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governance, ethics, evidence, policy, practice

The Sentinel

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

Period ending 17 February 2018

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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:: 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 Health Response – Mosul

The Mosul Trauma Response A Case Study

Center for Humanitarian Health - Johns Hopkins University

February 2018 :: 67 pages

Full Report PDF:

http://www.hopkinshumanitarianhealth.org/assets/documents/Mosul_Report_FINAL_Feb_14_2018.pdf

Exec Sum. 1: Application of Humanitarian Principles | Exec Sum. 2: Quality and Effectiveness

The Battle of Mosul was one of the largest urban sieges since World War II. From October 2016 and July 2017, Iraqi and Kurdish forces fought to retake Iraq's second largest city, which had fallen to ISIL in 2014. They were backed by U.S.-led coalition forces. More than 940,000 civilians fled during the siege, and thousands were injured as they sought safety.

Early on it became clear that the Iraqi military did not have the capacity to provide trauma care, despite its obligations under the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols. The World Health Organization (WHO) and its partners stepped in to fill this void. This was the first time the WHO played a leading role in coordinating care in conflict, and the first time a civilian trauma setting was attempted at the frontline.

Key findings

:: Between 1500-1800 lives, both military and civilian, may have been saved through this trauma response.

:: By attempting to apply Western military standards of trauma care and 'moving forward' towards the frontline to save civilians lives, WHO and its partners challenged existing humanitarian principles, particularly those of neutrality and independence.

:: The Iraqi government and its military did not have medical capacity to fulfil their obligations to protect and care for wounded civilians on the Mosul battlefield, and the U.S.-led coalition did not provide substantial medical care for wounded civilians.

:: WHO-supported field hospitals filled important gaps in trauma surgical care, while post-operative and rehabilitative care warranted greater support.

:: Successful coordination among local leaders, partners, and civilian and military officials occurred, but field coordination could have been better resourced.

Recommendations

:: Warring factions, and those supporting them, need to enhance the former's medical capacities to ensure they can fulfill their obligations under the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols.

:: Deliberation is needed regarding the benefits to and the moral obligations of governments who support such warring factions, like the U.S.-led coalition in the Mosul battle.

:: Humanitarians must take care to avoid being instrumentalized by governments or military in future conflicts.

:: Medical teams operating directly with a combatant force should not be identified as humanitarian;

:: Frontline medical services could be provided by specialized groups explicitly trained to work directly with combatant forces, possibly contracted as military support services focusing on providing frontline medical services for both injured soldiers and civilians.

:: Using private medical organizations (i.e., contractors) to provide humanitarian services in conflict settings needs further study.

:: How humanitarian actors can apply standards of trauma care that compel them to move towards the frontline to save lives, and still adhere to longstanding humanitarian principles, needs debate at senior levels such as at the Inter Agency Standing Committee or at the intergovernmental level.

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The Lancet

Feb 03, 2018 Volume 391 Number 10119 p401-512 e5

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

Editorial

Examining humanitarian principles in changing warfare

The Lancet

Published: 17 February 2018

Violence in war must have a limit. Those who are not participating in the hostilities should be protected to prevent war from sinking into barbarity. Today, this is safeguarded by international humanitarian law (IHL), of which the cornerstones are the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and its Additional Protocols. IHL provides for the wounded and sick to be collected and cared for by the warring faction that has them in their power, and for them to receive timely medical care. Traditionally, those entering into conflict could be expected to uphold these laws. But who will save the lives of the wounded if the warring factions are unable—or unwilling—to provide that care?

From October, 2016, to July, 2017, a US-led coalition supported the Iraqi and Kurdish forces in a battle to retake the city of Mosul from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). What became known as the Battle of Mosul was one of the largest urban sieges since World War 2. Over 940 000 civilians fled—facing bullets, mortar shells, and air strikes. Providing timely and efficient trauma care to these civilians was paramount but fraught with difficulty.

How the humanitarian community responded to this situation provides an insight into the evolving debate over the provision of trauma care in war. This was documented in an evaluation published on Feb 17, 2018 led by Paul Spiegel and colleagues of the Center for Humanitarian Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, who petitioned the US Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance for a grant for this study. It is based on qualitative data (interviews, and a

review of publicly and privately shared documents) and a quantitative analysis of data collected by WHO and other actors.

During the Battle, it soon became apparent that a void in life-saving trauma care urgently needed to be filled. The Iraqi military lacked medical personnel and the US-led coalition deployed few medical teams, which were tasked with providing care for wounded coalition forces and not civilians. ISIL's tactics—use of civilians as shields, shooting at fleeing civilians, and occupation of health clinics—showed disregard for civilian and health worker protection. Humanitarian actors could not negotiate safe passage with ISIL; it was the first time the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) did not have contact with all sides of the conflict. Moreover, hospital overcrowding, extensive infrastructure damage, and checkpoints set up by the Kurdish forces substantially slowed access to care.

In a first-of-its-kind approach, the evaluation shows that, consequently, the UN and WHO had to take charge and coordinate a unique trauma response for injured civilians. This trauma pathway, modelled after military trauma systems, included so-called trauma stabilisation points (TSPs) located within 10 mins of the front line, and field hospitals within an hour's drive. This ultimately required the humanitarians to be “colocated” or “embedded” within the Iraqi military for security and logistical reasons, minutes away from the combat zone.

This approach challenged accepted humanitarian principles. Rooted in IHL, the humanitarian principles—neutrality, impartiality, humanity, and independence—guide the work of humanitarian actors, and are usually considered indivisible. As was stated in the evaluation, by collocating/embedding humanitarians with the military, “the principle of humanity [to protect life and health] was consciously given precedence over the principles of neutrality and independence; we would also argue over impartiality as well”. When approached by WHO to staff the TSPs and field hospitals, ICRC and Médecins Sans Frontières both raised these concerns, and finally declined to participate in this specific aspect of the trauma response. WHO ended up contracting humanitarian NGOs, and, as a last resort, a for-profit medical company, to “move forward” towards the front line. Spiegel and colleagues estimate that this approach, complemented by the work of other actors also providing trauma care, likely saved about 1500–1800 lives—both civilians and combatants.

The Battle of Mosul provides an important case study for what might be to come. Above all, this should be a very rare occurrence, and The Lancet echoes the evaluation's recommendation that governments, and possibly their allies, must ensure their militaries can fulfil the obligations of protection and care for wounded citizens under the Geneva Conventions. However, in modern warfare, access to the injured may increasingly be one sided when fighting against warring factions that see health workers and civilians as acceptable targets of war. Governments should be prepared to face this eventuality. To be able to continue providing the best standards of care and saving lives, a high-level meeting must urgently be organised to examine and answer this question: are the humanitarian principles as they are defined today still relevant for this changing warfare?

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Human Rights/Protection – Refugee, Migrant, Displaced Children

[Massive data gaps leave refugee, migrant and displaced children in danger and without access to basic services](#)

Joint press release – UNICEF, IOM

An estimated 28 million children were living in forced displacement in 2016, but the true figure is likely much higher Download 'A Call to Action' here: http://uni.cf/uprooted_data

YORK, 15 February 2018 – Gaps in data covering refugees, asylum seekers, migrants and internally displaced populations are endangering the lives and wellbeing of millions of children on the move, warned five UN and partner agencies today. In 'A call to action: Protecting children on the move starts with better data', UNICEF, UNHCR, IOM, Eurostat and OECD together show how crucial data are to understanding the patterns of global migration and developing policies to support vulnerable groups like children.

The Call to Action confirms alarming holes in the availability, reliability, timeliness and accessibility of data and evidence that are essential for understanding how migration and forcible displacement affect children and their families. For example:

- There is recorded information on age for just 56 per cent of the refugee population under UNHCR's mandate;*
- Only 20 per cent of countries or territories with data on conflict-related internally displaced persons (IDP) break it down by age;*
- Nearly a quarter of countries and territories do not have age disaggregated data on migrants, including 43 per cent of countries and territories in Africa; and*
- Lack of information on migrant and displaced children deprives the affected children of protection and services they need.*

"Information gaps fundamentally undermine our ability to help children," said Laurence Chandy, UNICEF Director for the Division of Data, Research and Policy. "Migrant children, particularly those who migrate alone, are often easy targets for those who would do them harm. We can't keep children safe and provide them with lifesaving services, both in transit and at their destination, if we don't know who they are, where they are or what they need. We urge Member States to fill these gaps with reliable disaggregated data and to improve cooperation so that data is shared and comparable."

"Many refugee children have experienced or witnessed appalling violence and suffering in their countries of origin and sometimes also during their flight in search of protection and security. They need and deserve care and protection but in order to provide this, we need data on their identity and needs. In no area is coordination on data and strengthening capacity more important than for children, especially the most vulnerable," said Volker Türk, UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Protection.

"We need reliable and better data on child migrants to protect them and guarantee their best interests. Data disaggregation by age, sex and origin can inform policymakers of the real needs of child migrants. This will ensure that no child is left behind and that they are not exploited. All migrant children are entitled to care and protection regardless of their migratory status," said IOM Director General William Lacy Swing.

"Time is of the essence when it comes to integration into education," said OECD Director for Employment Labour and Social Affairs Stefano Scarpetta. "Success or failure at this vulnerable age can have lifelong labour market consequences. Only with a comprehensive knowledge – backed up by appropriate data – can we identify and address the needs of these children, better protect them and build upon their skills and capabilities as they make their way through the school system and into the labour market."...

In the absence of reliable data, the risks and vulnerabilities facing children on the move remain hidden and unaddressed. In some contexts, children who cross borders irregularly may be held in detention alongside adults or prevented from accessing services that are essential for their healthy development, including education and healthcare. Even in high income countries, the number of refugee and migrant children out of school is unknown because it is not counted...

UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta H. Fore introductory remarks at the Solutions Summit, Stakeholders for End Violence Session

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, 14 February 2018 - "Your Majesty Queen Silvia. Your Royal Highness Crown Princess Victoria. Prime Minister Löfven. Deputy Secretary General Mohammed. Honoured guests. Young people — young citizens. Welcome, everyone. And a special thank you to Sweden, for hosting this important summit.

Tackling sexual exploitation and abuse of children: Actions and commitments by UNICEF

STOCKHOLM, 14 February 2018 – "Sexual exploitation and abuse of children under any circumstances is reprehensible. No organization is immune from this scourge and we are continuously working to better address it. When it comes to the protection of children, we are determined to act. There is no room for complacency.

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Governance – Africa

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf wins 2017 Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership

12 February, 2018

Former President of Liberia praised for her extraordinary efforts to lead country's recovery following civil war.

The 2017 Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership has been awarded to Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, former President of Liberia, the Mo Ibrahim Foundation announced today following a meeting of its independent Prize Committee.

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, who served two terms as President of Liberia from 2006 to 2017, is the fifth recipient of the Ibrahim Prize, which recognises and celebrates excellence in African leadership.

The Ibrahim Prize aims to distinguish leaders who, during their time in office, have developed their countries, strengthened democracy and human rights for the shared benefit of their people, and advanced sustainable development.

In its citation, the Prize Committee praised her exceptional and transformative leadership, in the face of unprecedented and renewed challenges, to lead Liberia's recovery following many years of devastating civil war.

Announcing the decision, Dr Salim Ahmed Salim, Chair of the Prize Committee, said:

"Ellen Johnson Sirleaf took the helm of Liberia when it was completely destroyed by civil war and led a process of reconciliation that focussed on building a nation and its democratic institutions. Throughout her two terms in office, she worked tirelessly on behalf of the people of Liberia. Such a journey cannot be without some shortcomings and, today, Liberia continues to face many challenges. Nevertheless, during her twelve years in office, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf laid the foundations on which Liberia can now build..."

The Ibrahim Prize is a US\$5 million award paid over ten years and US\$200,000 annually for life thereafter. The Mo Ibrahim Foundation will consider granting a further US\$200,000 per year for ten years towards public interest activities and good causes espoused by the Ibrahim Laureate.

The candidates for the Ibrahim Prize are all former African executive heads of state or government who have left office during the last three calendar years, having been democratically elected and served their constitutionally mandated term.

Statement by Ellen Johnson Sirleaf on Receipt of the 2017 Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership

14 February, 2018

It is an honour to have been selected for the Ibrahim Prize for African Leadership. By choice, I have led a life of service and sacrifice on behalf of the Liberian people, and I will remain forever grateful to them for the privilege to serve.

As the first woman to receive the award, it is my hope that women and girls across Africa will be inspired to reach for their true potential, to navigate the challenges, break through barriers, and to pursue their dreams. Where there is a first, there comes a second, and a third, and a fourth.

I am thankful that the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, in granting me this honour, has sought to emphasise the consolidation of Liberia as a democratic state under my two terms in office. Indeed, my most proud accomplishment is that after 30 years of conflict, the power in Liberia now rests where it should – with the people, grounded in rule of law, and in strong institutions. And I note with pride that Liberia was the only country on the continent to improve in every category and sub-category of the Ibrahim Index of African Governance – a testament to all those who served in my government.

The Mo Ibrahim Foundation continues to be a transformative force on the continent. They have changed the conversation about leadership. This is a discussion that I will continue to carry forward in my post-presidency years.

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Governance-Ethics-Accountability: OXFAM et al

Editor's Note:

We present recent Oxfam announcements proceeding from press reports on its Haiti operations, resulting actions by DFID, editorials, and various announcements by NGOs and NGO alliances about their ethical and governance commitments and performance. Unhappily, the Oxfam situation seems to be cascading across the sector.

Oxfam asks women's rights leaders to carry out urgent independent review

16 February 2018

An independent commission will be set up with immediate power to carry out a wide-ranging review of Oxfam's practices and culture, including its handling of past cases of sexual misconduct. It comes as Oxfam announces a comprehensive plan of action to strengthen safeguarding systems across the organization, and stamp out abuse.

The plan was agreed yesterday by Oxfam International Executive Director Winnie Byanyima and has the commitment of all executive directors across the Oxfam confederation. The package of measures includes:

- :: A new independent High-Level Commission on Sexual Misconduct, Accountability and Culture Change, comprised of leading women's rights experts, which will be able to access Oxfam records and interview staff, partners and communities it supports around the world.

- :: The immediate creation of a new global database of accredited referees – designed to end the use of forged, dishonest or unreliable references by past or current Oxfam staff. Oxfam will not be issuing any references until this is in place.

- :: An immediate injection of money and resources into Oxfam's safeguarding processes, with the number of people working in safeguarding more than doubling over the coming weeks and annual funding more than tripled to just over \$1 million.

- :: A commitment to improve the culture within Oxfam to ensure that no one faces sexism, discrimination or abuse, that everyone, especially women, feels safe to speak out, and everyone is clear on what behaviour is acceptable or not...

Chair of Oxfam International's Board of Supervisors, Dr. Juan Alberto Fuentes Knight, steps down

13 February 2018

Dr. Juan Alberto Fuentes Knight today stepped down as the Chair of the Board of Supervisors of Oxfam International after being presented with charges dating back to his time as Guatemala's finance minister.

Oxfam Great Britain announces resignation of Deputy Chief Executive

12 February 2018

Penny Lawrence today resigned as Deputy Chief Executive of Oxfam Great Britain. Lawrence was Program Director at the time of the sexual misconduct in Chad.

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Statement from International Development Secretary on Oxfam and UK action to tackle sexual exploitation in the aid sector

12 February 2018 DFID Press release

Penny Mordaunt has announced a series of actions to tackle sexual exploitation in the aid sector, declaring it vital that the whole sector steps up.

A statement from International Development Secretary Penny Mordaunt:

[Editor's text bolding]

"This morning I met with Mark Goldring, Chief Executive of Oxfam, and Caroline Thomson, Oxfam Chair of Trustees.

"Oxfam made a full and unqualified apology – to me, and to the people of Britain and Haiti - for the appalling behaviour of some of their staff in Haiti in 2011, and for the wider failings of their organisation's response to it.

"They spoke of the deep sense of disgrace and shame that they and their organisation feel about what has happened, and set out the actions they will now take to put things right and prevent such horrific abuses happening in future. They did not inform the Department for International Development at the time that this case involved sexual misconduct or beneficiaries.

"Oxfam assured me they are cooperating fully with the authorities in Haiti and will do so in any other country where abuse has been exposed. Because the perpetrators in Haiti were not British nationals, Oxfam has - at my request - also today committed to immediately provide full details of those involved to the governments of their home countries, so that appropriate legal processes can be taken forward.

"But assurances are not enough so I have asked them to confirm to DFID by the end of the week precisely how they will handle any forthcoming allegations around safeguarding - historic or live - in a way in which the public can have confidence. We expect this process to include an independent and external element of scrutiny.

"I told Oxfam they must now demonstrate the moral leadership necessary to address this scandal, rebuild the trust of the British public, their staff and the people they aim to help, and deliver progress on these assurances. It is on the basis of their actions going forward - rather than of their commitments in one meeting today - that I and others will judge them. I was clear that part of an organisation's moral leadership comes from individuals taking responsibility for their actions.

"I have today also met with the Chief Executive of the Charity Commission for England and Wales, Helen Stephenson, who informed me that the Commission urgently requested full and frank disclosure of what happened in 2011 from Oxfam and they are considering their next regulatory steps.

"But the Charity Commission and I agree that it is not only Oxfam that must improve and reach the high standards of safeguarding we require. Right across the charitable sector, organisations need to show leadership, examine their systems, ensure they have clear whistleblowing policies and deal with historical allegations with confidence and trust.

"My absolute priority is to keep the world's poorest and most vulnerable people safe from harm. In the 21st century, it is utterly despicable that sexual exploitation and abuse continues to exist in the aid sector.

"I am determined that we do our utmost to prevent exploitation and abuse happening - and ensure that where it does happen it is identified and dealt with appropriately. We cannot wait for others to act - the UK must show leadership ourselves and that is why today I am taking action. "At their best, UK charities do extraordinary work around the world, saving and transforming lives. It is vital now that the whole sector steps up and demonstrates the leadership that the public expects.

"Firstly, I have issued a letter to all UK charities working overseas - including Oxfam - to demand that they step up and do more, so that we have absolute assurance that the moral leadership, the systems, the culture and the transparency that are needed to fully protect vulnerable people are in place, all of the time, and wherever these charities work and with whichever partners they work with. I have also requested that they confirm they have referred any and all concerns they may have on specific safeguarding cases and individuals to the relevant authorities. In requesting this, we are using Charity Commission guidance and will continue to work closely with them. We will shortly commence a similar exercise with our non-UK partners. If anyone has specific allegations, I urge them to contact our Counter Fraud and Whistleblowing Unit.

"Secondly, my department has today created a new unit to urgently review safeguarding across all parts of the aid sector to ensure everything is being done to protect people from harm, including sexual exploitation and abuse.

"This unit will be wide-ranging and comprehensive in its remit, looking at safeguarding across UK and international charities, suppliers, and the UN and multilateral organisations so that together we can make progress. This will look at how to guard against criminal and predatory individuals being re-employed by charities and abusing again, including the option of establishing a global register of development workers.

