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governance, ethics, evidence, policy, practice

The Sentinel

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

Period ending 2 December 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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:: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#) - Selected Updates

:: [Journal Watch](#) - Key articles and abstracts from 100+ peer-reviewed journals

:: Week in Review

A highly selective capture of strategic developments, research, commentary, analysis and announcements spanning Human Rights Action, Humanitarian Response, Health, Education, Holistic Development, Heritage Stewardship, Sustainable Resilience. Achieving a balance across these broad themes is a challenge and we appreciate your observations and ideas in this regard. This is not intended to be a "news and events" digest.

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Humanitarian Response – Human Rights Action: Yemen

[United Nations leaders call on the Saudi-led coalition to fully lift blockade of Yemeni Red Sea ports](#)

Joint statement by:

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner

UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi

UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake

WFP Executive Director David Beasley

IOM Director General William Lacy Swing

Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Mark Lowcock.

2 December 2017 Geneva/Rome/New York

The partial lifting of the blockade of Yemen's Red Sea ports by the Saudi-led coalition in recent days is allowing humanitarian organizations to resume the provision of life-saving assistance to people in desperate need. Given the massive scale of Yemen's humanitarian crisis, however, all this does is slow the collapse towards a massive humanitarian tragedy costing millions of lives. It does not prevent it. Without the urgent resumption of commercial imports, especially food, fuel and medicines, millions of children, women and men risk mass hunger, disease and death.

Ongoing commercial import restrictions have led to shortages of fuel, food and other essentials, driving up prices and devastating lives and livelihoods. The price of wheat flour has risen by 30 per cent, while the price of fuel has doubled and that of trucked water has skyrocketed by 600 per cent in some locations.

Urban water networks in seven cities have run out of fuel and now depend on humanitarian organizations to fill in the gap. Other cities will shortly be in a similar situation if the blockade is not lifted, which would leave 11 million people without safe water.

In other areas, people are reducing their food consumption to dangerous levels in order to pay for the rising cost of water trucking, or are turning to contaminated water sources to meet their basic needs. This further compounds the risk of disease, especially among children.

Less than half of the health facilities are functioning, and more hospitals and health centers will close should fuel and water supplies not improve. Sewage networks in six main cities are compromised, threatening a renewed spike in the country's cholera outbreak, which has reached almost 1 million suspected cases and killed over 2,200 people.

Yemen remains on the cusp of one of the largest famines in modern times. Nearly 400,000 children suffer from severe acute malnutrition and face an increased risk of death. More than 8 million people could starve without urgent food assistance coming into Yemen. With 90 per cent of the country's food imported, the lack of commercial imports through Red Sea ports would alone push a further 3 million people into starvation. The threat of widespread famine in a matter of months is very real.

This imminent catastrophe is entirely avoidable, but it requires immediate action by the coalition. While three ships carrying food have been granted permission to berth at Hudaydah port in recent days, four fuel tankers and ten ships carrying food have all been waiting for permission to enter port. Together, we call on the coalition to urgently open up all Yemeni Red Sea ports fully and to facilitate the entry and free-flow of humanitarian and vital commercial goods.

The United Nations is sending a team to Riyadh to discuss any concerns the coalition and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia may have in relation to these ports. But we need the coalition to urgently grant unimpeded access for imports that are a lifeline for millions of people.

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Human Rights – Protection – Accountability

[Myanmar: UN experts request exceptional report on situation of women and girls from northern Rakhine State](#)

GENEVA (28 November 2017) – A group of UN experts tasked with monitoring a global treaty on discrimination against women has requested an exceptional report from the Government of Myanmar on the situation of Rohingya women and girls from northern Rakhine State.

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) made the decision at a regular meeting in Geneva last week, setting a six-month deadline for the submission of the report to the UN Secretary General. The request was sent to the Government of Myanmar on Monday, meaning the report should be submitted by 28 May 2018. It is only the fourth time an exceptional report has been requested by the Committee since holding its first session in October 1982.

The Committee, comprised of 23 independent human rights experts drawn from around the world, called on the Government to provide information on a range of issues surrounding alleged instances of violence against women and girls in northern Rakhine State in recent months. As a party to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Myanmar is obliged to report to the Committee on its implementation of the treaty.

The Committee requested information concerning cases of sexual violence, including rape, against Rohingya women and girls by State security forces; and to provide details on the number of women and girls who have been killed or have died due to other non-natural causes during the latest outbreak of violence.

It also requested information on investigations, arrests, prosecutions, convictions and sentences or disciplinary measures imposed on perpetrators, including members of the armed forces, found guilty of such crimes.

The Committee also requested information on:

- :: the designation of the battalions that have undertaken the clearance operations in Northern Rakhine State since 25 August 2017 and under whose command;
- :: the findings of the final report of the Tatmadaw investigation team led by Lieutenant-General Aye Whin concerning the conduct of the armed forces during the security clearance operations;
- :: whether instructions have been or are being issued to all branches of the State security forces that torture, gender-based violence, including rape and other forms of sexual violence,

expulsions and other human rights violations are prohibited and that those responsible will be prosecuted and punished;

:: the gender-specific measures taken by the State party to rehabilitate and compensate Rohingya women and girls who are victims/survivors of such violence;

:: the remedies available to Rohingya women and girls to claim violations of their rights;

:: the number of Rohingya women and girls currently detained by State security forces;

:: the number of Rohingya women and girls who have died during childbirth;

:: the number of clinics providing obstetric services and the ratio of doctors and midwives to the Rohingya population; and

:: the number of Rohingya families displaced by the violence, disaggregated by sex, and measures taken by the Government to ensure their voluntary and safe return, economic reintegration and compensation for loss of land or property.

The report of the Government shall be made public, and will be reviewed by CEDAW.

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Editor's Note:

We monitored remarks made by Pope Francis during visits last week to Myanmar and then Bangladesh. We provide selected Vatican reports and excerpts from speeches as identified below.

[Pope Francis addresses interreligious meeting for peace](#)

01/12/2017 12:30

(Vatican Radio) Pope Francis on Friday greeted and blessed a group of Rohingya Muslim refugees who fled to Bangladesh from neighboring Myanmar.

The moving meeting took place during an Interreligious and Ecumenical Meeting for Peace in the garden of the Archbishop of Dhaka's residence.

The meeting, which saw the participation of representatives of different faiths, took place on the second day of the Pope's Apostolic Journey to Bangladesh.

The 16 Rohingya - 12 men, two women and two young girls - traveled to Dhaka from Cox's Bazar, the district bordering Myanmar where refugee camps are overflowing with more than 620,000 Rohingya who have fled violence in Myanmar.

One by one, each one of the refugees approached the Pope at the end of the event and through the aid of an interpreter told him their stories and their experiences.

During his address to the religious leaders at the meeting, the Pope said a spirit of openness is fundamental for building a culture of harmony and peace...

[Pope speech to authorities and diplomatic corps in Dhaka](#)

30/11/2017 13:19

(Vatican Radio) Pope Francis on Thursday expressed his gratitude to the nation of Bangladesh for providing assistance and shelter to the hundreds of thousands of refugees pouring into the country, he appealed to the international community to address the crisis both on a political and on a material level, and he warned against using God's name to justify hatred and violence against our fellow human beings.

The Pope's words came during his address to political leaders, civil society and the diplomatic corps at the President House in Dhaka.

[Excerpts/Editor's text bolding]:

...In recent months, the spirit of generosity and solidarity which is a distinguishing mark of Bangladeshi society has been seen most vividly in its humanitarian outreach

to a massive influx of refugees from Rakhine State, providing them with temporary shelter and the basic necessities of life. This has been done at no little sacrifice. It has also been done before the eyes of the whole world. None of us can fail to be aware of the gravity of the situation, the immense toll of human suffering involved, and the precarious living conditions of so many of our brothers and sisters, a majority of whom are women and children, crowded in the refugee camps. It is imperative that the international community take decisive measures to address this grave crisis, not only by working to resolve the political issues that have led to the mass displacement of people, but also by offering immediate material assistance to Bangladesh in its effort to respond effectively to urgent human needs.

...In a world where religion is often – scandalously – misused to foment division, such a witness to its reconciling and unifying power is all the more necessary. This was seen in a particularly eloquent way in the common reaction of indignation that followed last year's brutal terrorist attack here in Dhaka, and in the clear message sent by the nation's religious authorities that the most holy name of God can never be invoked to justify hatred and violence against our fellow human beings...

Pope Francis addresses Myanmar's leaders

28/11/2017 12:15

Official English-language translation of Pope Francis' address Myanmar's government authorities, civil societies, and the diplomatic corps in the capital Nay Pyi Taw.

[Excerpts; Editor's text bolding]

...I would also like my visit to embrace the entire population of Myanmar and to offer a word of encouragement to all those who are working to build a just, reconciled and inclusive social order. Myanmar has been blessed with great natural beauty and resources, yet its greatest treasure is its people, who have suffered greatly, and continue to suffer, from civil conflict and hostilities that have lasted all too long and created deep divisions. As the nation now works to restore peace, the healing of those wounds must be a paramount political and spiritual priority. I can only express appreciation for the efforts of the Government to take up this challenge, especially through the Panglong Peace Conference, which brings together representatives of the various groups in an attempt to end violence, to build trust and to ensure respect for the rights of all who call this land their home.

Indeed, the arduous process of peacebuilding and national reconciliation can only advance through a commitment to justice and respect for human rights. The wisdom of the ancients defined justice precisely as a steadfast will to give each person his due, while the prophets of old saw justice as the basis of all true and lasting peace. These insights, confirmed by the tragic experience of two world wars, led to the establishment of the United Nations and the universal declaration of human rights as the basis for the international community's efforts to promote justice, peace and human development worldwide, and to resolve conflicts through dialogue, not the use of force. In this sense, the presence of the diplomatic corps in our midst testifies not only to Myanmar's place in the concert of nations, but also to the country's commitment to uphold and pursue those foundational principles. **The future of Myanmar must be peace, a peace based on respect for the dignity and rights of each member of society, respect for each ethnic group and its identity, respect for the rule of law, and respect for a democratic order that enables each individual and every group – none excluded – to offer its legitimate contribution to the common good.**

In the great work of national reconciliation and integration, Myanmar's religious communities have a privileged role to play. Religious differences need not be a source

of division and distrust, but rather a force for unity, forgiveness, tolerance and wise nation-building...

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Humanitarian Response – Funding / Scale / Global Humanitarian Overview 2018

Global Humanitarian Appeal Hits Record \$22.5 Billion, Aiming to Reach 91 Million People with Assistance in 2018

The UN-coordinated response plans for 2018 are based on the world's most comprehensive, authoritative and evidence-based assessment of humanitarian needs

(Geneva, 1 December 2017) - Some 136 million people across the world need humanitarian aid and protection due to protracted conflicts, natural disasters, epidemics and displacement. In response to people's most urgent needs, UN-coordinated humanitarian response plans launched today in Geneva aim to reach 91 million of the most vulnerable people with food, shelter, health care, emergency education, protection and other basic assistance in 2018.

This will require a record US\$22.5 billion in funding, slightly more than the \$22.2 billion appeal launched for 2017.

"Humanitarians can only respond to the growing needs with the generous support of our donors. Investing in coordinated response plans is a sound choice. It delivers tangible and measurable results, and has a proven track record of success," said Mark Lowcock, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, launching the Global Humanitarian Overview 2018.

In 2017, humanitarian agencies reached tens of millions of people in need, saving millions of lives, and donors provided record levels of funding to Humanitarian Response Plans - nearly \$13 billion by the end of November 2017. Together, aid groups and humanitarian donors helped stave off famines in South Sudan, Somalia, north-east Nigeria and Yemen and stepped up to provide rapid assistance to refugees fleeing from violence in Myanmar.

"With this unprecedented level of humanitarian need, we at Save the Children have a lot to do. As NGOs we are working hard to find quicker and more effective ways to use every dollar donated well," said Helle Thorning-Schmidt, CEO of Save the Children International. "But we also need governments and institutions to take a longer term approach by tackling the cause of these crises as well as the symptoms. By brokering peace agreements, investing in education, helping communities build resilience to climate shocks, and speaking up when people are persecuted. Without this, we will continue to see a record level of suffering."

For 2018, needs will remain at exceptionally high levels in Nigeria, South Sudan, the Syria region and Yemen, which is likely to remain the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

In some countries needs will fall, but still remain significant, including Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Iraq, Mali, and Ukraine. But at the same time, needs are rising substantially in Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya and Somalia.

The Global Humanitarian Overview 2018 document is available through unocha.org/globalhumanitarianoverview or <https://reliefweb.int/node/2354269>

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Education/Literacy – Disability Gap

THE PRICE OF EXCLUSION: DISABILITY AND EDUCATION

Disability gaps in educational attainment and literacy

World Bank Group: Male, Chata; Wodon, Quentin T..

2017/12/01 :: 16 pages

PDF: <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/396291511988894028/pdf/121762-WorldBank-GapsInEdAttainmentLiteracy-Brief-WebReady-v5.pdf>

Abstract

This note provides an analysis of gaps in educational opportunities for children with disabilities. It also measures the impact at the margin of exclusion related to various types of disabilities on education outcomes for children. Four main outcomes are considered: whether children ever enroll in school, whether they complete their primary education, whether they complete their secondary education, and whether they are literate. The analysis is implemented using the most recent census data available for a total of 19 countries.

KEY MESSAGES

This note provides an analysis of gaps in educational opportunities for children with disabilities. It also measures the impact at the margin of exclusion related to various types of disabilities on education outcomes for children. Four main outcomes are considered: whether children ever enroll in school, whether they complete their primary education, whether they complete their secondary education, and whether they are literate. The analysis is implemented using the most recent census data available for a total of 19 countries.

Key findings are as follows:

:: The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) call for ensuring inclusive and quality education for all and promoting lifelong learning (Goal 4). The SDGs explicitly mention equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities.

Unfortunately, gaps in education outcomes between children with and without disabilities have been increasing over time.

:: For children without disabilities, completion rates at the primary level have increased substantially over the last few decades. Smaller gains have been observed for children with disabilities. As a result, the gap in primary completion rates between children with and without disabilities has increased over time from a few percentage points a few decades ago to 17.6 points for boys and 15.4 points for girls in the latest available census data.

:: Many children with disabilities are never enrolled in school. Among children aged 11, the likelihood of having ever enrolled in school was 13 percentage points lower for children with disabilities versus children without disabilities at the time of the latest available census data. As for primary education, the disability gap in ever enrolling has increased over time.

:: Large gains in secondary completion rates have also been achieved for boys and girls without disabilities, but gains are again smaller for children with disabilities, leading to disability gaps in completion rates of 14.5 points for boys and 10.4 points for girls.

:: The last indicator considered for the analysis of trends over time is literacy. In part, as a result of differentiated trends in educational attainment by disability status, the disability gaps for literacy also grew over time, reaching 16.2 points for boys and 15.5 points for girls.

:: When looking through regression analysis at the marginal effects of exclusion associated with disabilities, findings are similar to the results from simple statistical comparisons. Across the 19 countries, the average reductions at the margin for children with disabilities in the probabilities of ever enrolling in school, completing primary schooling, completing secondary schooling, and being literate are estimated at 11.9 points, 16.8 points, 13.9 points, and 16.4 points respectively.

:: The marginal effects on education outcomes of exclusion related to disabilities are often larger than the effects of other child or household characteristics. For example, the marginal effect of a disability is often larger than that of the quintile of wealth of the child's household.

:: Overall, the analysis demonstrates that children with disabilities are being left behind by global efforts to improve education opportunities for all. The rising gaps between children with and without disabilities in developing countries call for stronger policies and interventions to achieve the target of inclusive education adopted under the Sustainable Development Goals.

The 19 countries included in the report are: Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Malawi, Mexico, Mozambique, Peru, South Africa, South Sudan, Vietnam, and Zambia.

Press Release

Education: Children with disabilities are being left behind, says World Bank/GPE report

WASHINGTON, December 1, 2017 – Children with disabilities are being left behind by global efforts to improve education opportunities for all, as gaps between children with and without disabilities have increased dramatically in developing countries, according to new research from the World Bank and the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) released ahead of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

The study, Disability Gaps in Educational Attainment and Literacy, found that primary school completion for children with disabilities in 19 developing countries* is just 48 percent, and as many as three in ten children with disabilities have never been in school. The study, based on analysis of census data, also found that literacy rates and secondary school completion lag considerably behind: Only six in ten children with disabilities can read and write, and only a third complete secondary school....

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Heritage Stewardship – Amazon Rainforest

Colombia Launches Partnership to Protect Amazon Rainforest from Deforestation

· Colombia is working with the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 to convene a multistakeholder platform of buyers, producers, international donors, NGOs and civil society organizations to protect the Amazon rainforest

· The platform will initially cover palm oil and is expected to extend to other major commodity-driven causes of deforestation, including beef, dairy and timber

· The government aims to have zero net deforestation in the Amazon by 2020, and to have stopped all natural forest loss by 2030

· More information is available at www.tfa2020.org

Geneva, Switzerland, 28 November 2017 – The Tropical Forest Alliance 2020, an initiative hosted by the World Economic Forum, is joining forces with the Government of Colombia to launch a multistakeholder platform of businesses, civil society organizations and donor agencies to protect over 60 million hectares of Amazon rainforest within its borders from commodity-driven deforestation.

The platform, launched today, is called the **TFA 2020 Colombia Alliance** and follows the government's target to have zero net deforestation in the Amazon by 2020.

It will initially cover palm oil and is expected to extend to other major commodity-driven causes of deforestation, including beef, dairy and timber. It will follow principles laid out in TFA 2020's Commodities and Forests Agenda 2020, which outlines strategies to address deforestation – a major driver of pollution, greenhouse gas emissions and biodiversity loss. Colombia is home to one of the most biologically diverse ecosystems on Earth, home to about 10% of the world's species, yet its tropical forests are under threat.

It is supported by a range of stakeholders:

:: Businesses include dairy company Alqueria, retailer Grupo Exito, agricultural firm Poligrow, consumer goods company Unilever, and chemicals and agricultural products company Yara International.

:: Donor countries and organizations include the governments of Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, the United Kingdom, USAID and the World Bank.

:: NGOs and civil society organizations include Climate Focus, Earth Innovation Institute, Fondo Acción, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), The Nature Conservancy, Proforest, Solidaridad, the South Pole Group, the Wildlife Conservation Society and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

"The TFA 2020 Colombia Alliance will be a platform to join forces towards sustainable agricultural production free of deforestation," said Colombia's Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, Luis Gilberto Murillo. "The signature of the Palm Oil Zero Deforestation Agreement represents a key effort in bringing down international commitments to the Colombian context, and in employing our National Forest and Carbon Monitoring System from IDEAM as a catalytic tool to identify and prevent deforestation in the production and supply of palm oil in Colombia. We are pleased to have a critical mass of companies and organizations joining these efforts."

Vidar Helgesen, Norway's Minister of Climate and Environment, said: "Colombia is at the forefront, and is becoming one of the world leaders on forest preservation and restoration. I commend Colombia for being the first country in Latin-America to join the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020. We are very happy to be taking part in today's launch of a national coalition of public and private partners committed to promoting sustainable agriculture and zero deforestation supply chains in Colombia."

