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governance, ethics, evidence, policy, practice

## ***The Sentinel***

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

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***Period ending 17 March 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.*

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***:: Week in Review***

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

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## **Development – Global Trade**

### **World Bank Group Statement on Open Trade**

WASHINGTON, March 17, 2018 -- The World Bank Group today issued the following statement on open trade:

"One billion people have moved out of poverty through economic growth underpinned by open trade.

"Trade is an engine of growth that creates jobs, reduces poverty and increases economic opportunity. After a protracted period of low growth, the global economy saw trade volumes grow by 4.3% in 2017, the fastest rate in 6 years. Trade has made a significant contribution to growing GDP in many countries, where companies are trading goods across borders, and people are able to access goods and services at lower prices. Moving away from an open, rules-based, predictable, international trading system will slow growth, stifle innovation, and limit economic opportunity. Trade is not a zero-sum game. We hope that governments continue to engage in cooperative commercial exchanges that create opportunities for their people and work together to resolve trade disputes.

"It is true however that not everyone has shared fully in the benefits of trade and globalization. Research shows that trade has resulted in job losses in certain regions and industries. Technology has created faster and deeper changes for workers. We need to acknowledge these trends and promote policies that help all people benefit from the opportunities that come with trade and technological change."

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## **SDGs – New Agenda for Water Action**

### **12 World Leaders Issue Clarion Call for Accelerated Action on Water**

*A Fundamental Shift is Needed to Avert Devastating Consequences, Says High Level Panel on Water*

New York, 14 March, 2018 — A High Level Panel on Water consisting of 11 Heads of State and a Special Advisor has issued a New Agenda for Water Action calling for a fundamental shift in the way the world manages water so that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and in particular SDG6, can be achieved. This follows a 2-year mandate to find ways to accelerate solutions to the urgent water crisis.

"Making Every Drop Count: An Agenda for Water Action" presents many recommendations as part of an Outcome Report from the Panel, which was convened in January 2016 by the United Nations Secretary-General and the World Bank Group President.

"World leaders now recognize that we face a global water crisis and that we need to reassess how we value and manage water," said UN Secretary-General António Guterres. "The panel's recommendations can help to safeguard water resources and make access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation a reality for all."

### **Outcome Report "Make Every Drop Count: An Agenda for Water Action"**

High Level Panel on Water  
14 March 2018 :: 34 pages

In April 2016 the United Nations Secretary-General and President of the World Bank Group convened a High Level Panel on Water (HLPW), consisting of 11 sitting Heads of State and Government and one Special Adviser, to provide the leadership required to champion a comprehensive, inclusive and collaborative way of developing and managing water resources, and improving water and sanitation related services.

The core focus of the Panel was the commitment to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, as well as to contribute to the achievement of the other SDGs that rely on the development and management of water resources. ([Background note](#))

On 14 March 2018 the HLPW mandate ended with the release of their outcome package consisting of an open letter to fellow leaders, an outcome document, short summaries of key initiatives undertaken by the Panel and a “galvanizing” video.

### *Executive Summary*

Pressure on water is rising, and action is urgent. Gaps in access to water supply and sanitation, growing populations, more water-intensive patterns of growth, increasing rainfall variability, and pollution are combining in many places to make water one of the greatest risks to economic progress, poverty eradication and sustainable development. Floods and droughts already impose huge social and economic costs around the world, and climate variability will make water extremes worse. More troubling, if the world continues its current path, projections suggest that we may face a 40% shortfall in water availability by 2030. The consequences of such stress are local, national, transboundary, regional, and global in today’s interconnected and rapidly changing world, with consequences that will be disproportionately felt by the poorest and most vulnerable. Addressing these issues poses one of the greatest challenges facing the world.

Many of these challenges are captured in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). SDG6, the ‘Water SDG’, calls for progress around water supply, sanitation, water quality, water efficiency and scarcity, integrated water resources management, water and the environment, increased international cooperation, and involvement of communities in the management of water and sanitation. Water is the common currency which links nearly every SDG, and it will be a critical determinant of success in achieving most other SDGs – on energy, cities, health, the environment, disaster risk management, food security, poverty, and climate change among others.

The HLPW’s key message is that the world can no longer take water for granted. Individuals, communities, companies, cities, and countries need to better understand, value, and manage water. The HLPW articulates an agenda at three levels:

**:: A foundation for action.** To take effective action we need to understand the importance of the water we have, and therefore must invest in data; we need to value the water we have, in its social, cultural, economic and environmental dimensions; and we need to strengthen water governance mechanisms so that we can effectively manage it.

**:: Leading an integrated agenda at the local, country and regional levels.** Water flows across political and sectoral boundaries. The Panel therefore calls for an integrated approach, including sustainable and universal access to safe water and sanitation, building more resilient societies and economies, including disaster risk reduction, investing more and more effectively in water-related infrastructure, appreciating the centrality of environmental issues, and building sustainable cities and human settlements.

**:: Catalyzing change, building partnerships & international cooperation at the global level.** The Panel recommends progress in encouraging innovation, promoting partnerships, increasing finance, increasing institutional support, strengthening the global and

international water cooperation, and seizing the opportunity to take action with the Water Action Decade before us.

The HLPW, as political leaders, commit to leading change in these areas, and have identified specific recommendations and new initiatives for action, which are summarized in the following table and the report. The Panel calls on leaders and all stakeholders to join together in pursuit of safe water for all, managed sustainably.

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### **World Bank and World Food Programme Map Out Joint Strategy for Tackling Humanitarian and Development Challenges**

*[Editor's text bolding]*

WASHINGTON, March 14, 2018—The leaders of the World Bank and the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) have laid out an ambitious new plan to work together in the fight against extreme poverty and hunger.

World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim and WFP Executive Director David Beasley on Wednesday joined forces to knock down the practical and ideological barriers between “humanitarian” and “development” assistance in order to better tackle the complex challenges the world faces.

“By 2030, we estimate that half of the world’s extreme poor will live in fragile and conflict-affected countries,” Kim said. “If we are serious about ending poverty, we have to work closely with humanitarian organizations such as the World Food Programme. The framework we’re signing today builds on our respective strengths and demonstrates our commitment to work together to make sure no one is left behind.”

“Hunger is dramatically on the rise and millions of people are suffering. The world can’t afford to sit back and watch us work separately on these problems. Today signals an end to the siloed way of doing things and the beginning of WFP and the World Bank working closely together – regardless of who gets the credit – to fight hunger and poverty and increase stability and sustainability,” said Beasley of WFP.

While the World Bank and WFP share a vision of a world without extreme poverty and hunger, their approaches to tackling those problems in the past have been very different. Kim and Beasley on Wednesday signed a groundbreaking new framework to combine their organizations’ efforts in new ways, offering concrete guidance and support to help World Bank and WFP teams work together in countries across the globe.

**The strategic partnership framework – the first of its kind between the two institutions -- identifies nine priority areas where the combination of the World Bank’s analytic and financial expertise and WFP’s unparalleled operational footprint can have the most powerful effect together in reducing hunger and extreme poverty.**

**They include, but are not limited to: increased cooperation in fragile, conflict- or violence-affected contexts; enhancing collaboration on social protection; supporting digital identity management systems; support for school meals, health and nutrition programs; and joining forces to prevent childhood stunting in contexts where humanitarian and development agendas intersect.**



## **Oxfam Impact**

### **Oxfam announces Zainab Bangura and Katherine Sierra to co-lead Independent Commission on Sexual Misconduct**

16 March 2018

Zainab Bangura, a former Under-Secretary General of the United Nations, and Katherine Sierra, a former Vice-President of the World Bank, will co-chair an Independent Commission on Sexual Misconduct, Accountability and Culture Change, Oxfam said today.

The Independent Commission has been formed in response to incidents of sexual misconduct by Oxfam staff in countries including Chad and Haiti and concerns about the way Oxfam responded to them at the time.

Ms. Bangura served until recently as the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict. She was formerly Sierra Leone's Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

Ms. Sierra was formerly the World Bank's Vice-President for Human Resources and Sustainable Development. She co-led a World Bank Global Task Force to Tackle Gender-Based Violence. Bangura and Sierra head an independent group of experts from around the world who will look into all aspects of Oxfam's culture, policies and practises relating to the safe-guarding of staff, volunteers and beneficiaries.

The other Independent Commissioners are:

Aya Chebbi, co-founder of the Voice of Women Initiative and founding chair of Afrika Youth Movement;

James Cottrell, formerly the Global Chief Ethics Officer and Global Chief Sustainability and Corporate Responsibility Officer at Deloitte;

Musimbi Kanyoro, President and CEO of the Global Fund for Women

Birgitta Ohlsson, MP and former Minister for European Union Affairs in Sweden;

Katharina Samara-Wickrama, director of the Issues Affecting Women Programme (IAWP) at the Oak Foundation

Additional Independent Commissioners are being confirmed and will be announced in due course.

The Independent Commission will present a report with recommendations on what more Oxfam and the wider aid sector can do to create a culture of zero tolerance for any kind of sexual harassment, abuse or exploitation. The findings and recommendations of the Independent Commission will be made public.

Katherine Sierra said, "I have undertaken to help lead this Independent Commission because it is essential to understand what went wrong in the past, whether or not actions taken by Oxfam since 2011 have been effective in reducing the risk of such incidents, and what more they can do now to minimize the chance of such things happening again and to ensure that any incidents that do occur are responded to appropriately, including in terms of the support provided to victims and survivors. I look forward to working with my fellow Commissioners to identify the challenging and crucial lessons, both for Oxfam and the wider humanitarian and development sectors."

Zainab Bangura said: "I have long admired the work of Oxfam and other aid agencies whose staff often risk their lives to help others in terribly difficult situations. That's why so many of us were deeply concerned to see the reports of what some former Oxfam staff did in Haiti. We will ensure that we put the survivors and victims of abuse at the heart of our enquiries as we work to understand how the aid sector can become a safer place for all."

Oxfam's Executive Director Winnie Byanyima said: "We are grateful to the eminent women and men who have agreed to serve on this Independent Commission. Oxfam recognizes that the Commission's independence must be paramount in order to provide transparency and accountability to our partners, the public, and above all to the survivors of abuse. We must now ensure Oxfam and our sector is doing everything we can to be a place of safety and dignity for all women and men."

The Independent Commission is part of a number of measures Oxfam is taking to improve safeguarding. In the past three weeks Oxfam has tripled its funding to safeguarding and doubled the size of its dedicated support teams. It has announced new measures to ensure that no staff member can get a reference in Oxfam's name without it being approved first by an accredited referee. Oxfam has committed to work with others in the sector on a humanitarian passporting system that would stop offenders from moving from one organization to another.

It has also strengthened its whistle-blowing processes and is encouraging people to come forward if they have ever experienced or witnessed exploitation or abuse from any Oxfam staff member: +44(0)1865 472120.

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## **Human Rights – Machine Learning**

### **[How to Prevent Discriminatory Outcomes in Machine Learning](#)**

World Economic Forum

Global Future Council on Human Rights 2016-2018

March 2018 :: 30 pages

PDF:

[http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_40065\\_White\\_Paper\\_How\\_to\\_Prevent\\_Discriminatory\\_Outcomes\\_in\\_Machine\\_Learning.pdf](http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_40065_White_Paper_How_to_Prevent_Discriminatory_Outcomes_in_Machine_Learning.pdf)

#### *Abstract*

Machine learning applications are already being used to make many life-changing decisions – such as who qualifies for a loan, and whether someone is released from prison. A new model is needed to govern how those developing and deploying machine learning can address the human rights implications of their products. This paper offers comprehensive recommendations on ways to integrate principles of non-discrimination and empathy into machine learning systems.

This White Paper was written as part of the ongoing work by the Global Future Council on Human Rights; a group of leading academic, civil society and industry experts providing thought leadership on the most critical issues shaping the future of human rights.

Excerpt from Executive Summary

#### *...The challenges*

While algorithmic decision-making aids have been used for decades, machine learning is posing new challenges due to its greater complexity, opaqueness, ubiquity, and exclusiveness.

Some challenges are related to the data used by machine learning systems. The large datasets needed to train these systems are expensive either to collect or purchase, which effectively excludes many companies, public and civil society bodies from the machine learning market. Training data may exclude classes of individual who do not generate much data, such as those living in rural areas of low-income countries, or those who have opted out of sharing their data. Data may be biased or error-ridden.

Even if machine learning algorithms are trained on good data sets, their design or deployment could encode discrimination in other ways: choosing the wrong model (or the wrong data); building a model with inadvertently discriminatory features; absence of human oversight and involvement; unpredictable and inscrutable systems; or unchecked and intentional discrimination.

There are already examples of systems that disproportionately identify people of color as being at “higher risk” for committing a crime, or systematically exclude people with mental disabilities from being hired. Risks are especially high in low- and middle-income countries, where existing inequalities are often deeper, training data are less available, and government regulation and oversight are weaker.

While ML has implications for many human rights, not least the right to privacy, we focus on discrimination because of the growing evidence of its salience to a wide range of private-sector entities globally, including those involved in data collection or algorithm design or who employ ML systems developed by a third party. The principle of non-discrimination is critical to all human rights, whether civil and political, like the rights to privacy and freedom of expression, or economic and social, like the rights to adequate health and housing.

**Drawing on existing work, we propose four central principles to combat bias in machine learning and uphold human rights and dignity:**

– **Active Inclusion:** The development and design of ML applications must actively seek a diversity of input, especially of the norms and values of specific populations affected by the output of AI systems.

– **Fairness:** People involved in conceptualizing, developing, and implementing machine learning systems should consider which definition of fairness best applies to their context and application, and prioritize it in the architecture of the machine learning system and its evaluation metrics.

– **Right to Understanding:** Involvement of ML systems in decision-making that affects individual rights must be disclosed, and the systems must be able to provide an explanation of their decision-making that is understandable to end users and reviewable by a competent human authority. Where this is impossible and rights are at stake, leaders in the design, deployment and regulation of ML technology must question whether or not it should be used.

– **Access to Redress:** Leaders, designers and developers of ML systems are responsible for identifying the potential negative human rights impacts of their systems. They must make visible avenues for redress for those affected by disparate impacts, and establish processes for the timely redress of any discriminatory outputs.

We recommend three steps for companies:

1. Identifying human rights risks linked to business operations. We propose that common standards for assessing the adequacy of training data and its potential bias be established and adopted, through a multi-stakeholder approach.



2. Taking effective action to prevent and mitigate risks. We propose that companies work on concrete ways to enhance company governance, establishing or augmenting existing mechanisms and models for ethical compliance.
3. Being transparent about efforts to identify, prevent, and mitigate human rights risks. We propose that companies monitor their machine learning applications and report findings, working with certified third-party auditing bodies in ways analogous to industries such as rare mineral extraction. Large multinational companies should set an example by taking the lead. Results of audits should be made public, together with responses from the company...

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## **WEC - [Global Future Council on Human Rights](#)**

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## **Health – “World Drug Problem”**

### **[Working together for the health and welfare of humankind](#)**

*Joint Statement of INCB, UNODC and WHO in Implementation of the UNGASS 2016*

#### *Recommendations*

12 March 2018 – 61st session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

**1. We, the Heads of the International Narcotics Control Board, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization are committed to support our Member States to effectively address and counter the world drug problem.**



We agree that if we are to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, including its health targets, we need to vigorously address the world drug problem with a greater focus on the health and well-being of people. We need a balanced, comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach that puts people at the centre of the response and in particular those who are the most vulnerable.

This is in line with the objectives of the three international drug control conventions, to which we are committed. This is also aimed at facilitating implementation of the outcome document of the 30th Special Session of the General Assembly, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem". It is also consistent with the aim to achieve universal health coverage, where all people receive the health services they need, including people who use drugs and their families.

Our three entities complement one another, given the different roles they play and the mandates entrusted to them. By working together, we can "deliver as one" to serve people, communities and countries as a whole. We are committed to strengthen this collaboration, to advocate and to promote quality programmes and policies that improve public health and support high-impact actions that leave no one behind, are driven by science, and champion equity and human rights.

We recognize the challenges that lie ahead, but also the opportunities that we should embrace. We reaffirm our support for the full implementation of the outcome document of UNGASS 2016 and we also recognize that the world is a rapidly changing place and that urgent action is required to address emerging threats.

**We will focus our joint efforts on addressing the following priorities:**

- :: improving equitable access to controlled medicines in particular for the management of pain and for palliative care;
- :: scaling up effective prevention of non-medical drug use, and treatment services and interventions for drug use disorders;
- :: confronting the 'opioid crisis' that is devastating so many communities;
- :: intensifying delivery to people who use drugs of a comprehensive set of effective and scientific evidence-based measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse laid out in the technical guide issued by WHO, UNODC and UNAIDS 1, towards eliminating AIDS, tuberculosis and viral hepatitis epidemics;

**2. We therefore will work to proactively support countries:**

- :: to implement public health and social welfare measures as key elements of our response to the world drug problem;
- :: to enhance information-sharing and early warning mechanisms in support of a scientific evidence-based review of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful new psychoactive substances and precursors to facilitate informed scheduling decisions by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;
- :: to ensure and improve access to and quality of:
  - ...internationally controlled medicines including to manage pain and for palliative care while preventing their misuse;
  - ...evidence-based prevention of drug use, and treatment services for drug use disorders with special focus on youth, families and communities;
  - ...comprehensive services to prevent, diagnose and treat viral hepatitis, HIV and tuberculosis infections among people who use drugs.

:: to help monitor the progress in addressing the world drug problem and implementation of the UNGASS 2016 operational recommendations.

### **3. We stress the importance of Member States taking action to:**

:: strengthen their public health systems and their national coordination efforts to address the drug problem and dedicate appropriate resources and capacity for the successful implementation of their comprehensive drug-related policies;

:: advance universal health coverage efforts, by taking action to improve access to controlled medicines and effective and ethical prevention of drug use, and treatment services for people with drug use disorders and associated health conditions, including HIV, viral hepatitis and tuberculosis;

: facilitate information exchange and share the relevant data and information with our three entities to enable us to perform our respective treaty-based core functions; and

:: enhance political support and adequate resources to enable our three entities to deliver on these commitments and advance the achievement of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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## **Refugee Support**

### **International Rescue Committee, Mercy Corps, Google, Microsoft, Cisco and TripAdvisor Expand One-Stop Informational Portal for Refugees Under the Newly Formed Global Platform, Signpost**

*Expansion to Italy, Jordan and El Salvador Will Provide 60,000 Crisis-Affected Individuals with Access to Critical Information and Resources*

New York, NY, March 16, 2018 — Building on the success and necessity of the informational site [Refugee.Info](#), International Rescue Committee and Mercy Corps, alongside global partner PeaceGeeks and with support from Google, Cisco, Microsoft and TripAdvisor, announced today the expansion of the Europe-based Refugee.Info to Italy, and the launch of new sites in Jordan and El Salvador. The sites live under the umbrella of the global platform, [Signpost](#), a digital initiative focused on providing the humanitarian community with a platform to reach refugees, asylum seekers and crisis-affected communities with critical information in multiple languages. Each site provides potentially lifesaving, up-to-date information on legal rights, accommodation, transportation, medical facilities and more.

"Technology has played a critical role in providing refugees and crisis-affected individuals with the information they need to make informed choices about their lives. Refugee.Info has helped more than 600,000 people and the newly formed Signpost platform will build on its success," said Reynaldo Rodrigues, Signpost Project Director at the International Rescue Committee. "The platform is a testament to the power of partnership in helping solve society's most pressing issues. We are grateful to Google, Cisco, Microsoft and TripAdvisor because with their support we are able to expand this critical information pipeline to tens of thousands of the world's most vulnerable people."

Since its launch in Greece in 2015, Refugee.Info has served more than 600,000 people, meeting refugees and asylum-seekers in Europe online through its website, mobile application and social media, to listen to their questions and concerns, and provide the information they need to make informed choices about their lives. The expansion of the site to Italy, and the creation of new versions in Jordan and El Salvador will build on that information pipeline, providing crisis-affected individuals with essential and timely information that is local and context-specific.

"At a time when nearly 66 million people are on the run, technology plays a critical role in tackling the world's toughest challenges," said Meghann Rhynard-Geil, Technology for Development Advisor for Mercy Corps. "Signpost and innovative digital solutions for the humanitarian community have incredible potential to continue ensuring dignity and choice for vulnerable families in search of safety and a better life."

Additional details of the new initiatives are as follows:

**Italy:** Building upon the successful model of Refugee.Info, the service will extend coverage to Italy by the end of March 2018. The expansion is a direct response to the fact that Italy is now the primary point of entry in Europe for migrants and refugees. In 2017, Italy received over 118,000 arrivals by the Mediterranean Sea alone, compared to just over 28,000 in Greece.

**Jordan:** Since the start of the Syrian conflict, over 600,000 Syrians have fled to Jordan. Mercy Corps recently launched Khabrona.Info, which provides crucial information on important civil documents and paperwork for refugees settling in the country.

**El Salvador:** A new channel, CuentaNos, will also play a central role in the IRC's emergency response strategy in El Salvador. Similar to its counterparts in Europe and the Middle East, CuentaNos will provide crisis-affected communities with timely information about rights, services, and other safety topics through platforms that are accessible and preferred by beneficiaries. CuentaNos will be live by the end of April 2018.