"I will bring in independent experts to advise myself and this unit on this work. This builds on the changes we have made to introduce tough sanctions for human rights abuses including sexual exploitation for all new contracts with suppliers and new training for DFID staff to identify and respond to any concerns. I have asked for a meeting with the NCA, the Foreign Office, the Ministry of Defence and others to discuss how to make further progress.

"Thirdly, I am going to step up our work to tackle sexual exploitation and abuse across the UN and other international organisations. Already, the UK is working with the UN Secretary-General Guterres to stop abuses under the UN flag and we have introduced specific clauses in our funding agreements with a number of UN agencies to take every action possible to prevent all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse and take robust and prompt action in response to any allegations.

"Fourthly, the Charity Commission and DFID will co-host a safeguarding summit before the end of the month with the aid sector and alongside UK counterparts, where we will agree a set of actions to strengthen safeguarding processes and mechanisms, including around staffing and recruitment, paving the way for a series of events throughout the year. We will also work with the Commission to provide technical assistance and support to other nations that wish to improve the standard and regulations of safeguarding.

"Lastly, I will take this tough message to the international community - and call for action from them. Later this week I will make a speech in Stockholm and firmly demand that all donors and development organisations show leadership and take action alongside the UK.

"Whatever the complications and pressures organisations face, the people we are here to serve must be the number one priority. I remain very clear: we will not work with any organisation that does not live up to the high standards on safeguarding and protection that we require."

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Aid and Abuse – The saints and sinners of Oxfam

Hurricane Harvey whirls through the aid industry

The Economist | 15 February 2018

FOUNDED in 1942, Oxfam is one of Britain's most recognisable global brands. The charity is the country's fourth-largest, and the biggest working on overseas aid, with a presence in more than 90 countries. It is also one of the most respected; loved, even, judging by the 23,000 volunteers who turn out to staff its 630 shops, raising around £100m (\$140m) a year in sales of second-hand books and musty mink coats.

Now, however, Oxfam has been hit by allegations of sexual misconduct, at home and abroad. The charity's gleaming reputation has been severely tarnished. Other aid agencies are also becoming embroiled in a story that adds fuel to a debate about Britain's international-development work. Since the Harvey Weinstein scandal unveiled abuses in Hollywood, the whirlwind has swept through politics, business and now, it seems, the aid industry. The claims against Oxfam are grave. The first to emerge was that after the earthquake in Haiti in 2010, its staff in Port-au-Prince paid for sex, including a "full-on Caligula orgy", as one witness told the Times. Prostitution is illegal in Haiti, and some of the girls are said to have been under age (Oxfam says this claim has not been proven). Oxfam allowed three of the employees involved to resign and sacked four others for gross misconduct, but is alleged to have covered up the severity of their offences. The Charity Commission, the industry watchdog, has launched an inquiry.

Helen Evans, an Oxfam employee-turned-whistleblower, says that she repeatedly warned managers of a "culture of sexual abuse" in the charity's offices overseas and its shops at home, but was not taken seriously enough. She reports one instance of aid being offered in return for sex.

Oxfam's deputy chief executive, Penny Lawrence, who was in charge of the charity's international programme when the Haiti behaviour was reported, resigned on February 12th. On the same day Mark Goldring, the charity's boss, was hauled into the Department for International Development (DFID) to be told that Oxfam could forfeit over £30m of government money if it did not explain itself. The European Union, which gives Oxfam £29m, has demanded "maximum transparency". The next day several of Oxfam's corporate partners, including Visa and Marks & Spencer, said they were reviewing their links.

Similar allegations are now being made against other charities. Priti Patel, a former DFID secretary, has said the Oxfam case is the "tip of the iceberg". This may sap confidence in the sector, which was already at its lowest-ever ebb in polls by the Charity Commission, which began in 2005. But the headlines may not affect the volume of giving, now £10bn a year. Daniel Fluskey of the Institute of Fundraising says that, despite the weak economy, giving has remained remarkably stable in recent years.

Proponents of Britain's aid industry hope it will stay that way. For all Oxfam's woes, experts like Owen Barder of the Centre for Global Development, a think-tank, argue that Britain's aid is particularly effective and generally well-targeted. Oxfam may be bad at policing its staff, but, argues Dan Corry of New Philanthropy Capital, which assesses charities, it is one of the best at evaluating its projects.

As for the foreign-aid budget, the Oxfam affair has emboldened those on the Conservative right who want to end the commitment to spend 0.7% of GDP on aid, which they consider extravagant at a time of austerity. But other Tories, such as Andrew Mitchell, a former DFID secretary, argue that development is one of the few areas in which Britain is a global leader, spending more than any country bar America and Germany. As the country retreats from the EU, it would be sad if that role, too, were relinquished.

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[The Guardian view on Oxfam: time to learn, not destroy](#)

Editorial

Mon 12 Feb 2018 18.22 GMT

The debauchery of the Haiti sex parties is outrageous. But it must not be allowed to overshadow *the courage and compassion of thousands of aid workers, nor the value of aid itself*

On 12 January 2010, a catastrophic 7.0 earthquake struck Haiti. One of the poorest countries in the world, it was utterly unprepared. Roads and bridges, hospitals and government buildings as well as thousands of homes collapsed or were severely damaged. At least 220,000 died – including more than 100 aid workers already in the country – and as many again were injured. Scores of aid agencies with hundreds of millions of pounds' worth of relief raced to bring help, each agency hastily recruiting hundreds of extra workers. Among these men and women of goodwill who were dispatched to organise medical help, to inoculate, feed and protect the thousands of vulnerable people were seven Oxfam employees who, it has now emerged, spent their time off procuring young, possibly underage, girls and women for sex. It is likely that some of their victims were reliant on the aid Oxfam provided, with donations collected on street corners and jumble sales in Britain. The enormity of employees of an organisation dedicated to ending poverty, hunger and social injustice hosting sex parties said to be of Caligulan proportions amid the wreckage of a humanitarian catastrophe is what turns a scandal into a crisis that could damage the whole UK charitable sector.

A year after the earthquake, in 2011, Oxfam's head office was alerted by a whistleblower to the allegations. The charity then made two more serious errors of judgment. First, it played down the seriousness of the offences. The Charity Commission was told only that "serious misconduct" relating to abuse of power and bullying was being investigated. Later the Department for International Development was misled in the same way. As a result neither treated the report with the seriousness it required – and both are now rightly furious at the way they feel they were deliberately misled. DfID's secretary of state, Penny Mordaunt, will want hard evidence of a transformed culture at the charity if it is to justify its £32m worth of contracts. The resignation of Penny Lawrence, Oxfam's deputy chief executive and international project manager at the time of Haiti, is only a start.

The second mistake was to fail to prevent the four men who were sacked and the three required to resign from working in the sector again. As the Observer reported at the weekend, allegations about sex parties in Chad in 2006, four years before the Haiti earthquake, led to the sacking of one senior employee. Roland van Hauwermeiren, who resigned after the Haiti scandal emerged, was head of Oxfam in Chad at the time. Ms Lawrence cited the failure to act properly on the earlier allegations as a reason for her decision to leave.

Reputational harm is an existential threat to charities. It is not an accident that Oxfam has been caught out; it is the same mix of negligence and complacency that has exposed the Catholic and Anglican churches to similar disaster. After Haiti, Oxfam tightened its safeguarding processes. But this may well be the tip of the iceberg. One challenge for organisations working with children and vulnerable people is the acknowledged risk posed by sexual predators seeking out respectable cover for contact with their potential victims. Oxfam denies giving references to the employees sacked or allowed to resign after the Haiti allegations, but Mr Van Hauwermeiren went on to another senior job in Bangladesh working for a French charity, and another man involved is reported to have gone on to work with the Catholic aid charity Cafod. A central register of all aid workers employed by UK charities would at least stop employees who had been sacked or disciplined in earlier jobs faking references to get another.

What this crisis must not be allowed to do is undermine the case for generous aid spending as both a moral obligation and as pragmatic policy. The Oxfam case involves fewer men than can be counted on two hands. The courageous and dedicated efforts of thousands of its employees have

saved millions of lives in the most gruelling and dangerous circumstances. They and their peers in other charities deserve the best defence. That means honesty and transparency, and a conspicuous determination to root out anyone who threatens their reputation for it.

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Statement from the Norwegian Refugee Council's Deputy Secretary General, Geir Olav Lisle

Oslo, 15 February 2018

"The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) has today suspended a member of staff pending a review of the case. This follows new information emerging about the termination of his earlier employment by Oxfam in 2011 in Haiti.

NRC staff were first alerted about the staff member's dismissal from Oxfam in December 2016. Based on the information we had at that time about the reasons for his dismissal, because standard procedures had been followed in the recruitment process and there were no known misconduct concerns in his time with NRC, it was decided not to pursue the case further. In hindsight and based on new information about the case, we realise that this response was inadequate and that we should have explored the matter further. Consequently we are conducting a review of the recruitment process and safeguarding in this case. In addition we are also currently carefully reviewing our systems and procedures in order to identify areas that may need to be strengthened. Immediate measures are: Firstly, making it compulsory to directly ask candidates if they have ever been investigated or subject to disciplinary measures by previous employers. We will also document the answer to this question. Secondly, reinforcing due diligence in the recruitment process by improving analysis of CVs and expanding reference checks.

It is important to remember that around the world, dedicated and professional aid workers are delivering life-saving and crucial assistance to millions of people in need. NRC will continue to work to improve our prevention and response to sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment. We are dedicated to ensure the safety of both the people we are here to serve and our staff."

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Statement on inaccurate Haiti reports - World Vision

Saturday, February 17th 2018

The earthquake in Haiti was a tragedy for the hundreds of thousands of children and their families who lost everything. The nation was already the poorest and most fragile in the hemisphere. It was challenging time for aid workers who witnessed their loss and suffering, and were involved in trying to help them.

Thanks to the generosity of supporters and partners around the world, World Vision provided food to at least two million people, emergency shelters to more than 40,000 households, and potable water for more than 90,000 people. We set up more than 30 Child-friendly Spaces, provided cholera prevention and treatment for more than 300,000 people and operated 12 mobile and static health care clinics.

While we know we did not get everything right, the *Mail* on Sunday story in the UK and Ireland misrepresents our actions and omits key findings from our investigations, which we described publicly, and which were shared with authorities, donors, and the Mail's journalist, several years ago.

In our cash-for-work programme in 2010-11, several evaluations conducted by World Vision and our partners highlighted a number of issues in government-run camps; of nepotism, sexual exploitation and inaccurate record-keeping.

World Vision's extensive investigations into these issues revealed that those involved in sexual exploitation were not World Vision staff. They were community volunteers and cash-for-work beneficiaries themselves.

Our commitment to strengthening and improving systems saw us report these issues back to authorities, and work with them to put training and follow-up procedures in place to cut down on these practices. This information has been publicly available in our published Accountability Reports from 2011, 2012 and 2014. We provided these reports and internal documents to the Mail on Sunday journalist, Ian Birrell as long ago as 2014.

We recognise that it is possible there may have been inappropriate behaviour by people employed by or associated with World Vision that went unreported. If that is the case, we encourage anyone who saw or experienced sexual exploitation or abuse to come forward, or to report it through our confidential Whistleblower Hotline, and we will do all we can to investigate (report online <http://worldvision.ethicspoint.com> or call collect +1-503-726-3990).

We are sorry to anyone who feels let down by World Vision in any failure of ours to protect or report.

World Vision believes a better world for children is possible. Like other aid agencies, there are lessons coming out of the past week that we as an organisation are committed to taking on board and integrating into discussions with our partners in delivering aid to the world's most vulnerable children.

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CONCORD's reaction to reports of sexual exploitation and abuse by NGO staff

Feb 13, 2018

In light of ongoing reports in the media of sexual exploitation and abuse by staff employed by NGOs in partner countries, CONCORD, the European Confederation of Relief and Development NGOs, wants to deliver the message:

CONCORD unreservedly condemns the actions, recently reported, of the individuals who were found guilty of sexual misconduct and abuse of power in Haiti and Chad in 2011 and 2006. CONCORD expresses its sympathy and solidarity with the victims. We expect those responsible to be held accountable for their actions.

CONCORD believes, as a representative of civil society development organisations in Europe, that our sector should have the highest standards of responsibility and accountability for its work. We should all reinforce prevention and redress mechanisms in the sector. We stand ready to work with our members, with donors and other relevant parties to do what is necessary to ensure those participating in development programmes and, in particular the most vulnerable, are protected.

The role of development cooperation and aid in the fight against poverty and for global justice remains as vital as ever. These actions cannot overshadow the important mission and values of

development NGOs and the thousands of staff and volunteers dedicated to eradicate poverty and fight against all kinds of injustice.

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InterAction Statement on Sexual Harassment and Abuse

Feb 12, 2018

InterAction, representing U.S. nongovernmental organizations operating around the world to advance the lives of people living in the poorest and most marginalized conditions, reiterates our firm commitment to fight discrimination, sexual harassment and abuse within our community. U.S. NGOs have an obligation to the populations we serve, our staff, our supporters and donors to embody the values for which we stand.

As recent media reports continue to demonstrate, international nonprofits are not immune from incidences of sexual harassment and abuse. We are firmly against sexual exploitation and abuse in all its forms. We have demonstrated this commitment before, advancing our long-standing efforts to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse by our own staff, through working on improved policies, procedures and structures that advance the protection of populations with whom we work. In 2006, working with the U.N., we embraced policies to address sexual exploitation and abuse based on a zero-tolerance approach.

Given recent events, we recognize that we must put additional initiatives in place. In late 2017, InterAction stood up a CEO Task Team on Sexual Harassment and Abuse that will work with our members to advance efforts to both eradicate harmful practices from amongst those who we employ, and to improve our support for survivors. We are exploring how we can fortify our policies and procedures to prevent sexual harassment and abuse, as we increase our transparency and accountability when incidences occur. This includes working as a collective to identify better practices that will ensure perpetrators are prevented from re-employment within the sector.

We will reinforce with concrete action our respective member organizations' commitment to ensuring that our programs are implemented in a manner that ensures both the populations we seek to help, and our staff are treated with dignity and respect. The work that we do is too important to be jeopardized by anything less.

Signed,

Lindsay Coates, President, InterAction

Carrie Hessler-Radelet, Co-Champion, InterAction CEO Task Team on Sexual Harassment and Abuse and President & CEO, Project Concern International (PCI)

Abby Maxman, Co-Champion, InterAction CEO Task Team on Sexual Harassment and Abuse and President & CEO, Oxfam America

Carolyn Miles, Chair, InterAction Board of Directors and President & CEO, Save the Children

Sam Worthington, CEO, InterAction

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Statement on child safeguarding and reporting - SOS-Kinderdorf International

Statement – 15 February 2018

Universal child safeguarding policies – children and adults trained to report any safeguarding issues and corruption enables SOS Children's Villages to act swiftly to protect children. SOS Children's Villages operates in 135 countries and territories including societies devastated by war, political unrest, epidemics or natural disasters. The organisation employs 40,000 staff and at

any one time will have over 84,500 children and young people to which SOS Children's Villages is either a guardian or child care practitioner and to which it provides housing, education and healthcare. Additionally, over 500,000 children are supported by our family strengthening and emergency response programmes.

Children in SOS Children's Villages' care are those who have lost parental care or are at risk of losing it. Often they have experienced violence in their past lives, either at the hands of their families, previous care placements or communities. As an unfortunate consequence, some children in our care can be more easily victimised by further violence. The care we provide is also unique in its model – it is night-and-day, long-term in nature, and this creates a close, family-like setting for the children. The bonds developed between child and caregiver allow for a vulnerable child to heal, to grow and to forge his/her own future in a stable, reliable and loving environment.

There is no doubt, however, that the intense proximity of our care combined with the challenging needs of the children and the difficult circumstances in which we operate means there is greater child safeguarding risk in our work.

In recognition of this inherent risk, we chose to create our own reporting and record-keeping system for child safeguarding in 2008. Our child safeguarding policies are universal. Both children and staff are trained to report any concerns, safeguarding issues and corruption via a range of reporting mechanisms. All trigger dedicated responding and reporting procedures. SOS Children's Villages annually records all child safeguarding incidents, with special management and monitoring of those deemed critical.

In 2016, we confirmed 37 cases of sexual coercion and abuse across our federation. These were all cases in which a child or young person was compelled to participate in or interact with a sexual activity by an SOS Children's Villages staff member. When any allegation is reported, we investigate. When a complaint is verified, we act. If an allegation is of a criminal nature, we immediately refer cases to relevant competent authorities. We also inform governments and advise statutory donors according to their requirements. The protection of the children and young people in our care is central to all that we do, and we do not hesitate to suspend staff right away and then terminate contracts when such terrible cases happen.

Our approach has proven effective. In September 2017, following an assessment of current child safeguarding practices, SOS Children's Villages became one of only four organisations in the child care sector globally to be granted Level 1 Certification by Keeping Children Safe (KCS), a well-respected international child safeguarding organisation that developed the International Child Safeguarding Standards.

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Science – Public Confidence

Perceptions of Science in America – a report from the *Public Face of Science* initiative

American Academy of Arts & Sciences

2018 :: 44 pages ISBN: 0-87724-120-1

Overview

The essential role of the natural and social sciences in everyday life raises a number of questions about how Americans view science, scientists, and the impacts of scientific research. Decades of public opinion surveys provide a useful window into our general attitudes about

science, such as confidence in the scientific community and support for science funding, and our views on more specific questions, such as the level of trust in scientists to contribute impartially to public debate. The available data paint a picture of a heterogeneous public whose perceptions are dependent on context and values.

The goal of this report is to increase awareness of these nuances among science communicators, advocates, and researchers so they can better understand their audiences when developing outreach programs, messaging strategies, and educational materials. By identifying gaps in the current understanding, this report underscores the need for additional studies on the influences on attitudes toward science, as well as how those attitudes impact both personal decisions and public support for evidence-based policy. For additional data pertaining to these issues, the reader is encouraged to consult the publications in which the research originally appeared.

This report is the first in a series of publications from the Academy's Public Face of Science Initiative, a three-year endeavor to learn more about the complex and evolving relationship between scientists and the public. Subsequent reports will highlight the numerous ways that individuals encounter science in their everyday lives and present recommendations for improving the practice of science communication and engagement.

TOP THREE TAKEAWAYS

from *Perceptions of Science in America*

1] Confidence in scientific leaders has remained relatively stable over the last thirty years. (SECTION 1: GENERAL PERCEPTIONS OF SCIENCE)

- :: Americans express strong support for public investment in research.
- :: A majority of Americans views scientific research as beneficial.
- :: Americans support an active role for science and scientists in public life.
- :: Americans have varying interpretations of the word "science" and the scientific process; additional research is necessary to understand how these differing interpretations influence perceptions of—and support for—science.