Retailer Grupo Éxito was the first company in Colombia to become a TFA 2020 global partner in 2014. Since then, the company have been working on several activities to promote a more sustainable production in Colombia of beef and palm oil, as well to promote reforestation and sustainable gardens in urban areas.

"The launch of the TFA 2020 Colombia Alliance is important as a strengthening mechanism for joint action in Colombia to reach our deforestation goals," said Mariana Villamizar, Director of Public Relations at Grupo Éxito.



Peterson Foundation and Ford Foundation Launch US 2050

New research initiative to explore the demographic, socioeconomic, and fiscal trends that will define America at mid-century

NEW YORK, Nov. 28, 2017 – Today, the Peter G. Peterson Foundation and the Ford Foundation launched US 2050, an initiative that will engage leading scholars to examine and analyze the multiple demographic, socioeconomic, and fiscal trends that will shape the nation at mid-century.

In the coming decades, a transformational wave of foreseeable demographic changes will create a new American tapestry. Social, economic, and technological changes will reshape the domestic and global economy, and the nation's fiscal condition will face increasing challenges resulting from a range of factors, including an aging society and a structural mismatch between spending and revenues. These interconnected trends will have significant, but not yet fully understood, implications for the social and financial well-being of Americans. US 2050 will explore these issues and their link to the country's fiscal and economic health.

"America is rapidly changing and we know that our population, workforce, and economy will look very different by 2050. What isn't clear is how these shifting trends will impact the opportunities and well-being of Americans," said Michael A. Peterson, President and CEO of the Peter G. Peterson Foundation. "It is time to start thinking seriously today about the critical questions and challenges that will shape our future – and ensure that we deliver a solid fiscal and economic foundation to future generations."

"It is imperative in order to continue the upward mobility and the fulfillment of the American dream to truly understand the long-term impacts of current fiscal decisions," said Darren Walker, President of the Ford Foundation. "The rampant inequality in the United States has been in part a result of short-term decisions that will only deepen without a course correct. US 2050 will hopefully provide the evidence necessary to map out and deliver a more equitable future."

US 2050 is calling for research papers from economists, political scientists, sociologists, demographers, and other scholars. The research question is: How do the changing demographics of America – including aging, race, ethnicity, and other factors – affect the future fiscal and economic health of the nation, and what are the best policies to prepare for and respond to the challenges and opportunities that this future presents?

A distinguished Advisory Committee of academics and policy experts will guide the project, bringing valuable expertise across the key research disciplines. The Committee will be coordinated by the Hutchins Center on Fiscal and Monetary Policy at the Brookings Institution, and includes:

Charles Blahous, Mercatus Center
Heather Boushey, Washington Center on Equitable Growth
Susan Collins, Ford School of Public Policy
Robert Doar, American Enterprise Institute
Maria Fitzpatrick, Cornell University
Bradley Hardy, American University
Doug Holtz-Eakin, American Action Forum

Mark Hugo Lopez, Pew Research Center
Ronald Mincy, Columbia University
Alicia Munnell, Boston College
Louise Sheiner, Hutchins Center on Fiscal and Monetary Policy
Margaret Simms, Urban Institute
Karl Smith, Niskanen Center
Michael Strain, American Enterprise Institute
David Wessel, Hutchins Center on Fiscal and Monetary Policy

More information on US 2050 and the call for papers can be found at www.pgpf.org/us-2050; deadline for submissions is January 22, 2018.

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Health Systems – Governance – National Debt

[Spain, Three African Countries and the Global Fund Launch New Debt2Health Initiative](#)

29 November 2017

MADRID – The government of Spain today announced an agreement to waive debts owed by Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ethiopia in exchange for investments in domestic health programs supported by the Global Fund.

Signed under the Global Fund’s Debt2Health initiative, the accords will allow Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ethiopia to invest a total of 15.5 million euros of their national resources in the fight against AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria and to strengthen health systems. In exchange, Spain will cancel outstanding debts amounting to 36 million euros.

The announcement was made by Spain’s Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness and shows Spain’s commitment to global health.

Christoph Benn, Director of External Relations of the Global Fund, said the agreement reinvigorates the partnership between the government of Spain and the Global Fund. “We are delighted that Spain has joined the Debt2Health initiative,” Dr. Benn said during a signing ceremony held in Madrid.

“Debt2Health is an innovative and powerful mechanism that allows countries to turn debt payments into programs that save lives. Reaching our goal of ending AIDS, TB and malaria as epidemics requires a close partnership between implementing countries, countries that are ready to provide additional financial resources such as Spain, and a multilateral organization such as the Global Fund that can act as a catalyst.”

Debt2Health is an innovative financing mechanism that is designed to encourage domestic financing in health by converting debt repayments into lifesaving investments in health. Under individually negotiated ‘debt swap’ agreements, a creditor nation foregoes repayment of a loan when the beneficiary nation agrees to invest part or all of the freed-up resources into a Global Fund-supported program. To date, debts swapped under Debt2Health agreements total close to 200 million euros with the support of Australia, Germany and Spain.

Specifically, the agreement announced in Madrid will allow Cameroon to invest 9.3 million euros in HIV programs; the Democratic Republic of Congo to invest US\$3.4 million in malaria programs; and Ethiopia to invest 3.2 million euros to strengthen its health system.

By cancelling the debts through the Debt2Health program, Spain is assured that the mobilized funds go directly to country-led programs as part of the respective national health strategies, which are supported and monitored by the Global Fund partnership...

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[Global Fund relaunches debt-to-health swaps after six-year hiatus](#)

Devex | 29 November 2017

The Global Fund on Wednesday announced its first debt-to-health, or D2H, swap since 2011, kicking off a strategy that aims to engage up to five new creditor countries in 2018. "Over the next five years, I aim for at least 10 new D2H agreements that can really complement the resources of the Global Fund," Christoph Benn, director of external relations at the Global Fund, told Devex...

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Emergencies

POLIO

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

[Polio this week as of 29 November 2017](#) [GPEI]

:: Both the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on Polio Eradication in Afghanistan, and in Pakistan, have met this week. The TAGs are reviewing the latest epidemiology, and performing a thorough program review. The outcomes will help advise each country program on improving the planning and implementation of their National Emergency Action Plans.

:: *Summary of newly-reported viruses this week:*

...**Afghanistan:** one new wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) case, from Nangarhar province.

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[Syria cVDPV2 outbreak situation report 24: 28 November 2017](#)

Situation update 28 November 2017

:: No new cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) were reported this week in Syria. The most recent case (by date of onset) is 9 September 2017 from Mayadeen district.

:: The total number of confirmed cVDPV2 cases remains 70.

:: Outbreak response teams continue to use inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) strategically to boost immunity and additional vaccines are being prepositioned as part of ongoing contingency planning to ensure that the programme is able to respond quickly in areas where there has been recent evidence of virus transmission. Activities will be carried out when the security situation allows.

:: 7751 children aged 2–23 months were reported vaccinated with IPV in Damascus (representing 86% of the administrative target), as part of a subnational campaign aiming to reach children with bOPV and IPV. The campaign also reached more than 14 000 children aged 2–23 months from 5 camps for internally displaced people in Hasakah governorate, hosting populations from Deir Ez-Zor.

:: WHO continues to support the strengthening of active AFP surveillance in outbreak areas. In Ein Eisa IDP camp, Raqqa governorate and Al-Arysha IDP camp in Hasakah governorate, orientation sessions on reporting of AFP cases are being conducted for physicians operating out of camps.

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WHO Grade 3 Emergencies [to 2 December 2017]

The Syrian Arab Republic

:: Beyond the bullets and bombs: Saving the lives of chronic disease patients living in conflict settings

WHO has developed a new health kit to support treatment for chronic disease patients in emergency settings. Three years after the kit's conceptualization, the first shipment of 6 kits, enough for 60 000 medical treatments, has been delivered cross-border from Turkey to northern Syria.

23 November 2017, Cairo, Egypt – In countries facing ongoing violence, the most direct victims are the people caught in the crossfire who sustain life-threatening trauma injuries. But in the longer term, conflict affects another group of people: those who are unable to access medicines and regular treatment for noncommunicable diseases such as diabetes, cancer, kidney diseases and other chronic conditions...

:: Polio- Situation update 28 November 2017

[See Polio above for detail]

Yemen

:: WHO delivers medicines as diphtheria spreads in Yemen

News release

27 November 2017 | Sana'a - WHO has delivered medicines to tackle an outbreak of diphtheria in Yemen, warning that sustained humanitarian access is critical to stopping its spread.

The shipment of 1,000 vials of life-saving anti-toxins and 17 tonnes of medical supplies arrived in Sanaa on Monday (November 27) after being stalled by the three-week closure of sea and air ports.

"It is shocking that in 2017, there are children dying of an ancient disease that is vaccine-preventable and can be easily treated," said Dr Nevio Zagaria, WHO Country Representative in Yemen.

The anti-toxins can help stop the spread of the bacterium to vital organs in patients already infected with diphtheria. But no supplies were available in Yemen before the arrival of the WHO shipment on Monday.

Antibiotics and vaccines are also critical to treating and preventing the highly infectious respiratory disease – both of which are in short supply in Yemen...

Despite the conflict and recent closures, WHO, UNICEF, and partners have continued to work with available supplies, vaccinating 8,500 children under five years in al-Sadah and Yarim districts in Ibb governorate during November.

A vaccination campaign targeting 300,000 children younger than 12 months began on Saturday (November 25). Further vaccination rounds for more than 3 million children and young adults in priority districts are due in December.

Iraq

:: Iraq: Lifesaving mobile health teams reach people in newly liberated areas of Hawiija, Iraq

27 November 2017 – For more than three years, the people of Hawiija district in Kirkuk governorate, Iraq, were cut off from lifesaving health care and immunization services, leaving many children susceptible to vaccine-preventable diseases.

Nigeria - *No new announcements identified.*

South Sudan - *No new announcements identified.*

.....

WHO Grade 2 Emergencies [to 2 December 2017]

Democratic Republic of the Congo

:: Democratic Republic of the Congo - cholera in Lomami district

22 November 2017 Kinshasa -- WHO Country Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and health partner ALIMA (Alliance for International Medical Action) signed an financing agreement, US\$ 70 000 USD, to support and response to the cholera epidemic in Lomami Province. ALIMA will support the activities of case management for a period of two months. The focus will be on treated water supply, hygiene and increasing community awareness of the importance of sanitation.

Cameroon - *No new announcements identified*

Central African Republic - *No new announcements identified.*

Ethiopia - *No new announcements identified.*

Libya - *No new announcements identified.*

Myanmar - *No new announcements identified*

Niger - *No new announcements identified.*

Ukraine - *No new announcements identified.*

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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.

Syrian Arab Republic

:: 30 Nov 2017 Syria Arab Republic: Whole of Syria Shelter/NFI Sector Winter Assistance Update 2 (30 November 2017)

:: Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock: Statement to the Security Council on the humanitarian situation in Syria, 29 November 2017

DRC - *No new announcements identified.*

Iraq - *No new announcements identified.*

Yemen - *No new announcements identified.*

.....

UN OCHA – Corporate Emergencies

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

ROHINGYA CRISIS

:: ISCG Situation Update: Rohingya Refugee Crisis, Cox's Bazar - 30 November 2017

Ethiopia

:: 28 Nov 2017 Ethiopia Humanitarian Bulletin Issue 41 | 13 – 26 Nov. 2017

The OCHA-managed Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund (EHF) allocated US\$11.35 million under its Reserve Allocation as a bridging response to the critical requirements identified until early 2018.

Somalia

:: Humanitarian Bulletin Somalia, 01 – 29 November 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- ...Food security needs nearly double five-year average.
- ...Late Deyr rainfall falls short, risk of fifth poor rains.
- ...Number of newly displaced people decline in October.
- ...Plans underway to kick start measles vaccination campaign.
- ...Additional funding required to support humanitarian assistance.

Nigeria - *No new announcements identified*

* * * *

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 2 December 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases/Meetings Coverage

1 December 2017

GA/11983

Global Community 'Not Yet Up to Par' in Fight against Terrorism, General Assembly Hears, Adopting Resolution Condemning Attacks on Sacred Sites

The General Assembly today adopted a resolution condemning all forms of terrorism directed against religious sites — as well as any “advocacy of religious hatred” that constituted an incitement to violence — as well as two texts submitted by its Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary), relating to internal oversight and to United Nations conferences.

1 December 2017

SG/SM/18806-HR/5377-OBV/1760

Remove All Physical, Cultural Barriers to Persons with Disabilities, Secretary-General Urges in Message for International Observance

Following is UN Secretary-General António Guterres' message, “Transformation towards a sustainable and resilient society for all”, for the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, observed on 3 December:

30 November 2017

GA/11982

[Declaring Israel's Actions in Syrian Golan, East Jerusalem 'Null and Void', General Assembly Adopts Six Resolutions on Palestine, Middle East](#)

Concluding its annual debate on the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East, the General Assembly adopted six resolutions today — including two declaring Israel's actions in the Syrian Golan and East Jerusalem "null and void" — as several delegates voiced concern that those texts perpetuated a one-sided view that isolated and targeted a single Member State.

30 November 2017

SC/13100

[Security Council Members Decry Ruin of Cultural Heritage to Fuel Armed Conflict amid Calls for Greater Cooperation in Holding Profiteers Accountable](#)

With the obvious goal of undermining national identity and international law, terrorists — particularly in armed conflict situations — were not only destroying lives and property, but also historical sites and objects, the head of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism told the Security Council today.

29 November 2017

SC/13098

[Despite Aid Deliveries, Millions of Syrians Still in Dire Need of Life-Saving Assistance, Humanitarian Affairs Chief Tells Security Council](#)

Although the United Nations and its partners were continuing to deliver life-saving aid despite constant challenges, some 13.1 million people in Syria were still in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator told the Security Council today.

28 November 2017

SC/13094

[High Commissioner for Refugees Calls Slavery, Other Abuses in Libya 'Abomination' That Can No Longer Be Ignored, while Briefing Security Council](#)

Slavery and other grave human rights abuses affecting migrants and refugees travelling to North Africa and beyond constituted an abomination that could no longer be ignored, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees told the Security Council today.

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 2 December 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases – "TOP NEWS"

[Myanmar: UN experts request exceptional report on situation of women and girls from northern Rakhine State](#)

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

[UN Forum on Minority Issues](#)

[Libya must end "outrageous" auctions of enslaved people, UN experts insist](#)

[Human rights must be central in all discussions concerning migrants, UN experts urge States](#)

[Worsening Mali security situation is damaging human rights, UN expert finds after visit](#)

[Côte d'Ivoire: UN expert launches mission to assess progress on right to education](#)

[Urgent need to speed up world action to realise Right to Development – UN experts](#)

[UN expert group on discrimination against women launches first official visit to Chad](#)

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 2 December 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 2 December 2017]

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

30 November 2017

[Libya must end “outrageous” auctions of enslaved people, UN experts insist](#)

SRSR/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict [to 2 December 2017]

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

24 Nov 2017

[Afghanistan: SRSR CAAC Welcomes the Transfer of 50 Minors to Juvenile Facilities](#)

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

SRSR/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN OCHA [to 2 December 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

2 December 2017

[United Nations leaders call on the Saudi-led coalition to fully lift blockade of Yemeni Red Sea ports](#)

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

1 December 2017

[UN Assistant Secretary-General \(ASG\) for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator \(DERC\) Ms. Ursula Mueller concluded her 4-day visit to Turkey \[EN/AR/TR\]](#)

1 December 2017

[Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock, Opening remarks at the launch of the 2018 Global Humanitarian Overview](#)

1 December 2017

[Global Humanitarian Appeal Hits Record \\$22.5 Billion, Aiming to Reach 91 Million People with Assistance in 2018](#)

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

29 November 2017

[Joint Statement by Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency Vice-President, Mr. Süreyya Er and Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, Ms. Ursula Mueller](#)

29 November 2017

[Niger: 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview identifies 2.3M people in critical need](#)

29 November 2017

[Somalia: Humanitarian needs growing and increasingly severe](#)

29 November 2017

[Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock: Statement to the Security Council on the humanitarian situation in Syria, 29 November 2017](#)

29 November 2017

[South Sudan Humanitarian Coordinator condemns attack against civilians, aid workers in Duk County](#)

29 November 2017

[Yemen Humanitarian Fund allocates US\\$70 million for life-saving activities](#)

UNICEF [to 2 December 2017]

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

ABUJA, 30 November 2017

[**Statement by Mohamed Malick Fall, UNICEF Representative in Nigeria, on the school attack in Borno State**](#)

"Today's attack on a primary school in the town of Kuaya kusar, Borno State, in which two children were brutally killed and two others injured, is a despicable act.

[**Global complacency threatens the lives of children and adolescents as world set to miss global AIDS target - UNICEF**](#)

NEW YORK/JOHANNESBURG, 01 December 2017 – In 2016, 120,000 children under the age of 14 died of AIDS related causes, and 18 children were infected with HIV every single hour. If current trends persist, there will be 3.5 million new adolescent HIV infections by 2030, according to projections from the [2017 UNICEF Statistical Update on Children and AIDS](#) released today.

[**21-year-old Sathviga Sridhar from India wins first ever UNICEF Climate Comic Contest**](#)

NEW YORK, 30 November 2017 – Sathviga 'Sona' Sridhar, a 21-year-old artist from Chennai, India, is the winner of the first ever UNICEF Climate Comic Contest for her character 'Light' – a half tree-half human who uses special powers to save nature from a warming planet. Sridhar was inspired to take action on climate change after her community was hit by devastating floods in

2015. Together with her family, she provided food and water to people living in severely affected neighborhoods.

[Global agreements on migration and refugees should include commitments to protect children, UNICEF urges world leaders](#)

MEXICO CITY/NEW YORK/GENEVA, 30 November 2017 – The rights, protection and wellbeing of uprooted children should be central commitments of global migration policies, UNICEF said today ahead of a meeting in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, on safe, regular and orderly migration.

[Child malnutrition levels increase sharply in besieged Syrian town of East Ghouta](#)

AMMAN/DAMASCUS, 29 November, 2017 – Violence, lack of humanitarian access and sky-rocketing food prices have worsened malnutrition among young children in besieged East Ghouta. Nearly 400,000 people – half of them are estimated to be children – remain trapped in the area which has been under siege since mid-2013.

[UNICEF press conference: Geert Cappelaere, Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa, on the humanitarian situation of children in Yemen](#)

AMMAN, 26 November 2017 - This is a summary of what was said by Geert Cappelaere, UNICEF Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa – to whom quoted text may be attributed – at today's press briefing at in Amman, Jordan.