"We're humbled to have had the opportunity to work alongside the International Rescue Committee on the Refugee InfoHub project since inception and thrilled to see how much progress has been made on the platform," said Hector Mujica, Google.org Program Manager. "Our Google volunteers have worked diligently alongside IRC to help scale the reach of the platform and adapt it to each refugee group's context. We are excited to continue to support the IRC's goal of bringing relevant and timely information to refugees when they need it most, where they need it most."...

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## **Syria – Sexual Violence in Conflict**

### **[UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Pramila Patten, Condemns the Use of Rape and Other Forms of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence Committed in Syria](#)**

*Press Release*

*[Editor's text bolding]*

(New York, 15 March 2018)

United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Pramila Patten, commended the work and efforts of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic for its findings documenting rape and other forms of sexual violence in Syria, which were contained in the Commission's conference paper released today entitled "I Lost My Dignity": Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in the Syrian Arab Republic.

**The Commission of Inquiry finds that the Syrian Government and associated militias used rape and other forms of sexual violence as part of a widespread and systematic attack against the civilian population of Syria in order to cause maximum "terror and humiliation to the population" and "to target civilians broadly perceived as associated with the opposition."**

The Syrian government reportedly used sexual violence primarily against women and girls and in house-to-house searches, at checkpoints and in detention. The International Commission of Inquiry found that “women and girls who were raped often witnessed the killing of male relatives” and that in detention settings “male guards routinely subjected women and girls to intimate searches, the most invasive of which amount to rape.” The Commission of Inquiry also found a pattern of rape and others forms of sexual violence against men and boys in detention by the Syrian Government, including acts of genital mutilation.

Special Representative Patten stated that: “The annual reports of the United Nations Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence have consistently listed the Syrian government and associated militias of committing or being responsible for patterns of rape and other forms of sexual violence and the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic’s findings provide yet further confirmation. The horrors it describes against Syrian women and girls, as well as men and boys, is yet another aspect of the tragedy that is the Syrian civil war.” Special Representative Patten stated further that the findings of the Commission of Inquiry demonstrate that these acts of conflict-related sexual violence are contrary to a series of Security Council resolutions and their acts constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The report of the International Commission of Inquiry also details conflict-related sexual violence committed by armed groups, including terrorist groups such as Jabhat Fatah al-Sham and the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL/Da’esh). Special Representative Patten stated that: “The Security Council has recognized in resolution 2331 (2016) that sexual violence can be used as a tactic of terrorism and this is apparent from the findings of the International Commission of Inquiry in Syria. Many of these terrorist groups’ victims were targeted because of their ethnicity or religion with an intent to destroy these populations.”

Special Representative Patten called on all parties to the Syrian conflict to immediately end the use of sexual violence, and for ongoing peace processes to address sexual violence as a matter of priority. She stated further that: “all survivors of sexual violence in Syria deserve justice, reparation and peace and all perpetrators must be held accountable.”

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## **Human Rights – Violations in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine states**

### **[Fact-finding Mission on Myanmar: concrete and overwhelming information points to international crimes](#)**

12 March 2018

GENEVA (12 March 2018) – Experts of the UN Fact-finding Mission on Myanmar called on Myanmar authorities Monday to stop dismissing reports that serious human rights violations have been committed in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine states.

“The body of information and materials we are collecting is concrete and overwhelming,” the three experts of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar noted in their interim, oral report to the 37th Session of the UN Human Rights Council.

“It points at human rights violations of the most serious kind, in all likelihood amounting to crimes under international law.”

Marzuki Darusman, former Indonesian Attorney-General and chair of the Fact-Finding Mission, delivered the oral report. He was joined on the podium by fellow experts Radhika Coomaraswamy of Sri Lanka and Chris Sidoti of Australia.

The interim report was based on information gathered from a series of missions to Bangladesh, Malaysia and Thailand, where teams of investigators conducted over 600 in-depth interviews with victims and witnesses of reported human rights violations and abuses. The teams have also collected and analysed satellite imagery, photographs and video footage of events.

"The events we are examining in detail in Rakhine, Kachin and Shan states are products of a longstanding, systemic pattern of human rights violations and abuses in Myanmar," report said. "Any denial of the seriousness of the situation in Rakhine, the reported human rights violations, and the suffering of the victims, is untenable," the experts said. "We have hundreds of credible accounts of the most harrowing nature."

The report listed eight major findings in relation to allegations in Rakhine State where so-called "clearance operations" of the Myanmar security forces, in response to ARSA (Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army) attacks, have driven nearly 700,000 Rohingya refugees into Bangladesh since August.

"Credible accounts are rife of the State's various security forces having committed gross human rights violations in the course of these operations," the experts said.

"These operations resulted in a very high number of casualties," the report said. "People died from gunshot wounds, often due to indiscriminate shooting at fleeing villagers. Some were burned alive in their homes – often the elderly, disabled and young children. Others were hacked to death."

Satellite imagery shows that at least 319 villages were partially or totally destroyed by fire after the "clearance operations" began on 25 August 2017...

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## **Rohingya Joint Response Plan**

### **[Geneva Palais briefing note on UNICEF Rohingya Joint Response Plan](#)**

GENEVA, 16 March 2018 - This is a summary of what was said by Marixie Mercado, UNICEF spokesperson in Geneva – to whom quoted text may be attributed – at today's press briefing at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

UNICEF's portion of the Rohingya Joint Response Plan being launched later today is for \$113 million to meet the needs of 720,000 children – Rohingya as well as Bangladeshi children in the communities hosting them – through the end of 2018.

The extraordinary efforts of the Bangladesh Government, with support from the humanitarian community, brought crucial protection and relief to children and families, many of whom had escaped death. The crisis continues – the Rohingya who can, are still fleeing Myanmar, with around 500 new arrivals every week over the past month. And the scale of immediate, basic, life-saving needs, remains immense. For example:

- :: 17 million liters of clean water are needed every day;
- :: 50,000 latrines are needed – of which over 28,000 are constructed;

:: Over 200,000 children are still not getting any form of education.

There are new and acute risks. Assessments conducted in November and December 2017 indicated that up to 70 per cent of water points were contaminated with e.coli bacteria. A shock chlorination campaign is now underway. For wells that are contaminated this entails dismantling handpumps and delivering chlorine into the well water -- 30 tube wells have so far been decontaminated. In the coming days and weeks, thousands of volunteers will help to decontaminate water from the 6,000 water points in the camps. They will operate the water points for up to 20 hours a day, chlorinating the jerry cans and buckets people use to collect water.

The Response Plan includes the preparedness work that is going into protecting Rohingya refugees from impending monsoon rains and potential cyclones. Earlier estimates pointed to 100,000 refugees -- almost 60% of whom are children -- at risk of flooding and landslides when the rains come. More recent planning estimates show that up to 220,000 are at risk of displacement, family separation and disease.

Preventing the spread of disease is a critical priority. During the height of the diarrhea outbreak last year, up to 10,000 cases were being reported every week. We are preparing for 40,483 cases over three months.

Over 1600 latrines have already been decommissioned to prevent contamination and the spread of disease. We have one fully functioning diarrhea treatment center and are setting up four more. We have already set up 10 health centres on higher ground and are building nine more.

Facilities including schools and child friendly spaces and health facilities that are at risk of floods and landslides have been mapped out -- these will be reinforced, decommissioned or relocated. Once the floods begin, it will become even harder for us to reach children and families with assistance, and for them to get to help. UNICEF is setting up temporary emergency shelters to prevent family separation and to ensure quick reunification, if necessary. Supplies will be prepositioned in a logistics unit close to the camps and will be moved to distribution centers via a network of porters who can transport the supplies on their backs if access becomes impossible for trucks.

The Response Plan includes longer-term needs -- most importantly education and protection, notably psychosocial support, for children. Together with partners, we have been able to reach 82,000 children between 4 and 14 years old with rudimentary learning -- English, Myanmar and some maths -- plus some basic life skills. The plan aims to reach 270,000 children by the end of the year -- a huge undertaking, but one that can spell the difference between hope and despair for every single one of those children. We also plan to provide psychosocial support to 350,000 children -- about 140,000 of whom we are now reaching. The need for this help, this healing, cannot be underestimated.

This appeal for Rohingya children does not represent a solution or answer to what drove them across the border in the first place, and the longer-term issues they face. It is an appeal to prevent sickness, abuse and death in an environment rife with risk for children; it is an appeal to provide them with a small semblance of normalcy, a little bit of childhood.

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**Yemen**

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

*Joint statement by WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner, UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi, UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake, WFP Executive Director David Beasley, IOM Director General William Lacy Swing, and Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Mark Lowcock.*

### *Statement*

2 December 2017 | GENEVA/ROME/NEW YORK - The partial lifting of the blockade of Yemen's Red Sea ports by the Saudi-led coalition in recent days is allowing humanitarian organizations to resume the provision of life-saving assistance to people in desperate need. Given the massive scale of Yemen's humanitarian crisis, however, all this does is slow the collapse towards a massive humanitarian tragedy costing millions of lives. It does not prevent it. Without the urgent resumption of commercial imports, especially food, fuel and medicines, millions of children, women and men risk mass hunger, disease and death.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## [Diphtheria vaccination campaign for 2.7 million children concludes in Yemen](#)

SANA'A, YEMEN, 16 March 2018

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### **Emergencies**

#### **POLIO**

##### ***Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)***

##### **Polio this week as of 13 March 2018** [GPEI]

:: New on [www.polioeradication.org](http://www.polioeradication.org): For International Women's Day, we highlighted the critical role that women play in global polio eradication efforts. Dr Adele Daleke Lisi Aluma works to reach children who have never been vaccinated, whilst in Somalia, women are the face of polio eradication. In Nigeria, dedicated female mobilizers are ending polio, one home at a time.

:: We also launched the Gender and Polio section of our website.

:: The Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on immunization (SAGE) Polio Working Group recently met in Geneva, Switzerland, to review global progress against polio. The group reviewed and endorsed the main elements of the Post-Eradication Strategy (PCS) currently being developed at the request of Member States, aimed at ensuring the availability of core functions to sustain a polio-free world after global certification (such as outbreak response capacity, surveillance, immunization and containment). The PCS will be presented in April to the full SAGE, and to Member States at the World Health Assembly (WHA) in May. The group also reviewed current outbreak response protocols to vaccine-derived poliovirus, and agreed with a proposed plan to harmonize recommendations on immunization schedules in countries with Polio Essential Facilities (PEFs – facilities that will continue to handle poliovirus stock under appropriate containment).

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

***Afghanistan:*** Advance notifications have been received of two new cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1), one occurring in Kunar province, and one in Kandahar province. Three new wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) positive environmental samples have been reported in Nangarhar province.

***Pakistan:*** One new WPV1 positive environmental sample has been reported in Balochistan province.

***Democratic Republic of the Congo:*** Two cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) reported, one from Tanganyika province, and one from Haut Lomami province.

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##### **WHO Grade 3 Emergencies** [to 17 March 2018]

##### **Iraq**

:: Seven years of Syria's health tragedy

News release 14 March 2018 | Geneva - After seven years of conflict in Syria, WHO has renewed its call for the protection of health workers and for immediate access to besieged populations.

Attacks on the health sector have continued at an alarming level in the past year. The 67 verified attacks on health facilities, workers, and infrastructure recorded during the first two months of 2018 amount to more than 50% of verified attacks in all of 2017.

"This health tragedy must come to an end," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General. "Every attack shatters communities and ripples through health systems, damaging infrastructure and reducing access to health for vulnerable people. WHO calls on all parties to the conflict in Syria to immediately halt attacks on health workers, their means of transport and equipment, hospitals and other medical facilities."...

## **Yemen**

:: Diphtheria vaccination campaign for 2.7 million children concludes in Yemen

SANA'A, YEMEN, 16 March 2018

*[See Milestones/Perspectives above for more detail]*

Nigeria - *No new announcements identified*

South Sudan - *No new announcements identified.*

The Syrian Arab Republic - *No new announcements identified*

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## **WHO Grade 2 Emergencies** [to 17 March 2018]

### **Bangladesh/Myanmar: Rakhine Conflict 2017**

:: Weekly Situation Report #17 - 13 March 2018

...VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS AND ROUTINE IMMUNIZATION

... The third round of 13-day Diphtheria campaign has started on 10 March. By day 3, 86 497 (21%) children aged 6 weeks to 15 years have been vaccinated in Ukhiya and Teknaf Upazilas. 1479 humanitarian workers have also received Td vaccine at session sites during campaign days.

... A fixed site at Cox's Bazar has started vaccinating humanitarian workers and will continue every Saturday henceforth.

... Routine EPI training was conducted in Teknaf and Ukhiya to reorient 270 vaccinators, supervisors, medical officers, and volunteers from Government and various NGOs who would be supporting EPI session sites in camps.

... Microplans for routine EPI in Rohingya refugee settings have been developed and EPI services at fixed sites are ongoing...

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.*

### **DRC**

:: UN Humanitarian Chief and Dutch Minister call for urgent international support to meet spiralling humanitarian needs in DR Congo

(Kinshasa, 13 March 2018) UN humanitarian chief Mark Lowcock and Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Sigrid Kaag, today called on the international community to urgently address the crisis facing the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) where humanitarian needs have doubled since last year. More than 13 million people in DRC need humanitarian assistance and 4.5 million have been forced to flee their homes as a result of fighting. More than 4.6 million Congolese children are acutely malnourished, including 2.2 million cases of severe acute malnutrition. Epidemics are spreading, including the worst outbreak of cholera in 15 years.

### **Syrian Arab Republic**

:: 16 Mar 2018 Update on the situation of children in Afrin and Eastern Ghouta

### **Yemen**

:: 13 Mar 2018 Yemen Humanitarian Update Covering 05 March – 11 March | Issue 6

Iraq - *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**

:: Ethiopia: Government and partners launch the humanitarian and disaster resilience plan (HDRP) for 2018 13 Mar 2018

US\$1.66 billion urgently needed to address food and non-food needs for 7.88 million people (Addis Ababa, 13 March 2018): The Government of Ethiopia and humanitarian partners today launched the Ethiopia Humanitarian and Disaster Resilience Plan (HDRP) for 2018. The HDRP seeks US\$1.66 billion to reach 7.88 million people with emergency food or cash and non-food assistance, mainly in the southern and south-eastern parts of the country. "In the last two years, the Government of Ethiopia, with the support of international donors and humanitarian partners, was able to mount a robust drought response operation. Today, we need that partnership once again as continuing drought, flooding and conflict-related displacement has left 7.88 million vulnerable people in need of urgent assistance", says Mr. Mitiku Kassa, Commissioner of the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC). "The Government of Ethiopia has committed \$138 million for drought response and rehabilitation of IDPs," added the Commissioner...

### **Nigeria**

:: UN allocates \$9 million to support life-saving aid in north-east Nigeria

(Abuja, 15 March 2018): The United Nations, through the Nigeria Humanitarian Fund, has allocated US\$9 million to provide life-saving aid to some 60,000 children, women and men recently displaced by ongoing hostilities in Borno State, including \$2 million in support of the UN Humanitarian Air Service for frontline responders in north-east Nigeria.

The humanitarian crisis in the region remains one of the most severe in the world today, with at least 7.7 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in 2018 in the worst-affected states of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states. About 80 per cent of them, 6.1 million, are targeted for humanitarian assistance...

### **Rohinga Refugee Crisis**

:: Joint Response Plan for the Rohingya crisis requests US\$951M to provide life-saving assistance to 1.3M people

16 March 2018

A new Joint Response Plan for the Rohingya humanitarian crisis has been launched today in Geneva. It requests US\$951 million to provide life-saving assistance to 1.3 million people, including Rohingya refugees who fled Myanmar to Bangladesh and local host communities. The priority needs in the plan, which covers the March-December 2018 timeframe, include food, water and sanitation, shelter, and medical care...

:: ISCG Situation Report: Rohingya Refugee Crisis, Cox's Bazar | 11 March 2018

## **Somalia**

:: Donors agree measures to prevent famine in Somalia in 2018 06 Mar 2018

In support of The Federal Government of Somalia, the United Kingdom and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) convened an event in London on 6 March 2018 to draw urgent attention to the humanitarian crisis in Somalia and the need for a swift and substantial response...The event was attended by 31 Member States, UN Agencies, international organizations and non-governmental organizations committed to ensuring support for the humanitarian situation in Somalia for 2018...

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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 March 2018]

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

16 March 2018

SG/SM/18940

**Reality on Ground across Syria Demands Immediate Action to Protect Civilians, Alleviate Suffering, Says Secretary-General**

16 March 2018

SG/SM/18939-REF/1257

**Secretary-General Urges Justice for Rohingya Community, in Video Message on Refugee Crisis Joint Response Plan**

16 March 2018

WOM/2143

**Gender Equality in Land Rights, Ownership Vital to Realizing 2030 Agenda, Women's Commission Hears amid Calls for Data Collection on Tenure Security**

Unless gender equality extended to land rights and ownership, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development would become an impossible vision, the Commission on the Status of Women heard today during a panel discussion, continuing its sixty-second session.

15 March 2018

PI/2224

**ConsenSys Wins #Blockchain4Humanity Challenge for Designing Blockchain-Based Identification System to Help End Child Trafficking in Republic of Moldova**

NEW YORK, 15 March 2018 (Office of Information and Communications Technology) — The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the United Nations Department of Management's Office of Information and Communications Technology announced today that the Blockchain for Social Impact team of ConsenSys has won the Unite Ideas "[Blockchain for Humanity](#)" challenge, launched by the World Identity Network, the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the United Nations Office of Information and Communications Technology.

15 March 2018

SC/13250

**[Amid Deteriorating Conditions in Yemen, Security Council Presidential Statement Calls for Humanitarian Access, Strict Adherence to Embargo](#)**

The Security Council today underscored the dire humanitarian situation in Yemen, emphasizing that an inclusive political solution was needed to end the conflict.

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

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

*Selected Press Releases – "TOP NEWS"*

[Press briefing notes on the situation in Afrin, Syria](#)

[Mexico: Ayotzinapa investigation marred by torture and cover-ups - UN report](#)

[Comment by UN Human Rights Office Spokesperson Liz Throssell on the killing of Rio de Janeiro councillor Marielle Franco](#)

[Honduras election protests met with excessive and lethal force – UN report](#)

[UN experts urge Saudi Arabia to halt executions on spying, spreading Shia faith charges](#)

["Cambodia at a crossroads": UN expert calls on Government to choose path of human rights](#)

[UN experts condemn decision to seek death sentence against Egyptian photojournalist Abou Zeid](#)

[Eritrea: UN expert says more arrests, detentions after elderly school chief dies in custody](#)

**Human Rights Council** [to 17 March 2018]

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

15/03/2018

[Human Rights Council adopts the Universal Periodic Review outcomes of Guatemala, Switzerland and the Republic of Korea](#)

[Human Rights Council adopts Universal Periodic Review outcomes of Gabon, Ghana and Peru](#)

[Human Rights Committee examines civil and political rights in Norway](#)

[UN Commission of Inquiry on Syria: Sexual and gender-based violence against women, girls, men, and boys a devastating and pervasive feature of the conflict and must end now](#)

[Human Rights Council adopts Universal Periodic Review outcomes of Czech Republic and Argentina](#)

[Council holds dialogue with the special rapporteur on minority issues, starts general debate on human rights bodies and mechanisms](#)

14/03/2018

[Human Rights Council concludes general debate on human rights situations that require the Council's attention](#)

[Human Rights Council holds general debate on human rights situations requiring the Council's attention](#)

[Human Rights Council holds interactive dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi](#)

13/03/2018

[Human Rights Council holds interactive dialogue with the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan](#)

[Oral presentation of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi at the 37th session of the Human Rights Council](#)

[Human Rights Council holds interactive dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Syria](#)

[Human Rights Council holds high-level panel discussion on violations of the human rights of children in Syria](#)

[Human Rights Council holds enhanced interactive dialogue on the situation of human rights in Eritrea](#)

12/03/2018

[Human Rights Council discusses human rights situation in Myanmar](#)

[Human Rights Council discusses situation of human rights in Iran](#)

**[Fact-finding Mission on Myanmar: concrete and overwhelming information points to international crimes](#)**

*[See Week in Review above for more detail]*

[Human Rights Council holds interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea](#)

**Committee on the Rights of the Child** [to 17 March 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 March 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 March 2018]

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

16 Mar 2018

**Mali: Growing Insecurity Adds to Challenges to Protect Children from Grave Violations**

**Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health** [to 17 March 2018]

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

15 March 2018

**UN experts urge Saudi Arabia to halt executions on spying, spreading Shia faith charges**

**SRSG/SVC** Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 17 March 2018]

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

15 Mar 2018

**UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Pramila Patten, Condemns the Use of Rape and Other Forms of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence Committed in Syria**

*[See Week in Review for more detail]*

**UN OCHA** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Selected Press Releases*

16 March 2018

**Pool : 70 million dollars for humanitarian response and early recovery for 114,000 people in need of assistance**

15 March 2018

**UN allocates \$9 million to support life-saving aid in north-east Nigeria**

14 March 2018

**UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator in Ukraine, Neal Walker - Statement on humanitarian impact of continued shelling near the Donetsk Filter Station [EN/UK]**

**\$539 million funding appeal to address humanitarian needs in Palestine during 2018**

13 March 2018

**UN Humanitarian Chief and Dutch Minister call for urgent international support to meet spiralling humanitarian needs in DR Congo**

**United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock - Remarks to the media in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo on 13 March 2018 [EN/FR]**



[Exceptional allocation of US\\$30 million from the UN'S Emergency Response Fund \(CERF\) will sustain UNRWA'S life-saving work](#)

[Assistant Secretary-General and Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Syria Crisis, Panos Moutmtzis: Opening remarks at the high-level panel discussion on violations of the human rights of children in the Syrian Arab Republic, 13 March 2018 \[EN/AR\]](#)

[Ethiopia: Government and partners launch the humanitarian and disaster resilience plan \(HDRP\) for 2018](#)

**UNICEF** [to 17 March 2018]  
<https://www.unicef.org/media/>  
*Selected Press Releases*

**[Geneva Palais briefing note on UNICEF Rohingya Joint Response Plan](#)**

GENEVA, 16 March 2018 - This is a summary of what was said by Marixie Mercado, UNICEF spokesperson in Geneva – to whom quoted text may be attributed – at today's press briefing at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

**[Briefing note on the situation of children in Afrin and Eastern Ghouta, Syria](#)**

GENEVA, 16 March 2018 - This is a summary of what was said by Marixie Mercado, UNICEF spokesperson in Geneva – to whom quoted text may be attributed – at today's press briefing at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

**[No end in sight to seven years of war in Syria: children with disabilities at risk of exclusion](#)**

BEIRUT/AMMAN/DAMASCUS, 12 March 2018 – With no end in sight to the war in Syria, children with disabilities risk being excluded and forgotten.

