

ge²p² global foundation

governance, ethics, evidence, policy, practice

The Sentinel

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

Period ending 19 August 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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We resume regular publication with this issue following annual leave by the Editor.

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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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No One Winning, We're All Losing, Secretary-General Says in Humanitarian Day Message, Citing Record Number of Civilians Displaced by Crises

18 August 2017

SG/SM/18647-OBV/1736

Following is UN Secretary-General António Guterres' message on World Humanitarian Day, to be observed in New York on 19 August:

Every year on World Humanitarian Day, we shine a spotlight on the millions of civilians around the world whose lives have been caught up in conflict. On this day, we also take a moment to honour the brave health and aid workers who are targeted or obstructed as they set out to help people in need, and pay tribute to the Government employees, members of civil society and representatives of international organizations and agencies who risk their lives to provide humanitarian aid and protection.

Despite our efforts, civilians, including medical and humanitarian workers, continue to bear the brunt of intense conflicts around the world. Hospitals and supplies are attacked, looted and obstructed by fighting parties. In cities like Juba and Aleppo, housing, markets, schools and vital civilian infrastructure have been destroyed.

In Yemen, war has turned the country into an incubator for a lethal cholera epidemic that has killed more than 9,000 people. Health services and water and sanitation infrastructure are collapsing under the strain. In Iraq, Syria, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria and elsewhere, thousands of women and girls urgently need protection, support and treatment for traumatic sexual violence and abuse. The result of these crises is the record number of people — more than 65 million — forced to flee their homes.

No one is winning these wars. We are all losing. This year, on World Humanitarian Day, the United Nations and our partners are calling on all global leaders to do everything in their power to protect people caught up in conflict. Let the world know: Civilians are not a target.

I invite you to stand with us in solidarity with civilians in conflict, and with the health and aid workers who risk their lives to help them. Get involved with our online campaign at worldhumanitarianaday.org. On World Humanitarian Day, let us commit to doing everything in our power to protect women, girls, men and boys in the line of fire, and to give them hope for a better future.

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Torture - Accountability

American Psychological Association [APA] Reaction to Settlement of Torture Case Against Psychologists Mitchell, Jessen

Duo left stain on their profession, says APA president

August 17, 2017

WASHINGTON — The American Psychological Association reacted to the settlement of the case against two psychologists who allegedly devised and implemented the CIA's "enhanced

interrogation” techniques by asserting that this does not absolve them of responsibility for violating the ethics of their profession.

“We are relieved that James Mitchell and John ‘Bruce’ Jessen abandoned their ill-advised effort to fight the lawsuit alleging that they were responsible for harming three men who were imprisoned and tortured in a secret CIA prison,” said APA President Antonio E. Puente, PhD. “However, this settlement in no way absolves them of responsibility for violating the ethics of their profession and leaving a stain on the discipline of psychology. We hope that the settling of this case gives some solace to the three plaintiffs and others who endured similar treatment.”

The settlement was announced by the American Civil Liberties Union, which filed the case in Spokane, Washington, on behalf of three men who were imprisoned and tortured in a secret CIA prison during the George W. Bush administration’s “war on terror.”

APA has a long history of prohibiting torture. Since 1985, APA has issued numerous policies condemning torture, which have been reaffirmed and refined over the years. APA’s policies draw upon international human rights instruments and have expressly adopted the definitions of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in the U.N. Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. APA’s policy prohibits psychologists from participating in national security interrogations at detention settings operating in violation of the U.S. Constitution or international law. Jessen was never a member of APA. Mitchell resigned his APA membership in 2006.

In 2010, APA sent a [letter](#) (PDF, 94KB) to the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, which was considering a complaint against Mitchell. In it, APA asserted that Mitchell’s alleged conduct with respect to interrogation techniques would have been sufficient to expel him from membership, had he been a member.

The American Psychological Association, in Washington, D.C., is the largest scientific and professional organization representing psychology in the United States. APA's membership includes nearly 115,700 researchers, educators, clinicians, consultants and students. Through its divisions in 54 subfields of psychology and affiliations with 60 state, territorial and Canadian provincial associations, APA works to advance the creation, communication and application of psychological knowledge to benefit society and improve people's lives.

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Settlement Reached in C.I.A. Torture Case

By SHERI FINK

New York Times, AUG. 17, 2017

A settlement in the lawsuit against two psychologists who helped devise the Central Intelligence Agency’s brutal interrogation program was announced on Thursday, bringing to an end an unusual effort to hold individuals accountable for the techniques the agency adopted after the Sept. 11 attacks.

Lawyers for the three plaintiffs in the suit, filed in 2015 in Federal District Court in Spokane, Wash., said the former prisoners were tortured at secret C.I.A. detention sites. The settlement with the psychologists, Dr. Bruce Jessen and Dr. James Mitchell, came after a judge last month urged resolving the case before it headed to a jury trial in early September.

The plaintiffs — two former detainees and the family of a third who died in custody — had sought unspecified punitive and compensatory damages. The terms of the settlement are confidential, and it is unclear whether a financial payout was involved. The parties agreed to a joint statement in which the psychologists said that they had advised the C.I.A. and that the plaintiffs had suffered abuses, but that they were not responsible.

In a phone interview, one of the plaintiffs, Mohamed Ben Soud, said through a translator: "I feel that justice has been served. Our goal from the beginning was justice and for people to know what happened in this black hole that was run by the C.I.A.'s offices."...

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Access to Scholarly Content/Intellectual Freedom

Cambridge University Press statement regarding content in *The China Quarterly*

18 August 2017

Freedom of thought and expression underpin what we as publishers believe in, yet Cambridge University Press and all international publishers face the challenge of censorship.

We can confirm that we received an instruction from a Chinese import agency to block individual articles from *The China Quarterly* within China. We complied with this initial request to remove individual articles, to ensure that other academic and educational materials we publish remain available to researchers and educators in this market.

We are aware that other publishers have had entire collections of content blocked in China until they have enabled the import agencies to block access to individual articles. We do not, and will not, proactively censor our content and will only consider blocking individual items (when requested to do so) when the wider availability of content is at risk.

However we are troubled by the recent increase in requests of this nature, and have already planned meetings to discuss our position with the relevant agencies at the Beijing Book Fair next week.

We will not change the nature of our publishing to make content acceptable in China, and we remain committed to ensuring that access to a wide variety of publishing is possible for academics, researchers, students and teachers in this market.

China signed up to the International Publishers Association last year, and one of the body's guiding principles is that of freedom to publish. The issue of censorship in China and other regions is not a short-term issue and therefore requires a longer-term approach. There are many things we can't control but we will continue to take every opportunity to influence this agenda.

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UK Publisher Pulls Scholarly Articles From China Website at Beijing's Request

New York Times, AUG. 18, 2017 [By REUTERS]

SHANGHAI/LONDON — Cambridge University Press, one of Britain's most respected academic publishers, has blocked online access in China to hundreds of scholarly articles and book reviews on Chinese affairs after coming under pressure from Beijing.

The articles were published in the China Quarterly, a leading academic journal on Chinese affairs that has been in print since the 1960s, and covered a range of topics deemed politically sensitive by the Chinese government.

The publisher said in a statement on Friday it had complied with an instruction to remove the content so that its other academic and educational materials would remain available in China. It would not proactively censor content, it said.

The list of articles the Chinese government requested be removed covered an array of topics including the 1989 Tiananmen Square democracy protests, the 1960s Cultural Revolution, Tibet, Xinjiang and Taiwan, Cambridge University Press (CUP) said.

President Xi Jinping has tightened China's already strict censorship since coming to power in 2012 as he seeks to cement the Communist Party's grip on power.

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Heritage Stewardship

[Generations of Inuit knowledge help inform mapping tool in Canada](#)

August 2, 2017

Courtesy of Robert Kautuk, via Canadian Geographic

In Clyde River, Nunavut, no one knows the land better than the indigenous people who live there. For centuries, Inuit in the region have given their land and sea-ice thousands of place names, most of which do not appear on any map. While not readily accessible, knowing these place names can be key to survival if you find yourself in an isolated spot.

With support from the Moore Foundation, a new mapping tool created by Clyde River's Ittaq Heritage and Research Centre hopes to bring together generations of Inuit knowledge and decades of science; and make that knowledge accessible to the community.

The online atlas, which indigenous community will be able to access later this year, shows more than 300 place names in the Clyde River area, and adds information such as videos of elders talking about the significance of places, their important features, and photos that younger generations can use to familiarize themselves with these points on the landscape.

The foundation recognizes the importance of supporting indigenous communities so they may act as stewards of the land they live on for generations to come. The synergy of technology and inherent knowledge in this mapping system will help pass on vital information that is crucial to individual safety and land conservation.

Canadian Geographic reported additional information on this mapping system: [How a new northern mapping project is preserving Inuit traditional knowledge.](#)

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

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

[Accessed 19 August 2017]

Social Sciences - Sustainability Science - Biological Sciences - Sustainability Science:

[Emergence of a global science-business initiative for ocean stewardship](#)

Henrik Österblom, Jean-Baptiste Jouffray, Carl Folke, and Johan Rockström

PNAS 2017 ; published ahead of print August 7, 2017, doi:10.1073/pnas.1704453114

Significance

The ocean is under considerable pressure originating from diverse human activities on land and in the water. While substantial literature has focused on how science interacts with policy, relatively

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little is known about interactions between science and business. Here, we describe: (i) the process of identifying “keystone actors” in marine ecosystems, namely globally operating corporations engaged in fisheries and aquaculture, with a unique ability to influence change and take on a leadership role in ocean stewardship; (ii) how we actively engaged with these actors, to collaboratively develop solutions to the ocean sustainability challenge; and (iii) how this coproduction process led to the establishment of a unique global ocean initiative, where science and business collaborate toward the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Abstract

The ocean represents a fundamental source of micronutrients and protein for a growing world population. Seafood is a highly traded and sought after commodity on international markets, and is critically dependent on healthy marine ecosystems. A global trend of wild stocks being overfished and in decline, as well as multiple sustainability challenges associated with a rapid growth of aquaculture, represent key concerns in relation to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Existing efforts aimed to improve the sustainability of seafood production have generated important progress, primarily at the local and national levels, but have yet to effectively address the global challenges associated with the ocean. This study highlights the importance of transnational corporations in enabling transformative change, and thereby contributes to advancing the limited understanding of large-scale private actors within the sustainability science literature. We describe how we engaged with large seafood producers to coproduce a global science–business initiative for ocean stewardship. We suggest that this initiative is improving the prospects for transformative change by providing novel links between science and business, between wild-capture fisheries and aquaculture, and across geographical space. We argue that scientists can play an important role in facilitating change by connecting knowledge to action among global actors, while recognizing risks associated with such engagement. The methods developed through this case study contribute to identifying key competences in sustainability science and hold promises for other sectors as well.

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Emergencies

POLIO

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Statement of the 14th IHR Emergency Committee regarding the international spread of poliovirus

WHO statement

3 August 2017

[Excerpts; Editor's text bolding]]

The fourteenth meeting of the Emergency Committee under the International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR) regarding the international spread of poliovirus was convened by the Director General on 3 August 2017 at WHO headquarters with members, advisers and invited member states attending via teleconference.

The Emergency Committee reviewed the data on wild poliovirus (WPV1) and circulating vaccine derived polioviruses (cVDPV). The Secretariat presented a report of progress for affected IHR States Parties subject to Temporary Recommendations. The following IHR States Parties presented an update on the current situation and the implementation of the WHO Temporary Recommendations since the Committee last met on 24 April 2017: Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo), Nigeria, Pakistan and Syria....

Conclusion

The Committee unanimously agreed that the risk of international spread of poliovirus remains a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), and recommended the extension of revised Temporary Recommendations for a further three months...

Additional considerations

The Director-General Dr Tedros attended the Emergency Committee and listened to the recommendations of the committee. He thanked Committee Members and Advisors for their advice, and noted that in the context of polio eradication, even one case of polio should be treated as an emergency. He noted that in all the geographic areas reviewed by the committee at the meeting, a sub-regional or multi-country coordinated response greatly improved the chance of success, and that to achieve the final goal of zero cases, the world may need to respond even more aggressively. He affirmed that he was personally committed as Director-General to providing any support needed to reduce the risk of the international spread of polio recommended by the committee.

The Committee strongly urged global partners in polio eradication to provide optimal support to all infected and vulnerable countries at this critical time in the polio eradication programme for implementation of the Temporary Recommendations under the IHR, as well as providing ongoing support to all countries that were previously subject to Temporary Recommendations (Somalia, Ethiopia, Iraq, Israel and Equatorial Guinea).

The Committee urged all countries to avoid complacency which could easily lead to a resurgence of polio. Surveillance particularly needs careful attention to quickly detect any new transmission, and careful assessment of where insecurity and inaccessibility impact on surveillance was needed. Similarly, there needs to be tracking of populations where there are high proportions of unvaccinated children due to inaccessibility, and requested the secretariat to include a report on this issue at its next meeting.

Based on the current situation regarding WPV1 and cVDPV, and the reports made by Afghanistan, DR Congo, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Syria, the Director-General accepted the Committee's assessment and on 3 August 2017 determined that the situation relating to poliovirus continues to constitute a PHEIC, with respect to WPV1 and cVDPV...

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WHO Grade 3 Emergencies [to 19 August 2017]

Yemen –

:: Cholera count reaches 500,000 in Yemen 14 August 2017

The Syrian Arab Republic -

:: Situation reports on the polio outbreak in Syria 8 August 2017

[See Polio above for more detail]

Nigeria

:: WHO and partners take on malaria: the top killer in north-eastern Nigeria
August 2017

WHO estimates up to 10 000 lives could be saved by November through malaria prevention and control, if more funds are secured

South Sudan - *No new announcements identified.*

Iraq - *No new announcements identified.*

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WHO Grade 2 Emergencies [to 19 August 2017]

Ethiopia

:: Reaching key populations to prevent the spread of disease in Ethiopia 10 August 2017

:: Community engagement contributes to control of acute watery diarrhea in Ethiopia's Somali region 2 August 2017

Ukraine

:: World Humanitarian Day: WHO urges more health aid to address Ukraine's humanitarian crisis 18 August 2017

Cameroon - *No new announcements identified*

Central African Republic - *No new announcements identified.*

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

Libya - *No new announcements identified.*

Myanmar - *No new announcements identified*

Niger - *No new announcements identified.*

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UN OCHA – L3 Emergencies

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

Iraq

:: Iraq: Mosul Humanitarian Response Situation Report No. 41 (27 July to 8 August 2017)

Syrian Arab Republic

:: 19 Aug 2017 One Syrian doctor's determination in the face of violence and displacement

Yemen

:: 17 Aug 2017 Statement by the Humanitarian Coordinator in Yemen Mr. Jamie McGoldrick on Shrinking Humanitarian Space in Yemen [EN/AR]

:: 13 Aug 2017 Yemen Humanitarian Bulletin Issue 26 | 14 August 2017

:: Revised 2017 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP)

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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.

Ethiopia

:: Ethiopia Weekly Humanitarian Bulletin, 7 August 2017

DRC

:: [United in the fight against sexual violence in North Kivu 12 Aug 2017](#)
The widespread use of sexual violence in North-Kivu

Somalia

:: [Horn of Africa: Humanitarian Impacts of Drought – Issue 9 \(10 Aug 2017\)](#)

Nigeria.

:: [Statement by the UN Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator for Nigeria, Peter Lundberg - Press Conference, 12 August 2017](#)

...Responding to the humanitarian needs of millions of people in the northeast remains our priority and our focus, each and every day. The fact remains that the humanitarian crisis in Nigeria's north-east and the Lake Chad region – now in its eighth year - is one of the most severe in the world today, with 8.5m people in need of humanitarian assistance in 2017 in the worst-affected states of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe, and 6.9m targeted for humanitarian assistance in these three states.

Civilians continue to bear the brunt of a conflict that has resulted in widespread forced displacement – today more than 1.8 million are internally displaced – and violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, severe protection concerns and a food and nutrition crisis of massive proportions.

Women and girls are also disproportionately affected by this...

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Yemen

Cholera count reaches 500,000 in Yemen

WHO News release

14 August 2017 | GENEVA - The total number of suspected cholera cases in Yemen this year hit the half a million mark on Sunday, and nearly 2000 people have died since the outbreak began to spread rapidly at the end of April.

The overall caseload nationwide has declined since early July, particularly in the worst affected areas. But suspected cases of the deadly waterborne disease continue to rage across the country, infecting an estimated 5000 people per day.

The spread of cholera has slowed significantly in some areas compared to peak levels but the disease is still spreading fast in more recently affected districts, which are recording large numbers of cases.

Yemen's cholera epidemic, currently the largest in the world, has spread rapidly due to deteriorating hygiene and sanitation conditions and disruptions to the water supply across the country. Millions of people are cut off from clean water, and waste collection has ceased in major cities.

A collapsing health system is struggling to cope, with more than half of all health facilities closed due to damage, destruction or lack of funds. Shortages in medicines and supplies are persistent and widespread and 30 000 critical health workers have not been paid salaries in nearly a year.

"Yemen's health workers are operating in impossible conditions. Thousands of people are sick, but there are not enough hospitals, not enough medicines, not enough clean water. These doctors and nurses are the backbone of the health response – without them we can do nothing in Yemen.

They must be paid their wages so that they can continue to save lives," said Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General.

WHO and partners are working around the clock to set up cholera treatment clinics, rehabilitate health facilities, deliver medical supplies, and support the national health response effort. More than 99% of people sick with suspected cholera who can access health services are surviving. Furthermore, nearly 15 million people are unable to get basic healthcare.

"To save lives in Yemen today we must support the health system, especially the health workers. And we urge the Yemeni authorities – and all those in the region and elsewhere who can play a role – to find a political solution to this conflict that has already caused so much suffering. The people of Yemen cannot bear it much longer – they need peace to rebuild their lives and their country," said Dr. Tedros.

The Lancet

Aug 12, 2017 Volume 390 Number 10095 p625-714

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

Editorial

Yemen and cholera: a modern humanity test

The Lancet

Urgent warnings began in May as aid agencies called for an immediate response to the growing cholera outbreak in Yemen. By mid-July, over 330,000 cholera cases were reported, with 1700 deaths. Since 2015, a civil war has left 14.5 million people (half the country's population) without access to clean water and sanitation. The UN has called it the "world's worst cholera outbreak in the context of the world's worst humanitarian crisis". The war, unpaid worker salaries, a decimated health system, controversies around the undeployed cholera vaccine stockpile, and slow global funding efforts are all somehow to blame. Pre-existing health indicators are grim and the estimated 400 000 severely malnourished Yemeni children are particularly vulnerable. Famine and other preventable communicable diseases are forecast. Indisputedly, a ceasefire is needed to allow access to humanitarian aid and abate further suffering and death.

As a collective humanity, the shame is ours to bear. The position of The Lancet family of journals is that with all current knowledge and commitments to acting early on cholera outbreaks, such escalated death rates quite simply should not happen. Cholera has been ravaging communities for two centuries. Yet in 2017, outbreaks are entirely containable early with coordinated efforts to implement water, sanitation, and medical rehydration treatment.

There is a vaccine and antibiotics exist. For workers who witnessed the 1994 cholera outbreak among the Rwandan refugees, which killed 12 000 people in Goma, eastern Zaire, this current humanitarian crisis echoes both the indignation and the slow response to an early warning. Unlike Goma, however, the Yemen crisis has unfolded under the global scrutiny of the internet.

On the eve of World Humanitarian Day, Aug 19, Yemen must be foremost among priorities of every institution and government acting for global health. Containing the cholera crisis and reinstating health and personal security for 27 million Yemeni people is the high stakes sustainable development test for how humanity can and will organise around vocalised commitments to protect the most vulnerable among us today.

Statement by the Humanitarian Coordinator in Yemen Mr. Jamie McGoldrick on Shrinking Humanitarian Space in Yemen [EN/AR]

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Sana'a, 17 August 2017: I am deeply concerned by the shrinking humanitarian space in Yemen where parties to the conflict continue to obstruct the timely provision of humanitarian aid to people in need.

For months, humanitarian partners have experienced delays by authorities in Sana'a to facilitate the entry of aid workers into Yemen, interference in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and the choice of implementing partners and obstructions in the conduct of assessments. There have also been increased incidents of aid diversion away from intended beneficiaries in areas under the control of the Sana'a authorities.

I am specifically concerned about the looting of food aid and other humanitarian goods in Taizz Governorate where there have been three separate incidents over a period of two months. Since January 2017, eleven vehicles belonging to humanitarian organisations have been hijacked in Taizz City in areas under the control of the Government of Yemen.

While I acknowledge the efforts of the authorities and local leaders to recover looted items, more needs to be done to ensure a safe and secure operational environment conducive to the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance to people in need. All of these incidents delay the provision of urgently need help to those most affected by the conflict while at the same time putting humanitarian staff at risk.

As basic social services in Yemen are near collapse, there is mounting pressure on humanitarian organisations to expand the humanitarian response. Ensuring unhindered humanitarian access is essential to save the lives of those who depend on assistance, particularly as Yemen is facing an unprecedented cholera crisis and over seven million people are at risk of famine. I urge all parties to the conflict to uphold their obligations under international humanitarian law to facilitate the safe and unhindered delivery of humanitarian assistance in areas under their control.

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Featured Journal Content

JBIR Database of Systematic Review and Implementation Reports

August 2017 - Volume 15 - Issue 8

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

Editorial

Quality of systematic reviews is poor, our fault, our responsibility

Campbell, Jared M.

JBIR Database of Systematic Reviews and Implementation Reports . 15(8):1977-1978, August 2017.

Meta-research is research that is carried out with existing research as the subject of investigation. As systematic reviews – themselves a form of meta-research – have become more widespread, they in turn have come to the attention of meta-research as available subject matter (meta-meta-research, perhaps?). Researchers' fascination with their own "meta" may be viewed by some as amusing (meta-meta-meta-research!), however the meta endeavours have uncovered some worrying findings.