2] Confidence in science varies based on age, race, educational attainment, region, political ideology, and other characteristics. (SECTION 2: DEMOGRAPHIC INFLUENCES ON GENERAL VIEWS OF SCIENCE)

- :: Although attitudes toward science are generally positive, the degree of confidence in science varies among demographic groups.
- :: For example, U.S. adults without a high-school diploma are less likely than those with a college degree to view science as beneficial.

3] There is no single anti-science population, but more research is needed to understand what drives skepticism about specific science issues. (SECTION 3: CASE STUDIES OF PERCEPTIONS ON SPECIFIC SCIENCE TOPICS)

- :: Attitudes toward science are not uniformly associated with one particular demographic group but instead vary based on the specific science issue.
- :: Recent research suggests that underlying factors, such as group identity, can strongly influence perceptions about science.
- :: A person's knowledge of science facts and research is not necessarily predictive of acceptance of the scientific consensus on a particular question. Indeed, for certain subgroups and for certain topics such as climate change, higher levels of science knowledge may even be associated with more-polarized views.
- :: More research is needed to determine how cultural experience and group identities shape trust in scientific research, and how to address skepticism of well-established scientific findings.

:: Future studies should include an expanded definition of science literacy that incorporates the understanding of the scientific process and the capacity to evaluate conflicting scientific

Press Release

New Report from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences Examines Americans' Trust in Science

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Feb. 12, 2018 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Amid increasing concern over the extent to which the public values scientific evidence, a new report from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences offers an in-depth examination of the current state of trust in science among Americans.

"Perceptions of Science in America" is the first of a series of reports that will be issued by the Public Face of Science, a project of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The Public Face of Science is a three-year initiative to understand and address various aspects of the evolving relationship between the public and scientists...

"Sustaining public trust in science will require gaining a better understanding of how confidence and skepticism develop in the first place," said Jonathan F. Fanton, President of the American Academy. "By calling attention to this question, the Public Face of Science project seeks to improve how science is communicated in an increasingly complex information landscape." A key finding of "Perceptions of Science in America" is that scientists continue to enjoy significant public trust, especially when measured against other professions. Yet the report also identifies potential vulnerabilities. For example, surveys demonstrate that perceptions of science can vary based on age, education, gender, political party, race, and region...

"Overall, it is clear that Americans continue to recognize and value the significant benefits that scientific research brings to society," said Richard Meserve, another co-chair of the American Academy project and President Emeritus of the Carnegie Institution for Science. "Where fractures have appeared, it is often due to misrepresentations of the scientific consensus. It is imperative that we understand how to counter such misinformation and restore trust in the evidence without making the problem worse..."

The Public Face of Science project is supported in part by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the Rita Allen Foundation, and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

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Emergencies

POLIO

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Polio this week as of 14 February 2018 [GPEI]

:: New on <http://polioeradication.org/>: Sudan's surveillance system under the microscope, and a new addition to our 'Reaching the Hard-to-Reach' series, on AFP surveillance in challenging areas of Afghanistan, Syria and Nigeria.

:: The 16th International Health Regulations Emergency Committee regarding the international spread of poliovirus recommended that the temporary recommendations to prevent virus spread be extended for a further period of three months.

:: Bill and Melinda Gates released their annual letter, answering the 10 tough questions that they hear most often.

:: Weekly country updates as of 14 February 2018

Afghanistan:

:: One wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) positive environmental sample reported from Hilmand province.

Democratic Republic of the Congo:

:: Three cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) reported, from Tanganyika province. Somalia: Circulation of vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) in the environment has been confirmed in Banadir province.

Somalia:

:: Circulation of vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) in the environment has been confirmed in Banadir province, Somalia.

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Statement of the Sixteenth IHR Emergency Committee Regarding the International Spread of Poliovirus

WHO statement - 14 February 2018

[Editor's text bolding]

The sixteenth meeting of the Emergency Committee under the International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR) regarding the international spread of poliovirus was convened by the Director General on 7 February 2018 at WHO headquarters with members, advisers and invited member states attending via teleconference...

Conclusion

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

The Committee considered the following factors in reaching this conclusion:

:: The potential risk of further spread through population movement, whether for family, social or cultural reasons, or in the context of populations displaced by insecurity, returning refugees, or nomadic populations, and the need for international coordination to address these risks, particularly between Afghanistan and Pakistan, Nigeria and its Lake Chad neighbors, and countries bordering the Syrian Arab Republic.

:: The current special and extraordinary context of being closer to polio eradication than ever before in history, with the incidence of WPV1 cases in 2017 the lowest ever recorded.

:: The risk and consequent costs of failure to eradicate globally a highly debilitating vaccine preventable disease. Even though global transmission of WPV1 has fallen dramatically and with it the likelihood of international spread, the consequences and impact of international spread should it occur now would be even more grave and a major set-back to achieving eradication.

:: The risk of global complacency developing as the numbers of polio cases continues to fall and eradication becomes a tangible reality soon.

:: The outbreak of WPV1 (and cVDPV) in Nigeria highlighting that there are high-risk areas where surveillance is compromised by inaccessibility, resulting in ongoing circulation of WPV for several years without detection. The risk of transmission in the Lake Chad sub-region appears considerable.

:: The serious consequences of further international spread for the increasing number of countries in which immunization systems have been weakened or disrupted by conflict and complex emergencies. Populations in these fragile states are vulnerable to outbreaks of polio.

Outbreaks in fragile states are exceedingly difficult to control and threaten the completion of global polio eradication during its end stage.

:: The importance of a regional approach and strong crossborder cooperation, as much international spread of polio occurs over land borders, while also recognizing that the risk of distant international spread remains from zones with active poliovirus transmission.

Additionally with respect to cVDPV:

:: cVDPVs also pose a risk for international spread, which without an urgent response with appropriate measures threatens vulnerable populations as noted above;

:: The large number of cases in the Syrian outbreak within a short space of time and close to the international border with Iraq in the context of ongoing population movement because of conflict, considerably heightens the risk of international spread;

:: The ongoing circulation of cVDPV2 in DR Congo, and the Syrian Arab Republic demonstrates significant gaps in population immunity at a critical time in the polio endgame;

:: The ongoing urgency to prevent type 2 cVDPVs following the globally synchronized withdrawal of the type 2 component of the oral poliovirus vaccine in April 2016, noting that population immunity to type 2 polioviruses is rapidly waning in many countries;

:: The ongoing challenges of improving routine immunization in areas affected by insecurity and other emergencies;

:: The global shortage of IPV which poses an additional risk, in that the cohort of children with no type 2 immunity is growing in number in countries affected by the shortage...

Additional considerations

The Committee noted that in all the infected and vulnerable countries, routine immunization was generally quite poor, if not nationally, then in sub-national pockets. The Committee also noted that surveillance in these areas may also be sub-optimal, particularly where access is compromised by conflict. The Committee strongly encourages all these countries to make further efforts to improve routine immunization and strengthen surveillance in such areas, and requested international partners to support these countries in rapidly improving routine immunization coverage to underpin eradication...

Based on the current situation regarding WPV1 and cVDPV, and the reports made by Afghanistan, DR Congo, Nigeria, Pakistan, and the Syrian Arab Republic, the Director-General accepted the Committee's assessment and on 13 February 2018 determined that the situation relating to poliovirus continues to constitute a PHEIC, with respect to WPV1 and cVDPV...

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WHO Grade 3 Emergencies [to 17 February 2018]

The Syrian Arab Republic

:: Syria cVDPV2 outbreak situation report 34, 13 February 2018

[See Polio above for detail]

Nigeria

:: WHO moves to contain Nigeria's Lassa fever outbreak

13 February 2018, ABUJA - The World Health Organization is scaling up its response to an outbreak of Lassa fever in Nigeria, which has spread to 17 states and may have infected up to 450 people in less than five weeks.

From the onset of the outbreak, WHO Nigeria deployed staff from the national and state levels to support the Government of Nigeria's national Lassa fever Emergency Operations Centre and state surveillance activities. WHO is helping to coordinate health actors and is joining rapid risk assessment teams travelling to hot spots to investigate the outbreak. Between 1 January and 4 February 2018, nearly 450 suspected cases were reported, of which 132 are laboratory confirmed Lassa fever. Of these, 43 deaths were reported, 37 of which were lab confirmed...

Iraq - *No new announcements identified*

South Sudan - *No new announcements identified.*

Yemen - *No new announcements identified*

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WHO Grade 2 Emergencies [to 17 February 2018]

Bangladesh/Myanmar: Rakhine Conflict 2017 - *No new announcements identified*

Cameroon - *No new announcements identified*

Central African Republic - *No new announcements identified*

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

Ethiopia - *No new announcements identified.*

Libya - *No new announcements identified.*

Niger - *No new announcements identified.*

Ukraine - *No new announcements identified.*

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UN OCHA – L3 Emergencies

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

Iraq

:: Iraq: 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan Overview - February 2018 [EN/AR] Published on 13 Feb 2018

Protection remains the overriding humanitarian priority during 2018

Syrian Arab Republic

:: 16 Feb 2018 Statement attributed to Ali Al-Za'tari, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Syria, on the humanitarian situation in Nashabieh, East Ghouta...

Yemen

:: 12 Feb 2018 Yemen Humanitarian Update Covering 5 - 11 February 2018

DRC - *No new announcements identified.*

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UN OCHA – Corporate Emergencies

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

Ethiopia

:: 12 Feb 2018 Ethiopia: Humanitarian Response Situation Report No.17 (January 2018)

ROHINGYA REFUGEE CRISIS

:: ISCG Situation Update: Rohingya Refugee Crisis, Cox's Bazar | 11 February 2018

Nigeria - *No new announcements identified.*

Somalia - *No new announcements identified.*

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Agency/Government/IGO Watch

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

United Nations – Secretary General, Security Council, General Assembly

[to 17 February 2018]

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

16 February 2018

SG/A/1789-BIO/5062

Secretary-General Appoints Martin Griffiths of United Kingdom as His Special Envoy for Yemen

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres today announced the appointment of Martin Griffiths of the United Kingdom as his Special Envoy for Yemen. Mr. Griffiths succeeds Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed of Mauritania, to whom the Secretary-General is grateful for his commitment and dedicated service.

15 February 2018

SG/SM/18898-L/3275

Secretary-General Hails International Criminal Court as Bedrock of Global Justice System, Pledging Steadfast Support at Event Marking Twentieth Anniversary

Following is UN Secretary-General António Guterres' message at the event marking the twentieth anniversary of the International Criminal Court, in The Hague today.

15 February 2018

DSG/SM/1130

Companies Serious about Ending Violence Against Children Must Take 'Respect and Support' Approach, Deputy Secretary-General Tells Round Table

Following are UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed's remarks, as prepared for delivery, at the Private Sector Round Table: Solutions Summit to End Violence Against Children, in Stockholm today.

14 February 2018

DSG/SM/1129

Ending Violence against Children Requires Stronger Policies, Partnerships Across Sectors, Borders, Deputy Secretary-General Says at Solutions Summit

14 February 2018

SC/13208

Civilians in Syria Killed on 'Horrific Scale', Conflict Spilling across Borders, Threatening Regional Stability, Special Envoy Warns Security Council

With Syrian civilians being killed on a horrific scale and displaced in large numbers, the United Nations top representative for Syria warned the Security Council today of the grave risks posed by the recent string of dangerous and worrying escalations of violence in the country.

13 February 2018

SC/13206

Global Cooperation in Protecting Critical Infrastructure Vital, Speakers Say at Security Council Briefing on Terrorist Threats to International Peace

Speaking today on the protection of critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks, Security Council members noted the need to strengthen international cooperation and information sharing between countries, while also highlighting the importance of regional and national initiatives and counter-terrorism strategies.

13 February 2018

SC/13205

As Monsoon Season Nears, Dangerous New Crisis Looms for Myanmar Refugees in Bangladesh, United Nations High Commissioner Warns Security Council

More than five months since the start of the violence that forced 688,000 Rohingya to flee Myanmar into Bangladesh, a dangerous new crisis loomed, while restrictions on humanitarian access to the conflict areas posed a serious concern, the Security Council heard today, as it was briefed on the most recent developments in the region.

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 17 February 2018]

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

Selected Press Releases – "TOP NEWS"

Zeid urges Iran to stop violating international law by executing juvenile offenders

Press briefing notes on Iran, Hungary and El Salvador

Afghanistan: 10,000 civilian casualties in 2017 – UN report Suicide attacks and IEDs caused high number of deaths and injuries

Human Rights Council [to 17 February 2018]

<http://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/hrc/pages/hrcindex.aspx>

15 February 2018

Twentieth session of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee to be held in Geneva from 19 to 23 February

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 17 February 2018]

<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 17 February 2018]
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Children/Pages/ChildrenIndex.aspx>
No new digest content identified.

SRSG/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict [to 17 February 2018]
<https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/virtual-library/press-release-archive/>
No new digest content identified.

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health [to 17 February 2018]
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Health/Pages/SRRightHealthIndex.aspx>
No new digest content identified.

SRSG/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 17 February 2018]
<http://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/media/press-releases/>
No new digest content identified.

UN OCHA [to 17 February 2018]
<https://www.unocha.org/media-centre/press-releases>
Selected Press Releases
16 February 2018

Statement attributed to Ali Al-Za'tari, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Syria, on the humanitarian situation in Nashabieh, East Ghouta [EN/AR]

Damascus, 16 February 2018 - On 14 February, after 78 days without any access to East Ghouta, an inter-agency convoy of the UN and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent delivered life-saving food, nutrition and health assistance to 7,200 people in Nashabieh. Whilst this development is welcome, it is absolutely insufficient. The people reached represent 2.6 per cent of the 272,500 people in need in East Ghouta. Much needed water and sanitation, education materials and non-food items, such as kitchen sets, blankets and plastic sheets, were not allowed to be loaded in the convoy...

UNICEF [to 17 February 2018]
<https://www.unicef.org/media/>
15 February 2018

Massive data gaps leave refugee, migrant and displaced children in danger and without access to basic services

NEW YORK,– Gaps in data covering refugees, asylum seekers, migrants and internally displaced populations are endangering the lives and wellbeing of millions of children on the move, warned five UN and partner agencies today. In 'A call to action: Protecting children on the move starts with better data', UNICEF, UNHCR, IOM, Eurostat and OECD together show how crucial data are to understanding the patterns of global migration and developing policies to support vulnerable groups like children.

UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta H. Fore introductory remarks at the Solutions Summit, Stakeholders for End Violence Session

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, 14 February 2018 - "Your Majesty Queen Silvia. Your Royal Highness Crown Princess Victoria. Prime Minister Löfven. Deputy Secretary General Mohammed. Honoured guests. Young people — young citizens. Welcome, everyone. And a special thank you to Sweden, for hosting this important summit.

Tackling sexual exploitation and abuse of children: Actions and commitments by UNICEF

STOCKHOLM, 14 February 2018 – "Sexual exploitation and abuse of children under any circumstances is reprehensible. No organization is immune from this scourge and we are continuously working to better address it. When it comes to the protection of children, we are determined to act. There is no room for complacency.

UNICEF on standby to support governments of Samoa, Tonga and Fiji as Cyclone Gita intensifies

SUVA, Fiji, 13 February 2018 – As Tropical Cyclone Gita, the strongest storm to ever hit Tonga, intensifies and heads towards Fiji, UNICEF offers its support to the affected Pacific island countries of Samoa, Tonga and Fiji.

In Iraq, years of violence and conflict leave 4 million children in need

AMMAN/CAIRO/BAGHDAD, 11 February 2017 – Violence may have subsided in Iraq, but it has upended the lives of millions across the country, leaving one in four children in poverty and pushing families to extreme measures to survive.

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 17 February 2018]
<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/media-centre.html>

Briefing Notes

[Congolese refugees perish as growing numbers seek safety in Uganda](#) 13 Feb 2018

[Update on humanitarian situation of refugees and asylum seekers on Manus Island](#) 13 Feb 2018

Press releases and news comments

[Hungary: UNHCR dismayed over further border restrictions and draft law targeting NGOs working with asylum-seekers and refugees](#) 16 Feb 2018

[Massive data gaps leave refugee, migrant and displaced children in danger and without access to basic services](#) 15 Feb 2018

[News comment: Death of former UN High Commissioner for Refugees Ruud Lubbers](#) 15 Feb 2018

[Over 1,000 refugees evacuated out of Libya by UNHCR](#) 15 Feb 2018

IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 17 February 2018]

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

Selected Announcements

UN Migration Agency: Over 1,200 Migrant Children Deaths Recorded Since 2014, True Number Likely 'Much Higher'

2018-02-16 14:43

Berlin – In 2015, a photo of a Syrian boy found dead on a beach in Turkey after attempting to reach Greece made headlines across the world.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 8,407 in 2018; Deaths Reach 404

2018-02-16 14:41

Geneva – IOM, the UN Migration Agency, reports that 8,407 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea through seven weeks of 2018.

IOM Finland Opens Dialogue on Preventing Exploitation of Seasonal Agricultural Workers

2018-02-16 14:36

Helsinki – In summer, the woods and fields in Finland are so ripe with wild forest berries that seasonal migrant workers are needed for the harvest.

IOM, Salvadoran Government Present Protocol for Protection of Foreign Children and Adolescents

2018-02-16 14:33

San Salvador – IOM, the UN Migration Agency, and the General Directorate of Migration (DGME) of El Salvador this week (14/02) presented the Protocol of Action and Coordination for the Care and Protection of Foreign Migrant Children and Adolescents.

IOM Joins Launch of ILO Publication Promoting Rights-based Approach to Migration, Health and HIV, AIDS

2018-02-16 14:20

Geneva – IOM, the UN Migration Agency, represented by Jacqueline Weekers, Director of the Migration Health Division, participated yesterday (14/02) in the launch of the publication of the International Labour Organization (ILO) on Promoting a Rights-based Approach to Migration,...

UNAIDS [to 17 February 2018]

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

Feature story

Promoting women's leadership in science and health

11 February 2018

The International Day of Women and Girls in Science is celebrated on 11 February. As part of UNAIDS' Right to Health campaign last year, UNAIDS Special Ambassador for Adolescents and HIV and champion for young women in science, Quarraisha Abdool Karim, spoke with her daughter about her life's work and the importance of women's involvement in science and health.

WHO & Regional Offices [to 17 February 2018]

Latest news

World leaders join new drive to beat noncommunicable diseases

News release

16 February 2018 | Geneva - WHO is announcing today a new high-level commission, comprised of heads of state and ministers, leaders in health and development and entrepreneurs. The group will propose bold and innovative solutions to accelerate prevention and control of the leading killers on the planet – noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) like heart and lung disease, cancers, and diabetes.

The WHO Independent Global High-level Commission on NCDs is co-chaired by President Tabaré Vázquez of Uruguay; President Maithripala Sirisena of Sri Lanka; President Sauli Niinistö of Finland; Veronika Skvortsova, Minister of Healthcare of the Russian Federation; and Sania Nishtar, former Federal Minister of Pakistan.