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

**[Chad: Funding shortfall threatens Central African refugees](#)** 16 Mar 2018

**[Congolese flee horrific violence for Uganda](#)** 16 Mar 2018

**[As Venezuelans flee throughout Latin America, UNHCR issues new protection guidance](#)** 13 Mar 2018

*Press releases and news comments*

**[UN launches 2018 appeal for Rohingya refugees and Bangladeshi host communities](#)**  
16 Mar 2018

**[Statement by UNHCR Special Envoy Angelina Jolie on the Seventh Anniversary of the start of the Syrian Crisis](#)** 15 Mar 2018

**[UN Agencies call for stronger action to achieve equal nationality rights for all](#)**  
15 Mar 2018

New York — UN Women, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) called today for increased efforts to eradicate gender inequality in nationality laws, which is a key driver of statelessness.

In 25 countries around the world, nationality laws do not allow women to confer their nationality to their children on an equal basis as men. In more than 50 countries, women are denied equal rights to acquire, change or retain their nationality. These sex-discriminatory laws result in wide-ranging human rights violations.

At a high-level event today in New York, the three UN agencies, partners and affected women discussed the benefits of gender equality in nationality laws, and shared lessons learned from recent reforms in relevant legislations...

**IOM / International Organization for Migration** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Selected Announcements*

**UN launches 2018 appeal for Rohingya refugees and Bangladeshi host communities: Joint UNHCR/IOM Press Release**

2018-03-16 22:24

United Nations agencies and NGO partners today released the 2018 Joint Response Plan (JRP) for the Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis, a US\$951 million appeal to meet the urgent needs of nearly 900,000 Rohingya refugees and more than 330,000 vulnerable Bangladeshis in the communities hosting them.

**IOM Improves Living Conditions for Internally Displaced Families in DR Congo's Tanganyika Province**

2018-03-16 17:39

Kalemie – IOM, the UN Migration Agency, in the south-eastern Congolese city of Kalemie, continues the urgent relocation of internally displaced families from congested and unhealthy urban collective centres to a displacement site recently established in nearby Kalunga.

**US, UN Back Efforts to Assess Impact of Papua New Guinea Earthquake, Deliver Aid to Survivors**

2018-03-16 17:32

Port Moresby – Almost three weeks after the 7.5 magnitude earthquake that struck Papua New Guinea's remote provinces of Hela and Southern Highlands, IOM teams are working with the government and partners to assess the full impact of the disaster and deliver essential lifesaving...

**Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 12,318 in 2018; Deaths Reach 463**

2018-03-16 17:30

Geneva – IOM, the UN Migration Agency, reports that 11,636 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through the first 73 days of 2018, with about 48 per cent arriving in Italy and the remainder divided between Greece (29%), Spain (22%) and Cyprus (less than 1%).

**Stranded Migrants, Refugees Return Home from War-torn Yemen: IOM**

2018-03-15 12:54

Yemen – IOM, the UN Migration Agency, continues to help stranded migrants in Yemen return home, with the latest of its humanitarian return movements taking place this week (12/03) – one from Al Hudaydah for 41 Ethiopian migrants and a Croatian migrant and the other from Aden for...

**OM, FAO to Support Agricultural Livelihoods, Forestry on Bangladesh-Myanmar Border**

2018-03-13 16:50

Cox's Bazar – A farming initiative is bringing new opportunities and improving nutrition for families living on the Bangladesh-Myanmar border.

### **Joint Statement: Coercion of Children to Obtain Fingerprints and Facial Images is Never Acceptable**

2018-03-13 16:46

Brussels - IOM, together with other UN agencies and NGOs issued yesterday (12/03) a joint statement raising concerns ahead of the EU institutions' negotiations on 27 March on the EURODAC Regulation.

*[See Week in Review above for more detail]*

### **UNAIDS [to 17 March 2018]**

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

14 March 2018

*Feature story*

### **Improving data on key populations**

14 March 2018

UNAIDS has relaunched its Key Populations Atlas. The online tool that provides a range of information about members of key populations worldwide—sex workers, gay men and other men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, transgender people and prisoners—now includes new and updated information in a number of areas. And in addition to data on the five key populations, there are now data on people living with HIV.

Chief among the new data is information on punitive laws, such as denial of the registration of nongovernmental organizations, and on laws that recognize the rights of transgender people. The overhaul of the site was undertaken in consultation with representatives of civil society organizations, including the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association, which supplied some of the new data on punitive laws...

### **WHO & Regional Offices [to 17 March 2018]**

***Latest News***

### **India takes on malaria in its highest burden state**

14 March 2018 – India has made major inroads in reducing the toll of malaria. But the path towards elimination has proven a challenge in the eastern state of Odisha, which carries more than 40% of the country's malaria burden. This photo story illustrates how in recent years, the state government has dramatically scaled up efforts to prevent, diagnose and treat malaria – with impressive results in a short span of time

### ***Highlights***

### **Diphtheria vaccination campaign for 2.7 million children concludes in Yemen**

March 2018 – WHO, UNICEF and national health authorities have completed a large-scale vaccination campaign to control the spread of diphtheria in Yemen. The campaign targeted nearly 2.7 million children aged 6 weeks to 15 years in 11 governorates.

### **Have your say and help give every child the best start in life**

March 2018 – The Nurturing Care Framework for early childhood development is now entering its second phase of online consultations. The Framework builds on state-of-the-art evidence of effective interventions and recognises the critical importance of an enabling environment, with policies, information and services in a range of sectors including health, nutrition, education, social protection and child protection. The Framework will be launched at the time of the World Health Assembly in May 2018. The consultation runs until 28 March 2018.

### **Saving lives by sharing knowledge online**

March 2018 – In June 2017, WHO publicly launched its own Massive Open Online Courses platform – OpenWHO – offering online courses specially tailored for health emergency responders.

### **Pacific leadership in new WHO global commission on noncommunicable diseases**

March 2018 – Globally, communities are struggling to cope with the growing burden of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), such as heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and cancers. In another step forward in combatting this epidemic, WHO has established an Independent Global High-level Commission on Noncommunicable Diseases, where the Tongan Minister of Health and Public Enterprises, Dr Saia Ma'u Piukala, has been appointed as one of the commissioners who will help raise awareness of the issues and experiences of NCDs in the Pacific.

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### **WHO Regional Offices**

*Selected Press Releases, Announcements*

#### **WHO African Region AFRO**

*Selected Featured News*

- :: On the frontlines of the fight against Lassa fever in Nigeria 16 March 2018
- :: WHO establishes emergency water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services in health facilities to mitigate public health risks in South Sudan 16 March 2018
- :: Polio personnel support Lassa fever response in Nigeria for rapid containment of an unprecedented outbreak. 15 March 2018
- :: Kenya Certified Free of Guinea worm disease 14 March 2018
- :: WHO to roll out integrated disease surveillance training in districts hosting refugees. 13 March 2018
- :: WHO supports Nigeria to respond to new cholera outbreak in Borno State 13 March 2018
- :: South Sudan declares Rift Valley fever outbreak in parts of Eastern Lakes State 12 March 2018

#### **WHO Region of the Americas PAHO**

- :: PAHO urges countries to vaccinate against measles to maintain its elimination in the Americas (03/16/2018)

*[See Milestones/Perspectives above for more detail]*

#### **WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO**

- :: Delhi TB Summit: WHO South-East Asia countries commit to intensified efforts, concrete progress to End TB 14 March 2018

*[See Milestones/Perspectives above for more detail]*

#### **WHO European Region EURO**

- :: Seven years of grief: Syrian doctors and psychologists talk about the mental scars of war 16-03-2018
- :: Out of conflict, a new life for Syrian health workers in Turkey 15-03-2018
- :: Albania mounts rapid and comprehensive response to measles outbreak 14-03-2018
- :: Meetings with high-level Finnish delegation focus on emergencies, communicable and noncommunicable diseases 13-03-2018

#### **WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO**

- :: Seven years of Syria's health tragedy 14 March 2018

:: WHO responds to humanitarian needs of people living with HIV in Benghazi 8 March 2018

### **WHO Western Pacific Region**

:: Pacific leadership in new WHO global commission on noncommunicable diseases

SUVA, Fiji, 13 March 2018 - Globally communities are struggling to cope with the growing burden of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), such as heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and cancers. In another step forward in combatting this epidemic, WHO has established an Independent Global High-level Commission on Noncommunicable Diseases, where the Tongan Minister of Health and Public Enterprises, Dr Saia Ma'u Piukala, has been appointed as one of the commissioners who will help raise awareness of the issues and experiences of NCDs in the Pacific.

:: Emergency health team deployed to earthquake-affected provinces of Papua New Guinea  
08 March 2018.

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

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**UNFPA** United Nations Population Fund [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**UNDP** United Nations Development Programme [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Selected Press Releases/Announcements*

Posted on March 14, 2018

### **The Role of Parliaments as Partners in Women, Peace and Security**

Opening Remarks: 62nd CSW High-level Side Event on 'The Role of Parliaments as Partners in Women, Peace and Security'

Posted on March 13, 2018

### **Financial inclusion & Economic Empowerment of Women**

"Economic empowerment of women, especially Rural Women: lessons from the South"

**UN Division for Sustainable Development** [to 17 March 2018]

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

22 Mar 2018 –

### **18th Global Development Conference - Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for Development**

The 18th Global Development Conference, titled 'Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for Development,' will be held in New Delhi, India, on 22-23 March, 2018. The Conference will be a forum where global actors from governments, research, private sector and civil society can share knowledge and practices on innovative initiatives to address the development challenges of today and tomorrow. Discussions will enable progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The thematic focus of the Conference is threefold: Global Health Challenges, Sustainable Agriculture, and Skills, Employment & Industrial Transformation.

## **UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)** [to 17 March 2018]

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

March 14 2018

### **The challenge of multilingualism in sustainable development education**

How often do you communicate with someone in a language that is not your mother language? In this post, the SDG Academy's Jay Neuner and Jessica Scott reflect on multilingualism in sustainable development education.

March 14 2018

### **Finland Wins Double Gold in World Happiness Report 2018**

ROME, March 14 – This year Finland takes the top spot as the happiest country as measured by surveys undertaken by Gallup from 2015-2017. Rounding out the rest of the top ten in order of overall happiness are Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Switzerland, Netherlands, Canada, New Zealand, Sweden, and Australia. The U.S. ranked 18th, dropping down four spots from last year. In addition, Finland's immigrants are also the happiest immigrant population in the world, based on the available data from 117 countries.

March 13 2018

### **Launch of Africa Index consultation!**

(ci-dessous en français) The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the SDG Center for Africa (SDGC/A) are jointly working to develop and publish the Africa SDG Index and Dashboard, building on the flagship SDG Index and Dashboards global report. Our hope in producing th

## **UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division** [to 17 March 2018]

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

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

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

*No new digest content identified.*

## **UNEP** United Nations Environment Programme [to 17 March 2018]

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

15 Mar 2018 *Press release Green economy*

### **Leading investors partner with UN to boost climate transparency by piloting Financial Stability Board recommendations**

*:: UN Environment, together with nine investors from six countries – representing close to US\$ 3 trillion – have formed a leadership group to promote climate transparency by the investor community.*

*:: The group, including Norges Bank Investment Management (NBIM), Aviva, Caisse de Dépôt et Placement du Québec (CDPQ), Desjardins Group, Nordea and Storebrand Asset Management, will pilot the recent recommendations of the Financial Stability Board's Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD).*

*:: The outputs and conclusions of this group will stimulate and ease TCFD adoption by the wider industry, including the 1,900 investor members of the Principles for Responsible Investment.*

15 March 2018 – Nine leading pension funds, insurers, and asset management firms, announced today they will work together with UN Environment Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) on guidelines towards a first set of climate-related investor disclosures in alignment with the recommendations of the Financial Stability Board's (FSB) Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)...

11 Mar 2018 *Press release Oceans & seas*

**[#CleanSeas Innovation Challenge awards bright ideas to fight marine litter](#)**

The winners of the #CleanSeas Innovation Challenge, a competition among university students awarding creative ideas in tackling one of the most pressing environmental issues of our time, were announced today.

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

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

*No new digest content identified.*

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

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

15 March 2018, *New York*

**[Making progress on sustainable development, four least developed countries tapped to graduate from ranks of poorest](#)**

With increasing national earning power as well as access to better health care and education, four countries—Bhutan, Kiribati, São Tomé and Príncipe and Solomon Islands—will be recommended for graduation from the least developed country (LDC) category, the United Nations Committee for Development Policy (CDP) announced today.

"This is a historic occasion," said Professor Jose Antonio Ocampo, Chair of the Committee for Development Policy. "In the 47 years since the start of the Least Developed Countries category, only five countries have previously left the list." He added that two more countries, Vanuatu and Angola, are scheduled for graduation in 2020 and 2021 respectively.

"If the recommendation is endorsed by ECOSOC, 2018 has the potential to be a momentous year, increasing by more than half the total number of LDC graduates. Never before have so many countries been identified at a single review of the Committee for Development Policy," noted Ocampo.

The Committee's recommendations follow increases in the national income in all countries, as well as improved education and health. The Committee found that Government development policies, as well as an improved global economic environment and the coordinated efforts of the international community have driven the progress.

**[12 World Leaders Issue Clarion Call for Accelerated Action on Water](#)**

*[See Week in Review above for full announcement]*

**UNESCO** [to 17 March 2018]

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

16 March 2018

**[The International Advisory Committee \(IAC\) meets to chart way forward for the Memory of the World Programme](#)**

**[Interpreting and Representing Slavery and Its Legacies in Museums and Sites](#)**

13 March 2018

**[The protection of cultural heritage highlighted during UN Human Rights Council](#)**

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



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

16/03/2018 –

**Consensus key to advancing balanced action on drugs, says UNODC Executive Director**

12/03/2018 –

**Joint Statement of INCB, UNODC and WHO in Implementation of the UNGASS 2016 Recommendations**

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

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

Posted March 17, 2018

**Japan grants UN-Habitat USD 10m for Marawi Peacebuilding Project**

Marawi City, 15 March 2018 – The Government of Japan and UN-Habitat have exchanged notes to signify their partnership on a post-conflict shelter rehabilitation project, with financial support of USD 10 million from Japan. The Marawi Peacebuilding Through...

Posted March 17, 2018

**UN-Habitat to promote youth development in Kenya's Meru County**

Nairobi, 14 March 2018— UN-Habitat has signed an agreement with the County Government of Meru, Kenya to empower youth in that area. Under this landmark agreement, UN-Habitat has committed itself to support youth, local development and municipal...

Posted March 14, 2018

**UN-Habitat launches 'Migration and Inclusive Cities: A Guide for Arab City Leaders**

Kuala Lumpur, 14 March 2018— At the recent 9th session of the World Urban Forum (WUF9) in Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia, the publication Migration and Inclusive Cities: A Guide for Arab City Leaders was launched by the...

Posted March 14, 2018

**Edmonton conference bridges gap between climate change science and practice**

Edmonton, 8 March 2018 – A conference convened by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and co-organised by UN-Habitat has, for the first time, put the science behind climate change in cities at the centre of...

Posted March 12, 2018

**UN-Habitat Celebrates International Women's Day**

NAIROBI, 12 March 2018 – UN-Habitat marked this year's International Women's Day with a week-long campaign which commenced with a dialogue on "Homelessness and women's and children's right to adequate housing". Discussions focused the condition of...

Posted March 12, 2018

**FAO** Food & Agriculture Organization [to 17 March 2018]

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

15-03-2018

**Disasters causing billions in agricultural losses, with drought leading the way**

Natural disasters are costing farmers in the developing world billions of dollars each year, with drought emerging as the most destructive in a crowded field of threats that also includes floods, forest fires, storms, plant pests, animal diseases outbreaks, chemical spills and toxic algal blooms, says a new FAO report.

14-03-2018

**FAO launches mobile application to support fight against Fall Armyworm in Africa**

FAO has launched a mobile application to enable farmers, agricultural workers and other partners at the frontline of the fight against Fall Armyworm in Africa to identify, report the level of infestation, and map the spread of this destructive insect, as well as to describe its natural enemies and the measures that are most effective in managing it.

**ILO** International Labour Organization [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Occupational Safety and Health*

**Technology through the lens of occupational hazards and risks**

13 March 2018

Striking the balance between technological innovation in the workplace and occupational safety and health can be tricky, says Nancy Leppink, Chief of the ILO's Labour Administration, Labour Inspection and Occupational Safety and Health Branch.

*ILO Decent Work Results 2016-2017*

**ILO launches new app to highlight its results**

12 March 2018

New app shows the outcome of ILO work in 130 countries in 2016-2017.

**ICAO** International Civil Aviation Organization [to 17 March 2018]

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

16/3/18

**Fang Liu reappointed Secretary General of ICAO for a second term**

16/3/18

**ICAO Council adopts new Amendment enabling more integrated and responsive global air traffic management**

Montréal, 15 March 2018 – In an important step toward a more integrated and responsive global air traffic management (ATM) system, the ICAO Council, during its ongoing 213th Session, has adopted a new amendment to Annex 15 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention) covering Aeronautical Information Services.

ICAO Council President Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu highlighted that the new Amendment 40 to Annex 15 "sets an important milestone as aviation continues its current transition toward System Wide Information Management (SWIM) environments for modern aviation. This latest decision by the ICAO Council will now enable global air transport operations to complete the transition from product-centric and paper-based aeronautical information services (AIS) legacy processes, to a fully data-centric aeronautical information management (AIM) environment for global civil aviation."

Amendment 40 to Annex 15 defines the minimum data scope for interoperable digital data exchanges, strengthens the importance of quality controls along the aeronautical data process and supports the integration of modern aeronautical information products (digital data sets) that allow for automatic validation and verification procedures as well minimize the necessity of human intervention. It will also enable new capabilities to airspace users, consistent with the ICAO Global Air Navigation Plan...

**IMO** International Maritime Organization [to 17 March 2018]

<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/Home.aspx>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**WMO** World Meteorological Organization [to 17 March 2018]

<https://public.wmo.int/en/media/press-release>

*No new digest content identified.*

**UNIDO** United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 17 March 2018]

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

14 MARCH 2018

**Partnerships key to promoting economic empowerment for rural women in the MENA region**

NEW YORK, 14 March 2018 – The economic empowerment of rural women in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region was the topic of a side-event organized by the governments of Italy and Tunisia, in cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), UN Women and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

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

[https://www.iso.org/news\\_archive/x/](https://www.iso.org/news_archive/x/)

12 March 2018

**ISO 45001 – All you need to know**

Every day, thousands of lives are lost due to work accidents or fatal diseases linked to work activities. These are deaths that could and should have been prevented, and must be in the future. ISO 45001 aims to help organizations do just that...

**UNWTO** World Tourism Organization [to 17 March 2018]

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

16 March 2018

**Walking the talk: the value of human rights on the Camino de Santiago**

Madrid, Spain, 16 March 2018 - Tourism as an instrument for mutual understanding and sustainable development is at the centre of the international university project "The Value of Human Rights on the Camino de Santiago: Harnessing the Power of Tourism to Promote Cross-Cultural Dialogue and the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals". Over five days, students specializing in a variety of fields, from twenty universities in 13 countries, will travel 100 km on different routes of the Camino de Santiago, putting into practice the principles of sustainable tourism they have previously analysed.

**WIPO** World Intellectual Property Organization [to 17 March 2018]

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

Mar 12, 2018 PR/2018/815

**WIPO Cybersquatting Cases Reach New Record in 2017**

Three industries – banking and finance, fashion, and internet and IT – accounted for nearly one-third of all cybersquatting disputes handled by WIPO's Arbitration and Mediation Center in 2017 as trademark owners filed an all-time high of 3,074 WIPO cases under the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP).

**CBD** Convention on Biological Diversity [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

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**USAID** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Selected Press Releases*

**Readout of USAID Administrator Mark Green's Forum with USAID Implementing Partners on Preventing Sexual Misconduct**

March 12, 2018

*Readout*

On Friday, March 9, 2018, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator Mark Green hosted a Forum on Preventing Sexual Misconduct, which brought together senior USAID staff; the USAID Inspector General; and representatives from key partners, including non-governmental organizations, for-profit contractors, and United Nations agencies. Administrator Green reiterated the Agency's commitment to zero tolerance for sexual misconduct, and emphasized that USAID and its partners must share a commitment to the values of inclusion, integrity, dignity, and respect. The Administrator stressed that USAID and its partners have an obligation, as well as a moral imperative, to protect beneficiaries, especially children, young women, and other vulnerable populations.