While exceptions exist, chiefly in high impact^{1,2} and systematic review specific journals,³ the conduct, reporting and publication of systematic reviews of poor quality is prevalent to the point of being the norm rather than the exception.⁴⁻⁷ Worryingly, despite the growing prominence of

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explicit guidelines (like the PRISMA statement⁸ and the AMSTAR checklist⁹) as well as the expanding profile of evidence-based practice organisations that focus on systematic reviews (Cochrane, the Campbell Collaboration and the Joanna Briggs Institute), the average quality of systematic reviews in many areas has not meaningfully improved over time,^{10,11} or has even worsened.¹²

Considering this state of affairs, it seems reasonable to suggest that although evidence-based practice organizations have succeeded in evangelizing the importance of systematic reviews, they have not been successful at stressing the importance of reviews being conducted and reported in a thorough and rigorous manner. In this way they have counterintuitively contributed to the growing number of poor quality and unreliable systematic reviews despite their direct and persistent attempts to the contrary.

Organisations and individuals that are responsible for spreading the popularity of systematic reviews also hold responsibility for safe guarding their quality. As mentioned, systematic review specific journals do an excellent job of enforcing the rigor of reviews published on their own pages, and high impact journals have likewise succeeded in setting the bar high. These types of publications do not have to be exceptions, however. Those of us who most frequently carry out and publish systematic reviews have an increased likelihood of being invited to act as peer reviewers for them. Peer review therefore gives us the opportunity and responsibility to act directly to improve the quality of published systematic reviews. Detailed guidance on the proper conduct and reporting of systematic reviews of diverse types is easily available and accessible,^{3,9,13-15} along with useful review management tools which can be accessed free of charge (RevMan, Covidence). It therefore cannot be seen as understandable for an article labelled as a systematic review that lacks basic components of the process (i.e. a registered protocol, critical appraisal, or a detailed and comprehensive search) to be considered as a serious candidate for publication.

In our capacity as peer reviewers, editors or authors, the quality of systematic reviews is not an area where compromise should be viewed as acceptable. Standards have been agreed upon and set. If systematic reviews are to deserve their status at the preferred resource for informing evidence-based care, they must be upheld

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Agency/Government/IGO Watch

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

United Nations – Secretary General, Security Council, General Assembly

[to 19 August 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases/Meetings Coverage

18 August 2017

SG/SM/18647-OBV/1736

[No One Winning, We're All Losing, Secretary-General Says in Humanitarian Day Message, Citing Record Number of Civilians Displaced by Crises](#)

18 August 2017
SG/SM/18648-OBV/1737

Secretary-General Tells Humanitarian Day 'Stand Together' Event of His Abiding Shock, as High Commissioner for Refugees, at Rising Targeting of Civilians

18 August 2017
SC/12961

Deplorable, Man-Made Catastrophe Escalating in Yemen, Humanitarian Chief Tells Security Council, Urging Immediate Funding of Cash-Strapped Relief Plan

The “deplorable, avoidable and completely man-made catastrophe” in Yemen continued to worsen and ravage the lives of millions of people facing famine, the world’s largest ever single-year cholera outbreak, daily deprivation and injustice, the United Nations humanitarian affairs chief told the Security Council today.

17 August 2017
SC/12958

Democratic Republic of Congo Grappling with Heavily Networked Armed Groups Funded by Gold Smuggling, Security Council Hears, as Expert Body Mourns Slain Members

Tremendous challenges were facing the Democratic Republic of Congo, with the dynamics of the conflict ever-changing, an illicit trade in artisanal gold funding increasingly fragmented but heavily networked armed groups and human rights violations at significant levels, the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004) told the Security Council today.

10 August 2017
SC/12949

Holistic Solutions in Addressing Gender-Based Violence Key to Tackling Multiple Crises in Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Security Council Told

Donors, neighbouring countries and other partners must invest in holistic solutions to the multiple crises faced by Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo — and felt disproportionately by women and girls — the Security Council heard today as it was briefed on a unique joint mission to the region.

9 August 2017
SC/12946

Security Council Presidential Statement Urges Greater Humanitarian Access to Famine-Threatened Yemen, South Sudan, Somalia, Nigeria

Calling upon all parties in Yemen, South Sudan, Somalia and north-east Nigeria to urgently take steps that would enable a more effective humanitarian response, the Security Council today expressed its grave concern about the unprecedented level of global humanitarian needs and the threat of famine currently facing more than 20 million people in those countries.

5 August 2017
SC/12945

Security Council Toughens Sanctions Against Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2371 (2017)

The Security Council today further strengthened its sanctions regime against the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, condemning in the strongest terms that country’s ballistic missile launches and reaffirming its decision that Pyongyang shall abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner.

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 19 August 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases – "TOP NEWS"

[Kenya at critical juncture, leaders must act responsibly – Zeid](#)

[Press briefing notes on Gaza](#)

[US racism on the rise, UN experts warn in wake of Charlottesville violence](#)

[UN experts say women's sexual and reproductive rights integral to mindset-change in tackling gender discrimination in Samoa](#)

[UN torture prevention body to visit Panama](#)

[EU 'trying to move border to Libya' using policy that breaches rights – UN experts](#)

[Italy-EU search and rescue code could increase Mediterranean deaths, UN expert warns](#)

[UN human rights team's findings indicate patterns of rights violations amid mass protests in Venezuela](#)

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children

[to 19 August 2017]

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

31 July 2017

[Philippines needs urgent action to reverse spiralling rights violations, UN experts say](#)

SRSB/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict [to 19 August 2017]

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

03 Aug 2017

[Democratic Republic of the Congo: UN Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict Virginia Gamba Welcomes the Surrender of Ntabo Ntaberi Cheka in DRC](#)

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

SRSB/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN OCHA [to 19 August 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

18 August 2017

[UN Secretary-General marks World Humanitarian Day calls for global action to protect civilians in armed conflict](#)

[South Sudan: Humanitarian Coordinator A.I. Demands End To Attacks Against Civilians, Aid Workers](#)

[Record violence targeting aid workers and civilians in West and Central Africa, UN and NGOs call for immediate action](#)

[Statement by the UN Coordinator for Humanitarian Aid and Development Activities, Robert Piper, on the occasion of World Humanitarian Day](#)

[UN Calls for Global Action to Protect Civilians in Conflict](#)

17 August 2017

[Statement by the Humanitarian Coordinator in Yemen Mr. Jamie McGoldrick on Shrinking Humanitarian Space in Yemen \[EN/AR\]](#)

[In Central African Republic, a sharp deterioration of the situation necessitated a revision of the Humanitarian Response Plan](#)

[Statement attributable to the UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Nigeria Mr Edward Kallon on World Humanitarian Day](#)

[For World Humanitarian Day, United Nations calls for Global Action To Protect Civilians in Conflict](#)

16 August 2017

[Media Advisory: Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, Ms. Ursula Mueller, mission to Singapore - 18 August 2017](#)

15 August 2017

[Acting Humanitarian Coordinator deeply saddened by killing of three aid workers in Ghor province \[EN/Dari\]](#)

12 August 2017

[Statement by the UN Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator for Nigeria, Peter Lundberg - Press Conference, 12 August 2017](#)

UNICEF [to 19 August 2017]

<https://www.unicef.org/media/>

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

17 August 2017

[UNICEF responds to Sierra Leone mudslide as more than 100 children reported dead](#)

FREETOWN/DAKAR/NEW YORK, – UNICEF is on the ground urgently responding to the needs of displaced families affected by the flooding and landslides in Sierra Leone's capital Freetown which have killed several hundred people including at least 109 children, according to government sources. The death-toll is expected to rise, with over 600 people, including many children, still unaccounted for.

[Dramatic increase in violence in the Central African Republic - UNICEF](#)

GENEVA/NEW YORK, 15 August 2017 - This is a summary of what was said by UNICEF spokesperson Donaig Le Du – to whom quoted text may be attributed – at today's press briefing at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

[More than half a million children in Libya need humanitarian assistance](#)

TRIPOLI, 10 August 2017- "Six years since the crisis began in Libya, over 550,000 children need assistance because of political instability, on-going conflict, displacement, and economic collapse. Heavy violence in some parts of the country has forced families to flee their homes. More than 80,000 children are internally displaced and migrant children in Libya are particularly vulnerable to abuse and exploitation, including in detention centres.

["Nothing can justify terrible acts of abuse against women and children in Kasai": UNICEF](#)

DAKAR/NEW YORK, 7 August 2017 - "The world must not turn a blind eye to the dire situation of children and families in the Grand Kasai region. Over the past 12 months, more than 1.4 million people – including 850,000 children – have been forced from their homes, and their lives turned upside down by widespread acts of extreme violence.

[Babies and mothers worldwide failed by lack of investment in breastfeeding](#)

GENEVA/NEW YORK, 1 August 2017 – No country in the world fully meets recommended standards for breastfeeding, according to a new report by UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO) in collaboration with the [Global Breastfeeding Collective](#), a new initiative to increase global breastfeeding rates.

[Clooney Foundation for Justice partners with UNICEF to open seven public schools to Syrian refugee children](#)

NEW YORK, 31 July 2017 – The Clooney Foundation for Justice today announced a \$2.25 million partnership, which includes a generous donation from Google.org, and an additional \$1 million technology grant from HP, to support formal education for Syrian refugees in Lebanon. The partnership with UNICEF will help seven public schools to provide critical education opportunities to nearly 3,000 currently out-of-school refugee students this school year, and will also support a pilot of technology tools in these schools to advance learning outcomes for refugee children and Lebanese youth.

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 19 August 2017]
<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/media-centre.html>

Press releases and news comments

[UN Refugee Chief urges international recognition and support for Sudan](#)
[17 Aug 2017](#)

[South Sudan refugees in Uganda pass 1 million mark, UNHCR renews call for help](#)
[17 Aug 2017](#)

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

[UNHCR and Tanzania outline next steps to address refugee situation](#)
[17 Aug 2017](#)

[Thousands flee insecurity in the Central African Republic](#)
[15 Aug 2017](#)

[UNHCR saddened by reported drownings of Yemeni coast](#)
[11 Aug 2017](#)

[UNHCR warns of escalating crisis on Manus Island](#)
[8 Aug 2017](#)

Briefing Notes

[Uncertainty lingers for displaced Ukrainians as the conflict enters fourth year](#)
[11 Aug 2017](#)

[After Mosul, UNHCR steps up humanitarian support for returns](#)
[11 Aug 2017](#)

IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 19 August 2017]

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

Selected Announcements

[Emergency Operations in Sierra Leone as Government, UN Agencies Respond to Floods](#)
2017-08-18 16:27

Freetown – More than 300 people have died with hundreds more still missing following severe mudslides and floods in Sierra Leone's capital.

[Over 38,000 Migrants Assisted with Voluntary Return by UN Migration Agency in First Half of 2017](#)
2017-08-18 16:26

Geneva – Some 19,088 migrants have returned home voluntarily with assistance from IOM from 1 April to 30 June 2017.

[UN Migration Agency Steps Up Life-saving Support in Uganda as South Sudanese Refugees Hit 1 Million](#)
2017-08-18 16:25

Kampala – The number of South Sudanese fleeing to Uganda has surpassed 1 million.

[Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 119,069 in 2017; 2,410 Deaths](#)
2017-08-18 16:24

Geneva – IOM, the UN Migration Agency, reports that 119,069 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 16 August, with almost 83 per cent arriving in Italy and the remainder divided between Greece, Cyprus and Spain.

[UN Migration Agency launches Regional Research on Haitian Migration](#)
2017-08-18 16:23

Buenos Aires - IOM, the UN Migration Agency, and the Institute of Public Policies on Human Rights of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) launched this week (15/08) an assessment on Haitian migration to MERCOSUR Member and Associate countries, with field work in Brazil

[Vulnerable Migrants, Conflict-affected Yemenis to Benefit from Enhanced Humanitarian Support](#)

2017-08-15 16:53

Sana'a – Today (15/08), IOM, the UN Migration Agency, and partners are announcing three new major interagency humanitarian programmes in Yemen targeting 255,354 people, including stranded vulnerable migrants and conflict-affected people.

[Over 600,000 Displaced Syrians Returned Home in First 7 Months of 2017](#)

2017-08-11 15:50

Geneva – Between January and July 2017, 602,759 displaced Syrians returned home according to reports from the UN Migration Agency and implementing partners on the ground

[Migrants Crossing US-Mexico Border Dying at Faster Rate in 2017: UN Migration Agency](#)

2017-08-04 16:31

Berlin – A new briefing from the Missing Migrants Project shows that migrants crossing the United States-Mexico border are dying at a faster rate in 2017 than in past years.

UNAIDS [to 19 August 2017]

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

Update 16 August 2017

[Promoting HIV prevention among young people in El Salvador](#)

...In El Salvador, there is a growing concern about the increase in new HIV infections reported since 2011 among adolescents aged between 15 and 19 years. Young people are not receiving the information they need to protect themselves from HIV: only 36.5% of young people aged 15–24 years know how to prevent HIV transmission.

WHO & Regional Offices [to 19 August 2017]

[Patients, health workers and hospitals are #NotATarget](#)

18 August 2017 – Last year 418 people died because health facilities were attacked. Every hospital destroyed and every health worker killed or injured takes years of health services away from the people who need them most. Stop attacks on health care.

Highlights

[Reaching key populations to prevent the spread of disease in Ethiopia](#)

August 2017 – In Ethiopia, thousands of pilgrims flock to holy water sites for spiritual cleansing and physical healing. People often drink the holy water and perform ceremonial cleansing, but there is a risk that these sites can be contaminated with bacteria, causing waterborne diseases.

[Breaking the link between disability and exclusion in Tajikistan](#)

August 2017 – Several hundred Tajik people developed impairments and now need long-term rehabilitation care following a large poliomyelitis (polio) outbreak in 2010, which also spread to 3 neighbouring countries. To improve the provision of and access to rehabilitation services for people with disabilities in Tajikistan, WHO set up a disability rehabilitation programme in 2013 that focuses on people affected by polio.

[WHO delivers medicines and medical supplies to Al-Qamishli, Syria](#)

August 2017 - For the first time in 3 years, WHO has delivered almost 30 tons of medicines and medical supplies by road to health facilities and mobile clinics in Al-Qamishli. The supplies will support the delivery of health services to displaced people from northern and eastern regions of Syria.

.....

WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region AFRO

:: South Sudan - Oral Cholera Vaccination campaign to combat cholera in South Sudan concludes despite security and access challenges 16 August 2017

:: Taking stock of lessons learnt from the Cholera outbreak response in Tanzania 14 August 2017

The United Republic of Tanzania is battling an outbreak of Cholera...

:: Seventy seven percent (77%) of children 12 – 23 months in Nigeria did not receive all routine immunization – Survey findings 13 August 2017

Abuja, 10 August, 2017 - A major survey finding from 2016...

:: WHO supports the development of the Seychelles' Introduction Plan for Rotavirus and Pneumococcal Vaccines 09 August 2017

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

:: PAHO Launches New Initiative to Eliminate Mother-to-Child Transmission of Four Diseases (08/10/2017)

The series of interventions seek to reduce the number of children born with HIV, syphilis, Chagas disease, or hepatitis B in Latin America and the Caribbean

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

:: Milkha Singh appointed WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Physical Activity in South-East Asia Region 11 August 2017

WHO European Region EURO

:: World Humanitarian Day: WHO urges more health aid to address Ukraine's humanitarian crisis 18-08-2017

:: Experts and patients come together on people-centred hepatitis response in the Russian Federation 11-08-2017

:: Course on health financing for universal health coverage offered in Russian 11-08-2017

:: Breaking the link between disability and exclusion in Tajikistan 07-08-2017

:: Prenatal classes in Georgia turn pregnancy into a life-course opportunity for health 01-08-2017

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: Cholera count reaches 500 000 in Yemen 14 August 2017

WHO Western Pacific Region

:: Progress on Early Essential Newborn Care in the Western Pacific Region, but millions of newborn infants remain at risk DA NANG, Viet Nam, 14 August 2017

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

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UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 19 August 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases/Announcements

Sri Lanka on path to 100% renewable energy says a new joint report by UNDP and ADB

Sri Lanka can meet its current and future electricity demand by judicious use of renewable energy by 2050, according to a joint study by the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and Asian Development Bank...

August 16, 2017

Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator, Remarks at the Japan National Press Club, Tokyo, Japan

August 10, 2017

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) [to 19 August 2017]

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

August 10, 2017

First-Ever 'U.S. Cities SDG Index' Ranks American Cities Based on Sustainability Performance

Top 100 Most Populous Cities Evaluated Using the Sustainable Development Goals

New York – Today, the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, which co-produces the Global SDG Index, released the first-ever U.S. Cities SDG Index. The Index ranks the 100 most populous U.S. cities, using Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), based on their performance on the Sustainable Development [...]

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 19 August 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 19 August 2017]

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

Press Release | August 16, 2017

World comes together to tackle mercury poisoning

:: New global agreement to end health risks and environmental damage from mercury pollution

:: Mercury is a heavy metal which accumulates in the body and is listed by the UN as one of the top 10 chemicals endangering health and the environment

: Exposure to mercury can harm the brain, heart, kidneys, lungs, and immune system, particularly in unborn children and babies

UNISDR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 19 August 2017]

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

9 August 2017, New York

Protecting rights and dignity of indigenous peoples 'is protecting everyone's rights'

Ten years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, progress in several countries has been made in formally recognizing indigenous peoples, but overwhelmingly they continue to face discrimination, marginalization and major challenges in enjoying their basic rights.

"While indigenous peoples have made significant advancements in advocating for their rights in international and regional fora, implementation of the Declaration is impeded by persisting vulnerability and exclusion, and exclusion, particularly among indigenous women, children, youth and persons with disabilities," said 40 UN system entities and other international organizations in a joint UN statement, issued on the occasion of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, marked annually on 9 August.

The Declaration, which was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 13 September 2007, establishes a universal framework of minimum survival standards for the dignity and well-being of the world's indigenous peoples. It is the most comprehensive international instrument on indigenous peoples' collective rights, including the rights to self-determination, traditional lands and culture...

UNESCO [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 19 August 2017]

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

02/08/2017 –

Remarks of UNODC Executive Director, Yury Fedotov, at the UN Security Council meeting on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts, focussing on preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 19 August 2017]

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

Posted August 16, 2017

UN-Habitat calls for youth globally to spread the message of peace

"On the cusp of International Youth Day and its theme of "Youth Building Peace" this year, UN-Habitat calls for all youth to spread the message of peace, before during and after the 2017 Kenyan election results are...

Posted August 7, 2017

UN-Habitat Welcomes the High Level Panel Report

UN-Habitat welcomes the Report of the High Level Independent Panel to Assess and Enhance the Effectiveness of UN-Habitat, which comes in the midst of one of humankind's greatest challenges: the boom in population and the concurrent mass...

Posted August 3, 2017

[Ericsson partners with UN-Habitat and UNEP in workshop on air quality in Kenyan county](#)

Kiambu, Kenya 3 August 2017—Telco Ericsson has partnered with UN-Habitat, UN Environment and the County Government of Kiambu to deliver a project dubbed "Improving Air Quality in Kiambu County through Placemaking and Open Street Activities.

Posted August 2, 2017

[UN-Habitat and Palestine Ministry of Local Government launch online dashboard](#)

Ramallah 2 August 2017—UN-Habitat and its national partner, State of Palestine Ministry of Local Government launched an online dashboard on community-driven outline plans for Palestinian communities in Area C of the West Bank that is...

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

ILO International Labour Organization [to 19 August 2017]

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

Tackling youth employment in Sub-Saharan Africa

[Creating decent jobs for a rapidly expanding young African labour force](#)

18 August 2017

Youth unemployment rates remain relatively low in sub-Saharan Africa, as the vast majority of employable active youth cannot afford not to work. Yet within the next 15 years, some 375 million young people will become of working age in the region, equivalent to the current population of Canada and the United States combined. By 2050, sub-Saharan African youth, age 15 to 24, will account for 30 percent of all youth around the globe.

Future of Work Initiative

[ILO to establish Global Commission on the Future of Work](#)

16 August 2017

On 21 August, the Prime Minister of Sweden and the President of Mauritius will launch the new international body during a high-level event in Geneva.

Youth employment

[How to get more young people into better jobs](#)

10 August 2017

New ILO book focuses on the global challenge of youth unemployment and proposes policies to create more decent jobs for young women and men.

Gender equality

[What causes gender gaps in the labour market?](#)

01 August 2017

Despite the considerable progress that has been made towards achieving gender equality in the world of work, certain factors seem to be preventing it from accelerating.

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

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 19 August 2017]

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

07/08/2017

New global project to address bioinvasions via ships' hulls

GEF-UNDP-IMO project to help protect marine ecosystems from the negative effects of invasive aquatic species gets the go-ahead for preparation.

02/08/2017

International Maritime Prize for 2016 goes to Koji Sekimizu, former IMO Secretary-General

Mr. Koji Sekimizu is to receive the prestigious International Maritime Prize for 2016, for his contribution to the work of IMO.

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 19 August 2017]

[http://public.wmo.int/en/search?sort_by=changed&f\[0\]=type%3Anews](http://public.wmo.int/en/search?sort_by=changed&f[0]=type%3Anews)

No new digest content identified.

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 19 August 2017]

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

News

Vienna Energy Forum 2017 final report published

VIENNA, 11 August 2017 – The final report of the fifth edition of the Vienna Energy Forum that took place in the capital of Austria in May was published today by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Importance of youth for building peace highlighted at International Youth Day event in Astana

ASTANA, 11 August 2017 – Youth ambassadors adopted a declaration today highlighting the crucial role of youth in facilitating social entrepreneurship, economic justice and managing internal and international migration and...

Southern African countries receive support in testing products to facilitate market access

PRETORIA, South Africa, 2 August 2017 – An experts meeting was conducted today to enhance the capacity of 11 Southern African countries to test the conformity of products with market requirements in order to facilitate...

Project to train Syrian refugees and host communities in Jordan launched

IRBID, Jordan, 6 August 2017 – In partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has launched the second phase of technical training to train 500 local farmers...

Liberians receive training, start apprenticeships

KAKATA, Liberia, 4 August 2017 – Around 500 Liberian students have received technical and vocational training at the Japan Heavy Equipment Operator School in Kakata, the capital of the coastal county of Margibi....

BRICS industry ministers call for strengthened cooperation with UNIDO

HANGZHOU, China, 29 July 2017 – Industry ministers from the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) today adopted the Action Plan for Deepening Industrial Cooperation among BRICS Countries.