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 2 December 2017]
<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/media-centre.html>

Press releases and news comments

[United Nations leaders call on the Saudi-led coalition to fully lift blockade of Yemeni Red Sea ports](#) 2 Dec 2017

[UNHCR welcomes Libya's transit facility to expedite third country solutions for vulnerable refugees](#) 29 Nov 2017

Briefing Notes

[As 12,000+ Congolese flee to Zambia, aid funds slow to trickle](#) 1 Dec 2017

IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 2 December 2017]

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

Selected Announcements

[UN Migration Agency Moves to Relieve Plight of Migrants Trapped in Libya, Backing AU-EU Plan](#)

2017-12-01 16:34

Geneva – IOM Director General William Lacy Swing has committed IOM to fully support this week's initiative of the African Union with the European Union and Libya's Government of National Unity, with UN backing to alleviate the plight of thousands of migrants trapped in Libya....

[Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 164,654 in 2017; Deaths Reach 3,038](#)

2017-12-01 16:33

Geneva – IOM, the UN Migration Agency, reports that 164,654 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 19 November.

[Experts Discuss Potential of Innovative Data Sources for Migration Analysis](#)

2017-11-30 18:50

Ispra – A group of experts on big data and alternative data sources, including researchers, private sector representatives, policymakers and practitioners are gathering today (30/11) at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) in Ispra, Italy to discuss the...

[Family Members Linked to Nearly Half of Child Trafficking: New IOM, Polaris Data](#)

2017-11-28 18:00

Geneva – Almost half of identified cases of child trafficking begin with some family member involvement, according to new data released by IOM, the UN Migration Agency.

[IOM Deputy Director General Joins Launch of Women on the Move Report](#)

2017-11-28 17:26

Geneva – IOM Deputy Director General Laura Thompson, last week (21/11) participated in the launch of the new World Health Organization (WHO) report Women on the Move: Migration, Care Work and Health, which seeks to explore the global paradox in which care workers,...

UNAIDS [to 2 December 2017]

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

1 December 2017

[UNAIDS Congratulates French President Macron for his leadership on AIDS](#)

30 November 2017

[Geneva international community unites to end violence against women and girls](#)

To galvanize joint action to end the epidemic of violence against women and girls, the African Women Ambassadors to the United Nations in Geneva and UNAIDS convened a special event on the eve of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and to kick off 16 Days of Activism.

The event, held on 24 November in UNAIDS' headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, was attended by more than 35 ambassadors to the United Nations in Geneva...

WHO & Regional Offices [to 2 December 2017]

[World AIDS Day: Everybody counts](#)

1 December 2017 – "Everybody counts" is the slogan for this year's World AIDS Day. WHO is advocating for access to safe, effective, quality and affordable HIV services, medicines, diagnostics other health commodities for all people who need them. Universal health coverage means that all people receive the health services they need without experiencing financial hardship, including access to the full range of HIV services.

[WHO Director-General's statement](#)

[World AIDS Day campaign](#)

[Encounters with plague: tracing and preventing illness](#)

30 November 2017 – In Madagascar, where a severe plague epidemic has unfolded since August 2017, the number of new infections is finally in decline. WHO is supporting health authorities to respond to the outbreak, from setting up specialized plague treatment units in health centres, to distributing medicines across the country.

[Disease outbreak news:](#)

[Plague – Madagascar](#) 27 November 2017

27 November 2017

[Madagascar's plague epidemic is slowing, but we must sustain the response](#)

.....

WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region AFRO

:: WHO deploys mobile laboratory to support Marburg outbreak response 02 December 2017

:: Village Health Teams Contribute Tremendously to the Marburg Response in Eastern Uganda
02 December 2017

:: Message of the Regional Director for Africa, Dr Matshidiso Moeti, on World AIDS Day 2017
02 December 2017

:: Kenya's chance for Guinea Worm FREE status 01 December 2017

:: Canada and WHO strides to improve maternal and child health in South Sudan 01 December
2017

:: Government of Sweden and four UN agencies announce new Joint Programme to boost efforts
to achieve universal access to sexual and reproductive health and to end AIDS
30 November 2017

:: The World Health Organization supports the Ministry of Health to strengthen efforts to eliminate
Viral Hepatitis in South Sudan 30 November 2017

:: With support from WHO and partners, the Ministry of Health launches the 'Treat All' and HIV
Testing Guidelines to end AIDS 30 November 2017

:: Nigeria requires commitment by the 3-tiers of government to avert deaths among untreated 2
million persons living with HIV/AIDs. 29 November 2017

:: The Kingdom of Swaziland dedicates November to diabetes 29 November 2017

:: WORLD DIABETESE DAY 2017 COMMEMORATED IN THE GAMBIA 29 November 2017

:: Liberia joins the global community to commemorate the World Antibiotic Awareness Week
29 November 2017

:: The Ministry of Health in partnership with WHO and partners strengthens health information
system for effective health service delivery in South Sudan 27 November 2017

:: Madagascar's plague epidemic is slowing, but we must sustain the response 27 November
2017

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

:: Six Caribbean territories and states eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV and syphilis
(11/30/2017)

:: PAHO, UNAIDS call for stepping up HIV prevention efforts and offering all available options to
prevent new infections (11/29/2017)

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

No new digest content identified.

WHO European Region EURO

:: 105 000 doses of vaccine flown into Kyrgyzstan to kick-start influenza immunization campaign
29-11-2017

:: 1 in 2 people living with HIV in Europe is diagnosed late: ECDC and WHO urge improvement in
testing practices 28-11-2017

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: World AIDS Day 2017: HIV is treatable, test for HIV 30 November 2017

:: WHO delivers medicines as diphtheria spreads in Yemen 27 November 2017

WHO Western Pacific Region

No new digest content identified.

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 2 December 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases/Announcements

Posted on November 30, 2017

World AIDS Day

Administrator's Statement on World AIDS Day, 1 December

Global Women's Leadership Index launched

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development offers an unprecedented opportunity for societies to ensure that women have equal access to lead public institutions on the path to transformative change....

Posted on November 29, 2017

A new plan for a new era: UN development agency charts course for development in 21st century

UNDP today launched a new and ambitious blueprint for development in the 21st century at the United Nations headquarters in New York.

Posted on November 28, 2017

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 2 December 2017]

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

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

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

Call for Session proposals for United Nations World Data Forum 2018

The Programme Committee for the UN World Data Forum 2018 invites you to submit proposals for sessions to be considered for inclusion in the programme for the UNWDF2018.

The deadline for submission of session proposals is 31 January 2018.
For more information, please visit the [call for session proposal page](#).

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme [to 2 December 2017]

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

27 Nov 2017 *Press release*

[Countries commit US\\$540 million for continued work under the Montreal Protocol on its 30th anniversary](#)

– Developing countries are to receive US\$540 million under the Montreal Protocol to continue their work in phasing out ozone-depleting hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) and to initiate enabling activities for the phase-down of climate-warming hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) under the Kigali Amendment.

The funds will be provided by developed countries over the period 2018 to 2020 through the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, which has disbursed over US\$3.7 billion since 1991 to support developing countries to phase out chemicals that destroy the ozone layer.

Montreal Protocol parties made the funding commitment during the joint 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention and the 29th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol held in Montreal from 20 to 24 November...

UNISDR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 2 December 2017]

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

30 November 2017, New York

[Building accessible societies for all](#)

Urban poverty, inequalities and exclusion often exist at the expense of sustainable development. The speed and scale of urbanization brings challenges for all family members such as youth, particularly young girls and women, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and older persons. To meet these future challenges that the growing urban population is facing, city leaders must move quickly and plan accordingly.

It is against this backdrop that UN DESA's Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD) is organizing the event "Building Future Societies for All." It is part of the Expert Discussion Series: Towards inclusive, accessible and resilient societies, and takes place in the lead up to the 56th Commission for Social Development.

The goal is to create a platform where civil society and governments work together on poverty eradication strategies and on creating innovative public policy frameworks to build resilient societies and to shape the future of urban communities...

UNESCO [to 2 December 2017]

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

30 November 2017

[UN Security Council Highlights the Role of Cultural Heritage for Peace and Security](#)

The first Report on the [United Nations Security Council Resolution 2347 on the protection of cultural heritage](#) ([link is external](#)), launched today at the UN in New York, highlights the

importance of strengthening the implementation of the Resolution, which links the protection of cultural heritage with the maintenance of international peace and security. The Report explores a number of good practices shared by 29 Member States and presents a series of recommendations to strengthen heritage protection, awareness raising, data collection and training peacekeepers, with a view to better integrate cultural issues in future peacekeeping missions.

01 December 2017

[UNESCO Governing Bodies approve new report on the Right to education in the context of SDG4 implementation](#)

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 2 December 2017]

<https://www.unodc.org/>

01/12/2017 –

[Statement on World AIDS Day](#)

30/11/2017 –

[We must strengthen efforts to safeguard cultural property in conflict areas, UNODC Chief informs Security Council](#)

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 2 December 2017]

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

Posted November 30, 2017

[Distinguishing slum from non-slum areas to identify occupants' issues](#)

30 November 2017, Bellagio Italy – Despite an estimated one billion people around the world living in slums, many global data collection exercises including censuses do not track spatial distinctions of populations living in places identified as slums. Today, slums are often invisible in official statistics, generally hidden within urban averages. Yet the spaces people occupy are important; it is for this reason that rural and urban statistics are collected. Identifying and disaggregating urban spaces as either slum or non-slum identifies uniquely urban-related needs specific to slum residents...

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

ILO International Labour Organization [to 2 December 2017]

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

Work in Freedom

[DFID announces £13 million for ILO Work in Freedom programme](#)

30 November 2017

DFID pledges a new package of support totalling £13 million for the ILO-run Work in Freedom programme to prevent trafficking and forced labour among women migrant workers from South Asia.

Sporting Chance Forum

[ILO welcomes commitment to establishing Centre for Sport & Human Rights](#)

30 November 2017

UN agencies – including the ILO – human rights groups, athletes, employers’ and trade union organizations, governments and others, commit to setting up a centre tasked with helping tackle human rights risks associated with sports. The ILO welcomed the announcement, made at a November 30-December 1, 2017 meeting in Geneva.

Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth – Engagement Platform

[Partners of Decent Jobs for Youth launch global engagement platform for joint action](#)

29 November 2017

Governments, social partners, the UN System, youth and civil society, the private sector and key youth employment stakeholders launched global engagement platform for joint action on decent jobs for youth in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

World Social Protection Report 2017-2019

[ILO: 4 billion people worldwide are left without social protection](#)

29 November 2017

New ILO report shows that massive efforts are still needed to ensure that the right to social security becomes a reality for all.

..According to new data presented in the [World Social Protection Report 2017/19: Universal social protection to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals](#), only 45 per cent of the global population is effectively covered by at least one social benefit, while the remaining 55 per cent– 4 billion people – are left unprotected.

The new research also shows that only 29 per cent of the global population enjoys access to comprehensive social security – a small increase compared to 27 per cent in 2014-2015 – while the other 71 per cent, or 5.2 billion people, are not, or only partially, protected...

Social Dialogue and the Future of Work

[ESC-SI adopts Athens Declaration to promote social dialogue as a key instrument for shaping the future of work](#)

27 November 2017

Over 180 participants from 37 countries gathered in Athens on 23-24 November 2017 to adopt a landmark Declaration on Social Dialogue and the Future of Work.

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 2 December 2017]

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

30/11/17

[ICAO and partnering air transport agencies set out new Global Runway Safety Action Plan](#)

29/11/17

[Beijing Protocol to enter into force following Uganda's ratification](#)

29/11/17

[ICAO NGAP Summit addresses pressing shortages of skilled professionals for future air transport network](#)

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 2 December 2017]

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

01/12/2017

[IMO Assembly elects new 40-Member Council](#)

Members of the IMO Council for the 2018-2019 biennium have been elected.

[Flame-defying maritime pilots recognized with IMO bravery accolade](#)

29/11/2017 Houston maritime pilots defied fire to bring a burning ship to safety, averting a major maritime catastrophe.

[International Maritime Prize for 2016 presented to Koji Sekimizu](#)

28/11/2017 Mr. Koji Sekimizu, former Secretary General of IMO, receives prestigious prize

[IMO Secretary-General outlines challenges facing the Organization](#)

27/11/2017 Climate change, digital disruption and sustainable development among key areas as IMO moves into new era.

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 2 December 2017]

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

Publish Date: 1 December 2017

[Southeast Asia strengthens multi-hazard early warning systems](#)

With new funds provided by the Government of Canada, WMO and its partners are stepping up efforts to support disaster risk reduction in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Southeast Asia.

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 2 December 2017]

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

30 November 2017

[Italy and UNIDO continue to support job creation for youth and women through entrepreneurship in Myanmar](#)

VIENNA, – The Government of Italy and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) have agreed to co-operate on the implementation of a project in Myanmar entitled “Improving Myanmar’s entrepreneurial ecosystem to increase SME development and job creation for youth and women (Phase 1)”.

[The Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa – partnering for sustainable economic transformation](#)

VIENNA, 30 November - In July 2016, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted a resolution proclaiming the period 2016-2025 as the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDD AIII). UNIDO was tasked with leading the implementation of the Decade, in collaboration with a range of partners.

[Industrial Development Report 2018 launched](#)

VIENNA, 29 November 2017 - UNIDO launched its 2018 Industrial Development Report today at an event held on the sidelines of the seventeenth session of the UNIDO General Conference.

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) [to 2 December 2017]

https://www.iso.org/news_archive/x/

1 December 2017

[New edition of ISO/IEC 17025 just published](#)

By Sandrine Tranchard

The most popular standard for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories has just been updated, taking into account the latest changes in laboratory environment and work practices.

30 November 2017

[Vote starts on final draft of ISO 45001 for occupational health and safety](#)

By Elizabeth Gasiorowski-Denis

Every day, thousands of lives are lost due to work accidents or fatal diseases linked to work activities. These are deaths that could and should have been prevented, and must be in the future. A new standard in development aims to help organizations do just that, and it has now reached one of the final...

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 2 December 2017]

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

29 November 2017

[African tourism leaders debate the role of the sector as a tool for inclusive growth and community engagement](#)

The Conference results in the Lusaka Declaration on Sustainable Tourism The potential of Tourism in poverty alleviation and to induce transformative change has been addressed in Lusaka, capital city of Zambia, in the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) Conference on Promoting Sustainable Tourism, a Tool for Inclusive Growth and Community Engagement in Africa. The Conference, a flagship event of the Africa region for the celebration of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, took place last 16-18 November and was coordinated by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) in cooperation with the Government of Zambia.

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 2 December 2017]

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

2017-11-29

[Statement by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity at the Sustainable Ocean Summit Halifax, Canada, 29 November – 1 December 2017](#)

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USAID [to 2 December 2017]

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

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

November 30, 2017

[Statement from USAID Administrator Mark Green on World AIDS Day](#)

[U.S. Support for Ending Tuberculosis Epidemic in India](#)

November 29, 2017

FACT SHEET

Today, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) announced further action to help India in its fight against Tuberculosis (TB). India has the world's highest incidence of TB,

with 2.8 million cases annually, and accounts for more than a quarter of the global TB burden. India also has the largest burden of multi-drug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) among all countries, with almost 150,000 cases every year. TB claims over 435,000 Indian lives each year, which places TB among the top ten causes of death in the country.

USAID Administrator Green Announces New Efforts to Empower Women Entrepreneurs

November 29, 2017

FACT SHEET

This week, the United States and India are hosting the Global Entrepreneurship Summit (GES) in Hyderabad, India. Now in its eighth year, GES is a preeminent annual entrepreneurship gathering and will welcome 1,500 entrepreneurs, investors, and supporters of entrepreneurs from 150 countries to India. This year marks the first time GES has taken place in South Asia, which reflects the region's strong entrepreneurial achievements and future, as well as India's emergence as a strategic U.S. partner.

DFID [to 2 December 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

UK aid to help over half a million people at risk of slavery

1 December 2017 DFID Press release

...Today's £40 million package of UK aid includes:

:: £13 million for the second phase of the Work in Freedom programme to prevent trafficking and forced labour among women migrant workers from South Asia, which has the highest prevalence of forced labour globally. This will focus on victims of forced domestic work and garment manufacturing, providing skills training to women before they move to a nearby country for work, supporting women at their destination so they can access help if they are exploited, and working with governments to improve laws and policies to protect vulnerable people from becoming victims of this crime.

:: a £20 million contribution to the Global Fund to End Modern Slavery, which will be used to target sectors with a high risk of slavery, like the garment sector, fisheries and construction, combating this crime by working with law enforcement, prevention and victim services and business.

:: further details of the £7 million DFID support in Nigeria which will focus on creating credible alternative livelihoods in hospitality, creative industries, technology and agri-entrepreneurship so people are not forced into a life of trafficking, providing better victim support and counselling, and increasing public awareness of the risks of trafficking. This is in addition to the Home Office's existing £5 million of support which is improving law enforcement and justice systems to crack down on this crime and root out the perpetrators.

UK Government to host its first ever Global Disability Summit

30 November 2017

DFID Press release

UK set to agree new long-term partnership to bolster Jordan's economic resilience

29 November 2017 DFID and Number 10 Press release

Penny Mordaunt: Extra UK aid gives a future to persecuted Rohingya

27 November 2017 DFID Press release

ECHO [to 2 December 2017]

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

30/11/2017

Can 3D printing improve crisis response? Commission prize calls for creative tech solutions in humanitarian aid.

The European Commission has launched today the first of six EIC Horizon Prizes, on Affordable High-Tech for Humanitarian Aid. EIC Horizon Prizes are part of the European Innovation Council pilot run under Horizon 2020, the EU's research and innovation programme.

The Prize on Affordable High-Tech for Humanitarian Aid will reward the best, proven, cost-effective, tech-based solutions for Humanitarian Aid. The prize amount of €5 million will be divided equally into five categories: shelter and related assistance; water, hygiene and sanitation; energy; health; and medical care and an "open" category. Technologies include nanotechnologies, advanced materials or 3D printing...

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African Union [to 2 December 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]

November 29, 2017

Joint press release of the United Nations, the African Union and the European Union

The United Nations Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Moussa Faki Mahamat, the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, and the High Representative/Vice President Federica Mogherini met this morning in the margins of the African Union/European Union Summit to discuss concrete steps to address jointly the dramatic situation of migrants and refugees victims of criminal networks, in particular inside Libya.

They agreed to put in place a joint EU-AU-UN Task Force to save and protect lives of migrants and refugees along the routes and in particular inside Libya, accelerating the assisted voluntary returns to countries of origin, and the resettlement of those in need of international protection. This action will build on, expand and accelerate the ongoing work done by countries of origin, and the IOM, with EU funding, which allowed so far the voluntary return to their countries of origin of 13 000 migrants since January.

The work of the Task Force will be closely coordinated with the Libyan authorities and be part of the overall joint work that the African Union and the European Union, and the United Nations, will intensify to dismantle traffickers and criminal networks, and to offer opportunities of development and stability to countries of origin and transit, tackling root causes of migration. The United Nations, the African Union and the European Union agreed to upgrade in a systematic manner their trilateral cooperation and to meet on a regular basis at the highest political level, notably in the margins of the UN General Assembly...

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 2 December 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]

No new digest content identified.