**DFID** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Selected Press Releases*

**7 years of conflict in Syria: Statement by International Development Secretary and Foreign Secretary**

15 March 2018 DFID and FCO Press release

**Joint statement on the 7th anniversary of the Syrian conflict**

15 March 2018 DFID and FCO Press release

**ECHO** [to 17 March 2018]

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

17/03/2018

**Commissioner Stylianides in Colombia: over €31 million in humanitarian aid announced for Latin America and the Caribbean**

During an official visit to Colombia to visit EU aid projects and meet with government officials, Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Christos Stylianides has announced today €31 million for humanitarian aid and disaster...

.....

**African Union** [to 17 March 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]*

March 20, 2018

## **AfCFTA Business Forum: "Leveraging the Power of Business to Drive Africa's Integration"**

March 15, 2018

### **African Union congratulates the people of Sierra Leone for peaceful, transparent and credible General Elections.**

**ASEAN** Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 17 March 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]*

### **Mobilising civil society leaders across ASEAN for greater regional integration**

SINGAPORE, 14 March 2018 – The ASEAN Foundation in partnership with Temasek Foundation Connects is holding the 3rd S Rajaratnam Endowment (SRE) - ASEAN Community Forum (SRE-ACF) series from 14-15 March in Singapore. The 3rd SRE-ACF will focus on issues that contribute concretely to ASEAN advancement, and improve the well-being of the ASEAN people, through [...]

### **New ASEAN body, the Lead Implementing Body for Sustainable Infrastructure, established to strengthen connectivity and infrastructure**

JAKARTA, 14 March 2018 - The inaugural meeting of the Lead Implementing Body for the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025 Strategic Area on Sustainable Infrastructure (LIB-SI) was held on 14 March at the ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta. The establishment of the LIB-SI is a milestone as ASEAN intensifies..

**European Commission** [to 17 March 2018]

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

17/03/2018

### **Commissioner Stylianides in Colombia: over €31 million in humanitarian aid announced for Latin America and the Caribbean**

During an official visit to Colombia to visit EU aid projects and meet with government officials, Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Christos Stylianides has announced today €31 million for humanitarian aid and disaster preparedness for Latin America and the Caribbean.

### **EU supports the activities of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) with €82 million**

15/03/2018 - Today the European Union has made available €82 million for the 2018 operating budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

### **EU Facility for Refugees in Turkey: the Commission proposes to mobilise additional funds for Syrian refugees**

14/03/2018 - Following through on its commitment to support Syrian refugees in Turkey, the European Commission is today mobilising additional funding for the Facility for Refugees which has so far given 500.000 children access to education and is supporting 1.2 million refugees with monthly cash transfers.

### **EU expands its support to Libyan municipalities to enhance access to basic and social services for migrants and Libyans**

12/03/2018 - A new programme worth €50 million, to improve the living conditions and resilience of vulnerable populations in key Libyan municipalities has been adopted under the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (North of Africa window)

**OECD** [to 17 March 2018]

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

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

15-March-2018

### **Free trade zones are being used to traffic counterfeit goods**

Rapid growth in free trade zones – where economic activity is driven by reduced taxes and customs controls, light regulation and limited oversight – is unintentionally fostering growth in counterfeit goods trafficking, according to a new report by the OECD and the EU's Intellectual Property Office.

13-March-2018

### **OECD sees stronger world economy, but tensions are rising**

The global economic expansion is strengthening, as robust investment growth, an associated rebound in trade and higher employment drive an increasingly broad-based recovery, according to the OECD's latest Interim Economic Outlook.

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

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

[Site not responding at inquiry]

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

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

16/03/2018

### **OIC Secretary General Discusses with Pope Francis Terrorism, Rohingya and Quds Issues**

The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Dr. Yousef bin Ahmed Al Othaimeen met with His Holiness Pope Francis at the Vatican today, Friday, 16 March 2018.

13/03/2018

### **The OIC Joint Mission to Mali Assesses Political, Humanitarian Situation**

A joint delegation to Mali, dispatched by the Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Dr. Yousef Al Othaimeen, concluded a week-long mission to assess the political situation prevailing on the ground as well as the socioeconomic, humanitarian and developmental challenges facing the country, which has been coping with multifaceted problems since 2012 after attacks by armed groups. The joint delegation included representatives from the OIC General Secretariat, the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF) and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO).

**Group of 77** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

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**UNCTAD** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives]  
No new digest content identified.*

**World Customs Organization – WCO** [to 17 March 2018]

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

15 March 2018

**First WCO Global AEO Conference in Africa opens in Uganda**

The 4th WCO Global AEO Conference opened on the 14 March 2018 in Kampala, Uganda with more than 1500 registrations from over 95 countries to discuss dynamic developments in Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) programmes widely acknowledged as a key driver for solid Customs-Business partnerships...

*An Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) is defined by the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards as a party involved in the international movement of goods, in whatever function, that has been approved by, or on behalf of, a national Customs administration as complying with WCO or equivalent supply chain security standards.*

**WTO - World Trade Organisation** [to 17 March 2018]

[http://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news_e.htm)

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

15 March 2018

**DG Azevêdo in Brazil: Global Cooperation is essential to overcome economic challenges**

Director-General Roberto Azevêdo wrapped up his visit to Brazil on March 15 at the World Economic Forum Latin America Summit in São Paulo, where he praised the sustained recovery of the Brazilian economy and discussed how trade and global cooperation can help countries overcome economic challenges and promote growth, development and job creation. During the summit, the Director-General took part in a key-note panel discussion entitled 'A New Deal on Globalization' and in a session entitled 'E-commerce: expanding Trade Horizons'.

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**IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**International Court of Justice** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**International Criminal Court (ICC)** [to 17 March 2018]

*Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity*

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

15 March 2018

**President of the Assembly of States Parties responds to announcement of withdrawal from the Rome Statute by the Philippines**



The President of the Assembly of States Parties, Mr. O-Gon Kwon (Republic of Korea), has expressed concern in response to the announcement that President Rodrigo Duterte has taken steps for the Philippines to withdraw from the Rome Statute, the founding treaty of the International Criminal Court ("ICC").

"I regret this development. A State Party withdrawing from the Rome Statute would negatively impact our collective efforts towards fighting impunity", said President Kwon. "The ICC needs the strong support of the international community to ensure its effectiveness. I encourage the Philippines to remain as a party to the Rome Statute."

President Kwon recalled that the Philippines has participated actively in the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute since becoming a State Party in 2011, and as recently as December 2017 had publicly reaffirmed its support for the principles of the Rome Statute and the Court.

"All States Parties have the opportunity to voice their concerns before the Assembly, and I call on the authorities of the Philippines to engage in dialogue in this regard", President Kwon stated.

The Assembly of States Parties is the management oversight and legislative body of the ICC. It is comprised of representatives of States that have ratified and acceded to the Rome Statute. President Kwon was elected President of the Assembly for a three year mandate in December 2017.

11 March 2018

### **New ICC Presidency elected for 2018-2021**

Today, 11 March 2018, the judges of the International Criminal Court (ICC), sitting in a plenary session, elected Judge Chile Eboe-Osuji (Nigeria) as President of the Court for a three-year term with immediate effect. Judge Robert Fremr (Czech Republic) was elected First Vice-President and Judge Marc Perrin de Brichambaut (France) Second Vice-President.

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**World Bank** [to 17 March 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]*

*[See Week in Review for more detail on selected announcements below]*

### **World Bank Group Statement on Open Trade**

WASHINGTON, March 17, 2018 -- The World Bank Group today issued the following statement on open trade: "One billion people have moved out of poverty through economic growth underpinned by open trade..."

Date: March 17, 2018 Type: Press Release

### **Seven Out of 10 Top School Systems Are in East Asia Pacific But More Needs to be Done, World Bank Says**

JAKARTA, March 15, 2018 – The East Asia and Pacific region has seven of the top ten performing education systems in the world, with schools in China and Vietnam showing significant progress, according...

Date: March 15, 2018 Type: Press Release

### **The World Bank Approves an Innovative Project for Indigenous Peoples of Panama**

Washington, March 15, 2018—The World Bank Board of Directors approved a US\$80 million project today to improve the infrastructure and quality of health, education, water and sanitation services in 12 Indigenous...

Date: March 15, 2018 Type: Press Release

## **12 World Leaders Issue Clarion Call for Accelerated Action on Water**

A Fundamental Shift is Needed to Avert Devastating Consequences, Says High Level Panel on Water New York, 14 March, 2018 — A High Level Panel on Water consisting of 11 Heads of State and a Special...

Date: March 14, 2018 Type: Press Release

## **World Bank and World Food Programme Map Out Joint Strategy for Tackling Humanitarian and Development Challenges**

WASHINGTON, March 14, 2018—The leaders of the World Bank and the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) have laid out an ambitious new plan to work together in the fight against extreme poverty and hunger. World...

Date: March 14, 2018 Type: Press Release

**IMF** [to 17 March 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]*

March 13, 2018

## **Vienna Initiative Seeks New Growth Model to Drive Forward Innovation in Emerging Europe**

The Vienna Initiative, which helped protect the banking system in emerging Europe during the global financial crisis, has now set its sights on a growth model for the region that drives forward innovation and boosts productivity. Its new approach aims to give a fresh impetus to growth in the region and to promote convergence with higher income EU countries...

**African Development Bank Group** [to 17 March 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]*

## **African Development Bank and the International Solar Alliance team up to drive solar development in Africa**

16/03/2018 - The African Development Bank's Vice-President for Power, Energy, Climate and Green Growth, Amadou Hott, took part in the Founding Conference of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in New Delhi co-chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India and President Emmanuel Macron of France.

## **African Development Bank commends Japan's multi-billion-dollar support for Africa's economic transformation**

15/03/2018 - The President of the African Development Bank, Akinwumi Adesina, has commended the Government of Japan for its strong support of the Bank and its multi-billion economic transformation partnership with Africa. Adesina identified the private sector, energy and infrastructure development as key sectors that have benefited from Japan's support.

## **African Development Bank's Economic Outlook shows decline in regional economies**

13/03/2018 - The African Development Bank has expanded its flagship publication, the African Economic Outlook, with five regional reports. The regional economic studies were released in Tunis (North Africa), Abidjan (West and Central Africa), Nairobi (Eastern Africa) and Pretoria (Southern Africa).

**Asian Development Bank** [to 17 March 2018]

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

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

14 March 2018

**ADB Sells \$3.25 Billion 5-Year Global Benchmark Bonds**

ADB returned to the US dollar bond market with the pricing of a \$3.25 billion 5-year global benchmark bond issue, proceeds of which will be part of ADB's ordinary capital resources.

**Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank** [to 17 March 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 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

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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 March 2018]

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

7 March 2018

**A CHALLENGE FOR SIERRA LEONE**

Last October, Action Against Hunger's teams in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation of Sierra Leone completed a nationwide nutrition survey. The purpose of this exercise was to determine if the nutritional status of the population evolved since the last survey in 2014, to assess the situation post Ebola outbreak, and to identify what were the main determinants affecting the fight against hunger...

**Amref Health Africa** [to 17 March 2018]

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

March 16th, 2018

**Amref reveals plan to improve health access for 25 million Kenyans over the next five years**

Nairobi, March 15, 2018 ... Amref Health Africa in Kenya has today unveiled a plan to support the improvement of primary health care for 25 million people in the country over the next five years.

The ambitious plan, which will cost Ksh 26 billion (USD 262 million), focusses on improving access to basic health care services by underserved communities, women, children and the youth.

Speaking at the launch of Amref Health Africa in Kenya's Strategic Plan 2018- 2022, Amref's Country Director in Kenya Dr Meshack Ndirangu said the organisation will alter its business model in the face of increasing competition from non-traditional development players, shifting donor funding priorities and unpredictable changes in the donor policy environment driven by key issues like migration and security...

**Aravind Eye Care System** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**BRAC** [to 17 March 2018]

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

March 11, 2018

**77% of violence against women is perpetrated by family members**

March 11, 2018

by Sameeha Suraiya and Salina Shahnaz Shilpi

Violent acts against women and children are not always being committed by strangers, or happening in strange places. They are being carried out by the people we know and trust, often in our own homes...

**CARE International** [to 17 March 2018]

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

12th Mar 2018

**Civilians pay a heavy toll as the conflict enters its 8th year**

'For millions of men, women and children the past seven years have meant losing their home, moving from one place to the other in search of safety, sometimes beyond Syria's borders. When will they be able to go back? No one can tell. They feel their lives have been destroyed ...

**Clubhouse International** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Danish Refugee Council** [to 17 March 2018]

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

06.03.2018

**On the right path - Reaction to first draft of the Global Compact on Refugees**

*Read 15 NGOs' reaction to first draft of the Global Compact on Refugees. The NGOs strongly support the development of a Global Compact on Refugees, and welcome the improvements made in the first draft.*

On 9th March 2018, UNHCR released the revised and first draft for the Global Compact on Refugees which is under negotiation in the UN system. DRC along with 14 other NGOs have produced a reaction, which welcomes the changes made to the initial zero-draft. The current version of the Global Compact on Refugees reflects a higher ambition for States and the entire international community to take action: the language is more assertive, responsibility-sharing mechanisms are more clearly spelled out, and there are more convincing foundations for accountability. More can be done to put refugees and host communities at the center of the Compact text, but we are on the right path. DRC and other NGOs will continue to put pressure on States to produce a political agreement that can produce results for those it concerns.

[Read the full reaction here](#)

**ECPAT** [to 17 March 2018]

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

Posted on 16/03/2018

**South Asia grapples with both old and emerging types of child sexual exploitation**

*Traditional and emerging forms of sexual exploitation that exist 'side-by-side' are putting the children of South Asia at risk, says an ECPAT report.*

Combating the sexual exploitation of children in South Asia claims that while the sub-continent has long been a place where the sexual exploitation of children is a serious concern, today, children are more prone to be victimized in both the older offline world, and the newer online world, where there is a continuum of abuse and exploitation.

The report, which looked at the situation for children in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, says that in South Asia, early and forced marriage, and the trafficking of children for sexual purposes are established norms in many of these societies. However, today, evolving and emerging forms of sexual exploitation are beginning to increase in prominence...

**Fountain House** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Humanity & Inclusion** [nee Handicap International] [to 17 March 2018]

[http://www.handicap-international.us/press\\_releases](http://www.handicap-international.us/press_releases)

March 15, 2018 10:49 AM

**After death of partner organization's employee, HI condemns continuous bombings**

March 15, 2018 10:37 AM

**Syrian conflict: 7 years of terror**

**Heifer International** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**HelpAge International** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**ICRC** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Selected News Releases, Statements, Reports*

**Statement from ICRC President Peter Maurer following visit to Syria**

My visit to Syria this week reinforces my view that wars across the region have reached a frightening new normal.

16-03-2018 | Statement

**Croatia: Experts from 46 countries to discuss data protection in humanitarian action**

Over 65 million people have been forced to flee their homes globally due to armed conflict or natural disasters, often separated from their family members or stranded on different continents.

14-03-2018 | News release

**Syria: Evacuations of civilians must be humane**

Guidance to authorities in control in the event of humanitarian evacuations from Eastern Ghouta, Afrin, or any other area in Syria

14-03-2018 | News release

**IFRC** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**IRC International Rescue Committee** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Selected Press Releases & Statements*

*Press Release*

**International Rescue Committee, Mercy Corps, Google, Microsoft, Cisco and TripAdvisor Expand One-Stop Informational Portal for Refugees Under the Newly Formed Global Platform, Signpost**

March 16, 2018

*[See Week in Review above for more detail]*

*Statement*

**IRC calls on UK to table a UN Resolution on Yemen**

March 15, 2018

*Statement*

**Civilians must be kept out of the crossfire as thousands flee fighting in Eastern Ghouta**

March 15, 2018

*Statement*

**The International Rescue Committee Announces a Grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to Support Teachers of Syrian Refugees**

March 15, 2018

*Press Release*

**[IRC Poll: As Syria war turns seven, American public says 'don't send refugees back' until Syria is safe](#)**

March 13, 2018

**IRCT** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Islamic Relief** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Latest News*

**[Syria – Seven Years On](#)**

Today marks the seventh year of the conflict in Syria

**Landsea** [to 17 March 2018]

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

March 15, 2018

**[William H. Gates Sr. to Receive the Roy L. Prosterman Humanitarian Award](#)**

SEATTLE—Landesa is awarding William H. “Bill” Gates Sr. with the inaugural Roy L. Prosterman Humanitarian Award at Landesa’s Seed the Change gala on March 15, 2018 in Seattle, WA.

Landesa helps women and men living in the world’s poorest areas gain access to opportunity and break cycles of poverty. More than 50 years ago, Founder and Chairman Emeritus of Landesa, Roy Prosterman, embarked on a mission that has become his life’s work: providing secure, legal land rights to rural women and men.

The Roy L. Prosterman Humanitarian Award was created in 2017 by Landesa to recognize and highlight ground-breaking and lasting contributions to poverty alleviation.

“The Roy L. Prosterman Award provides a unique platform to celebrate and recognize leaders who embody the characteristics of Roy himself—vision, boldness, creativity and determination,” said Chris Jochnick, CEO Landesa. “Bill Gates Sr. is a visionary who has dedicated his life to poverty alleviation, and we honor him today for his extraordinary contributions,” Jochnick added.

This year’s winner, Bill Gates Sr., guided the vision and strategic direction of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. He first answered his son’s request for help in using his resources to improve reproductive and child health in the developing world by directing the William H. Gates Foundation, which was established in 1994. It merged with the Gates Learning Foundation to create the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in 2000...

**Medecins du Monde** [to 17 March 2018]

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

**[Syrian crisis: Seven years of impunity](#)**

This year 15 March marks seven years of war in Syria: the parties to the conflict, together with their allies, are killing with complete impunity, while the international community flounders impotently.

So much has already been said about the scale of the conflict: 350,000 deaths, a country bled dry and over half the Syrian population in exile or internally displaced.



Médecins du Monde – Doctors of the World (MdM) is calling on the international community to assume its responsibilities: to do everything possible to ensure access to humanitarian aid and to take action to end seven years of war crimes. A stop must be put to the impunity.

**MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Press release*

**Greece: Europe's Two-Year-Old Deal with Turkey Traps Thousands in Disastrous Conditions**

ATHENS /NEW YORK, MARCH 17, 2018—Two years after the signing of a deal between the European Union (EU) and Turkey, Europe's cynical strategy to contain and return people seeking asylum has trapped thousands of vulnerable people in disastrous conditions on Greek islands, the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) said today, calling on Greek and EU authorities to increase transfers to the Greek mainland.

**Mercy Corps** [to 17 March 2018]

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

March 16, 2018

**Mercy Corps' Commitment To Inclusion, Diversity And Safeguarding**

March 16, 2018

*[Excerpt]*

**Our Organizational Culture**

Mercy Corps is committed to building a better world where everyone is treated with dignity and respect, free of harassment and bias. Toward that end, in the spring of 2017, we made it a global priority to assess and where necessary strengthen our culture, policies and procedures related to gender, diversity and inclusion as well as sexual misconduct in any form. This proactive self-audit and improvement initiative reflects Mercy Corps' firm commitment to an inclusive and safe workplace for our team members around the world...

**Operation Smile** [to 17 March 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 March 2018]

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

16 March 2018

**Oxfam announces Zainab Bangura and Katherine Sierra to co-lead Independent Commission on Sexual Misconduct**

Zainab Bangura, a former Under-Secretary General of the United Nations, and Katherine Sierra, a former Vice-President of the World Bank, will co-chair an Independent Commission on Sexual Misconduct, Accountability and Culture Change.

*[See Week in Review above for more detail]*

**Norwegian Refugee Council** [to 17 March 2018]

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

Published 14. Mar 2018

### **"What we see now is a dramatic escalation of violence"**

Sara Noémie Plassnig|

Syria's war has now lasted for seven years and there seems to be no end in sight. Rachel Sider, NRC's advocacy and information adviser on Syria, talks about the escalating violence, the fatigue in the media, but also about her hope for the country.

### **A warning against mass returns to Syria**

Roald Høvring|Published 13. Mar 2018

As the war in Syria enters its eighth year, thousands of Syrian refugees are at risk of a potentially life-threatening return to Syria.

### **A new start-up**

Ephrem Chiruzza|Published 13. Mar 2018

"Now, I am capable of paying for food, health care and school fees for my kids," says Bembeleza, one of the 5,082 people who have benefited from our cash assistance distribution in Kitchanga town, Democratic Republic of the Congo.

**Pact** [to 17 March 2018]

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

February 20, 2018

*No new digest content identified.*

**Partners In Health** [to 17 March 2018]

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

Mar 05, 2018

### **Parents Managing HIV, Four Healthy Kids in Lesotho**

On a sunny morning in February, near the end of a hot, dry summer in the southern Africa nation of Lesotho, Mafelleng September held her month-old infant on her lap while two young children played on the floor in front of her. Read More

**PATH** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Plan International** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Save The Children** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Selected Press Releases*

Friday 16 March 2018

### **Fears of new health emergency facing Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh this monsoon season**

*New UN appeal launches calling for US\$950m to meet needs of Rohingya and host community*

Save the Children is warning that conditions are ripe for a devastating new health crisis in the Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh this coming monsoon season, which is expected to dump more than three metres of rain on the overcrowded and fragile settlements.