Helping Senegal develop sustainable cities

DAKAR, 27 July, 2017 – By the year 2030, almost two-thirds of the world's population will live in cities. Urbanization is creating significant opportunities for social and economic development and more

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) [to 19 August 2017]

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

14 August 2017

New handbook helps SMEs best manage water use

By Clare Naden

Clean water is vital to life and one of our most precious resources, yet around 40% of the world's population doesn't have enough. At the same time, we are our own worst enemy as over 80% of wastewater generated by society flows back into the ecosystem neither treated nor reused.

11 August 2017

Building a sustainable future with ISO 21930

By Elizabeth Gasiorowski-Denis

With urban populations worldwide swelling, there's an urgent need to calculate the sustainable performance of the buildings that we live and work in. But the variety and complexity of methods available can seem overwhelming. This is where ISO 21930:2017 comes into play.

10 August 2017

Learning from the best: a new standard for education providers

By Clare Naden

Today's knowledge economy requires diverse training and learning services beyond the formal, national education system. A new standard aims to not only help providers improve their service, but provide recognition and credibility on the international market.

9 August 2017

Take me higher – a new standard for weather balloons just published.

By Clare Naden

As worldwide research into weather patterns and natural disasters rises, so too does the use of meteorological balloons. Increasing global trade and demand for balloons that provide accurate data requires an international approach. A new ISO International Standard has just been published to take them...

3 August 2017

The worldwide standard for electronic documents is evolving

By Barnaby Lewis

The PDF format exemplifies the value of standards. Had the specification for PDF not been published from the technology's introduction in 1993, PDF would just be one of a dozen document formats. More than any other single factor, Adobe's decision to make the PDF specification freely available enabled...

2 August 2017

[New publication helps organizations get full benefit from ISO 26000 for social responsibility](#)

By Clare Naden

Getting the most out of ISO 26000, the world's first and most widely used International Standard for social responsibility, is the aim of a new guidance document just published.

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 19 August 2017]

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

10 August 2017

[World Tourism Day 2017 celebrated on the theme Sustainable Tourism – a Tool for Development](#)

This year's World Tourism Day, held on 27 September, will be focused on Sustainable Tourism – a Tool for Development. Celebrated in line with the 2017 International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, the Day will be dedicated to exploring the contribution of tourism to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 19 August 2017]

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

2017-08-08

[Message of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Dr. Cristiana Paşca Palmer, on the occasion of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples](#)

.....

USAID [to 19 August 2017]

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

August 18, 2017

[USAID Recognizes World Humanitarian Day on August 19](#)

Statement by Clayton M. McCleskey, Acting Spokesperson

This Saturday, August 19, marks World Humanitarian Day, a time to recognize aid workers who risk their lives while helping millions of people affected by global crises. Since the death of 22 United Nations and relief-agency staff on August 19, 2003 in a Baghdad bombing, each year we honor the brave women and men who have died while serving others, and celebrate the selfless spirit of those who risk everything to save lives.

[USAID Administrator Mark Green On-The-Record Roundtable Interview](#)

August 16, 2017

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But basically, my philosophy and my approach at USAID is precisely what I've talked about before and is in my statement that I submitted to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. And I believe philosophically the purpose of foreign assistance is to end the need for its existence. I believe in hand-up development. So the American taxpayers are extraordinarily generous people and we aim to mobilize compassion around the world. But I think the most important thing is to be truly compassionate, and that's doing what we can to help our partners, allies, and friends to lead themselves, and so we look to build the capacity of our partners – host country partners, but also civil society and all those attributes that we all know are crucial for countries to rise. And that's what we want to work on...

USAID Administrator Mark Green Welcome Remarks to Employees

August 7, 2017

U.S. Announces \$169 Million in New Humanitarian Assistance for Ethiopia and Kenya

August 3, 2017

Today the United States announced more than \$169 million in humanitarian assistance to support those in Ethiopia and Kenya who are experiencing the effects of prolonged severe drought. This additional funding, including nearly \$137 million in Ethiopia and nearly \$33 million in Kenya, brings the total U.S. humanitarian contribution in Ethiopia and Kenya to more than \$458 million in Fiscal Year 2017.

DFID [to 19 August 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

['Aid workers should never be targets' - Priti Patel](#)

19 August 2017 DFID Press release

[New emergency UK aid for Sierra Leone landslide victims](#)

18 August 2017 DFID Press release

[UK offering assistance to those affected by Sierra Leone mudslides](#)

15 August 2017 DFID Press release

[UK renews push to tackle world's worst cholera outbreak in Yemen](#)

11 August 2017 DFID Press release

[Scotland's HALO Trust is leading mines clearance and supporting the local economy](#)

8 August 2017 DFID and Scotland Office Press release

[UK leads final push to make polio history](#)

4 August 2017 DFID Press release

ECHO [to 19 August 2017]

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

18/08/2017

Statement by HRVP Mogherini and Commissioner Stylianides for World Humanitarian Day 2017

The European Union (EU) is committed to the safety of humanitarian workers. Every year, the EU marks World Humanitarian Day by adding its voice to the global campaign that honours humanitarian workers who, day after day, put their lives on the line...

17/08/2017

European Union brings relief to the victims of floods in north-eastern India

In response to a series of floods that wreaked havoc across areas of the north-eastern states of Assam and Manipur since May, the European Commission is providing close to €200 000 in humanitarian aid funding to assist the most vulnerable...

16/08/2017

EU sends emergency relief for Sierra Leone

Following the deadly mudslide and floods that have caused hundreds of casualties in Sierra Leone and displaced around 1100 households, the EU has released an initial amount of emergency humanitarian assistance of €300 000 for the most vulnerable...

16/08/2017

Forest fires: EU helps mobilise planes, vehicles and firefighters to help Portugal

The European Commission has helped mobilise substantial support for Portugal, through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, following a request for assistance to battle forest fires in the country. Spain has offered over 163 firefighters, 27 vehicles...

03/08/2017

EU steps up assistance to Mali and the Central African Republic as humanitarian needs grow

With the crises in Mali and the Central African Republic worsening, the EU has released fresh humanitarian funding of €9 million to respond to the most pressing needs. This brings the EU's overall humanitarian support to West and Central Africa in...

.....

African Union [to 19 August 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]

August 18, 2017

Africa Humanitarian Week :Panel Discussion on Protection of Civilians

August 14, 2017

AUC Statement on the Situation in Sierra Leone

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 19 August 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]

19 August 2017

ASEAN, UN to enhance disaster management capabilities

SINGAPORE – More than 140 participants attended the third ASEAN Strategic Policy Dialogue on Disaster Management (SPDDM) held in Singapore yesterday in commemoration of ASEAN's golden jubilee celebration and the World Humanitarian Day on 19 August [...]

August 8th, 2017

ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on the 50th Anniversary of ASEAN

European Commission [to 19 August 2017]

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

18/08/2017

EU: a world leader in helping those affected by crises

When countries face natural disasters such as forest fires, floods and earthquakes or are in need of emergency assistance due to other crises, the EU has a range of funding and emergency response tools to help.

European Commission - Fact Sheet

18/08/2017 -

Statement by the High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini and Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides on the World Humanitarian Day 2017

Statement Brussels, 18 August 2017 The European Union (EU) is committed to the safety of humanitarian workers. Every year, the EU marks World Humanitarian Day by adding its voice to the global campaign that honours humanitarian workers who, day after day, put their lives on...

OECD [to 19 August 2017]

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

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

No new digest content identified.

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 19 August 2017]

<http://www.oas.org/en/>

[Website not responding at inquiry]

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 19 August 2017]

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

09/08/2017

The Islamic Solidarity Fund Grants \$ 26.9 million to Support the Steadfastness and Struggle of the Palestinian People

The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Dr. Yousef A. Al-Othaimeen, highlighted that the OIC-stemmed Islamic Solidarity Fund has contributed since the beginning of its activity in 1976 until this year 2017 in funding many social, cultural, economic, educational and health projects in the State of Palestine.

01/08/2017

At Al-Aqsa Meeting in Istanbul, Al-Othaimeen Urges Muslim World to Support Inhabitants of Al-Quds & Coordinate Efforts to Confront its Judaization

The Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Dr Yousef A. Al-Othaimeen, called on OIC Member States, financial and private institutions, the private sector and

individuals to provide all forms of assistance to the people of Al-Quds particularly in the critical sectors, such as education, housing and health.

Group of 77 [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

.....

UNCTAD [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

WTO - World Trade Organisation [to 19 August 2017]

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

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

4 August 2017

[Qatar files WTO complaints against the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia](#)

Qatar has requested WTO dispute consultations with the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia concerning measures adopted by the three countries which allegedly restrict trade in goods and services from Qatar, and trade-related intellectual property rights.

.....

IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 19 August 2017]

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

11 AUGUST 2017

[Young MPs speak out on youth political empowerment](#)

Data from the IPU shows the worrisome lack of representation of young people in parliaments. To commemorate International Youth Day 2017 (12 August), the IPU has asked young MPs worldwide to share their views on how to increase youth engagement in politics.

We are sharing these views through a social media campaign on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). Young MPs provide examples of how they have reached out to youth in their communities, and ensured that their concerns and actions are integrated into parliamentary debates. This campaign is part of the IPU's work in helping to increase the number of young MPs in parliaments worldwide. This year also marks the 20th Anniversary of the [Universal Declaration on Democracy \(UDD\)](#), adopted by IPU Member Parliaments in September 1997. Young MPs have played a pivotal role in advancing its principles..

09 AUGUST 2017

[IPU presents its work on parliaments to a workshop for scholars and MPs](#)

The IPU presented a "sneak preview" of the forthcoming Global Parliamentary Report (GPR) on parliamentary oversight to a group of scholars and parliamentarians at a two-day workshop in Wroxton College, United Kingdom. The GPR will be co-published by the IPU and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for the 137th IPU Assembly in October 2017. The IPU also presented its work on strengthening parliaments...

04 AUGUST 2017

Malian MPs discuss SDGs and gender equality

Malian MPs from across all political parties gathered at an IPU seminar in Bamako, Mali, to discuss gender equality and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The seminar, which was co-organized with the Parliament of Mali, took place on 25 and 26 July.

03 AUGUST 2017

MPs contribute to UN process on Global Compact on migration

Migration is one of the biggest challenges in recent years, and it cuts across questions of sustainable development, human rights, peace and security. In September 2016, the UN General Assembly hosted a High-Level Summit during which Member States committed to negotiating a "Global Compact on Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration". The IPU is closely following this process, which will conclude with a major conference in September 2018.

As part of the negotiating process, the IPU organized a group of 17 MPs from 11 parliaments to participate in two meetings at UN headquarters from 24 to 26 July: a thematic session primarily on the economic aspects of migration, led by governmental representatives, and a multistakeholder hearing designed to allow parliamentarians, civil society representatives, academics and other experts to review the main issues that may be part of the global compact...

International Court of Justice [to 19 August 2017]

<http://www.icj-cij.org/en/press-releases>

No new digest content identified.

International Criminal Court (ICC) [to 19 August 2017]

Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity

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

17 August 2017

Al Mahdi case: ICC Trial Chamber VIII issues reparations order

Today, 17 August 2017, Trial Chamber VIII of the International Criminal Court ("ICC" or "Court") issued a Reparations Order in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Ahmad Al Faqi Al Mahdi*, concluding that Mr Al Mahdi is liable for 2.7 million euros in expenses for individual and collective reparations for the community of Timbuktu for intentionally directing attacks against religious and historic buildings in that city. Noting that Mr Al Mahdi is indigent, the Chamber encourages the Trust Funds for Victims ("TFV") to complement the reparations award and directed the TFV to submit a draft implementation plan for 16 February 2018...

14 August 2017

Situation in Libya: ICC Pre-Trial Chamber I issues a warrant of arrest for Mahmoud Mustafa Busayf AL-WERFALLI for war crimes

14 August 2017

Statement of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Fatou Bensouda, following the issuance of a warrant of arrest for Mr Mahmoud Mustafa Busayf al-Werfalli

As I have publicly stated in the past, my Office has been closely following events in Libya. In my last report to the United Nations Security Council ("UNSC"), I warned all parties to the conflict in Libya, and in particular commanders and other superiors, that they should prevent or repress the commission of atrocity crimes by their forces. I have also consistently stated that such crimes cannot be tolerated and that I, along with my Office, remain firmly committed to the fight against impunity in Libya and will not hesitate to bring new cases in accordance with the Rome Statute

where the evidence of grave crimes falling under the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court ("ICC" or the "Court") demands doing so. We continue to stay true to our mandate and to that commitment.

On 1 August 2017, I filed an under seal application with Pre-Trial Chamber I of the ICC for a warrant of arrest to be issued against Mr Mahmoud Mustafa Busayf al-Werfalli ("Mr al-Werfalli"), a Major in the Al-Saiqa forces, on charges of murder as a war crime under the Rome Statute for his direct participation in seven separate rounds of executions, in which a total of 33 people were murdered in cold blood in Benghazi or surrounding areas. Such egregious crimes, including the cruel and dehumanising manner by which they were perpetrated against helpless victims, must be stopped. Accountability for atrocity crimes is better suited to advance the ends of peace and stability, not more violence...

.....

World Bank [to 19 August 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]

Task Force Recommends Steps to Tackle Gender-Based Violence in World Bank-Supported Projects

WASHINGTON, August 8, 2017— In a new report released today, the Global Gender-Based Violence Task Force recommended specific, fundamental steps to strengthen the World Bank's capacity to identify, mitigate,...

Date: August 8, 2017 Type: Press Release

REACH and Global Book Alliance Award US\$1.5 Million to Innovative Projects in Cambodia, South Africa and Zambia

WASHINGTON, August 3, 2017 — Cambodia, South Africa and Zambia are among the winners of the latest Global Book Alliance/REACH for Reading Call for Proposals to support innovations that get the...

Date: August 3, 2017 Type: Press Release

World Bank and Food and Agriculture Organization Partner to Support Food Security in Yemen

New project aims to improve livelihoods and nutrition for more than 630,000 Yemenis by helping smallholder farmers restart production in the hardest hit areas of the country Cairo,

Date: August 2, 2017 Type: Press Release

World Bank, Sexual Violence Research Initiative Launch 2017 Call for Proposals for Innovations in Preventing Gender-Based Violence

WASHINGTON, August 1, 2017—The World Bank Group and Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) today announced a new open call for awards recognizing promising innovations aimed...

Date: August 1, 2017 Type: Press Release

IMF [to 19 August 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]

August 3, 2017

IMF Executive Board Concludes Review of the Standards and Codes Initiative

On July 17, 2017, the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) considered a joint IMF-World Bank staff paper on the standards and codes (S&C) initiative in line with the initiative's requirement for periodic reviews.

The S&C initiative was launched in the wake of the emerging market crises of the 1990s as part of efforts to strengthen the international financial architecture and is aimed at improving economic and financial resilience by assisting countries in strengthening their economic institutions and informing World Bank and IMF work. The initiative comprises 12 policy areas covering transparency of data and policy making; financial sector regulation and supervision; and, institutional and market infrastructure. S&C outputs for member countries are prepared and published at the request of the member country and include Detailed Assessment Reports (DARs), Reports on the Observance of Standards and Codes (ROSCs), Technical Notes, as well as newer outputs such as Fiscal Transparency Evaluations (FTEs)...

August 2, 2017

Transcript of a Conference Call on the Role of the Fund in Governance Issues (including Corruption)

African Development Bank Group [to 19 August 2017]

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

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

19/08/2017

AfDB President makes clarion call for action on challenges hampering growth at 37th SADC Heads of State Summit

The African Development Bank has given its support to Southern African leaders in their efforts to accelerate development and growth in the region. AfDB President Akinwumi Adenine was among a host of leaders who delivered remarks at the opening ceremony of the 37th SADC Heads of State Summit, which got underway in South Africa's capital, Pretoria on Saturday. While lending the Bank's support, the AfDB President also made a clarion call for action when it comes to power supply, agriculture investment, climate change, industrialization and domestic resource mobilisation in the region.

11/08/2017

Transport projects financed by the AfDB between 1967 and 2017 have benefited 450 million Africans

Over its 50-year history, the African Development Bank (AfDB) has financed over 450 transport projects, changing the lives of close to 450 million people across Africa. Roads, port, airport, and railway projects are all included on a map published as part of the fiftieth anniversary of the first project financed by the Bank, a road project in Kenya, in 1967.

01/08/2017

AfDB signs US\$ 78 million grant agreements with Governments of Somalia and South Sudan to strengthen drought resilience and address chronic hunger and malnutrition

- The African Development Bank (AfDB) has signed tripartite grant agreements of US\$ 34.8 million and US\$ 43.8 million with the Republic of Somalia and the Republic of South Sudan respectively and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) under the Bank's 'Say No To Famine – Short Term Regional Emergency Response Project – STRERP'. IGAD will oversee the implementation of the project through an agency to be recruited in each of the countries. The agencies will work with the governments to put in place structures, systems and facilities that will

enable them take on increasing responsibility for disaster management and delivery of humanitarian assistance.

Asian Development Bank [to 19 August 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]

17 August 2017

ADB, GCF Sign Agreement to Scale Up Climate Finance Delivery in Asia

ADB and GCF today signed an Accreditation Master Agreement that will allow ADB to access and administer GCF funds and scale up the bank's climate financing to its developing member countries.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank [to 19 August 2017]

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

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

No new digest content identified.

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 19 August 2017]

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

9 August 2017

New IFAD-supported project to boost rural economy and livelihoods in Angola

7 August 2017

IFAD and Indonesia to tackle rural poverty issues at high-level Indonesia-Pacific Forum

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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 19 August 2017]

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

05/08/2017

Kenyan Government Authorises Amref International University

Nairobi August 4, 2017 Kenya's Commission for University Education has given Amref Health Africa the green light to start and operate the Amref International University (AMIU). The Commission has granted AMIU a Letter of Interim Authority (LIA) with effect from August 1, 2017. The University will focus on health-related...

Aravind Eye Care System [to 19 August 2017]
<http://www.aravind.org/default/currentnewscontent>
No new digest content identified.

BRAC [to 19 August 2017]
<http://www.brac.net/#news>
Thursday, 17 August 2017 00:00

BRAC stands beside flood affected people

Development organisation BRAC is taking initiatives to help the flood affected communities across the country. Tk 50 thousand has been for each upazila to provide emergency assistance to flood victims. Dry food has been distributed to 22,500 flood victims in Thakurgaon upazila and food has been distributed to 3500 people of Debiganj upazila of Panchagarh...

CARE International [to 19 August 2017]
<http://www.care-international.org/news/press-releases>
18th Aug 2017

South Asia floods: "Our children cannot resist hunger"

CARE teams provide relief in Nepal, India, and Bangladesh

Clubhouse International [to 19 August 2017]
<http://www.clubhouse-intl.org/news.html>
No new digest content identified.

Danish Refugee Council [to 19 August 2017]
<https://www.drc.dk/news>
18.08.2017

World Humanitarian Day as the humanitarian space is shrinking

While the number of forcibly displaced is record high, hence also the demand for humanitarian assistance, the pressure on humanitarian organisations and their staff is increasing. Lack of access to people in need together with an increase in the targeting of aid workers make it very challenging to reach those most in need. The international community should unite to guarantee access and security for humanitarians in order for them to assist those most in need, the Danish Refugee Council said today in a statement ahead of World Humanitarian Day, August 19.

Open Letter to the UN Secretary-General for immediate action on the Central African Republic
14.08.2017

The open letter is signed on behalf of ACTED, Action Contre la Faim, Danish Refugee Council, Premiere Urgence, the International Rescue Committee and the Norwegian Refugee Council.

DRC immediately responds to humanitarian crisis in Batangafo (CAR)
15.08.2017

At the end of July, resurgent conflict in the small municipality of Batangafo in Central African Republic forced more than half of the city's population to flee. DRC is the only NGO present and capable of acting promptly by pro...

DRC exits from Côte d'Ivoire after 11 years

31.07.2017

Today the Danish Refugee Council ends its operations in Côte d'Ivoire after 11 years in country.

ECPAT [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Fountain House [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Handicap International [to 19 August 2017]

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

Posted on August 15, 2017 10:16 AM

Neymar Jr becomes Handicap International ambassador

Geneva, Switzerland / Silver Spring, MD—The Brazilian soccer player Neymar Jr. became the new International Ambassador of the award-winning international NGO Handicap International today during an event at Geneva's Place des Nations. Through this partnership, Neymar is lending his huge fame to a good cause: empowering the most vulnerable people in the world, people with disabilities living in poor countries, victims of conflicts and natural disasters.

Heifer International [to 19 August 2017]

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

August 7, 2017

Job program to benefit 25,000 youth in East Africa

KAMPALA, Uganda

Heifer International is launching a five-year, US\$18 million program in partnership with Mastercard Foundation to help 25,000 young people start small businesses or find jobs in the agricultural industry in East Africa. Heifer and Mastercard Foundation will help address the issue with the "East Africa Youth Inclusion Program," which will link youth with jobs and business opportunities in the dairy and agricultural industries in Uganda and Tanzania.

HelpAge International [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

ICRC [to 19 August 2017]

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

Selected News Releases, Reports and Articles

Yemen: War in the time of cholera

With over 20 million reliant on aid, Yemen is the world's single largest humanitarian crisis. Now it's in the grip of a deadly cholera outbreak. On 5 May, the Ministry of Health and Population in Sana'a declared a state of emergency.

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

16-08-2017 | Article

Philippines: Aid reaches 7,000 home-based evacuees of Marawi fighting

Manila (ICRC) – The ongoing conflict in Marawi City in Lanao del Sur province has displaced thousands of people, with more than 77,000[1] fleeing to hard-to-reach areas along the eastern shore of Lake Lanao.

11-08-2017 | News release

IFRC [to 19 August 2017]

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

24 July 2017

Sierra Leone: Red Cross appeals for global support

As the full horror of Monday's flooding and mudslide disaster in the Sierra Leone capital Freetown emerges, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has issued an urgent appeal for global support.

18 August 2017

Humanitarian crisis: Floods affect 16 million in Nepal, India and Bangladesh

A humanitarian crisis is unfolding across large areas in South Asia, with more than 16 million people affected by monsoon floods in Nepal, Bangladesh and India.