Seven in 10 deaths globally every year are from NCDs, the main contributors to which are tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diets, and physical inactivity. More than 15 million people between the ages of 30 and 70 years die from NCDs annually. Low- and lower-middle income countries are increasingly affected, with half of premature deaths from NCDs occurring in those countries. Many lives can be saved from NCDs through early diagnosis and improved access to quality and affordable treatment, as well as a whole-of-government approach to reduce the main risk factors.

"NCDs are the world's leading avoidable killers but the world is not doing enough to prevent and control them," says Dr Vázquez. "We have to ask ourselves if we want to condemn future generations from dying too young, and living lives of ill health and lost opportunity. The answer clearly is 'no.' But there is so much we can do to safeguard and care for people, from protecting everyone from tobacco, harmful use of alcohol, and unhealthy foods and sugary drinks, to giving people the health services they need to stop NCDs in their tracks."

Mr Michael R. Bloomberg, WHO Global Ambassador for Noncommunicable Diseases and Commission member, said: "For the first time in history, more people are dying of noncommunicable diseases, such as heart disease and diabetes, than infectious diseases. This loss of human life spares no one — rich or poor, young or old - and it imposes heavy economic costs on nations. The more public support we can build for government policies that are proven to save lives - as this Commission will work to do - the more progress we'll be able to make around the world."

The new Commission was established by WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and runs until October 2019. It will provide actionable recommendations to contribute to the Third United Nations General Assembly High-level Meeting on NCDs scheduled for the second half of 2018. This will include the submission of its first report to Dr Tedros in early June...

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WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region AFRO

Selected Featured News

:: WHO reaches returnees and displaced families with lifesaving supplies and services in the former Central Equatoria State of South Sudan 16 February 2018

:: WHO promptly responds to the suspected Rift Valley Fever outbreak in Yirol East, Eastern Lakes State, Republic of South Sudan 15 February 2018

:: WHO moves to contain Nigeria's Lassa fever outbreak 13 February 2018

:: WHO steps up efforts to reach severely malnourished children with life-saving treatment in South Sudan 13 February 2018

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

No new digest content identified.

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

No new digest content identified.

WHO European Region EURO

:: Improving quality of life and survival for young cancer patients 14-02-2018

:: Summit of Mayors adopts Copenhagen Consensus, committing to build healthier, happier cities 14-02-2018

:: Merging approaches to health systems strengthening and health emergencies response 12-02-2018

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

No new digest content identified.

WHO Western Pacific Region

No new digest content identified.

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) [to 17 February 2018]

<http://www.oie.int/en/for-the-media/press-releases/2018/>

No new digest content identified.

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 17 February 2018]

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

Selected Press Releases/Announcements

UNDP Administrator: Lebanon's development under pressures due to the Syria Crisis

Achim Steiner, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), warns of pressures on Lebanon's social services, infrastructure and jobs due to the impact of the Syria Crisis as...

Posted on February 16, 2018

Governments of the Future

Leveraging Innovation and New Technologies for the 2030 Agenda

Speech by Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator

Posted on February 12, 2018

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 17 February 2018]

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

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

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

Latest News

Seventh meeting of the IAEG-SDGs

The seventh meeting of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) will be held from 9 to 12 April 2018 in Vienna, Austria. The meeting will be hosted by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme [to 17 February 2018]

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

14 Feb 2018 *Press release*

Prince of Wales announces global call to action for International Year of the Reef 2018

LONDON, United Kingdom (14 February 2018) – His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales today announced a global call to action to save coral reefs from complete global collapse.

UNISDR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 17 February 2018]

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

11 Feb 2018

#WUF9: Call to join Resilient Cities Campaign

UNISDR head, Robert Glasser, issues call at the World Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, for more cities and towns to join the Making Cities Resilient Campaign.

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 17 February 2018]

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

16 February 2018, New York

Energy is inextricably interlinked with many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including poverty eradication, food security, clean water and sanitation, health, education, prosperity, jobs creation, and the empowerment of youth and women. Access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all is fundamental to human development. A shift toward sustainable energy solutions is also essential to the achievement of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

Recognizing the importance of energy for sustainable development, the 2030 Agenda established SDG 7, the first-ever universal goal on energy, with five targets on access, efficiency, renewables and means of implementation. SDG7 represents a significant milestone, especially since the Millennium Development Goals did not include an energy goal. Energy is – for the first time – recognized as a core part of the global sustainable development agenda of the United Nations system.

At this year's High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on sustainable development, SDG7 will be one of the goals in the spotlight. To prepare for this review, a global preparatory meeting will be held on 21-23 February 2018 at the UN Conference Centre in Bangkok. The event is jointly organized by UN DESA and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), and the Royal Government of Thailand...

UNESCO [to 17 February 2018]

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

15 February 2018

[New project to tackle violent extremism in Jordan, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia](#)

A new two-year project on "Prevention of Violent Extremism through Youth Empowerment in Jordan, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia" was launched by UNESCO on 1 February 2018. Funded by the United Nations Counter-terrorism Centre (UNCCT) and Canada, this US\$ 2 million project is a vital move towards engaging youth in the prevention of violent extremism, an issue that disproportionately affects young people throughout the region.

15 February 2018

[Solutions, not stereotypes: UNESCO-UN Women joint message on International Day for Women and Girls in Science](#)

14 February 2018

[UNESCO Presents the Global Observatory of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Instruments \(GO-SPIN\) at the 3rd Forum on STI in Africa](#)

On the morning of 11/02/2018, UNESCO organized a side event on "Evidence based policy making: UNESCO Global Observatory of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Instrument (GO-SPIN) during the 3rd Forum on STI in Africa, held in Cairo, Egypt, 10-12 Feb, 2018. More than 40 participants attended the event. The Honorable Ministers responsible for Science and Technology of the Central African Republic, Liberia and Nigeria were among the participants.

13 February 2018

[UNESCO and the World Bank place culture at the core of city reconstruction and recovery processes at the 9th World Urban Forum in Malaysia](#)

On 10 February, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, UNESCO and the World Bank organized a joint event on "Culture, Reconstruction and Recovery". The event brought together mayors, city-level practitioners, representatives of international organizations, international experts, and representatives of civil society to discuss the guiding principles of a culture-based city reconstruction and recovery framework. The debate aimed at informing the White Paper that UNESCO and the World Bank are elaborating to mainstream culture as an enabler and driver of post-conflict and post-disaster city reconstruction and recovery in UNESCO-World Bank operations.

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 17 February 2018]

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

16/02/2018

[UNODC providing integrated support for justice, security in South Eastern Europe, says Executive Director](#)

14/02/2018

[Remarks of UNODC Executive Director Yury Fedotov at the End Violence Solutions Summit](#)

13/02/2018

[Tackling crime and violent extremism, UNODC and UNESCO join forces to promote a culture of lawfulness through education](#)

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 17 February 2018]

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

Posted February 11, 2018

UN-Habitat and National Youth Council of Russia commit to joint programming

Focus put on youth livelihoods and participation in decision-making During the World Youth Festival (WYF) where over 20,000 youth from 150 countries gathered in Sochi, Russia, UN-Habitat met with the National Youth Council of Russia to...

Posted February 11, 2018

10 Million Euros pledged for scaling up participatory slum upgrading in ACP Countries "Leaving no one behind"

in informal settlements and slum upgrading can leverage the socio-economic potential of sustainable urbanization and transformation leading to "inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable communities and cities" worldwide. In African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries especially, large...

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 17 February 2018]

<http://www.fao.org/news/archive/news-by-date/2018/en/>

16-02-2018

FAO launches guide to tackle Fall Armyworm in Africa head-on

Faced with the infestation of millions of hectares of maize, most in the hands of smallholder farmers, and the relentless spread of Fall Armyworm (FAW) across most of Africa, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) launched today a comprehensive guide on the integrated pest management of the FAW on maize.

French research institutes and FAO strengthen collaboration

The new partnerships will focus on a number of areas, particularly in developing countries, including agroecology, sustainable natural resources management in the context of climate change and agriculture innovation for family farmers.

16-02-2018

FAO and OECD call for responsible investment in agriculture

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) launched a pilot project in Paris today to kick-start the practical application of the OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains with 30 leading enterprises.

16-02-2018

Sharing ways that agricultural communities learn on their own

FAO has, with more than 15 partner organizations, set up a Global Farmer Field School Knowledge Platform to facilitate access to best practices and specific expertise.

14-02-2018

FAO and Telefónica to boost use of cutting-edge digital technologies to assist farmers in developing countries

FAO and Spain's Telefonica, one of the world's largest telecommunications companies, have agreed to work together to leverage the use of cutting-edge digital technologies for agricultural development, food security and nutrition, and specifically, prepare and strengthen farmers in the face of extreme weather events related to climate change.

12-02-2018

ILO International Labour Organization [to 17 February 2018]
<http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/lang--en/index.htm>
World Employment and Social Outlook – Trends 2018

The daily reality of working poverty

14 February 2018

Millions of people around the world work, but live in poverty. A recent ILO report shows that more needs to be done to reduce inequalities and improve conditions for the working poor, who face a harsh daily reality.

Blog

Three steps to end discrimination of migrant workers and improve their health

14 February 2018

When migrant workers leave their home, many encounter abuse and violence on their journey and discrimination once they arrive. This can be because of their status as migrants but also because of their ethnicity, sex, religion, and HIV status.

Child labour and forced labour

ILO reports important progress on child labour and forced labour in Uzbek cotton fields

13 February 2018

Monitoring team finds strong political will from central government to end fundamental labour rights' violations during the 2017 cotton harvest: Child labour is no longer an issue, while forced labour is being systematically addressed.

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 17 February 2018]
<http://www.icao.int/Newsroom/Pages/default.aspx>

15/2/18

ICAO Secretary General participates in high-level Gender Panel in Canadian capital

14/2/18

ICAO Secretary General promotes aviation's role in sustainable development at prestigious CORIM event

13/2/18

ICAO Secretary General highlights key role of air transport in meeting the demanding e-commerce expectations of modern consumers

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 17 February 2018]
<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/Home.aspx>
No new digest content identified.

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 17 February 2018]
<https://public.wmo.int/en/media/press-release>
No new digest content identified.

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 17 February 2018]
<http://www.unido.org/news-centre/news.html>

No new digest content identified.

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) [to 17 February 2018]

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

15 February 2018

[The new ISO 31000 keeps risk management simple](#)

By Sandrine Tranchard

Damage to reputation or brand, cyber crime, political risk and terrorism are some of the risks that private and public organizations of all types and sizes around the world must face with increasing frequency. The latest version of ISO 31000 has just been unveiled to help manage the uncertainty.

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 17 February 2018]

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

16 February 2018

[Supporting tourism development in Africa through better measurement](#)

In an effort to better measure tourism growth and development in Africa, UNWTO signed a Cooperation Agreement with the Nigeria Tourism Development Corporation for the Strengthening of the National Tourism Statistical System of Nigeria and the Development of a Tourism Satellite Account.

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

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USAID [to 17 February 2018]

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

Selected Press Releases

[Statement by Spokesperson Clayton M. McCleskey on the Death of Morgan Richard Tsvangirai](#)

February 15, 2018

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator Mark Green and USAID express heartfelt condolences on the death of Morgan Richard Tsvangirai. Our thoughts go out to his family and to all the people of Zimbabwe as we join in mourning the passing of this national icon. Mr. Tsvangirai was the embodiment of the democratic spirit. We hope that his memory of determination and fearless stance against injustice will help carry Zimbabwe toward a better tomorrow.

[Statement by USAID Administrator Mark Green on the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Request](#)

February 12, 2018

Today the President released his Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Budget request of \$39.3 billion for the State Department and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). This Budget supports the President's commitment to serve the needs of American citizens, ensure their safety, promote their prosperity, preserve their rights, and defend their values, as outlined in the President's National Security Strategy.

Fact Sheet: Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Development and Humanitarian Assistance Budget

February 12, 2018

The President's Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Budget for USAID supports the President's commitment to serve the needs of American citizens, ensure their safety, promote their prosperity, preserve their rights, and defend their values, as outlined in the President's National Security Strategy. It advances U.S. foreign policy goals through targeted investments that protect U.S. national security, and furthers American interests at home and abroad.

Deputy Secretary of State John J. Sullivan, USAID Administrator Mark Green and Experts on the President's Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Request for the U.S. Department of State and USAID

February 12, 2018

ON-THE-RECORD-BRIEFING

Today's request for USAID is oriented towards our goal of supporting partners in their journey to become more self-reliant, to build their capacity for leading their own development and growth. By reducing the reach of conflict, preventing the spread of pandemic disease, and counteracting the drivers of violence, instability, transnational crime and other security threats, the priorities laid out in this request will help us in that mission. It's designed to promote American prosperity through investments that expand markets for American goods, create a level playing field for American businesses, support more stable, resilient, and democratic societies, and address crises. The request reaffirms that we will always stand with people when disaster strikes or crisis emerges, because that's who we are as Americans. We will remain the world leader in humanitarian assistance, but will also call on others to do their part and work relentlessly to assure that assistance is delivered as effectively and as efficiently as possible.

DFID [to 17 February 2018]

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

Selected Press Releases

UK helps rid war-torn Afghanistan of lethal landmines making thousands safer

15 February 2018 DFID Press release

UK aid partner The Halo Trust finishes decade-long operation clearing landmines in Herat province

Statement from International Development Secretary on Oxfam and UK action to tackle sexual exploitation in the aid sector

12 February 2018 DFID Press release

Penny Mordaunt has announced a series of actions to tackle sexual exploitation in the aid sector, declaring it vital that the whole sector steps up.

[See Week in Review for full text]

ECHO [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

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African Union [to 17 February 2018]

<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]

No new digest content identified.

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 17 February 2018]

<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 17 February 2018]

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

09/02/2018

[Commission reports on progress under global commitments for sustainable urban development](#)

- Today at the World Urban Forum in Malaysia, the Commission takes stock of what was achieved under the three commitments put forward by the EU and its partners 15 months ago.

OECD [to 17 February 2018]

<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]

15-February-2018

[Massive data gaps leave refugee, migrant and displaced children in danger and without access to basic services](#)

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 17 February 2018]

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

February 16, 2018

[Permanent Council Celebrates 90 years of the CIM with Panel of Women Leaders of the Americas](#)

The Permanent Council of the Organization of American States (OAS) will hold a special high-level meeting with women leaders of the Americas to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) on Tuesday, February 20 at 9:00 EST (14:00 GMT) at the headquarters of the hemispheric organization in Washington, DC.

February 16, 2018

[OAS Permanent Council Celebrates Anniversary of the Signing of the Peace Accords in El Salvador](#)

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 17 February 2018]

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

11/02/2018

Islamic University in Uganda Celebrates 30 Years of Existence

The Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU), one of the universities of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), celebrated its 30th anniversary on 10th February 2018 at a colourful event held at its main campus in Mbale, Uganda. The celebrations were presided over by the Vice President of the Republic of Uganda H.E. Mr. Edward Kiwanuka Sekandi representing the President. It was also attended by high level delegations from Uganda and other OIC member states as well as OIC institutions such as Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF) and the Islamic Scientific, Educational, Scientific, Social and Cultural Organisation (ISESCO).

Group of 77 [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

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UNCTAD [to 17 February 2018]

<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 17 February 2018]

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

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

15 February 2018

DDG Wolff: Standards have central role to play in assisting growth of world trading system

Speaking at a meeting of the World Standards Cooperation in Geneva on 15 February, Deputy Director-General Alan Wolff discussed what international standards bodies can do to support the growth of the world trading system. He suggested several lines of action, including improving coherence between international standards, and highlighted the need to spread the message that “an integrated global economy, with a strong and dynamic multilateral trading system, supported by international standards, is a better world for everyone”.

DG Azevêdo in UAE: Global economy is evolving, we need to adapt

13 February 2018

WTO Director-General Roberto Azevêdo visited Dubai in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) this week (12 —13 February) to participate in the World Government Summit. On 12 February, he took part in the high-level panel on ‘the future of trade and globalization’, which was held in partnership with the WTO. He also gave a keynote intervention on ‘the outlook for trade in a hyper-connected world’ on 13 February. During the visit, the Director-General met with the Prime Minister His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum and with the Minister of Economy HE Sultan Al Mansoori.

Trade growth to sustain momentum in first quarter of 2018, latest trade indicator suggests

12 February 2018

The WTO's latest World Trade Outlook Indicator (WTOI), released on 12 February, suggests that the trade recovery of 2017 should continue, with solid trade volume growth in the first quarter of 2018. The WTOI's current value of 102.3 is little changed from the 102.2 recorded last November, indicating steady merchandise trade volume growth. Strong results for air freight, container shipping and export orders in particular suggest that, while the trade recovery may moderate in due course, it will likely continue in the coming months and remain above trend.

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IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 17 February 2018]

<https://www.ipu.org/news/press-releases>

No new digest content identified.

International Court of Justice [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

International Criminal Court (ICC) [to 17 February 2018]

Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity

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

16 February 2018

ICC hosts launch of civil society forum to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Rome Statute

On 15 February 2018, the International Criminal Court (ICC) hosted the launch of the Coalition for the ICC's commemorations of the 20th anniversary of the Rome Statute – the Court's founding treaty– with an Open Forum at the seat of the Court in The Hague, The Netherlands. More than 280 persons attended the event, including protagonists of the Rome Statute's adoption, ICC officials, representatives of states, regional and international organizations, and civil society...

11 February 2018

Statement of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Mrs Fatou Bensouda, on the International Day against the use of Child Soldiers

On the International Day against the Use of Child Soldiers, we are once again reminded that, sadly, millions of children around the world continue to suffer in war and conflict. Large numbers of children are killed, maimed, orphaned or subjected to unspeakable abuses. Often, the entire fabric of their societies – their homes, schools, healthcare systems or religious institutions – is disrupted with serious consequences for their future.

A childhood that is free from violence is not a privilege; it is the natural state of things. It is a right that must be protected.

Empathy alone with the suffering of boys and girls in times of conflict is not enough. We must act.

The law can be a cornerstone of protection, responsive to the plight faced by children in war. Both domestically and at the international level, the vector of the law must be effectively employed to confront the cycle of impunity for crimes against and affecting children, including in time of conflict.

My Office at the International Criminal Court will continue to play its part to hold accountable those who commit atrocities against children, including their recruitment and use in hostilities. Our prosecution of the case against Thomas Lubanga Dyilo from the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, resulting in a final conviction, is just one such contribution. Our

commitment to children through the Rome Statute legal framework is also exhibited in our ongoing work in other cases currently before the Court...

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World Bank [to 17 February 2018]

<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]

Platform Partners' Statement at the Closing of the Conference

The Platform and its role The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set ambitious targets for all countries, to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that...