Monday 12 March 2018

**[Syria casualties soar by nearly 50 percent since creation of so-called 'de-escalation zones'](#)**

Monday 12 March 2018

**[UN and Civil Society organisations deeply concerned about the use of Coercion to obtain Fingerprints](#)**

Save the Children, along with a number of other civil society organisations and UN agencies, urges the EU to exempt all children, no matter what their age.

**SOS-Kinderdorf International** [to 17 March 2018]

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

Italy – 12 March 2018

**[Pedal power: Bicycles offer young refugees a way to learn](#)**

A workshop brings together a diverse group of adolescents to build skills and community spirit

**Tostan** [to 17 March 2018]

<http://www.tostan.org>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Women for Women International** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Recent Coverage*

**[The Most Neglected Crisis of 2017](#)**

March 2018 | Diplomatic Courier

[Diplomatic Courier](#) has published an article written by Kathleen Campbell, our Vice President of Programs, on the Democratic Republic of Congo as the most neglected crisis of 2017.

**World Vision** [to 17 March 2018]

<http://wvi.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

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

<https://freedomhouse.org/news>

*Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research  
Press Releases*

**Ukraine: Venice Commission Warns about Impact of 'NGO Legislation'**

March 16, 2018

*Following the release of an opinion by the Council of Europe's European Commission for Democracy through Law (the Venice Commission) on two draft laws on regulating NGOs in Ukraine, Freedom House issued the following statement:*

"The Venice Commission's opinion makes clear the risks that new government controls on civil society groups would bring to Ukraine's democracy," said Michael J. Abramowitz, president of Freedom House. "The proposed laws would seriously undermine civil society's independence and effectiveness, and were prepared without the broad consultation that is essential to democracy. If the legislation were passed in its current form, Ukraine would compromise one of the country's key engines of reform and jeopardize its standing with its international donors and supporters. Ukrainian authorities should seek to remove burdens from civil society organizations rather than impose new ones."...

**Transparency International** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

.....

**ChildFund Alliance** [to 17 March 2018]

<https://childfundalliance.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**CONCORD** [to 17 March 2018]

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

Mar 14, 2018

**Reporting back from the launch of the GCE Funding Study**

On 8 March 2018, CONCORD launched its report on GCE "Global Citizenship Education in Europe: How much do we care?". Why should we care about global citizenship education? How much funding goes to GCE in Europe? How much should we invest in Global Citizenship Education? These questions were addressed in the report and discussed by the panellists, including experts from DEVCO and UNESCO.

**Promotion of civic space and enabling environment in EU external action**

Mar 13, 2018

CONCORD new paper examines civil society at the heart of democracy and sustainable development. It looks at the key components of civic space and builds some relevant recommendations to civil society as well as to EU institutions and Member States.

**Let's put peace at heart of the development debate**

Mar 12, 2018

CONCORD in the news: Article in EUobserver, written by Anastasia Kyriacou from AidEx – As aid is increasingly spent less in the least developed countries, a new report by CONCORD has

revealed the EU is diverting an increasing proportion of spending towards conflict and security – to the point it has in the last decade outpaced all aid growth.

**Disasters Emergency Committee** [to 17 March 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 March 2018]

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

*Press release 15 March 2018*

**The Elders call for decisive action to end sectarian violence in Sri Lanka**

Following recent sectarian violence targeting Muslim communities on the island, The Elders call on the Government of Sri Lanka to end impunity for those committing and inciting violence, defend human rights and promote inter-communal reconciliation.

**END Fund** [to 17 March 2018]

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

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

**Evidence Aid** [to 17 March 2018]

[www.evidenceaid.org](http://www.evidenceaid.org)

*No new digest content identified.*

**Gavi** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Global Fund** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Hilton Prize Coalition** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*An Alliance of Hilton Prize Recipients  
No new digest content identified.*

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

<https://icvanetwork.org/>

*Upcoming events*

**ICVA Annual Conference 2018: Navigating the Nexus**

March 20, 2018 (All day)

The International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG), Geneva, Switzerland.

### **ICVA 17th General Assembly**

March 21, 2018 (All day)

CICG, Geneva, Switzerland

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

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**InterAction** [to 17 March 2018]

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

Mar 12, 2018

### **Statement on Cost of Cuts to Foreign Assistance**

*Ahead of Secretary Tillerson's Budget Testimony, Humanitarian, Development and Global Health Organizations Release New Data Showing the Devastating Human Costs of Proposed Administration Cuts to Foreign Assistance*

**Start Network** [to 17 March 2018]

[http://www.start-network.org/news-blog/#.U9U\\_O7FR98E](http://www.start-network.org/news-blog/#.U9U_O7FR98E)

14 Mar 18 *News Article*

### **The Disasters & Emergency Preparedness Program in Kenya**

Our video focuses on the work the Disasters and Emergencies Preparedness Programme (DEPP) has been doing in Kenya. We focus on empowering women, positioning local actors to better respond to crisis, such as food insecurity and also building the capacities of humanitarian agencies so that they are more inclusive in their responses.

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

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

15 March 2018

### **A humanitarian ombudsman revisited?**

In the wake of recent scandals, there have been renewed calls for an organisation or mechanism to hold humanitarians to account. Some have suggested the creation of a humanitarian ombudsman – an 'official who hears and investigates complaints against government agencies' – building on ideas that were originally explored twenty years ago. As two of those involved in that earlier effort, we think that the notion of an ombudsman – then and now – constitutes an interesting set of ideas, deserving of some constructive but critical reflection. Much has changed in the sector in the past two decades, but not everything.

The idea of creating an ombudsman was floated as one of the recommendations from the Joint Evaluation of Emergency Assistance to Rwanda in the mid-1990s. The British Red Cross offered to coordinate a feasibility study, which led to pilot initiatives in Afghanistan, Sierra Leone and Kosovo. This experience was then used to inform a series of subsequent initiatives starting with the Humanitarian Accountability Project, which developed into the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP), and more recently the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS). The fact that the ombudsman approach was not taken further then, does not mean that it is not necessarily relevant today, perhaps as a complement to other initiatives. We suggest that there

are some key areas that need to be considered when taking a fresh look at the ombudsman concept...

**CHS Alliance** [to 17 March 2018]

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

13/03/2018

**Blog compilation: preparing for shock: is preparedness the new frontier?**

Is investment in preparedness a good use of humanitarian funding? What are the best approaches to funding and programme design to ensure sustainable solutions and community leadership in preparedness programming? How can we inform future programming to ensure we have the right people with the right skills at the right place and time to prepare for and respond to disasters in the most appropriate way? Check out DEPP's blog compilation to learn more.

**Development Initiatives** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**EHLRA/R2HC** [to 17 March 2018]

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

**Annual Call for Proposals**

*R2HC 6TH annual CALL will be launched in June 2018*

R2HC aims to improve health outcomes by strengthening the evidence base for public health interventions in humanitarian crises.

**The Sphere Project** [to 17 March 2018]

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

16 March 2018 | *Sphere*

**Newly-nominated Sphere focal points to spread awareness on humanitarian standards in China and Germany**

Two new focal points have recently joined the ranks of the Sphere network, making it a 54 members strong global community of practitioners engaged in the promotion of humanitarian standards.

The focal points will expand the reach of Sphere's activities into China and Germany - running Sphere trainings, strengthening the local network, spreading awareness on humanitarian standards, and more generally improving the quality and accountability of the local disaster response systems.

The Benevolence Standards Working Group was recognized in January as Sphere's focal point in mainland China. The Group, which is itself a coalition of four organizations (the Amity Foundation, Showyou, The Disaster Relief Committee, and Zhuming Information Aid), was founded to create a common language and reference system around disaster relief coordination in the country. Working closely with two existing Chinese focal points, both based in Hong Kong, it will promote the contextualization and local application of humanitarian standards.

The new addition to the Sphere network in Germany responds to a strong need for increased Quality & Accountability advocacy in Europe, particularly in the context of the current refugee



crisis. Germany's newly-nominated focal point is a group of three experienced Sphere trainers: Dr. Markus Moke of Aktion Deutschland Hilft ([ADH](#)), Axel Schmidt of Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund Deutschland ([ASB](#)), and Dr. Oliver Hoffmann of Johanniter International Assistance ([JUH](#)). A long-time Sphere partner organization, ADH coordinated the translation of the Sphere Handbook into German in 2011.

The Sphere network currently spans 48 countries, where focal points and trainers advocate for the implementation of Sphere principles and values within the humanitarian community.

**Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP)** [to 17 March 2018]

<https://phap.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

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**Center for Global Development** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Publications*

**[Short-Term Impacts of Improved Access to Mobile Savings, with and without Business Training: Experimental Evidence from Tanzania - Working Paper 478](#)**

3/16/18

Gautam Bastian , Iacopo Bianchi , Markus Goldstein and Joao Montalvao

This paper presents short-term results from an experiment randomizing the promotion and registration of a mobile savings account among women microentrepreneurs in Tanzania, with and without business training. Six months post-intervention, the results show that women save substantially more through the mobile account, and that the business training bolstered this effect.

**[Paraguay: Is Good Macro Policy Enough to Ensure Adequate Resilience to Adverse External Shocks? How Does It Compare to Other Emerging Markets? - Working Paper 477](#)**

3/15/18

[Liliana Rojas-Suarez](#)

This paper assesses the resilience of Paraguay's economic and financial stability to external shocks and reaches two main conclusions.

**ODI** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Selected Research/Publications*

**[Forecasting hazards, averting disasters: implementing forecast-based early action at scale](#)**

Research reports and studies | March 2018 | Emily Wilkinson, Lena Weingartner, Richard Choularton, Meghan Bailey, Martin Todd, Dominic Kniveton and Courtenay Cabot Venton

This report examines current pilots in the emerging forecast-based early action programming and finance and offers suggestions for scale.

**[Eradicating child exploitation: why a gender- and adolescent-specific lens is essential to accelerate progress](#)**

Briefing papers | March 2018 | Elizabeth Presler-Marshall and Nicola Jones

This policy note highlights that a dual-pronged approach is necessary to eradicate child exploitation.

**Urban Institute** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Research Report*

### **Measuring Progress in Connecting Criminal Justice to Health**

This guide provides performance management strategies for practitioner agencies to measure the performance of initiatives to enroll people in Medicaid upon release from incarceration and connect them with health care services in the community. The guide details the steps for performance management and outlines potential performance metrics specific to Medicaid enrollment, prescription continuity, and connection with community-

Kamala Mallik-Kane, Jesse Jannetta, Harry P. Hatry, Jeremy Marks, Travis Reginal

March 16, 2018

Research Report

### **Connecting Criminal Justice–Involved People with Medicaid Coverage and Services: Innovative Strategies from Arizona**

This brief describes six strategies used in Arizona to connect justice-involved people with Medicaid coverage and health care services following incarceration. The strategies include automating data-sharing arrangements between justice agencies and the state Medicaid agency, automatically re-enrolling people who are about to be released in their previous Medicaid plan, and co-locating enrollment assistance and behavioral

Jane B. Wishner, Jesse Jannetta

March 16, 2018

Brief

### **Strategies for Connecting Justice-Involved Populations to Health Coverage and Care**

This guide presents an array of strategies for connecting justice-involved people to Medicaid coverage and physical and behavioral health care services. Designed to address the specific health care needs unique to justice-involved people, the guide provides a comprehensive road map for state and local justice and health care officials aspiring to more efficiently enroll justice-involved people in Medicaid or other health care

Jesse Jannetta, Stan Dorn, Emma Kurs, Travis Reginal, Jeremy Marks, Kinda Serafi, Jocelyn Guyer, Christopher Cantrell

March 16, 2018

Research Report

### **Mapping Child Care Demand and the Supply of Care for Subsidized Families**

As part of the Illinois–New York Child Care Research Partnership, this report explores local child care markets in New York and Illinois. We describe the distribution of child care programs with distinct characteristics across four study sites, investigate the match between child care supply and the needs of subsidy-eligible families, and examine alignment patterns that suggest opportunities for program development or

Heather Sandstrom, Amy Claessens, Marcia Stoll, Erica Greenberg, David Alexander, Charmaine Runes, Julia R Henly

March 16, 2018

Research Report

### **Research on Work Requirements, Access and Alignment of Supports for Low-Income Families**

Heather Hahn, senior fellow and co-lead of Urban's Safety Net to Solid Ground initiative, testified before the U.S. House Education and the Workforce subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development on research related to access, accountability, and other issues in supports for low income children and families. Her testimony addresses the research on work requirements in TANF, alignment of TANF and WIOA, measurement of

Heather Hahn

March 15, 2018

Testimony

### **Updated: The Potential Impact of Short-Term Limited-Duration Policies on Insurance Coverage, Premiums, and Federal Spending**

After publishing our brief last month, we received new information about Vermont and Washington that these states can be expected to experience the full effects of short-term limited-duration policy expansion. In this updated brief, we have reclassified Vermont and Washington in that group and revised all affected estimates in the text and tables. We have also corrected our previous statement that short-term limited-duration

Linda J. Blumberg, Matthew Buettgens, Robin Wang

March 14, 2018

Brief

### **The Road to School: How Far Students Travel to School in the Choice-Rich Cities of Denver, Detroit, New Orleans, New York City, and Washington, DC**

Scroll down to see our interactive map showing average school commute times for students in Denver, Detroit, New Orleans, New York City, and Washington, DC. How to get to school is an important issue for families who want to send their children to schools outside their neighborhood and for education policymakers seeking to implement school choice policies that mitigate educational inequality. We analyze travel times between the

Kristin Blagg, Matthew Chingos, Sean P. Corcoran, Sarah A. Cordes, Joshua Cowen, Patrick Denice, Betheny Gross, Jane Arnold Lincove, Carolyn Sattin-Bajaj, Amy Ellen Schwartz, Jon Valant

March 14, 2018

Research Report

### **World Economic Forum [to 17 March 2018]**

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

News 15 Mar 2018

:: [Leading the Way to Latin America's Future](#)

:: [Innovative Regional Agreements Set to Reinvigorate Trade](#)

:: [Latin America Begins to Tackle Corruption](#)

:: [World Economy Is Growing but Return to Excessive Euphoria Undesirable](#)

:: [Brazil Must Strengthen Structural Reforms to Drive Growth and Productivity](#)

:: [The World Economic Forum and the Inter-American Development Bank Strengthen Efforts to Accelerate Gender Parity in Latin America](#)

:: [Latin American Start-Up Outlook Looks Bright, Say Potential 'Unicorns'](#)

:: [President Temer Clarifies Brazil's Reaction to US Steel Tariffs](#)

News 14 Mar 2018

:: [World Economic Forum Launches Tech for Integrity Platform in Anti-Corruption Drive](#)

:: [Fake News Poses a Threat to Democracies across Latin America and Worldwide](#)

:: [World Economic Forum Convenes Health, Travel and Tourism Experts to Prepare for Next Global Outbreak](#)

:: [High Levels of Inequality Putting Latin America's Future Generations at Risk](#)  
:: [Global Energy Transition Must Accelerate to Thwart Climate Change](#)  
:: [13th World Economic Forum on Latin America Seeks to Shape New Narrative for Region](#)  
:: [World Economic Forum Unveils New Principles to Make Machine Learning More Human](#)  
[See Week in Review above for more detail]

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### **:: Foundation/Major Donor Watch**

*We will primarily monitor press/media releases announcing key initiatives and new research from a growing number of global foundations and donors engaged in the human rights, humanitarian response and development spheres of action. This Watch section is not intended to be exhaustive, but indicative.*

#### **Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

#### **BMGF - Gates Foundation** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

#### **Annie E. Casey Foundation** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

#### **Blue Meridian Partners** [to 17 March 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 March 2018]

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

*Press Release*

March 12, 2018

**[Clinton Foundation, The San Diego Foundation, County of San Diego Launch Blueprint to Improve Health and Well-Being of San Diego Children & Families](#)**

*Strong Families, Thriving Communities Coalition of community leaders outlines "Bold Action Steps"*

#### **Co Impact** [to 17 March 2018]

[www.co-impact.io](http://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 March 2018]  
<http://www.fordfoundation.org/?filter=News>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**GHIT Fund** [to 17 March 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 March 2018]  
<http://www.grameenfoundation.org/news-events/press-room>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**William and Flora Hewlett Foundation** [to 17 March 2018]  
<http://hewlett.org/latest-updates/>  
March 14, 2018  
[The state of state assessments](#)

In 2010, 46 states joined together in two different consortia (PARCC and Smarter Balanced) to create higher-quality, next-generation state summative assessments. Though these new tests were highly rated and received significant attention at the time, today only 20 states are participating in either consortia. So what has happened to state assessments, and where are they...

[Download PDF](#)

**Conrad N. Hilton Foundation** [to 17 March 2018]  
<http://www.hiltonfoundation.org/news>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**IKEA Foundation** [to 17 March 2018]  
<https://www.ikeafoundation.org/category/press-releases/>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute** [to 17 March 2018]  
<https://www.hhmi.org/news>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**Kaiser Family Foundation** [to 17 March 2018]  
[http://www.kff.org/search/?post\\_type=press-release](http://www.kff.org/search/?post_type=press-release)  
March 15, 2018 *News Release*

## **New Survey Examines the Provision of Family Planning Services by Community Health Centers**

A new national survey conducted by the Kaiser Family Foundation and George Washington University finds few of the nation's community health centers report they can handle a significant increase in patients. Less than one in five clinics report that they could increase their patient caseload by 25 percent or more in the next...

March 13, 2018 *News Release*

## **New Survey: Women's Health Coverage at All Time High; Affordability & Access Challenges Remain**

A new nationally-representative survey of women from the Kaiser Family Foundation finds that coverage rates for women are at all-time highs and use of preventive services is on the rise, but many women still face a wide range of affordability and other access challenges. Conducted in the summer and fall of 2017, the...

**Aga Khan Foundation** [to 17 March 2018]

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

15 March 2018

## **Georgia Governor issues Proclamation for the Aga Khan's Diamond Jubilee**

*"For 60 years, the Aga Khan has demonstrated a longstanding commitment to improving the human condition for the betterment of individuals and the advancement of societies around the world."*

Atlanta, USA, 14 March 2018 - Georgia's Governor Nathan Deal today presented His Highness the Aga Khan with a State Proclamation recognising his 60 years of dedication and inspiration towards improving human condition around the world. Governor Deal welcomed His Highness to Georgia on the occasion of his Diamond Jubilee – 60th anniversary – as Imam (Spiritual Leader) of the world's Shia Ismaili Muslim community...

## **Steering Committee for Aga Khan Award's fourteenth cycle announced**

Geneva, Switzerland, 12 March 2018 – The Aga Khan Award for Architecture today announced the members of the Steering Committee for the Fourteenth Award Cycle (2017 – 2019).

Established in 1977, the Award is given every three years to projects that set new standards of excellence in architecture, planning practices, historic preservation and landscape architecture...

**Kellogg Foundation** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**MacArthur Foundation** [to 17 March 2018]

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

March 16, 2018 - *Grantee Research*

## **State of Funding for Women's Environmental Action**

A study by Global Greengrants Fund shows that women are at the forefront of environmental action locally and globally, and funders are providing more than \$100 million each year to support the intersection of women and the environment.

March 16, 2018 - *Grantee Research*

## **The Big Picture of Mass Incarceration**

The Prison Policy Initiative's Mass Incarceration: The Whole Pie 2018 shows that U.S. jails admitted nearly 11 million people in 2016, and half a million people are detained in jails before trial every day.

March 16, 2018 - *Grantee Research*

**[Report Examines Whether Iran's Missiles Are Nuclear Capable](#)**

Iran has the largest and most diverse ballistic-missile arsenal in the Middle East, according to a report by the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

March 16, 2018 - *Grantee Research*

**[Envisioning a New Prosecutor's Office for Mexico](#)**

A Spanish-language report provides expert recommendations for the development of a new General Prosecutor's Office for Mexico.

March 16, 2018 - *Grantee Research*

**[Assessing Youth Education in Rural India](#)**

The Annual Status of Education Report by Pratham assesses the preparedness of youth ages 14-18 in rural India to lead productive adult lives by evaluating their educational abilities beyond foundational reading and arithmetic.

**Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**Open Society Foundation** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*No new digest content identified.*

**David and Lucile Packard Foundation** [to 17 March 2018]

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

*Resource*

**[Early Identification and Intervention Systems in California](#)**

March 13, 2018

*Overview*

Healthy child development plays a crucial role in getting children ready for school by age five. This is why it is so important to monitor young children as they grow, and to identify and address any developmental concerns as they emerge. Experts agree that this is important, but there's little known about what sort of systems are necessary for early identification and intervention to thrive. In this report, Harder + Co explores the experiences of three counties in California that have been identified as bright spots in early identification and intervention—Alameda, San Diego, and Santa Clara. The report explores the role of meaningful family engagement in Alameda County, it examines cross-sector collaboration and long-term partnerships in San Diego County, and it highlights the successes in closing service gaps in Santa Clara County. With other counties across the state interested in the lessons learned in these counties, through this report, Harder + Co seeks to offer insights and inspiration around early identification and intervention in California.