18 August 2017

Volunteers in race against time to find survivors in Sierra Leone mudslides

Red Cross staff and volunteers are frantically working alongside emergency officials to rescue survivors and assist desperate communities that have lost their homes and loved ones in yesterday's mudslides in and around the capital Freetown.

15 August 2017

Sierra Leone Mudslides: Red Cross searching for survivors

Freetown/Geneva 14 August 2017—Red Cross volunteers are digging for survivors and supporting distraught families in the wake of heavy flooding and mudslides that have ripped through Sierra Leone's capital Freetown. Current estimates indicate that as ma ...

14 August 2017

Red Cross responds as floods and landslides affect 100,000 people in Nepal

Red Cross volunteers and emergency teams are searching for survivors as flash floods and landslides have submerged thousands of homes in several parts of Nepal, mostly in the south of the country.

13 August 2017

Central African Republic: International Red Cross Movement strongly condemns killing of Red Cross volunteers

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is shocked and saddened by the violent deaths of six Red Cross volunteers earlier this week in the Central Africa Republic (CAR).

8 August 2017

Austria, Croatia, Europe, France, Hungary, Italy, Serbia, Spain

IFRC warns of serious health risks as extreme heatwave sweeps across Europe

Budapest / Geneva, 4 August 2017 — Hundreds of Red Cross volunteers are on the ground in towns, cities and beaches as record temperatures sweep much of southern and central Europe. According to weather reports, south and central Europe are experiencing ...

4 August 2017

Unprecedented dengue outbreak in Sri Lanka; Red Cross scales up response

Kuala Lumpur / Colombo / Geneva, 24 July 2017 — As the number of dengue cases tops 100,000 in Sri Lanka, the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) are rapidly scaling up emergency as ...

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 19 August 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases & Statements

Perspective

IRC urges the administration to reconsider its decision to end the parole option for children on the CAM program

August 18, 2017

Press Release

Civilians and aid workers targeted, as global humanitarian needs reach unprecedented scale

August 18, 2017

Press Release

Refugees: Uganda's Leadership puts US, European Policies to Shame

August 17, 2017

IRCT [to 19 August 2017]

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

Website not responding at inquiry

Islamic Relief [to 19 August 2017]

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

Latest News

World Humanitarian Day 2017 – Not A Target

Every day across the world, ordinary people are being dragged into wars that are not of their making. They are #NotATarget

Many countries, many challenges

Providing Qurbani to families in difficult circumstances

Providing shelter for thousands left homeless after Cyclone Mora

Myanmar

Islamic Relief is building good quality shelters for over 3,400 people in Myanmar left homeless by a powerful and destructive storm in late May Starting in Sri Lanka as torrential rains, then moving across to Bangladesh and Myanmar as a full-scale cyclone producing sustained winds of 65-70 miles per hour, Cyclone Mora left chaos and [...]

Landsea [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Medecins du Monde [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 19 August 2017]

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

Press release

Colombia: People Continue to Suffer from Violence Despite Peace Deal

August 17, 2017

Violence remains a major problem for many people in Colombia despite the peace deal the government and FARC-EP signed last year.

Press release

Hindrance of Humanitarian Assistance will Create a Deadly Gap in the Mediterranean Sea

August 12, 2017

Libyan authorities have announced the establishment of a search and rescue zone and restricted access to humanitarian vessels in international waters off the Libyan coast. Due to security concerns, restrictions on independent humanitarian assistance, and the increasing blockade trapping migrants within Libya, Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) has decided to temporarily suspend the search and rescue activity of its ship, Prudence.

Press release

Central African Republic: 10,000 People Seek Safety in Batangafo Hospital After Camp is Looted and Burned

August 10, 2017

Approximately 10,000 people have taken shelter on the grounds of Batangafo hospital in Central African Republic (CAR), more than 10 days after violence broke out between rival groups, said the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Thursday.

Press release

FDA Reauthorization Act Passes U.S. House and Senate Without Fixes to Deliver Urgently Needed New Drugs, Vaccines for Neglected Diseases

August 03, 2017

Both chambers of U.S. Congress missed another opportunity to help people living with neglected diseases by passing the FDA Reauthorization Act (FDARA) of 2017 today without fixing the Food and Drug Administration's Priority Review Voucher (PRV) program for neglected diseases. Language included in the bill makes changes to the neglected disease PRV program, but it doesn't fix the major flaws that limit the program's ability to help people most in need, said the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF).

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](#)

MSF Committed to Saving Lives on Mediterranean but Will Not Sign the Italian “Code of Conduct”

August 01, 2017

The international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/ Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) formally informed the Italian Ministry of the Interior yesterday that it would not be signing the Code of Conduct for non-governmental organizations operating rescue ships on the Mediterranean.

Mercy Corps [to 19 August 2017]

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

August 3, 2017

Mercy Corps Applauds Ambassador Mark Green’s Confirmation As Administrator For USAID

Global organization advocates for continued USAID investment in building resilience and tackling conflict

WASHINGTON, DC – The global organization Mercy Corps strongly applauds the U.S. Senate’s confirmation of Ambassador Mark Green as the Administrator for the United State Agency for International Development (USAID). During a time of historic global humanitarian need and displacement, strong leadership and expertise at the United States government’s development agency are urgently needed to tackle the fragility driving these unprecedented challenges...

Operation Smile [to 19 August 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 19 August 2017]

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

16 August 2017

Yemen’s man-made catastrophe is forcing people to make stark live or die choices

Yemenis, already on the tipping point after more than two years of war, are now being forced to choose between treating cholera and putting food on the table, said Oxfam in a new report.

15 August 2017

Oxfam providing clean water and hygiene kits to survivors of Sierra Leone mudslide

Oxfam is providing clean water and hygiene kits to survivors of yesterday’s mudslide on the outskirts of Freetown, Sierra Leone.

9 August 2017

Torture, rape and slavery in Libya: why migrants must be able to leave this hell

Rape, torture and slave labor are among the horrendous daily realities for people stuck in Libya who are desperately trying to escape war, persecution and poverty in African countries, according to a new report by Oxfam and Italian partners MEDU and Borderline Sicilia

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 19 August 2017]

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

Published 15. Aug 2017

Open letter to the UN Secretary-General

Monday 14 August five international aid agencies in the Central African Republic sent an open letter to the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. The letter expresses grave concern about the deteriorating security situation, and calls for the Secretary-General's office to step in and take action to prevent the country collapsing into another full-blown conflict.

The open letter is signed on behalf of ACTED, Action Contre la Faim, Danish Refugee Council, Premiere Urgence, the International Rescue Committee and the Norwegian Refugee Council.

Pact [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Partners In Health [to 19 August 2017]

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

Posted on Aug 16, 2017

PIH Director: "Staggering" Losses in Sierra Leone Flooding

Partners In Health's top official in Sierra Leone described "staggering" losses Tuesday among PIH family and friends in Freetown, where rescue work was ongoing after devastating floods and mudslides killed hundreds a day earlier.

PATH [to 19 August 2017]

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

Announcement | August 18, 2017

PATH nominated for Saving Lives at Birth grants to accelerate diagnostic and device innovations that prevent maternal and infant deaths at birth

Announcement | August 10, 2017

PATH celebrates the extension of its digital health partnership with the Government of Tanzania

Second phase of the Data Use Partnership will strengthen Tanzania's ability to use data to transform its health sector

Announcement | August 09, 2017

PATH partners with the Mahidol Oxford Tropical Medicine Research Unit on first study of the RTS,S malaria vaccine in Asia

Study is the first step toward understanding the vaccine's potential role in elimination campaigns and combating drug resistance across Southeast Asia's Greater Mekong Subregion

Press release | August 07, 2017

Versatile health innovator joins PATH to lead technology development and introduction efforts for low-income countries around the world

Dr. Praveen Raja brings passion, experience, and leadership in medical innovation, digital health, technology, pharmaceuticals, and entrepreneurship to new role

Plan International [to 19 August 2017]

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

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.

Save The Children [to 19 August 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

Almost 20 Million People Affected by Deadly Flooding in India, Bangladesh and Nepal

August 19, 2017

Child Health Crisis Looms in Sierra Leone as Death Toll Continues to Rise

August 18, 2017

Violence in 'Four Famine' Countries Leaving People at Increased Risk of Starvation, Save the Children Warns on World Humanitarian Day

August 18, 2017

Save the Children as Part of "Big Ideas for Women and Girls Coalition" Applauds Appointment of First USAID Deputy Assistant Administrator for Women's Empowerment

August 14, 2017

Sierra Leone Mudslides: Save the Children Statement

August 14, 2017

One Million Malnourished Children in Yemen Caught in Cholera 'Hot Zones'

August 1, 2017

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 19 August 2017]

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

11.08.2017

Empowering young people to break the cycle of poverty and exclusion

This year's International Youth Day (12 August) celebrates young people's contributions to conflict prevention, inclusion, social justice, and sustainable peace.

10.08.2017

Preparing for tomorrow's disasters

SOS Children's Villages launches a pilot emergency preparedness partnership to help train and equip SOS families and national associations

Tostan [to 19 August 2017]

<http://www.tostan.org>

No new digest content identified.

Women for Women International [to 19 August 2017]

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

August 15, 2017 | Washington, D.C.

The "Big Ideas for Women and Girls Coalition" Congratulates Michelle Bekkering on her appointment as First USAID Deputy Assistant Administrator for Women's Empowerment

August 2017 | *News Deeply*

Women for Women International on Syrian women's access to healthcare

Mandana Hendessi, our director of Iraq and Syria response, spoke with News Deeply about the health needs of Syrian refugee women in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

World Vision [to 19 August 2017]

<http://wvi.org/newsroom>

Thursday, August 17th 2017

Humanitarians and civilians in dangerous conflict zones are #NotATarget

"It is repugnant that humanitarians and civilians, including children, are deliberately and increasingly targeted in conflict," said World Vision International President Kevin Jenkins.

Monday, August 14th 2017

Crisis emerges as South Sudan refugees in Uganda hits one million record

ARUA, UGANDA – As the one millionth South Sudanese refugee enters Uganda this week, there is a desperate need for action for children.

.....

Freedom House [to 19 August 2017]

<https://freedomhouse.org/news>

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research

Golden Frog and Freedom House Partner to Provide Tools Protecting Internet Privacy and Freedom

August 16, 2017

Golden Frog and Freedom House today announced plans to jointly assist democracy activists by strengthening their online privacy and improving their internet access, increasingly important issues in authoritarian states.

Quietly Erasing Democracy Promotion at the U.S. State Department

Aug 8 2017 - 3:12pm

America's formal greetings to the world no longer stress the importance of democratic institutions.

Transparency International [to 19 August 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research

17 Aug 2017

Transparency International condemns raids and harassment of civil society in Kenya

Transparency International, the global anti-corruption organisation, and Transparency International Kenya condemn the intimidation and raids of civil society organisations in Kenya, including those fighting against corruption, and call on the government to protect - not harass - those organisations ..

31 Jul 2017

Addressing corruption risks in the humanitarian sector requires open and collective engagement

Transparency International today called on all humanitarian actors to strengthen efforts to enhance transparency and accountability in humanitarian responses to ensure humanitarian aid is distributed in a fair and rapid way without corruption. A more open internal and inter-agency dialogue on the ...

.....

ChildFund Alliance [to 19 August 2017]

<https://www.childfund.org/list/?type=press>

No new digest content identified.

CONCORD [to 19 August 2017]

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

[European NGO confederation for relief and development]

No new digest content identified.

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 19 August 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 16/08/2017]

DEC Statement on Sierra Leone Emergency

A national emergency was declared in Sierra Leone after heavy flooding caused devastating mud slides on the edge of the city's capital Freetown on Monday morning [14 August]. Hundreds are feared dead, thousands are still missing and many more have been left homeless and in urgent need of food, shelter and protection.

The Elders [to 19 August 2017]

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

News 14 August 2017

Achievements, Ambition and Action: Elders promote UHC in Tanzania

Graca Machel and Mary Robinson visited Tanzania in July 2017 to learn about and encourage progress towards Universal Health Coverage.

News 1 August 2017

Why we must Walk Together for our global freedoms

Ricardo Lagos reflects on the launch of the Walk Together campaign and calls for sustained commitment to counter the threats that face global freedoms today.

END Fund [to 19 August 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements

No new digest content identified.

Evidence Aid [to 19 August 2017]

www.evidenceaid.org

No new digest content identified.

Gavi [to 19 August 2017]

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

01 August 2017

Indonesian Government to immunise 70 million children against measles and rubella

The two-year campaign will aim to reach 95% immunisation coverage in Indonesia.

...Gavi is supporting the Government of Indonesia by contributing 50% of the total cost of vaccines. WHO is assisting with the preparation of immunisation activities, particularly in high-risk areas and among vulnerable populations, to ensure all children receive the vaccine...

Global Fund [to 19 August 2017]

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

News

The French Council of Investors in Africa and the Global Fund Create Innovative Partnership

31 July 2017

The French Council of Investors in Africa (CIAN) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria have entered into a cooperation agreement aimed at involving French companies in the fight against the three diseases in sub Saharan Africa.

CIAN is an organization of French companies operating in Africa, including multinational corporations, as well as small and medium-size businesses. The organization aims to accelerate private sector involvement in health issues through its network of 160 member companies and 10,000 establishments in Africa. CIAN recently created a Health Commission, an initiative that demonstrates its members' growing interest in combating the AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria epidemics...

Hilton Prize Coalition [to 19 August 2017]

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

An Alliance of Hilton Prize Recipients

No new digest content identified.

ICVA -International Council of Voluntary Agencies [to 19 August 2017]

<https://icvanetwork.org/>

No new digest content identified.

InterAction [to 19 August 2017]

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

Aug 03, 2017

InterAction Applauds the Senate Confirmation of Amb. Mark Green as USAID Administrator

Historic Opportunities and Challenges Face USAID Administrator

WASHINGTON – InterAction, the largest U.S. alliance of international NGOs, welcomes today's Senate confirmation of Amb. Mark Green to lead the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Start Network [to 19 August 2017]

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

18 Aug 17

Start Network responds rapidly to fill critical gap following Sierra Leone mudslides

by Helen James

Thousands of vulnerable people in dire need following mudslides in Sierra Leone are to begin receiving urgent help today, following the decision yesterday by Start Network members to fund six rapid-response projects.

07 Aug 17

Five ways Start Network proposes to change the humanitarian sector

We have recently embarked on a process called Start Evolves, which aims to design the future of the humanitarian sector and Start Network's place within it. We are inviting organisations around the world to join us in co-designing the structure needed to realise our vision of a more effective humanitarian system....

02 Aug 17

Start Network launches new framework for localisation

A challenge to the sector to move beyond financial targets

by Helen James

The new framework published today takes a deeper and more critical view of localisation, looking at the quality (not just the quantity) of funding, partnerships and participation, capacity development, and the influence of local and national organisations. In publishing the framework the Start Network seeks to promote granularity in the sector's understanding of localisation, in order to foster a holistic approach to addressing it. Start Network also seeks to take a self-critical view to drive meaningful action towards transformative localisation.

The framework has been published as part of a detailed external review, The Start Fund, Start Network and Localisation, which looks at how the Start Network's programmes are faring on the localisation agenda. The review aimed to understand how the Start Fund and three projects within the Disasters and Emergencies Preparedness Programme were already contributing to localisation, using the new framework as a lens, while providing recommendations for the future...

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Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP) [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

CHS Alliance [to 19 August 2017]

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

18/08/2017

Talent Development Project looks inward to share learning

CHS Alliance joined a Talent Development Project showcase event in Amman, Jordan, on 16 August. In total 36 practitioners involved in the Talent Development Project shared achievements and learnings, discussed challenges, and the way ahead for the programme's second edition.

18/08/2017

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

We are introducing three new surge HR guidelines, join our webinar to find out more!

Justine Tordoff, HR consultant will share the HR good practice guidelines developed as part of the Start Network's - Transforming Surge Capacity Project on 6 September 2017 at 09:00 UK time.

15/08/2017

New case study: Blended learning

Blended learning offers humanitarian organisations a cost-effective way of providing greater access to capacity strengthening. This case study reflects on examples from the sector taken from material in the public arena, interviews with learning specialists and published work, and presents the challenges and opportunities the future will bring.

11/08/2017

How can humanitarian organisations encourage more women in surge?

Disasters affect women and men equally therefore it is important to have women equally represented in humanitarian response teams and to ensure that they play a leadership role during emergencies. Transforming Surge Capacity Project's latest report with CARE and ActionAid seeks to tackle the issue by discussing their role in surge responses.

09/08/2017

CHS and the Guidance Notes and Indicators launch in Vietnamese

The Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and the CHS Guidance Notes and Indicators are now available in Vietnamese. The CHS management team would like to thank the Disaster Management Working Group in Vietnam for coordinating the translation. The CHS in Vietnamese will be an invaluable resource for humanitarian and development organisations working across Asia and worldwide.

03/08/2017

New case study: Shifting the Power - localisation in action

Gana Unnayan Kendra (GUK), a community-led development organisation combating poverty in Bangladesh, has recently joined CHS Alliance. In the last years Shifting the Power, a project implemented by Start Network, has been aiming to shift the balance of power towards locally led humanitarian response. Within this framework, Christian Aid has supported GUK to apply the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and join CHS Alliance.

03/08/2017

CHS Alliance trains trainers on the Core Humanitarian Standard in West Africa

Thanks to support from a number of our member organisations, this week we are offering our first Training of Trainers course on the CHS in Sierra Leone. Seventeen hard-working and committed staff from humanitarian and development organisations have been looking at how to apply the CHS in their own work, and how they can best help develop the capacity of their colleagues, teams and partners to do the same.

Development Initiatives [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

EHLRA/R2HC [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

The Sphere Project [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 19 August 2017]

<https://phap.org/>

No new digest content identified.

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Center for Global Development [to 19 August 2017]

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

Publications

Evaluating Evaluations: Assessing the Quality of Aid Agency Evaluations in Global Health - Working Paper 461

8/18/17

Julia Goldberg Raifman , Felix Lam , Janeen Madan Keller , Alexander Radunsky and William Savedoff

We assessed the methodological quality of global health program evaluations from five major funders between 2009 and 2014. We found that most evaluations did not meet social science methodological standards in terms of relevance, validity, and reliability. Nevertheless, good quality evaluations made it possible to identify ten recommendations for improving evaluations, including a robust finding that early planning is associated with better quality.

The IT Boom and Other Unintended Consequences of Chasing the American Dream - Working Paper 460

8/8/17

Gaurav Khanna and Nicolas Morales

With the majority of all H-1B visas going to Indians, we study how US immigration policy coupled with the internet boom affected both the US and Indian economies, and in particular both countries' IT sectors.

Middle Class: Winners or Losers in a Globalized World?

8/3/17

Nancy Birdsall

Globalization is under attack in the West. The debate among pundits is no longer about whether globalization is to blame or not. It is about why globalization is now the bugaboo it has become. A common thread are changes, for the worse, in the economic and social standing of the Western middle class.

ODI [to 19 August 2017]

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

Selected Reports and Studies

Supporting governance for climate resilience: working with political institutions

Working and discussion papers | August 2017 | Arabella Fraser and Amy Kirbyshire

Political relationships inform how different approaches to governance for improved resilience to climate shocks and stressors play out in practice.

Supporting Central African refugees in Cameroon: policy and practice in response to protracted displacement

Working and discussion papers | August 2017 | Veronique Barbelet

This working paper explores the perspectives of institutions, networks and individuals that shape the displacement of CAR refugees in Cameroon.

Supporting accountability in fragile settings: a review for the Somalia Implementation and Analysis in Action of Accountability Programme

Resource | August 2017 | Hamish Nixon, Anne Buffardi, Joseph Wales, Tiina Pasanen

This report provides a problem-focused synthesis of evidence for the DFID-funded Implementation and Analysis in Action of Accountability Programme (IAAAP).

UK support for energy in developing countries 2010-14

Briefing papers | August 2017 | Dr Sarah Wykes and Andrew Scott

This paper finds that UK support for energy in developing countries between 2010-2014 heavily favoured fossil fuels over renewable energy.

Trade facilitation, transport costs and the price of trucking services in East Africa

Working and discussion papers | August 2017 | Andreas Eberhard-Ruiz and Linda Calabrese

This paper examines the channels through which trade facilitation efforts can reduce the price for transporting goods between countries in East Africa.

Smart industrialisation through trade in the context of Africa's transformation

Briefing papers | August 2017 | Lily Sommer, Linda Calabrese, Maximiliano Mendez-Parra and David Luke

This brief provides policy recommendations for using trade and trade policy to support industrialisation and the transformation of Africa economies.

Creating opportunities for young people in Northern Uganda's agriculture sector

Research reports and studies | July 2017 | Alexandra Lowe and SANYO Phiona

This report outlines obstacles and opportunities for young people to participate in Northern Uganda's agriculture sector.

Urban Institute [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

World Economic Forum [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

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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.

Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group [to 19 August 2017]

<https://www.alleninstitute.org/what-we-do/frontiers-group/news-press/news/>

No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Annie E. Casey Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Blue Meridian Partners [to 19 August 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 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Ford Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

GHIT Fund [to 19 August 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 •

No new digest content identified.

Grameen Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

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

August 16, 2017

Fossil fuel subsidies: Can transparency promote reforms?

Fossil fuel subsidies are “the world’s dumbest policy,” argued the editorial board of Bloomberg Media last September. They persist, despite relatively low oil prices. And while fuel subsidies can take many forms, there is overwhelming consensus among researchers that the estimated \$5.3 trillion in fuel subsidies worldwide each year is bad for people and the planet. Although many governments acknowledge these facts and seem ...

August 14, 2017

Q&A with Andrea Keller Helsel: What’s next for western conservation?

Andrea Keller Helsel joined the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation in May as program officer for western conservation, an issue that the foundation has been dedicated to since its establishment more than 50 years ago. We sat down recently with Andrea to talk about progress in protecting the West’s treasured places, and new directions in conservation. ...

