematic review to summarize and evaluate the current literature on demographic, storm-related, and psychosocial correlates of natural disaster evacuation behavior. Eighty-three eligible papers utilizing 83 independent samples were identified. Risk perception was a consistent positive predictor of evacuation, as were several demographic indicators, prior evacuation behavior, and having an evacuation plan. The influence of prior experiences, self-efficacy, personality, and links between expected and actual behavior were examined less frequently. Prospective, longitudinal designs are relatively uncommon. Although difficult to conduct in postdisaster settings, more prospective, methodologically rigorous studies would bolster inferences. Results synthesize the current body of literature on evacuation behavior and can help inform the design of more effective predisaster evacuation warnings and procedures.

Risk Management and Healthcare Policy

Volume 10, 2017

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

[No new digest content identified]

Science

19 May 2017 Vol 356, Issue 6339

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

Editorial

Migration—the choices we face

By Mohamed H. A. Hassan

Summary

More than 1 million refugees and migrants arrived in Europe in 2015, and nearly 390,000 more in 2016, many fleeing conflict in the Middle East and North Africa. European leaders have often accommodated the migrants with admirable generosity, even while facing stiff political opposition. Yet, if developed countries focus only on immediate domestic impacts of mass migration, they will miss a critical point: When thousands of people, including many researchers, leave their home countries, the exodus perpetuates instability in those countries and damages prospects for future development.

Special Issue

Human Migrations

Introduction to special issue

People on the move

By Elizabeth Culotta

Science 19 May 2017 : 676-677 Full Access

Today, more people live outside the country of their birth than ever before—nearly 250 million, or 3% of the world's population. That's up from 79 million in 1960, and the rising tide is a challenge for locals as well as for migrants themselves.

Science helps us think more clearly about migration, in part by showing its deep roots. Researchers wielding powerful new methods have discovered ancient, hidden migrations that shaped today's populations. Go back far enough and almost all of us are immigrants, despite cherished stories of ethnic and national origins. Science can also aid the 21 million migrants today who are refugees from violence or famine, according to the United Nations. They need food, medicine, and shelter now, but in the long run it is their mental health that will be key to building new lives, as shown by a case study of the long-persecuted Yazidis. The success of these and other immigrants depends in part on whether new countries spurn or welcome them, and research is starting to show how to manage our long-standing biases against outsiders. Science itself is one of the more itinerant professions, with many scientists crossing borders in search of opportunity. They are surprisingly hard to track, but a set of online records offers an unexpected way to find the most migratory among them. Their spirit of adventure suggests that as the world continues to shrink, the impulse to move is unlikely to fade.

Feature

Busting myths of origin

By Ann Gibbons

Science 19 May 2017 : 678-681 Full Access

Despite their tales of origin, most people are the mixed descendants of many migrations.

The pain of exile

By Emily Underwood

Science 19 May 2017 : 682-685 Full Access

Long-persecuted Yazidis unite to cope with the mental stress of forced migration.

Battling bias

By Jennifer Couzin-Frankel

Science 19 May 2017 : 686-689 Full Access

How can we blunt prejudice against immigrants?

Restless minds

By John Bohannon

Science 19 May 2017 : 690-692 Full Access

Analysis of a vast set of public CVs reveals the world's most migratory scientists

Introducing ORCID

By John Bohannon, Kirk Doran

Science 19 May 2017 : 691-692 Full Access

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 180, Pages 1-196 (May 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02779536/180>

Review article

Tolerance of uncertainty: Conceptual analysis, integrative model, and implications for healthcare

Review Article

Pages 62-75

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Marij A. Hillen, Caitlin M. Gutheil, Tania D. Strout, Ellen M.A. Smets, Paul K.J. Han

Abstract

Rationale

Uncertainty tolerance (UT) is an important, well-studied phenomenon in health care and many other important domains of life, yet its conceptualization and measurement by researchers in various disciplines have varied substantially and its essential nature remains unclear.

Objective

The objectives of this study were to: 1) analyze the meaning and logical coherence of UT as conceptualized by developers of UT measures, and 2) develop an integrative conceptual model to guide future empirical research regarding the nature, causes, and effects of UT.

Methods

A narrative review and conceptual analysis of 18 existing measures of Uncertainty and Ambiguity Tolerance was conducted, focusing on how measure developers in various fields have defined both the “uncertainty” and “tolerance” components of UT—both explicitly through their writings and implicitly through the items constituting their measures.

Results

Both explicit and implicit conceptual definitions of uncertainty and tolerance vary substantially and are often poorly and inconsistently specified. A logically coherent, unified understanding or theoretical model of UT is lacking. To address these gaps, we propose a new integrative definition and multidimensional conceptual model that construes UT as the set of negative and positive psychological responses—cognitive, emotional, and behavioral—provoked by the conscious awareness of ignorance about particular aspects of the world. This model synthesizes insights from various disciplines and provides an organizing framework for future research. We discuss how this model can facilitate further empirical and theoretical research to better measure and understand the nature, determinants, and outcomes of UT in health care and other domains of life.