Date: February 16, 2018 Type: Statement

Remarks by World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim at the Kuwait International Conference for the Reconstruction of Iraq

Date: February 14, 2018 Type: Speeches and Transcripts

World Bank's Commitment to Iraq Reaches US\$4.7 Billion

Kuwait- The World Bank Group and the Government of Iraq signed two projects today totaling US\$510 million to help the Iraqi people by improving living conditions, enhancing water supplies, and creating...

Date: February 14, 2018 Type: Press Release

ILO Reports Important Progress on Child Labour and Forced Labour in Uzbek Cotton Fields

Monitoring team finds strong political will from central government to end fundamental labour rights' violations during the 2017 cotton harvest: Child labour is no longer an issue, while forced labour...

Date: February 13, 2018 Type: Press Release

World Bank Bond Highlights Investor Focus on Sustainable Development Goals

Washington, February 12, 2018 – The World Bank (IBRD) has issued a US\$350 million bond that raises funds for its development activities around the world, while highlighting four of the 17 Sustainable...

Date: February 12, 2018 Type: Press Release

IMF [to 17 February 2018]

<http://www.imf.org/en/News/Search?type=News+Article>

[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 17 February 2018]

<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]

Africa commits to support youth to build tomorrow's society through innovation

15/02/2018 - African Ministers and heads of delegations attending the third Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) in Africa in Cairo, Egypt, on February 10-12, have committed to support the continent's youth to build tomorrow's society through innovation.

ADEA-USAID Global Book Alliance Partnership: Time to Eliminate Book Hunger for Children in Africa

15/02/2018 - A high-level technical meeting on the Global Book Alliance (GBA), organized by the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA)'s Working Group on Books and Learning Materials (WGBLM) in collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) successfully developed a common draft action plan around five pillars for advocating and establishing innovative and effective mechanisms within countries for the production, acquisition, distribution, management and use of textbooks and other reading materials in national languages.

The African Development Bank updates its African Bond Index

15/02/2018 - The African Development Bank has updated its composite index available to Bloomberg Professional® service subscribers via {BADB Index}. The index, which is enriched with two sub-indices (BADBC and BADBX), was released in January 2018 to improve African debt market liquidity and transparency.

Equality in the extractives industry: ALSF, International Women in Mining, and Adam Smith International launch high-level event at Mining Indaba 2018

13/02/2018 - With the aim of focusing the extractive industry's attention on gender diversity, the African Legal Support Facility (ALSF), Adam Smith International, and International Women in Mining (IWIM) organized a high-level event on the margins of the African Mining Indaba 2018.

Japan provides US \$700 million to African Development Fund

/02/2018 - The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has signed a loan agreement with the African Development Fund (ADF) designed to provide an Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan to the tune of 73.601 billion Japanese Yen (approx. US \$700.9 million). The loan is part of Japan's contribution to the African Development Fund's Fourteenth Replenishment (ADF-14). This is the first JICA loan provided to the ADF.

Asian Development Bank [to 17 February 2018]

<http://www.adb.org/news/releases>

[We generally limit coverage to regional or Asia-wide initiatives, recognizing that a number of • •

14 February 2018

ADB Reaffirms Commitment to Enhance Investments in Economic Corridors, Low-Income States

ADB Vice-President Wencai Zhang today reaffirmed ADB's commitment to enhance investments in boosting industrial competitiveness to create more and better jobs and support inclusive infrastructure in low-income states.

12 February 2018

International Arbitration Reform Needed to Improve Pacific's Access to International Markets, Investment

ADB, the Government of Fiji, and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Regional Center for Asia and the Pacific held the South Pacific International Arbitration Conference on 12-13 February in Nadi.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank [to 17 February 2018]

<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 17 February 2018]

<https://www.ifad.org/web/latest/news>

14 Feb 2018

[To reverse numbers living in fragile situations, IFAD member states call for increased focus on poorest in rural areas](#)

13 Feb

[IFAD and Bangladesh invest US\\$92.4 million to improve livelihoods for poorest rural households in flood-prone areas](#)

[IFAD technical assistance agreement to help boost agriculture production and food security in Saudi Arabia](#)

[For a more stable and prosperous world, we must invest in long-term rural development, IFAD President tells member states](#)

[Leaders pledge to “leave no one behind” at IFAD annual event focused on fragile situations](#)

12 Feb

[IFAD Member States renew commitment to reduce hunger and poverty for millions of rural people](#)

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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 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Amref Health Africa [to 17 February 2018]

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

February 16th, 2018

[Amref and WASTE sign partnership to make safe sanitation a reality for all by 2030](#)

Nairobi February 14, 2018... Amref Health Africa signed a partnership agreement with Netherlands-based waste and sanitation NGO, WASTE. The partnership aims to improve community health and sanitation in Africa.

The partnership is to scale up the public private partnership model called Financial Inclusion Improves Sanitation and Health in Kenya (FINISH INK), which has contributed to remarkable sanitation market development in Busia and Kilifi counties since 2013...

Aravind Eye Care System [to 17 February 2018]

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

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

No new digest content identified.

BRAC [to 17 February 2018]

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

February 13, 2018

Clowns visit the Rohingya settlements in Cox's Bazar

by Edward Morgan

BRAC recently partnered with Clowns Without Borders UK, a charity that aims to share laughter with children in crisis. A team from the charity visited Cox's Bazar to spread a little cheer among the Rohingya children. The playful performances recognised that despite the trauma or difficulties they may have witnessed, children have the right to play, have fun and heal.

CARE International [to 17 February 2018]

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

15th Feb 2018

"We must all come together so women and girls can live a life free from violence"

CARE works hard to empower women, engage men and boys to promote gender equality, and prevent gender-based violence. We have powerful programmes and advocacy campaigns to advance these causes all over the world.

14th Feb 2018

Refugee influx into Uganda worrying, warns CARE International

The majority of women fleeing the Democratic Republic of Congo into Uganda have experienced or witnessed gender-based violence and the bodies of dead refugee are being thrown into Lake Albert, putting millions at risk of disease.

12th Feb 2018

CARE International on Iraq Donor Conference: "Pledges need to secure peace and reconstruction"

Iraq

11 million people in need of humanitarian assistance / More financial support urgently needed

Clubhouse International [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Danish Refugee Council [to 17 February 2018]

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

15.12.2018

More Congolese refugees flee to Uganda

About 37,128 Congolese refugees have fled to Uganda from the Democratic Republic of the Congo since the beginning of 2018, according to the UN Refugee Agency, UNHCR. The Danish Refugee Council(DRC) has offered assistance to more than 11,000 of the new arrivals.

14.02.2018

NGOs react to UN Global Compact on Refugees

DRC and 14 other NGOs have published a joint reaction to the UN zero draft of the Global Compact on Refugees.

The Global Compact on Refugees is currently discussed among UN member states in Geneva. On 31st January, UNHCR issued a zero-draft to a text that is meant to improve how the international community responds to refugee crises in future. DRC and 14 other NGOs have made a joint reaction to the zero-draft text. While we welcome UNHCR's efforts to draft a text suitable for States' consensus, our reaction encourages States to be more ambitious, to set the bar higher. DRC and like-minded NGOs strongly believe that the international community have a mutual interest in a more inclusive and solutions-oriented approach to refugee displacement, and where the responsibility to protect refugees is carried more evenly among States.

The joint statement presents the organizations' core expectations for the Compact as well as recommendations for the development of the Programme of Action, which are five-fold, namely that they lead to:

- :: equitable and predictable responsibility sharing;
- :: enhanced accountability;
- :: minimized protection gaps;
- :: expanded solutions; and
- :: improved participation of people of concern.

Furthermore, the statement urges UN member states to agree on a concrete Programme of Action that facilitates cooperation to deliver specific results and can lead to improved responsibility-sharing in refugee protection and solutions.

Read the full reaction here

List of signatories:

Action Against Hunger
CARE International
DanChurchAid
Danish Refugee Council
InterAction
International Rescue Committee
Intersos
Lutheran World Federation
Mercy Corps
Norwegian Refugee Council
Oxfam International
Refugees International
Refugee Solidarity Network
Save the Children
Settlement Services International

ECPAT [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Fountain House [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Humanity & Inclusion [nee Handicap International] [to 17 February 2018]

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

February 16, 2018

HI warns that abuse of beneficiaries is unacceptable

Following revelations of unacceptable behavior by humanitarian personnel at another NGO, Humanity & Inclusion has warned staff that such acts cannot be tolerated or justified under any circumstances.

Heifer International [to 17 February 2018]

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

February 13, 2018

Heifer International Board of Directors Names Randi Hedin to Membership

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.

Heifer International's Board of Directors has announced the election of Randi Hedin to its membership. As an at-large delegate, Hedin will serve a three-year term for the nonprofit whose mission is to end hunger and poverty around the world while caring for the Earth...

HelpAge International [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

ICRC [to 17 February 2018]

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

Selected News Releases, Statements, Reports

Libya's triangle of tragedy: Urban violence, vast displacement, perilous migration

Geneva/Munich (ICRC) – As Libya enters its eighth year of conflict, the humanitarian situation of the population is relentlessly deteriorating amid persistent armed conflict, violence and insecurity, the President of the International Committee of th

16-02-2018 | News release

Code of Conduct for employees of the ICRC

Our Code of Conduct reflects our commitments to meet fundamental principles and rules concerning ethical conduct in all our organizational activities. It is about operational excellence with integrity - which is the core of our organization's identity

15-02-2018 | Article

Yemen: In major breakthrough, ICRC visits conflict-related detainees in Aden

For the first time in three years, the ICRC visited a major detention centre in Aden
11-02-2018 | News release

IFRC [to 17 February 2018]

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

Asia Pacific, Mongolia

IFRC announces help for extreme cold in Mongolia

Severe winter conditions called Dzud have followed a summer drought, leaving millions of animals at risk of starvation in Mongolia.

15 February 2018

Tropical Cyclone Gita: Fiji braces for category 4 storm as clean up begins in Samoa and Tonga

Red Cross volunteers and staff are on high alert as Tropical Storm Gita barrels towards Fiji, having already caused floods in Samoa and destruction in Tonga.

13 February 2018

Asia Pacific, China, DPRK, Malaysia

IFRC releases emergency funds to fight influenza in DPRK

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has released 303,779 Swiss francs from its Disaster Response Emergency Fund to support the Red Cross of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) fight an outbreak of influenza A (H1N1).

12 February 2018

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 17 February 2018]

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

Selected Press Releases & Statements

Perspective

IRC Warns of Children's Crisis in Afghanistan

February 15, 2018

Statement

IRC Statement on the FY19 Budget: Trump administration's proposed cuts are counterproductive and misguided

February 12, 2018

Press Release

Iraqis need 'more than buildings and roads', says aid agency ahead of vital reconstruction conference

February 11, 2018

IRCT [to 17 February 2018]

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

News 12 Feb 2018

UN anti-torture committee adopts new standards on rights to rehabilitation

Last week, the UN Committee against Torture published its long awaited General Comment no. 4, which established enhanced standards for the implementation of torture victims' rights.

Based on the IRCT's contributions through health-based expertise three crucial elements have been included in the General Comment to ensure that torture victims receive the protection and support they are entitled to:

:: Torture survivors cannot be returned to States where there are no rehabilitation services available to them;

:: States must apply asylum processes that ensure that torture survivors are not disadvantaged due to psychological trauma such as Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD);

:: All persons alleging past acts of torture must be afforded an independent medical examination in accordance with the Istanbul Protocol so that they can prove their claims...

Islamic Relief [to 17 February 2018]

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

[Undated]

Pledge to Reconstruct Iraq

Islamic Relief (IR) CEO Naser Haghamed attended an NGO conference that sought out assistance to help rebuild Iraq. The Conference of NGOs to Support the Humanitarian Situation in Iraq was hosted by the International Islamic Charitable Organisation (IICO) in Kuwait City, Kuwait. It was attended by 70 humanitarian organisations including 30 regional and international agencies.

The conference was hosted at the request of the Emir of Kuwait Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. Over \$330 million was pledged at the event, IR has pledged \$4 million. Over the last few years IR has implemented over \$30 million worth of projects all over Iraq...

Landsea [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Medecins du Monde [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 17 February 2018]

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

Press release

Promising MSF Research Highlights Immense Benefits, Need for Expanded Use of DR-TB Drug Combination

February 14, 2018

New research published today in The Lancet Infectious Diseases journal by the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) provides strong evidence that a combination of two new drugs for tuberculosis (TB)—the world's leading infectious disease killer—could be used to treat drug-resistant (DR-TB) forms of the disease.

Press release

Iraq: Urgent Needs Must not be Forgotten as International Conference on Reconstruction Begins

February 12, 2018

An international conference on the reconstruction of Iraq is underway in Kuwait this week. Carla Brooijmans, Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) head of mission for Iraq, gave the following statement after a meeting in Kuwait today of aid organizations responding to humanitarian needs in Iraq.

Mercy Corps [to 17 February 2018]

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

Afghanistan, February 16, 2018

New Mercy Corps Research Highlights Strategies To Reduce Youth Support For Political Violence In Afghanistan

Combining vocational training with cash can reduce willingness to support armed opposition groups

PORTLAND, ORE. – New research by the global organization Mercy Corps, in partnership with Princeton and Yale Universities, finds that youth who received vocational training and a cash transfer during an employability program in Kandahar, Afghanistan, were less likely to support armed opposition groups.

The study found that neither cash nor vocational training alone affected the likelihood of youth supporting political violence in the long term. However, when combined, participants were less likely to support armed opposition groups six to nine months later. Although the program aimed to improve youth employability through vocational training, without an explicit objective to reduce violence, the study enabled researchers to test the hypothesis that employability programs can have tangible impacts on violence reduction.

"For years, we've worked to reach more definitive conclusions about whether employment programs can have a positive impact on peace and stability in conflict-affected environments," says Rebecca Wolfe, Mercy Corps' director of evidence and one of the report's authors. "This study provides strong evidence to support the argument that development interventions can indeed shift young people's attitudes toward violent groups and address the underlying causes of these attitudes."

United States, February 12, 2018

Leading Humanitarian, Development, And Global Health Organizations Again Join Forces Against Cuts To Foreign Assistance

Leading humanitarian, development, and global health organizations call upon Congress to reject the Administration's inadequate and dangerous Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2019 (FY 2019) and to instead sustain and protect the International Affairs Budget in FY 2019 at a minimum of current FY 2017 levels. Congressional leadership remains critical to ensuring strong U.S. global leadership through poverty-focused development, global health, and humanitarian programs....

Operation Smile [to 17 February 2018]

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

Program Schedule

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

OXFAM [to 17 February 2018]

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

16 February 2018

Oxfam asks women's rights leaders to carry out urgent independent review

An independent commission will be set up with immediate power to carry out a wide-ranging review of Oxfam's practices and culture, including its handling of past cases of sexual misconduct. It comes as Oxfam announces a comprehensive plan of action to strengthen safeguarding systems across the organization, and stamp out abuse.

Chair of Oxfam International's Board of Supervisors, Dr. Juan Alberto Fuentes Knight, steps down

13 February 2018

Dr. Juan Alberto Fuentes Knight today stepped down as the Chair of the Board of Supervisors of Oxfam International after being presented with charges dating back to his time as Guatemala's finance minister.

Oxfam Great Britain announces resignation of Deputy Chief Executive

12 February 2018

Penny Lawrence today resigned as Deputy Chief Executive of Oxfam Great Britain. Lawrence was Program Director at the time of the sexual misconduct in Chad.

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 17 February 2018]

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

Published 16. Feb 2018

Ten things you should know about refugees from North Korea

Richard Skretteberg|

While North Korea's cheerleaders perform in the stands of the South Korean Olympic city of PyeongChang, many North Koreans flee from their country, embarking on a dangerous escape.

Statement from the Norwegian Refugee Council's Deputy Secretary General, Geir Olav Lisle

Oslo, 15 February 2018

[See Week in Review above for full text]

Congo's mega-crisis at deadly tipping point

Published 14. Feb 2018

Alarm bells ring as violence by hundreds of armed groups worsens in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Despite 13 million people now needing emergency assistance, the aid response falls far from meeting even minimum lifesaving needs in worst-affected areas.

Pact [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Partners In Health [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

PATH [to 17 February 2018]

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

Announcement | February 12, 2018

[PATH statement on the US Administration's proposed Fiscal Year 2019 budget](#)

The following is a statement from Carolyn Reynolds, PATH's Vice President for Policy and Advocacy, on the release of the Administration's Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Request:

"For the second year in a row, the Administration's budget includes extensive cuts to global health and development programs at the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and the State Department. We are deeply concerned that these cuts not only put lives at risk but also reduce America's own security and standing in the world. Given the extensive threats we face that require international cooperation and investment, gutting US support for global health and development is the wrong choice for America and for the world..."

Plan International [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Save The Children [to 17 February 2018]

<https://www.savethechildren.net/news>

Selected Press Releases

Thursday 15 February 2018

[Drought and conflict shutting down schools in East Africa](#)

90,000 children a week at risk of dropping out of school

90,000 children a week are at risk of dropping out of school in 2018, warns Save the Children, in an appeal for education funding in emergencies across East Africa. For many this would be their second year out of school, forced to abandon their studies because of the drought.

Wednesday 14 February 2018

[One in six children globally living in areas impacted by conflict](#)

New report shows war is becoming more dangerous for children;

Save the Children calls for greater protection for children and accountability for perpetrators ahead of Munich Security Conference

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 17 February 2018]

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

Statement – 15 February 2018

[Statement on child safeguarding and reporting](#)

[See Week in Review above for full text]

Young writers – 15 February 2018

[Teaching children one of the most important skills in life: storytelling](#)

What is the most powerful skill you can think of? A skill that can create worlds, reach across cultures and fill people with warmth. The answer is simple – storytelling.

The Young Writers project, piloted in SOS Children's Villages Azerbaijan in 2016 and now also running in SOS Children's Villages Georgia and SOS Children's Villages Kazakhstan, encourages children who have lost parental care or are at risk of losing parental care to write stories and fairy tales. Some of these stories are available in a new collection called the Book of Young Writers 2017.

Protection – 12 February 2018

Focusing on prevention to end violence against children

At the [End Violence Solutions Summit](#) in Stockholm on 14-15 February, SOS Children's Villages is joining the international community in identifying solutions to protect children and end violence against them.

Bodil Långberg, board member of SOS Children's Villages Sweden, will be part of SOS Children's Villages' delegation at the Summit. Ms Långberg has worked in the field of children's rights for more than 20 years. She has carried out multiple research projects and co-authored publications on children's rights and violence against children in Sweden.

Tostan [to 17 February 2018]

<http://www.tostan.org>

No new digest content identified.

Women for Women International [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

World Vision [to 17 February 2018]

<http://wvi.org/>

Saturday, February 17th 2018

Statement on inaccurate Haiti reports

[See Week in Review above for full text]

Tuesday, February 13th 2018

Ending violence against children takes 'applying seven lessons'

New report on eve of major solutions-focused summit reveals the seven things governments need to know to end violence against child

Monday, February 12th 2018

Former child soldiers need 'lure of a brighter future'

Red Hand Day falls as more than 600 children are released from armed groups in South Sudan
Children are lured into armed groups with false promises of food, educatio

.....