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

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

Our News

A Look at the Humanitarian Landscape: How Philanthropy Plays a Role

August 18, 2017

The need for humanitarian assistance is severe, global and growing. Today, humanitarian crises affect over 125 million people in every region of the globe— a number that has nearly doubled since 2011. To this end, the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation recently commissioned Dalberg Global Development Advisors to provide a high-level overview of the current humanitarian landscape and outline potential roles through which philanthropy can contribute to the sector.

Report pdf: https://hilton-production.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/277/attachments/20170817_Hilton_Foundation_-_Public_Facing_Memorandum.pdf?1502994921

Press Release

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation Announces Recipients of the 2017 Marilyn Hilton Award for Innovation in Multiple Sclerosis Research

August 15, 2017

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation Announces Recipients of the 2017 Marilyn Hilton Award for Innovation in Multiple Sclerosis Research

IKEA Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 19 August 2017]

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

Aug 15 2017

Science Education

HHMI Awards 39 Gilliam Fellowships to Support Diversity in Science

Summary

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute has selected 39 new Gilliam fellows, exceptional doctoral students who have the potential to be leaders in their fields and the desire to advance diversity and inclusion in the sciences.

Aga Khan Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

<http://www.akdn.org/our-agencies/aga-khan-foundation>

16 August 2017

Pakistan: President Mamnoon lauds Aga Khan's development initiatives

Kellogg Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

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

Aug. 11, 2017

Speech to United States Conference of Mayors

La June Montgomery Tabron, president and CEO

W.K. Kellogg Foundation President and CEO La June Montgomery Tabron delivered the following speech to the United States Conference of Mayors on Aug. 10, 2017.

Aug. 11, 2017

Dental therapists are making a significant difference in the oral health of Alaska Native children

Bethel, Alaska – Children had lower rates of tooth extractions and more preventive care in Alaska Native communities served frequently by Dental Health Aide Therapists (DHATs) than residents in communities not receiving any DHAT services, according to a new study released by the University of Washington.

The study, led by Donald Chi, DDS, PhD at the University of Washington and funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts, Rasmuson Foundation and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, presents an analysis of patients in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC), from 2006 to 2015. YKHC serves 25,000 Alaska Natives representing 58 federally-recognized tribes...

MacArthur Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

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

Perspectives

Chicago Responds to Federal Immigration Orders

Tara Magner, Director, Chicago Commitment

Published August 2, 2017

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

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

August 22, 2017

Health systems create learning lab to address the issue of diagnostic errors

Each year, approximately 12 million adults in the U.S. experience a diagnostic error as part of an outpatient office visit – that's one in 20 people. The National Academy of Medicine defines a diagnostic error as the failure to establish an accurate and timely explanation of the patient's health problem(s) or communicate that explanation to the patient. In 2015, the academy published a report titled, Improving Diagnosis in Health Care. The report finds that diagnosis – and, in particular, the occurrence of diagnostic errors – has been largely underappreciated in efforts to improve the quality and safety of health care.

Health systems are stepping up to the challenge and addressing errors in diagnosis. Patient safety researchers from Baylor College of Medicine, in collaboration with Geisinger, are developing a novel program to systematically measure and improve safety of clinical diagnosis, which they have named "The Safer Dx Learning Lab." The foundation is supporting this first-of-its kind learning lab with Baylor and Geisinger, a pioneering integrated health care system known for its work in improving health care quality. The work is part of the Patient Care Program's work in patient safety.

August 2, 2017

[Generations of Inuit knowledge help inform mapping tool in Canada](#)

Courtesy of Robert Kautuk, via Canadian Geographic

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

Open Society Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Pew Charitable Trusts [to 19 August 2017]

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

August 07, 2017

[Pew to Launch Information-Sharing Platform to Spur Antibiotic Discovery](#)

Press Release

WASHINGTON—The Pew Charitable Trusts announced today that it will create a digital platform allowing researchers to share data, ideas, and insights to spur the discovery of innovative new antibiotics needed in the battle against the growing global threat of drug-resistant bacteria, or superbugs

Rockefeller Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 19 August 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Science Philanthropy Alliance [to 19 August 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..."

August 9, 2017

[Science Philanthropists' Approaches to Making a Difference](#) [Marc Kastner blog]

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SDG Philanthropy Platform

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

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

14-8-2017

NEW RESEARCH: Philanthropy's Contributions to the SDGs in Emerging Countries

Philanthropy's contributions to large development frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been growing worldwide. Philanthropy is interested in leveraging resources to achieve greater impact, influencing long-term development, as well as creating scalable solutions. However, despite good intent, philanthropy's impact remains limited because of siloed approaches, lack of understanding of broader development eco-systems in countries, and lack of appreciation for collaboration.

This new research paper presents winning strategies for foundations which achieve scale through systems design and thinking, supporting local innovations, and collaboration. The paper builds on inputs from a global partnership initiative, SDG Philanthropy Platform, which aims to align philanthropic investments with the SDGs. The paper discusses practical approaches practiced by global foundations such as the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and the Ford Foundation, as well as national philanthropic associations in 8 countries worldwide.

The research paper zooms in on the prototyping from Kenya, Ghana, Zambia, India, Indonesia and Colombia, and our work with a broad spectrum of local philanthropic players ranging from traditional grant-making foundations to social and impact investors.

Read more here: [Philanthropy's Contributions to the SDGs in Emerging Countries](#)

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

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

No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 19 August 2017]

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

News / Published: 10 August 2017

Danny Truell to become Emeritus Partner of Wellcome Investments

Danny Truell has led the Wellcome Trust's Investment division with great distinction as Chief Investment Officer and more recently as Managing Partner, overseeing transformative growth of our endowment that has allowed us to more than double our charitable spending since his arrival in 2005.

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:: Journal Watch

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

August 01, 2017 Volume 45, Issue 8, p819-938, e69-e90

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

Major Articles

Efficacy of the World Health Organization–recommended handwashing technique and a modified washing technique to remove *Clostridium difficile* from hands

Philippe Deschênes, Frédéric Chano, Léa-Laurence Dionne, Didier Pittet, Yves Longtin
p844–848

Published online: May 16, 2017

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

August 2017 Volume 53, Issue 2, p139-274, e35-e78

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

August 2017 107(8)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Volume 97, Issue 2, 2017

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

Perspective Piece

Why Did Zika Not Explode in Cuba? The Role of Active Community Participation to Sustain Control of Vector-Borne Diseases

Authors: Marta Castro, Dennis Pérez, Maria G. Guzman and Clare Barrington

<https://doi.org/10.4269/ajtmh.16-0906>

Annals of Internal Medicine

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

15 August 2017 Vol: 167, Issue 4

[No new digest content identified]

1 August 2017 Vol: 167, Issue 3

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

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

(Accessed 19 August 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 19 August 2017)

Research article

[Gender differentials in readiness and use of mHealth services in a rural area of Bangladesh](#)

Traditional gender roles result in women lagging behind men in the use of modern technologies, especially in developing countries. Although there is rapid uptake of mobile phone use in Bangladesh, investigatio...

Fatema Khatun, Anita E. Heywood, Syed Manzoor Ahmed Hanifi, M. Shafiqur Rahman, Pradeep K. Ray, Siaw-Teng Liaw and Abbas Bhuiya

BMC Health Services Research 2017 17:573

Published on: 18 August 2017

Research article

[Water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure and quality in rural healthcare facilities in Rwanda](#)

WHO and UNICEF have proposed an action plan to achieve universal water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) coverage in healthcare facilities (HCFs) by 2030. The WASH targets and indicators for HCFs include: an impr...

Alexandra Huttinger, Robert Dreibelbis, Felix Kayigamba, Fidel Ngabo, Leodomir Mfura, Brittney Merryweather, Amelie Cardon and Christine Moe

BMC Health Services Research 2017 17:517

Published on: 3 August 2017

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 19 August 2017)

Research article

[Population effectiveness of the pentavalent and monovalent rotavirus vaccines: a systematic review and meta-analysis of observational studies](#)

Rotavirus was the leading cause of acute gastroenteritis (AGE) in infants and young children prior to the introduction of routine vaccination. Since 2006 there have been two licensed vaccines available; with s...

Daniel Hungerford, Katie Smith, Angela Tucker, Miren Iturriza-Gómara, Roberto Vivancos, Catherine McLeonard, Nigel A Cunliffe and Neil French

BMC Infectious Diseases 2017 17:569

Published on: 15 August 2017

Research article

Evaluation of vaccination herd immunity effects for anogenital warts in a low coverage setting with human papillomavirus vaccine—an interrupted time series analysis from 2005 to 2010 using health insurance data

Shortly after the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine recommendation and hence the reimbursement of vaccination costs for the respective age groups in Germany in 2007, changes in the incidence of anogenital war...

Kathrin Thöne, Johannes Horn and Rafael Mikolajczyk

BMC Infectious Diseases 2017 17:564

Published on: 14 August 2017

Research article

Strategies for the prevention of perinatal hepatitis B transmission in a marginalized population on the Thailand-Myanmar border: a cost-effectiveness analysis

Data on the cost effectiveness of hepatitis B virus (HBV) screening and vaccination strategies for prevention of vertical transmission of HBV in resource limited settings is sparse.

Angela Devine, Rebecca Harvey, Aung Myat Min, Mary Ellen T. Gilder, Moo Koh Paw, Joy Kang, Isabella Watts, Borimas Hanboonkunupakarn, François Nosten and Rose McGready

BMC Infectious Diseases 2017 17:552

Published on: 9 August 2017

Database

An extensible framework and database of infectious disease for biosurveillance

Biosurveillance, a relatively young field, has recently increased in importance because of increasing emphasis on global health. Databases and tools describing particular subsets of disease are becoming increa...

Ashlynn R. Daughton, Reid Priedhorsky, Geoffrey Fairchild, Nicholas Generous, Andrea Hengartner, Esteban Abeyta, Nileena Velappan, Antonietta Lillo, Karen Stark and Alina Deshpande

BMC Infectious Diseases 2017 17:549

Published on: 7 August 2017

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 19 August 2017)

Research article

Eliciting meta consent for future secondary research use of health data using a smartphone application - a proof of concept study in the Danish population

The increased use of information technology in every day health care creates vast amounts of stored health data that can be used for research. The secondary research use of routinely collected data raises ques...

Thomas Ploug and Søren Holm

Published on: 15 August 2017

Research article

Ethical issues of informed consent in malaria research proposals submitted to a research ethics committee in Thailand: a retrospective document review

The informed-consent process should be one of meaningful information exchange between researchers and study participants. One of the responsibilities of research ethics committees is to oversee appropriate inf...

Pornpimon Adams, Sukanya Prakobtham, Chanthima Limpattarachoen, Sumeth Suebtrakul, Pitchapa Vutikes, Srisin Khusmith, Polrat Wilairatana, Paul Adams and Jaranit Kaewkungwal
Published on: 14 August 2017

Research article

[Healthcare professionals' and patients' perspectives on consent to clinical genetic testing: moving towards a more relational approach](#)

This paper proposes a refocusing of consent for clinical genetic testing, moving away from an emphasis on autonomy and information provision, towards an emphasis on the virtues of healthcare professionals seek...

Gabrielle Natalie Samuel, Sandi Dheensa, Bobbie Farsides, Angela Fenwick and Anneke Lucassen
Published on: 8 August 2017

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 19 August 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 19 August 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 19 August 2017)

Research article

[Using lot quality assurance sampling to assess access to water, sanitation and hygiene services in a refugee camp setting in South Sudan: a feasibility study](#)

Humanitarian agencies working in refugee camp settings require rapid assessment methods to measure the needs of the populations they serve. Due to the high level of dependency of refugees, agencies need to car...

Elizabeth Harding, Colin Beckworth, Jean-Francois Fesselet, Annick Lenglet, Richard Lako and Joseph J. Valadez

BMC Public Health 2017 17:643

Published on: 8 August 2017

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 19 August 2017)

Research note

[The neglected burden of snakebites in Cameroon: a review of the epidemiology, management and public health challenges](#)

Snakebite is an underestimated medical and surgical emergency in developing countries responsible for a high disease burden. Optimal management of snake envenomation in these resource-limited settings is precl...

Joel Noutakdie Tochie, Mazou N. Temgoua, Tsi Njim, Danwang Celestin, Ronni Tankeu and Njinkeng J. Nkemngu
BMC Research Notes 2017 10:405
Published on: 14 August 2017

Research article

[HIV prevalence and high-risk behaviour of young brothel and non-brothel based female sex workers in Nigeria](#)

Female sex workers (FSWs) have been identified as a core group in the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Young FSWs are particularly more vulnerable to HIV due to the combina...

Uchenna Onyekachi Okafor, Rik Crutzen, Okekearu Ifeanyi, Sylvia Adebajo and Hubertus Van den Borne

BMC Research Notes 2017 10:380
Published on: 10 August 2017

BMJ Open

August 2017 - Volume 7 - 8

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

Global health - Research

[Baseline data from a planned RCT on attitudes to female genital cutting after migration: when are interventions justified?](#)

Anna Wahlberg, Sara Johnsdotter, Katarina Ekholm Selling, Carina Källestål, Birgitta Essén

Public health - Research

[What is the prevalence of and associations with forced labour experiences among male migrants from Dolakha, Nepal? Findings from a cross-sectional study of returnee migrants](#)

Joelle Mak, Tanya Abramsky, Bandita Sijapati, Ligia Kiss, Cathy Zimmerman

[Challenges and facilitators for health professionals providing primary healthcare for refugees and asylum seekers in high-income countries: a systematic review and thematic synthesis of qualitative research](#)

Luke Robertshaw, Surindar Dhesi, Laura L Jones

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 95, Number 8, August 2017, 545-608

<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/95/7/en/>

Research

[A cohort study of low birth weight and health outcomes in the first year of life, Ghana](#)

Maureen O'Leary, Karen Edmond, Sian Floyd, Sam Newton, Gyan Thomas & Sara L Thomas

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.16.180273>

Child Care, Health and Development

September 2017 Volume 43, Issue 5 Pages 627–782

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/cch.v43.5/issuetoc>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Clinical Therapeutics

August 2017 Volume 39, Issue 8, Supplement, e1-e110

[http://www.clinicaltherapeutics.com/issue/S0149-2918\(17\)X0006-4](http://www.clinicaltherapeutics.com/issue/S0149-2918(17)X0006-4)

The Proceedings of the 13th Congress of the European Association for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics

[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 19 August 2017]

Review

[Understanding processes of risk and protection that shape the sexual and reproductive health of young women affected by conflict: the price of protection](#)

It is assumed that knowing what puts young women at risk of poor sexual health outcomes and, in turn, what protects them against these outcomes, will enable greater targeted protection as well as help in design...

Aisha Hutchinson, Philippa Waterhouse, Jane March-McDonald, Sarah Neal and Roger Ingham

Conflict and Health 2017 11:15

Published on: 17 August 2017

Contemporary Clinical Trials

Volume 59, Pages 1-120 (August 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/15517144/59?sdc=1>

[No new digest content identified]

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases

August 2017 - Volume 30 - Issue 4

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Developing World Bioethics

August 2017 Volume 17, Issue 2 Pages 61–140

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dewb.2017.17.issue-2/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Development in Practice

Volume 27, Issue 6

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

Article

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

Participatory system dynamics modelling for dairy value chain development in Nicaragua

Helene Lie, Karl M. Rich & Stefan Burkart

Pages: 785-800

Published online: 10 Aug 2017

Article

Culture and women's land rights on the ground in Uganda

Jackline Kabahinda

Pages: 828-838

Published online: 10 Aug 2017

Note

The situation of women in the agribusiness sector in Africa

Rahma Isaack Adam, Philip Osano, Joan Birika, Atieno A. Ndede Amadi & Henry Bwisa

Pages: 892-898

Published online: 10 Aug 2017

ABSTRACT

This practical note synthesises the proceedings of a gender forum on women in agribusiness, which took place in Nairobi, Kenya in April 2015. The workshop session of the forum focused on two themes: financing options and entrepreneurship capacities. The public session covered six main areas: (1) post-harvest food management, (2) policies to enhance affirmative action, (3) regional integration and international trade, (4) technologies, (5) land and water management for agriculture, and (6) the next generation of agribusiness entrepreneurs. The multi-sectoral forum brought together some key stakeholders across East Africa to share experiences and best practices, increase mutual learning, and expand public discourse on the subject.

Development Policy Review

September 2017 Volume 35, Issue 5 Pages 599–720

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dpr.2017.35.issue-5/issuetoc>

ARTICLES

The impact of cash transfers on livelihoods, education, health and HIV – what's the evidence? (pages 601–619)

Jessica E. Taaffe, Andrew F. Longosz and David Wilson

Version of Record online: 20 APR 2017 | DOI: 10.1111/dpr.12253

Abstract

Cash transfers are a development intervention aimed at alleviating shocks from chronic poverty and inequality by reducing the risks and vulnerabilities associated with them. Implementation of cash transfer programmes is growing rapidly around the world, providing a body of evidence demonstrating the impact of cash transfers in many development sectors, including livelihoods, education and health. Cash transfers have also been effective in influencing positive outcomes for HIV prevention synergistically with other development sectors. Yet, programme effectiveness is greatly influenced by context, including issues such as conditionality, durability and political will. Nevertheless, the evidence strongly supports the effectiveness of cash transfers in leading to positive and multi-sectoral development outcomes, warranting greater use of such programmes.

Cash Transfers and Child Nutrition: Pathways and Impacts (pages 621–643)

Richard de Groot, Tia Palermo, Sudhanshu Handa, Luigi Peter Ragno and Amber Peterman

Version of Record online: 18 APR 2017 | DOI: 10.1111/dpr.12255

Abstract

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

Childhood malnutrition remains a significant global problem, with an estimated 162 million children under the age of five suffering from stunted growth. This article examines the extent to which cash transfer programmes can improve child nutrition. It adopts a framework that captures and explains the pathways and determinants of child nutrition. The framework is then used to organize and discuss relevant evidence from the impact evaluation literature, focusing on impact pathways and new and emerging findings from sub-Saharan Africa to identify critical elements that determine child nutrition outcomes as well as knowledge gaps requiring further research, such as children's dietary diversity, caregiver behaviours and stress.

Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology

Volume 12, Issue 8, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness

Volume 11 - Issue 4 - August 2017

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

Original Research

The West Africa Disaster Preparedness Initiative: Strengthening National Capacities for All-Hazards Disaster Preparedness

Melinda J. Morton Hamer, Paul L. Reed, Jane D. Greulich, Gabor D. Kelen, Nicole A. Bradstreet, Charles W. Beadling

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/dmp.2016.155>

Published online: 24 November 2016, pp. 431-438

Abstract

The Ebola outbreak demonstrated the need for improved disaster response throughout West Africa. The West Africa Disaster Preparedness Initiative was a training and assessment effort led by US Africa Command and partners to strengthen capacities among 12 West African partner nations (PNs).

Series of 3-week training sessions with representatives from each PN were held from 13 July through 20 November 2015 at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre in Accra, Ghana. A team conducted Disaster Management Capabilities Assessments (DMCAs) for each PN, including a review of key data, a survey for leaders, and in-person interviews of key informants.

All 12 PNs generated a national Ebola Preparedness and Response Plan and Emergency Operations Center standard operating procedures. DMCA metrics were generated for each PN. Top performers included Ghana, with a plan rated good/excellent, and Benin and Burkina Faso, which both achieved a satisfactory rating for their plans. More than 800 people from 12 nations were trained.

PNs have improved disaster management capabilities and awareness of their strengths and weaknesses. The Economic Community of West African States has increased its lead role in this and future planned initiatives. (Disaster Med Public Health Preparedness. 2017;11:431–438)

Concepts in Disaster Medicine

Setting Foundations for Developing Disaster Response Metrics

Mahshid Abir, Sue Anne Bell, Neha Puppala, Osama Awad, Melinda Moore

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/dmp.2016.173>

Published online: 06 February 2017, pp. 505-509

Abstract

There are few reported efforts to define universal disaster response performance measures. Careful examination of responses to past disasters can inform the development of such measures. As a first step toward this goal, we conducted a literature review to identify key factors in responses to 3 recent events with significant loss of human life and economic impact: the 2003 Bam, Iran, earthquake; the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami; and the 2010 Haiti earthquake. Using the PubMed (National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, MD) database, we identified 710 articles and retained 124 after applying inclusion and exclusion criteria. Seventy-two articles pertained to the Haiti earthquake, 38 to the Indian Ocean tsunami, and 14 to the Bam earthquake. On the basis of this review, we developed an organizational framework for disaster response performance measurement with 5 key disaster response categories: (1) personnel, (2) supplies and equipment, (3) transportation, (4) timeliness and efficiency, and (5) interagency cooperation. Under each of these, and again informed by the literature, we identified subcategories and specific items that could be developed into standardized performance measures. The validity and comprehensiveness of these measures can be tested by applying them to other recent and future disaster responses, after which standardized performance measures can be developed through a consensus process. (Disaster Med Public Health Preparedness. 2017;11:505–509)

Disasters

July 2017 Volume 41, Issue 3 Pages 427–627

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/disa.2017.41.issue-3/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

EMBO Reports

01 July 2017; volume 18, issue 7

<http://embor.embopress.org/content/18/7?current-issue=y>

Science & Society

[Reviewed earlier]

Emergency Medicine Journal

August 2017 - Volume 34 - 8

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

Global Emergency Medicine Highlights

[Abstracts from international Emergency Medicine journals](#)

Ellen J Weber

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Volume 23, Number 8—August 2017

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Epidemics

Volume 19, Pages 1-84 (June 2017)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

End of Life Journal

2016, Volume 7, Issue 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemiology and Infection

Volume 145 - Issue 11 - August 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & International Affairs

Summer 2017 (Issue 31.2)

<https://www.ethicsandinternationalaffairs.org/2017/summer-2017-issue-31-2/>

[Reviewed earlier]

The European Journal of Public Health

Volume 27, Issue 4, 1 August 2017

<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/27/4>

Editorials

Contextual effects on health inequalities: a research agenda

Odile Sauzet; Alastair H. Leyland

European Journal of Public Health, Volume 27, Issue 4, 1 August 2017, Pages 587–588,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckx038>

Viewpoints

Migrant health: the economic argument

Ursula Trummer; Allan Krasnik

European Journal of Public Health, Volume 27, Issue 4, 1 August 2017, Pages 590–591,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckx087>

Extract

The right to health care is acknowledged in many international declarations—however, often with unclear statements regarding the population groups that should actually be provided with this right and the extent of services that should be included. National legislations of the European countries on the provision of health care are generally restricting entitlements to certain population groups. As a consequence, many migrants enjoy entitlements which are not comparable to those of the citizens of the country—depending of their formal status in the country.¹ Besides, the full enjoyment of health care requires not only formal entitlements, but also the existence of inclusive health services that are able to ensure quality of care when access has actually been obtained. An accumulating body of evidence in the field of health and migration concludes...