**Pew Charitable Trusts** [to 17 March 2018]



<http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/about/news-room/press-releases>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**Rockefeller Foundation** [to 17 March 2018]  
<https://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/about-us/news-media/>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** [to 17 March 2018]  
<http://www.rwjf.org/en/about-rwjf/newsroom/news-releases.html>  
March 14, 2018 *News Release*

**Rankings Show Differences in Health and Opportunity**  
*2018 County Health Rankings show gaps persist not only by place but by race and ethnicity.*

Princeton, N.J. and Madison, Wis.—For nearly a decade, the County Health Rankings have shown that where we live makes a difference in how well and how long we live. This year, our analysis shows that meaningful health gaps persist not only by place but also by race and ethnicity. These health gaps are largely influenced by differences in opportunities that disproportionately affect people of color, such as access to quality education, jobs, and safe, affordable housing.

This year's report shows some troubling trends. For example, after nearly a decade of improvement, we are seeing more babies born at low birthweight (8.2% in 2016, a 2% increase from 2014)—low birthweight is a key indicator of quality of life for mothers and babies. A pattern of disparity by race in low birthweight can be seen across the nation, with poor birth outcomes more likely among blacks. Compared to white babies, black babies are twice as likely to be born at low birthweight and about twice as likely to die before their first birthday.

"We can't be a healthy, thriving nation if we continue to leave entire communities and populations behind," said Richard Besser, MD, RWJF president and CEO. "Every community should use their County Health Rankings data, work together, and find solutions so that all babies, kids, and adults—regardless of their race or ethnicity—have the same opportunities to be as healthy as possible."...

**Science Philanthropy Alliance** [to 17 March 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..."*  
*No new digest content identified.*

### **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).*  
Published 31-1-2018

## **Philanthropic Foundations In Asia: Insights from Singapore, Myanmar and China**

The Asia Centre for Social Entrepreneurship and Philanthropy (ACSEP) in National University of Singapore

PDF:

[http://www.issuelab.org/requester/sdgs/id/29780?\\_ga=2.194427566.285607579.1521326525-887887441.1512259776](http://www.issuelab.org/requester/sdgs/id/29780?_ga=2.194427566.285607579.1521326525-887887441.1512259776)

This study looks at an emerging trend in which wealthy families, individuals, and corporations in Asia set up foundations to institutionalise their giving. This giving is motivated by a myriad of factors beyond prestige and status, including the desire to give back to society, religion, family and personal values, the desire to drive change, personal experience, and/or affiliations.

This study finds that philanthropic foundations in Asia can be characterised by their operational model, governance structure, and philanthropic focus. In emerging economies in Asia like Myanmar and China, these foundations tend to give nationally and operate their own programmes. On the other hand, foundations in developed economies like Singapore and Hong Kong tend to give both regionally and nationally via grants to civil society organisations that operate programmes, as opposed to running programmes themselves. Further, families tend to retain significant control of foundations in Singapore and Hong Kong, while programme funding serves as the preferred funding mode.

This study also discusses the various challenges and opportunities faced by the nascent philanthropic sector in Asia that can address some of the developmental and structural gaps left by the public, private, and people sectors.

### **Alfred P. Sloan Foundation**

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

*No new digest content identified.*

### **Wellcome Trust** [to 17 March 2018]

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

News / Published: 13 March 2018

#### **Wellcome's goals: support global research to tackle global challenges**

News / Published: 13 March 2018

Cell and developmental biology

Genetics, genomics and molecular biology

Infectious disease and the immune system

Influencing policy

Population health

In March 2017, Wellcome announced five ambitious goals to support research globally. Today we look at what we have achieved so far and what we are working towards in 2018.

Throughout 2017 we have worked towards these goals by working with colleagues from across the world.

Collaboration brings fresh ideas and new perspectives. Bringing people together from diverse backgrounds, often across borders, leads to new ways of thinking, better solutions and faster progress.

In 2016/17, Wellcome made 939 awards worth £1.1 billion, more than ever before and double what we supported a decade ago. We currently fund research activity in more than 100 countries and our non-UK funding continues to increase, largely driven by our commitment to major initiatives such as [CEPI \(opens in a new tab\)](#), [CARB-X \(opens in a new tab\)](#), [GARD-P \(opens in a new tab\)](#), [DELTA](#) and [H3Africa \(opens in a new tab\)](#), and by increased investments in our [Africa and Asia Programmes...](#)

News / Published: 9 March 2018

### **Sir Damon Buffini to stand down from our Board of Governors**

News / Published: 13 March 2018

After six years as a Wellcome Governor, Sir Damon Buffini will step down later this year.

Sir Damon joined Wellcome in September 2012. He was awarded a knighthood in the Queen's Birthday Honours 2016 for voluntary and charitable services.

He is a founding partner of Permira, a private equity firm with global reach. He was managing partner from 1997 to 2007 and Chair from 2007 to 2010...

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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**

March 2018 Volume 46, Issue 3, p245-362, e13-e24

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

[Reviewed earlier]

#### **American Journal of Preventive Medicine**

March 2018 Volume 54, Issue 3, p325-478, e41-e58

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

[Reviewed earlier]

#### **American Journal of Public Health**

March 2018 108(3)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

#### **American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene**

Volume 98, Issue 3, 2018

<http://www.ajtmh.org/content/journals/14761645/98/3>

[Reviewed earlier]

#### **Annals of Internal Medicine**

6 March 2018 Vol: 168, Issue 5

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation**

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

(Accessed 17 March 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

### **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 March 2018)

*Research article*

#### **[The impact of a human papillomavirus \(HPV\) vaccination campaign on routine primary health service provision and health workers in Tanzania: a controlled before and after study](#)**

*The burden of cervical cancer and shortage of screening services in Tanzania confers an urgent need for human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination. However, the sustainability and impact of another new vaccine cam...*

Authors: Katherine E. Gallagher, Tusajigwe Erio, Kathy Baisley, Shelley Lees and Deborah Watson-Jones

Citation: BMC Health Services Research 2018 18:173

Published on: 12 March 2018

### **BMC Infectious Diseases**

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

(Accessed 17 March 2018)

*Research article*

#### **[High vaccination coverage is associated with low epidemic level of seasonal influenza in elementary schools: an observational study in Matsumoto City, Japan](#)**

*Influenza virus transmission may be prevented by infection control measures, including vaccination, wearing a mask, gargling with water, and hand washing. It is unclear, however, whether these measures affect ...*

Authors: Mitsuo Uchida, Minoru Kaneko, Yoshihiko Hidaka, Hiroshi Yamamoto, Takayuki Honda, Shouhei Takeuchi, Masaya Saito and Shigeyuki Kawa

Citation: BMC Infectious Diseases 2018 18:128

Published on: 13 March 2018

### **BMC Medical Ethics**

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

(Accessed 17 March 2018)

*Research article*

15 March 2018

#### **[Ethical principles and placebo-controlled trials – interpretation and implementation of the Declaration of Helsinki's placebo paragraph in medical research](#)**

*In October 2013, the Declaration of Helsinki was revised a seventh time in its 50 year history. While it is the most widely accepted set of ethical principles for the protection of patients participating in medical research, the Declaration of Helsinki has also been subject of constant controversy. In particular, its paragraph on the use of placebo controls in clinical trials divides the research community into active-control and placebo orthodox proponents, both continuously demanding revisions of the Declaration of Helsinki in favour of their position. The goal of the present project is to compare the mainly theoretical controversy with regulatory implementation.*

Authors: Antonia-Sophie Skierka and Karin B. Michels

## **BMC Medicine**

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

(Accessed 17 March 2018)

*Research article*

### **Syrian refugees in Greece: experience with violence, mental health status, and access to information during the journey and while in Greece**

*Since 2015, Europe has been facing an unprecedented arrival of refugees and migrants: more than one million people entered via land and sea routes. This survey, conducted during a mass refugee crisis in a European Community country, provides important data on experiences in different refugee settings and reports the high levels of violence experienced by Syrian refugees during their journeys, the high prevalence of anxiety disorders, and the shortcomings of the international protective response.*

Jihane Ben Farhat, Karl Blanchet, Pia Juul Bjertrup, Apostolos Veizis, Clément Perrin, Rebecca M. Coulborn, Philippe Mayaud and Sandra Cohuet

Citation: BMC Medicine 2018 16:40

Published on: 13 March 2018

## **BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth**

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

(Accessed 17 March 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

## **BMC Public Health**

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

(Accessed 17 March 2018)

*Research article*

### **A national survey on violence and discrimination among people with disabilities**

*The aim of the study was to quantify levels of violence and discrimination among people with disabilities and analyze the effects of gender and the type and degree of disability.*

Authors: Jesper Dammeyer and Madeleine Chapman

Citation: BMC Public Health 2018 18:355

Published on: 15 March 2018

## **BMC Research Notes**

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

(Accessed 17 March 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

## **BMJ Open**

March 2018 - Volume 8 - 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Bulletin of the World Health Organization**

Volume 96, Number 3, March 2018, 145-224

<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/96/3/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**

March 2018 Volume 40, Issue 3, p353-496

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

## **Conflict and Health**

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

[Accessed 17 March 2018]

*Research*

### **[A qualitative approach to understand antiretroviral therapy \(ART\) adherence for refugees living in Nakivale Refugee Settlement in Uganda](#)**

Authors: Kelli N. O’Laughlin, Shada A. Rouhani, Julius Kasozi, Kelsy E. Greenwald, Nicholas R. Perkons, Zikama M. Faustin, Ingrid V. Bassett and Norma C. Ware

Citation: Conflict and Health 2018 12:7

Published on: 12 March 2018

*Abstract*

Background

Refugees living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa suffer unique hardships that may increase their vulnerability to interruptions in antiretroviral therapy (ART).

Methods

To investigate refugees’ experiences adhering to ART, we conducted inperson interviews with refugees on ART (n=73) and HIV clinic staff (n=4) in Nakivale Refugee Settlement in southwest Uganda from March to July 2011. Three analysts used a conventional content analysis approach to evaluate these data.

Results

Refugees described profound motivation to adhere to ART and employed adherence strategies to facilitate success despite the austere setting. However, refugees spoke of specific hardships living in Nakivale that served as barriers to ART adherence, including difficulty accessing clinic when ill, food insecurity, drug stockouts, and violence and unrest in the settlement. For some refugees, need for ART inextricably linked them to the HIV clinic and prevented them from transitioning permanently away from the settlement.

Conclusions

By learning about refugees' experiences we can design informed interventions to enhance ART adherence, thus minimizing morbidity and mortality, preventing transmission of HIV, and supporting refugees' abilities to move freely toward repatriation, resettlement or integration in their host country.

### **Contemporary Clinical Trials**

Volume 66 Pages 1-92 (March 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/contemporary-clinical-trials/vol/66/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases**

April 2018 - Volume 31 - Issue 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Developing World Bioethics**

March 2018 Volume 18, Issue 1 Pages 1–64

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dewb.2018.18.issue-1/issuetoc>

***Special Issue: Rebuilding Patient-Physician Trust in China, Developing a Trust-Oriented Bioethics***

[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 3, 2018

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **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**



April 2018 Volume 42, Issue 2 Pages 205–404  
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/disa.2018.42.issue-2/issuetoc>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **EMBO Reports**

01 March 2018; volume 19, issue 3  
<http://embor.embopress.org/content/19/3?current-issue=y>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Emergency Medicine Journal**

March 2018 - Volume 35 - 3  
<http://emj.bmj.com/content/35/3>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Emerging Infectious Diseases**

Volume 24, Number 3—March 2018  
<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Epidemics**

Volume 21, Pages 1-88 (December 2017)  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/17554365>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Epidemiology and Infection**

Volume 146 - Issue 4 - March 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 75

In progress (February 2018)  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/food-policy/vol/75/suppl/C>  
[Reviewed earlier]

**Food Security**

Volume 10, Issue 1, February 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/12571/10/1/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Forced Migration Review (FMR)**

February 2018

<http://www.fmreview.org/syria2018/contents.html>

***Syrians in displacement***

With 2018 marking the 7th anniversary of the Syrian conflict, this issue of FMR explores new insights and continuing challenges relating to the displacement of millions of Syrians both internally and in neighbouring countries. What we learn from responses to this large-scale, multi-faceted displacement is also relevant to other situations of displacement beyond as well as within the Middle East. FMR 57 contains 27 articles on 'Syrians in displacement', plus six 'general' articles on other topics.

**Forum for Development Studies**

Volume 45, 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 10, Issue 1, March 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/12371/10/1/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 5

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

*Article*

**Future-proofing global health: Governance of priorities**

Belinda Bennett, I. Glenn Cohen, Sara E. Davies, Lawrence O. Gostin, Peter S. Hill, Aditi Mankad & Alexandra L. Phelan

Pages: 519-527

Published online: 08 Mar 2017

**ABSTRACT**

The year 2015 was a significant anniversary for global health: 15 years since the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals and the creation of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, followed two years later by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria. 2015 was also the 10-year anniversary of the adoption of the International Health Regulations (May 2005) and the formal entering into force of the Framework Convention on the Tobacco Control (February 2005). The anniversary of these frameworks and institutions illustrates the growth and contribution of 'global' health diplomacy. Each initiative has also revealed on-going issues with compliance, sustainable funding and equitable attention in global health governance. In this paper, we present four thematic challenges that will continue to challenge prioritisation within global health governance into the future unless addressed: framing and prioritising within global health governance; identifying stakeholders of the global health community; understanding the relationship between health and behaviour; and the role of governance and regulation in supporting global health.

*Article*

**Safer Muslim motherhood: Social conditions and maternal mortality in the Muslim world**

Kylea Laina Liese & Angela B. Maeder

Pages: 567-581

Published online: 20 Sep 2017

**ABSTRACT**

The greatest variation in maternal mortality is among poor countries and wealthy countries that rely on emergency obstetric technology to save a woman's life during childbirth. However, substantial variation in maternal mortality ratios (MMRs) exists within and among poor countries with uneven access to advanced obstetric services. This article examines MMRs across the Muslim world and compares the impact of national wealth, female education, and skilled birth attendants on maternal mortality. Understanding how poor countries have lowered MMRs without access to expensive obstetric technologies suggests that certain social variables may act protectively to reduce the maternal risk for life-threatening obstetric complications that would require emergency obstetric care.

**Globalization and Health**

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

[Accessed 17 March 2018]

*Research*

16 March 2018

**Population aging and migration – history and UN forecasts in the EU-28 and its east and south near neighborhood – one century perspective 1950–2050**

*There is a gap in knowledge on long term pace of population aging acceleration and related net-migration rate changes in WHO European Region and its adjacent MENA countries. We decided to compare European Union (EU-28) region with the EU Near Neighborhood Policy Region East and EU Near Neighborhood Policy Region South in terms of these two essential features of third demographic transition. One century long perspective dating back to both historical data and towards reliable future forecasts was observed.*

Authors: Mihajlo Michael Jakovljevic, Yael Netz, Sandra C. Buttigieg, Roza Adany, Ulrich Laaser and Mirjana Varjadic

### **Health Affairs**

March 2018. Vol. 37, No. 3

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

#### ***Advancing Health Equity***

[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 2 - April 2018

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

#### *Perspective*

#### **Creating a 'hostile environment for migrants': the British government's use of health service data to restrict immigration is a very bad idea**

Lucinda Hiam, Sarah Steele, Martin McKee

<https://doi.org/10.1017/S1744133117000251>

Published online: 08 January 2018, pp. 107-117

#### *Abstract*

In January 2017, the UK Government made public a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Department of Health, National Health Service (NHS) Digital and the Home Office. This Memorandum allows for the more expedited sharing of a patient's non-clinical data, specifically from the NHS England to the Home Office. The Government justified the MoU as in the 'public interest to support effective immigration enforcement'. In this review, we seek to unpack this justification by providing, first, a background to the MoU, placing it in the context of creating a 'hostile environment' for migrants – a project initially sought by Theresa May in her time as Home Secretary. We then explore the potential impact of data sharing on individual health, public health and on health professionals. We conclude that the MoU could threaten both individual and public health, while placing health professionals in an unworkable position both practically and in terms of their duties to patients around confidentiality. As such, we agree with colleagues' position that it should be suspended, at least until a full consultation and health impact assessment can be carried out.

#### *Perspective*

#### **'Fair innings' in the face of ageing and demographic change**

Nisha C. Hazra, Martin C. Gulliford, Caroline Rudisill

<https://doi.org/10.1017/S1744133117000329>

Published online: 26 December 2017, pp. 209-217

#### *Abstract*

There are now 125 million people aged 80 years and over worldwide, projected by the United Nations to grow threefold by 2050. While increases in life expectancy and rapid increases in the older-age population are considered positive developments, the consequential future health care burden represents a leading concern for health services. We revisit Williams' 'fair innings'

argument from 1997, in light of technological and demographic changes, and challenge the notion that greater longevity may impose an unfair burden on younger generations. We discuss perspectives on the equity-efficiency trade-off in terms of their implications for the growing over-80 population, as well as society in general. This includes questioning the comparison of treatment cost-effectiveness in younger vs. older populations when using quality-adjusted life years and the transience of life expectancies over generations. While recognising that there will never be a clear consensus regarding societal value judgements, we present empirical evidence on the very elderly that lends support to a stronger anti-ageist stance given current increases in longevity.

### **Health Policy and Planning**

Volume 33, Issue 2, 1 March 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Health Research Policy and Systems**

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

[Accessed 17 March 2018]

*Research*

#### **Measuring research impact in medical research institutes: a qualitative study of the attitudes and opinions of Australian medical research institutes towards research impact assessment frameworks**

*The question of how to measure, assess and optimise the returns from investment in health and medical research (HMR) is a highly policy-relevant issue. Research Impact Assessment Frameworks (RIAFs) provide a c...*

Authors: Simon Deeming, Penny Reeves, Shanthi Ramanathan, John Attia, Michael Nilsson and Andrew Searles

Citation: Health Research Policy and Systems 2018 16:28

Published on: 16 March 2018

*Research*

#### **Building the evidence base on the HIV programme in India: an integrated approach to document programmatic learnings**

*The Knowledge Network project was launched in 2010 to build evidence on the HIV epidemic by using the data generated by HIV programme implementing organisations in India. This paper describes the implementatio...*

Authors: Deepika Ganju, Bidhubhusan Mahapatra, Rajatashuvra Adhikary, Sangram Kishor Patel, Niranjana Saggurti and Gina Dallabetta

Citation: Health Research Policy and Systems 2018 16:22

Published on: 12 March 2018

### **Human Rights Quarterly**

Volume 40, Number 1, February 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Humanitarian Exchange Magazine**

<https://odihpn.org/magazine/lake-chad-basin-overlooked-crisis/>  
<https://odihpn.org/magazine/lake-chad-basin-overlooked-crisis/>  
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 March 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

**Infectious Diseases of Poverty**

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

[Accessed 17 March 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

**International Health**

Volume 10, Issue suppl\_1, 1 March 2018

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

***Special Issue: Onchocerciasis: The Beginning of the End***

[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 3 (2018) March 2018

<http://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/36>

[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**

Volume 11 Issue 1 2019

<https://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/ijhrh/11/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

**International Journal of Infectious Diseases**

March 2018 Volume 68, In Progress

[http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712\(18\)X0002-2](http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712(18)X0002-2)

[Reviewed earlier]

**International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology**

Volume 25, 2018 - Issue 3

<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**



March 13, 2018, Vol 319, No. 10, Pages 957-1058

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

*Special Communication*

### **Health Care Spending in the United States and Other High-Income Countries**

Irene Papanicolaou, PhD; Liana R. Woskie, MSc; Ashish K. Jha, MD, MPH

free access has active quiz has multimedia has audio

*JAMA*. 2018;319(10):1024-1039. doi:10.1001/jama.2018.1150

This Special Communication analyzes data primarily from 2013-2016 to compare potential drivers of health care spending in the United States with those of 10 other high-income countries.

*Audio Interview: Health Care Spending in the United States and Other High-Income Countries*  
*Editorial*

*Factors Contributing to Higher Health Care Spending in the United States Compared With Other High-Income Countries*

*Stephen T. Parente, PhD*

*The Real Cost of the US Health Care System*

*Ezekiel J. Emanuel, MD, PhD*

*Challenges in Understanding Differences in Health Care Spending Between the United States and Other High-Income Countries*

*Katherine Baicker, PhD; Amitabh Chandra, PhD*

*Health Care Spending in the United States Compared With 10 Other High-Income Countries*  
*What Uwe Reinhardt Might Have Said*

*Howard Bauchner, MD; Phil B. Fontanarosa, MD, MBA*

### **JAMA Pediatrics**

March 2018, Vol 172, No. 3, Pages 205-303

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **JBIR Database of Systematic Review and Implementation Reports**

March 2018 - Volume 16 - Issue 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Journal of Adolescent Health**

March 2018 Volume 62, Issue 3, p249-358

[http://www.jahonline.org/issue/S1054-139X\(17\)X0018-9](http://www.jahonline.org/issue/S1054-139X(17)X0018-9)

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Journal of Community Health**

Volume 43, Issue 2, April 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10900/43/2/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Journal of Cultural Heritage**

Volume 30 Pages 1-210 (March–April 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-cultural-heritage/vol/30/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 131 Pages 1-150 (March 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-development-economics/vol/131/suppl/C>

[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**

March 2018 - Volume 72 - 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine**

February 2018 Volume 11, Issue 1 Pages 1–67

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jebm.2018.11.issue-1/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Global Ethics**

Volume 13, Issue 3, 2017

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

Guest Edited Section: World Government

*Introduction*

**[Introduction to the guest edited section: world government](#)**

Attila Tanyi

Pages: 260-263

Published online: 13 Mar 2018

*ABSTRACT*

In this introduction, I first present the general problematic of the special section. Our world faces several existential challenges (climate change, threat of (nuclear) war, and global injustice) and some would argue (with even more disagreeing) that the only adequate answer

to these challenges is setting up a world government. I then introduce the contributions that comprise the scholarly body of the special section: Andrić on global democracy; Hahn on global political reconciliation; Pinheiro Walla on Kant and world government; Miklós & Tanyi on institutional consequentialism and world governance. Lastly, I briefly describe the practical context in which the idea of the special section has arisen and in which the present contributions have taken shape.