Center for Media Ethics and Responsibility/CMFR [to 17 February 2018]

<http://cmfr-phil.org/media-ethics-responsibility/>

No new digest content identified.

Electronic Frontiers Foundation

<https://www EFF.org/>

No new digest content identified.

Freedom House [to 17 February 2018]

<https://freedomhouse.org/news>

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research

Press Releases

Turkey: Life Sentences for Journalists Ignore Justice

February 16, 2018

Turkey convicted six journalists of attempting to overturn the constitutional order, and given aggravated life sentences.

Freedom of Association in Freefall: Draft Laws Undermine Ukraine's NGOs

Feb 14 2018 - 4:51pm

Two bills backed by President Poroshenko are part of a broader attack on civil society groups dedicated to fighting corruption.

United States: Cuts to Democracy Funds Reduce U.S. Security

February 12, 2018

President Trump's Fiscal Year 2019 budget request proposes to cut funding for democracy programs, which will have harmful effects on human rights and security around the globe.

10 Countries to Watch in 2018

Feb 12

The following countries are among those that may be approaching important turning points in their democratic trajectory, according to the latest [Freedom in the World](#) report.

Transparency International [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

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ChildFund Alliance [to 17 February 2018]

<https://childfundalliance.org/>

February 15, 2018 / *Statements*

Statement of ChildFund Alliance during the First Regular Session of the UNICEF Executive Board, 6 February 2018

CONCORD [to 17 February 2018]

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

Feb 15, 2018

EU prioritising security over peace-building negatively impacts development aid – New Report

While today less and less aid is spent in least developed countries, the EU increasingly spends ODA in favour of national and foreign policy and security interests. The new CONCORD report explores the use of EU aid to respond to security threats and warns the EU of the negative impact this has on sustainable development.

Feb 13, 2018

CONCORD's reaction to reports of sexual exploitation and abuse by NGO staff

[See Week in Review above for full text]

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 17 February 2018]

<http://www.dec.org.uk/media-centre>

[Action Aid, Age International, British Red Cross, CAFOD, Care International, Christian Aid, Concern Worldwide, Islamic Relief, Oxfam, Plan UK, Save the Children, Tearfund and World No new digest content identified.]

The Elders [to 17 February 2018]

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

Press release 14 February 2018

The Elders call for urgent action on political and humanitarian crises in DR Congo

Condemning decades of failure, The Elders call for immediate and concerted action to provide relief and protect rights of the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Press release 11 February 2018

The Elders mourn the death of Asma Jahangir

The Elders' statement on the untimely death of Pakistani lawyer and internationally respected human rights defender Asma Jahangir.

END Fund [to 17 February 2018]

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

Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements

No new digest content identified.

Evidence Aid [to 17 February 2018]

www.evidenceaid.org

No new digest content identified.

Gavi [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Global Fund [to 17 February 2018]

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

News

Indonesia and Global Fund Unveil New Grants

13 February 2018

The Global Fund and health partners in Indonesia yesterday launched six new grants aimed at expanding Indonesia's ambitious goals against HIV, TB and malaria.

Hilton Prize Coalition [to 17 February 2018]

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

An Alliance of Hilton Prize Recipients

No new digest content identified.

ICVA - International Council of Voluntary Agencies [to 17 February 2018]

<https://icvanetwork.org/>

February, 2018

First formal consultations Towards the Global Compact on Refugees - NGO statements

INEE – an international network for education in emergencies [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

InterAction [to 17 February 2018]

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

Feb 12, 2018

InterAction Statement on Sexual Harassment and Abuse

[See Week in Review above for full text]

Feb 12, 2018

White House FY19 Budget Proposes Cuts to Critical Foreign Assistance Programs

InterAction calls for no less than \$59.1 billion to maintain U.S. leadership on foreign assistance...

Start Network [to 17 February 2018]

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

News Article 13 Feb 18

First successful test of blockchain for international distribution of aid funding

by Helen James

The first in a series of tests looking to bring greater efficiency and transparency into humanitarian funding has taken place with positive results.

The test into blockchain technology enabled Dorcas to transfer funds from its international office in the Netherlands to its Albania country office. Using the Disberse blockchain platform, the cross-border transaction was almost instant and enabled Dorcas to trace the funds through an immutable record of the transaction.

This 'proof of concept' was the first in a series of tests that is planned ahead of a formal partnership between Start Network and Disberse, a fund distribution platform for global aid, built on blockchain technology. The partnership aims to harness the potential of blockchain - the same revolutionary digital technology that underlies Bitcoin - for humanitarian financing.

Dorcas is the first Start Network member to pioneer the use of blockchain technology in this way, transferring a small amount of funding – €5000 – via the Disberse platform to an international office, without the need for a bank. Disberse acts as an electronic money provider to guarantee, issue and distribute the funds more transparently and efficiently on the Ethereum blockchain.

A Start Network review found that the main benefits centred around the traceability of funds through the creation of an immutable record of transactions. Direct cost savings - a 1.15% saving was reported - were limited due to the amount of funding involved, in a crisis situation with greater funds, larger cost savings are expected. Feedback from the participants at Dorcas also noted the ease of use of the platform, and its applicability for humanitarian aid transfers...

.....

Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP) [to 17 February 2018]

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

Research, reports and studies

Dynamic gridlock: Adaptive humanitarian action in the Democratic Republic of Congo

Date published

09 Feb 2018

Humanitarian actors are increasingly responding to more complex situations, such as protracted conflict, high-risk cyclical natural disasters, or cross-border migration crises. They face continually changing, uncertain and long term crises, which is a stark contrast to the shorter term rapid-onset situations - such as flooding or earthquakes - that the humanitarian system was built around. How can they adapt the response they deliver in these changing environments?

As part of an [ALNAP research project](#) addressing this increasingly important issue of adaptive and flexible humanitarian action, this country study focuses on how agencies in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) are responding to a complex and protracted crisis. The country has been in a perpetual state of sporadic conflict for the last twenty years, with huge numbers of people displaced and a chronic absence of adequate infrastructure or government response to address its people's needs.

Humanitarians are working in an environment that is continually changing, as many small-to-mid-level, complicated crises arise in different parts of this vast country on a weekly basis. Through interviews with international and local agencies, ALNAP Senior Research Fellow [Alice Obrecht](#) maps how programmes and donors have tried to adapt in a setting of complex protracted conflict.

CHS Alliance [to 17 February 2018]

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

16/02/2018

Moving forward with the CHS self-assessment in 2018: uptake, revision and webinar series

In 2018, we keep on working with our membership to move forward with their engagement to implement the CHS, starting with the completion of a self-assessment. In order to do so, and based on the feedback received from our members who used it, we are happy to announce the revision of the Self-Assessment tool during the first semester of 2018.

13/02/2018

The CHS Alliance welcomes five new members

The CHS Alliance is pleased to welcome five new members: Fast Rural Development Program (FRDP), Œuvre d'Orient, RISDA-Bangladesh, Stichting Vluchteling and War Child Holland

Development Initiatives [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

EHLRA/R2HC [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

The Sphere Project [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 17 February 2018]
<https://phap.org/>

No new digest content identified.

.....

Center for Global Development [to 17 February 2018]

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

Publications

Can Regular Migration Channels Reduce Irregular Migration? Lessons for Europe from the United States

2/14/18

Michael Clemens and Kate Gough

Lawful migration channels are often suggested as a tool to reduce unlawful migration, but often without much evidence that they work. There is evidence that lawful channels for migration between Mexico and the United States have suppressed unlawful migration, but only when combined with robust enforcement efforts.

Deterring Emigration with Foreign Aid: An Overview of Evidence from Low-Income Countries

2/12/18

Michael Clemens and Hannah Postel

In response to the recent migrant and refugee crisis, rich countries have redoubled policy efforts to deter future immigration from poor countries by addressing the “root causes” of migration. We review existing evidence on the extent and effectiveness of such efforts.

Can Development Assistance Deter Emigration?

2/12/18

Michael Clemens and Hannah Postel

As waves of migrants have crossed the Mediterranean and the US Southwest border, development agencies have received a de facto mandate: to deter migration from poor countries. Will it work? Here we review the evidence on whether foreign aid has been directed toward these “root causes” in the past, whether it has deterred migration from poor countries, and whether it can do so.

ODI [to 17 February 2018]

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

Selected Research/Publications

Conference report: innovations and challenges in protecting children in armed conflict

Working and discussion papers | February 2018 | Veronique Barbelet

At a roundtable in November 2017, practitioners discussed new approaches to psychosocial support and education for children affected by armed conflict.

Policy, change and paradox in Indonesia: implications for the use of knowledge

Working and discussion papers | February 2018 | Ajoy Datta, Rachma Nurbani, Gema Satria, Hans Antlov, Ishkak Fatonie, Rudy Sabri

This paper explores the specific factors and actors that shape policy processes in Indonesia.

Experimentalism in international support to rule of law and justice

Working and discussion papers | February 2018 | Pilar Domingo and Deval Desai

This report reflects discussions at a recent workshop exploring what 'effective experimentalism' looks like, and how to work in this way.

Urban Institute [to 17 February 2018]

<https://www.urban.org/publications>

Publications

Who Could be Affected by Kentucky's Medicaid Work Requirements, and What Do We know about Them?

In January 2018, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services approved Kentucky's Section 1115 demonstration waiver, which allows the state to require some enrollees to participate in work or community engagement activities to retain their Medicaid coverage. We estimate the number of nonelderly adult Medicaid enrollees in Kentucky, statewide and by region, who are: likely exempt from the waiver's work requirements;

Anuj Gangopadhyaya, Genevieve M. Kenney

February 16, 2018

Research Report

State Regulation of the Charitable Sector

State charity offices play an important role in regulating the nonprofit sector, working both independently and with state and federal law enforcement agencies. The Urban Institute-Columbia University Survey of State Charities Regulators (Lott et al. 2016) focused at the office level and showed that state charity offices vary in structure, authority, and tools used to facilitate and enforce regulatory compliance. In this brief,

Shirley Adelstein, Elizabeth T. Boris

February 16, 2018

Brief

Expanding Preschool Access for Children of Immigrants

Most children of immigrants are US citizens, and they make up a growing share of the nation's future workforce. Yet their enrollment in preschool—central to school readiness and success later in life—continues to lag behind that of their peers with US-born parents. Understanding how to reduce barriers to preschool access for immigrant families is key to informing preschool programs and policies in states and

Erica Greenberg, Molly Michie, Gina Adams

February 15, 2018

Research Report

Expanding Preschool Access for Children of Immigrants: Executive Summary

Children of immigrants are a growing share of the nation's future workforce, yet their enrollment in preschool—central to school readiness and success later in life—continues to lag behind that of their peers with US-born parents. This study explores strategies in four communities with unusually high rates of enrollment among low-income immigrant families and negligible (or nonexistent) gaps in enrollment

Erica Greenberg, Gina Adams, Molly Michie

February 15, 2018

Brief

The Antipoverty Effects of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which helps millions of poor and low-income Americans purchase food, is the nation's largest nutrition assistance program. This analysis estimates SNAP's effect on poverty using the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM). We augment the Census Bureau's SPM to correct for the underreporting of SNAP and other means-tested benefits in the underlying survey data. We find that SNAP

Laura Wheaton, Victoria Tran

February 15, 2018

Research Report

After Graduate and Professional School

Many people enroll in graduate and professional degree programs to advance their careers and increase their earnings. On average, advanced degrees are valuable in the labor market, but students pursuing a graduate or professional degree still face considerable uncertainty. This brief explores employment and earnings outcomes among advanced degree recipients. Examining these outcomes across degree, occupational, and demographic

Sandy Baum, Patricia Steele

February 15, 2018

Research Report

The Long-Term Benefits of Preventing Childhood Lead Exposure

Although the US has made progress preventing and reducing children's exposure to lead, many children are still at risk. Using the Social Genome Model, a statistical model that links individuals' circumstances and outcomes from birth to age 40, we find that policies that target children at risk of high blood lead levels and prevent their exposure to lead can improve children's educational outcomes and reduce their chance of

Steven Martin, Gregory Acs

February 15, 2018

Brief

Who Benefits from the Child Tax Credit Now?

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2018 doubled the maximum child tax credit from \$1,000 to \$2,000. But about 29 million children under age 17 with at least one working parent will miss out on the full increase because their families earn too little in income or owe too little in taxes. This factsheet explores who benefits from the child tax credit under the changes made by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and how to improve the credit by

Elaine Maag

February 14, 2018

Highlights

Access and Affordability in the New Housing Finance System

One of the measures by which any proposed housing finance system must be judged is how well it would serve low- and moderate-income (LMI) households. In this analysis, we assess how well the multi-guarantor system proposed in the draft bill under discussion in the Senate Banking Committee (as of February 2018) would serve these households, concluding that they would do considerably better than they do under the system we have

Jim Parrott, Michael Stegman, Phillip L. Swagel, Mark M. Zandi

February 13, 2018

Brief

Failing Health of the United States

White Americans are dying at higher rates from drugs, alcohol, and suicides. And the sharpest increases are happening in rural counties, often in regions with long-standing social and economic challenges. The reasons behind these increases are unclear and complex. The opioid epidemic plays a role but is just one part of a larger public health crisis. Life expectancy in the US as a whole has fallen for the second year in a row,

Steven H. Woolf, Laudan Y. Aron

February 12, 2018

Research Report

World Economic Forum [to 17 February 2018]

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

News 16 Feb 2018

World Economic Forum and Ontario Launch Pilot Project to Tackle Rampant Diabetes

: : More than three million Canadians have Type 2 diabetes; almost 6 million expected in Ontario by 2026

:: Direct and indirect cost of diabetes in Canada expected to rise to almost \$17 billion by 2020

:: 2021 will mark the 100th anniversary of the discovery of insulin at the University of Toronto

:: 70 stakeholders working together in new World Economic Forum project to reduce impact of diabetes

:: New Report "Mobilizing Cooperation for Health System Transformation" launched to offer framework for pilot

Electric Vehicle Revolution Will Slash Travel Costs in Cities

News 13 Feb 2018

· A new approach to electric mobility is needed to stimulate economic growth and reduce carbon emissions, says new Forum report

· Electrified autonomous vehicles (AV) will revolutionize urban mobility by reducing travel costs by up to 40% and cut down CO2 marginal emissions to 0

· Generation of new jobs, combined with resulting improvements in air quality, will benefit human health and could result in up to \$635 billion of value creation for society by 2030

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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 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

Gates Notes | 13 February 2018

Gates Annual Letter: The 10 Toughest Questions We Get

...We've spent \$15.3 billion on vaccines over the past 18 years. And it's been a terrific investment. Better immunization is one reason why the number of children who die has gone down by so much, from almost 10 million in 2000 to 5 million last year...

Annie E. Casey Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Blue Meridian Partners [to 17 February 2018]

<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 17 February 2018]

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

Press Release

February 16, 2018

President Bill Clinton, Chelsea Clinton, and University of Chicago to host 11th Annual Clinton Global Initiative University meeting

Event will convene more than 1,000 student leaders to explore innovative solutions to pressing global challenges, October 19-21, 2018; applications now open

Co Impact [to 17 February 2018]

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 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

GHIT Fund [to 17 February 2018]

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

GHIT was set up in 2012 with the aim of developing new tools to tackle infectious diseases that devastate the world's poorest people. Other funders include six Japanese pharmaceutical •

No new digest content identified.

Grameen Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

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

No new digest content identified.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

Our News February 14, 2018

[Reflecting on the 2018 World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos, Switzerland](#)

By Peter Laugharn,

Our President and CEO Peter Laugharn recently returned from the 2018 World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. Following his return, he reflects on the annual meeting, which engaged the foremost political, business and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas.

IKEA Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 17 February 2018]

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

Feb 15 2018 *Research*

[CRISPR-based Technology Can Detect Viral DNA](#)

Summary

Technology that's been used to edit genomes can also spot snippets of DNA. Such detective work may enable rapid, reliable ways to identify infections and cancer

Feb 13 2018 *Research*

[Clues to Aging Found in Stem Cells' Genomes](#)

Summary

In fruit flies, repeating genetic elements shrink with age, but then expand in future generations, a resurgence that may help explain how some cells stay immortal.

Kaiser Family Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

February 14, 2018 *News Release*

[Analysis: Insurance Riders to Cover Abortion Services Not Available to Women in States That Restrict Abortion Coverage](#)

In 10 states, insurance plans are currently banned from including abortion as a covered service in state-regulated private plans — all individually purchased policies and fully-insured group plans. Most of these laws do not include exceptions for rape, incest, or health endangerment. In nine of these states, insurers may sell...

Aga Khan Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

15 February 2018

Exhibition "The World of the Fatimids" at the Aga Khan Museum

Aga Khan Museum [Toronto] opens landmark exhibition on one of the Muslim world's greatest civilisations

Kellogg Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

Feb. 16, 2018

NBA All-Star Pre-Game Show features Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation

Tune in early for a special pre-game show called "Sports & Society" featuring NBA athletes Chris Paul and Dwyane Wade along with Alvin Herring, WKKF's Director of Racial Equity and Community Engagement, Valerie Jarrett and moderator Angela Rye.

The show will explore the players' work to create positive community change and advance racial equity throughout the U.S. It will also share more about their recently announced support and alignment with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT) efforts...

MacArthur Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

February 16, 2018 - *Grantee Research*

Dam Projects Impacting Amazon Ecosystem

The Amazon's ecosystem is being rapidly altered by a wave of new hydropower development, according to a report by the Florida International University Institute of Water and Environment.

February 13, 2018 - *Grantee Research*

Assessing Attitudes on Local Justice Systems

A nationwide poll supported by MacArthur found that more than one in three Americans believe rehabilitation and treatment are the primary purposes for jail, as opposed to punishment.

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

February 19, 2018

Creating quality measurement and accountability for community-based serious illness care

The March issue of the *Journal of Palliative Medicine* focuses on an important and emerging topic in caring for people with serious illness: ensuring the quality of programs designed to care for these patients in the community and in their homes. This is the first time the publication has covered the topic in such a robust and rich way. Eleven papers were published with focus areas that range from how to identify the population with serious illness; achieving care that aligns with patients' goals and values; data needs for an accountability system, and structures and processes to support family caregivers.

The motivation for developing and publishing these papers came from a meeting convened last year with 45 experts in serious illness care who were tasked with defining guiding principles for measurement, creating a starter measurement set, proposing a definition of the denominator, and identifying future research priorities. The series of articles written by the experts provided a basis for debate and guidance in formulating a path forward to develop an accountability system for

community-based programs for the seriously ill. Their efforts align with our foundation's work in addressing the needs of people with serious illness, also known as "high-need" patients. Specifically, we have identified two areas we believe we can have the greatest impact for this population in: 1) strengthening workforce training and support, and 2) building effective quality measurement and accountability programs for community-based services...