Migrant health: putting the economic argument into the context of deservingness debates

Nora Gottlieb; Nadav Davidovitch

European Journal of Public Health, Volume 27, Issue 4, 1 August 2017, Pages 591–592,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckx088>

Restricted access to health care for asylum-seekers: applying a human rights lens to the argument of resource constraints

Kayvan Bozorgmehr; Judith Wenner; Oliver Razum

European Journal of Public Health, Volume 27, Issue 4, 1 August 2017, Pages 592–593,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckx086>

Food Policy

Volume 70, Pages 1-98 (July 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03069192/70?sdc=1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Security

Volume 9, Issue 4, August 2017

<https://link.springer.com/journal/12571/9/4/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Forum for Development Studies

Volume 44, Issue 2, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Genocide Studies International

Vol. 10, No. 2, Fall 2016

<http://www.utpjournals.press/toc/gsi/10/2>

Non-State Aspects of Genocide

[Reviewed earlier]

Geoheritage

Volume 9, Issue 3, September 2017

<http://link.springer.com/journal/12371/9/2/page/1>

Volcanic Geoheritage

Original Article

The Somoto Grand Canyon (Nicaragua)—a Volcanic Geoheritage Site One Decade After Discovery: from Field Geological Mapping to the Promotion of a Geopark

Vladimír Žáček, Petr Hradecký, Petr Kycl, Josef Ševčík, Roman Novotný...

Abstract

After its 'discovery' during field geological mapping by geologists of the Czech Geological Survey in 2004, the gorge of the Coco River in NW Nicaragua, now known as the Somoto Grand Canyon, has been turned into one of the most beautiful tourist attractions in Nicaragua. The canyon is developed in acid ignimbrites of Miocene age and is 3.5 km long and located between 13 and 14° N and 86–87° W, 12 km W of the town of Somoto. The gorge, which reaches a width of 4–10 m in its narrowest parts and a depth of up to 190 m, uncovers a range of unique pseudokarst features, such as giant erosion potholes and rock and sandy bars alternating with deep lakes. The Somoto Grand Canyon quickly became known to the public, and in 2006, it was declared a National Monument by law, and in 2007, a picture of the canyon appeared on the 50 córdobas banknote. The Somoto Grand Canyon is now considered as a famous object of geoheritage,

belonging to one of the most famous sites in Nicaragua and there are aspirations that it could be included in the UNESCO Global Geopark Network, as the main geoheritage site of the planned Río Coco Geopark.

Global Health Action

Volume 10, 2017 – Supplement 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP)

June 27, 2017, 5 (2)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Public Health

Volume 12, 2017 Issue 10

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

Article

Non-communicable diseases and human rights: Global synergies, gaps and opportunities

Laura Ferguson, Daniel Tarantola, Michael Hoffmann & Sofia Gruskin

Pages: 1200-1227

ABSTRACT

The incorporation of human rights in health policy and programmes is known to strengthen responses to health problems and help address disparities created or exacerbated by illness yet this remains underexplored in relation to non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Aiming to understand existing synergies and how they might be further strengthened, we assessed the extent to which human rights are considered in global NCD policies and strategies and the degree of attention given to NCDs by select United Nations human rights mechanisms. Across global NCD policies and strategies, rhetorical assertions regarding human rights appear more often than actionable statements, thus limiting their implementation and impact. Although no human rights treaty explicitly mentions NCDs, some human rights monitoring mechanisms have been paying increasing attention to NCDs. This provides important avenues for promoting the incorporation of human rights norms and standards into NCD responses as well as for accountability. Linking NCDs and human rights at the global level is critical for encouraging national-level action to promote better outcomes relating to both health and human rights. The post-2015 development agenda constitutes a key entry point for highlighting these synergies and strengthening opportunities for health and rights action at global, national and local levels.

Article

Hidden costs: The ethics of cost-effectiveness analyses for health interventions in resource-limited settings

Sarah E. Rutstein, Joan T. Price, Nora E. Rosenberg, Stuart M. Rennie, Andrea K. Biddle & William C. Miller

Pages: 1269-1281

ABSTRACT

Cost-effectiveness analysis (CEA) is an increasingly appealing tool for evaluating and comparing health-related interventions in resource-limited settings. The goal is to inform decision-makers

regarding the health benefits and associated costs of alternative interventions, helping guide allocation of limited resources by prioritising interventions that offer the most health for the least money. Although only one component of a more complex decision-making process, CEAs influence the distribution of health-care resources, directly influencing morbidity and mortality for the world's most vulnerable populations. However, CEA-associated measures are frequently setting-specific valuations, and CEA outcomes may violate ethical principles of equity and distributive justice. We examine the assumptions and analytical tools used in CEAs that may conflict with societal values. We then evaluate contextual features unique to resource-limited settings, including the source of health-state utilities and disability weights, implications of CEA thresholds in light of economic uncertainty, and the role of external donors. Finally, we explore opportunities to help align interpretation of CEA outcomes with values and budgetary constraints in resource-limited settings. The ethical implications of CEAs in resource-limited settings are vast. It is imperative that CEA outcome summary measures and implementation thresholds adequately reflect societal values and ethical priorities in resource-limited settings.

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 19 August 2017]

Research

Methods for medical device and equipment procurement and prioritization within low- and middle-income countries: findings of a systematic literature review

Forty to 70 % of medical devices and equipment in low- and middle-income countries are broken, unused or unfit for purpose; this impairs service delivery to patients and results in lost resources.

Karin Diaconu, Yen-Fu Chen, Carole Cummins, Gabriela Jimenez Moyao, Semira Manaseki-Holland and Richard Lilford

Globalization and Health 2017 13:59

Published on: 18 August 2017

Review

ICTs and the challenge of health system transition in low and middle-income countries

The aim of this paper is to contribute to debates about how governments and other stakeholders can influence the application of ICTs to increase access to safe, effective and affordable treatment of common ill...

Gerald Bloom, Evangelia Berdou, Hilary Standing, Zhilei Guo and Alain Labrique

Globalization and Health 2017 13:56

Published on: 7 August 2017

Health Affairs

August 2017; Volume 36, Issue 8

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

Issue Focus: Consumerism, Competition, Drug Approval & More

Global Health

In Madagascar, Use Of Health Care Services Increased When Fees Were Removed: Lessons For Universal Health Coverage

Andres Garchitorena, Ann C. Miller, Laura F. Cordier, Ranto Ramananjato, Victor R. Rabeza, Megan Murray, Amber Cripps, Laura Hall, Paul Farmer, Michael Rich, Arthur Velo Orlan, Alexandre Rabemampionona, Germain Rakotozafy, Damoela Randriantsimaniry, Djordje Gikic, and Matthew H. Bonds

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

Health Aff August 2017 36:1443-1451; doi:10.1377/hlthaff.2016.1419

Abstract

Despite overwhelming burdens of disease, health care access in most developing countries is extremely low. As governments work toward achieving universal health coverage, evidence on appropriate interventions to expand access in rural populations is critical for informing policies. Using a combination of population and health system data, we evaluated the impact of two pilot fee exemption interventions in a rural area of Madagascar. We found that fewer than one-third of people in need of health care accessed treatment when point-of-service fees were in place. However, when fee exemptions were introduced for targeted medicines and services, the use of health care increased by 65 percent for all patients, 52 percent for children under age five, and over 25 percent for maternity consultations. These effects were sustained at an average direct cost of US\$0.60 per patient. The pilot interventions can become a key element of universal health care in Madagascar with the support of external donors.

Health and Human Rights

Volume 19, Issue 1, June 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Economics, Policy and Law

Volume 12 - Issue 3 - July 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 32, Issue 7 September 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems

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

[Accessed 19 August 2017]

Research

[Assessing service use for mental health by Indigenous populations in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States of America: a rapid review of population surveys](#)

Indigenous people in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States of America experience disproportionately poor mental health compared to their non-Indigenous counterparts. To optimally allocate resour...

Cecily McIntyre, Meredith G. Harris, Amanda J. Baxter, Stuart Leske, Sandra Diminic, Joseph P. Gone, Ernest Hunter and Harvey Whiteford

Health Research Policy and Systems 2017 15:67

Published on: 4 August 2017

Human Rights Quarterly

Volume 39, Number 3, August 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://muse.jhu.edu/issue/36740>

Articles

[Measuring Compliance: Social Rights and the Maximum Available Resources Dilemma](#)

pp. 657-679

DOI: [10.1353/hrq.2017.0036](https://doi.org/10.1353/hrq.2017.0036)

Abby Kendrick

ABSTRACT:

This article argues that since fulfillment of social rights is dependent on the availability of resources we must look beyond the field of international human rights, to economics, to provide a stylized way of thinking about measuring compliance. Using conditional rights as a starting point, this article argues that there are certain normative and practical factors that limit social rights, and it is in allowing for these factors that gives rise to the maximum resources dilemma: How can the content of social rights be determined if it is allowed to differ across resource contexts, and how can compliance be measured if the content is not determinate? It argues further that the empirical tools of microeconomics offer a systematic way to deal with the dilemma and outlines a methodological sketch for measuring compliance.

Humanitarian Exchange Magazine

<http://odihpn.org/magazine/the-humanitarian-consequences-of-violence-in-central-america/>

Number 69 June 2017

The humanitarian consequences of violence in Central America

[Reviewed earlier]

IDRiM Journal

Vol 7, No 1 (2017)

<http://idrimjournal.com/index.php/idrim/issue/view/17>

Regular Articles

[Vulnerability of Agricultural Production in the Brazilian Semi-Arid: An empirical approach including risk.](#)

Minella Alves Martins, Stefan Hochrainer-Stigler, Georg Pflug

Abstract

Agricultural production risk is getting increasing attention in the science and the policy domain due to its strong connection with food security and its potential to trigger systemic risks. Particularly in semi-arid regions, weather and environmental conditions can seriously affect agricultural production. Brazil stands out exceptionally as it has one of the most populated semi-arid areas globally. Nevertheless, risk assessment of crop production for these regions is lacking, but essentially needed for policy and risk management purposes. To fill part of this gap, this paper provides first estimates of crop yield risk for the semi-arid in Brazil on the municipality level from an empirical perspective. It was found that many highly vulnerable municipalities are located in states such as Ceará, Piauí, Pernambuco, and Paraíba. These hotspot regions may be prioritized in terms of public investments in order to help them decrease current and future vulnerability related to crop production. Especially climate change impacts may worsen the situation considerably in the future and should be included already in current adaptation strategies.

Infectious Agents and Cancer

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

[Accessed 19 August 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

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

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

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

[Accessed 19 August 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

International Health

Volume 9, Issue 4 July 2017

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

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Collaborating to develop joint water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and neglected tropical disease (NTD) sector monitoring: an expert consultation

Robyn C. Waite; Geordie Woods; Yael Velleman; Matthew C. Freeman

International Health, Volume 9, Issue 4, 1 July 2017, Pages 215–225,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/inthealth/ihx008>

Mapping healthcare systems: a policy relevant analytic tool

Neelam Sekhri Feachem; Ariana Afshar; Cristina Pruetz; Anton L.V. Avanceña

International Health, Volume 9, Issue 4, 1 July 2017, Pages 252–262,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/inthealth/ihx005>

SHORT COMMUNICATION

Mass drug administration in Central Equatoria, South Sudan: results and suggestions for future distributions

Giuseppina Ortu; Jamshed Khan; Makoy Samuel Yibi; Ismail Abdu Nimaya

International Health, Volume 9, Issue 4, 1 July 2017, Pages 263–266,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/inthealth/ihx025>

International Human Rights Law Review

Volume 6, Issue 1, 2017

<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/22131035/6/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health

Vol 4, No 7 (2017) July 2017

<http://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/26>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction

Volume 23, Pages 1-248 (August 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/22124209/23?sd=1>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Epidemiology

Volume 46, Issue 3, 1 June 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://ije.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

Cohort Profiles

Cohort Profile: The Kilifi Vaccine Monitoring Study

Ifedayo MO Adetifa; Tahreni Bwanaali; Jackline Wafula; Alex Mutuku; Boniface Karia ...
International Journal of Epidemiology, Volume 46, Issue 3, 1 June 2017, Pages 792–792h,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/ije/dyw202>

...The Kenya Medical Research Institute-Wellcome Trust Research Programme (KWTRP) in Kilifi set up the *Haemophilus influenzae type b* (Hib) conjugate vaccine effectiveness study in 2000. It was further expanded in 2008 with addition of the real-time vaccine monitoring component, in anticipation of the introduction of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) in Kenya. The objective of the Kilifi Vaccine Monitoring Study (KiVMS), a long-term continuous cohort study, is to investigate effectiveness, impact, coverage, safety and indirect vaccine effects by recruiting birth cohorts as well as cohorts of older children and adults where applicable, within a well-characterized population and area. In addition, KiVMS is used to explore the determinants of vaccine coverage and acceptability in the population. Built on the platform of a Health and Demographic Surveillance System (HDSS), KiVMS integrates morbidity surveillance systems at the County Department of Health (CDOH), Kilifi, and a population-based, computerized information system for collecting vaccination data. Therefore it has the following essential attributes: continuously updated demographic data from the population of interest (e.g. births, deaths and migration); and complete and accurate vaccination records for the catchment population. Vaccine information systems are rare in tropical Africa..

International Journal of Heritage Studies

Volume 23, Issue 8, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare

Vol. 10 Issue: 3 2017

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/ijhrh/10/3>

Special Issue: Physical and mental health in children and young people: two sides of the same coin

Editor(s): Lee Hudson and Deborah Christie

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

August 2017 Volume 61, p1-126

[http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712\(17\)X0008-8](http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712(17)X0008-8)

Original Reports

Impact of rotavirus vaccination on child mortality, morbidity, and rotavirus-related hospitalizations in Bolivia

Lucia Inchauste, Maritza Patzi, Kjetil Halvorsen, Susana Solano, Raul Montesano, Volga Iñiguez
p79–88

Published online: June 13, 2017

International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology

Volume 24, 2017 - Issue 5

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.tandfonline.com/toc/tsdw20/current>

Issue Focus: Development and environment: the case study of coal-fired power plants in Inner Mongolia

[New issue; No digest content identified]

International Migration Review

Summer 2017 Volume 51, Issue 2 Pages 289–564, e17–e32

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/imre.2017.51.issue-2/issuetoc>

MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION PROCESSES IN EUROPE

[Reviewed earlier]

Intervention – Journal of Mental Health and Psychological Support in Conflict Affected Areas
July 2017 - Volume 15 - Issue 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

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

August 15, 2017, Vol 318, No. 7, Pages 587-676

Editorial

Balancing the Need for Access With the Imperative for Empirical Evidence of Benefit and Risk

Robert M. Califf, MD

Abstract

When people use medical products, they generally expect that the benefits of doing so will outweigh the risks in terms of living longer, feeling better, or improving their functional status. However, most drugs and biologics and many medical devices that enter early evaluation in humans are found either to have no benefit or to have risks that outweigh the observed benefits when proper clinical trials are conducted. The complexity and high failure rates of medical product development have appropriately led to a regulatory system that requires compelling evidence of safety and efficacy from clinical trials for drugs, biologics, and high-risk devices before they are allowed on the market.

Characteristics of Preapproval and Postapproval Studies for Drugs Granted Accelerated Approval by the US Food and Drug Administration

Huseyin Naci, PhD, MHS; Katelyn R. Smalley, BSc; Aaron S. Kesselheim, MD, JD, MPH
has active quiz

JAMA. 2017;318(7):626-636. doi:10.1001/jama.2017.9415

Abstract

This study uses public US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) data to characterize drug trials used to obtain FDA accelerated approval and to describe the existence, timing, and characteristics of postapproval trials mandated by the FDA as part of the accelerated approval decision.

August 8, 2017, Vol 318, No. 6, Pages 493-584

Viewpoint

Challenges in International Comparison of Health Care Systems

Irene Papanicolas, PhD; Ashish K. Jha, MD, MPH

JAMA. 2017;318(6):515-516. doi:10.1001/jama.2017.9392

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

This Viewpoint discusses the challenges in cross-national comparisons of health care system performance, including defining the responsibilities of the health system, managing limitations of data, and accounting for different values in different nations.

August 1, 2017, Vol 318, No. 5, Pages 403-490
[No digest content identified]

JAMA Pediatrics

August 2017, Vol 171, No. 8, Pages 717-820

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

Viewpoint

Rubella and Zika Vaccine Research—A Cautionary Tale About Caution

Anne Drapkin Lyerly, MD, MA; Samantha G. Robin, BS; Elana Jaffe, BA

Abstract

The public health response to the Zika crisis has evoked debate and critique, although there has been at least 1 clear success: rapid progress toward a vaccine, with phase 2 testing starting in early 2017, just a year after the Public Health Emergency of International Concern was declared.

Among the challenges of developing a vaccine to prevent Zika infection during pregnancy are ethically complex questions about the appropriate role of pregnant women in the vaccine development agenda. Though ideally women will be vaccinated before conceiving, inadvertent vaccination during pregnancy is unavoidable when women of childbearing age are targeted. Vaccination during pregnancy may also be beneficial because the risks of Zika infection persist through gestation.¹ Both underscore the importance of developing an approach that meets the needs of those most at risk: pregnant women and their offspring.

JBI Database of Systematic Review and Implementation Reports

August 2017 - Volume 15 - Issue 8

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

Editorial

Quality of systematic reviews is poor, our fault, our responsibility

Campbell, Jared M.

JBI Database of Systematic Reviews and Implementation Reports . 15(8):1977-1978, August 2017.

Meta-research is research that is carried out with existing research as the subject of investigation. As systematic reviews – themselves a form of meta-research – have become more widespread, they in turn have come to the attention of meta-research as available subject matter (meta-meta-research, perhaps?). Researchers' fascination with their own "meta" may be viewed by some as amusing (meta-meta-meta-research!), however the meta endeavours have uncovered some worrying findings.

While exceptions exist, chiefly in high impact^{1,2} and systematic review specific journals,³ the conduct, reporting and publication of systematic reviews of poor quality is prevalent to the point of being the norm rather than the exception.⁴⁻⁷ Worryingly, despite the growing prominence of explicit guidelines (like the PRISMA statement⁸ and the AMSTAR checklist⁹) as well as the expanding profile of evidence-based practice organisations that focus on systematic reviews (Cochrane, the Campbell Collaboration and the Joanna Briggs Institute), the average quality of systematic reviews in many areas has not meaningfully improved over time,^{10,11} or has even worsened.¹²

Considering this state of affairs, it seems reasonable to suggest that although evidence-based practice organizations have succeeded in evangelizing the importance of systematic reviews, they have not been successful at stressing the importance of reviews being conducted and reported in a thorough and rigorous manner. In this way they have counterintuitively contributed to the growing number of poor quality and unreliable systematic reviews despite their direct and persistent attempts to the contrary.

Organisations and individuals that are responsible for spreading the popularity of systematic reviews also hold responsibility for safe guarding their quality. As mentioned, systematic review specific journals do an excellent job of enforcing the rigor of reviews published on their own pages, and high impact journals have likewise succeeded in setting the bar high. These types of publications do not have to be exceptions, however. Those of us who most frequently carry out and publish systematic reviews have an increased likelihood of being invited to act as peer reviewers for them. Peer review therefore gives us the opportunity and responsibility to act directly to improve the quality of published systematic reviews. Detailed guidance on the proper conduct and reporting of systematic reviews of diverse types is easily available and accessible,[3,9,13-15](#) along with useful review management tools which can be accessed free of charge (RevMan, Covidence). It therefore cannot be seen as understandable for an article labelled as a systematic review that lacks basic components of the process (i.e. a registered protocol, critical appraisal, or a detailed and comprehensive search) to be considered as a serious candidate for publication.

In our capacity as peer reviewers, editors or authors, the quality of systematic reviews is not an area where compromise should be viewed as acceptable. Standards have been agreed upon and set. If systematic reviews are to deserve their status at the preferred resource for informing evidence-based care, they must be upheld.

Journal of Community Health

Volume 42, Issue 4, August 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage

Volume 26, Pages 1-182 (July–August 2017)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development

2017: Volume 7 Issue 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Development Economics

Volume 128, Pages 1-80 (September 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03043878/128?sdc=1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Environmental Management

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03014797/193>

Volume 195, Part 2 pp. 93-248 (15 June 2017)

Advanced Oxidation Processes for Environmental Remediation

Volume 195, Part 1 pp. 1-92 (15 June 2017)

Optimizing the impact of science: Translational research and stakeholder engagement to identify sustainable land management based adaptation for challenges posed by environmental change

Volume 194 pp. 1-108 (1 June 2017)

Sediment source fingerprinting for informing catchment management: methodological approaches, problems and uncertainty

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

July 2017 - Volume 71 - 7

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Ethics

Volume 13, Issue 1, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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

Volume 28, Number 3, August 2017

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

Part 2: Sub-Saharan Africa and Indigenous Peoples of Australia

Report from the Field

[Vision Screening in Underserved and Vulnerable Populations in Kenya, Africa](#)

pp. 1050-1055

DOI: [10.1353/hpu.2017.0096](https://doi.org/10.1353/hpu.2017.0096)

Nancy Phoenix Bittner, Janine Hancock-McGrath

Brief Communication

[Improving Skilled Birth Attendance in Ghana: An Evidence-Based Policy Brief](#)

pp. 1056-1065

DOI: [10.1353/hpu.2017.0097](https://doi.org/10.1353/hpu.2017.0097)

Paschal Awingura Apanga, John Koku Awoonor-Williams

[Improving Human Resources for Health means Retaining Health-Workers: Application of the WHO-Recommendations for the Retention of Health-Workers in Rural Northern-Nigeria](#)

pp. 1066-1086

DOI: [10.1353/hpu.2017.0098](https://doi.org/10.1353/hpu.2017.0098)

Godwin Y. Afenyadu, Adetoro A. Adegoke, Sally Findley

Original Papers

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

Differences in, and Frames of Reference of, Indigenous Australians' Self-rated General and Oral Health

pp. 1087-1103

DOI: [10.1353/hpu.2017.0099](https://doi.org/10.1353/hpu.2017.0099)

[Reshika Chand](#), [Eleanor Parker](#), [Lisa Jamieson](#)

Attitudes and Perceptions Towards Access and Use of the Formal Healthcare Sector in Northern Malawi

pp. 1104-1115

DOI: [10.1353/hpu.2017.0100](https://doi.org/10.1353/hpu.2017.0100)

[Emily Fisher](#), [Rebecca Lazarus](#), [Ramin Asgary](#)

Socioeconomic Disparities in Health Outcomes and Access to Health Care across Three Islands in Comoros

pp. 1116-1140

DOI: [10.1353/hpu.2017.0101](https://doi.org/10.1353/hpu.2017.0101)

[Said Abasse Kassim](#), [Raphael Nammahime Alolga](#), [Said Mohamed Kassim](#), [Assogba Gabin Assanhou](#), [Li Hongchao](#), [Ma Aixia](#)

Journal of Human Trafficking

Volume 3, Issue 2, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Volume 7 Issue 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Volume 19, Issue 4, August 2017

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/19/4/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies

Volume 15, Issue 2, 2017

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

Special Issue: Human Trafficking in Domestic Work: A Special Case or a Learning Ground for the Anti-Trafficking Field?