European Commission [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

OECD [to 2 December 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]

30-November-2017

[OECD sees global economy strengthening, but says further policy action needed to catalyse the private sector for stronger and more inclusive growth](#)

OECD sees global economy strengthening, but says further policy action needed to catalyse the private sector for stronger and more inclusive growth

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 2 December 2017]

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

02/12/2017

[OIC and Italy Sign Declaration of Intent for Cooperation](#)

The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Dr. Yousef Al-Othaimeen and H.E. Mr. Venosnos Amendola, Deputy Foreign Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy, has signed a 'Declaration of Intent' for cooperation on the sidelines of the MED conference on Friday December 1, 2017 in Rome.

[Al-Othaimeen: OIC is Building Stronger Communication Bridges with other Societies through the Organization of Global Cultural Programs](#)

The Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has called on Member States to publicize the Muslim world's culture of diversity and pluralism, as a means to convey a message of universal peace, tolerance, moderation and love as advocated by Islam.

28/11/2017

[Al Othaimeen: Islamic Coalition Laid Out the Broad Lines for Counter Terrorism](#)

The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), H.E. Dr. Yousef A. Al-Othaimeen took part in the proceedings of the first meeting of the ministerial meeting of the Islamic Military Coalition Against Terrorism which was hosted in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 26 November 2017, under the theme of "Allied Against Terrorism".

26/11/2017

Group of 77 [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

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UNCTAD [to 2 December 2017]

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

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

No new digest content identified.

WTO - World Trade Organisation [to 2 December 2017]

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

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

No new digest content identified.

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IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 2 December 2017]

<https://www.ipu.org/en/news>

No new digest content identified.

International Court of Justice [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

International Criminal Court (ICC) [to 2 December 2017]

Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity

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

No new digest content identified.

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World Bank [to 2 December 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]

Press Release

[Education: Children with disabilities are being left behind, says World Bank/GPE report](#)

WASHINGTON, December 1, 2017 – Children with disabilities are being left behind by global efforts to improve education opportunities for all, as gaps between children with and without disabilities have increased dramatically in developing countries, according to new research from the World Bank and the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) released ahead of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

[The Refugee Situation in the Sahel: Urgently Responding to This New Development Challenge](#)

N'DJAMENA, November 29, 2017 – Forced displacement is posing an unprecedented development challenge in the Sahel region, particularly around the Lake Chad basin. A new World Bank report is sounding the...

Date: November 29, 2017 Type: Press Release

[Call for Comments on Reforms to the Global Audit Standard-Setting Process](#)

WASHINGTON, November 29, 2017— The World Bank Group is a member of the Monitoring Group, a group of international financial institutions and regulatory bodies committed to advancing the public interest...

Date: November 29, 2017 Type: Press Release

[The Vulnerable in Latin America and the Caribbean are Often Just One Disaster Away from Falling Back into Poverty](#)

WASHINGTON, November 29, 2017 – Countries across Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) have made major progress in reducing poverty and inequality, but frequent natural and man-made shocks threaten to...

Date: November 29, 2017 Type: Press Release

[Mapping the World's Wind Energy Potential](#)

AMSTERDAM, November 28, 2017 -- The World Bank and the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) today launched new Global Wind Atlas, a free web-based tool to help policymakers and investors identify...

Date: November 28, 2017 Type: Press Release

IMF [to 2 December 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]

No new digest content identified.

African Development Bank Group [to 2 December 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]

[Experts, policy-makers converge on Addis Ababa to scale up governance for Africa's transformation](#)

01/12/2017 - Although Africa has registered strong economic growth in recent years, this growth is not inclusive. Poverty and inequality prevail.

What is the role of African governments to drive industrialization in their countries? What makes industrial policies effective? What institutional and regulatory environment should governments pursue to promote industrialization? And what are the experiences of African countries that have adopted industrialization strategies and policies? For such countries, what factors have ensured successful implementation?

These are some of the key questions to be addressed at the 12th African Economic Conference, which opens Monday in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

[AfDB and WWF agree to focus on conservation, energy and agriculture](#)

30/11/2017 - The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the Africa Development Bank (AfDB) have announced a new three-year partnership agreement. The agreement comes on the heels of a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (2014-2017) in which the two organizations committed to deliver major eco-conservation programmes for Africa.

[The African Development Bank and the European Commission Ink Agreements to Co-Finance Road Projects in West Africa](#)

29/11/2017 - The African Development Bank (AfDB) and the European Commission on Monday 27 November 2017 signed five co-financing agreements to support road infrastructure projects in West Africa.

Asian Development Bank [to 2 December 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]

1 December 2017

ADB Promotes High-Value, Sustainable, and Inclusive Flower Production

ADB today signed \$20 million in loan agreements with Agripacific Holdings and Kunming Hasfarm Flowers to help develop high-value horticulture in Viet Nam, the People's Republic of China, and Indonesia.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank [to 2 December 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 2 December 2017]

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

1 December 2017:

Agricultural investment can have big impact on the lives of women and girls in developing countries, says IFAD President

30 November 2017:

FAO, IFAD and WFP join efforts to eradicate hunger and malnutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean

29 November 2017:

The United Nations Rome-based Agencies commit to enhance their cooperation in the Global South to achieve Zero Hunger by 2030

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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.

Action Contre la Faim – Action Against Hunger [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Amref Health Africa [to 2 December 2017]

<http://amref.org/news/news/29/11/2017>

[Amref Health Africa joins the world to commemorate World Diabetes Day](#)

World Diabetes Day is marked on November 14 all over the world to raise awareness about the disease. Diabetes is a condition in which a person has high blood sugar due to an inability to produce, or inability to metabolize, sufficient quantities of insulin, the hormone that regulates blood...

Aravind Eye Care System [to 2 December 2017]

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

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

No new digest content identified.

BRAC [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

CARE International [to 2 December 2017]

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

30th Nov 2017

[Statement on return agreement of refugees from Myanmar in Bangladesh](#)

CARE is urging both the Government of Bangladesh and the Government of the Union of Myanmar to ensure that any refugee returns to Myanmar are voluntary, informed, respectful and conducted in safety and dignity.

Clubhouse International [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Danish Refugee Council [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

ECPAT [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Fountain House [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Handicap International [to 2 December 2017]

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

Posted on December 01, 2017 12:23 PM

[Handicap International condemns broken promise on cluster munitions](#)

In a Department of Defense policy memo published Dec 1, the U.S. reversed a 2008 directive in which the U.S. promised to cease to use cluster munitions with greater than a 1% failure rate by 2019.

"Although the Department seeks to field a new generation of more highly reliable munitions, we cannot risk mission failure or accept the potential of increased military and civilian casualties by forfeiting the best available capabilities," according to the memo.

"The Pentagon confirmed today what we've long known: cluster munitions are not 'highly reliable,' but instead inaccurate weapons of terror," says Jeff Meer, Executive Director of Handicap International in the U.S. "The implication should be obvious: the United States must immediately stop stockpiling these aging, inaccurate weapons. They've done the opposite by suggesting this weapon is somehow useful in combat. And to imply, as the Pentagon policy memo does, that the weapons are not necessarily a humanitarian hazard, is an outright and shameful lie."...

Heifer International [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

HelpAge International [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

ICRC [to 2 December 2017]

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

Selected News Releases, Statements, Reports

01-12-2017 | *News release*

[Falkland/Malvinas Islands: ICRC presents Argentina and the United Kingdom with results of humanitarian forensic identification project](#)

Geneva (ICRC) – The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has today handed out its forensic reports resulting from the work it carried out to identify the mortal remains of Argentine soldiers buried in Darwin cemetery.

[China: Law schools vie for top spot in humanitarian law competition](#)

The contest for the best resumes this year as students from 33 universities participate in the 11th Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Moot Court Competition, Mainland China Round from 1st to 3rd December at the KoGuan Law School of Shanghai Ji

01-12-2017 | *News release*

[Twenty-Second Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention](#)

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the entry into force of the Chemical Weapons Convention, which has been a remarkable success.

30-11-2017 | *Statement*

[ICRC calls attention to overlooked humanitarian tragedy of missing migrants with powerful new website](#)

(Geneva) - The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) today launches a new website – missingmigrants.icrc.org – calling global attention to the human stories behind the humanitarian tragedies of those who go missing along migration routes.
29-11-2017 | News release

[Two billion CHF to fund critical humanitarian operations in 2018](#)

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has asked its donors for more than 2 billion Swiss Francs to fund its field operations in 2018, to assist and protect millions of people affected by conflict and other situations of violence.
28-11-2017 | News release

IFRC [to 2 December 2017]

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

Iran, Middle East and North Africa

[IFRC and Iranian Red Crescent announce major expansion of support to earthquake survivors](#)

A major plan announced today will dramatically expand support to survivors of the 12 November earthquake that claimed 444 lives and injured more than 9,000 people in north-west Iran.
29 November 2017

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 2 December 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases & Statements

Press Release

[Greece: Move Asylum Seekers to Safety Before Winter Hits](#)

December 1, 2017

Press Release

[East Ghouta 'truce' must include evacuation of hundreds of sick and wounded](#)

November 29, 2017

Press Release

[Levels of Violence Against Women and Girls in South Sudan Among The Highest in the World Reveals Groundbreaking Study](#)

November 29, 2017

Press Release

[New IRC research: pre-teen and teenage girls in humanitarian settings overwhelmingly suffer abuse by people they know](#)

November 27, 2017

IRCT [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Islamic Relief [to 2 December 2017]

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

November 30, 2017

16 Days of Activism: Working together to end gender-based violence

Islamic Relief is taking part in 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV). Shahin Ashraf MBE, Islamic Relief's Global Advocacy Advisor, is coordinating the global campaign and shares her daily observations of the work Islamic Relief is doing around the world.

Landsea [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Medecins du Monde [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 2 December 2017]

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

Press release

Syria: Bombing and Shelling in East Ghouta Overwhelm Medical Services

November 27, 2017

Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) calls for urgent medical supplies and respect for International Humanitarian Law protecting medical facilities

Mercy Corps [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Operation Smile [to 2 December 2017]

<http://www.operationssmile.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 2 December 2017]

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

1 December 2017

Greece: move asylum seekers to safety before winter hits

The Greek government, with the support of EU leaders, should act now before the onset of winter to end Greece's "containment policy," 12 human rights and humanitarian organizations said in a campaign that began today.

27 November 2017

[Effective EU tax haven blacklist must include at least 35 countries, Oxfam says](#)

The upcoming EU tax haven blacklist has to include at least 35 countries, including notorious tax havens such as Switzerland and Bermuda, in order to be effective, Oxfam finds in a new report published today. The analysis also shows that at least 4 EU countries would be blacklisted if the EU were to apply its own criteria to member states.

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 2 December 2017]

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

Published 27. Nov 2017

[Thousands flee clashes between Taliban and Islamic State in Eastern Afghanistan](#)

"Armed clashes between the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan and the Islamic State of Khorasan over the past month have boiled over into brutal change of territorial control, from which thousands of Afghan families are desperately fleeing for their lives," said Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) Head of Programme in Afghanistan, Will Carter...

Published 27. Nov 2017

[Intensified fighting forces over 10,000 people to flee in Somalia](#)

Aerial bombardment and ground fighting in Somalia's Middle and Lower Shabelle regions this month have forced over 10,000 people to flee for their lives.

"We're seeing a spike in families fleeing fighting that are arriving in overcrowded camps in Mogadishu. The camps are already overfilled with drought-stricken people, barely surviving in flimsy shelters," said the Norwegian Refugee Council's (NRC) Country Director in Somalia, Victor Moses...

Pact [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Partners In Health [to 2 December 2017]

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

Dec 01, 2017

[Sierra Leone's Newest Fight](#)

It was a landmark, a triumph, a watershed moment—without fanfare. On Oct. 6, two doctors stood under the awning of a yellow hospital on the western edge of Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone, and gave instructions to the first patients to be discharged from the first tuberculosis treatment program of its kind in the country. "If you have a problem, if you have a question, call us," one doctor said. "You have my number."

Dec 01, 2017

[World AIDS Day: Dr. Joia S. Mukherjee Calls for Renewed Activism, Says End to Pandemic is Possible](#)

In commemoration of World AIDS Day, Dr. Joia S. Mukherjee describes why this is no time for complacency in the long, global battle against the deadly disease:

Nov 29, 2017

[Fellowship Providing Vital Support for Nursing Leaders](#)

As she spoke to nurse managers from Rwanda, Liberia and Haiti, Dr. Lynda Tyer-Viola—a longtime nurse manager in Texas—cited a daily situation that's true for medical professionals

anywhere. “The everyday minutiae sucks all the air out of the room,” she said, referring to the flood of unexpected, urgent tasks that arise in busy hospital environments. Such tasks often detract from larger projects or duties, Tyer-Viola said, and can change whatever plans managers thought they had for their day.

PATH [to 2 December 2017]

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

Press release | November 30, 2017

[Novel drug delivery system has game-changing potential to reduce rates of HIV infection](#)

An international collaboration announces preclinical development of a microarray patch delivery system for HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis

Seattle, WA, December 1, 2017—The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), through the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), awarded PATH a three-year, \$9.4 million grant to advance a needle-free microarray patch for delivery of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). Microarray patches are a discreet, easy-to-use technology that contains an array of tiny projections that painlessly penetrate the top layer of skin to deliver a drug.

PATH, [ViiV Healthcare](#), [Queen’s University Belfast](#), the [Population Council](#), and [LTS Lohmann Therapie-Systeme AG](#) will combine their complementary expertise to develop a novel microarray patch for HIV PrEP in preparation for future clinical trials. The collaborators will engage with women and health care workers in Kenya, South Africa, and Uganda to design a microarray patch product that meets their needs...

Announcement | November 28, 2017

[PATH statement on the World Health Organization’s World Malaria Report, 2017](#)

Regaining progress against malaria requires new tools

A statement from PATH’s Vice President for Essential Medicines, [Dr. David C. Kaslow](#), follows:

This week, the World Health Organization (WHO) released the [2017 World Malaria Report](#) on the state of malaria control and elimination across the globe and, worryingly, emphasized that although more countries have accelerated toward malaria elimination, the global progress to prevent malaria disease and death has stalled after a period of unprecedented positive impact. The new data find that malaria killed an estimated 445,000 people in 2016, a number essentially unchanged in the last three years. The report also finds that there were an estimated 216 million cases of malaria globally in 2016, a consistent figure for the past five years..

Plan International [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Save The Children [to 2 December 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 2 December 2017]

<http://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/about-sos/press/press-releases>
30.11.2017

[World Aids Day: A story of two African women living positively](#)

Esther Chalwe Chelando and Beatrice Chanda Chileshe have a similar story. They are both HIV positive and were at one point so ravaged by the disease that they were near to death – putting their children at risk of losing parental care.

Tostan [to 2 December 2017]

<http://www.tostan.org>

No new digest content identified.

Women for Women International [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

World Vision [to 2 December 2017]

<http://wvi.org/>

No new digest content identified.

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Freedom House [to 2 December 2017]

<https://freedomhouse.org/news>

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research

No new digest content identified.

Transparency International [to 2 December 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research

1 Dec 2017

[Argentina G20 presidency must put anti-corruption at heart of global agenda](#)

As Argentina takes over the presidency of the G20 from Germany today we call on the government to place tackling corruption at the top of the G20 agenda and demonstrate its commitment to working with civil society to make economic growth work for all, and not just the elite few.

28 Nov 2017

[Transparency International launches 10 anti-corruption principles for state-owned enterprises](#)

Transparency International, the global anti-corruption organisation, today published 10 Anti-Corruption Principles for State-Owned Enterprises, a guide to encourage and help enterprises controlled or partially owned by the state to implement best-practice anti-corruption programmes based on the ...

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ChildFund Alliance [to 2 December 2017]

<https://childfundalliance.org/>
No new digest content identified.

CONCORD [to 2 December 2017]

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

[European NGO confederation for relief and development]

Nov 30, 2017

Civil Society barred from speaking at the Africa-Europe Summit

Press Reaction – The AU EU Summit should have been a great opportunity for young people from Africa and the EU to exchange and listen to each other's views. Scheduled to speak, and with speeches prepared, as part of the peace, security, and governance section of the Summit today, instead their contribution was ruled out on the grounds of "rules of procedure" after the objections of a number of delegations. Civil Society reacted to the situation.

Is private investment in developing country agriculture a good thing?

Nov 30, 2017

The EU must ensure small farmers are protected against multinational agribusiness when encouraging private investment in agriculture.

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 2 December 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 Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements]

No new digest content identified.

The Elders [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

END Fund [to 2 December 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements

No new digest content identified.

Evidence Aid [to 2 December 2017]

www.evidenceaid.org

November 30, 2017

Psychological therapies for the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder in children and adolescents

Claire Allen

Evidence suggests that psychological therapies, particularly CBT, are effective for the treatment of PTSD in children and adolescents up to a month following treatment. More evidence is required for the effectiveness of psychological therapies in the longer term and to be able to compare the effectiveness of one psychological therapy to another.

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is highly prevalent in children and adolescents who have experienced trauma and has high personal and health costs. The aim of this review was to examine the effectiveness of all psychological therapies for the treatment of PTSD in children and adolescents. Within this review, 14 randomised controlled trials (758 participants) were identified. These trials compared psychological therapies to a control, other psychological therapies, and meditation for the treatment of PTSD in youths aged 3 to 18 years. The types of trauma related to the PTSD were sexual abuse, civil violence, natural disaster, domestic violence and motor vehicle accidents. The psychological therapies used in the included studies were cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), exposure-based, psychodynamic, narrative, supportive counselling, and eye movement desensitisation and reprocessing (EMDR).

Gavi [to 2 December 2017]

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

30 November 2017

Millions of children set to be protected against typhoid fever

Gavi Board approves US\$ 85 million funding window for 2019-2020 to support the introduction of typhoid conjugate vaccine in developing countries.

ENGAGEMENT WITH TRANSITIONING COUNTRIES AND POST-TRANSITION

Between 2016 and 2020, at least 20 Gavi-supported countries are expected to transition out of Gavi's financial support. Most of these countries are on-track to fully finance their immunisation programmes and sustain the progress they have made since 2000, when Gavi was created. However, the Gavi Board recognised that a small number of countries are facing more significant challenges...

Global Fund [to 2 December 2017]

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

News

WHO and Global Fund Sign Cooperation Agreements

01 December 2017

WHO and the Global Fund signed cooperation and financing agreements amounting to an estimated US\$50 million today, with the aim of providing vital technical support to countries to fight HIV, TB and malaria, and securing additional progress toward universal health coverage.

News

Spain, Three African Countries and the Global Fund Launch New Debt2Health Initiative

29 November 2017

The government of Spain today announced an agreement to waive debts owed by Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ethiopia in exchange for investments in domestic health programs supported by the Global Fund.

Hilton Prize Coalition [to 2 December 2017]

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

An Alliance of Hilton Prize Recipients

No new digest content identified.

ICVA - International Council of Voluntary Agencies [to 2 December 2017]

<https://icvanetwork.org/>

No new digest content identified.

INEE – an international network for education in emergencies [to 2 December 2017]

<http://www.ineesite.org/en/news>

No new digest content identified.