Open Society Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Pew Charitable Trusts [to 17 February 2018]

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

Statement

Pew Disappointed With Administration's Decision to Revisit Widely Lauded Plan for California Desert

Broad public support marked original plan, which balances protections and creation of renewable energy

February 15, 2018 WASHINGTON—The Pew Charitable Trusts expressed disappointment today with the Bureau of Land Management's decision to reopen California's Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP), which lays out a blueprint for balancing renewable energy development with conservation on our nation's public lands. The bureau also announced its intention to cancel its work to prohibit industrial mining in California Desert Conservation Lands...

Rockefeller Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

February 12, 2018

Remarks by Rockefeller Foundation President Dr. Rajiv J. Shah at the India Energy Access Summit

As delivered on Monday, February 12, 2018, at New Delhi, India

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 17 February 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Science Philanthropy Alliance [to 17 February 2018]

<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..."

February 16, 2018

Science Funding in the U.S. [via BBC Radio]

Valerie Conn, executive director of the Science Philanthropy Alliance, talks to BBC Radio's Roland Pease about science philanthropy...

SDG Philanthropy Platform

<http://sdgfunders.org/>

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>

February 15, 2018

Announcing the 2018 Sloan Research Fellows

126 outstanding early-career researchers honored across eight fields

(New York, NY) – The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation announces the selection of 126 outstanding U.S. and Canadian researchers as the recipients of the 2018 Sloan Research Fellowships. The fellowships, awarded yearly since 1955, honor early-career scholars whose achievements mark them as among the very best scientific minds working today. A full list of the 2018 Fellows is available at the Sloan Foundation website at <https://sloan.org/fellowships/2018-Fellows>.

"The Sloan Research Fellows represent the very best science has to offer," says Sloan President Adam Falk, "The brightest minds, tackling the hardest problems, and succeeding brilliantly—Fellows are quite literally the future of twenty-first century science."...

Drawn this year from 53 colleges and universities in the United States and Canada, the 2018 Sloan Research Fellows represent a diverse array of institutions and backgrounds. "It doesn't matter what you look like or where you come from," says Daniel L. Goroff, Vice President at the Sloan Foundation and Director of the Sloan Research Fellowship program. "If you're doing great science, you can be a Sloan Research Fellow."...

Wellcome Trust [to 17 February 2018]

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

News / Published: 15 February 2018

Huge global survey to gauge public attitudes to science

Wellcome is funding an ambitious new global study designed to understand how people around the world think and feel about science and key health challenges.

Beginning this spring, and throughout 2018, we will survey 140,000 people from 140 countries. The findings will be available in 2019.

The survey will ask about people's attitudes towards science to gauge their interest in it and how much they trust it. There are also questions about specific areas of science, eg vaccines, that have universal importance and are a priority for Wellcome.

The 30 questions, which take about ten minutes to complete face to face or over the phone, are part of the 2018 Gallup World Poll.

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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

February 2018 Volume 46, Issue 2, p123-244

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

February 2018 Volume 54, Issue 2, p157-324

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

February 2018 108(2)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Volume 98, Issue 2, 2018

<http://www.ajtmh.org/content/journals/14761645/98/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Annals of Internal Medicine

6 February 2018 Vol: 168, Issue 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

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

(Accessed 17 February 2018)

Research

15 February 2018

Cost-effectiveness of antiviral prophylaxis during pregnancy for the prevention of perinatal hepatitis B infection in South Korea

Authors: Donghoon Lee, Hyun-Young Shin and Sang Min Park

BMJ Global Health

December 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 17 February 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 17 February 2018)

Research article

Using eHealth to engage and retain priority populations in the HIV treatment and care cascade in the Asia-Pacific region: a systematic review of literature

The exponential growth in the reach and development of new technologies over the past decade means that mobile technologies and social media play an increasingly important role in service delivery models to ma...

Authors: Julianita Purnomo, Katherine Coote, Limin Mao, Ling Fan, Julian Gold, Raghib Ahmad and Lei Zhang

Citation: BMC Infectious Diseases 2018 18:82

Published on: 17 February 2018

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 17 February 2018)

Research article

17 February 2018

Disparate compensation policies for research related injury in an era of multinational trials: a case study of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa

Compensation for research related injuries is a subject that is increasingly gaining traction in developing countries which are burgeoning destinations of multi center research. However, the existence of disparate compensation rules violates the ethical principle of fairness. The current paper presents a comparison of the policies of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS).

Authors: George Rugare Chingarande and Keymanthri Moodley

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 17 February 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 17 February 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 17 February 2018)

Research article

Volunteers in Ethiopia's women's development army are more deprived and distressed than their neighbors: cross-sectional survey data from rural Ethiopia

Many Community Health Workers (CHWs) experience the same socioeconomic and health needs as their neighbors, given that they are by definition part of their communities. Yet very few studies aim to measure and ...

Authors: Kenneth Maes, Svea Closser, Yihenew Tesfaye, Yasmine Gilbert and Roza Abesha

Citation: BMC Public Health 2018 18:258

Published on: 14 February 2018

Research article

The factors affecting household transmission dynamics and community compliance with Ebola control measures: a mixed-methods study in a rural village in Sierra Leone

Little is understood of Ebola virus disease (EVD) transmission dynamics and community compliance with control measures over time. Understanding these interactions is essential if interventions are to be effect...

Authors: Grazia Caleo, Jennifer Duncombe, Freya Jephcott, Kamalini Lokuge, Clair Mills, Evita Looijen, Fivi Theoharaki, Ronald Kremer, Karline Kleijer, James Squire, Manjo Lamin, Beverley Stringer, Helen A. Weiss, Daniel Culli, Gian Luca Di Tanna and Jane Greig

Citation: BMC Public Health 2018 18:248

Published on: 13 February 2018

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 17 February 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Open

February 2018 - Volume 8 - 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 96, Number 2, February 2018, 77-144

<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/96/2/en/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Child Care, Health and Development

March 2018 Volume 44, Issue 2 Pages 173–341

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/cch.v44.2/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Therapeutics

February 2018 Volume 40, Issue 2, p181-352, e1-e2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Conflict and Health

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

[Accessed 17 February 2018]

Research

12 February 2018

[The impact of Cognitive Processing Therapy on stigma among survivors of sexual violence in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo: results from a cluster randomized controlled trial](#)

Sexual violence is associated with a multitude of poor physical, emotional, and social outcomes. Despite reports of stigma by sexual violence survivors, limited evidence exists on effective strategies to reduce stigma, particularly in conflict-affected settings. We sought to assess the effect of group Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT) on stigma and the extent to which stigma might moderate the effectiveness of CPT in treating mental health problems among survivors of sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Authors: S. M. Murray, J. Augustinavicius, D. Kaysen, D. Rao, L. K. Murray, K. Wachter, J. Annan, K. Falb, P. Bolton and J. K. Bass

Contemporary Clinical Trials

Volume 65 Pages 1-166 (February 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/contemporary-clinical-trials/vol/65/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases

February 2018 - Volume 31 - Issue 1

<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 28, Issue 1, 2018

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cdip20/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Development Policy Review

March 2018 Volume 36, Issue 2 Pages i–iv, 153–261
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dpr.2018.36.issue-2/issuetoc>
[Reviewed earlier]

Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology

Volume 13, Issue 2, 2018
<http://informahealthcare.com/toc/idt/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness

Volume 11 - Issue 6 - December 2017
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/disaster-medicine-and-public-health-preparedness/latest-issue>
[Reviewed earlier]

Disasters

January 2018 Volume 42, Issue 1 Pages 1–203
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/disa.2018.42.issue-1/issuetoc>
[Reviewed earlier]

EMBO Reports

01 December 2017; volume 18, issue 12
<http://embor.embopress.org/content/18/12?current-issue=y>
[Reviewed earlier]

Emergency Medicine Journal

January 2018 - Volume 35 - 1
<http://emj.bmj.com/content/35/1>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Volume 24, Number 2—February 2018
<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Epidemics

Volume 21, Pages 1-88 (December 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 146 - Issue 3 - February 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & International Affairs

Winter 2017 (Issue 31.4)

<https://www.ethicsandinternationalaffairs.org/2017/winter-2017-issue-31-4/>

[Reviewed earlier]

The European Journal of Public Health

Volume 27, Issue 6, 1 December 2017

<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/27/6>

[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 6, December 2017

<https://link.springer.com/journal/12571/9/6/page/1>

Issue Focus: Food Security Research in Tanzania

[Reviewed earlier]

Forum for Development Studies

Volume 44, Issue 1, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Genocide Studies International

Vol. 11, No. 1, Spring 2017

<http://www.utpjournals.press/toc/gsi/11/1>

Special Issue: Starvation and Genocide

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)

December 2017 | Volume 5 | Number 4

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Public Health

Volume 13, 2017 Issue 3

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

Special Issue: Im/Mobilities and Dis/Connectivities in Medical Globalization: How Global is Global Health? Guest Editors: Dominik Mattes and Hansjörg Dilger

[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 17 February 2018]

Review

15 February 2018

Corporate practices and health: a framework and mechanisms

The Global Burden of Disease estimates that approximately a third of deaths worldwide are attributable to behavioural risk factors that, at their core, have the consumption of unhealthful products and exposures produced by profit driven commercial entities. We use Steven Lukes' three-dimensional view of power to guide the study of the practices deployed by commercial interests to foster the consumption of these commodities. Additionally, we propose a framework to systematically study corporations and other commercial interests as a distal, structural, societal factor that causes disease and injury. Our framework offers a systematic approach to mapping corporate activity, allowing us to anticipate and prevent actions that may have a deleterious effect on population health.

Authors: Joana Madureira Lima and Sandro Galea

Health Affairs

February 2018. Vol. 37, No. 2

<https://www.healthaffairs.org/toc/hlthaff/current>

Diffusion Of Innovation

[Reviewed earlier]

Health and Human Rights

Volume 19, Issue 2, December 2017

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

Special Section on Romani People and the Right to Health

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Economics, Policy and Law

Volume 13 - Issue 1 - January 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 33, Issue suppl_1 February 2018

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

Beyond Gross National Income: Innovative methods for global health aid allocation

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems

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

[Accessed 17 February 2018]

Research

17 February 2018

[The quest for a framework for sustainable and institutionalised priority-setting for health research in a low-resource setting: the case of Zambia](#)

Priority-setting for health research in low-income countries remains a major challenge. While there have been efforts to systematise and improve the processes, most of the initiatives have ended up being a one-off exercise and are yet to be institutionalised. This could, in part, be attributed to the limited capacity for the priority-setting institutions to identify and fund their own research priorities, since most of the priority-setting initiatives are driven by experts. This paper reports findings from a pilot project whose aim was to develop a systematic process to identify components of a locally desirable and feasible health research priority-setting approach and to contribute to capacity strengthening for the Zambia National Health Research Authority.

Authors: Lydia Kipiriri and Pascalina Chanda-Kapata

Research

12 February 2018

[Gaps and strategies in developing health research capacity: experience from the Nigeria Implementation Science Alliance](#)

Despite being disproportionately burdened by preventable diseases than more advanced countries, low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) continue to trail behind other parts of the world in the number, quality and impact of scholarly activities by their health researchers. Our strategy at the Nigerian Implementation Science Alliance (NISA) is to utilise innovative platforms that catalyse collaboration, enhance communication between different stakeholders, and promote the uptake of evidence-based interventions in improving healthcare delivery. This article reports on findings from a structured group exercise conducted at the 2016 NISA Conference to identify (1) gaps in developing research capacity and (2) potential strategies to address these gaps.

Authors: Echezona E. Ezeanolue, William Nii Ayitey Menson, Dina Patel, Gregory Aarons, Ayodotun Olutola, Michael Obiefune, Patrick Dakum, Prosper Okonkwo, Bola Gobir, Timothy Akinmurele, Anthea Nwandu, Hadiza Khamofu, Bolanle Oyeledun, Muiyiwa Aina, Andy Eyo, Obinna Oleribe...

Human Rights Quarterly

Volume 40, Number 1, February 2018

<http://muse.jhu.edu/issue/37973>

[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 17 February 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

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

[Accessed 17 February 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

International Health

Volume 9, Issue 6, 1 November 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Human Rights Law Review

Volume 6, Issue 2, 2017

<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/22131035/6/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health

Vol 5, No 2 (2018) February 2018

<http://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/35>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction

Volume 27, Pages 1-648 (March 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/22124209/27>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Epidemiology

Volume 46, Issue 6, December 2017

<https://academic.oup.com/ije/issue/46/6>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Heritage Studies

Volume 24, Issue 5 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare

Vol. 10 Issue: 5 2017

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/ijhrh/10/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

February 2018 Volume 67, p1-138

[http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712\(17\)X0014-3](http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712(17)X0014-3)

[New issue; No digest content identified]

International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology

Volume 25, 2018 - Issue 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

International Migration Review

Winter 2017 Volume 51, Issue 4 Pages 821–1030, e50–e66

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/imre.2017.51.issue-4/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

February 13, 2018, Vol 319, No. 6, Pages 525-624

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

Viewpoint

[Language, Science, and Politics-The Politicization of Public Health](#)

Lawrence O. Gostin, JD

JAMA. 2018;319(6):541-542. doi:10.1001/jama.2017.21763

This Viewpoint provides historical context for advice given by the US Department of Health and Human Services in 2017 to the CDC to avoid particular words in 2019 budget requests and argues that scientific innovation can flourish only when it is protected from political interference.

JAMA Pediatrics

February 2018, Vol 172, No. 2, Pages 105-204

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

[Reviewed earlier]

JBIR Database of Systematic Review and Implementation Reports

February 2018 - Volume 16 - Issue 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Adolescent Health

February 2018 Volume 62, Issue 2, Supplement, S1-S140

[http://www.jahonline.org/issue/S1054-139X\(17\)X0029-3](http://www.jahonline.org/issue/S1054-139X(17)X0029-3)

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Community Health

Volume 43, Issue 1, February 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10900/43/1/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage

Volume 29 Pages 1-194 (January–February 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-cultural-heritage/vol/29/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development

2018: Volume 8 Issue 1

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/jchmsd/8/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Development Economics

Volume 130, Pages 1-242 (January 2018)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03043878/130>

[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

Volume 13, Issue 1, February 2018

<http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/jre/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

February 2018 - Volume 72 - 2

<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>

[Website not responding at inquiry]

Journal of Global Ethics

Volume 13, Issue 2, 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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

Volume 28, Number 4, November 2017

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Human Trafficking

Volume 4, Issue 1, 2018

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

Special Issue: Media and Human Trafficking: Negotiating Meaning, Representation, and Change

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Volume 7 Issue 3

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/jhlscm/7/3>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Volume 20, Issue 1, February 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/20/1/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 217, Issue 3, 1 Feb 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of International Development

January 2018 Volume 30, Issue 1 Pages 1–158

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jid.v30.1/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics

February 2018 - Volume 44 - 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Internet Research

Vol 20, No 2 (2018): February

<http://www.jmir.org/2018/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Operations Management

Volumes 53–56 Pages 1–70 (November 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-operations-management/vol/53/suppl/C>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews

Volume 5, Issue 1 (2018)

<https://digitalrepository.aurorehealthcare.org/jpcrr/>

Health Disparities and Inequities: Part II

[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

February 2018 Volume 193, p1-280

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice

<https://joppp.biomedcentral.com/>

[Accessed 17 February 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

Journal of Public Health Management & Practice

January/February 2018 - Volume 24 - Issue 1

<http://journals.lww.com/jphmp/pages/default.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Public Health Policy

Volume 39, Issue 1, February 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/41271/39/1/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Travel Medicine

Volume 25, Issue 1, 1 January 2018

<https://academic.oup.com/jtm/issue/25/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

The Lancet

Feb 03, 2018 Volume 391 Number 10119 p401-512 e5

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

Editorial

Examining humanitarian principles in changing warfare

The Lancet

Published: 17 February 2018

Violence in war must have a limit. Those who are not participating in the hostilities should be protected to prevent war from sinking into barbarity. Today, this is safeguarded by international humanitarian law (IHL), of which the cornerstones are the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and its Additional Protocols. IHL provides for the wounded and sick to be collected and cared for by the warring faction that has them in their power, and for them to receive timely medical care. Traditionally, those entering into conflict could be expected to uphold these laws. But who will save the lives of the wounded if the warring factions are unable—or unwilling—to provide that care?

From October, 2016, to July, 2017, a US-led coalition supported the Iraqi and Kurdish forces in a battle to retake the city of Mosul from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). What became known as the Battle of Mosul was one of the largest urban sieges since World War 2. Over 940 000 civilians fled—facing bullets, mortar shells, and air strikes. Providing timely and efficient trauma care to these civilians was paramount but fraught with difficulty.

How the humanitarian community responded to this situation provides an insight into the evolving debate over the provision of trauma care in war. This was documented in an evaluation published on Feb 17, 2018 led by Paul Spiegel and colleagues of the Center for Humanitarian Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, who petitioned the US Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance for a grant for this study. It is based on qualitative data (interviews, and a review of publicly and privately shared documents) and a quantitative analysis of data collected by WHO and other actors.

During the Battle, it soon became apparent that a void in life-saving trauma care urgently needed to be filled. The Iraqi military lacked medical personnel and the US-led coalition deployed few medical teams, which were tasked with providing care for wounded coalition forces and not civilians. ISIL's tactics—use of civilians as shields, shooting at fleeing civilians, and occupation of health clinics—showed disregard for civilian and health worker protection. Humanitarian actors could not negotiate safe passage with ISIL; it was the first time the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) did not have contact with all sides of the conflict. Moreover, hospital overcrowding, extensive infrastructure damage, and checkpoints set up by the Kurdish forces substantially slowed access to care.

In a first-of-its-kind approach, the evaluation shows that, consequently, the UN and WHO had to take charge and coordinate a unique trauma response for injured civilians. This trauma pathway, modelled after military trauma systems, included so-called trauma stabilisation points (TSPs) located within 10 mins of the front line, and field hospitals within an hour's drive. This ultimately required the humanitarians to be “colocated” or “embedded” within the Iraqi military for security and logistical reasons, minutes away from the combat zone.

This approach challenged accepted humanitarian principles. Rooted in IHL, the humanitarian principles—neutrality, impartiality, humanity, and independence—guide the work of humanitarian actors, and are usually considered indivisible. As was stated in the evaluation, by collocating/embedding humanitarians with the military, “the principle of humanity [to protect life and health] was consciously given precedence over the principles of neutrality and independence; we would also argue over impartiality as well”. When approached by WHO to staff the TSPs and field hospitals, ICRC and Médecins Sans Frontières both raised these concerns, and finally declined to participate in this specific aspect of the trauma response. WHO ended up contracting

humanitarian NGOs, and, as a last resort, a for-profit medical company, to “move forward” towards the front line. Spiegel and colleagues estimate that this approach, complemented by the work of other actors also providing trauma care, likely saved about 1500–1800 lives—both civilians and combatants.