[Articles focused on Netherlands, Britain, Italy, Greece, France]

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Infectious Diseases

Volume 215, Issue 12 15 July 2017

<https://academic.oup.com/jid/issue>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of International Development

August 2017 Volume 29, Issue 6 Pages 679–854

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jid.v29.6/issuetoc>

Research Articles

[The Impact of Social Protection on Resettlement of Displaced Persons: Evidence from Post-Conflict Northern Uganda \(pages 700–713\)](#)

John B. Oryema

Version of Record online: 8 JUN 2017 | DOI: 10.1002/jid.3296

Abstract

Social protection is an action taken to reduce vulnerability and deprivation of households in times of need or disasters such as displacement by wars. This study investigates the impact of formal and informal social protection in the process of resettlement of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Northern Uganda. The data for the study come from a survey of randomly selected households which were still in the IDP camps and those that had resettled in their original homes. The methods of estimation applied are ordinary least squares, probit, logistic regressions and propensity score matching. The results show that formal social protection reduces the likelihood of resettlement, while informal social protection encourages it. Thus, there is a need to coordinate the informal and formal support systems when households in distress are being assisted.

[All procedures performed in studies involving human participants were in accordance with the ethical standards of the institutional and/or national research committee and with the 1964 Helsinki declaration and its later amendments or comparable ethical standards. Approval to conduct the survey was granted by Community Development Officers. Assistance from a team of field interviewers and the cooperation of local government administrators in the Districts of Kitgum and Lamwo is acknowledged.]

Journal of Medical Ethics

August 2017 - Volume 43 - 8

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Internet Research

Vol 19, No 7 (2017): July

<http://www.jmir.org/2017/7>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Operations Management

Volume 52, Pages 1-56 (May 2017)

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews

Volume 4, Issue 3 (2017)

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (JPIDS)

Volume 6, Issue 2 1 June 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pediatrics

August 2017 Volume 187, p1-340

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Public Health Policy

Volume 38, Issue 2, May 2017

<https://link.springer.com/journal/41271/38/2/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Royal Society – Interface

01 July 2017; volume 14, issue 132

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Travel Medicine

Volume 24, Issue 4, July-August 2017

<https://academic.oup.com/jtm/issue/24/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

The Lancet

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

Aug 19, 2017 Volume 390 Number 10096 p715-820

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Aug 12, 2017 Volume 390 Number 10095 p625-714

Yemen and cholera: a modern humanity test

The Lancet

Urgent warnings began in May as aid agencies called for an immediate response to the growing cholera outbreak in Yemen. By mid-July, over 330 000 cholera cases were reported, with 1700 deaths. Since 2015, a civil war has left 14·5 million people (half the country's population) without access to clean water and sanitation. The UN has called it the “world's worst cholera outbreak in the context of the world's worst humanitarian crisis”. The war, unpaid worker salaries, a decimated health system, controversies around the undeployed cholera vaccine stockpile, and slow global funding efforts are all somehow to blame. Pre-existing health indicators are grim and the estimated 400 000 severely malnourished Yemeni children are particularly vulnerable. Famine and other preventable communicable diseases are forecast. Indisputedly, a ceasefire is needed to allow access to humanitarian aid and abate further suffering and death.

As a collective humanity, the shame is ours to bear. The position of The Lancet family of journals is that with all current knowledge and commitments to acting early on cholera outbreaks, such escalated death rates quite simply should not happen. Cholera has been ravaging communities for two centuries. Yet in 2017, outbreaks are entirely containable early with coordinated efforts to implement water, sanitation, and medical rehydration treatment.

There is a vaccine and antibiotics exist. For workers who witnessed the 1994 cholera outbreak among the Rwandan refugees, which killed 12 000 people in Goma, eastern Zaire, this current humanitarian crisis echoes both the indignation and the slow response to an early warning. Unlike Goma, however, the Yemen crisis has unfolded under the global scrutiny of the internet.

On the eve of World Humanitarian Day, Aug 19, Yemen must be foremost among priorities of every institution and government acting for global health. Containing the cholera crisis and reinstating health and personal security for 27 million Yemeni people is the high stakes sustainable development test for how humanity can and will organise around vocalised commitments to protect the most vulnerable among us today.

Viewpoint

Universal health coverage, priority setting, and the human right to health

Benedict Rumbold, Rachel Baker, Octavio Ferraz, Sarah Hawkes, Carleigh Krubiner, Peter Littlejohns, Ole F Norheim, Thomas Pegram, Annette Rid, Sridhar Venkatapuram, Alex Voorhoeve, Daniel Wang, Albert Weale, James Wilson, Alicia Ely Yamin, Paul Hunt

Aug 05, 2017 Volume 390 Number 10094 p531-624

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Lancet Global Health

Aug 2017 Volume 5 Number 8 e727-e837

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Infectious Diseases

Aug 2017 Volume 17 Number 8 p781-882 e235-e279

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Public Health

Aug 2017 Volume 2 Number 8 e341-e386

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

Articles

The effect of multiple adverse childhood experiences on health: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Karen Hughes, Mark A Bellis, Katherine A Hardcastle, Dinesh Sethi, Alexander Butchart, Christopher Mikton, Lisa Jones, Michael P Dunne

Prevalence of elevated blood pressure in children and adolescents in Africa: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Jean Jacques Noubiap, Mickael Essouma, Jean Joel Bigna, Ahmadou M Jingi, Leopold N Aminde, Jobert Richie Nansseu

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

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

Aug 2017 Volume 5 Number 8 p599-666 e27-e28

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 21, Issue 8, August 2017

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10995/21/8/page/1>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

Volume 37, Issue 6, August 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

June 2017 Volume 95, Issue 2 Pages 213–446

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/milq.2017.95.issue-2/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature

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

Volume 548 Number 7667 pp259-366 17 August 2017

[New issue: No digest content identified]

Volume 548 Number 7666 pp135-254 10 August 2017

Editorials

Drug approval needs a helping hand

It's time for researchers to lend their expertise to expediting the arrival of cutting-edge therapies that are waiting in the wings.

Letters

Global patterns of drought recovery

Christopher R. Schwalm, William R. L. Anderegg, Anna M. Michalak, Joshua B. Fisher, Franco Biondi+ [et al.](#)

A global analysis of gross primary productivity reveals that drought recovery is driven by climate and carbon cycling, with recovery longest in the tropics and high northern latitudes, and with impacts increasing over the twentieth century.

Volume 548 Number 7665 pp5-130 3 August 2017

Letters

Sequencing and de novo assembly of 150 genomes from Denmark as a population reference

Lasse Maretty, Jacob Malte Jensen, Bent Petersen, Jonas Andreas Sibbesen, Siyang Liu+ [et al.](#)

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

A report of high-depth, short-read sequencing and de novo assemblies for 150 individuals from 50 parent-offspring trios as part of establishing a population reference genome for the GenomeDenmark project.

Nature Medicine

August 2017, Volume 23 No 8 pp899-1004

<http://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v23/n8/index.html>

[New issue: No digest content identified]

New England Journal of Medicine

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

August 17, 2017 Vol. 377 No. 7

[New issue: No digest content identified]

August 10, 2017 Vol. 377 No. 6

Perspective

Supporting Women's Autonomy in Prenatal Testing

J. Johnston, R.M. Farrell, and E. Parens

[Excerpt]

...It is daunting to envision informed consent processes robust enough to prepare patients to receive information as voluminous and complex as sequencing results. Yet these studies clearly indicate that women have a strong preference for receiving help in parsing the distinction between empowering and disempowering information. As part of that process, clinicians have an ethical responsibility to discuss the small but real possibility that information from testing will lead women to face pivotal decisions about ending or continuing their pregnancy.

The need for fully informed consent in prenatal screening and testing has never been more urgent. Meeting this need will require adoption of reimbursement policies and professional practice guidelines that support clinicians in breaking with current routine practices, which too often involve dispensing with or failing to adequately carry out an informed consent process. It will also require funding for development of approaches to pretest and posttest education and counseling that empower patients to decide whether to be tested and what to do after receiving their results. Policies in a range of areas, from education to social welfare to health care, that support people with disabilities and their families are also needed so that women's choices are less likely to be constrained by financial concerns or fear for the future welfare of a disabled child. And respect for women's autonomy also crucially requires access to abortion services. Only with these practices and policies in place can women's decisions about prenatal screening, diagnostic testing, and termination or continuation of pregnancy be truly free and informed.

August 3, 2017 Vol. 377 No. 5

Perspective

Recognizing Sepsis as a Global Health Priority — A WHO Resolution

K. Reinhart and Others

...The WHA resolution, with its implicit recognition of sepsis as a major threat to patient safety and global health, has the potential to save millions of lives. To realize this potential, the actions proposed in the resolution need to be taken. These actions require coordinated efforts by politicians, policymakers, health care administrators, researchers, and clinicians working with people of all ages in all health care settings and in the community. Actions will vary by region and country and must acknowledge the unique challenges faced by LMICs.

The Changing Face of Clinical Trials: Evidence for Health Decision Making — Beyond Randomized, Controlled Trials

T.R. Frieden

[Concluding text]

...Moving Forward — Overcoming the "Dark Matter" of Clinical Medicine

For much, and perhaps most, of modern medical practice, RCT-based data are lacking and no RCT is being planned or is likely to be completed to provide evidence for action. This "dark matter" of clinical medicine leaves practitioners with large information gaps for most conditions and increases reliance on past practices and clinical lore.[4,69,70](#) Elevating RCTs at the expense of other potentially highly valuable sources of data is counterproductive. A better approach is to clarify the health outcome being sought and determine whether existing data are available that can be rigorously and objectively evaluated, independently of or in comparison with data from RCTs, or whether new studies (RCT or otherwise) are needed.

New ways of obtaining valuable health data continue to emerge. "Big data," including information from electronic health records and expanded patient registries, along with increased willingness of patients to participate and share health information, are generating useful data for large interventional studies and providing new opportunities for complementary use of multiple data sources to gain stronger evidence for action.[71](#) For example, although an RCT may show the benefit of a drug, large observational studies can be conducted to refine dosages and identify rare adverse events. In addition, new strategies have been undertaken to increase the efficacy and efficiency of RCTs, including collaborative and adaptive trials to increase enrollment, reduce costs and time to completion, and better identify populations that benefit from treatments.[72-74](#) Advances in genomic science may allow for better understanding of unique characteristics in patients that can affect outcomes of RCTs and other studies and be used to improve the validity of study findings.

There is no single, best approach to the study of health interventions; clinical and public health decisions are almost always made with imperfect data ([Table 1](#)Table 1Selected Strengths and Weaknesses of Various Study Designs, along with Examples of Studies with Effects on Policy or Practice.). Promoting transparency in study methods, ensuring standardized data collection for key outcomes, and using new approaches to improve data synthesis are critical steps in the interpretation of findings and in the identification of data for action, and it must be recognized that conclusions may change over time. There will always be an argument for more research and for better data, but waiting for more data is often an implicit decision not to act or to act on the basis of past practice rather than best available evidence. The goal must be actionable data — data that are sufficient for clinical and public health action that have been derived openly and objectively and that enable us to say, "Here's what we recommend and why."

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly

Volume 46, Issue 4, August 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration

VOL. 7, NO. 1 (AUGUST 2017)

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

POLICY MONITOR

[How to Not Detain Children: The United States Fails to Treat Immigrant Children Who Come Seeking Protection with their Mothers Fairly, Humanly, or Legally](#)

by Sara Ramey

FIELD MONITOR

[Confronting the rise of trafficking of Syrian refugees in Lebanon](#)

by Megan Denise Smith and Yara Chehwane

LAW MONITOR

[Children on the Move in Orbán's Illiberal Hungary](#)

by James Wookey

ACADEMIC ARTICLE

[Germany's Legal Entry Framework for Syrian Refugees](#)

by Christoph Tometten

Pediatrics

August 2017, VOLUME 140 / ISSUE 2

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/140/2?current-issue=y>

Pediatrics Perspectives

[The Ethics of Open-Label Placebos in Pediatrics](#)

Brit Trogen, Arthur Caplan, Perri Klass

Pediatrics Aug 2017, 140 (2) e20164328; DOI: 10.1542/peds.2016-4328

Review Articles

[Promoting Early Child Development With Interventions in Health and Nutrition: A Systematic Review](#)

Tyler Vaivada, Michelle F. Gaffey, Zulfiqar A. Bhutta

Pediatrics Aug 2017, 140 (2) e20164308; DOI: 10.1542/peds.2016-4308

Abstract

CONTEXT: Although effective health and nutrition interventions for reducing child mortality and morbidity exist, direct evidence of effects on cognitive, motor, and psychosocial development is lacking.

OBJECTIVE: To review existing evidence for health and nutrition interventions affecting direct measures of (and pathways to) early child development.

DATA SOURCES: Reviews and recent overviews of interventions across the continuum of care and component studies.

STUDY SELECTION: We selected systematic reviews detailing the effectiveness of health or nutrition interventions that have plausible links to child development and/or contain direct measures of cognitive, motor, and psychosocial development.

DATA EXTRACTION: A team of reviewers independently extracted data and assessed their quality.

RESULTS: Sixty systematic reviews contained the outcomes of interest. Various interventions reduced morbidity and improved child growth, but few had direct measures of child development. Of particular benefit were food and micronutrient supplementation for mothers to reduce the risk of small for gestational age and iodine deficiency, strategies to reduce iron deficiency anemia in infancy, and early neonatal care (appropriate resuscitation, delayed cord clamping, and Kangaroo Mother Care). Neuroprotective interventions for imminent preterm birth showed the largest effect sizes (antenatal corticosteroids for developmental delay: risk ratio 0.49, 95% confidence interval 0.24 to 1.00; magnesium sulfate for gross motor dysfunction: risk ratio 0.61, 95% confidence interval 0.44 to 0.85).

LIMITATIONS: Given the focus on high-quality studies captured in leading systematic reviews, only effects reported within studies included in systematic reviews were captured.

CONCLUSIONS: These findings should guide the prioritization and scale-up of interventions within critical periods of early infancy and childhood, and encourage research into their implementation at scale.

PharmacoEconomics

Volume 35, Issue 8, August 2017

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/35/8/page/1>

Systematic Review

Defining and Measuring the Affordability of New Medicines: A Systematic Review

Fernando Antoñanzas, Robert Terkola, Paul M. Overton, Natalie Shalet...

Abstract

Background

In many healthcare systems, affordability concerns can lead to restrictions on the use of expensive efficacious therapies. However, there does not appear to be any consensus as to the terminology used to describe affordability, or the thresholds used to determine whether new drugs are affordable.

Objectives

The aim of this systematic review was to investigate how affordability is defined and measured in healthcare.

Methods

MEDLINE, EMBASE and EconLit databases (2005–July 2016) were searched using terms covering affordability and budget impact, combined with definitions, thresholds and restrictions, to identify articles describing a definition of affordability with respect to new medicines. Additional definitions were identified through citation searching, and through manual searches of European health technology assessment body websites.

Results

In total, 27 definitions were included in the review. Of these, five definitions described affordability in terms of the value of a product; seven considered affordability within the context of healthcare system budgets; and 15 addressed whether products are affordable in a given country based on economic factors. However, there was little in the literature to indicate that the price of medicines is considered alongside both their value to individual patients and their budget impact at a population level.

Conclusions

Current methods of assessing affordability in healthcare may be limited by their focus on budget impact. A more effective approach may involve a broader perspective than is currently described in the literature, to consider the long-term benefits of a therapy and cost savings elsewhere in the healthcare system, as well as cooperation between healthcare payers and the pharmaceutical industry to develop financing models that support sustainability as well as innovation.

PLOS Currents: Disasters

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

[Accessed 19 August 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Currents: Outbreaks

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

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

[Accessed 19 August 2017]
[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Medicine

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

(Accessed 19 August 2017)

Perspective

Lay worker-administered behavioral treatments for psychological distress in resource-limited settings: Time to move from evidence to practice?

Alexander C. Tsai

| published 15 Aug 2017 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002372>

Research Article

Effectiveness of a brief behavioural intervention on psychological distress among women with a history of gender-based violence in urban Kenya: A randomised clinical trial

Richard A. Bryant, Alison Schafer, Katie S. Dawson, Dorothy Anjuri, Caroline Mulili, Lincoln Ndogoni, Phiona Koyiet, Marit Sijbrandij, Jeannette Ulate, Melissa Harper Shehadeh, Dusan Hadzi-Pavlovic, Mark van Ommeren

| published 15 Aug 2017 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002371>

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

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

(Accessed 19 August 2017)

Research Article

Development of a set of community-informed Ebola messages for Sierra Leone

John Kinsman, Kars de Bruijne, Alpha M. Jalloh, Muriel Harris, Hussainatu Abdullah, Titus Boye-Thompson, Osman Sankoh, Abdul K. Jalloh, Heidi Jalloh-Vos

Research Article | published 07 Aug 2017 PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0005742>

Abstract

The West African Ebola epidemic of 2013–2016 was by far the largest outbreak of the disease on record. Sierra Leone suffered nearly half of the 28,646 reported cases. This paper presents a set of culturally contextualized Ebola messages that are based on the findings of qualitative interviews and focus group discussions conducted in 'hotspot' areas of rural Bombali District and urban Freetown in Sierra Leone, between January and March 2015. An iterative approach was taken in the message development process, whereby (i) data from formative research was subjected to thematic analysis to identify areas of community concern about Ebola and the national response; (ii) draft messages to address these concerns were produced; (iii) the messages were field tested; (iv) the messages were refined; and (v) a final set of messages on 14 topics was disseminated to relevant national and international stakeholders. Each message included details of its rationale, audience, dissemination channels, messengers, and associated operational issues that need to be taken into account. While developing the 14 messages, a set of recommendations emerged that could be adopted in future public health emergencies. These included the importance of embedding systematic, iterative qualitative research fully into the message development process; communication of the subsequent messages through a two-way dialogue with communities, using trusted messengers, and not only through a one-way, top-down communication process;

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provision of good, parallel operational services; and engagement with senior policy makers and managers as well as people in key operational positions to ensure national ownership of the messages, and to maximize the chance of their being utilised. The methodological approach that we used to develop our messages along with our suggested recommendations constitute a set of tools that could be incorporated into international and national public health emergency preparedness and response plans.

Author summary

The work on which the paper is based was conducted in two Ebola 'hotspots' in Sierra Leone (urban Freetown and rural Bombali district) between January and April 2015. Numerous misperceptions about Ebola had developed in the community over the course of 2014, and it was becoming increasingly clear that the largely top-down messaging strategy in use was not as effective as it could have been. Our project aimed to actively include the community in the development of a set of actionable Ebola messages that responded directly to their needs and concerns. While developing our messages on such topics as ambulances, burial teams, and the use of chlorine, we derived a set of recommendations that could also be applicable to control efforts relating to other infectious disease outbreaks. These include the importance of listening to community concerns during an outbreak, communicating on a two-way basis using trusted messengers, and engaging with relevant officials throughout the project in order to maximise the likelihood of the findings being utilised. While our work is based empirically on one disease in one setting, the messaging principles that emerged out of it are to a large degree generic.