InterAction [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Start Network [to 2 December 2017]

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

30 Nov 17

Reflections from the Assembly

Start members endorse a transformational way forward

In November this year - six months after the launch - over 80 humanitarian directors and colleagues from Start Network projects around the world came together for the Network's highest governance meeting in the Hague, hosted by network member Cordaid. This Assembly meeting was tasked to review the network design proposal and either endorse or reject the future direction it outlines...

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Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP) [to 2 December 2017]

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

27 Nov 2017

Your views matter. Please complete the SOHS 2018 survey

Your responses can help shape future humanitarian action. The new State of the Humanitarian System (SOHS) survey is now open until the end of the year.

CHS Alliance [to 2 December 2017]

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

01/12/2017

Competency-based HR – CHS Alliance training in Nairobi on 14 December

Competency-based HR can help an organisation select, develop and manage staff in an efficient, fair and strategic manner. Producing competent and well-managed staff, in turn, leads to accountable and effective organisations. Join us in Nairobi to learn more about competency-based HR approaches the Core Humanitarian Competency Framework (CHCF).

30/11/2017

How can we get cash out to the field when banking becomes difficult?

We had a coffee with Steve in the margins of a workshop about treasury management for international NGOs organised by Mango and hosted by the CHS Alliance. We asked him how he

addresses challenges such as bank de-risking, extended due diligence, international sanctions, terrorist financing and money laundering

Development Initiatives [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

EHLRA/R2HC [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

The Sphere Project [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 2 December 2017]

<https://phap.org/>

No new digest content identified.

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Center for Global Development [to 2 December 2017]

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

12/1/17

[Working Itself Out of a Job: USAID and Smart Strategic Transitions](#)

[Sarah Rose](#) , [Erin Collinson](#) and [Jared Kalow](#)

USAID has announced its intention to pursue “strategic transitions”—shifting select countries which have achieved an advanced level of development to a model of US engagement that relies less on traditional development assistance and more on other forms of cooperation. This paper seeks to inform USAID’s approach to strategic transitions.

ODI [to 2 December 2017]

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

Selected Press Releases

[STATEMENT: Jeff Seabright appointed to ODI Board of Trustees](#)

Press release | 29 November 2017

The Overseas Development Institute has announced the appointment of Jeff Seabright to the Board of Trustees

Selected Reports

[Six recommendations for reforming multilateral development banks: an essay series](#)

Briefing papers | December 2017 | Annalisa Prizzon, Chris Humphrey, Inge Kaul, Kiyoshi Kodera, Alastair McKechnie and Andrew Rogerson

This essay series presents six perspectives on how the multilateral development bank system should be reformed to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

[India's energy transition: mapping subsidies to fossil fuels and clean energy in India](#)

Research reports and studies | December 2017 | Vibhuti Garg, Ivetta Gerasimchuk, Christopher Beaton, Kaushik Ranjan Bandyopadhyay, Gurpreet Chugh, Ajit Gupta, Apurva Jain, Ramit Malhotra, Garima Sodhi, Sagun Tripathi, Shelagh Whitley, Leah Worrall, Andrew Scott and Sejal Patel

This report maps out the context, magnitude, trends and impacts of India's energy subsidies.

[The DFID/ECHO approach to cash assistance for refugees in Lebanon: documenting the process](#)

Working and discussion papers | November 2017 | Sarah Bailey and Paul Harvey

This paper documents the process and the positions and perspectives of actors involved in developing and responding to the joint ECHO/DFID cash initiative.

[Making water infrastructure investment decisions in a changing climate: Kenya](#)

Research reports and studies | November 2017 | Naomi Oates and Martin Marani

This report conducts a political economy analysis to explore the contexts within which decisions about river basin development are made in Kenya.

[Making water infrastructure investment decisions in a changing climate: Ghana](#)

Research reports and studies | November 2017 | Beatrice Mosello, Ronald Adamtey and Emmanuel Obuobie

This report conducts a political economy analysis to explore the contexts within which decisions about river basin development are made in Ghana.

Urban Institute [to 2 December 2017]

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

Brief Job Market and Labor Force

[What Are the Top Jobs for Older Workers?](#)

Richard W. Johnson, [Claire Xiaozhi Wang](#)

December 1, 2017

Brief Taxes and Budget

[Macroeconomic Analysis of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act as Passed by the Senate Finance Committee](#)

[Benjamin R. Page](#), [Joseph Rosenberg](#), [James R. Nunns](#), [Daniel Berger](#)

November 30, 2017

Brief Children

[Methodology and Assumptions for the Mapping America's Futures Project, Brief 7](#)

[Steven Martin](#), [Austin Nichols](#), [Kaitlin Franks](#)

November 30, 2017

Research Report Education and Training

[Making Sense of State School Funding Policy](#)

[Matthew Chingos](#), [Kristin Blagg](#)

November 28, 2017

Research Report Taxes and Budget

[Impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act on Families with Young Children](#)

[Elaine Maag](#), [Julia B. Isaacs](#)

November 28, 2017

Research Report Poverty, Vulnerability, and the Safety Net
Identifying Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Human Services
Marla McDaniel, Tyler Woods, Eleanor Pratt, Margaret Simms
November 28, 2017

Brief Taxes and Budget
Debt Limits
Kim S. Rueben, Megan Randall
November 27, 2017

Research Report Taxes and Budget
Sustainable Budgeting in the States: Evidence on State Budget Institutions and Practices
Megan Randall, Kim S. Rueben
November 27, 2017

Brief Economic Growth and Productivity
The Budget Cycle and Line-Item Veto
Kim S. Rueben, Megan Randall
November 27, 2017

World Economic Forum [to 2 December 2017]
<https://agenda.weforum.org/news/>
News 28 Nov 2017

Colombia Launches Partnership to Protect Amazon Rainforest from Deforestation

- Colombia is working with the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 to convene a multistakeholder platform of buyers, producers, international donors, NGOs and civil society organizations to protect the Amazon rainforest
 - The platform will initially cover palm oil and is expected to extend to other major commodity-driven causes of deforestation, including beef, dairy and timber
 - The government aims to have zero net deforestation in the Amazon by 2020, and to have stopped all natural forest loss by 2030
- [See Week in Review above for more detail]*

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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 2 December 2017]
<https://www.alleninstitute.org/what-we-do/frontiers-group/news-press/news/>
No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Annie E. Casey Foundation [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Blue Meridian Partners [to 2 December 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 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Co Impact [to 2 December 2017]

www.co-impact.io

Co-Impact is a global philanthropic collaborative for systems change focused on improving the lives of millions of people around the world.

No new digest content identified.

Ford Foundation [to 2 December 2017]

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

News — 28 November 2017

[Ford Foundation and Walton Family Foundation launch \\$6 million effort to diversify art museum leadership](#)

The Diversifying Art Museum Leadership Initiative will support creative solutions to diversify curatorial and management staff at art museums across the United States.

News — 28 November 2017

[Peterson Foundation and Ford Foundation Launch US 2050](#)

In the coming decades, a transformational wave of foreseeable demographic changes will create a new American tapestry. Social, economic, and technological changes will reshape the domestic and global economy, and the nation's fiscal condition will face increasing challenges. *[See Week in Review above for more detail]*

GHIT Fund [to 2 December 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 •

2017.11.30 *Events*

[Upcoming Event: UHC Forum Side Event: STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN GLOBAL HEALTH VACCINE R&D](#)

2017.11.30 *Events*

[Upcoming Event: UHC Forum Side Event: Linking R&D to Access & Delivery: Virtuous Systems Powered by UHC](#)

Grameen Foundation [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 2 December 2017]

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

November 30, 2017

[Help us design research on how digital platforms can help governments respond to citizen feedback](#)

By David Sasaki

Are you a researcher or organizational designer interested in how governments can better serve citizens and how behavioral science can nudge governments to respond to citizen feedback? The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation's Global Development and Population Program seeks three-page expressions of interest (EOI) for a six-month consulting engagement to help design a potential, longer-term research...

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

IKEA Foundation [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Kaiser Family Foundation [to 2 December 2017]

http://www.kff.org/search/?post_type=press-release

November 30, 2017 *News Release*

[For Young People of Color HIV Remains a Significant Concern for Self and Community](#)

MENLO PARK, CA – A comprehensive new national survey of young adults, ages 18-30, from the Kaiser Family Foundation finds more than three and half decades into the epidemic, HIV remains an issue of deep concern for young people of color, both for themselves as well as for those they know....

Aga Khan Foundation [to 2 December 2017]
<http://www.akdn.org/our-agencies/aga-khan-foundation>
No new digest content identified.

Kellogg Foundation [to 2 December 2017]
<http://www.wkkf.org/news-and-media#pp=10&p=1&f1=news>
[Undated]

[W.K. Kellogg Foundation releases new evaluation resource](#)

Step-By-Step Guide offers best practices to nonprofits and community leaders

BATTLE CREEK, Michigan – Today the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF) released The Step-by-Step Guide to Evaluation: How to Become Savvy Evaluation Consumers, a resource for their grantees, nonprofits and community leaders. The guide makes evaluation best practices accessible to busy nonprofit directors and staff members, giving them a hands-on learning tool for refining programs and reporting results. The Step-by-Step Guide to Evaluation can be downloaded at the Kellogg Foundation website.

“Putting this tool in the hands of people working to change their communities is an important part of our commitment to children,” said La June Montgomery Tabron, president and CEO of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. “This resource combines emerging research from the field of evaluation with on-the-ground lessons from our grantee communities, in particular their experience integrating racial equity principles into evaluation practice.”...

MacArthur Foundation [to 2 December 2017]

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

November 27, 2017 - *Research and Results*

[Record Share of Americans Worried About Climate Change](#)

A survey by the Yale Program on Climate Change Communication finds that the share of Americans who say they are "very worried" about global warming has reached 22 percent, a record high since first measured in 2008

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Open Society Foundation [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 2 December 2017]

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

No new digest content identified.

Pew Charitable Trusts [to 2 December 2017]

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

Statement December 01, 2017

[Pew: Sage-Grouse 2015 Management Plans Don't Need a Major Overhaul](#)

Any changes by the Interior Department should be science-based

Washington—With the Interior Department weighing possible changes to management of greater sage-grouse habitat in the American West, The Pew Charitable Trusts said today that the existing management plans for those vast areas should be given time to work. Pew added that major changes to the plans are unnecessary and that any modifications must be grounded in science. A public comment period closes today...

Rockefeller Foundation [to 2 December 2017]

<https://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/about-us/news-media/>
November 30, 2017

The Economist's Matthew Bishop Joins The Rockefeller Foundation

Bishop will lead effort to convene around solutions to large-scale global challenges

NEW YORK—The Rockefeller Foundation today announced that Matthew Bishop, a senior writer and editor at *The Economist*, will join the Foundation as a managing director in a new role that will include overseeing programming for its Bellagio Center, the new RF Fellows, and broader thought leadership...

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 2 December 2017]

<http://www.rwjf.org/en/about-rwjf/newsroom/news-releases.html>
December 1, 2017 Brief

State Options to Protect Consumers and Stabilize the Market

Georgetown brief examines how states can leverage their authority to regulate short-term coverage and head off potential complications, protecting consumers and maintaining stability of the market.

November 27, 2017 Brief

Marketplace Pulse: The Unsubsidized Will Always Be With Us

Understanding the premium increases for individual market plans presents more complications than usual in 2017 because of the ways that states and carriers approached the last-minute suspension of the cost-sharing reduction (CSR) subsidies.

Science Philanthropy Alliance [to 2 December 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..."

November 30, 2017

Educating Journalists about Science Philanthropy

To help journalists better understand the growing field of science philanthropy, the Science Philanthropy Alliance organized a panel discussion at the 2017 World Conference for Science Journalists, held in San Francisco this past October. Moderator Tate Williams, science and environment editor at Inside Philanthropy, was joined by panelists Bob Tjian, Alliance consultant and former president of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Chonnetia Jones, director of insight and analysis at Wellcome Trust, Cyndi Atherton, director of the science program at the Heising-Simons Foundation, and Aaron Horvath, a Ph.D. candidate in the Stanford University Department of Sociology. More than 100 reporters attended the panel...

SDG Philanthropy Platform

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

SDG Philanthropy Platform is a collaboration between philanthropy and the greater international development community led by Foundation Center, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, and supported by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, Ford Foundation and the MasterCard Foundation, the Brach Family Foundation, and other key organizations such as Asociación de Fundaciones Empresariales (AFE) in Colombia, Brach Family Charitable Foundation, CAF America, Council on Foundations, East Africa Association of Grantmakers (EAAG), European Foundation Centre, Filantropi Indonesia (FI), GlobalGiving, The Humanitarian Forum, World Congress of Muslim Philanthropists, and Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmaker Support (WINGS).
No new digest content identified.

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

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

No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 2 December 2017]

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

News / Published: 27 November 2017

[New Research Enrichment awards available for grantholders](#)

Today, we're pleased to launch new Research Enrichment awards. These extend our dedicated funding for public engagement to encompass open research, and diversity and inclusion.

We're doing this because we believe this new funding will increase the impact of the work we fund and so benefit society.

Research Enrichment funding is available to support activities in:

- :: public engagement – this replaces the Provision for Public Engagement scheme
- :: open research
- :: diversity and inclusion.

The new enrichment awards will allow our grantholders to widen participation in their research by:

- :: inspiring, consulting or collaborating with the public
- :: developing innovative ways to make research open, accessible and reusable
- :: identifying and tackling barriers to diversity and inclusion...

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:: *Journal Watch*

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

American Journal of Infection Control

December 01, 2017 Volume 45, Issue 12, p1297-1416, e149-e164

<http://www.ajicjournal.org/current>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

December 2017 Volume 53, Issue 6, p745-934

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

American Journal of Public Health

December 2017 107(12)

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

PREEXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS

[Integrating HIV Preexposure Prophylaxis \(PrEP\) Into Routine Preventive Health Care to Avoid Exacerbating Disparities](#)

Sarah K. Calabrese, Douglas S. Krakower and Kenneth H. Mayer

107(12), pp. 1883–1889

VACCINES

[Vaccines and the Trump Administration—Reasons for Optimism Amid Uncertainty](#)

Jason L. Schwartz

107(12), pp. 1892–1893

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Volume 97, Issue 6, 2017

<http://www.ajtmh.org/content/journals/14761645/97/6>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Annals of Internal Medicine

21 November 2017 Vol: 167, Issue 10

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

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

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

(Accessed 2 December 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Global Health

October 2017; volume 2, issue 4

<http://gh.bmj.com/content/2/4?current-issue=y>

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Health Services Research

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

(Accessed 2 December 2017)

Research article

[Cost analysis of two community-based HIV testing service modalities led by a Non-Governmental Organization in Cape Town, South Africa](#)

In South Africa, the financing and sustainability of HIV services is a priority. Community-based HIV testing services (CB-HTS) play a vital role in diagnosis and linkage to HIV care for those least likely to u...

Authors: Sue-Ann Meehan, Nulda Beyers and Ronelle Burger

Citation: BMC Health Services Research 2017 17:801

Published on: 2 December 2017

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 2 December 2017)

Research article

[Vaccine-derived poliovirus surveillance in China during 2001–2013: the potential challenge for maintaining polio free status](#)

The goal of polio eradication is to complete elimination and containment of all wild, vaccine-related and Sabin polioviruses. Vaccine-derived poliovirus (VDPV) surveillance in China from 2001–2013 is summarize...

Authors: Hai-Bo Wang, Hui-Ming Luo, Li Li, Chun-Xiang Fan, Li-Xin Hao, Chao Ma, Qi-Ru Su, Hong Yang, Kathleen H. Reilly, Hua-Qing Wang and Ning Wen

Citation: BMC Infectious Diseases 2017 17:742

Published on: 2 December 2017

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 2 December 2017)

Research article

2 December 2017

[Informed consent for clinical treatment in low-income setting: evaluating the relationship between satisfying consent and extent of recall of consent information](#)

Treatment informed consent aims to preserve the autonomy of patients in the clinician – patient relationship so as to ensure valid consent. An acceptable method of evaluating understanding of consent information is by assessing the extent of recall by patients of the pieces information believed to have been passed across. When concerns are not satisfactorily addressed from the patients' perspective, recall of consent information may be low.

Authors: Ikenna I. Nnabugwu, Fredrick O. Ugwumba, Emeka I. Udeh, Solomon K. Anyimba and Oyiogu F. Ozoemena

Research article

1 December 2017

[Roles and responsibilities of clinical ethics committees in priority setting](#)

Fair prioritization of healthcare resources has been on the agenda for decades, but resource allocation dilemmas in clinical practice remain challenging. Can clinical ethics committees (CECs) be of help? The aim of the study was to explore whether and how CECs handle priority setting dilemmas and contribute to raising awareness of fairness concerns.

Authors: Morten Magelssen, Ingrid Miljeteig, Reidar Pedersen and Reidun Førde

Research article

28 November 2017

[Measuring inconsistency in research ethics committee review](#)

The review of human participant research by Research Ethics Committees (RECs) or Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) is a complex multi-faceted process that cannot be reduced to an algorithm. However, this does not give RECs/ IRBs permission to be inconsistent in their specific requirements to researchers or in their final opinions. In England the Health Research Authority (HRA) coordinates 67 committees, and has adopted a consistency improvement plan including a process called "Shared Ethical Debate" (ShED) where multiple committees review the same project. Committee reviews are compared for consistency by analysing the resulting minutes.

Authors: Samantha Trace and Simon Erik Kolstoe

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 2 December 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 2 December 2017)

Research article

[Associations of intimate partner violence with postnatal health practices in Bihar, India](#)

Reducing neonatal mortality is a global priority, and improvements in postnatal health (PNH) practices in India are needed to do so. Intimate partner violence (IPV) may be associated with PNH practices, but li...

Authors: Sabrina C. Boyce, Lotus McDougal, Jay G. Silverman, Yamini Atmavilas, Diva Dhar, Katherine Hay and Anita Raj

Citation: BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth 2017 17:398

Published on: 29 November 2017

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 2 December 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 2 December 2017)

[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Open

November 2017 - Volume 7 - 11

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 95, Number 12, December 2017, 793-852

<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/95/12/en/>

EDITORIALS

Options for financing pandemic preparedness

Patrick L Osewe

...In February 2018, the World Bank in partnership with WHO, the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will host a regional event to define the core elements of a multisectoral pandemic preparedness plan, including planning and coordination mechanisms. In addition, during the Prince Mahidol Award Conference⁹ to be held in January 2018 in Bangkok, the World Bank will host a series of meetings to share lessons learnt from country implementation, as well as models for financing pandemic preparedness.

To ensure the success of pandemic financing preparedness, countries should engage in dialogue on the importance of investing in such preparedness. The World Bank's early successes need to continue through partnerships to renew and sustain national, regional and global commitment and investments for pandemic preparedness and response.

EDITORIALS

A public health research agenda informed by guidelines in development

Dermot Maher & Nathan Ford

The World Health Organization (WHO) is the leading and coordinating authority on public health within the United Nations system. Setting norms and standards, and shaping the research agenda are two of WHO's six core activities.¹ WHO can use this normative role to support the development of an agenda for public health research.