*Article*

**Climate justice after Paris: a normative framework**

Alexandre Gajevic Sayegh

Pages: 344-365

Published online: 13 Mar 2018

**ABSTRACT**

This paper puts forward a normative framework to differentiate between the climate-related responsibilities of different countries in the aftermath of the Paris Agreement. It offers reasons for applying the chief moral principles of 'historical responsibility' and 'capacity' to climate finance instead of climate change mitigation targets. This will (i) provide a normative basis to realize the goal of climate change mitigation while allowing for developing and newly industrialized countries to develop economically and (ii) offer an account of the distributive principles that can regulate climate finance. This is a real-world interpretation of the 1992 UNFCCC principle of 'common but differentiated responsibilities' that takes into account the progress accomplished at the COP21 in Paris and offers a solution to the still unsolved problem of differentiated responsibilities. This paper offers an application of this proposal to the Green Climate Fund.

*Article*

**How should citizens' collective liability for state action be grounded?**

Robert Huseby

Pages: 366-379

Published online: 13 Mar 2018

**ABSTRACT**

This paper assesses one type of justification for collective liability – the democratic authorization account – according to which citizens can be held liable for what their state does, because they collectively authorize the state's actions. I argue that the democratic authorization view, properly understood, has an implausibly narrow scope, which risks leaving many victims of injustice without compensation. Hence, I propose a subsidiary account that is wider in scope, and which applies to most cases of state-inflicted harm. This view picks out liable agents on the basis of (a) their ability to bear the compensatory burdens, (b) the incentives that the prospect of liability give citizens to hold their states in check, and (c) distributive concerns. Lastly, I address the relationship between citizens who are (merely) collectively liable for some harm, and citizens who are to some extent morally responsible (for instance in virtue of having endorsed the state-inflicted harm).

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

Volume 29, Number 1, February 2018

<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/38046>

[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 2, April 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/20/2/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies**

Volume 16, 2018\_ Issue 1-2

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

***Special Issue: Mediatization and Politicization of Refugee Crisis in Europe***

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Infectious Diseases**

Volume 217, Issue 6, 5 March 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of International Development**

March 2018 Volume 30, Issue 2 Pages: 159-364

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

***Fiscal Policy, State Building and Economic Development***

*Introduction*

*Open Access*

**[Fiscal Policy, State Building and Economic Development](#)**

[Tony Addison](#) [Miguel Niño-Zarazúa](#) [Jukka Pirttilä](#)

Pages: 161-172

First Published: 13 March 2018

***Abstract***

This article presents a synopsis of the contextual conditions, factors and challenges under which the recent evolution of tax systems has taken place, as an introduction to this United Nations University-World Institute for Development Economics Research Special Issue. The article, as the studies in this collection, gives especial emphasis to the role natural endowments, political economy, social structure and history, and the interplay between politics and tax revenues. These are relevant issues, considering that the Millennium Development Goals and now the Sustainable Development Goals have placed fiscal policy, and tax policy and revenue mobilisation in particular, at the centre of national and international development efforts. Delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals will require a level of state revenue mobilisation capacity in many ways unprecedented in the history of development policy.

*Special Issue Articles*

*Open Access*

**[When Do Developing Countries Negotiate Away Their Corporate Tax Base?](#)**

Martin Hearson

Pages: 233-255

First Published: 13 March 2018

*Open Access*

**[Taxation and Inequality in Developing Countries: Lessons from the Recent Experience of Latin America](#)**

Bruno Martorano

Pages: 256-273

First Published: 13 March 201

*Open Access*

**[Tax Revenue Mobilization in Conflict-affected Developing Countries](#)**

Vanessa van den Boogaard Wilson Prichard Matthew S. Benson Nikola Milicic

Pages: 345-364

First Published: 13 March 201

**Journal of Medical Ethics**

March 2018 - Volume 44 - 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Medical Internet Research**

Vol 20, No 3 (2018): March

<http://www.jmir.org/2018/3>

[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.aurorahealthcare.org/jpcrr/>

***Health Disparities and Inequities: Part II***

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (JPIDS)**

Volume 7, Issue 1 March 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Pediatrics**

March 2018 Volume 194, p1-270

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice**

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

[Accessed 17 March 2018]

*Research*

13 March 2018

**[Pharmaceutical company spending on research and development and promotion in Canada, 2013-2016: a cohort analysis](#)**

*Competing claims are made about the amount of money that pharmaceutical companies spend on research and development (R&D) versus promotion. This study investigates this question in the Canadian context.*

Authors: Joel Lexchin

**Journal of Public Health Management & Practice**

March/April 2018 - Volume 24 - Issue 2

<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 the Royal Society – Interface**

March 2018; volume 15, issue 140

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

[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**

Mar 17, 2018 Volume 391 Number 10125 p999-1120 e9-e14

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

*Editorial*

**[The scars of violence on children](#)**

The Lancet

In the first 11 weeks of 2018, there have been 12 school shootings. Although shootings on school campuses only make up a tiny fraction of gun injuries and deaths annually, a March report from the Giffords Law Center focuses on the deep impact of gun violence on children in the USA, elaborating on how it extends far beyond the classroom.

Named in homage to the student survivors of the horrific Feb 14 shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, Protecting the Parkland Generation highlights the breadth and depth of the problem and proposes concrete solutions to lessen the impact of gun violence on children. Since 1999, more than 38 000 children have been killed and 166 000 injured by gun violence in the USA, comprising 91% of all children killed by firearms in high-income countries—the third leading cause of death in all Americans younger than 18 years.

School shootings make headlines, but the majority of this violence is more quotidian: suicide, domestic violence, crime, and simple accidents. Beyond the physical toll of violence, children who witness it are left with trauma that is often not adequately addressed. Some children exposed to shooting will develop PTSD, but there are also broader mental health consequences to consider. Schools regularly lead even the youngest children through “active shooter” drills, designed to help them survive a mass shooting but also leaving children feeling less safe.

The report offers so-called proven solutions to gun violence, from preventing children's access to guns—mandating safe storage, holding gun owners liable, and allowing doctors to discuss guns and gun safety with children and parents—to disarming people with histories of domestic violence, and supporting anti-gun violence programmes in urban areas, where gun violence is felt most intently. One of their recommendations, raising the legal age to purchase firearms from 18 to 21 years, has already become law in Florida. Parents, teachers, and policy makers need to embrace the energy and moral clarity of Parkland students' demand for change. The report's recommendations offer a long overdue start.

#### *Articles*

#### **[Global surveillance of trends in cancer survival 2000–14 \(CONCORD-3\): analysis of individual records for 37 513 025 patients diagnosed with one of 18 cancers from 322 population-based registries in 71 countries](#)**

*The CONCORD programme enables timely comparisons of the overall effectiveness of health systems in providing care for 18 cancers that collectively represent 75% of all cancers diagnosed worldwide every year. It contributes to the evidence base for global policy on cancer control. Since 2017, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development has used findings from the CONCORD programme as the official benchmark of cancer survival, among their indicators of the quality of health care in 48 countries worldwide. Governments must recognise population-based cancer registries as key policy tools that can be used to evaluate both the impact of cancer prevention strategies and the effectiveness of health systems for all patients diagnosed with cancer.*

Claudia Allemani, Tomohiro Matsuda, Veronica Di Carlo, Rhea Harewood, Melissa Matz, Maja Nikšić, Audrey Bonaventure, Mikhail Valkov, Christopher J Johnson, Jacques Estève, Olufemi J Ogunbiyi, Gulnar Azevedo e Silva, Wan-Qing Chen, Sultan Eser, Gerda Engholm, Charles A Stiller, Alain Monnereau, Ryan R Woods, Otto Visser, Gek Hsiang Lim, Joanne Aitken, Hannah K Weir, Michel P Coleman, CONCORD Working Group

#### *Review*

#### **[Universal health coverage and intersectoral action for health: key messages from Disease Control Priorities, 3rd edition](#)**

Dean T Jamison, Ala Alwan, Charles N Mock, Rachel Nugent, David Watkins, Olusoji Adeyi, Shuchi Anand, Rifat Atun, Stefano Bertozzi, Zulfiqar Bhutta, Agnes Binagwaho, Robert Black, Mark Blecher, Barry R Bloom, Elizabeth Brouwer, Donald A P Bundy, Dan Chisholm, Alarcos Cieza, Mark Cullen, Kristen Danforth, Nilanthi de Silva, Haile T Debas, Peter Donkor, Tarun Dua, Kenneth A Fleming, Mark Gallivan, Patricia J Garcia, Atul Gawande, Thomas Gaziano, Hellen



Gelband, Roger Glass, Amanda Glassman, Glenda Gray, Demissie Habte, King K Holmes, Susan Horton, Guy Hutton, Prabhat Jha, Felicia M Knaul, Olive Kobusingye, Eric L Krakauer, Margaret E Kruk, Peter Lachmann, Ramanan Laxminarayan, Carol Levin, Lai Meng Looi, Nita Madhav, Adel Mahmoud, Jean Claude Mbanya, Anthony Measham, María Elena Medina-Mora, Carol Medlin, Anne Mills, Jody-Anne Mills, Jaime Montoya, Ole Norheim, Zachary Olson, Folashade Omokhodion, Ben Oppenheim, Toby Ord, Vikram Patel, George C Patton, John Peabody, Dorairaj Prabhakaran, Jinyuan Qi, Teri Reynolds, Sevet Ruacan, Rengaswamy Sankaranarayanan, Jaime Sepúlveda, Richard Skolnik, Kirk R Smith, Marleen Temmerman, Stephen Tollman, Stéphane Verguet, Damian G Walker, Neff Walker, Yangfeng Wu, Kun Zhao

*Summary*

The World Bank is publishing nine volumes of Disease Control Priorities, 3rd edition (DCP3) between 2015 and 2018. Volume 9, Improving Health and Reducing Poverty, summarises the main messages from all the volumes and contains cross-cutting analyses. This Review draws on all nine volumes to convey conclusions. The analysis in DCP3 is built around 21 essential packages that were developed in the nine volumes. Each essential package addresses the concerns of a major professional community (eg, child health or surgery) and contains a mix of intersectoral policies and health-sector interventions. 71 intersectoral prevention policies were identified in total, 29 of which are priorities for early introduction. Interventions within the health sector were grouped onto five platforms (population based, community level, health centre, first-level hospital, and referral hospital). DCP3 defines a model concept of essential universal health coverage (EUHC) with 218 interventions that provides a starting point for country-specific analysis of priorities. Assuming steady-state implementation by 2030, EUHC in lower-middle-income countries would reduce premature deaths by an estimated 4·2 million per year. Estimated total costs prove substantial: about 9·1% of (current) gross national income (GNI) in low-income countries and 5·2% of GNI in lower-middle-income countries. Financing provision of continuing intervention against chronic conditions accounts for about half of estimated incremental costs. For lower-middle-income countries, the mortality reduction from implementing the EUHC can only reach about half the mortality reduction in non-communicable diseases called for by the Sustainable Development Goals. Full achievement will require increased investment or sustained intersectoral action, and actions by finance ministries to tax smoking and polluting emissions and to reduce or eliminate (often large) subsidies on fossil fuels appear of central importance. DCP3 is intended to be a model starting point for analyses at the country level, but country-specific cost structures, epidemiological needs, and national priorities will generally lead to definitions of EUHC that differ from country to country and from the model in this Review. DCP3 is particularly relevant as achievement of EUHC relies increasingly on greater domestic finance, with global developmental assistance in health focusing more on global public goods. In addition to assessing effects on mortality, DCP3 looked at outcomes of EUHC not encompassed by the disability-adjusted life-year metric and related cost-effectiveness analyses. The other objectives included financial protection (potentially better provided upstream by keeping people out of the hospital rather than downstream by paying their hospital bills for them), stillbirths averted, palliative care, contraception, and child physical and intellectual growth. The first 1000 days after conception are highly important for child development, but the next 7000 days are likewise important and often neglected.

## **Lancet Global Health**

Mar 2018 Volume 6 Number 3 e229-e350

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Lancet Infectious Diseases**

Mar 2018 Volume 18 Number 3 p227-356 e64-e106  
<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/issue/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

**Lancet Respiratory Medicine**

Mar 2018 Volume 6 Number 3 p161-230 e8-e10  
<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanres/issue/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

**Maternal and Child Health Journal**

March 2018, Issue 3, Pages 283-437  
<https://link.springer.com/journal/volumesAndIssues/10995>  
***Special Issue: Confronting Adversity: MCH Responds to ACEs***  
[Reviewed earlier]

**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 555 Issue 7696, 15 March 2018  
[http://www.nature.com/nature/current\\_issue.html](http://www.nature.com/nature/current_issue.html)  
[New issue; No digest content identified]

**Nature Medicine**

March 2018, Volume 24 No 3 pp247-374  
<https://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v24/n3/index.html>  
[Reviewed earlier]

**New England Journal of Medicine**

March 15, 2018 Vol. 378 No. 11  
<http://www.nejm.org/toc/nejm/medical-journal>  
*Original Article*

**[Antifungal Combinations for Treatment of Cryptococcal Meningitis in Africa](#)**

*Cryptococcal meningitis accounts for more than 100,000 human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)–related deaths per year. We tested two treatment strategies that could be more sustainable in*

*Africa than the standard of 2 weeks of amphotericin B plus flucytosine and more effective than the widely used fluconazole monotherapy.*

Síle F. Molloy, Ph.D., Cecilia Kanyama, M.D., Robert S. Heyderman, Ph.D., Angela Loyse, M.D.(Res.), Charles Kouanfack, Ph.D., Duncan Chanda, M.B., Ch.B., Sayoki Mfinanga, M.D., Elvis Temfack, M.D., Shabir Lakhi, M.D., Sokoine Lesikari, M.D., Adrienne K. Chan, M.D., Neil Stone, M.B., B.S., Newton Kalata, M.D., Natasha Karunaharan, M.B., B.S., Kate Gaskell, M.B., Ch.B., Mary Peirse, M.B., Ch.B., Jayne Ellis, M.B., B.S., Chimwemwe Chawinga, B.A., Sandrine Lontsi, M.D., Jean-Gilbert Ndong, M.D., Philip Bright, F.R.C.Path., Duncan Lupiya, C.O., Tao Chen, Ph.D., John Bradley, Ph.D., Jack Adams, B.Sc., Charles van der Horst, M.D., Joep J. van Oosterhout, Ph.D., Victor Sini, M.D., Yacouba N. Mapoure, M.D., Peter Mwaba, Ph.D., Tihana Bicanic, M.D.(Res.), David G. Laloo, M.D., Duolao Wang, Ph.D., Mina C. Hosseinipour, M.D., Olivier Lortholary, M.D., Shabbar Jaffar, Ph.D., and Thomas S. Harrison, M.D. for the ACTA Trial Study Team\*

## **Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly**

Volume 47, Issue 2, April 2018

<http://nvs.sagepub.com/content/current>

### *Articles*

#### **[Giving to Women and Girls: An Emerging Area of Philanthropy](#)**

Elizabeth J. Dale, Jacqueline Ackerman, Debra J. Mesch, Una Okonkwo Osili, Silvia Garcia

First Published December 5, 2017; pp. 241–261

#### *Preview*

Philanthropy for women's and girls' causes is a growing area of interest among donors and fundraisers. However, beyond foundation giving, limited research has been conducted to understand who gives to women's and girls' issues and donors' motivations for such support. Using the frameworks of collective identity and the social identification theory of care, we conducted a sequential mixed-methods study in the United States to investigate donors' characteristics and experiences. Through a national survey, we find that women are more likely to give to women's and girls' causes and that age and income are the most significant determinants of this giving. In focus groups, donors report giving to women's and girls' causes based on three motivational themes: personal experiences of gender inequality, a belief that supporting women's rights is beneficial for society, and the perceived effectiveness of nonprofit organizations, largely supporting the social identification theory of giving

### *Articles*

#### **[A Conceptual Model of Foundations' Leadership Capacity in Times of Change: Lessons From Egypt](#)**

Catherine E. Herrold

First Published December 8, 2017; pp. 286–303

#### *Preview*

In the wake of the January 25, 2011 Egyptian uprisings, local private and community foundations responded divergently to civil society's calls for political change. Egypt's community foundations quickly positioned themselves as leaders of democratic political reforms, while private foundations remained focused on their pre-2011 activities in the economic development realm. To explain the foundations' different responses to the uprisings, the article draws upon extant literature to develop a conceptual model of foundations' capacity to lead change. It then applies the model to the Egyptian case, arguing that community foundations' high levels of political independence and low levels of financial and civic independence facilitated their leadership efforts, while private foundations' low levels of political and financial independence and high levels of civic independence hampered their ability to lead reform initiatives. Implications for theory and practice are discussed.

### **Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration**

VOL. 7, NO. 1 (AUGUST 2017)

<http://oxmofm.com/current-issue/>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Pediatrics**

March 2018, VOLUME 141 / ISSUE 3

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/141/3?current-issue=y>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **PharmacoEconomics**

Volume 36, Issue 3, March 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/36/3/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **PLOS Currents: Disasters**

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

[Accessed 17 March 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

### **PLoS Currents: Outbreaks**

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

[Accessed 17 March 2018]

#### **[Epidemiology of the Zika Virus Outbreak in the Cabo Verde Islands, West Africa](#)**

March 15, 2018 · [Research Article](#)

Introduction: The Zika virus (ZIKV) outbreak in the island nation of Cabo Verde was of unprecedented magnitude in Africa and the first to be associated with microcephaly in the continent.

Methods: Using a simple mathematical framework we present a first epidemiological assessment of attack and observation rates from 7,580 ZIKV notified cases and 18 microcephaly reports between July 2015 and May 2016.

Results: In line with observations from the Americas and elsewhere, the single-wave Cabo Verdean ZIKV epidemic was characterized by a basic reproductive number of 1.85 (95% CI, 1.5 – 2.2), with overall the attack rate of 51.1% (range 42.1 – 61.1) and observation rate of 2.7% (range 2.29 – 3.33).

Conclusion: Current herd-immunity may not be sufficient to prevent future small-to-medium epidemics in Cabo Verde. Together with a small observation rate, these results highlight the need for rapid and integrated epidemiological, molecular and genomic surveillance to tackle forthcoming outbreaks of ZIKV and other arboviruses.

### **PLoS Medicine**

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

(Accessed 17 March 2018)

*Essay*

## **Forced anal examinations to ascertain sexual orientation and sexual behavior: An abusive and medically unsound practice**

Cody Cichowitz, Leonard Rubenstein, Chris Beyrer

| published 16 Mar 2018 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002536>

### *Summary points*

:: It has been reported that, in at least nine countries, forced anal examinations are used to investigate or punish alleged same-sex behavior between consenting men or transgender women.

:: In these settings, forced anal examinations are usually performed by healthcare providers at the request of law enforcement officials, and are procedures entirely distinct from those used legitimately in clinical care.

:: Forced anal examinations are intended to cause physical and/or emotional pain and offer no potential benefits to the targeted individual, violating key principles of medical ethics and human rights. Such examinations constitute acts of torture under the United Nations Convention against Torture.

:: Due to the possibility of coercion, individual physicians may face challenges resisting requests to perform such procedures, although they are abusive, medically unindicated, and yield no helpful information. Professional societies and organizations may be best positioned to oppose states' attempts to use a medical procedure to oppress a vulnerable population. Healthcare providers, professional organizations, and normative agencies, including the World Health Organization, all have an important role to play in bringing about an end to this practice.

### *Perspective*

## **The importance and challenges of shared decision making in older people with multimorbidity**

Tammy Hoffmann, Jesse Jansen, Paul Glasziou

| published 13 Mar 2018 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002530>

Typically, shared decision making, with or without a decision aid, involves patients in discussions about the options for treatment, the benefits and harms of each therapy, and the patient's preferences, and a collaborative decision about how to proceed is made. For single conditions, that requires some motivation and teachable skills. But an additional challenge in providing healthcare for older people is the likelihood of multimorbidity: approximately half of older adults have 3 or more chronic conditions [1]. The patterns of comorbidity are largely determined by common conditions in older people, such as coronary heart disease, diabetes, hypertension, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), heart failure, depression, arthritis, and cancer. Multiple conditions complicate shared decision making, as management is not the simple sum of the parts. Should a patient with late-stage cancer continue statins? When is an implantable defibrillator appropriate in a patient with dementia? Are beta blockers mandatory in a patient who is depressed after a myocardial infarction? Multimorbidity is a problem itself but also creates interactions that can generate additional problems—of particular concern are polypharmacy and burden of treatment...