PLOS One

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

[Accessed 19 August 2017]

Research Article

Changes in the incidence of pneumonia, bacterial meningitis, and infant mortality 5 years following introduction of the 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine in a "3+0" schedule

Sylvia Becker-Dreps, Bryan Blette, Rafaela Briceño, Jorge Alemán, Michael G. Hudgens, Gilberto Moreno, Ana Ordoñez, Julio Rocha, David J. Weber, Erick Amaya

Research Article | published 16 Aug 2017 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0183348>

Overview

Addressing the challenge of high-priced prescription drugs in the era of precision medicine: A systematic review of drug life cycles, therapeutic drug markets and regulatory frameworks

Toon van der Gonde, Carin A. Uyl-de Groot, Toine Pieters

Overview | published 16 Aug 2017 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0182613>

Research Article

The cost of entry: An analysis of pharmaceutical registration fees in low-, middle-, and high-income countries

Steven G. Morgan, Brandon Yau, Murray M. Lumpkin

Research Article | published 15 Aug 2017 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0182742>

Research Article

[Ranking 93 health interventions for low- and middle-income countries by cost-effectiveness](#)

Susan Horton, Hellen Gelband, Dean Jamison, Carol Levin, Rachel Nugent, David Watkins
Research Article | published 10 Aug 2017 PLOS ONE
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0182951>

Research Article

[The impact of access to immunization information on vaccine acceptance in three countries](#)

Lori K. Handy, Stefania Maroudi, Maura Powell, Bakanuki Nfila, Charlotte Moser, Ingrid Japa, Ndibo Monyatsi, Elena Tzortzi, Ismini Kouzeli, Anthony Luberti, Maria Theodoridou, Paul Offit, Andrew Steenhoff, Judy A. Shea, Kristen A. Feemster
Research Article | published 03 Aug 2017 PLOS ONE
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0180759>

Research Article

[Barriers to sexual and reproductive healthcare services as experienced by female sex workers and service providers in Dhaka city, Bangladesh](#)

Tasnuva Wahed, Anadil Alam, Salima Sultana, Monjur Rahman, Nazmul Alam, Monika Martens, Ratana Somrongthong
Research Article | published 31 Jul 2017 PLOS ONE
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0182249>

Research Article

[Health needs and care seeking behaviours of Yazidis and other minority groups displaced by ISIS into the Kurdistan Region of Iraq](#)

Valeria Cetorelli, Gilbert Burnham, Nazar Shabila
Research Article | published 16 Aug 2017 PLOS ONE
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0181028>

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

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

[Accessed 19 August 2017]

Social Sciences - Social Sciences:

[Geography of intergenerational mobility and child development](#)

Louis Donnelly, Irwin Garfinkel, Jeanne Brooks-Gunn, Brandon G. Wagner, Sarah James, and Sara McLanahan

PNAS 2017 ; published ahead of print August 15, 2017, doi:10.1073/pnas.1700945114

Significance

Using data from an urban birth cohort study, we show that children from low-income families who grow up in counties that produce high levels of upward mobility, as recently estimated by Chetty and Hendren, exhibit fewer externalizing behaviors by age 3 years and show substantial gains in cognitive test scores between ages 3 and 9 years. These associations are robust to controls for family characteristics, including parental intelligence, impulsivity, and mental health. This paper identifies developmental pathways through which intergenerational mobility of place, measured at the county level, shapes the economic prospects of children from low-income families.

Abstract

Recent research by Chetty and colleagues finds that children's chances of upward mobility are affected by the communities in which they grow up [Chetty R, Hendren N (2016) Working paper

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23002]. However, the developmental pathways through which communities of origin translate into future economic gain are not well understood. In this paper we examine the association between Chetty and Hendren's county-level measure of intergenerational mobility and children's cognitive and behavioral development. Focusing on children from low-income families, we find that growing up in a county with high upward mobility is associated with fewer externalizing behavioral problems by age 3 years and with substantial gains in cognitive test scores between ages 3 and 9 years. Growing up in a county with 1 SD better intergenerational mobility accounts for ~20% of the gap in developmental outcomes between children from low- and high-income families. Collectively, our findings suggest that the developmental processes through which residential contexts promote upward mobility begin early in childhood and involve the enrichment of both cognitive and social-emotional development.

Biological Sciences - Agricultural Sciences - Social Sciences - Sustainability Science:

Temperature increase reduces global yields of major crops in four independent estimates

Chuang Zhao, Bing Liu, Shilong Piao, Xuhui Wang, David B. Lobell, Yao Huang, Mengtian Huang, Yitong Yao, Simona Bassu, Philippe Ciais, Jean-Louis Durand, Joshua Elliott, Frank Ewert, Ivan A. Janssens, Tao Li, Erda Lin, Qiang Liu, Pierre Martre, Christoph Müller, Shushi Peng, Josep Peñuelas, Alex C. Ruane, Daniel Wallach, Tao Wang, Donghai Wu, Zhuo Liu, an Zhu, Zaichun Zhu, and Senthold Asseng

PNAS 2017 ; published ahead of print August 15, 2017, doi:10.1073/pnas.1701762114

Significance

Agricultural production is vulnerable to climate change. Understanding climate change, especially the temperature impacts, is critical if policymakers, agriculturalists, and crop breeders are to ensure global food security. Our study, by compiling extensive published results from four analytical methods, shows that independent methods consistently estimated negative temperature impacts on yields of four major crops at the global scale, generally underpinned by similar impacts at country and site scales. Multimethod analyses improved the confidence in assessments of future climate impacts on global major crops, with important implications for developing crop- and region-specific adaptation strategies to ensure future food supply of an increasing world population.

Abstract

Wheat, rice, maize, and soybean provide two-thirds of human caloric intake. Assessing the impact of global temperature increase on production of these crops is therefore critical to maintaining global food supply, but different studies have yielded different results. Here, we investigated the impacts of temperature on yields of the four crops by compiling extensive published results from four analytical methods: global grid-based and local point-based models, statistical regressions, and field-warming experiments. Results from the different methods consistently showed negative temperature impacts on crop yield at the global scale, generally underpinned by similar impacts at country and site scales. Without CO₂ fertilization, effective adaptation, and genetic improvement, each degree-Celsius increase in global mean temperature would, on average, reduce global yields of wheat by 6.0%, rice by 3.2%, maize by 7.4%, and soybean by 3.1%. Results are highly heterogeneous across crops and geographical areas, with some positive impact estimates. Multimethod analyses improved the confidence in assessments of future climate impacts on global major crops and suggest crop- and region-specific adaptation strategies to ensure food security for an increasing world population.

Social Sciences - Sustainability Science - Biological Sciences - Sustainability Science:

Emergence of a global science-business initiative for ocean stewardship

Henrik Österblom, Jean-Baptiste Jouffray, Carl Folke, and Johan Rockström

PNAS 2017 ; published ahead of print August 7, 2017, doi:10.1073/pnas.1704453114

Significance

The ocean is under considerable pressure originating from diverse human activities on land and in the water. While substantial literature has focused on how science interacts with policy, relatively little is known about interactions between science and business. Here, we describe: (i) the process of identifying “keystone actors” in marine ecosystems, namely globally operating corporations engaged in fisheries and aquaculture, with a unique ability to influence change and take on a leadership role in ocean stewardship; (ii) how we actively engaged with these actors, to collaboratively develop solutions to the ocean sustainability challenge; and (iii) how this coproduction process led to the establishment of a unique global ocean initiative, where science and business collaborate toward the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Abstract

The ocean represents a fundamental source of micronutrients and protein for a growing world population. Seafood is a highly traded and sought after commodity on international markets, and is critically dependent on healthy marine ecosystems. A global trend of wild stocks being overfished and in decline, as well as multiple sustainability challenges associated with a rapid growth of aquaculture, represent key concerns in relation to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Existing efforts aimed to improve the sustainability of seafood production have generated important progress, primarily at the local and national levels, but have yet to effectively address the global challenges associated with the ocean. This study highlights the importance of transnational corporations in enabling transformative change, and thereby contributes to advancing the limited understanding of large-scale private actors within the sustainability science literature. We describe how we engaged with large seafood producers to coproduce a global science–business initiative for ocean stewardship. We suggest that this initiative is improving the prospects for transformative change by providing novel links between science and business, between wild-capture fisheries and aquaculture, and across geographical space. We argue that scientists can play an important role in facilitating change by connecting knowledge to action among global actors, while recognizing risks associated with such engagement. The methods developed through this case study contribute to identifying key competences in sustainability science and hold promises for other sectors as well.

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 32 - Issue 4 - August 2017

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Preventive Medicine

Volume 100, Pages 1-298 (July 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00917435/100?sd=1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Proceedings of the Royal Society B

17 May 2017; volume 284, issue 1854

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Ethics

Volume 10, Issue 2 July 2017

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

Symposium on Daniel Hausman's Valuing Health: Well-Being, Freedom and Suffering

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Reports

Volume 132, Issue 4, July/August 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

Volume 27, Issue 10, August 2017

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

Special Issue: Women's Health

[Reviewed earlier]

Refugee Survey Quarterly

Volume 36, Issue 2 June 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Reproductive Health

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

[Accessed 19 August 2017]

Research

[Factors associated with the support of pricking \(female genital cutting type IV\) among Somali immigrants – a cross-sectional study in Sweden](#)

Pricking, classified as female genital cutting (FGC) type IV by the World Health Organization, is an under-researched area gaining momentum among diaspora communities. Our aim was to explore factors associated...

Anna Wahlberg, Sara Johnsdotter, Katarina Ekholm Selling, Carina Källestål and Birgitta Essén

Reproductive Health 2017 14:92

Published on: 8 August 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

[No new digest content identified]

Risk Analysis

August 2017 Volume 37, Issue 8 Pages 1435–1628

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.2017.37.issue-8/issuetoc>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Risk Management and Healthcare Policy

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Volume 10, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Science

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

18 August 2017 Vol 357, Issue 6352

Feature

On the trail of yellow fever

By Sam Kean

Science18 Aug 2017 : 637-641 Full Access

Monkeys and mosquitoes hold clues to when and where the virus could resurge in Brazil.

Policy Forum

What do revised U.S. rules mean for human research?

By Lisa Nichols, Lois Brako, Suzanne M. Rivera, Ara Tahmassian, Martha F. Jones, Heather H. Pierce, Barbara E. Bierer

Science18 Aug 2017 : 650-651 Restricted Access

The updated Common Rule raises many questions

Review

Collaborative environmental governance: Achieving collective action in social-ecological systems

By Örjan Bodin

Science18 Aug 2017

Collaborative governance

By its nature, environmental governance requires collaboration. However, studies have shown that various types of stakeholders often lack the willingness to deliberate and contribute to jointly negotiated solutions to common environmental problems. Bodin reviews studies and cases that elucidate when, if, and how collaboration can be effective and what kind of environmental problems are most fruitfully addressed in this way. The piece provides general conclusions about the benefits and constraints of collaborative approaches to environmental management and governance and points out that there remain substantial knowledge gaps and key areas where more research is needed.

Structured Abstract

BACKGROUND

Current and future generations are confronted with the complex task of devising sustainable solutions to environmental problems. The coming decade might determine whether humanity will be able to set a course toward a future of continued prosperity on a planet whose ecosystems will deliver the needed goods and services. A crucial piece of this puzzle is achieving effective collaboration among different public and private actors and stakeholders. Calls for solving environmental problems through collaborative governance emphasize benefits from local to global scales—from artisanal fishermen avoiding the overfishing of local fish stocks by together agreeing upon sustainable practices, to states jointly committing to implement adequate measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Although commonly advocated, achieving successful collaborations when confronted with complex environmental problems spanning geographical scales and jurisdictional boundaries is an area where substantial knowledge gaps remain.

ADVANCES

A growing amount of empirical evidence shows the effectiveness of actors engaged in different collaborative governance arrangements in addressing environmental problems. However, studies

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also show that actors sometimes collaborate only as a means of advocating their own interests, while largely lacking a willingness to contribute towards jointly negotiated solutions to common problems. Hence, collaboration is sometimes unable to deliver any tangible outcomes, or merely produces symbolic outcomes such as aggregated wish lists where conflicts of interest are left untouched.

Clearly, no single blueprint exists for how to succeed by using collaborative approaches to solve environmental problems. One way of approaching this puzzle is through the lenses of the participating actors and the ways in which they engage in collaboration with each other. This approach entails directing attention to who the actors are, what their interests and motives are, who they collaborate with, and how the structures of such “collaborative networks” relate to the actors’ joint abilities to address different environmental problems.

Emerging insights from recent research suggest that the effectiveness of different collaborative network structures in addressing environmental problems depends on how those problems unfold with respect to the following characteristics: (i) varying levels of risk that actors free-ride on others’ efforts; (ii) varying levels of knowledge gaps, signifying different needs for social learning and deliberation among actors with different backgrounds, experiences, and interests; and (iii) whether these problems are, for all practical purposes, permanent or just temporary.

Also, long-standing research questions regarding whether governance structures that are adequately aligned with ecosystem structures and processes are more effective have recently been addressed empirically. Early results suggest several ways in which misalignments between the structure of a collaborative network and the biophysical environment reduce the ability to address environmental problems effectively.

OUTLOOK

A more nuanced understanding of whether collaborative governance is the most effective way of solving environmental problems is needed. The capacity of collaborative governance to deliver sustainable solutions for any given environmental problem ranges from highly effective to essentially worthless. Future efforts must establish which factors determine the exact location of any collaborative arrangement on this continuum.

Emerging insights suggest that where a collaborative arrangement falls on the spectrum results from a complex interplay between several factors. The characteristics of the underlying collective action problem are one factor. Others are the characteristics of the underlying biophysical system and how these align with the ways in which collaborative governance arrangements are constructed, institutionally embedded, and managed. Finally, the patterns in which actors collaborate with each other (or do not) is a factor that potentially determines the effects that the other factors have on a collaborative arrangement’s ability to solve environmental problems.

11 August 2017 Vol 357, Issue 6351

Policy Forum

U.S. attitudes on human genome editing

By Dietram A. Scheufele, Michael A. Xenos, Emily L. Howell, Kathleen M. Rose, Dominique Brossard, Bruce W. Hardy

Science 11 Aug 2017 : 553-554 Restricted Access

Summary

The emergence of CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing has given new urgency to calls from social scientists, bench scientists, and scientific associations for broad public dialogue about human genome editing and its applications. Most recently, these calls were formalized in a consensus report on the science, ethics, and governance of human genome editing released by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) that argued for public engagement to be incorporated into the policy-making process for human genome editing (1). So, where does the public stand on the issue of human genome editing? And how do those

attitudes translate into the desire for more public input on human genome editing as new applications emerge in the policy arena?

04 August 2017 Vol 357, Issue 6350

[No digest content identified]

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 180, Pages 1-196 (May 2017)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Stability: International Journal of Security & Development

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

[accessed 19 August 2017]

Special Collection: Non-State Security Providers and Political Formation in Conflict-Affected States

Research Article

Security Provision and Political Formation in Hybrid Orders

Michael Lawrence

Abstract

The security sector reform literature is increasingly turning towards the inclusion of non-state security providers, but the long-term patterns of political development to which such engagement might contribute remain underexplored. This article thus provides several lenses with which to understand the relationship between non-state security provision and political development. It first presents three perspectives (functionalism, political economy, and communitarianism) with which to understand the nature and behavior of non-state security providers. Second, it outlines five possible long-term trajectories of political formation and the role of non-state security providers in each. These discussions highlight the idea of hybridity, and the remainder of the paper argues that the concept can be usefully applied in (at least) two ways. The third section proposes that hybridity can help overcome longstanding but misleading conceptual binaries, while the fourth rearticulates hybridity as a dynamic developmental process – hybridization – that can be contrasted with security politics as the underlying logic by which security providers (both state and non-state) interact and change over time.

Research Article

Policing for Conflict Zones: What Have Local Policing Groups Taught Us?

Bruce Baker

Abstract

The police are invariably severely reduced or even cease to be active in times of conflict. Policing as an activity, however, persists, with local groups taking up the role of maintaining order and combating crime. Such local policing is very diverse in its practices and in the nature of its links with the state. Using examples of local policing practices in four sub-Saharan conflicts, this article considers different patterns of harnessing local capacity to provide policing services. The patterns range from authorities utilising existing local policing providers or initiating new local responses, to local non-government organisations [NGOs] seeking to fill policing gaps left by the state, or long-established local provision continuing unchanged. Each response, whether one of cooperation, delegation, neglect or abandonment, is evaluated for its effectiveness, and lessons to be learned from their practices are offered. Together the four case studies suggest new pathways to achieving police effectiveness and reform in challenging conflict environments.

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Stanford Social Innovation Review

Fall 2017 Volume 15, Number 4

https://ssir.org/issue/fall_2017

The B Corp movement has played a critical role in promoting socially responsible businesses. As positive as the movement has been, it has fallen short when it comes to ensuring that these same businesses make human rights a top priority. Read an in-depth analysis of this topic in our Fall 2017 issue's cover story, "[Do Benefit Corporations Respect Human Rights?](#)," written by Joanne Bauer and Elizabeth Unlas.

Sustainability

Volume 9, Issue 6 (June 2017)

<http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/9/6>

[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 3, July 2017

<http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/tvaa/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases

May-June, 2017 Volume 17

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine & International Health

August 2017 Volume 22, Issue 8 Pages 917–1052

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tmi.2017.22.issue-8/issuetoc>

Reviews

[**Barriers to obstetric fistula treatment in low-income countries: a systematic review \(pages 938–959\)**](#)

Zoë Baker, Ben Bellows, Rachel Bach and Charlotte Warren

Version of Record online: 20 JUL 2017 | DOI: 10.1111/tmi.12893

Abstract

Objective

To identify the barriers faced by women living with obstetric fistula in low-income countries that prevent them from seeking care, reaching medical centres and receiving appropriate care.

Methods

Bibliographic databases, grey literature, journals, and network and organisation websites were searched in English and French from June to July 2014 and again from August to November 2016

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using key search terms and specific inclusion and exclusion criteria for discussion of barriers to fistula treatment. Experts provided recommendations for additional sources.

Results

Of 5829 articles screened, 139 were included in the review. Nine groups of barriers to treatment were identified: psychosocial, cultural, awareness, social, financial, transportation, facility shortages, quality of care and political leadership. Interventions to address barriers primarily focused on awareness, facility shortages, transportation, financial and social barriers. At present, outcome data, though promising, are sparse and the success of interventions in providing long-term alleviation of barriers is unclear.

Conclusion

Results from the review indicate that there are many barriers to fistula treatment, which operate at the individual, community and national levels. The successful treatment of obstetric fistula may thus require targeting several barriers, including depression, stigma and shame, lack of community-based referral mechanisms, financial cost of the procedure, transportation difficulties, gender power imbalances, the availability of facilities that offer fistula repair, community reintegration and the competing priorities of political leadership.

[Systematic review of sex work interventions in sub-Saharan Africa: examining combination prevention approaches \(pages 971–993\)](#)

George Awungafac, Therese Delvaux and Bea Vuylsteke

Version of Record online: 24 MAY 2017 | DOI: 10.1111/tmi.12890

Abstract

Objective

The incidence of HIV and sexually transmitted infections is disproportionately high among sex workers (SW). We aimed to update the evidence on the effectiveness of SW interventions in sub-Saharan Africa and to provide more insights into combination prevention.

Methods

The Systematic review followed PRISMA guidelines in a search of PUBMED and POPLINE for peer-reviewed literature published between 1 January 2000 and 22 July 2016 (registration number on PROSPERO: CRD42016042529). We considered cohort interventions, randomised controlled trials and cross-sectional surveys of SW programmes. A framework was used in the description and mapping of intervention to desired outcomes.

Results

Twenty-six papers (reporting on 25 studies) were included. A strategy that empowered peer educator leaders to steer community activities showed a twofold increase in coverage of behaviour change communication and utilisation of health facility among SW. Brief alcohol harm reduction effort demonstrated a significant effect on sexual violence and engagement in sex trading. A risk reduction counselling intervention among drug-injecting SW showed an effect on alcohol, substance use and engagement in sex work. No study on a promising intervention like PrEP among SWs was found. We observed that interventions that combined some structural components, biomedical and behavioural strategies tend to accumulate more desired outcomes.

Conclusion

The evidence base that can be considered in intervention designs to prevent HIV in SW in SSA is vast. The health sector should consider interventions to reduce binge alcohol intake and intravenous drug use among sex workers. Programmes should staunchly consider multicomponent approaches that explore community-based structural approaches.

Original Research Papers

[Behaviour change intervention to improve shared toilet maintenance and cleanliness in urban slums of Dhaka: a cluster-randomised controlled trial \(pages 1000–1011\)](#)

Mahbub-Ul Alam, Peter J. Winch, Ronald E. Saxton, Fosiul A. Nizame, Farzana Yeasmin, Guy Norman, Abdullah-Al Masud, Farzana Begum, Mahbubur Rahman, Kamal Hossain, Anita Layden, Leanne Unicomb and Stephen P. Luby

Version of Record online: 29 JUN 2017 | DOI: 10.1111/tmi.12902

This paper accompanies the following article: Saxton RE, Yeasmin F, Alam M-U et al. If I do not have enough water, then how could I bring additional water for toilet cleaning?! Addressing water scarcity to promote hygienic use of shared toilets in Dhaka, Bangladesh, doi:10.1111/tmi.12914.

Abstract

Objectives

Shared toilets in urban slums are often unclean and poorly maintained, discouraging consistent use and thereby limiting impacts on health and quality of life. We developed behaviour change interventions to support shared toilet maintenance and improve user satisfaction. We report the intervention effectiveness on improving shared toilet cleanliness.

Methods

We conducted a cluster-randomised controlled trial among users of 1226 shared toilets in 23 Dhaka slums. We assessed baseline toilet cleanliness in January 2015. The six-month intervention included provision of hardware (bin for solid waste, 4 l flushing bucket, 70 l water reservoir), and behaviour change communication (compound meetings, interpersonal household sessions, signs depicting rules for toilet use). We estimated the adjusted difference in difference (DID) to assess outcomes and accounted for clustering effects using generalised estimating equations.

Results

Compared to controls, intervention toilets were more likely to have water available inside toilet cubicles (DID: +4.7%, 95% CI: 0.2, 9.2), access to brush/broom for cleaning (DID: +8.4%, 95% CI: 2, 15) and waste bins (DID: +63%, 95% CI: 59, 66), while less likely to have visible faeces inside the pan (DID: -13%, 95% CI: -19, -5), the smell of faeces (DID: -7.6%, 95% CI: -14, -1.3) and household waste inside the cubicle (DID: -4%, 95% CI: -7, -1).

Conclusions

In one of few efforts to promote shared toilet cleanliness, intervention compounds were significantly more likely to have cleaner toilets after six months. Future research might explore how residents can self-finance toilet maintenance, or employ mass media to reduce per-capita costs of behaviour change.

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 3, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

World Heritage Review

n°84 - July 2017

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/83/>

Special Issue - World Heritage in Poland

This year, the World Heritage Committee will meet for its 41st session in the World Heritage site of the Historic Centre of Kraków. We are very pleased to be hosted by Poland, an early supporter of the World Heritage Convention whose experts even participated in the drafting of the Convention itself. Poland's heritage sites represent many aspects of World Heritage: a diversity of values, a rich history, and transboundary cooperation, among others.

In this issue, we will discover an overview of the architectural landscape of Poland, as well as the evolution of the protection of heritage in the country, from the early interest in preserving heritage to the rise of the community movement for protecting sites in the 19th century, and involvement of Polish experts in various international efforts such the drafting of the Venice Charter, and the formation of ICOMOS and of the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS)...

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