WHO develops global, clinical, programmatic and public health guidelines that support best practice in health delivery. In 2007, WHO established the Guidelines Review Committee to ensure that WHO produces high-quality guidelines that are based on internationally recognized methods and standards and are developed through a transparent, evidence-based decision-making process.² Each guideline development process starts with the establishment of a guideline development group that includes leading experts in the field and relevant stakeholders from across all WHO Regions affected by the public health problem. The group may involve patients and those who most likely will implement the guidelines' recommendations. The guideline development groups use systematic reviews of relevant evidence to make recommendations, and the Grading of Evidence, Assessment and Evaluation (GRADE) system to determine and qualify these recommendations.³ GRADE includes an appraisal of the quality of evidence and an assessment of potential benefits and harms, resource use, user values and preferences regarding the recommended intervention. The group considers these elements together to determine the direction and strength of a recommendation. When significant uncertainty exists with respect to the balance of an intervention's benefits and harms, the guideline development group should describe the knowledge gap and set priorities for what further research is needed to address these gaps.⁴

Here we suggest that the WHO guideline development process be used as a foundation for building an agenda on public health research. We argue that this process provides a unique and efficient opportunity to compile an agenda from the research needs identified by each of the guideline development groups. Several aspects of the process support this suggestion. First, guideline development relies on comprehensive assessments of the evidence from high-quality systematic reviews, complemented with other sources of information. Second, identifying research gaps and needs is a core objective of any systematic review⁵ and a function of WHO guidelines.⁶

Third, leading experts review evidence from key systematic reviews to formulate recommendations. Fourth, the variety of stakeholders in the guidelines development group provides a much broader perspective for formulating research priorities than relying on academic researchers alone...

PERSPECTIVES

Improving the health and well-being of children of migrant workers

Catherine Jan, Xiaolin Zhou & Randall S Stafford

[Excerpts]

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child emphasizes that the states parties to the convention have the responsibility to ensure that children grow up in a family environment with happiness, love and understanding.¹ There are almost 1 billion migrants worldwide, with 214 million international migrants and another 740 million internal migrants moving within countries.² Migrants with children may leave their children behind while pursuing economic opportunities. Although there are no available data on the total number of children left behind globally, several reports on international migrants reflect the magnitude of this phenomenon. The Regional Thematic Working Group on International Migration including Human Trafficking estimates that in east and south-east Asia, one child is left behind for each adult working abroad.³ Similarly, in the Republic of Moldova, the proportion of children younger than 14 years who are left behind is estimated to have increased from 16% to 31% between 2000 and 2004; in Mexico, more than a third of children experience household disruption due to migration.⁴ The number of children left behind because their parents become internal migrants is even greater, particularly in those areas experiencing rapid urbanization.⁵

...To mitigate the adverse effects of migration on migrant families and pursue the agenda's ambitious goals, many governments and child protection systems are increasingly adopting a holistic approach that focuses on poverty reduction, family-oriented education programmes, community support, early identification of risks and provision of specialist services for vulnerable children and their families. Strategies that may improve health outcomes include providing antenatal care, parental leave, child allowance for all families, nursery school for all children aged one to six years (as in some European countries), free medical care for all preschool children (as in Japan) and incentives for health-care professionals to practice in rural regions (as in Australia and New Zealand).⁹

Child Care, Health and Development

November 2017 Volume 43, Issue 6 Pages 783–946

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/cch.v43.6/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Therapeutics

November 2017 Volume 39, Issue 11, p2117-2330

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

[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 2 December 2017]

Research

1 December 2017

[Including refugees in disease elimination: challenges observed from a sleeping sickness programme in Uganda](#)

Authors: Jennifer J. Palmer, Okello Robert and Freddie Kansiime

29 November 2017

[Public health implications of complex emergencies and natural disasters](#)

Authors: Amanda Culver, Roger Rochat and Susan T. Cookson

Abstract

Background

During the last decade, conflict or natural disasters have displaced unprecedented numbers of persons. This leads to conditions prone to outbreaks that imperil the health of displaced persons and threaten global health security. Past literature has minimally examined the association of communicable disease outbreaks with complex emergencies (CEs) and natural disasters (NDs).

Methods

To examine this association, we identified CEs and NDs using publicly available datasets from the Center for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters and United Nations Flash and Consolidated Appeals archive for 2005–2014. We identified outbreaks from World Health Organization archives. We compared findings to identify overlap of outbreaks, including their types (whether or not of a vaccine-preventable disease), and emergency event types (CE, ND, or Both) by country and year using descriptive statistics and measure of association.

Results

There were 167 CEs, 912 NDs, 118 events linked to 'Both' types of emergencies, and 384 outbreaks. Of CEs, 43% were associated with an outbreak; 24% NDs were associated with an outbreak; and 36% of 'Both' types of emergencies were associated with an outbreak. Africa was disproportionately affected, where 67% of total CEs, 67% of 'Both' events (CE and ND), and 46% of all outbreaks occurred for the study period. The odds ratio of a vaccine-preventable outbreak occurring in a CE versus an ND was 4.14 (95% confidence limits 1.9, 9.4).

Conclusions

CEs had greater odds of being associated with outbreaks compared with NDs. Moreover, CEs had high odds of a vaccine-preventable disease causing that outbreak. Focusing on better vaccine coverage could reduce CE-associated morbidity and mortality by preventing outbreaks from spreading.

Contemporary Clinical Trials

Volume 60, Pages 1-126 (September 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/15517144/60?sdc=1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases

December 2017 - Volume 30 - Issue 6

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Developing World Bioethics

December 2017 Volume 17, Issue 3 Pages 141–216

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dewb.2017.17.issue-3/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Development in Practice

Volume 27, Issue 8, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Development Policy Review

November 2017 Volume 35, Issue 6 Pages 721–858

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dpr.2017.35.issue-6/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

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 5 - October 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Disasters

October 2017 Volume 41, Issue 4 Pages 629–851

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/disa.2017.41.issue-4/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

EMBO Reports

01 December 2017; volume 18, issue 12

<http://embor.embopress.org/content/18/12?current-issue=y>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Emergency Medicine Journal

November 2017 - Volume 34 - 11

<http://emj.bmj.com/content/34/11?current-issue=y>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Volume 23, Number 12—December 2017
<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Epidemics

Volume 20, Pages 1-102 (September 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 15 - November 2017
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/epidemiology-and-infection/latest-issue>
[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & International Affairs

Fall 2017 (Issue 31.3)
<https://www.ethicsandinternationalaffairs.org/2017/fall-2017-issue-31-3/>
[Reviewed earlier]

The European Journal of Public Health

Volume 27, Issue 5, October 2017
<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/27/5>
[Reviewed earlier]

Food Policy

Volume 73, Pages 1-130 (December 2017)
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03069192/73>
[Reviewed earlier]

Food Security

Volume 9, Issue 5, October 2017
<https://link.springer.com/journal/12571/9/5/page/1>
[Reviewed earlier]

Forum for Development Studies

Volume 44, Issue 3, 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 4, December 2017

<https://link.springer.com/journal/12371/9/4/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health Action

Volume 10, 2017 – Issue 1 [In Progress]

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP)

September 2017 | Volume 5 | Number 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Public Health

Volume 13, 2017 Issue 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 2 December 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

Health Affairs

November 2017; Vol. 36, No. 11

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

Issue Focus: Global Health Policy

[Reviewed earlier]

Health and Human Rights

Volume 19, Issue 1, June 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Economics, Policy and Law

Volume 12 - Issue 4 - October 2017

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

SPECIAL ISSUE: Healthcare and Health Innovation in Europe: Regulating for public benefit or for commercial profit?

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 32, Issue 10, 1 December 2017

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

Editorial

[The need for speed: the peer-review process and what are we doing about it?](#)

[Diana Epstein](#); [Virginia Wiseman](#); [Natasha Salaria](#); [Sandra Mounier-Jack](#)

Health Policy and Planning, Volume 32, Issue 10, 1 December 2017, Pages 1345–1346,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czx129>

Extract

The editorial office receives multiple author requests in regards to the status of their papers. In fact Mondays and Fridays seem to be the busiest time for working on those requests with an average of 20 requests on those particular days.

The intention of this Editorial is to summarize the key steps for processing papers once submitted, explain the different factors affecting turn-around times, and update authors and readers on initiatives Health Policy and Planning is undertaking to speed up the processing of papers.

Upon submission approximately 60% of papers are rejected after internal peer-review with an additional 15–20% being rejected after external peer-review...

Editor's Choice

[HIV/AIDS National Strategic Plans of Sub-Saharan African countries: an analysis for gender equality and sex-disaggregated HIV targets](#)

[Jennifer Sherwood](#); [Alana Sharp](#); [Bergen Cooper](#); [Beirne Roose-Snyder](#); [Susan Blumenthal](#)

Health Policy and Planning, Volume 32, Issue 10, 1 December 2017, Pages 1361–1367,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czx101>

Abstract

National Strategic Plans (NSPs) for HIV/AIDS are country planning documents that set priorities for programmes and services, including a set of targets to quantify progress toward national and international goals. The inclusion of sex-disaggregated targets and targets to combat gender inequality is important given the high disease burden among young women and adolescent girls in Sub-Saharan Africa, yet no comprehensive gender-focused analysis of NSP targets has been performed. This analysis quantitatively evaluates national HIV targets, included in NSPs from eighteen Sub-Saharan African countries, for sex-disaggregation. Additionally, NSP targets aimed at reducing gender-based inequality in health outcomes are compiled and inductively coded to report common themes. On average, in the eighteen countries included in this analysis, 31% of NSP targets include sex-disaggregation (range 0–92%). Three countries disaggregated a majority (>50%) of their targets by sex. Sex-disaggregation in data reporting was more common for targets related to the early phases of the HIV care continuum: 83% of countries included any sex-disaggregated targets for HIV prevention, 56% for testing and linkage to care, 22% for improving antiretroviral treatment coverage, and 11% for retention in treatment. The most common target to reduce gender inequality was to prevent gender-based violence (present in 50% of countries). Other commonly incorporated target areas related to improving women's access to family

planning, human and legal rights, and decision-making power. The inclusion of sex-disaggregated targets in national planning is vital to ensure that programmes make progress for all population groups. Improving the availability and quality of indicators to measure gender inequality, as well as evaluating programme outcomes by sex, is critical to tracking this progress. This analysis reveals an urgent need to set specific and separate targets for men and women in order to achieve an equitable and effective HIV response and align government planning with international priorities for gender equality.

Costing essential services package provided by a non-governmental organization network in Bangladesh

Wu Zeng; Yara A Halasa; Marion Cros; Halida Akhter; Allyala Krishna Nandakumar ...
Health Policy and Planning, Volume 32, Issue 10, 1 December 2017, Pages 1375–1385,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czx105>

Abstract

The health profile of Bangladesh has improved remarkably, yet gaps in delivering quality health care remain. In response to the need for evidence to quantify resources for providing health services in Bangladesh, this study estimates unit costs of providing the essential services package (ESP) in the not-for-profit sector. This study used a stratified sampling approach to select 18 static clinics, which had fixed facilities, from 330 non-profit clinics under Smiling Sun network in Bangladesh. Costs were estimated from the providers' perspective, using both top-down and bottom-up methods, from July 2014 to June 2015. In total, there were 1115 observations (clients) for the 13 primary care services analysed. The estimated 2015 average costs per visit were: antenatal care (\$7.03), postnatal care (\$4.57), control of diarrheal diseases (\$1.32), acute respiratory infection (\$1.53), integrated management of child illness (\$2.02), sexually transmitted infections (\$4.70), reproductive tract infections (\$3.56), tuberculosis (\$41.65), limited curative care (\$4.30), immunization (\$2.23), family planning (\$0.72), births by normal delivery (\$29.45) and C-section (\$114.83). Unit costs varied widely for each service, both between individual patients and among clinic level means. The coefficient of variation for the 13 services averaged 66%, implying potential inefficiencies. In addition, 32.9% of clients were not offered any lab test during the first antenatal visit. The unit cost of essential services differed by the type and location of clinics. Ultra clinics, on average, incurred 37% higher costs than vital (outpatient type) clinics, and urban clinics spent 40% more than rural clinics to deliver a unit of service. The study suggests that inefficiency and quality concerns exist in health service delivery in some facilities. Increasing the volume of clients through demand-side mechanisms and standardization of services would help address those concerns. Unit costs of services provide essential information for estimating resource needs for scaling up the ESPs.

Dynamics of evidence-informed health policy making in Pakistan

Zaeem Haq; Assad Hafeez; Shamsa Zafar; Abdul Ghaffar
Health Policy and Planning, Volume 32, Issue 10, 1 December 2017, Pages 1449–1456,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czx128>

Abstract

Incorporating evidence is fundamental to maintaining the general acceptance and efficiency in public policies. In Pakistan, different actors—local and global—strive to facilitate the development of evidence-informed health policies. Effective involvement however, requires knowledge of the country-context, i.e. knowing the intricacies of how policies are formulated in Pakistan. Obtaining this knowledge is one of the key steps to making interventions impactful.

We carried out a qualitative study to explore the environment of evidence-informed health policy in Pakistan. The study involved 89 participants and comprised three phases including: (1) literature review followed by a consultative meeting with key informants to explore the broad contours of policy formulation, (2) in-depth interviews with participants belonging to various levels

of health system to discuss these contours and (3) a roundtable with experts to share and solidify the findings.

Policy development is a slow, non-linear process with variable room for incorporation of evidence. Political actors dominate decisions that impact all aspects of policy, i.e. context, process and content. Research contributions are mostly influenced by the priorities of donor agencies—the usual proponents and sponsors of the generation of evidence. Since the devolution of health system in 2012, Pakistan’s provinces continue to follow the same processes as before 2012, with little capacity to generate evidence and incorporate it into health policy.

This study highlights the non-systematic, nearly ad hoc way of developing health policy in the country, overly dominated by political actors. Health advocates need to understand the policy process and the actors involved if they are to identify points of impact where their interaction with policy brings the maximum leverage. Moreover, an environment is needed where generation of data gains the importance it deserves and where capacities are enhanced for communicating and understanding evidence, as well as its incorporation into policy.

Health Research Policy and Systems

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

[Accessed 2 December 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

Human Rights Quarterly

Volume 39, Number 4, November 2017

<http://muse.jhu.edu/issue/37412>

[Reviewed earlier]

Humanitarian Exchange Magazine

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

Number 70 October 2017

Special Feature: The Lake Chad Basin: an overlooked crisis?

by Humanitarian Practice Network October 2017

The 70th edition of Humanitarian Exchange, co-edited with Joe Read, focuses on the humanitarian crisis in Nigeria and the Lake Chad Basin. The violence perpetrated by Boko Haram and the counter-insurgency campaign in Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad and Niger has created a humanitarian crisis affecting some 17 million people. Some 2.4 million have been displaced, the vast majority of them in north-eastern Nigeria. Many are living in desperate conditions, without access to sufficient food or clean water. The Nigerian government’s focus on defeating Boko Haram militarily, its reluctance to acknowledge the scale and gravity of the humanitarian crisis and the corresponding reticence of humanitarian leaders to challenge that position have combined to undermine the timeliness and effectiveness of the response.

[Reviewed earlier]

IDRiM Journal

Vol 7, No 1 (2017)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Infectious Agents and Cancer

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

[Accessed 2 December 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

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

[Accessed 2 December 2017]

Opinion

[Potential for broad-scale transmission of Ebola virus disease during the West Africa crisis: lessons for the Global Health security agenda](#)

The 2014–2016 Ebola crisis in West Africa had approximately eight times as many reported deaths as the sum of all previous Ebola outbreaks. The outbreak magnitude and occurrence of multiple Ebola cases in at least seven countries beyond Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea, hinted at the possibility of broad-scale transmission of Ebola.

Eduardo A. Undurraga, Cristina Carias, Martin I. Meltzer and Emily B. Kahn

Published on: 1 December 2017

International Health

Volume 9, Issue 5, 1 September 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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 12 (2017) December 2017

<http://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/33>

Review Articles

[An ageing world of the 21st century: a literature review](#)

Sarah Naja, Mohamed Mohei El Din Makhoul, Mohamad Abdul Halim Chehab

DOI: [10.18203/2394-6040.ijcmph20175306](https://doi.org/10.18203/2394-6040.ijcmph20175306)

Abstract

Aging is the process of growing older at cellular, organ, or whole body level throughout the life span. Furthermore, the term “demographic transition” refers to a shift in fertility and mortality rates leading to changes in population growth rates, and age distribution. Thus, as people globally live longer, increasing levels of chronic illness as well as diminished wellbeing are nominated to become major global health challenges. Subsequently, the global population of elderly is projected to further increase and reach 1.4 billion by 2030 and 2.1 billion by 2050. Moreover, ageing has important implications on social security, the economy, the organization and delivery of health care, caregiver availability and constraints, society, and policies. Thus, it is pertinent to establish comprehensive elderly-friendly health care with further focus on preventive action to maintain a healthy ageing process.

International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction

Volume 26, Pages 1-110 (December 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/22124209/26>

Africa's Urban Risk and Resilience

Edited by Arabella Fraser, Hayley Leck, Susan Parnell and Mark Pelling

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Epidemiology

Volume 46, Issue 5, 1 October 2017

<https://academic.oup.com/ije/issue/46/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Heritage Studies

Volume 24, Issue 1, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare

Vol. 10 Issue: 4 2017

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/ijhrh/10/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

December 2017 Volume 65, In Progress

[http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712\(17\)X0012-X](http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712(17)X0012-X)

[New issue; No digest content identified]

International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology

Volume 25, 20187 - Issue 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Migration Review

Fall 2017 Volume 51, Issue 3 Pages 565–820, e33–e49

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/imre.2017.51.issue-3/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Intervention – Journal of Mental Health and Psychological Support in Conflict Affected Areas

November 2017 - Volume 15 - Issue 3

<http://journals.lww.com/interventionjnl/pages/currenttoc.aspx>

Special Issue Linking mental health and psychosocial support and peacebuilding

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

November 28, 2017, Vol 318, No. 20, Pages 1955-2054

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

Viewpoint

[The Revised Declaration of GenevaA Modern-Day Physician's Pledge](#)

Ramin Walter Parsa-Parsi, MD, MPH

free access

JAMA. 2017;318(20):1971-1972. doi:10.1001/jama.2017.16230

This Viewpoint describes the 2017 revision of the World Medical Association's Declaration of Geneva, which asks physicians to pledge themselves to the highest standards of ethics and practice in the interests of their patients and the medical profession.