The Battle of Mosul provides an important case study for what might be to come. Above all, this should be a very rare occurrence, and The Lancet echoes the evaluation's recommendation that governments, and possibly their allies, must ensure their militaries can fulfil the obligations of protection and care for wounded citizens under the Geneva Conventions. However, in modern warfare, access to the injured may increasingly be one sided when fighting against warring factions that see health workers and civilians as acceptable targets of war. Governments should be prepared to face this eventuality. To be able to continue providing the best standards of care and saving lives, a high-level meeting must urgently be organised to examine and answer this question: are the humanitarian principles as they are defined today still relevant for this changing warfare?

Correspondence

Dengue vaccination: a more balanced approach is needed

Tikki Pang, Duane Gubler, Daniel Yam Thiam Goh, Zulkifli Ismail on behalf of the Asia Dengue Vaccine Advocacy Group

[See Dengvaxia above for full text]

Review

Investment in child and adolescent health and development: key messages from Disease Control Priorities, 3rd Edition

Donald A P Bundy, Nilanthi de Silva, Susan Horton, George C Patton, Linda Schultz, Dean T Jamison for the Disease Control Priorities-3 Child and Adolescent Health and Development Authors Group

Summary

The realisation of human potential for development requires age-specific investment throughout the 8000 days of childhood and adolescence. Focus on the first 1000 days is an essential but insufficient investment. Intervention is also required in three later phases: the middle childhood growth and consolidation phase (5–9 years), when infection and malnutrition constrain growth, and mortality is higher than previously recognised; the adolescent growth spurt (10–14 years), when substantial changes place commensurate demands on good diet and health; and the adolescent phase of growth and consolidation (15–19 years), when new responses are needed to support brain maturation, intense social engagement, and emotional control. Two cost-efficient packages, one delivered through schools and one focusing on later adolescence, would provide phase-specific support across the life cycle, securing the gains of investment in the first 1000 days, enabling substantial catch-up from early growth failure, and leveraging improved learning from concomitant education investments.

Public Health

Evidence-based guidelines for supportive care of patients with Ebola virus disease

François Lamontagne, Robert A Fowler, Neill K Adhikari, Srinivas Murthy, David M Brett-Major, Michael Jacobs, Timothy M Uyeki, Constanza Vallenias, Susan L Norris, William A Fischer 2nd, Thomas E Fletcher, Adam C Levine, Paul Reed, Daniel G Bausch, Sandy Gove, Andrew Hall, Susan Shepherd, Reed A Siemieniuk, Marie-Claude Lamah, Rashida Kamara, Phiona Nakyeeyune, Moses J Soka, Ama Edwin, Afeez A Hazzan, Shevin T Jacob, Mubarak Mustafa Elkarsany, Takuya Adachi, Lynda Benhadj, Christophe Clément, Ian Crozier, Armando Garcia, Steven J Hoffman, Gordon H Guyatt

Summary

The 2013–16 Ebola virus disease outbreak in west Africa was associated with unprecedented challenges in the provision of care to patients with Ebola virus disease, including absence of pre-existing isolation and treatment facilities, patients' reluctance to present for medical care, and limitations in the provision of supportive medical care. Case fatality rates in west Africa were initially greater than 70%, but decreased with improvements in supportive care. To inform optimal care in a future outbreak of Ebola virus disease, we employed the Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development, and Evaluation (GRADE) methodology to develop evidence-based guidelines for the delivery of supportive care to patients admitted to Ebola treatment units. Key recommendations include administration of oral and, as necessary, intravenous hydration; systematic monitoring of vital signs and volume status; availability of key biochemical testing; adequate staffing ratios; and availability of analgesics, including opioids, for pain relief.

Lancet Global Health

Feb 2018 Volume 6 Number 2 e121-e228

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Infectious Diseases

Feb 2018 Volume 18 Number 2 p123-226 e33-e63

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

Feb 2018 Volume 6 Number 2 p75-160 e5-e7

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

Feb 2018 Volume 6 Number 2 p75-160 e5-e7

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 22, Issue 2, February 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10995/22/2/page/1>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

Volume 38, Issue 2, February 2018

<http://mdm.sagepub.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

The Milbank Quarterly

A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy
December 2017 Volume 95, Issue 4 Pages 683–896
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/milq.2017.95.issue-4/issuetoc>
[Reviewed earlier]

Nature

Volume 554 Number 7692 pp275-392 15 February 2018
http://www.nature.com/nature/current_issue.html

Editorials

Don't jump to conclusions about climate change and civil conflict

Many studies that link global warming to civil unrest are biased and exacerbate stigma about the developing world.

Nature Medicine

February 2018, Volume 24 No 2 pp113-246
<http://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v24/n2/index.html>
[Reviewed earlier]

New England Journal of Medicine

February 15, 2018 Vol. 378 No. 7
<http://www.nejm.org/toc/nejm/medical-journal>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly

Volume 47, Issue 1, February 2018
<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

February 2018, VOLUME 141 / ISSUE 2
<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/141/2?current-issue=y>
[Reviewed earlier]

PharmacoEconomics

Volume 36, Issue 2, February 2018
<https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/36/2/page/1>
[Reviewed earlier]

PLOS Currents: Disasters

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

[Accessed 17 February 2018]

[Humanitarian Needs in Government Controlled Areas of Syria](#)

February 15, 2018 · *Research Article*

Background. Five years of conflict in Syria have led to 13.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance and 6.6 million internally displaced people. Humanitarian needs are ever-increasing as an inability to maintain humanitarian corridors and ceasefires continue. In light of the protracted nature of the conflict, immense needs, and dearth of large-scale data, we undertook this assessment to inform humanitarian response.

Methods. A survey of accessible areas, which were largely urban and government controlled, was undertaken from April – June 2016 to identify unmet needs and assistance priorities. A cluster design with probability sampling was used to attain a final sample of 2,405 households from ten of fourteen governorates; 31 of 65 (47.7%) districts were included that are home to 38.1% of people in need (PiN).

Results. Overall 45% of households received assistance in the preceding month; receipt of aid was lowest in al-Hasakeh (17%). Shelter was a concern, with 48% of households having shelter need(s); the unmet shelter needs were highest in the West Coast, Rif Damascus and al-Hasakeh. Food security was a major concern where 64% had unmet food needs and 65% at least one indicator of concern; food insecurity was most severe in Rif Damascus and the West Coast. Water was also a concern with 36% of households reporting inconsistent access and 48% no access to water for several day periods; water needs were highest in Aleppo.

Discussion. This assessment included accessible populations in predominantly urban and government controlled areas, which are likely to have better access to services and fewer needs than populations in rural locations or areas not controlled by the government. The humanitarian situation in inaccessible and non-government controlled areas is likely to be considerably worse, thus findings should not be generalized. An expanded humanitarian response is desperately needed for Syrians to better endure the conflict.

PLOS Currents: Outbreaks

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

[Accessed 17 February 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

PLOS Medicine

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

(Accessed 17 February 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases

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

(Accessed 17 February 2018)

Editorial

[Modern Sunni-Shia conflicts and their neglected tropical diseases](#)

Peter J. Hotez

| published 15 Feb 2018 PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0006008>

[Excerpt]

...Ultimately, we can look to science and vaccine diplomacy to promote disease control activities across the EMR and to build new interventions for preventing the spread of the new and emerging NTDs [19, 20].

There are several possible approaches to consider on this front. First, greater cooperation between the OIC nations could increase access to essential medicines for mass treatment of the NTDs, including intestinal helminth infections, schistosomiasis, lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, and trachoma. Today, in some of the African Sahelian OIC nations, only a small percentage of the at-risk populations (including children) benefit from regular and periodic mass drug administration. This problem could be addressed through increased financial support and technical cooperation among OIC nations.

In addition, there is an urgent need to create new vaccines for some of the NTDs and other poverty-related neglected diseases arising out of the conflict nations highlighted above. We need new vaccines for leishmaniasis, coronavirus infections, viral HFs, and other diseases. In terms of nations adjacent to Middle East conflict zones, currently both Saudi Arabia and Iran, as well as other Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) nations, have substantial capacities for vaccine biotechnology. We need to do better tapping into those strengths. In my role during 2015 and 2016 as United States science envoy for the State Department and White House, I worked to expand collaborations between the US and Saudi Arabia, now leading to joint scientific activities in the area of vaccine development. But such initiatives in the area of vaccine diplomacy need to be expanded. Could US-Saudi vaccine diplomacy extend to other nations? It would be worthwhile to also explore the inclusion of other nations in the Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia, particularly those that do not have historical connections to Saudi Arabia. In so doing, vaccine diplomacy could become a key 21st-century theme to address regional NTDs arising out of conflict and to promote international cooperation in the region and among the OIC nations.

PLoS One

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

[Accessed 17 February 2018]

Research Article

Parents' knowledge, beliefs, and acceptance of the HPV vaccination in relation to their socio-demographics and religious beliefs: A cross-sectional study in Thailand

Maria Grandahl, Seung Chun Paek, Siriwan Grisurapong, Penchan Sherer, Tanja Tydén, Pranee Lundberg

Research Article | published 15 Feb 2018 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0193054>

Research Article

Occurrence of measles in a country with elimination status: Amplifying measles infection in hospitalized children due to imported virus

HyeEun Eom, YoungJoon Park, JooWhee Kim, Jeong-Sun Yang, HaeJi Kang, Kisoong Kim, Byung Chul Chun, Ok Park, Jeong Ik Hong

Research Article | published 15 Feb 2018 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0188957>

Research Article

Choosing important health outcomes for comparative effectiveness research: An updated systematic review and involvement of low and middle income countries

Katherine Davis, Sarah L. Gorst, Nicola Harman, Valerie Smith, Elizabeth Gargon, Douglas G. Altman, Jane M. Blazeby, Mike Clarke, Sean Tunis, Paula R. Williamson

Research Article | published 13 Feb 2018 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0190695>

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

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

[Accessed 17 February 2018]

[Companies' contribution to sustainability through global supply chains](#)

Tannis Thorlakson, Joann F. de Zegher and Eric F. Lambin

PNAS 2018; published ahead of print February 12, 2018, <https://doi.org/10.1073>

Significance

Supply chains tied to multinational corporations represent over 80% of global trade and engage over one in five workers. Supply-chain management therefore has a significant impact on key social and environmental challenges. Despite this importance, there is currently no comprehensive, empirically grounded understanding of how companies address sustainability in their supply chains. We develop a global database based on a random sample of publicly listed companies with annual reports in English to provide insight into how the private sector contributes to advancing global sustainability via their supply chains. This study provides a large-scale empirical analysis of corporate sustainable-sourcing practices across multiple sectors and geographies.

Abstract

Global supply chains play a critical role in many of the most pressing environmental stresses and social struggles identified by the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Responding to calls from the global community, companies are adopting a variety of voluntary practices to improve the environmental and/or social management of their suppliers' activities. We develop a global survey of 449 publicly listed companies in the food, textile, and wood-products sectors with annual reports in English to provide insight into how the private sector contributes to advancing the SDGs via such sustainable-sourcing practices. We find that while 52% of companies use at least one sustainable-sourcing practice, these practices are limited in scope; 71% relates to only one or a few input materials and 60.5% apply to only first-tier suppliers. We also find that sustainable-sourcing practices typically address a small subset of the sustainability challenges laid out by the SDGs, primarily focusing on labor rights and compliance with national laws. Consistent with existing hypotheses, companies that face consumer and civil society pressure are associated with a significantly higher probability of adopting sustainable-sourcing practices. Our findings highlight the opportunities and limitations of corporate sustainable-sourcing practices in addressing the myriad sustainability challenges facing our world today.

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 33 - Issue 1 - February 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Preventive Medicine

Volume 107 Pages 1-116 (February 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/preventive-medicine/vol/107/suppl/C>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Proceedings of the Royal Society B

10 January 2018; volume 285, issue 1870
<http://rsph.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/285/1870?current-issue=y>
[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health

February 2018 Volume 155, In Progress
<http://www.publichealthjrnal.com/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Ethics

Volume 11, Issue 1, 1 April 2018
<http://phe.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>
Editorial

Editorial: Public Health Ethics—10 Years On

Marcel Verweij; Angus Dawson
Public Health Ethics, Volume 11, Issue 1, 1 April 2018, Pages 1–5,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/phe/phy003>
Extract

Public Health Ethics first appeared in April 2008, so with this issue, we celebrate 10 years of publication. The interest in public health ethics as a subfield of bioethics, already beginning to grow before the birth of the journal, has continued to expand steadily throughout this period. The success of Public Health Ethics over these 10 years is a reason for celebration. However, it is good to put this in perspective, in that a significant part of the interest is due to the continuing global need for public health action to address population-level health problems, the ongoing lack of public health infrastructures and poor environmental health in many places in the world, the growing health inequalities between rich and poor and growing health risks due to climate change, population movement, ageing, antimicrobial resistance and overconsumption...

Public Health Reports

Volume 133, Issue 1, January/February 2018
<http://phr.sagepub.com/content/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

Volume 28, Issue 3, February 2018
<http://qhr.sagepub.com/content/current>
Special Issue: Methods
[Reviewed earlier]

Refugee Survey Quarterly

Volume 36, Issue 4 December 2017
<http://rsq.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Research Ethics

Volume 13, Issue 3-4, July-October 2017
<http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/reab/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Reproductive Health

<http://www.reproductive-health-journal.com/content>
[Accessed 17 February 2018]

Research

17 February 2018

[Qualitative evaluation of the Saleema campaign to eliminate female genital mutilation and cutting in Sudan](#)

Authors: Andrea C. Johnson, W. Douglas Evans, Nicole Barrett, Howida Badri, Tamador Abdalla and Cody Donahue

Research

13 February 2018

[Research priority-setting: reproductive health in the occupied Palestinian territory](#)

Authors: Niveen M. E. Abu-Rmeileh, Rula Ghandour, Marina Tucktuck and Mohammad Obiedallah

Abstract

Key messages

:: Reproductive health experts in the occupied Palestinian territory were able to identify previously unaddressed priority research areas related to reproductive health

:: Future research needs to be guided by the research priority list to maximize efficient utilization of resources

:: The quality of services within the health system were among the top priority research areas identified, whereas questions related to adolescents sexual and reproductive health were least prevalent

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
[Reviewed earlier]

Risk Analysis

February 2018 Volume 38, Issue 2 Pages 213–426

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.2018.38.issue-2/issuetoc>
[Reviewed earlier]

Risk Management and Healthcare Policy

Volume 10, 2017

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

Science

16 February 2018 Vol 359, Issue 6377

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

Feature

The data thugs

By Adam Marcus, Ivan Oransky

Science16 Feb 2018 : 730-732 Full Access

Nick Brown and James Heathers have had striking success in catalyzing retractions by publicly calling out questionable data.

Summary

When it comes to correcting problematic data in the scientific literature, styles vary. Some scientists prefer to go through "proper channels," such as private conversations or letters to the editor. Others leave anonymous comments on online forums, such as PubPeer, for airing concerns about papers. Then there is the more public approach taken by Nick Brown and James Heathers. The two researchers—Heathers has called himself "a data thug"—have been remarkably effective at uncovering problematic data—and publicly airing their concerns on websites and in the media. Their work has led to corrections to dozens of papers, and the full retractions of about 20. But although the duo concedes that their assertive style might rub some scientists the wrong way, they've attracted relatively little criticism from academic peers. Indeed, many credit them with addressing an uncomfortable problem in the science world, and even send them tips on suspect papers.

Feature

The carbon harvest

By Julia Rosen

Science16 Feb 2018 : 733-737 Restricted Access

Vast bioenergy plantations could suck up carbon and stave off climate change. They would also radically reshape the planet.

Summary

In 2015, the Paris climate agreement established a goal of limiting global warming to "well below" 2°C. In the most recent report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, researchers surveyed possible road maps for reaching that goal and found something unsettling: In most model scenarios, simply cutting emissions isn't enough. To limit warming, humanity also needs negative emissions technologies that, by the end of the century, would remove more carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere than humans emit. The technologies would buy time for society to rein in carbon emissions, but they also give policymakers an excuse to drag their feet on climate action in the hopes that future inventions will clean up the mess. One particular technology has quietly risen to prominence, thanks to global models. The idea is to cultivate fast-growing grasses and trees to suck CO₂ out of the atmosphere and then burn them at power plants to generate energy. But instead of being released back into the atmosphere in the exhaust, the crops' carbon would be captured and pumped underground. The technique is known as bioenergy with carbon capture and storage, or—among climate wonks—simply as BECCS. Although BECCS is relatively cheap and theoretically feasible, the sheer scale at which it operates in the models alarms many researchers.

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 196 Pages 1-246 (January 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/social-science-and-medicine/vol/196/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Stability: International Journal of Security & Development

<http://www.stabilityjournal.org/articles>

[accessed 17 February 2018]
[No new digest content identified]

Stanford Social Innovation Review

Winter 2018 Volume 16, Number 1

https://ssir.org/issue/winter_2018

The only way that climate change will be reversed is by continuing to develop new technologies and turning them into products and services. Philanthropists play an important role in that process, particularly by investing in risky, early-stage, science-based startups that traditional investors shy away from. Read more about this in "[The Investment Gap That Threatens the Planet](#)," the cover story in the Winter 2018 issue.

Health

[Health Insurance for Migrants](#)

By Kristine Wong

The M-FUND offers affordable health insurance to the vulnerable Burmese migrant population on Thailand's western border.

Sustainability

Volume 9, Issue 10 (October 2017)

<http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/9/10>

[Reviewed earlier]

Torture Journal

Volume 27 - Issue No. 3

<http://www.irct.org/publications/torture-journal/128>

[Reviewed earlier]

Trauma, Violence, & Abuse

Volume 19, Issue 1, January 2018

<http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/tvaa/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases

November-December, 2017 Volume 20

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine & International Health

February 2018 Volume 23, Issue 2 Pages i–iv, 121–250

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tmi.2018.23.issue-2/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

UN Chronicle

Vol. LIV No. 4 2017 January 2018

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

Global Citizenship

This issue focuses on global citizenship, which has been defined as the concept that one's identity transcends, even as it respects, geographical and national borders, and that our social, political, environmental and economic actions occur in an interconnected world. The articles examine, among other things, the nexus between reducing inequality and global citizenship, safeguarding cultural and linguistic diversity, and the rights and responsibilities derived from being a global citizen.

In this issue of the UN Chronicle, we have invited a number of distinguished contributors to share with us their perspectives on what global citizenship is and how this concept can be translated into solutions to global challenges and concerns.

Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies

An International Interdisciplinary Journal for Research, Policy and Care

Volume 13, Issue 1, 2018

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rvch20/current>

Special Section: Increasing Understanding for Syrian Refugee Children with Empirical Evidence

[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 Alfredo 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

2018 - Vol. 9 - No 1 January 2018

<http://wjem.org/journal/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

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