## **PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases**

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

(Accessed 17 March 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

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

[Accessed 17 March 2018]

*Research Article*

**[Economic evaluation of a mentorship and enhanced supervision program to improve quality of integrated management of childhood illness care in rural Rwanda](#)**

Anatole Manzi, Jean Claude Mugunga, Hari S. Iyer, Hema Magge, Fulgence Nkikabahizi, Lisa R. Hirschhorn

Research Article | published 16 Mar 2018 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0194187>

*Research Article*

**[Risk factors for measles mortality and the importance of decentralized case management during an unusually large measles epidemic in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo in 2013](#)**

Etienne Gignoux, Jonathan Polonsky, Iza Ciglenecki, Mathieu Bichet, Matthew Coldiron, Enoch Thuambe Lwiyo, Innocent Akonda, Micaela Serafini, Klaudia Porten

Research Article | published 14 Mar 2018 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0194276>

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

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

[Accessed 17 March 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

**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 108 Pages 1-144 (March 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/preventive-medicine/vol/108/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Proceedings of the Royal Society B**

10 January 2018; volume 285, issue 1870

<http://rspb.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/285/1870?current-issue=y>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Public Health**

March 2018 Volume 156, p1-152

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Public Health Ethics**

Volume 11, Issue 1, 1 April 2018  
<http://phe.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Public Health Reports**

Volume 133, Issue 1, January/February 2018  
<http://phr.sagepub.com/content/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Qualitative Health Research**

Volume 28, Issue 4, March 2018  
<http://qhr.sagepub.com/content/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Refugee Survey Quarterly**

Volume 37, Issue 1, 1 March 2018  
<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 March 2018]  
[No new digest content identified]

### **Revista Panamericana de Salud Pública/Pan American Journal of Public Health (RPSP/PAJPH)**

[http://www.paho.org/journal/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=featured&Itemid=101](http://www.paho.org/journal/index.php?option=com_content&view=featured&Itemid=101)  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Risk Analysis**

March 2018 Volume 38, Issue 3 Pages 427–634  
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.2018.38.issue-3/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 March 2018 Vol 359, Issue 6381

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

### *In Depth*

#### **Concern as HIV prevention strategy languishes**

By Jon Cohen

Science 16 Mar 2018 : 1205 Restricted Access

*Few countries promote prophylactic drug regimen, and many people shun it.*

#### *Summary*

Some 200,000 people uninfected with HIV now take antiretroviral drugs as preventive medicine—but 75% of them are in the United States. Called pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, this daily pill has proved its worth in several clinical trials and was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 2012. Other countries have been slow to adopt PrEP even though the World Health Organization recommended it for everyone at "substantial risk" of becoming infected. At the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections held in Boston last week, there was a growing clamor about the underuse of PrEP. In hard hit sub-Saharan Africa, only Kenya aggressively promotes the use of PrEP. Evidence from San Francisco, California, and the state of New South Wales in Australia, which both have prominent PrEP campaigns, shows that it has helped reduce new infection rates. Several presenters at the meeting discussed why PrEP has been slow to catch on both at the government level and with people who are at high risk of becoming infected. In 2016, nearly 2 million more people became infected with the AIDS virus, bringing the global total to 37 million.

### *Policy Forum*

#### **Societal inequalities amplify gender gaps in math**

By Thomas Breda, Elyès Jouini, Clotilde Napp

Science 16 Mar 2018 : 1219-1220 Restricted Access

*Egalitarian countries cultivate high-performing girls*

#### *Summary*

While gender gaps in average math performance are now close to zero in developed countries, women are still strongly underrepresented among math high performers (1). This gender gap contributes to the underrepresentation of women in math and science in higher education and to their subsequent worse position in the labor market (2, 3). With the roles of nature and nurture (4–6) on gender performance gaps having been debated for more than a century, research in the 1990s and 2000s (7–9) suggested a cultural origin, relating gender gaps in math to measures of countries' gender inequality. However, with more recent studies (10–12) having shown that this relation is weak, today we have no clearly identified relationship between countries' socioeconomic or cultural environment and the gender gap in math. We relate below gender gaps in math to societal inequalities that are not directly related to gender. We find a strong and robust relationship and provide tests suggesting that it is causal: Countries that are generally more egalitarian, or that have institutions more conducive to equality, have a lower gender performance gap in math, suggesting that this gap is partly shaped by more general societal inequalities.

### *Reports*

#### **Protecting marine mammals, turtles, and birds by rebuilding global fisheries**

By Matthew G. Burgess, Grant R. McDermott, Brandon Owashi, Lindsey E. Peavey Reeves, Tyler Clavelle, Daniel Ovando, Bryan P. Wallace, Rebecca L. Lewison, Steven D. Gaines, Christopher Costello

Science 16 Mar 2018 : 1255-1258 Full Access

*Healthy fisheries can reduce bycatch*

Bycatch of marine mammals, turtles, and birds during commercial fishing is a considerable threat. Activities intended to reduce bycatch are often thought to conflict with commercial fishing. However, Burgess et al. show that in the majority of cases, managing fishery stocks to best promote long-term sustainability would also reduce bycatch. Rebuilding fish stocks will naturally promote lower bycatch, and these factors together will facilitate sustainable profit generation from fish harvest.

Science, this issue p. [1255](#)

#### *Abstract*

Reductions in global fishing pressure are needed to end overfishing of target species and maximize the value of fisheries. We ask whether such reductions would also be sufficient to protect non-target species threatened as bycatch. We compare changes in fishing pressure needed to maximize profits from 4713 target fish stocks—accounting for >75% of global catch—to changes in fishing pressure needed to reverse ongoing declines of 20 marine mammal, sea turtle, and seabird populations threatened as bycatch. We project that maximizing fishery profits would halt or reverse declines of approximately half of these threatened populations. Recovering the other populations would require substantially greater effort reductions or targeting improvements. Improving commercial fishery management could thus yield important collateral benefits for threatened bycatch species globally.

### **Social Science & Medicine**

Volume 198 In progress (February 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/social-science-and-medicine/vol/198/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Stability: International Journal of Security & Development**

<http://www.stabilityjournal.org/articles>

[accessed 17 March 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

### **Stanford Social Innovation Review**

Winter 2018 Volume 16, Number 1

[https://ssir.org/issue/winter\\_2018](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 10, Issue 2 (February 2018)

<http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/10/2>

*Open Access Editorial*

## **Exploring the Role of Science in Sustainable Landscape Management. An Introduction to the Special Issue**

by Paul Opdam

Sustainability 2018, 10(2), 331; doi:[10.3390/su10020331](https://doi.org/10.3390/su10020331)

Received: 24 January 2018 / Revised: 24 January 2018 / Accepted: 26 January 2018 /

Published: 28 January 2018

### *Abstract*

In this special issue, landscapes are conceptualized as social-ecological systems resulting from the interaction between societal and natural processes. Landscapes produce services and values to stakeholders that share a particular geographical area. In view of landscape sustainability, these stakeholders have common responsibilities to retain the functioning of landscapes to service future generations. Also, because demands for landscape services overlap and require landscape wide management, users and owners of the landscape have common interests in creating added value and organizing landscape wide coordination of interventions. This interdependency calls for collaborative management, but is also a cause of conflicts. From the point of view of scientific support, there is a need for interdisciplinary and solution-oriented approaches that foster collaboration. This special issue presents innovative interdisciplinary approaches that illustrate the main challenges for science to support community-based landscape governance.

*Open Access Feature Paper Editorial*

## **Regional Cooperation for the Sustainable Development and Management in Northeast Asia**

by Yongrok Choi

Sustainability 2018, 10(2), 548; doi:[10.3390/su10020548](https://doi.org/10.3390/su10020548)

Received: 7 February 2018 / Revised: 7 February 2018 / Accepted: 15 February 2018 /

Published: 21 February 2018

### *Abstract*

The Northeast Asian countries are the most pro-active regions in the world to take on the challenges of sustainable development. With this background, there has been an annual series of Sustainable Asia Conferences (SAC) which date back to the first inaugural meeting in 2009. This special issue consists of selected papers from the SAC 2017, held in Nanjing, China, from 23–25 June. With ten years of accumulated experience, SAC became one of the leading international conferences for presenting innovative or fundamental advances in sustainable development issues for Asia. Over time, SAC introduced more performance-oriented approaches to handle the feasibility of the sustainable development solutions. In this special issue, most of the papers focused on the precise and accurate sustainable governance mechanism in harmonizing economic development with a healthier life, while enhancing the quality of all standards of living. The majority of papers in this special issue also deal with two important pillars of the sustainable development: regional cooperation and regulatory effectiveness. This special edition will propose unique implications and feasible or workable suggestions against global warming and environmental degradation.

*Open Access Article*

## **Air Pollution and Human Development in Europe: A New Index Using Principal Component Analysis**

by Ana-Maria Săndică, Monica Dudian and Aurelia Ștefănescu

Sustainability 2018, 10(2), 312; doi:[10.3390/su10020312](https://doi.org/10.3390/su10020312)

Received: 30 November 2017 / Revised: 10 January 2018 / Accepted: 15 January 2018 /

Published: 26 January 2018

### *Abstract*

EU countries to measure human development incorporating the ambient PM2.5 concentration effect. Using a principal component analysis, we extract the information for 2010 and 2015 using the Real GDP/capita, the life expectancy at birth, tertiary educational attainment, ambient PM2.5 concentration, and the death rate due to exposure to ambient PM2.5 concentration for 29 European countries. This paper has two main results: it gives an overview about the relationship between human development and ambient PM2.5 concentration, and second, it provides a new quantitative measure, PHDI, which reshapes the concept of human development and the exposure to ambient PM2.5 concentration. Using rating classes, we defined thresholds for both HDI and PHDI values to group the countries in four categories. When comparing the migration matrix from 2010 to 2015 for HDI values, some countries improved the development indicator (Romania, Poland, Malta, Estonia, Cyprus), while no downgrades were observed. When comparing the transition matrix using the newly developed indicator, PHDI, the upgrades observed were for Denmark and Estonia, while some countries like Spain and Italy moved to a lower rating class due to ambient PM2.5 concentration

*Open Access Article*

### **A Taxonomy of Climate Accounting Principles for Financial Portfolios**

by Jakob Thomä, Stan Dupré and Michael Hayne

Sustainability 2018, 10(2), 328; doi:[10.3390/su10020328](https://doi.org/10.3390/su10020328)

Received: 31 December 2017 / Revised: 23 January 2018 / Accepted: 24 January 2018 /

Published: 27 January 2018

#### *Abstract*

Climate accounting for financial portfolios has seen growing prominence in the past years, thanks to both private and public sector initiatives. Over 200 financial institutions have conducted some form of portfolio analysis. In the context of this growing prominence, the academic and practitioner's discussion of climate accounting has largely focused on questions of climate data quality and choices for estimation models. Missing in this debate is an analysis of the underlying accounting principles related to climate data. There is no overview of the climate accounting principles and the implications of choosing different principles and rules. This article provides a taxonomy of key accounting choices currently applied for climate accounting of financial portfolios, notably regarding units of accounting, boundaries of accounting, normalization rules, and allocation rules. Based on a review of data providers accounting approaches in practice, as well as sample applications of different accounting principles, it distills key accounting categories and highlights the potential sensitivity of the ultimate results to these choices. The article concludes that climate assessments of portfolios may be equally sensitive to accounting choices as to the quality of underlying data, suggesting more attention and standards are needed.

*Open Access Article*

### **A Comparative Analysis on Food Security in Bangladesh, India and Myanmar**

by Yuanyuan Chen and Changhe Lu

Sustainability 2018, 10(2), 405; doi:[10.3390/su10020405](https://doi.org/10.3390/su10020405)

Received: 9 November 2017 / Revised: 27 December 2017 / Accepted: 1 February 2018 /

Published: 4 February 2018

#### *Abstract*

In 2013, China proposed the Bangladesh–China–India–Myanmar Economic Corridor initiatives to enhance the economic cooperation between Bangladesh, India, and Myanmar. To serve the priority setting of agricultural cooperation in the initiatives, an analysis is necessary to understand the food security situation and its key influencing factors in the three countries. For this purpose, this study applied a food security index (FSI) to measure the food security level at state scale and analyze its changes in the three countries during 1990–2013. Further, a factor decomposition method was used to quantify the contribution of major factors to the FSI

changes. The results showed that the food demand was generally secured in Myanmar and India during 1990–2013 but in shortage by around 10% in most years before 2008 in Bangladesh. The annual FSI values showed a rather obvious periodic variation and a slightly increasing trend during the whole period. Although the grain production in the three countries increased significantly, the FSI was not accordingly improved, as a result of the simultaneous increase of grain consumption. In Bangladesh and India, the grain production increase was mainly driven by the improvement of crop yield, while the grain consumption increase was mainly caused by the population growth. In Myanmar, the production increase was largely caused by the expansion of cropping area, and the consumption growth was mainly due to the increased grain requirement per capita. To meet the increasing food demand in the future, it is essential to improve the irrigation and drainage systems and crop management to increase the land use efficiency and crop yield. In addition, the adaptation of appropriate policy for family planning could be important to slow down the quick population growth and thus the food demand.

*Open Access Article*

**Relationship of Ethical Leadership, Corporate Social Responsibility and Organizational Performance**

by Min-Seong Kim and Brijesh Thapa

Sustainability 2018, 10(2), 447; doi:[10.3390/su10020447](https://doi.org/10.3390/su10020447)

Received: 18 January 2018 / Revised: 31 January 2018 / Accepted: 6 February 2018 /

Published: 8 February 2018

*Abstract*

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) has become a major part of the foodservice industry due to external forces which encourage enterprises' responsiveness. In reality, consumers' social concern influences their attitudes towards foodservice firms' socially responsible practices and purchase decisions, thereby influencing senior management to react. Considering this issue, this study examines the impact of senior management's ethical leadership in evaluating operational, commercial, and economic performances along with the mediating role of CSR in the foodservice industry. A conceptual model was formulated and empirically tested based on responses from 196 foodservice franchise firms in South Korea. The results indicated ethical leadership significantly influenced CSR and operational performance, while CSR also had a positive effect on operational and commercial performances. Additionally, operational performance had a significantly positive influence on commercial performance, which subsequently enhanced economic performance. Overall, the findings highlight the role that ethical leadership exhibited by senior management of foodservice franchises influenced initiation of CSR activities, which provide implications for research and industry practice and is outlined

*Open Access Review*

**Worldwide Research on Plant Defense against Biotic Stresses as Improvement for Sustainable Agriculture**

by Estela Gimenez, Maria Salinas and Francisco Manzano-Agugliaro

Sustainability 2018, 10(2), 391; doi:[10.3390/su10020391](https://doi.org/10.3390/su10020391)

Received: 31 December 2017 / Revised: 30 January 2018 / Accepted: 1 February 2018 /

*Abstract*

Agriculture is the basis for food production on a global scale. Sustainable agriculture tries to improve or maintain the quality of food without compromising the environment. As sessile organisms, plants cannot avoid adverse environmental conditions and contact with other living organisms. The damage caused to plants by other living organisms such as parasites and pathogens (virus, bacteria, fungi, nematodes or insects) brings about what is known as biotic stress. Plants are constantly exposed to biotic stress, which causes changes in plant metabolism

involving physiological damages that lead to a reduction of their productivity. To fight biotic stress, plants have developed sophisticated defense mechanisms. Thus, understanding plant defense mechanisms might prevent important crop and economic losses. In this article, a bibliometric analysis of biotic stress is carried out. Different aspects of the publications are analyzed, such as publication type, research field, journal type, countries and their institutions, as well as the keyword occurrence frequency, and finally special attention is paid to the plant studied by the leading countries and institutions. As expected, journals selected by authors to publish their relevant findings are plant-specific journals. However, it should be noted that the fourth position, in terms of the number of publications per journal, is occupied by BMC Genomics journal. Such a journal considers mainly articles on genomics, which indicates the involvement of genetic factors in the control of biotic stress. Analysis of the keywords used in publications about biotic stress shows the great interest in the biotic–abiotic stress interaction, in the gene expression regulation in plants as well as phytohormones in the current research. In short, the great effort made by the scientific community in the biotic and abiotic stresses field with the aim to understand, regulate and control plant damages caused by biotic stress agents will help in the development of sustainable agriculture.

*Open Access Perspective*

### **Governance Strategies for a Sustainable Digital World**

by Igor Linkov, Benjamin D. Trump, Kelsey Poinsett-Jones and Marie-Valentine Florin  
Sustainability 2018, 10(2), 440; doi:[10.3390/su10020440](https://doi.org/10.3390/su10020440)

Received: 4 December 2017 / Revised: 1 February 2018 / Accepted: 2 February 2018 /  
Published: 8 February 2018

#### ***Abstract***

Digitalization is changing society by the increased connectivity and networking that digital technologies enable, such as enhancing communication, services, and trade. Increasingly, policymakers within various national governments and international organizations such as the United Nations (UN) and Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) are examining the original sustainability policy concepts applied within the Brundtland Report of 1987 through the lens of digitalization. While the growth of a digital economy may increase productivity and benefit local and global economies, digitalization also raises potential sustainability challenges pertaining to social (i.e., the benefits or costs imposed by disruptive digital technologies upon social networks and ways of life, including threats to economic sustainability and the rise of economic disparity) and environmental wellbeing (i.e., natural resource stewardship and concern for future generations) driven by the automation of information processing and delivery of services. Various perspectives have been raised regarding how the process of digitalization might be governed, and national governments remain at odds regarding a single best strategy to promote sustainable digitalization using the Brundtland concept to meet the development needs of the present without compromising the needs of future generations (i.e., social and environmental well-being). This paper reviews three governance strategies that countries can use in conjunction with adaptive governance to respond to digitalization sustainability threats: (i) a laissez-faire, industry-driven approach; (ii) a precautionary and preemptive strategy on the part of government; and (iii) a stewardship and “active surveillance” approach by government agencies that reduce the risks derived from digitalization while promoting private sector innovation. Regardless of a state’s digital governance response and how it is shaped by political and institutional realities, adaptive governance approaches are likely necessary to address the economic and social sustainability challenges posed within differing manifestations of digitalization

### **Systematic Reviews**

<https://systematicreviewsjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles>



[Accessed 17 March 2018]

*Protocol*

**Economic evaluation of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis strategies: protocol for a methodological systematic review and quantitative synthesis**

*Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) with antiretrovirals is an efficacious and effective intervention to decrease the risk of HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) acquisition. Yet drug and delivery costs prohibit ac...*

Authors: Kednapa Thavorn, Howsikan Kugathasan, Darrell H. S. Tan, Nasheed Moqueet, Stefan D. Baral, Becky Skidmore, Derek MacFadden, Anna Simkin and Sharmistha Mishra

Citation: Systematic Reviews 2018 7:47

Published on: 15 March 2018

**Torture Journal**

Volume 27 - Issue No. 3

<http://www.irct.org/publications/torture-journal/128>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Trauma, Violence, & Abuse**

Volume 19, Issue 2, April 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases**

January-February, 2018 Volume 21

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Tropical Medicine & International Health**

Volume 23, Issue 3 Pages: i-iv, 251-340 March 2018

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13653156/current>

**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**



## **World Heritage Review**

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/84/>

n°86 - March 2018

## **World Heritage and Reconstruction**

While conflicts continue to inflict damage – much of it intentional – on heritage sites, reconstruction becomes a critical topic for discussion. The recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged sites are complex. They involve questions that go beyond authenticity and integrity. As the architect Jad Tabet says in his introductory article to this issue of World Heritage, “No one could have imagined that the coming century would, in its early years, witness a new cycle of violence that would spread from Afghanistan and Iraq to Mali, Libya, Syria and Yemen and lead the world to this state of generalized latent warfare that we know today.

The formulation of sound guidance is urgently required on issues related to recovery, taking into account the need to support the affected local communities. To this end, expert meetings have been convened by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, ICCROM and ICOMOS, and seminars are being held at universities to develop plans for thoughtful and effective action. UNESCO is also currently preparing a ‘White Paper’ in partnership with the World Bank on the reconstruction of cities following a conflict or major natural disaster. Reconstruction projects at World Heritage sites also need to address the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of each site – the reason for which it was inscribed on the World Heritage List – but within the context of a larger vision for recovery that addresses socioeconomic questions as well as the needs of the local communities. Solutions must be sensitive to questions of reconciliation and cannot rewrite history.

In this issue, we look at the cases of intentional destruction of sites in Syria and of the Buddhas in the Bamiyan Valley of Afghanistan. We take into account the devastating impact on local communities and their identities, as well as the implications of different approaches to reconstruction. We look at the inspiring cases of Timbuktu (Mali), where the mausoleums were rebuilt after their destruction in 2012, and the Old Bridge Area of the Old City of Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina), where the rebuilt bridge has become a symbol of perseverance and unity among communities. We are also pleased to present an interview with heritage expert Christina Cameron, who explains the concept of reconstruction in the framework of the World Heritage Convention and considers the emotional and psychological consequences for the related communities.

As we move forward, the World Heritage Committee will continue to support the preparation and dissemination of guidance on reconstruction, which includes facing the multifaceted challenges it brings. The Committee will continue as well to offer other options – such as exhibits, or virtual projections – that can satisfy the needs of communities to preserve and express their identities without marring the authenticity of what remains. New questions must also be addressed in the future. They include commemoration of the loss, and remembrance of community members and site managers who have given their lives to defend our shared World Heritage.

I would like to take this opportunity to wholeheartedly thank Francesco Bandarin, Assistant Director-General for Culture, who is leaving UNESCO after 15 years of service and who contributed greatly to safeguarding World Heritage around the world. I would also like to express my gratitude to Vesna Vujicic-Lugassy, our Managing Editor from the inception of this magazine in May 1996 to the present, for her personal engagement to make the Review globally known.

*Mechtild Rössler*

*Director, UNESCO World Heritage Centre*

## **World Journal of Emergency Medicine**

2018 - Vol. 9 - No 2 June 2018

<http://wjem.org/journal/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

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