JAMA Pediatrics

November 2017, Vol 171, No. 11, Pages 1025-1132

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

[Reviewed earlier]

JBI Database of Systematic Review and Implementation Reports

November 2017 - Volume 15 - Issue 11

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Community Health

Volume 42, Issue 6, December 2017

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10900/42/6/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage

Volume 28 Pages 1–196 (November–December 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-cultural-heritage/vol/28/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development

2017: Volume 7 Issue 4

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/jchmsd/7/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Development Economics

Volume 129, Pages 1-72 (November 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03043878/129?sdc=1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Education in Emergencies

Vol. 3, Num. 1, July 2017
<http://www.ineesite.org/en/journal/vol3-num1>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics

Article first published online: November 8, 2017
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1556264617738846>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

December 2017 - Volume 71 - 12
<http://jech.bmj.com/content/current>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine

November 2017 Volume 10, Issue 4 Pages 241–333
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jebm.2017.10.issue-4/issuetoc>
EDITORIAL

[Reporting from 8th International Congress on Peer Review and Scientific Publication: Challenges and opportunities for China's periodical and press industries \(pages 243–244\)](#)

Yonggang Zhang, Liang Du and Youping Li
Version of Record online: 29 NOV 2017 | DOI: 10.1111/jebm.12279

Articles

[Essential medicines lists for children of WHO, India, South Africa, and EML of China: A comparative study \(pages 271–280\)](#)

Dan Liu, Jing Cheng, Ling-Li Zhang, You-Ping Li, Li-Nan Zeng, Chuan Zhang and Ge Gui
Version of Record online: 24 MAY 2017 | DOI: 10.1111/jebm.12240

Abstract

Objective

Comparing the essential medicine lists for children and China national essential medicine list 2012, to provide the evidence for establishing essential medicine list for children in China.

Methods

Search the official websites of WHO and some other countries' ministry of health to get essential medicine lists for children (EMLc) that have already established. Compare the situation of updating, the number and classification of medicines, and the dosage forms in essential medicine lists for children and China national essential medicine list 2012.

Results

By December 2013, the WHO, India, and South Africa have established EMLc. The list of China was for people in all ages, so the number of medicines ranked first in four lists. WHO, India, and China classified the medicines by pharmacologic action, South Africa classified by ATC classification. Except for WHO, India, South Africa, and China did not have specific medicines for neonatal care or medicines for diseases of joints. The main administration routes in these four lists were oral administration, injection, and topical application. There were medicine restrictions in lists of WHO and India, but there were no medicine restrictions in the lists of South Africa and China.

Conclusion

Compared with EMLs for children, the 2012 National Essential Medicine List for China is not suitable for children in China. Development of Chinese EMLc should be based on the burden of diseases for children, and should select applicable dosage forms and specifications.

Journal of Global Ethics

Volume 13, Issue 2, 2016

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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

Volume 28, Number 4, November

<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/37451>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Human Trafficking

Volume 3, Issue 4, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Volume 7 Issue 3

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

Research paper

[Decision support framework for location selection and disaster relief network design](#)

The purpose of this paper is to provide a decision support framework for locations identification to address network design in the domain of disaster relief supply chains. The solution approach is then applied to a real-life case about Indonesia

Giuseppe Timperio, Gajanan Bhanudas Panchal, Avinash Samvedi, Mark Goh, Robert De Souza
(pp. 222 - 245)

Research paper

[The potential role of philanthropy in humanitarian supply chains delivery: the case of Thailand](#)

The purpose of this paper is to provide a framework on how strategic philanthropy can be included in humanitarian supply chains delivery. This framework explains the modalities where strategic philanthropy can be successful when collaborating with key humanitarian supply chain actors.

Ruth Banomyong, Puthipong Julagasigorn (pp. 284 - 303)

Research paper

[Managing military involvement in emergency preparedness in developed countries](#)

The purpose of this paper is to analyse supply chain network management (SCNM) in the context of emergency preparedness management (EPM). The results of this study revealed that civil-military relations are essential for EPM to function as a coordinated approach to safety and security, and are necessary to respond effectively to complex emergencies and mitigating threats to developed countries. Civil-military relations are still a concern in the context of communication,

the exercise of authority, and the coordination of emergency supplies (ES) to emergency operations.

Elvira Kaneberg (pp. 350 - 374)

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Volume 19, Issue 6, December 2017

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/19/6/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies

Volume 15, Issue 4, 2017

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wimm20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Infectious Diseases

Volume 216, Issue 8, 15 November 2017

<https://academic.oup.com/jid/issue>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of International Development

November 2017 Volume 29, Issue 8 Pages 1031–1232

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jid.v29.8/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics

December 2017 - Volume 43 - 12

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Medical Internet Research

Vol 19, No 12 (2017): December

<http://www.jmir.org/2017/11>

Article

[**The Use of Avatar Counseling for HIV/AIDS Health Education: The Examination of Self-Identity in Avatar Preferences**](#)

Shantrel Canidate, Mark Hart

J Med Internet Res 2017 (Dec 01); 19(12):e365

Journal of Operations Management

Volume 52, Pages 1-56 (May 2017)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews

Volume 4, Issue 4 (2017)

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

Health Disparities and Inequities: Part I

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (JPIDS)

Volume 6, Issue 4 December 2017

<https://academic.oup.com/jpids/issue>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pediatrics

December 2017 Volume 191, p1-282

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Public Health Management & Practice

November/December 2017 - Volume 23 - Issue 6

<http://journals.lww.com/jphmp/pages/default.aspx>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Public Health Policy

Volume 38, Issue 4, November 2017

<https://link.springer.com/journal/41271/38/4/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Royal Society – Interface

01 September 2017; volume 14, issue 134

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Travel Medicine

Volume 24, Issue 5, 1 September – October 2017

<https://academic.oup.com/jtm/issue/24/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

The Lancet

Dec 02, 2017 Volume 390 Number 10111 p2413-2526 e43-e49

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

Comment

[Typhoid vaccine development with a human challenge model](#)

Nicholas A Feasey, Myron M Levine

Published: 2 December 2017

Experimental human typhoid fever challenge was first described in 1896 by Wright, who vaccinated two men against typhoid fever and challenged one with what was then known as *Salmonella typhosa*.¹ While challenge models are sometimes controversial, they offer enormous potential to study the pathogenesis of disease and to accelerate vaccine development, particularly in human-restricted pathogens such as *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhi. The Maryland typhoid human challenge model, which ran from 1952 to 1974, led to insights into typhoid fever and facilitated the development of live attenuated typhoid vaccine Ty21a.^{2, 3} A 21st-century typhoid challenge model has been developed by the Oxford Vaccine Group.⁴

In *The Lancet*, Celina Jin and colleagues⁵ report results from challenging three groups of healthy adults from Oxford, UK, who were randomly assigned to receive Vi-conjugate vaccine, unconjugated Vi-polysaccharide vaccine, or control vaccine (ACYW135 meningococcal conjugate) with wild-type Quailles strain *Salmonella* Typhi. Results of this volunteer challenge have been awaited with much anticipation by the public health community interested in control of typhoid fever in endemic areas of south Asia and sub-Saharan Africa where S Typhi is increasingly antibiotic resistant and few treatment options remain. Vi-conjugate vaccines that have been in development represent a new instrument to help to control typhoid. The most advanced conjugate vaccine, Typbar-TCV (Vi-polysaccharide [Vi-PS] conjugated to tetanus toxoid, Vi-TT, Bharat Biotech, Hyderabad, India), is licensed in India where it has been shown to elicit robust serum Vi antibody responses after only one dose, even in Indian infants as young as 6 months.⁶ In toddlers, older children, and adults, Typbar-TCV was shown to be significantly more immunogenic than the unconjugated Bharat Vi-PS.⁶ Bharat Biotech has submitted an application to WHO for pre-qualification of their Vi-TT. If approved, this would allow the vaccine to be procured by UN agencies. However, despite evidence of safety and immunogenicity in Indian children and adults, heretofore, there has been no evidence of actual efficacy of the vaccine in diminishing the attack rate of typhoid fever upon exposure to virulent S Typhi compared with the control participants. Importantly, the authors provide the first data documenting that Typbar-TCV is protective.

112 participants were enrolled in this observer and participant-blinded, randomised controlled trial, which showed that the Vi-TT is well tolerated, achieved 100% seroconversion of Vi antibody (versus 89% for Vi-PS), and stimulated significantly higher geometric mean titres than did unconjugated Vi-PS. Most importantly, Jin and colleagues document that Vi-TT recipients had a significantly lower attack rate for the primary aim endpoint diagnosing typhoid fever than control recipients. With the primary endpoint used in this ambitious trial, the attack rate for typhoid diagnosis was 24 (77%) of 31 in control participants, 13 (35%) of 37 in Vi-TT recipients, and 13 (35%) of 35 in those who received Vi-PS. This translates into vaccine efficacies of 54.6% (95% CI 26.8–71.8) for Vi-TT and 52.0% (23.2–70.0) for Vi-PS.

As the authors suggest, the field efficacy of Vi-TT vaccine might be higher; for example, a well designed and executed field trial of an unlicensed Vi-conjugate produced by the National Institutes of Health (Bethesda, MD, USA) in Vietnamese pre-school children showed an efficacy of 89% (95% CI 76–97) over 46 months of follow-up.⁷ One possible explanation lies in the primary endpoint of so-called typhoid infection used by Jin and colleagues⁵ (persistent fever $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$ for ≥ 12 h or S Typhi bacteraemia), which arguably is better suited to studying typhoid pathogenesis than assessing the efficacy of typhoid vaccines. Using slightly different endpoints such as fever 38°C or higher followed by a positive blood culture, similar to surveillance in a field trial and to endpoints used in the Maryland challenge model, Jin and colleagues⁵ report that the efficacy of Vi-TT was 87.1% (95% CI 47.2–96.9), while efficacy of Vi-PS was 52.3% (–4.2 to 78.2). Although future typhoid challenges based on this as a co-primary endpoint would require larger sample sizes, the information gained might be more relevant and predictive of the efficacy that

might be noted in a randomised controlled field trial. This highlights the need for the phase 3 and 4 trials, the first of which is expected to be initiated in Asia in late 2017 by the Typhoid Vaccine Acceleration Consortium (TyVAC), a partnership between the University of Maryland, the University of Oxford, and PATH funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. However, because it will be some years before these field trials are reported, Jin and colleagues' challenge study results are timely and engender optimism that an effective new instrument has become available to help to control typhoid in hyperendemic populations.

NAF declares no competing interests. MML reports co-developing, with colleagues, a Salmonella Enteritidis/Salmonella Typhimurium/Salmonella Typhi Vi trivalent conjugate vaccine against invasive Salmonella disease in sub-Saharan Africa with Bharat Biotech International as a partner and funding from a Strategic Translation Award from the Wellcome Trust. MML has a US patent, 9011871, issued April 21, 2016, for Broad Spectrum Vaccine Against Typhoidal and non-typhoidal Salmonella disease, for which MML along with James E Galen, Raphael Simon, and Sharon Tennant are inventors.

Articles

[**Efficacy and immunogenicity of a Vi-tetanus toxoid conjugate vaccine in the prevention of typhoid fever using a controlled human infection model of Salmonella Typhi: a randomised controlled, phase 2b trial**](#)

Celina Jin, Malick M Gibani, Maria Moore, Helene B Juel, Elizabeth Jones, James Meiring, Victoria Harris, Jonathan Gardner, Anna Nebykova, Simon A Kerridge, Jennifer Hill, Helena Thomaidis-Brears, Christoph J Blohmke, Ly-Mee Yu, Brian Angus, Andrew J Pollard
2472

Open Access

Summary

Background

Salmonella enterica serovar Typhi (S Typhi) is responsible for an estimated 20 million infections and 200 000 deaths each year in resource poor regions of the world. Capsular Vi-polysaccharide-protein conjugate vaccines (Vi-conjugate vaccines) are immunogenic and can be used from infancy but there are no efficacy data for the leading candidate vaccine being considered for widespread use. To address this knowledge gap, we assessed the efficacy of a Vi-tetanus toxoid conjugate vaccine using an established human infection model of S Typhi.

Methods

In this single-centre, randomised controlled, phase 2b study, using an established outpatient-based human typhoid infection model, we recruited healthy adult volunteers aged between 18 and 60 years, with no previous history of typhoid vaccination, infection, or prolonged residency in a typhoid-endemic region. Participants were randomly assigned (1:1:1) to receive a single dose of Vi-conjugate (Vi-TT), Vi-polysaccharide (Vi-PS), or control meningococcal vaccine with a computer-generated randomisation schedule (block size 6). Investigators and participants were masked to treatment allocation, and an unmasked team of nurses administered the vaccines. Following oral ingestion of S Typhi, participants were assessed with daily blood culture over a 2-week period and diagnosed with typhoid infection when meeting pre-defined criteria. The primary endpoint was the proportion of participants diagnosed with typhoid infection (ie, attack rate), defined as persistent fever of 38°C or higher for 12 h or longer or S Typhi bacteraemia, following oral challenge administered 1 month after Vi-vaccination (Vi-TT or Vi-PS) compared with control vaccination. Analysis was per protocol. This trial is registered with ClinicalTrials.gov, number [NCT02324751](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT02324751), and is ongoing.

Findings

Between Aug 18, 2015, and Nov 4, 2016, 112 participants were enrolled and randomly assigned; 34 to the control group, 37 to the Vi-PS group, and 41 to the Vi-TT group. 103 participants completed challenge (31 in the control group, 35 in the Vi-PS group, and 37 in the Vi-TT group)

and were included in the per-protocol population. The composite criteria for typhoid diagnosis was met in 24 (77%) of 31 participants in the control group, 13 (35%) of 37 participants in the Vi-TT group, and 13 (35%) of 35 participants in the Vi-PS group to give vaccine efficacies of 54·6% (95% CI 26·8–71·8) for Vi-TT and 52·0% (23·2–70·0) for Vi-PS. Seroconversion was 100% in Vi-TT and 88·6% in Vi-PS participants, with significantly higher geometric mean titres detected 1-month post-vaccination in Vi-TT vaccinees. Four serious adverse events were reported during the conduct of the study, none of which were related to vaccination (one in the Vi-TT group and three in the Vi-PS group).

Interpretation

Vi-TT is a highly immunogenic vaccine that significantly reduces typhoid fever cases when assessed using a stringent controlled model of typhoid infection. Vi-TT use has the potential to reduce both the burden of typhoid fever and associated health inequality.

Funding

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the European Commission FP7 grant, Advanced Immunization Technologies (ADITEC).

Lancet Global Health

Dec 2017 Volume 5 Number 12 e1161-e1282

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

Articles

[Global, regional, and country-level coverage of interventions to prevent and manage HIV and hepatitis C among people who inject drugs: a systematic review](#)

Sarah Larney, Amy Peacock, Janni Leung, Samantha Colledge, Matthew Hickman, Peter Vickerman, Jason Grebely, Kostyantyn V Dumchev, Paul Griffiths, Lindsey Hines, Evan B Cunningham, Richard P Mattick, Michael Lynskey, John Marsden, John Strang, Louisa Degenhardt e1208

Lancet Infectious Diseases

Dec 2017 Volume 17 Number 12 p1219-1318 e383-e433

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

Comment

[An effective and safe vaccine will not be enough to prepare us for the next Ebola outbreak](#)

John S Schieffelin

Open Access - Excerpt

...Although this study [Gsell et al] is noteworthy because it provides substantially more safety and efficacy data for the rVSV-EBOV vaccine, it also points out two major hurdles remaining that every Ebola vaccine must overcome in the future, and for the cautionary tale that it provides, one that the international community will hopefully heed. First, the reported adverse event rate in Ebola ça Suffit! was 53·9%, with 98·5% classified as mild to moderate.⁵ In the present study, the vaccine was better tolerated with only 16% of children and 34% of adults reporting adverse events. With an adverse event rate of up to 50%, social mobilisation efforts to encourage vaccination participation will be challenging in future Ebola outbreaks. How many people refuse the seasonal influenza vaccine each year because they think it gives them the flu? Now imagine a scenario in which people think the vaccine could give them Ebola. This issue leads directly to the vaccine's second hurdle: misconceptions, rumours, and community resistance. 34% of eligible contacts in Ebola Ça Suffit! refused or withdrew consent.⁵ In the current study, one affected community refused participation due to mistrust of the Ebola surveillance teams. Community resistance played a prominent part in the spread of Ebola virus during the 2013–15 outbreak.⁶ A

weak public health infrastructure and widespread shortages of health-care workers contributed to fears and misconceptions about an unfamiliar disease with a high mortality. One that is treated in walled-off Ebola treatment units and requires medical burials, denying family members the solace provided by traditional funeral rites. These conditions fuelled rumours, mistrust, and, in some cases, violence. Surveillance, social mobilisation, and vaccination teams trained in distant capitals must seek input and support from local leaders or they risk developing a sense of coercion and distrust...^{7, 8}

Articles

[Ring vaccination with rVSV-ZEBOV under expanded access in response to an outbreak of Ebola virus disease in Guinea, 2016: an operational and vaccine safety report](#)

Pierre-Stéphane Gsell, Anton Camacho, Adam J Kucharski, Conall H Watson, Aminata Bagayoko, Séverine Danmadji Nadlaou, Natalie E Dean, Abdourahmane Diallo, Abdourahmane Diallo, Djidonou A Honora, Moussa Doumbia, Godwin Enwere, Elizabeth S Higgs, Thomas Mauget, Diakite Mory, Ximena Riveros, Fofana Thierno Oumar, Mosoka Fallah, Alhassane Toure, Andrea S Vicari, Ira M Longini, W J Edmunds, Ana Maria Henao-Restrepo, Marie Paule Kieny, Sakoba Kéïta
Open Access

Summary

Background

In March, 2016, a flare-up of Ebola virus disease was reported in Guinea, and in response ring vaccination with the unlicensed rVSV-ZEBOV vaccine was introduced under expanded access, the first time that an Ebola vaccine has been used in an outbreak setting outside a clinical trial. Here we describe the safety of rVSV-ZEBOV candidate vaccine and operational feasibility of ring vaccination as a reactive strategy in a resource-limited rural setting.

Methods

Approval for expanded access and compassionate use was rapidly sought and obtained from relevant authorities. Vaccination teams and frozen vaccine were flown to the outbreak settings. Rings of contacts and contacts of contacts were defined and eligible individuals, who had given informed consent, were vaccinated and followed up for 21 days under good clinical practice conditions.

Findings

Between March 17 and April 21, 2016, 1510 individuals were vaccinated in four rings in Guinea, including 303 individuals aged between 6 years and 17 years and 307 front-line workers. It took 10 days to vaccinate the first participant following the confirmation of the first case of Ebola virus disease. No secondary cases of Ebola virus disease occurred among the vaccinees. Adverse events following vaccination were reported in 47 (17%) 6–17 year olds (all mild) and 412 (36%) adults (individuals older than 18 years; 98% were mild). Children reported fewer arthralgia events than adults (one [$<1\%$] of 303 children vs 81 [7%] of 1207 adults). No severe vaccine-related adverse events were reported.

Interpretation

The results show that a ring vaccination strategy can be rapidly and safely implemented at scale in response to Ebola virus disease outbreaks in rural settings.

Funding

WHO, Gavi, and the World Food Programme.