Conclusion

Uncertainty tolerance is an important and complex phenomenon requiring more precise and consistent definition. An integrative definition and conceptual model, intended as a tentative and flexible point of departure for future research, adds needed breadth, specificity, and precision to efforts to conceptualize and measure UT.

Regular articles

[The effects of women's education on maternal health: Evidence from Peru](#)

Original Research Article

Pages 1-9

Abigail Weitzman

Abstract

This article examines the causal effect of women's education on maternal health in Peru, a country where maternal mortality has declined by more than 70% in the last two and a half decades. To isolate the effects of education, the author employs an instrumented regression discontinuity that takes advantage of an exogenous source of variation—an amendment to compulsory schooling laws in 1993. The results indicate that extending women's years of schooling reduced the probability of several maternal health complications at last pregnancy/birth, sometimes by as much as 29%. Underlying these effects, increasing women's education is found to decrease the probability of short birth intervals and unwanted pregnancies (which may result in unsafe abortions) and to increase antenatal healthcare use, potentially owing to changes in women's cognitive skills, economic resources, and autonomy. These findings underscore the influential role of education in reducing maternal morbidity and highlight the contributions of women's education to population health and health transitions.

Regular articles

The socio-political context of migration and reproductive health disparities: The case of early sexual initiation among Mexican-origin immigrant young women

Original Research Article

Pages 85-93

Kate Coleman-Minahan

Abstract

Prior research often explains the lower risk of early sexual initiation among foreign-born Mexican-origin young women by a patriarchal and sexually conservative “traditional Latino culture.” This definition overlooks structural factors such as exploitation of migrant workers, and conflates gender inequality and sexual expectations. I use an intersectional framework and the theory of gender and power to explore how gender inequality and sexual expectations are both influenced by structural factors and affect reproductive health outcomes. I integrate data from qualitative interviews with 21 first and second generation Mexican-origin women in 2013–2014 with data from discrete time hazard models with 798 Mexican-origin young women in the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health. Qualitative results demonstrate that gender inequality and sexual expectations in Mexican-origin immigrant households are associated with structural factors. Gender inequality occurs more often in households with family instability, greater poverty, and among parents who migrated independently. Qualitative data also demonstrate that parental gendered expectations are sometimes at odds to what parents are actually doing in the household. Finally, contrary to assumptions that a patriarchal “traditional Latino culture” protects against early sexual initiation, qualitative and multivariate quantitative data suggest that household gender inequality increases risk of early sexual initiation. These findings challenge the utility of a culturalist approach that views culture as determining health behavior among immigrants and demonstrate the need to incorporate an intersectional framework that includes structural factors. This approach may reduce stereotypes and identify meaningful interventions to reduce reproductive health disparities.

Regular articles

Reduced burden of childhood diarrheal diseases through increased access to water and sanitation in India: A modeling analysis

Original Research Article

Pages 181-192

Arindam Nandi, Itamar Megiddo, Ashvin Ashok, Amit Verma, Ramanan Laxminarayan

Abstract

Each year, more than 300,000 children in India under the age of five years die from diarrheal diseases. Clean piped water and improved sanitation are known to be effective in reducing the mortality and morbidity burden of diarrhea but are not yet available to close to half of the Indian population. In this paper, we estimate the health benefits (reduced cases of diarrheal incidence and deaths averted) and economic benefits (measured by out-of-pocket treatment expenditure averted and value of insurance gained) of scaling up the coverage of piped water and improved sanitation among Indian households to a near-universal 95% level. We use IndiaSim, a previously validated, agent-based microsimulation platform to model disease progression and individual demographic and healthcare-seeking behavior in India, and use an iterative, stochastic procedure to simulate health and economic outcomes over time. We find that scaling up access to piped water and improved sanitation could avert 43,352 (95% uncertainty range [UR] 42,201–44,504) diarrheal episodes and 68 (95% UR 62–74) diarrheal deaths per 100,000 under-5 children per year, compared with the baseline. We estimate a saving of (in 2013 US\$) \$357,788 (95% \$345,509–\$370,067) in out-of-pocket diarrhea treatment expenditure, and \$1646 (95% UR \$1603–\$1689) in incremental value of insurance per 100,000 under-5 children per year over baseline. The health and financial benefits are

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highly progressive, i.e. they reach poorer households more. Thus, scaling up access to piped water and improved sanitation can lead to large and equitable reductions in the burden of childhood diarrheal diseases in India.

Stability: International Journal of Security & Development

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

[accessed 20 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>

[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

Volume LIV Nos. 1 & 2 2017

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

May 2017

[Our Ocean, Our World](#)

Under the theme "Our Ocean, Our World", this special double issue of the UN Chronicle explores many of the problems facing the marine ecosystem, with articles by experts and eminent personalities actively engaged in finding solutions. The issue was planned in support of the Ocean Conference (New York, 5-9 June 2017) and Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

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°83 - April 2017

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/82/>

April 2017

[Museums and visitor centres](#)

Thousands of museums are located in and around World Heritage sites. Site museums preserve the integrity of the sites through conservation efforts, but also enhance interpretation and visitor education. Experts, tourists and local communities all have a role in these activities. Museums can also help bolster the local and regional economy, and provide platforms for debate and discussion as a forum for tackling complex social and intergenerational issues.

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