Lancet Public Health

Nov 2017 Volume 2 Number 11 e483-e528

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

Dec 2017 Volume 5 Number 12 p909-980 e35-e37
<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanres/issue/current>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 21, Issue 12, December 2017
<https://link.springer.com/journal/10995/21/12/page/1>
Original Paper

[Public Health Insurance and Health Care Utilization for Children in Immigrant Families](#)

To estimate the impacts of public health insurance coverage on health care utilization and unmet health care needs for children in immigrant families.

Christine Percheski, Sharon Bzostek

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

Volume 37, Issue 8, November 2017
<http://mdm.sagepub.com/content/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

The Milbank Quarterly

A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy
September 2017 Volume 95, Issue 3 Pages 447–682
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/milq.2017.95.issue-3/issuetoc>
[Reviewed earlier]

Nature

Volume 551 Number 7682 pp541-658 30 November 2017
http://www.nature.com/nature/current_issue.html
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Nature Medicine

November 2017, Volume 23 No 11 pp1243-1384
<http://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v23/n11/index.html>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

New England Journal of Medicine

November 30, 2017 Vol. 377 No. 22
<http://www.nejm.org/toc/nejm/medical-journal>
Original Article

[HIV Prevention Efforts and Incidence of HIV in Uganda](#)

M. Kate Grabowski, Ph.D., David M. Serwadda, M.B., Ch.B., M.P.H., Ronald H. Gray, M.D., Gertrude Nakigozi, M.B., Ch.B., Ph.D., Godfrey Kigozi, M.B., Ch.B., Ph.D., Joseph Kagaayi, M.B., Ch.B., Ph.D., Robert Ssekubugu, M.S.P.H., Fred Nalugoda, Ph.D., Justin Lessler, Ph.D., M.H.S., Thomas Lutalo, Ph.D., Ronald M. Galiwango, M.B., Ch.B., Sc.M., Fred Makumbi, Ph.D., Xiangrong

Kong, Ph.D., Donna Kabatesi, M.D., M.P.H., Stella T. Alamo, M.D., M.P.H., Steven Wiersma, M.D., M.P.H., Nelson K. Sewankambo, M.B., Ch.B., Aaron A.R. Tobian, M.D., Ph.D., Oliver Laeyendecker, Ph.D., Thomas C. Quinn, M.D., Steven J. Reynolds, M.D., M.P.H., Maria J. Wawer, M.D., and Larry W. Chang, M.D., M.P.H., for the Rakai Health Sciences Program*
N Engl J Med 2017; 377:2154-2166 November 30, 2017 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1702150

To assess the effect of a combination strategy for prevention of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) on the incidence of HIV infection, we analyzed the association between the incidence of HIV and the scale-up of antiretroviral therapy (ART) and medical male circumcision in Rakai, Uganda. Changes in population-level viral-load suppression and sexual behaviors were also examined.

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly

Volume 46, Issue 6, December 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/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Pediatrics

December 2017, VOLUME 140 / ISSUE 6

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/140/6?current-issue=y>

From the American Academy of Pediatrics

Policy Statement

Global Human Trafficking and Child Victimization

Jordan Greenbaum, Nia Bodrick, COMMITTEE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT, SECTION ON INTERNATIONAL CHILD HEALTH

Pediatrics Dec 2017, 140 (6) e20173138; DOI: 10.1542/peds.2017-3138

Open Access

Abstract

Trafficking of children for labor and sexual exploitation violates basic human rights and constitutes a major global public health problem. Pediatricians and other health care professionals may encounter victims who present with infections, injuries, posttraumatic stress disorder, suicidality, or a variety of other physical or behavioral health conditions. Preventing child trafficking, recognizing victimization, and intervening appropriately require a public health approach that incorporates rigorous research on the risk factors, health impact, and effective treatment options for child exploitation as well as implementation and evaluation of primary prevention programs. Health care professionals need training to recognize possible signs of exploitation and to intervene appropriately. They need to adopt a multidisciplinary, outward-focused approach to service provision, working with nonmedical professionals in the community to assist victims. Pediatricians also need to advocate for legislation and policies that promote child rights and victim services as well as those that address the social determinants of health, which influence the vulnerability to human trafficking. This policy statement outlines major issues regarding public policy, medical education, research, and collaboration in the area of child labor and sex trafficking and provides recommendations for future work.

PharmacoEconomics

Volume 35, Issue 12, December 2017

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/35/12/page/1>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

PLOS Currents: Disasters

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

[Accessed 2 December 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Currents: Outbreaks

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

[Accessed 2 December 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Medicine

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

(Accessed 2 December 2017)

Editorial

[The end of HIV: Still a very long way to go, but progress continues](#)

Steven G. Deeks, Sharon R. Lewin, Linda-Gail Bekker

| published 30 Nov 2017 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002466>

Collection Review

[malERA: An updated research agenda for malaria elimination and eradication](#)

Regina N. Rabinovich, Chris Drakeley, Abdoulaye A. Djimde, B. Fenton Hall, Simon I. Hay, Janet Hemingway, David C. Kaslow, Abdisalan Noor, Fredros Okumu, Richard Steketee, Marcel Tanner, Timothy N. C. Wells, Maxine A. Whittaker, Elizabeth A. Winzeler, Dyann F. Wirth, Kate Whitfield, Pedro L. Alonso

| published 30 Nov 2017 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002456>

Abstract

Achieving a malaria-free world presents exciting scientific challenges as well as overwhelming health, equity, and economic benefits. WHO and countries are setting ambitious goals for reducing the burden and eliminating malaria through the "Global Technical Strategy" and 21 countries are aiming to eliminate malaria by 2020. The commitment to achieve these targets should be celebrated. However, the need for innovation to achieve these goals, sustain elimination, and free the world of malaria is greater than ever. Over 180 experts across multiple disciplines are engaged in the Malaria Eradication Research Agenda (malERA) Refresh process to address problems that need to be solved. The result is a research and development agenda to accelerate malaria elimination and, in the longer term, transform the malaria community's ability to eradicate it globally.

Collection Review

[malERA: An updated research agenda for diagnostics, drugs, vaccines, and vector control in malaria elimination and eradication](#)

The malERA Refresh Consultative Panel on Tools for Malaria Elimination

| published 30 Nov 2017 PLOS Medicine
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002455>

Abstract

Since the turn of the century, a remarkable expansion has been achieved in the range and effectiveness of products and strategies available to prevent, treat, and control malaria, including advances in diagnostics, drugs, vaccines, and vector control. These advances have once again put malaria elimination on the agenda. However, it is clear that even with the means available today, malaria control and elimination pose a formidable challenge in many settings. Thus, currently available resources must be used more effectively, and new products and approaches likely to achieve these goals must be developed. This paper considers tools (both those available and others that may be required) to achieve and maintain malaria elimination. New diagnostics are needed to direct treatment and detect transmission potential; new drugs and vaccines to overcome existing resistance and protect against clinical and severe disease, as well as block transmission and prevent relapses; and new vector control measures to overcome insecticide resistance and more powerfully interrupt transmission. It is also essential that strategies for combining new and existing approaches are developed for different settings to maximise their longevity and effectiveness in areas with continuing transmission and receptivity. For areas where local elimination has been recently achieved, understanding which measures are needed to maintain elimination is necessary to prevent rebound and the reestablishment of transmission. This becomes increasingly important as more countries move towards elimination.

Collection Review

[malERA: An updated research agenda for health systems and policy research in malaria elimination and eradication](#)

The malERA Refresh Consultative Panel on Health Systems and Policy Research

| published 30 Nov 2017 PLOS Medicine
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002454>

Collection Review

[malERA: An updated research agenda for combination interventions and modelling in malaria elimination and eradication](#)

The malERA Refresh Consultative Panel on Combination Interventions and Modelling

Collection Review | published 30 Nov 2017 PLOS Medicine
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002453>

Collection Review

[malERA: An updated research agenda for characterising the reservoir and measuring transmission in malaria elimination and eradication](#)

The malERA Refresh Consultative Panel on Characterising the Reservoir and Measuring Transmission

Collection Review | published 30 Nov 2017 PLOS Medicine
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002452>

Collection Review

[malERA: An updated research agenda for basic science and enabling technologies in malaria elimination and eradication](#)

The malERA Refresh Consultative Panel on Basic Science and Enabling Technologies

Collection Review | published 30 Nov 2017 PLOS Medicine
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002451>

Collection Review

[malERA: An updated research agenda for insecticide and drug resistance in malaria elimination and eradication](#)

The malERA Refresh Consultative Panel on Insecticide and Drug Resistance
Collection Review | published 30 Nov 2017 PLOS Medicine
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002450>

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

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

(Accessed 2 December 2017)

Research Article

[The importance of thinking beyond the water-supply in cholera epidemics: A historical urban case-study](#)

Matthew D. Phelps, Andrew S. Azman, Joseph A. Lewnard, Marina Antillón, Lone Simonsen, Viggo Andreasen, Peter K. M. Jensen, Virginia E. Pitzer

| published 27 Nov 2017 PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0006103>

Conclusions/Significance

Spatially targeted cholera interventions, such as reactive vaccination or sanitation/hygiene campaigns in hotspot neighborhoods, would likely have been more effective in this epidemic than control measures aimed at interrupting long-cycle transmission, such as improving municipal water quality. We recommend public health planners consider programs aimed at interrupting short-cycle transmission as essential tools in the cholera control arsenal.

PLoS One

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

[No new digest content identified]

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

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

[Accessed 2 December 2017]

Biological Sciences - Ecology - Physical Sciences - Environmental Sciences:

[Mapping local and global variability in plant trait distributions](#)

Ethan E. Butler, Abhirup Datta, Habacuc Flores-Moreno, Ming Chen, Kirk R. Wythers, Farideh Fazayeli, Arindam Banerjee, Owen K. Atkin, Jens Kattge, Bernard Amiaud, Benjamin Blonder, Gerhard Boenisch, Ben Bond-Lamberty, Kerry A. Brown, Chaeho Byun, Giandiego Campetella, Bruno E. L. Cerabolini, Johannes H. C. Cornelissen, Joseph M. Craine, Dylan Craven, Franciska T. de Vries, Sandra Díaz, Tomas F. Domingues, Estelle Forey, Andrés González-Melo, Nicolas Gross, Wenxuan Han, Wesley N. Hatching, Thomas Hickler, Steven Jansen, Koen Kramer, Nathan J. B. Raft, Hiroko Kurokaw, Daniel C. Laughlin, Patrick Meir, Vanessa Minden, Ülo Niinemets, Yusuke Onoda, Josep Peñuelas, Quentin Read, Lawren Sack, Brandon Schamp, Nadejda A. Soudzilovskaia, Marko J. Spasojevic, Enio Sosinski, Peter E. Thornton, Fernando Valladares, Peter M. van Bodegom, Mathew Williams, Christian Wirth, and Peter B. Reich
PNAS 2017 ; published ahead of print December 1, 2017, doi:10.1073/pnas.1708984114

Significance

Currently, Earth system models (ESMs) represent variation in plant life through the presence of a small set of plant functional types (PFTs), each of which accounts for hundreds or thousands of species across thousands of vegetated grid cells on land. By expanding plant traits from a single

mean value per PFT to a full distribution per PFT that varies among grid cells, the trait variation present in nature is restored and may be propagated to estimates of ecosystem processes. Indeed, critical ecosystem processes tend to depend on the full trait distribution, which therefore needs to be represented accurately. These maps reintroduce substantial local variation and will allow for a more accurate representation of the land surface in ESMs.

Abstract

Our ability to understand and predict the response of ecosystems to a changing environment depends on quantifying vegetation functional diversity. However, representing this diversity at the global scale is challenging. Typically, in Earth system models, characterization of plant diversity has been limited to grouping related species into plant functional types (PFTs), with all trait variation in a PFT collapsed into a single mean value that is applied globally. Using the largest global plant trait database and state of the art Bayesian modeling, we created fine-grained global maps of plant trait distributions that can be applied to Earth system models. Focusing on a set of plant traits closely coupled to photosynthesis and foliar respiration—specific leaf area (SLA) and dry mass-based concentrations of leaf nitrogen (Nm) and phosphorus (Pm), we characterize how traits vary within and among over 50,000 ~50×50-km cells across the entire vegetated land surface. We do this in several ways—without defining the PFT of each grid cell and using 4 or 14 PFTs; each model's predictions are evaluated against out-of-sample data. This endeavor advances prior trait mapping by generating global maps that preserve variability across scales by using modern Bayesian spatial statistical modeling in combination with a database over three times larger than that in previous analyses. Our maps reveal that the most diverse grid cells possess trait variability close to the range of global PFT means.

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 32 - Issue 5 - October 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Preventive Medicine

Volume 105, Pages 1-412 (December 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00917435/105?sd=2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Proceedings of the Royal Society B

25 October 2017; volume 284, issue 1865

<http://rspb.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/284/1865?current-issue=y>

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Ethics

Volume 10, Issue 3 November 2017

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

Vaccine Exemption Policies – A Discussion

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Reports

Volume 132, Issue 6, November/December 2017

<http://phr.sagepub.com/content/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

Volume 28, Issue 1, January 2018

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

Research Articles

[Dementia and Migration: Family Care Patterns Merging With Public Care Services](#)

Mette Sagbakken, Ragnhild Storstein Spilker, Reidun Ingebretsen

First Published September 16, 2017; pp. 16–29

Abstract

This article focuses on cognitive impairment and dementia in the context of transnational migration. Based on data from focus group discussions and interviews, we conclude that to adjust to the needs of care within ethnic-minority communities, it is important to consider not only the availability of household and kin members but also the present understanding of obligation and reciprocity underlying the perception of care. Another important issue to realize is that caregivers, women in particular, might feel obliged to conform to a traditional caregiver role, but without the support from a wider extended family, and in the context of other pressing roles and duties. Consequently, health personnel should be wary of stereotyping and generalizing groups through “othering” ideologies and rather try to explore, understand, and adjust to the present and often fluctuating set of needs, as well as be aware of how and by whom these needs are articulated.

[Developing Equitable Primary Health Care in Conflict-Affected Settings: Expert Perspectives From the Frontlines](#)

Devin G. Atallah, Ahmadreza Djalali, Karla Fredricks, Lauren Arlington, Milagros Bussio, Brett D. Nelson

First Published November 6, 2017; pp. 98–111

Abstract

Health systems are frequently among the casualties of conflict. Within these settings, increased knowledge is needed on how to rebuild and strengthen health infrastructure resilience, such as primary health care (PHC) systems, in context-specific ways that promote health equity. Therefore, this study aimed to explore perspectives of experts with experience working on frontlines of social crises to contribute to understandings of pathways toward equitable PHC in conflict-affected settings. Semistructured qualitative interviews with 18 expert participants were completed. Through engaging elements of grounded theory situational analysis, three themes emerged iteratively, including (a) Building Blocks, (b) Intermediating Factors, and (c) a Roadmap. These emergent themes contribute to conceptual frameworks explaining key contextually specific priorities, challenges, and facilitating factors for developing resilient health infrastructures under social crises. Findings inform policy and practical guidelines that address complexities of conflict conditions and underscore the importance of PHC development toward promoting health as a human right.

Refugee Survey Quarterly

Volume 36, Issue 4 December 2017

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

Articles

[Political Refugees from El Salvador: Gang Politics, the State, and Asylum Claims](#)

Patrick J McNamara

Refugee Survey Quarterly, Volume 36, Issue 4, 1 December 2017, Pages 1–24,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/rsq/hdx011>

[“We are Like Animals”: Negotiating Dehumanising Experiences of Asylum-Seeker Policies in the Australian Community](#)

[Lisa Hartley; Caroline Fleay](#)

Refugee Survey Quarterly, Volume 36, Issue 4, 1 December 2017, Pages 45–63,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/rsq/hdx010>

Reproductive Health

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

[Accessed 2 December 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

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

November 2017 Volume 37, Issue 11 Pages 2023–2259

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.2017.37.issue-11/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Risk Management and Healthcare Policy

Volume 10, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Science

01 December 2017 Vol 358, Issue 6367

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 190, Pages 1-278 (October 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02779536/190?sdc=1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Stability: International Journal of Security & Development

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

[accessed 2 December 2017]

[No new digest content identified]

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 10 (October 2017)

<http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/9/10>

[Reviewed earlier]

Torture Journal

Volume 27 - Issue No. 2

<http://www.ircct.org/publications/torture-journal/128>

SPECIAL SECTION: IN THE NAME OF THE WAR ON TERROR [Guantanamo]

[Reviewed earlier]

Trauma, Violence, & Abuse

Volume 18, Issue 5, December 2017

<http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/tvaa/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases

September 2017 Volume 19

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine & International Health

November 2017 Volume 22, Issue 11 Pages 1361–1462

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tmi.2017.22.issue-11/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

UN Chronicle

Vol. LIV No. 3 2017

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

October 2017

Prevention

This issue focuses on the importance of fostering and maintaining a commitment to a culture of prevention. The articles provide a variety of perspectives on building and sustaining peace. They explore the relationship between conflict and crises, and themes such as the empowerment

of civil society, media and information literacy, women's role in ongoing peace processes, and desertification.

Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies

An International Interdisciplinary Journal for Research, Policy and Care

Volume 12, Issue 4, 2017

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rvch20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

World Heritage Review

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/84/>

n°85 - October 2017

World Heritage and Modern Heritage

Modern heritage – the architecture, town planning and landscape design of the modern era, or the last two hundred years or so – is still underrepresented on the World Heritage List. And yet it is an integral part of many urban ensembles, which represent a majority of sites on the List. Raising awareness of the significance of this heritage, and addressing issues on its preservation and valorization, is the focus of the World Heritage Centre's Modern Heritage Programme, and of many heritage experts. Drawing attention to these structures, and encouraging the development of legal protection for them, is beginning to build momentum.

In this issue, we will look closely at the Sydney Opera House (Australia), from its construction to its role today as a vibrant cultural centre; Grimeton Radio Station (Sweden), a monument to early wireless transatlantic communication built in 1922-1924 and still in working condition; and the city of Brasilia (Brazil), that landmark of town planning by urban planner Lucio Costa and architect Oscar Niemeyer. We will also learn about the evolution of the identification of modern heritage in the Arab region, and in an interview with Hubert Jan Henket, architect and co-founder of the International Committee for Documentation and Conservation of Buildings, Sites and neighbourhoods of the Modern Movement (DOCOMOMO), we will explore the recognition of modern heritage, international collaboration and other aspects of conservation.

In addition, the issue presents the 21 new sites inscribed on the World Heritage List during the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee in Krakow, from 2 to 12 July 2017. These include two sites that are the first to be inscribed in their country: Mbanza Kongo in Angola, and in Eritrea, the site of Asmara: A Modernist City of Africa. Asmara is an exceptional example of early modernist urbanism at the beginning of the 20th century and its application in an African context. As pointed out in the lead article by Afredo Conti, Vice President of ICOMOS, the international community has started recognizing modern heritage that until recently was barely valued at all. Identifying and preserving our modern heritage is indeed an important issue of the moment.

Mechtild Rössler

Director of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre

World Journal of Emergency Medicine

Vol 8, No 4, 2017 December

<http://wjem.org/journal/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

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